

ANNUAL REPORT 2015



TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA)





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APPRECIATION

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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

AGOTA	Association of Gynecologists and Obstetrician Tanzania
CHRAGG	Commission of Human Rights and Good Governance
CRC	Constitutional Review Commission
CSO's	Civil Society Organizations
CWCA	Center for Widows and Children Assistance
CWT	Chama Cha Walimu Tanzania
GFC	Gender Forum Coalition on the Constitution
GLTF	Gender Land Task Force
HIV	Human Immunodeficiency Virus
LGA	Local Government Authority.
LHRC	Legal and Human Rights Center
MEWATA	Medical Women Association of Tanzania
PCCB	Prevention and Combating of Corruption Bureau
PMORALG	Prime Minister's Office, Regional Administration & Local Government
RAW	Rights Action Watch
SIDA	Swedish International Development Agency
SRHR	Sexual Reproductive Health Rights
TAGA	Tanzania Gender Accountability
TAMA	Tanzania Association of Mid Wives
TAMWA	Tanzania Media Women Association
TANESCO	Tanzania Electricity Supply Company
TAWLA	Tanzania Women Lawyers Association
TAYOA	Tanzania Youth Alliance
TLS	Tanzania Law Society
TOT's	Trainer of Trainers
TV	Television
UCC	University of Dar es Salaam Computing Center
UMATI	Chama cha Uzazi na Malezi Bora Tanzania
UWT	Umoja wa Wanawake Tanzania
WILDAF	Women in Law and Development in Africa
WLAC	Women Legal Aid Center
WPC	Women Promotion Center



MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIRPERSON



It is my pleasure to invite you once again to share the organization's annual report for 2015. Many exciting and remarkable events took place in 2015.

First and foremost, we marked our 25th anniversary and commemorated 25 years of empowering and advocating for women's rights. We also launched our new Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2019. Our Mission is stronger than ever - to advance Women as Champions in promoting and protecting the rights of women and good governance through legal empowerment. For the 25 years that we have been in existence, we have reached over 5 million people through various programmatic interventions and activities.

I am also pleased to actually report our extension of services to Mwanza. We opened a new branch in Mwanza in May 2015, to reach vulnerable women in the lake zone and neighboring areas. Through this office, we now offer legal aid services as well as advocacy interventions around various problem areas.

The year 2015 was truly remarkable especially for us in women's rights activism. We had the General Elections, and for the first time in over 50 years of being an independent country, Tanzania has a woman Vice President. We need no stressing on how this is an achievement for TAWLA, as we have always been in the forefront, playing a pivotal role to advocate for women's participation in decision making. During the time leading to the General Elections, TAWLA also encouraged women to participate in the elections and exercise their rights to be voted for and as voters. As explained above, going forward our focus is women inclusion and empowerment.

My personal message to you all is a line I am borrowing from Sherly Sandberg's book *Lean In-Women, Work, and the Will to Lead* where she tells us: "We lower our own expectations of what we can achieve..." lets overcome the internal obstacles , lean in and continue to shatter the glass ceilings.

This report provides you with the 2015 achievements, challenges and lessons learnt. While we document the above, we take this opportunity to also reflect, take stock and redirect our course. My fellow Tawlans, you have every right to be proud of your achievements as they are very much a team effort and you are part of it. Congratulations!!

Aisha Zumo Bade

Chairperson – Executive Council



MESSAGE FROM EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It feels rewarding to report the way the public has been informed through various means such as direct consultations, the media, community conversations and through our trained paralegals. The facts and figures in the report provide evidence of the achievements for this year.

In 2015, we focused on creating sustainable access to justice and advocacy on sexual and reproductive health rights, gender based violence, Women land rights and empowerment and members' professional advancement.

I must admit, 2015 was a remarkable year for TAWLA as we launched our new Strategic Plan (2015- 2019) which re-shaped our focus, strategies and the results expected.

The new Strategic Plan will enable the organization to reach more women and advocate for sustainable access to justice. The organization will focus on its membership needs and prioritize professional advancement of members.

Tike Mwambipile.
Executive Director



EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This is 2015 the Annual Report of the Tanzania Women Lawyers Association (TAWLA). TAWLA is a non-profit organization founded in 1989 and registered in 1990 under the Societies Act (Cap 337 R. E. 2002). TAWLA is a membership organization with 514 members and has its headquarters in Dar es Salaam and branch offices in Arusha, Dodoma, Mwanza, and Tanga.

In 2015, TAWLA launched a five years Strategic Plan which commits to four priorities. These are sustainable access to justice to vulnerable women and children, advocacy for laws and policies hindering gender equality, professional advancement of members and building the capacity of TAWLA for sustainable service delivery. This year report is based on these strategic objectives.

In the year under review, TAWLA continued to maintain the mandate to provide legal aid services to vulnerable women and children. Through TAWLA offices in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza and Tanga 4,625 women and children received legal aid services. Realizing that, not every woman and child on need can come to TAWLA offices, other means that have enabled clients to receive services are a toll-free number and paralegals. Through toll free number 825 clients received legal aid and 675 clients served through paralegals. Chapter one shows how effective these methods have been in reaching more women, children and the general public.

Chapter Two reports on TAWLA's second strategic objective and substantive area of work; to advocate for policy and laws hindering gender equality. In 2015, TAWLA has continued to demonstrate strong commitment towards advocacy work on sexual and reproductive health rights (SRHR), land rights and gender based violence (GBV). In SRHR, we have reached different actors to raise awareness on the situational analysis on SRHR as well as advocating for a favorable policy and legal framework.

This includes advocacy for domestication of the Protocol to the African Charter on the Rights of Women in Africa- the Maputo Protocol. During the period under review there were also interventions around gender equitable decision making processes on land investments. TAWLA has developed gender sensitive Village Model By-Laws to safeguard women rights at the local level; in two pilot villages in Kisarawe District.



Chapter Three recounts considerable efforts that were taken by the Executive Council, the Members Affairs Committee and the Secretariat to ensure that there are professional advancement programmes for members and that members actively involved in TAWLA activities. An electronic database for members was developed and it is functional, this will facilitate accurate and updated information about members. It will also enable the organization to provide better services to its membership.

Chapter Four addresses another key priority area; that is for TAWLAs institutional strengthening through capacity building for sustainable service delivery. It focuses on the New Strategic Plan which among other things highlights priorities in this area for the next five years. This will be used to sharpen our focus for better service delivery. The chapter also looks at fundraising efforts done during the period under review.

The Fifth Chapter recounts how we have continues to exercise Monitoring and Evaluation as part of our programming, while Chapter Six addresses the issue sustainability of TAWLA as an organization and impact of our work. It recounts the efforts to have an organization that is sustainable, relevant and has high impact.

Chapter Seven looks back at what 2015 and highlights some of the achievements, challenges encountered, lessons learnt and way forward.



INTRODUCTION

I. Brief Description of the Organization

TAWLA is a non-profit, non-partisan, non-governmental and a human rights organization founded in 1989 and registered in 1990 under the Societies Act (Cap 337 R. E. 2002). TAWLA is committed to the advancement of women and children's rights and good governance. This is achieved through the provision of legal aid services to women and to prevent domestic violence against women, promotion of land rights for women, enhancement of good governance, undertaking of policy, legislative research and advocacy and strengthening capacity and sustainability of the organization. This is in line with TAWLA strategic objectives for 2015 – 2019.

TAWLA has its headquarters in Dar es Salaam and branch offices in Arusha, Dodoma, Mwanza, and Tanga. As a way of expanding its outreach activities, TAWLA networks with other legal aid providers and paralegals to enable poor women and children access legal aid services in regions where the Association does not have branch offices.

Currently, TAWLA has over 514 members, who include women lawyers from diverse backgrounds such as state attorneys, advocates, judges, magistrates, corporate executives, lecturers and legal advisors in both the public and private sectors.

II. Our Focus

TAWLA is working in four interrelated program areas that form a basis of its interventions namely:

- (i) Research and advocacy (for policy and law reforms and influencing decision makers to make institutional changes);
- (ii) Capacity building (strengthening the key actors' knowledge and skills needed to prevent and respond to needs of women and children);
- (iii) Community mobilization (building a critical mass for change); and
- (iv) Sustainable access to justice for vulnerable groups

III. Strategic Objectives/Result Areas

- (i) To Create sustainable access to justice for women and children
- (ii) To advocate for laws and policies that are hindering gender parity
- (iii) Professional advancement of members
- (iv) To build capacity of TAWLA for sustainable services delivery.

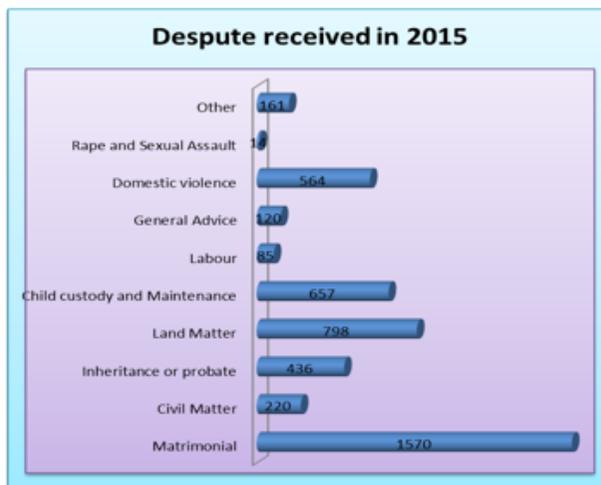
1.0 Create Sustainable Access to Justice for Vulnerable Women

For the year 2015, TAWLA continued to promote access to justice by ensuring vulnerable community members are able to use available laws to exercise their rights through legal empowerment. The organization provided legal aid services to indigent women and children through its offices in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza and Tanga regions. TAWLA also continued to maintain a toll-free number toll-free through which clients and other members of the public were provided with legal advice. Clients were attended by TAWLA advocates, legal officers, volunteers and members.

1.1. Provision of Legal Aid Services

A total of 4,625 women and children were offered legal aid services in TAWLA offices across the country. Out of the 4,625 cases received, 3,500 cases were resolved through reconciliation, 500 issues were referred to the National Muslim Council of Tanzania (BAKWATA), Ward Tribunals, Commission for Arbitration and Mediation and the other 625 are ongoing. The common outcome of our legal aid cases is reconciliation that is conducted at our legal aid clinics. As such, most cases are reconciled out formal structures like courts. Before cases are filed in Court, the Department of Access to Justice evaluates the cases and identifies cases for representation through advocates under the pro bono scheme. Other clients are trained and coached for self-representation.

The most common issues in this reporting year include; matrimonial, land and child maintenance. **Table 1** below depicts the nature of cases/clients dealt with while **Chart 1** depicts the status of the matters that were received in 2015.



Graph1: Nature of cases/matters received in 2015

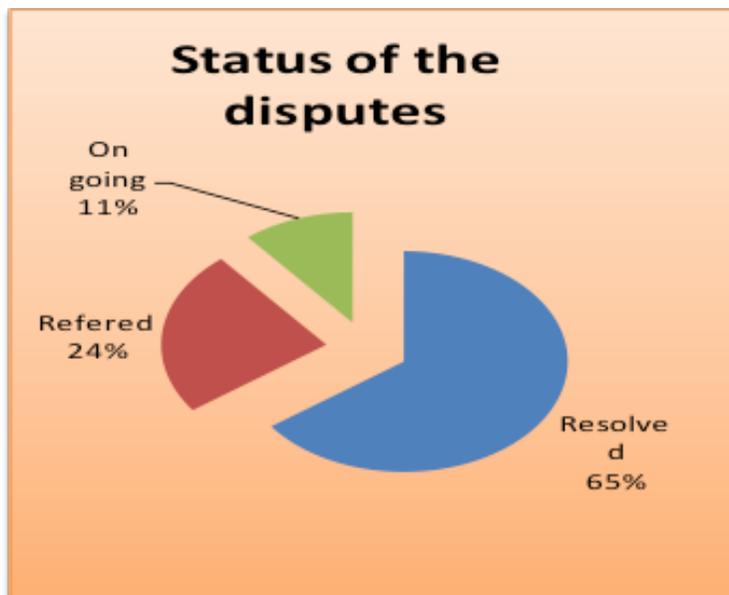


Chart1: status of cases/matters received in 2015.

1.2. Provision of Legal Aid Service through Paralegals

Legal aid services provided by the trained paralegals has been the most fundamental aspect to TAWLA's work in Arusha, Dar es salaam, Dodoma, Katavi, Morogoro, Mwanza, Pwani and Tanga. Though paralegals a total of 675 (412 female, 263 male) people received legal aid services in Tanga, Dodoma, Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Mwanza and Katavi. The leading cases/matters received were matrimonial, inheritance and child maintenance. During the period under review, Paralegals also managed to reach 12,691 people (7564 female and 5127 male), through awareness raising sessions on human rights, GBV and SRHR. Paralegals used village meetings, women's group meetings and public and traditional events to reach large groups of people.

1.3. Provision of Legal Aid Service through a Toll-Free Number

During the period being reported we have reached 825 (612 female, 213 male) through the toll-free number. Majority of the calls came from clients in Dar es Salaam, Kagera, Kigoma, Mbeya, Morogoro Musoma, Mwanza, and Tabora. The common issues were matrimonial, land, civil, child custody and maintenance. Our Legal Officers gave the callers general legal advice, arranged for drafting of documents and gave information on referrals to other institutions like Ward Tribunals, the Police Force, reconciliation/mediation board etc.



1.4. Self-Representation Training for TAWLA Clients.

TAWLA continues to build capacity and empower clients to represent themselves in courts. In this reporting period, 78 clients were trained on self-representation in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, and Tanga. The participants expressed that, before the training they were not confident to represent themselves in court, but after the training they feel confident to appear and represent themselves in court. It is worth noting some of the clients who present themselves in court have been used to tutor other clients on how to go about their cases in court. TAWLA has developed and published a **Self-Representation Training Manual** that gives basic information on how cases are prosecuted and how one should appear before any court of law had been developed and printed. The manual has been useful to the extent that clients, paralegals, other legal aid providers and stakeholders have been requesting for the manual.



TAWLA clients during Self-Representation Training in Dodoma.



1.5. TAWLA Pro Bono Scheme

TAWLA initiated a pro bono scheme in 2013. Members (and non-members) who are practicing advocates and have willingly volunteered their expertise and time to serve clients whose cases are handled through the scheme are assigned briefs. During the year under review, 13 advocates subscribed to the scheme, and 24 women have been represented in different courts. 14 cases were finalized with favorable decisions on the part of TAWLA clients. The rest of the cases are ongoing and are in various stages.

Success Story: Pili (not her real name) was a client represented by a pro-bono advocate in a Matrimonial Appeal to the High Court in 2015 (Civil Appeal No. 587 of 2015). The matrimonial cause began at the Kinondoni Primary Court and after the court's determination on the issues a divorce decree was granted. The court also awarded half of matrimonial properties to Pili. . Being dissatisfied with the judgment the then husband, appealed to the District Court. In the District Court the client represented herself successfully after coaching and self representation training. The husband was dissatisfied again, thus, the appeal to the High Court. Through the pro bono scheme Pili was successfully represented by an advocate and the appeal was dismissed and decision of the Kinondoni Primary Court which was made in favor of Pili was upheld.

1.6. Information Sharing Sessions for Local Government Authorities and Paralegals in Mwanza Region

TAWLA conducted a one day information sharing meeting in Ilemela and Magu Districts to introduce legal aid services and ongoing projects to the selected stakeholders at the District level. The meetings involved Local Government Authority (LGA) officials, District officials and law enforcers. This meeting also introduced paralegals to the key District officials to foster cooperation with and recognition of paralegals. A total of 60 key officials were reached during the sessions.



1.7. Paralegals' Training

TAWLA has been using paralegals to reach out to communities especially in rural areas. At the moment, we have 402 trained paralegals in 18 districts within Tanzania Mainland. The trained paralegals have been using gained knowledge to mobilize their communities' members to access justice. In the period under review paralegals were trained on various areas of law, however more attention and time was given for land laws and handling land disputes. We also continued to ensure paralegals get refresher trainings on various areas of law. In 2015, refresher training for paralegals was done in Arusha, Dodoma and Katavi regions using the Tanganyika Law Society (TLS) paralegal training manual-Mwongozo wa Wasaidizi wa Kisheria, 2013, which is the standard manual for general training of Paralegals in Tanzania Mainland.

1.8. Training for Local Government Leaders and Members of Ward Tribunals and Village Land Councils

A two day training session for local government leaders and members of Ward Tribunals and Village Land Council for Ilemela and Magu Districts was conducted. The training brought together 30(15 Female, 15 Male) participants whereby 15 were from Ilemela and 15 from Magu District, with 3 persons from each Ward. This means that we had representatives from 5 Wards for Ilemela district (Bwiru, Kirumba, Butimba, Ilemela and pasiansi) and 5 Wards for Magu. (Nyigogo, kitongosima, Bukandwe, Lutale and Isandula). The outcome of this training was an increased understanding by local government leaders on legal and human rights issues pertaining to women's right to access, use and ownership. They were also introduced to the concept of paralegalism. The objective of the training was also to prepare these officials to accept and work with paralegals in their respective communities.

1.9. Gender Land Task Force / Mama Ardhi Alliance.

The Gender Land Task Force (GLTF), was a coalition formed in 1997 to advocate for gender sensitive land laws. The members of GLTF were TAWLA Legal and Human Rights Centre (LHRC), Women's Legal Aid Center (WLAC), Tanzania Gender Networking Programme (TGNP), Tanzania Media Women Association (TAMWA), Tanzania Home Economics Association (TAHEA), National Organization for Children and Human Relief (NOCHU), Women Advancement Trust (WAT) and Women in Law and Development in Africa (WILDAF). The coalition did remarkable advocacy work to ensure women protection under the Land Laws of 1999. In 2014, with new developments and



increase pressure on land, the coalition expanded its outreach and formed a sub-committee; called it Mama Ardhi Alliance. The Sub-Committee co-opted members including; Ujamaa Community Resource Team, Pastoral Women Council, Envirocare and Morogoro Land Network (MOLARN) who, also joined the coalition. By 2015, Mama Ardhi Alliance was almost a coalition in it's in its own right and having the same members and same goals with the GLTT, members agreed to merge the two and retained the name Mama Ardhi Alliance. Mama Ardhi Alliance is currently coordinated by TAWLA and is final stages of signing a Memorandum of Understanding and preparation of a strategic plan.

1.10 Land Rights Women's Forums in Mwanza

TAWLA established two Land Rights Women's Forums in Ilemela and Magu Districts. The Forums are based at the District level, with 15 women representatives for each District. The Forums are aimed to create champions to educate the community on land rights; to change the negative attitude of the community on women rights and gender equality. It was through participation in these Forums where the participants organized themselves and formed VICOBA group and are now able to help each other financially and use their gained knowledge to mobilize their community and establish women's forum therein with the aim of helping each other on legal, social and economic development issues.

1.11 Community Conversations

TAWLA has been reaching communities through its Community Conversations initiative. The conversations, are conducted on quartely basis in each region where TAWLA has an office. In 2015, TAWLA reached a total of 24,032 community members in Arusha, Dar es Salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza and Tanga. Community members were informed about accountability and transparency practices and what leaders are expected to do in terms of providing their people with information. The communities were also sensitized on SRHR, particularly incidences of unsafe abortion, access to family planning, harmful practices and youth sexual reproductive rights. Through these conversations, it was evident that our society is still patriarchal. Despite the prohibition of discrimination in the Constitution of the United Republic of Tanzania, 1977 many community members still engage in customary practices which discriminate women. In the conversations, TAWLA identified a number of men who are champions for women's rights. The champions educate other men to respect women rights and other related issues. These conversations have enabled TAWLA to identify other advocacy issues which were shared with and considered for implementation in 2016.



1.12 Mobile Legal Aid during the 16 Days of Activism

During the 16 Days of Activism TAWLA conducted mobile legal aid in Arusha, Dar es salaam, Dodoma, Mwanza, and Tanga. Through this initiative the organization managed to serve 274(197 Female, 77Male) clients, among them some were given legal advice, some are currently being represented in Court and others were referred to other institutions like the Department of Social Welfare.

1.13 Printing of Paralegal Reporting and Data Collection Tools

For the period under review, 200 copies of paralegal reporting tools in form of booklets. These reporting booklets are in essence monitoring tools which are being used to capture information by paralegals on daily basis. These tools are of two types. One is for paralegals to record their activities daily, for example, clients' particulars and related information. The second type of tool is for monthly reporting where all activities conducted by the paralegal within a month are recorded including legal aid, sensitization meetings, and facilitation at the Village Assembly. The reports of paralegals activities are sent to and are available at all TAWLA offices for monitoring and evaluation purposes. The reports are also sent to the Ward Executive Officer on monthly basis. In using the new tools, TAWLA has improved reporting skills for paralegals. The reports have also contributed to improve our programming through giving TAWLA access to information, challenges and recommendations directly from the community.

2.0 ADVOCATE FOR REVIEW OF LAWS AND POLICIES HINDERING GENDER EQUALITY

In the year under review, TAWLA conducted a number of advocacy interventions to continue the advocacy efforts for review of laws and policies hindering gender equality. In 2015 our focus was on sexual and reproductive health rights, Gender based violence, land rights and good governance and accountability. TAWLA used different strategies including media, community conversations, round table discussions with policy makers, trainings; strengthen networks and partnerships and use of multi sectoral and faceted approach.

2.1 Awareness Raising through Television Programmes.

For the period under review, TAWLA managed to raise awareness through television and reach more than 16 million people who watched television programme through ITV, TBC, and Channel Ten. Topics presented this year were on GBV, land rights, courts proceedings, family law, SRHR, voters education focusing on women participation in elections. The programmes have been very usefully since a number of people came to our offices to seek for more information on presented topics.



TAWLA Council member, Bernadetha Mkandya presenting about TAWLA's manifesto for the 2015 General Elections during the "Kipima Joto" program at ITV.

2.2 Increased Awareness through Radio Programs

In this reporting period TAWLA managed to air 40 radio programs through Sunrise Radio- Arusha, Mwambao FM - Tanga and Radio One - Dar es salaam with different topics including; SRHR for women and youth in schools, child pregnancy and right to education. Other topics included good governance and the 2015 General Elections, campaigning for and popularizing child rights. Community members and the general public also got information about where to access legal aid services and education.

2.3 Refresher Training for Local Government Officials

For the period under review TAWLA conducted refresher training for LGA officials in Arusha, Dar Es Salaam, Dodoma and Tanga. A total of 92 (47 Female, 45 Male) local government leaders enhanced their skills in governance as well as ensuring proactive management in their Councils. Most of the leaders who participated stated that, the initial training they got through TAWLA has enabled them to perform their duties and understand their responsibilities as leaders.



Local Government Officials doing group work at a refresher training in Dar es Salaam.

2.4 Distribution of Notice Boards to LGAs, Schools and Paralegals

For the year 2015 TAWLA successfully distributed a total of 40 notice boards in four regions to the local government offices and two selected schools in each region. This was a request from the community members during the community conversations. The notice boards are supposed to facilitate the display of income and expenditure reports, notice of meetings, announcements and other important information from leaders to the community members.

The schools that got notice boards are; Arusha Secondary School and Muungano Secondary School in Arusha; Benjamin W. Mkapa Secondary School and Kibasila Secondary School in Dar es Salaam. Others are Chilonwa Secondary School and Mundemu Secondary School in Dodoma; and Cheif Mang'anya Secondary School and Nguvumali Secondary School in Tanga. The schools use the notice boards to post general school information as well as SRHR Club news and information.



TAWLA Executive Director handing over a notice board to a Ward Executive Officer in Tanga.

2.5: Courtesy Visit to the Parliamentary Committee on Constitution and Legal Affairs

A courtesy visit was conducted in Dodoma during the period under review. A total of 30 Members of Parliament attended the meeting, of which 16 were female and were 14 male. Through the visit TAWLA strengthened national parliamentary advocacy skills to maintain dialogue and action in implementing activities that address sexual and reproductive health rights.



Members of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Constitution and Legal Affairs participating in a meeting to discuss the policy and legal gaps pertaining to SRHR

2.6 Teachers TOT for TAWLA's Youth SRHR

For the period under review, a total of 16 teachers were given a training of trainer's training using the Youth SRHR Manual developed by TAWLA. Teachers were from 8 schools namely Arusha Secondary School and Muungano Secondary School (Arusha); Benjamin W. Mkapa Secondary School and Kibasila Secondary School (Dar es Salaam) Chilonwa Secondary School and Mundemu Secondary School (Dodoma); and Cheif Mang'enya Secondary School and Nguvumali Secondary School (Tanga.)



Participants during a TOT for Secondary School teachers on the Youth SRHR Manual

The training aimed at enabling teachers from the 8 schools to implement HIV/AIDS and Life Skills Education programs in schools as per the Ministry of Education and Vocation Training (MoEVT) guidelines. The training mainly covered peer education, monitoring and evaluation, counseling versus peer advice, youth participation in programmes, techniques for sharing information, linking children, sexuality and HIV/AIDS, gender awareness and sensitivity and life skills. The trained teachers gained in-depth knowledge on how they can avoid contracting HIV as well as the importance of focusing on young people in order to reduce the spread of HIV/AIDS and new infections. As a result of the training teachers sensitized their School Management Committees and recruited 168 potential class peer educators in eight secondary schools where 96 were males and 72 female. The trained teachers conducted training to 30 Class Peer Educators (Champions) by using a Training Pack for Peer Educators from the Ministry of Education and Vocational Training which was formulated in 2004.



Grace, a teacher from Chief Mang'anya Secondary School Tanga talking to Class Peer Educators during the launch of SRHR Club.

2.7 Dialogues with Women at Antenatal Clinics

Integrating antenatal clinic services with family planning, HIV services and Prevention of Mother To Child services (PMTCT) is the best approach to reach many women to build their capacity on their rights to access services and information. For the year 2015, TAWLA reached 101 women who attended clinics in Arusha, Dodoma, Dar es Salaam and Tanga. The dialogue resulted in linked standard operation guide between HIV/AIDS, family planning maternal and child health care. This activity established strong referral and follow up between health centers with antenatal care and HIV test services as well health facilities.



2.8. TV Spots

For the period under review, TAWLA produced and aired TV spots on SRHR. These were aired during “Kipima Joto” TV program via ITV every Friday.

We believe that those who watched the spots learnt something and therefore TAWLA has contributed to the ongoing community discussions on SRHR.

2.9 Publications

For the year 2015, TAWLA printed 13,000 copies of brochures and fact sheets on youth sexual and reproductive health rights which were disseminated to community members and champions in schools. Dissemination to stakeholders was done through community conversations, during Law Day, the TAWLA stall at Dar es Salaam International Trade Fair and International women’s day.



2. 10 Production of Newsletter for Information Sharing

TAWLA produced 4 Newsletters containing information about TAWLA’s programs and activities for the year 2015. Through quarterly newsletter, the Chairperson communicates with members. In 2015, the said newsletters were prepared and shared with members through emails. The newsletters showcase the organization activities and performance in the respective quarter and give members a taste of what is in store for the following quarter.



2.11 Website and Social Media

The TAWLA website and social media increased TAWLA's visibility and members and the general public's access to information about programming and events. Social media has also been a useful tool for member's engagement. For the period under review, TAWLA managed to share information on the activities implemented, events coordinated by TAWLA, partners and stakeholders via social media and the website. In 2015 we continued to be active on Facebook, Twitter, WhatsApp and started a YouTube channel.

2.12 Partnerships

TAWLA established new networks contributing to its mission and vision. Through its efforts to advocate for SRHR, TAWLA is working with Oxfam to advocate for domestication and implementation of the Maputo Protocol in order to advance accessibility, availability, affordability and quality health care for women in Tanzania. TAWLA also joined a regional network known as Solidarity for African Women's Rights (SOAWR) to push for regional advocacy on women rights issues. During the period under review we have been active in the following:-

- i. TAWLA worked with Diakonia – Swedish organization based in Nairobi, Kenya under the Lake Victoria Rights Alliance to advocate for SRHR, access to justice and economic empowerment in the lake zone.
- ii. TAWLA worked with the Centre for Reproductive Rights (CRR), IPAS, Women's Link, Fida Kenya and Fida Uganda in advocating for SRHR and access to justice for women.
- iii. TAWLA coordinates the Coalition to Addressing Maternal Morbidity and Mortality issues in Tanzania (CAMMAC). The coalition is made up of Association of Gynecologists and Obstetrician Tanzania (AGOTA), Chama cha Malezi na Uzazi Bora Tanzania (UMATI), Marie Stopes Tanzania, Women Promotion Center (WPC), Pathfinder International and Tanzania Association of Midwives (TAMA). TAWLA is the secretariat of this coalition. The coalition focuses on accessibility of health services, policy and legal framework on health and stigma reduction.
- iv. TAWLA also coordinated the Mama Ardhi Alliance coalition formerly known as Gender Land Task Force (GLTF) focusing on advocating for women land rights.



2.13 Increased Engagement of Stakeholders in the CAMMAC Coalition

For this reporting period, TAWLA engaged three new strategic partners to join CAMMAC coalition. These strategic partners were then qualified using the survey assessment tool which was created to identify the CSO's priorities in relation to SRHR and safe abortion. TAWLA and UMATI conducted the mapping of the CSO's identified and paid courtesy visits to their offices. The identified organizations included Femina Hip, Medical Women Association of Tanzania (MEWATA) and Tanzania Healthcare and Career Awareness Program (TAHECAP) organization were identified and will collaborate with other CAMMAC members to promote safe abortion in Tanzania.

2.14 Meeting with CAMMAC Coalition Members

In 2015, TAWLA coordinated three CAMMAC members meetings aimed at discussing the revised CAMMAC Strategic Plan, stigma reduction model, the media strategy and Action plan for the courtesy visits to potential partners. The meetings have been used as a monitoring tool of the implementation of the coalition operational plan and a forum to review, plan and create way forward for implementation of the agendas.

2.15 Value Clarification for Judiciary Personnel

TAWLA conducted training for 15(7 males, 8 females) magistrates on the magnitude of abortion in Tanzania, values clarification, national laws and international instruments related to abortion for the year 2015. As a result of this training, magistrates were imparted with new knowledge and their values changed for more support on safe abortion in Tanzania. They also agreed to future collaboration in sharing cases which they will handle in relation to abortion.

2.16 Value Clarification for TAWLA Members:

On 30th July 2015 TAWLA conducted training for 60 TAWLA members. The training focused on values clarification on abortion and harm reduction model which is a practical strategy aimed at reducing risks of unsafe abortions. As a result of this; the training increased knowledge to members on safe abortion and work towards championing for SRHR and application of the harm reduction model in the Tanzanian context.



2.17 Preparation of Reproductive Rights as Human Rights IEC Materials

In 2015, TAWLA Developed 2,000 factsheets, advocacy booklets and published feature articles on SRHR and unsafe abortion. The Materials developed were targeting policy makers including politicians, government officials, public servants, journalist and the public to influence their opinions and decisions to change policies, guidelines and laws.

2.18 Coordination of Gender Forum for the Constitution

TAWLA organized the GFC Implementation Committee Meetings throughout the reporting period. A total of 8 meetings were conducted.

One of the GFC task is to document the progress of the proposed constitution. During the period under review, GFC members prepared a booklet which is used as a tool for media engagement by all members so as to speak the same language in relation to the proposed constitution. The salient features of the booklet include among others;

- i. The introduction to the GFC
- ii. The concept of gender equality
- iii. The ten thematic areas of the GFC concerns
- iv. Strengths and the shortcomings of the proposed constitution

3.0 PROFESSIONAL ADVANCEMENT OF TAWLA MEMBERS

As a professional organization, TAWLA strives to strengthen the membership through professional advancement of members. The organization designs different strategies to ensure member's expertise and professionalism is utilized to contribute to our vision of a society that respects and upholds the rights of women. In the year under review the organization conducted continuous legal education for members on different topics relevant to our priorities. An electronic members' database was also developed to keep updated information of our members.

3.1 Members' Subscription Fee;

In collaboration with the Members Affairs Committee (MAC) the Secretariat have been undertaking the necessary initiatives to ensure that members take part in TAWLA activities and they are undertaking their membership obligations including payment of annual subscription fees as per the Association's Constitution. As a result TAWLA collected the sum of TZS. 12,459,000/- as members annual subscription fees for the reporting period.

3.2 Establishment of Members' Social Media platform

The organization introduced Twitter and WhatsApp groups for members; the groups were established so as to provide a platform for easy and swift information sharing as well as updating members on activities and opportunities. To avoid spam and information with no importance to members, the MAC established guiding rules, or "dos or don'ts", for members to strictly adherence to while using the WhatsApp groups.

3.3 Introduction of Membership Handbook

TAWLA successfully prepared membership handbook for TAWLA members. The objectives of having this handbook are.

- i. To provide direction in management of TAWLA membership
- ii. To enhance membership engagement.

Currently the members' handbook is awaiting printing.



3.4 Coordination of Tea Get Together (TGT)

For the period under review TAWLA through MAC successfully organized and held a tea get together (TGT) on 7th March 2015 at Mikocheni B. Members took advantage of the event and discussed among other things;

- i. How to bring members together in order to update them on the preparations for the 25th Anniversary
- ii. Planned activities for the commemoration of the Anniversary
- iii. Fundraising strategies for the 25th anniversary and the way forward

3.5 Recruitment of New Members

The MAC members in collaboration with the Executive Council members and some TAWLA staff visited Faculties and Schools of Law in different universities in 2015. These are the University of Dar es Salaam (Main Campus), Mzumbe University - Morogoro and St. Augustine Mwanza on the occasion of TAWLA's 25th Anniversary aiming at recruiting new members. Female students expressed their interest to join TAWLA, however, were of the view that they could not afford to pay for the registration and subscription fees. Despite this challenge, students were allowed to fill in the application forms and submit them to TAWLA and pay the fees later. As a result, TAWLA managed to recruit 63 new members during the reporting period.

3.6 Defaulting Members

During the meeting held in August 2015, the MAC members agreed that it is currently not possible to exclude members failing to pay the subscription fees, as report of phone calls made to remind members of their due annual subscription fee showed that they do pay when reminded. For the year 2015, 14 defaulters paid their subscription fee and removed from defaulters list and as a result a sum of TZS. 2,800,000/- was collected. However some defaulters cannot be reached due to absence of their contact details. The secretariat continued to make phone calls, as well as emailing invoices to remind members of their obligation to pay annual subscription fees.

3.7 Members Electronic Database

In August 2015, MAC members worked towards creation of TAWLA members' electronic database. The database was a priority due to its significance; member's information needs to be accurate, valued and protected. The data base was planned to be in use by 2016, and it has being tested and populated by the Secretariat.

3.8 Increased Capacity for TAWLA Members

TAWLA coordinated members Continuing Legal Education (CLE) sessions held on 19th May 2015 at Colosseum Hotel on SRHR and the Harm Reduction Model. The trainers were Ms. Sara Kinyaga and Dr. Catherine Kahabuka. A total of 43 members benefited from the training and were awarded 2 CLE points as the CLE was accredited by the TLS.

3.9 25th Anniversary Rally

TAWLA coordinated a rally event held on the 29th May 2015 from the Kisutu Resident Magistrates' Court to Karimjee grounds to commemorate TAWLA's 25th Anniversary. The event was graced by His Excellence the Prime Minister of the United Republic of Tanzania Hon. Mizengo Kayanza Peter Pinda. Members and other stakeholders participated in the rally.



Photo 1: Former Swedish Ambassador, H.E Lennarth Hjelmaker, TAWLA Executive Director, Tike Mwambipile, Former Prime Minister Mizengo Pinda, TAWLA's Chairperson Aisha Bade, Temeke District Commissioner Sophia Mjema, and TAWLA council member Athanasia Soka during commemoration rally.

Photo 2: TAWLA founding members, Jesse Mnguto, Mwanaidi Majaar, Magdalena Rwebangira and Victoria Mandari during commemoration rally.

3.10 TAWLA 25th Anniversary Gala Dinner

TAWLA organized a Dinner event in commemoration of the 25th Anniversary held at Hyatt Regency on 30th May 2015. It was through this event where some selected members shared the TAWLA journey through the 25 years. Some active members together with TAWLA partners received certificates of appreciation for their service to the organization. A 25th anniversary cake was cut by past Chairpersons and thereafter there was dinner and dance. It was a very colorful event.



TAWLA Chairperson, Aisha Z. Bade making remarks at the 25th Anniversary dinner beside her is Hon. Angela J Kairuki the then Deputy Minister for Land, Housing and Human Settlement

3.11 “Iftar” Feast at Mwana Orphanage Centre

TAWLA coordinated one “iftar” feast for year 2015 with Mwana Orphanage Centre-Vingunguti and this was held on the 10th July 2015. Members were mobilized to contribute for the “iftar” feast and a total of TZS. 1,500,000/- from members was collected. The money was used to buy the various food items, soap and other supplies and the same were delivered to Mwana Orphanage Centre on the visit day and thereafter, members participated and served 97 children “iftar”.

3.12 Extraordinary General Meeting and CLE

For the year 2015, TAWLA held one Extraordinary General Meeting on the 30th July 2015 at Luther House - Mviringo Hall, which was preceded by a CLE session on SRHR. 45 members participated and were awarded 2 CLE points. The main agenda for the Extraordinary General meeting was to approve the 2014 audit report and appoint auditor for TAWLA accounts for the year 2015. The audited accounts were approved and MLB Mekonsult was appointed to audit TAWLA accounts for year 2015.

4.0 BUILD THE CAPACITY OF TAWLA FOR SUSTAINABLE SERVICES DELIVERY

Another key priority area for TAWLA is institutional strengthening through capacity building of TAWLA for sustainable service delivery. In 2015 we launched a new Strategic Plan, which among other things highlights institutional capacity building priorities for the next five years. This will be used to sharpen our focus for better service delivery. During the period under review, TAWLA also focused on fundraising through proposal writing and secured funds from new donors as well as new grants from the existing partners.

4.1 TAWLA Strategic Plan

The new TAWLA strategic plan was launched on 30th May 2015 by the then Deputy Minister for Lands, Housing and Human Settlement Hon. Angela J. Kairuki. Through the process of developing the new strategic plan, TAWLA vision was reviewed and changed from “envisages a society that respect and uphold human rights” to ‘A society that respects and upholds the rights of women.’ The mission statement is “The advancement of Women as Champions in promoting and protecting the rights of women and good governance through legal empowerment’. For the next five years the focus will be in the following four main areas, including;

- i. Create sustainable access to justice for vulnerable women and children
- ii. Advocate on laws and policies hindering gender equality
- iii. Professional advancement of TAWLA members
- iv. Build the capacity of TAWLA for sustainable service delivery to clients

4.2 Developing Specific Funding Proposals on Strategic Areas

The Secretariat under the guidance of the Executive Council managed to fundraise through proposal writing. For the period under review TAWLA successfully applied and was granted the following projects:

- i. Gender, land rights and accountability in the context of agriculture and other natural resource – funded by International Institute for Environment and Development (IIED)(USD 53,000) June 2015 to May 2016;
- ii. Promoting Women Access to Land Rights funded by a Development Partner from USA (USD 90,000) January to December 2015;
- iii. Promoting Women Access to Land Rights funded by a Development Partner from USA (USD 90,000) August 2015 to July 2016;



- iv. Increasing Criminal Justice to Juvenile Detainees funded by a Development Partner from the European Union (TZS. 340,000,000/ August 2015 to 2017;
- v. Advancing Safe Abortion through the CAMMAC coalition in Tanzania funded by a Development Partner from USA (USD80,000) November 2015 to October 2016

- vi. A Regional Legal Empowerment Programme on Women Rights (Haki Mkononi) funded by OXFAM (GBP 156,963) April 2015 to March 2017.

- vii. Enhancing Peace before and After Elections, funded by the Foundation for Civil Society (TZS15,000,000) September to November 2015

5.0 MONITORING AND EVALUATION

Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) has become an integral part of our programming. The developed M & E tools are integrated into the electronic database to improve data storage, management and analysis of reports. The system aims to cure poor data management, improve quality and accuracy of data. The data collection tools are improved from time to time. This Chapter dwells on our M&E efforts for the period under review. Appropriate M&E will enable the organization to utilize resource more efficiently but also to design better suited interventions in key areas.

5.1 Establishment of M & E Electronic Database

In the year 2015 TAWLA managed to shift its data base from excel to an electronic data base. Shifting to electronic data base system led to improvement in the reporting and enhancing the data collection process from different branches and departments. The system allows unlimited number of people to access it hence it allows team work in the feeding of information. Most key staff were trained on how to feed the information and access the relevant information from the data base.

A view of TAWLA's Electronic Database





5.2: Preparation of Quarterly/Semi-Annual and M&E/ Progress Reports

TAWLA prepared twelve monthly reports which were aggregated into four quarterly reports, a semi-annual and annual progress reports. These reports were informed by M&E data in order to be able to analyze and estimate level of achievement of programme output and outcome results. Also estimate the level of impact to be attributed and/or contributed by the end of the current TAWLA operational plan in 2015.

5.3 Conduct Data Quality Assessment (DQA) Exercise at Selected TAWLA

During M&E visits, issues around data quality were identified. Some paralegal units did not adhere to proper system of record keeping and delayed in submitting required reports contrary to agreed timeframe. With the M&E plan in place such shortfalls shall be addressed through training and mentoring sessions with paralegal units. Furthermore, paralegals will be oriented on the TAWLA M&E plan so that they can understand it and align with during implementation of their 2016 work plan.

5.4 Data Entry

All the data that were collected in each strategic area were entered in the electronic data base for the analysis and reporting purposes. The same used to inform interventions and futures strategies among other

6.0 A RELEVANT, SUSTAINABLE AND HIGH IMPACT TAWLA

In the pursuit of a sustainable and results based organization, TAWLA has improved programming, operations, administration and governance in the period under review. In 2015, TAWLA strengthened its human resource and administration support to deliver better service in our key priority areas. All internal policies were adhered to in so far as administration, financial management and overall board governance. This Chapter highlights our efforts to have an organization that is sustainable, relevant and has high impact.

6.1 Improved Human Resource Management Capacity

TAWLA continued to provide administration and technical support to the entire organization on all matters related to organizational and human resources. In the year 2015, TAWLA implemented the following activities:-

6.2 Conduct staff performance appraisal

TAWLA conducted staff performance appraisals for all 40 staff members for the purpose of assessing staff performance, rewarding, establishing performance gaps and plan for improvement and staff development for greater achievement of TAWLA goals and growth in the future.

TAWLA used the Open Participatory Appraisal System in order to assess staff performance and agree on the rating and performance plan reflecting the 2015 work plan and specific supervisor-supervisee expectations including staff development.

6.3 Conduct Executive Council Meetings

In 2015, TAWLA conducted four (4) Board meetings and 6 extraordinary meetings in accordance with the organization Constitution in order to receive periodic reports and give directives for the way forward.

6.4 Conduct Annual General Meeting for TAWLA Members

In 2015, TAWLA organized and convened the Annual General Meeting (AGM) held on the 30th May 2015 at the National Museum of Tanzania Hall as prescribed by the constitution of the Association and was attended by 68 members representing 12% of all members. As a result the AGM received and approved the TAWLA Annual Report for 2014. It was agreed that an Extraordinary Annual General meeting be called in July to discuss the audited accounts of the Association and to appoint an auditor for the year 2015. In this meeting members approved amendment of TAWLA Constitution.



6.5 Conduct Staff Meetings and Retreat

In year 2015, TAWLA organized and conducted 12 staff meetings for staff members to discuss and agree on common agenda at work place as provided by TAWLA Staff Manual. During these meetings staff members had an opportunity to interact with their colleagues from other TAWLA offices and familiarized themselves with new staff members and key changes happening within the organization.

TAWLA further organized annual staff retreat whereby 40 staff members attended this event from November 24th to 25th 2015 at Jangwani sea Breeze Hotel. During staff retreat, heads of directorates presented key programme performance, achievement, success stories, challenges and new innovations for year 2016. During the same week, staff received training on Staff Appraisal at work place and communication skills facilitated by an external consultant. Staff members were also introduced to the Electronic Data Management system.

6.6 Improvement of Financial Management Systems and Fundraising Strategies

TAWLA has improved its Financial Management System by keeping organisation data into system that assist to address our financial and management of the institution profile whenever such information is required by other stakeholders. This has been possible through WIMS (We Effect Information Management System) by one partner, WE EFFECT. While completing proposals, this data assist much as there is no need to always develop new data since we can retrieve from this system. The system is web-based but with high security features.



6.7 Implementation of Auditor's Recommendations for 2014 Financial Audit and Projects Audit

TAWLA implemented all audit recommendations for 2014 annual financial audit and is aimed to maintain a zero tolerance culture on repeated audit queries.

6.8 Update TAWLA Fixed Asset Register

In 2015, TAWLA updated her asset register by loading all assets acquired in 2015 into TAWLA accounting system register. The exercise was crucial to ensure that TAWLA has an updated asset system management that enables easy tracking of assets from the acquisition, usefulness and disposal. The current challenge is to have our assets re-valued so as to reflect new asset values that are much more realistic. This has also been advised by the auditor.

6.9 Other Finance and Fundraising Achievements

TAWLA continued to ensure there is continuous monitoring of budgets at all levels by ensuring that the ownership of budgets remains solely in the hands of programme officers and that they are kept informed at any point in time about their spending level for every activity that was to be conducted. TAWLA remained keen in making sure that internal controls were working and observed at all levels through the time. Formation of a fundraising committee within TAWLA management makes it easier to ensure that fundraising is the key activity of all senior officers of the organisation. This is also contained in their terms of reference during recruitment of staff.

ACHIEVEMENTS, CHALLENGES, LESSONS LEARNT, AND WAY FORWARD

2015 was an eventful year for us both as an organization and as nation. We commemorated our 25th anniversary, launched the new Strategic Plan and at national level saw the General Elections held in October 2015. Despite the major events, we continued to implement our planned activities. This chapter highlights some of the achievements, challenges encountered, lessons learnt and way forward.

7.1 Achievements

During the year 2015, were proud to register the following achievements:

- i. Increased access to justice for vulnerable women and children through legal aid services offered by legal offices, pro bono scheme, toll free number, mobile legal aid and paralegals. For example TAWLA managed to remove a 14 years girl from unsafe home environment where she has been continuously sexually abused by her biological father and has had two abortions. TAWLA worked closely with the Social Welfare Office and the girl is at a children's home now. She has passed her exams very well and she is continuing with her studies. The case is ongoing at Kinondoni case no. 343/2015;
- ii. Successfully coordinated commemoration of 25 years of empowering and advocating for women's rights. The anniversary enabled TAWLA to showcase achievements in various sectors over 25 years;
- iii. Establishment of a new branch office in Mwanza which aims to reach women and children at the lake zone. This decision was informed by the demand of legal aid clients from Mwanza and surrounding regions;
- iv. Mobilizing members to volunteer in the provision of legal aid services in our legal aid clinics and various programme activities;
- v. Facilitation of registration of eight (8) Paralegals Units as NGO's ie. Monduli, Meru, Arusha, Karatu, Longido, Mlele, Mpanda urban, and Chamwino;
- vi. Increased collaboration between TAWLA and Local Government Authorities in strategic areas of interventions for sustainability;
- vii. TAWLA participated in the Universal Periodic Review(UPR) process by coordinating women thematic group to review women rights situation in Tanzania and put forward recommendations;
- viii. TAWLA participated actively in preparation of a shadow report on CEDAW under the coordination of WLAC;
- ix. Increased strategic networks and partnership at national, regional and international level, for example TAWLA joined Solidarity for African Women Rights (SOAWR);

- 
- x. Appointment of TAWLA members to hold high positions and serve in various organs and institutions:
 - a. Hon. Rehema Kerefu – Judge of the High Court of Tanzania,
 - b. Hon. Lucy Makani - Judge of the High Court of Tanzania,
 - c. Hon. Lucy Kairo - Judge of the High Court of Tanzania
 - d. Hon. Katarina Revocati – Registrar of the Court of Appeal.
 - e. Hon. Mary H.K.S Longway – Commissioner National Electoral Commission,
 - f. Hon. Asina A. Omari – Commissioner National Electoral Commission,
 - g. Hon. Tulia Ackson – Deputy Speaker,
 - h. Hon. Ummu Mwalimu – Minister of Health, Community Development, Gender, Seniors and Children,
 - i. Hon. Angela Kairuki – Minister of State in the President’s Office,
 - xi. TAWLA has in place governance system governed by the organization’s internal policies that ensures accountability and transparency within the organization. The management strives to ensure principles of good governance are observed by staff and members of the organization; and
 - xii. Through the distributed notice boards, community members in the said areas are now aware of internal source of income and how it has been spent and other relevant information.

7.2 Over all challenges

- i. Shortage for funds for administrations/operations which attributes to lack of staff incentives hence high staff turnover which contributes to shortage of human resources;
- ii. Office space (especially at the head office) and equipment has been a challenge which leads to unavailability of space for volunteers, interns and other supporting staff to work.
- iii. Access to relevant policy makers has been a challenge. It has been a challenge to get hold of key officials who have the necessary mandates to make decisions of commit to implement viable recommendations due to their demanding schedules;
- iv. Implementation of recommendations, programmes may sometimes be protracted due to the ensuing procedures and bureaucracy that needs to be adhered to. For example the model village by-laws that have been ready for more than a year but are awaiting approval from the LGA.
- v. Community response to SRHR is very low. Many people still consider SRHR a taboo and family planning as something that should not be openly discussed.

- 
- vi. Members' participation in activities is still low, and it is challenge as we depend on members to implement activities.
 - vii. Some legal aid clients have problems beyond the law, some may need psycho-social counseling while others need financial interventions. Other clients might need a combination of services. Our services are mostly legal with no mandate or capacity to offer the other services needed so we have to refer the clients elsewhere.

7.3 LESSONS LEARNT

Throughout the year and through the work we do we have learnt the following lessons that we carried forward into our work and programming:

- i. Debriefing meetings for the Legal Aid Department has proved to be very useful as an opportunity to reflect and share technical challenges. This is also an avenue to build the capacity of volunteers and interns;
- ii. The need for psycho-social counseling unit is important for our clients who have or are prone to stress and depression and other psycho-social problems. As for now we refer them to Pastoral Activities and Services for People with AIDS Dar-Es- Salaam Archdiocese (PASADA) and those who went through counseling are cooperative;
- iii. Law school students and interns are very useful in TAWLA's work as they have drafting skills and can deal with clients under minimal supervision;
- iv. Positive use of the media such as radio and television have proved to be a learning point for paralegals on learning legal and human rights issues as well as the general public; .
- v. Effective Use of the paralegals as the first delivery point for tackling legal and human rights issues enables thousands of poor people in rural and peri-urban areas across 18 districts in Tanzania to access justice. Paralegals live in the communities thus, a easier to reach than other legal aid providers;
- vi. The use of multi sectoral approach in advocacy work, for example for the SRHR interventions and programmes , TAWLA involves medical practitioners, media, Local Government Authorities, teachers and religious leaders because they all have a role to play in advocating for SRHR. In juvenile justice TAWLA involves the judiciary, the local government, Social Welfare Department, health care providers and Child Protection Teams; and
- vii. Use of documentaries, true stories, case studies has been a useful methodology to raise a discussion on sensitive topics like unsafe abortion.



7.4 Way Forward

As we look into 2016 we seek to:

- i. Strengthen collaboration and partnership with law enforcers, the central and local government, communities, the programme target groups and development partners.
- ii. Improve donor relations and develop a fundraising strategy
- iii. Strengthen networks and collaborate strategically too contribute to TAWLA's vision.
- iv. Continue the advocacy efforts for reforms of gender discriminatory laws and increased follow up of the advocacy initiative.
- v. Increase member engagement and participation in TAWLA programmes including the pro bono scheme.

7.5 Conclusion

2015 was nothing short of an eventful year. The 25th anniversary and the launched Strategic Plan for 2015 – 2019 not only energized the organization but gave it strategic direction of where we should be looking for the next five years. Moving forward, the work is already cut out for TAWLA. We have to continue to provide our services while dealing with the challenges we face and take on the lessons we have learnt in the past year. Members have to be at the centre of our execution of the mission and vision of the organization and sustainability of TAWLA the core of our actions.



FINANCIAL STATEMENTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED
31st DECEMBER, 2015

TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA)

STATEMENT OF EXECUTIVE COUNCIL'S RESPONSIBILITY

TAWLA Executive Council, through TAWLA secretariat is responsible for the preparation of financial statements for each financial year, which gives a true and fair view of the state of affairs of the Association at the end of each financial year and of its operating results for that year. The Executive Council is also responsible for keeping proper accounting records, which disclose with reasonable accuracy at any time, the financial position of the Association. They are also responsible for safeguarding the assets of the Association, and for taking reasonable steps in the prevention and detection of fraud and other irregularities.

The Executive Council is of the opinion that the financial statements give a true and fair view of the state of the financial affairs of the Association and of its operating results. The Executive Council further accepts responsibility for the maintenance of accounting records that may be relied upon in the preparation of financial statements, as well as adequate systems of internal financial control.

Nothing has come to the attention of the Executive Council to indicate that the organization will not remain a going concern for at least the next twelve months from the date of this statement.



Ms Aisha Bade
Council Chairperson



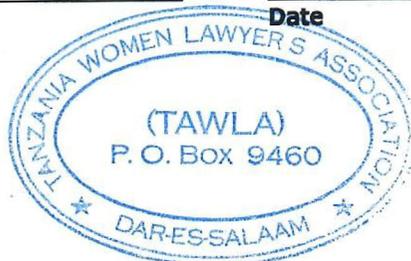
Date 2016



Ms Tike Mwambipile
Executive Director



Date 2016



**INDEPENDENT AUDITORS' REPORT TO THE MEMBERS OF
THE EXECUTIVE COUNCIL OF TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA)**

We have audited the financial statements of Tanzania Women Lawyers Association, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at 31 December 2015, the Statement of Profit or Loss and Other Comprehensive Income, Statement of Changes in Equity and Statement of Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory notes as set out on pages 17 to 31.

Council's responsibility for the Financial Statements

The Council members are responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements on the basis of accounting described in Note 2. This responsibility includes: designing, implementing and maintaining internal controls relevant to the preparation and fair presentation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error; selecting and applying appropriate accounting policies; and making accounting estimates that are reasonable in the circumstances.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with International Standards on Auditing. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement. An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to entity's preparation and fair presentation of financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the entity's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.

Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present a true and fair view of the financial position of Tanzania Women Lawyers Association as of 31 December 2015 and its financial performance and cash flows for the period then ended in conformity with the basis of accounting described in Note 2.

Report on Other Legal and Regulatory Requirements

In our opinion, proper accounting records have been kept by the Organization and the financial statements referred to in the preceding paragraph are in agreement with the International Financial Reporting Standards and in compliance with Constitution establishing the Association.

Elinisaidie K Msuri
Signed by: **Elinisaidie K Msuri** Date: *24/May/2016*

Partner
Elinisaidie H. Msuri
Certified Public Accountant - HLB
P. O. Box 20651, Dar es Salaam



TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF PROFIT OR LOSS AND OTHER COMPREHENSIVE INCOME FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	TZS	TZS
INCOME		
Members' subscriptions and Entrance fee	22,330,000	20,350,000
Donors' assistance	2,324,515,468	2,429,076,851
Amortization on capital grant	17,584,062	17,669,676
Other income	96,165,292	178,930,824
TOTAL	<u>2,460,594,822</u>	<u>2,646,027,351</u>
EXPENDITURE		
Projects, administrative and operating costs	2,195,518,488	2,429,076,851
Depreciation expense	17,584,062	17,669,676
Provision for bad debt	14,711,500	11,010,000
TOTAL	<u>2,227,814,050</u>	<u>2,457,756,527</u>
Excess of Income over Expenditure	232,780,772	188,270,824
Other comprehensive income	-	-
Total Comprehensive Income	<u>232,780,772</u>	<u>188,270,824</u>

Notes and related statements forming part of these financial statements appear on pages 17 to 31

Report of the Auditors – page 12

TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF FINANCIAL POSITION AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	<u>TZS</u>	<u>TZS</u>
ASSETS		
Non-current Assets		
Plant, Property and Equipment	397,488,179	400,532,040
Intangible Assets	<u>10,586,890</u>	<u>26,467,226</u>
	408,075,069	426,999,266
Current Assets		
Subscription and other Receivables	55,805,500	19,310,999
Cash and Cash Equivalents	<u>801,769,096</u>	<u>520,225,707</u>
	857,574,596	539,536,706
TOTAL ASSETS	<u>1,265,649,665</u>	<u>966,535,972</u>
EQUITY AND LIABILITIES		
Equity		
Accumulated Reserve	<u>407,495,746</u>	<u>174,714,974</u>
Total Equity	407,495,746	174,714,974
Non-Current Liabilities		
Deferred Capital Grant	408,075,070	426,999,267
Total Non-Current Liabilities	<u>408,075,070</u>	<u>426,999,267</u>
Current Liabilities		
Creditors and Accrued Expenses	12,000,000	15,154,348
Deferred Revenue Grant	<u>438,078,849</u>	<u>349,667,383</u>
Total Current Liabilities	450,078,849	364,821,731
TOTAL LIABILITIES AND EQUITY	<u>1,265,649,665</u>	<u>966,535,972</u>

Notes and related statements forming part of these financial statements appear on pages 17 to 31.

Report of the Auditors – page 12

These Financial Statements were approved by the Executive Council for issue on _____ 2016 and were signed on their behalf by;



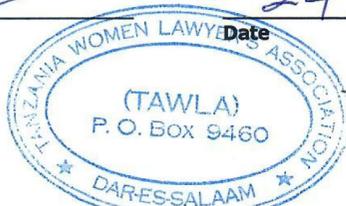
Ms Aisha Bade
 Council Chairperson

 Date 24/05 2016



Ms Tike Mwambipile
 Executive Director

 Date 24/05/ 2016





TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CHANGES IN EQUITY FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	<u>Accumulated Fund</u> TZS
As at 1 January 2015	174,714,974
Surplus for the year	232,780,772
As at 31 December 2015	<u>407,495,746</u>
As at 1 January 2014	(13,555,850)
Surplus for the year	188,270,824
As at 31 December 2014	<u>174,714,974</u>

Notes and related statements forming part of these financial statements appear on pages 17 to 31

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TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION

STATEMENT OF CASH FLOWS FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2015

	<u>2015</u>	<u>2014</u>
	TZS	TZS
CASH FLOW FROM OPERATING ACTIVITIES		
- Net surplus for the year	232,780,772	188,270,824
Adjustments for non-cash expenses		
- Amortization of Capital grant	17,584,062	17,669,676
- Amortization of intangible assets	15,880,336	-
- Non Cash movement on deferred capital grant	(102,069,402)	(55,752,106)
Changes in Operating Assets and Liabilities		
- Increase/(Decrease) in receivables	36,494,501	(19,310,999)
- Increase/(Decrease) in deferred capital grant	(18,924,197)	23,439,990
- Increase/(Decrease) in payables & provisions	(3,154,348)	(63,789,309)
- Increase/(Decrease) in deferred revenue grant	88,411,466	(446,493,840)
<i>Net Cash Flow From Operating Activities</i>	<u>267,003,189</u>	<u>(355,965,764)</u>
Cash Flows from Investing Activities		
Purchase of property and equipment	(14,540,200)	(14,642,440)
<i>Net Cash Flow from Investing Activities</i>	<u>(14,540,200)</u>	<u>(14,642,440)</u>
CASH FLOW FROM FINANCING ACTIVITIES		
Net Increase/(Decrease) in cash and cash equivalents	281,543,389	(341,323,324)
Cash and cash equivalents at beginning of the year	<u>520,225,707</u>	<u>861,549,031</u>
Cash and cash equivalent at end of the year	<u>801,769,096</u>	<u>520,225,707</u>

Notes and related statements forming part of these financial statements appear on pages 17 to 31

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TAWLA COUNCIL MEMBERS



Aisha Zumo Bade - Chairperson



Margaret Ringo - Vice Chairperson



Athanasia Soka - Hon. Secretary



Asina A. Omari - Hon. Treasurer



Annmarie Mavenjina - Member



Bernadetha Mkandya - Member



Sarah Mhamilawa - Member

TANZANIA WOMEN LAWYERS ASSOCIATION (TAWLA)

