



WPS BULLETIN

Message from the Editor



Dear Readers,

February 2026 brought renewed attention to the structural forces shaping peace and security across Africa. While armed conflict continues to dominate headlines, the developments highlighted in this Bulletin show that the drivers of instability extend far beyond the battlefield. Governance decisions, constitutional reforms, civic freedoms, and access to natural resources all play a decisive role in shaping the conditions for peace.

This month's Bulletin examines these interconnected dynamics. At the continental level, the 39th African Union Summit placed water and sanitation at the centre of the African Union Agenda 2063 signalling growing recognition that resource governance is integral to development, stability, and human security. Civil society actors also convened through the Gender Is My Agenda Campaign Network to strengthen gender mainstreaming within African Union institutions and member states, reinforcing the continued importance of feminist advocacy in shaping continental policy processes.

At the national level, several developments highlighted both progress and emerging concerns. In Zimbabwe, debates around the Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment Bill 2026 have raised questions

Inside

42nd GIMAC Pre-Summit CSO Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the African Union and Member States

African Union Summit Elevates Water and Sanitation as Central Pillar of Agenda 2063

Dissolution of the Zimbabwe Gender Commission in the Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2026



about the future of gender equality institutions and the protection of women's rights, such legal changes risk reversing progress made in advancing gender equality. In Gabon, as we have witnessed in many parts of Africa restrictions on social media access sparked concerns over shrinking civic space and its implications for public participation and accountability.

The Bulletin also reflects on ongoing conflict dynamics on the continent. In Sudan, shifting regional and global interests continue to complicate pathways to peace, while in the eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, diplomatic efforts to agree on a ceasefire with the March 23 Movement illustrate the fragile and complex nature of ongoing peace processes, as women, girls and diverse marginalised including women with disabilities and gender diverse groups continue to bear the brunt of war. Meanwhile, security deployments in Somalia and broader global warnings from the United Nations on the deteriorating protection environment for women and girls underscore the persistent vulnerabilities faced by civilians in conflict settings.

Across these contexts, one message remains clear: peacebuilding must address the structural inequalities and governance challenges that shape conflict environments. Women's participation, protection, and leadership remain central to building resilient institutions and inclusive societies.

As the continent navigates these evolving dynamics, the Women, Peace and Security agenda continues to offer an essential framework for advancing sustainable peace, accountability, and human security across Africa.

**In Sisterhood and Solidarity,
Helen Kezie-Nwoha**

Acronyms

AU	African Union
AUSSOM	African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
DRC	Democratic Republic of the Congo
GIMAC	Gender Is My Agenda Campaign Network
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
M23	March 23 Movement
OSE-HoA Africa	United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa
REWiB	Researchers Without Borders
RSF	Rapid Support Forces
SAF	Sudanese Armed Forces
UN	United Nations
UNSCR	United Nations Security Council Resolution
WLSA	Women and Law in Southern Africa
WPS	Women, Peace and Security



42nd GIMAC Pre-Summit CSO Consultative Meeting on Gender Mainstreaming in the African Union and Member States

The Gender Is My Agenda Campaign (GIMAC) Network convened its 42nd Pre-Summit Civil Society Organisations Consultative Meeting from 6–8 February 2026 in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. The meeting brought together women’s rights organisations, youth advocates, policy experts, and civil society leaders ahead of the African Union Summit. The meeting focused on advancing gender mainstreaming within African Union institutions and member states, with particular attention to the African Union’s 2026 theme on ‘Assuring Sustainable Water Availability and Safe Sanitation Systems to Achieve the Goals of Agenda 2063’.

Researchers Without Borders (REWiB) played a prominent leadership role in this year’s consultative meeting as the thematic lead of the GIMAC Network, reflecting the organisation’s continued engagement in advancing the Women, Peace and Security agenda across Africa. Prof. Uchenna Emelonye, REWiB’s Board Member, delivered the keynote address during the meeting, highlighting the importance of ensuring a human rights perspective in strengthening accountability for gender equality commitments in addressing water and sanitation issues in Africa. The consultative meeting provided a platform for civil society organizations to assess progress on gender equality commitments on WASH across the continent while identifying persistent gaps in implementation. Participants emphasised that access to water and sanitation remains deeply gendered. In many communities, women and girls carry the primary responsibility for water collection and household water management. Limited access to safe water sources not only places physical and economic burdens on women but also exposes them to risks of gender based violence and limits opportunities for education, livelihood activities, and leadership.

Discussions further highlighted how water insecurity intersects with climate change, displacement, and conflict. In fragile and conflict-affected settings, inadequate water and sanitation infrastructure can exacerbate community tensions and deepen humanitarian vulnerabilities. Women and girls in displacement settings often face additional protection risks when accessing water points or sanitation facilities, making water governance a critical but often overlooked dimension of the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

At the conclusion of the meeting, civil society organisations adopted an Outcome Document and presented a Communiqué to the African Union Commission and member states ahead of the summit. The communiqué called for stronger accountability mechanisms to ensure that gender equality commitments are translated into concrete policies, budgets, and institutional reforms. It also urged governments and regional bodies to prioritise women's leadership in water governance, climate resilience strategies, and natural resource management.

The outcomes of the consultative meeting reinforce the importance of addressing structural inequalities that undermine women's security and participation. Sustainable peace cannot be achieved without equitable access to essential resources such as water and sanitation, particularly in contexts where scarcity can fuel local tensions and displacement.

As African leaders deliberate on the continent's development and security priorities, the recommendations emerging from the GIMAC process serve as a reminder that gender-responsive governance is central to achieving both Agenda 2063 and broader Women, Peace and Security commitments. Integrating women's perspectives in resource governance will be critical to building resilient communities and preventing resource-driven conflicts across the continent.

<https://www.accord.org.za/news/42nd-gimac-pre-summit-cso-consultative-meeting-on-gender-mainstreaming-in-the-african-union-and-member-states/>

African Union Summit Elevates Water and Sanitation as Central Pillar of Agenda 2063

African Union (AU) leaders convened in Addis Ababa for the 39th AU Summit under the theme: "Assuring Sustainable Water Availability and Achieving Safe Sanitation Systems to Realize the Goals of Agenda 2063." The summit marked a historic milestone as water and sanitation were prioritized for the first time as the central theme of the Union's annual gathering of Heads of State and Government. The summit, held from 11–15 February 2026, recorded high-level attendance and strong political commitment, underscoring the continent's resolve to address one of Africa's most foundational development challenges.

Beyond development priorities, the summit highlighted the growing urgency of strengthening governance and financing systems required to deliver sustainable water and sanitation services across the continent. African Union leaders emphasised that achieving the aspirations of Agenda 2063 will require stronger institutional coordination, increased domestic investment, and partnerships that move beyond short-term infrastructure projects toward long-term water security strategies.

The summit's emphasis on governance and policy implementation carries significant implications. Women remain underrepresented in water management institutions and decision-making bodies, despite

being among the primary managers and users of water resources at the household and community levels. Without their inclusion in planning and governance processes, WASH policies risk overlooking the lived realities of communities most affected by water insecurity.

Strengthening women's participation in water governance can play a transformative role in building more responsive and accountable systems. Women's leadership in local resource management has been shown to improve community trust, strengthen social cohesion, and promote more sustainable use of natural resources. Integrating these perspectives into national and regional water strategies can therefore contribute to both development outcomes and conflict prevention.

The outcomes of the summit signal a broader recognition that solving Africa's water challenges will require coordinated political action and inclusive governance structures. As member states begin implementing the commitments made during the summit, ensuring that women, youth, and local communities are meaningfully involved in decision-making will be essential to translating continental commitments into tangible improvements in water security and social stability.

<https://au.int/en/pressreleases/20260223/african-union-summit-elevates-water-and-sanitation-central-pillar-agenda-2063>

Dissolution of the Zimbabwe Gender Commission in the Constitutional Amendment Bill, 2026

Zimbabwe's Constitution of Zimbabwe Amendment No. 3 Bill, gazetted on 10 February 2026, has sparked significant debate among civil society organisations and women's rights groups over its potential implications for gender equality and constitutional governance. In a press statement issued on 26 February 2026, the organization Women and Law in Southern Africa raised serious concerns over Clauses 18 and 19, which propose dissolving the Zimbabwe Gender Commission and transferring its mandate to the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission.

The Zimbabwe Gender Commission was established under Section 246 of the 2013 Constitution as one of the country's independent commissions tasked with promoting gender equality, investigating discrimination, and monitoring compliance with laws and policies advancing women's rights. Civil society organisations argue that dissolving the Commission risks weakening institutional safeguards that have been central to advancing gender justice since the adoption of the current Constitution.

According to Women and Law in Southern Africa, transferring the Commission's mandate to the Zimbabwe Human Rights Commission could dilute the specialised focus required to address structural gender inequality. Gender discrimination intersects with economic, social, and political power relations, requiring dedicated institutions with technical expertise and clear accountability mechanisms. Shifting these responsibilities into a broader human rights body, critics argue, risks sidelining gender equality concerns among competing priorities.

The proposed amendments also raise broader concerns about the future of women's political participation and representation in Zimbabwe. Women remain underrepresented in decision-making institutions, and gender-focused oversight bodies have played an important role in monitoring government compliance with equality provisions and advocating for reforms. Weakening such mechanisms could slow progress toward gender-responsive governance and reduce avenues through which women can seek redress for discrimination.

Civil society organisations further warn that the proposed changes could place Zimbabwe at odds with its commitments to regional and international gender equality frameworks. The country is a signatory to several frameworks that require states to maintain strong institutional mechanisms for advancing women's rights, including the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Women in Africa and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women.

Institutional protections for gender equality are a critical component of inclusive governance and democratic accountability. Independent bodies such as the Zimbabwe Gender Commission provide mechanisms through which structural inequalities can be addressed and women's voices integrated into national policy

processes. As Zimbabwe debates the proposed constitutional amendments, the outcome will have important implications for the institutional architecture supporting gender equality and the broader trajectory of women's participation in governance and peacebuilding.

<https://wlsazim.co.zw/2026/02/27/press-statement-clauses-18-19-of-the-constitutional-amendment-bill-2026/#:~:text=Women%20and%20Law%20in%20Southern%20Africa%20has%20noted%20the%20gazetting,application%20of%20all%20constitutional%20provisions.>

UN condemns attack on civilians in Nigeria

Women and girls continue to face escalating risks in conflict settings, even as global commitments to the Women, Peace and Security agenda approach a quarter century. In February 2026, the United Nations warned that the rights and protection of women and girls in conflict-affected contexts remain under severe strain, as rising violence, shrinking humanitarian funding, and political instability undermine hard-won gains in gender equality.

According to the United Nations, the current global security landscape is characterised by an increase in armed conflicts, rising military expenditure, and persistent sexual and gender-based violence. These trends are occurring at a moment when international support systems intended to protect women and girls are under growing pressure. Funding shortfalls are affecting access to education, health care, and survivor support services in crisis settings, limiting the ability of humanitarian actors to respond effectively to gender-specific needs.

The warning comes more than two decades after the adoption of United Nations Security Council Resolution (UNSCR) 1325, the landmark framework that formally recognised the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and called for their meaningful participation in peacebuilding and security decision-making. The resolution established a global commitment to ensuring women's protection in conflict, increasing their participation in peace processes, and integrating gender perspectives into security policies and post-conflict recovery.

Despite this framework, implementation gaps remain significant. Women continue to be underrepresented in peace negotiations, mediation processes, and security institutions, even though their participation has been shown to improve the durability of peace agreements and strengthen community trust. At the same time, sexual violence and other forms of gender-based violence remain widely used as tactics of intimidation in many conflicts.

These trends highlight the urgency of reinvesting in gender-responsive peace and security strategies. Women's organisations, which often operate at the frontline of conflict prevention and community recovery, require sustained financial and political support to continue their work. Strengthening accountability for violations against women and girls, protecting civic space, and ensuring women's participation in political and peace processes are essential to reversing current setbacks.

As global conflicts grow more complex, the message from the United Nations is clear: peace efforts that exclude women are less effective and less sustainable. Protecting women's rights and amplifying their leadership is not only a matter of justice, but a strategic necessity for building lasting peace and stability.

<https://news.un.org/en/story/2026/02/1166903>

Resetting the Political Calculus of the Sudan Conflict

Sudan's ongoing war cannot be understood solely as a domestic power struggle between rival military leaders. Analysis from the Africa Center for Strategic Studies argues that the conflict has increasingly been shaped by a wider network of regional actors whose financial, political, and strategic interests have prolonged the violence. Resetting the political calculus of the war, the analysis suggests, requires increasing the costs for external actors who continue to fuel the conflict while supporting a unified and sovereign Sudan.

The conflict, which erupted in April 2023, pits the Sudanese Armed Forces (SAF) against the Rapid Support Forces (RSF) in a violent struggle for control of the State. While both factions compete for political authority and economic assets within Sudan, the country's strategic location along the Red Sea, fertile agricultural land, and significant gold reserves have drawn the attention of regional powers seeking influence over Sudan's future trajectory. These dynamics have transformed the war into a complex political economy conflict sustained by competing networks of support.

The Africa Center analysis notes that as long as these external incentives remain intact, neither faction has strong motivation to pursue a negotiated settlement. Financial flows, military assistance, and diplomatic backing from external actors have effectively reduced the immediate costs of continued fighting. This has contributed to a prolonged stalemate in which military leaders continue to pursue battlefield gains despite the catastrophic humanitarian consequences for civilians particularly women and girls.

From a peacebuilding perspective, shifting these incentives is central to any sustainable resolution. Increasing reputational and financial costs for external actors that enable the conflict could help alter the strategic calculations of the warring parties. At the same time, diplomatic engagement must acknowledge the competing regional interests involved while reinforcing the principle of Sudan's sovereignty and territorial integrity.

The implications of the prolonged war are particularly severe for women and girls. As the conflict continues to fragment communities and collapse essential services, women face heightened risks of displacement, gender-based violence, and economic insecurity. Civilian protection mechanisms have weakened significantly, and women-led civil society organisations that once played key roles in Sudan's democratic transition now operate under extremely constrained conditions.

Ultimately, resolving the Sudan conflict will require more than military de-escalation between rival groups. A durable peace will depend on recalibrating the political and economic incentives that sustain the war while restoring meaningful civilian participation in governance. Without addressing these structural drivers, Sudan risks deeper fragmentation, prolonged humanitarian suffering, and continued instability across the Horn of Africa.

<https://africacenter.org/spotlight/resetting-the-political-calculus-of-the-sudan-conflict/>

DR Congo agrees to Angola-proposed ceasefire with M23 armed group

The government of the Democratic Republic of the Congo announced on 13 February 2026 that it had accepted a ceasefire proposal put forward by Angola aimed at halting fighting with the March 23 Movement (M23) armed group in the country's volatile eastern region. The ceasefire, proposed by Angolan President João Lourenço as part of regional mediation efforts, was expected to take effect on 18 February 2026 as part of a broader push to create conditions for dialogue and a peaceful resolution to the conflict.

The proposal emerged following high-level consultations in Luanda, which brought together Congolese President Félix Tshisekedi, Togolese President Faure Gnassingbé who is serving as the African Union mediator while former Nigerian President Olusegun Obasanjo, is one of the facilitators supporting the peace process. The Congolese presidency signalled its willingness to pursue a political solution, while warning that any attempts by armed actors to strengthen military positions during the ceasefire period could undermine the credibility of the process.

The ceasefire initiative comes amid escalating violence in eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, where the M23 armed group has been central to renewed conflict. The group, which United Nations experts and several governments say has received backing from neighbouring Rwanda, has seized significant territory in North Kivu and South Kivu, including major urban centres such as Goma and Bukavu in 2025. The fighting has displaced hundreds of thousands of civilians and intensified one of Africa's most complex and protracted humanitarian crises.

The Angola-mediated ceasefire reflects growing regional recognition that the conflict cannot be resolved through military confrontation. However, available reporting suggests that women's organisations and women leaders have not been visibly represented in the mediation or negotiation structures, which have largely been dominated by political and military actors. This gap raises important concerns for the Women, Peace and Security agenda, which calls for women's full and meaningful participation in peace processes. In eastern Democratic Republic of the Congo, where women and girls face severe consequences of displacement and sexual violence, their exclusion risks limiting the scope and sustainability of peace efforts. Ensuring women's participation in ceasefire monitoring, dialogue processes, and recovery planning will therefore be critical to building inclusive and durable peace.

Prolonged instability has been associated also with widespread displacement, and the collapse of essential services such as healthcare and education. Women in displacement settings often face increased protection risks when accessing food, water, and humanitarian assistance, while women's organisations operating in the region struggle with limited resources and restricted mobility.

The proposed ceasefire presents both an opportunity and a challenge. While halting hostilities could reduce immediate civilian harm, sustainable peace will depend on ensuring that women's voices are included in mediation processes, community reconciliation efforts, and post-conflict recovery planning. Without inclusive political solutions that address the structural drivers of violence, ceasefire agreements risk remaining temporary pauses rather than pathways to durable peace.

<https://www.aa.com.tr/en/africa/dr-congo-agrees-to-angola-proposed-ceasefire-with-m23-armed-group/3829324>

Egypt boosts commitment to Somalia's stability with new military deployment

Egypt has expanded its military presence in Somalia as part of its participation in the African Union mission supporting security and stability in the country, marking a significant shift in the strategic dynamics of the Horn of Africa. The deployment, reported on 11 February 2026, reflects Cairo's stated commitment to supporting Somalia's territorial integrity and strengthening regional security cooperation.

The additional Egyptian forces are participating in the African Union Support and Stabilization Mission in Somalia (AUSSOM), a multinational effort aimed at assisting Somali authorities in combating armed groups and strengthening state security institutions. Somali President Hassan Sheikh Mohamud and Egyptian military leadership reportedly attended a ceremony marking the deployment of Egyptian troops participating in the mission.

Egypt's growing involvement in Somalia comes amid shifting geopolitical tensions in the Horn of Africa and the Red Sea region. Regional rivalries, evolving alliances, and external interests in strategic maritime routes have increasingly shaped security dynamics in the area. The move has also been linked to broader regional developments, including diplomatic tensions and concerns over influence in the Horn of Africa.

The deployment reflects the expanding role of regional actors in addressing instability across the Horn of Africa. Multilateral security missions have become central to supporting fragile states facing insurgencies and governance challenges. However, the effectiveness of such deployments depends not only on military presence but also on strengthening local institutions, supporting political dialogue, and addressing the root causes of conflict such as economic marginalization, weak governance, and community grievances.

Regional security missions carry important implications. Women in Somalia continue to face significant protection risks due to prolonged conflict, displacement, and limited access to essential services. While security stabilization efforts may contribute to reducing armed violence, durable peace will require inclusive governance processes that ensure women's participation in political and security decision-making.

Women's civil society organisations in Somalia have long played critical roles in community mediation, humanitarian response, and local peace initiatives. Integrating these actors into broader stabilization and peace processes can strengthen community trust and enhance the legitimacy of security interventions. Without such inclusion, peace operations risk addressing only the immediate symptoms of insecurity rather than the deeper structural drivers of conflict.

As regional and continental actors continue to engage in Somalia's stabilization efforts, aligning security initiatives with inclusive governance and community-based peacebuilding will be essential for achieving sustainable stability in the Horn of Africa.

<https://www.jpost.com/middle-east/article-886322>

Gabon suspends access to social media as critics accuse its leader of crackdown on dissent

Authorities in Gabon suspended access to social media platforms nationwide on 17 February 2026, citing concerns over what the government described as “defamatory, hateful and insulting content” circulating online that could undermine state institutions and national security. The decision was announced by the country’s media regulator, the High Authority for Communication, which ordered an immediate shutdown of digital platforms until further notice.

The suspension significantly affected widely used platforms such as Meta’s Facebook, WhatsApp, and TikTok, which serve as primary communication channels for many Gabonese citizens. WhatsApp calls and messaging services also experienced disruptions across the country following the announcement. Authorities argued that the measure was necessary to curb online content that they claimed threatened social stability and violated national laws regulating digital communication.

The move has drawn criticism from opposition groups and civil society actors who argue that the suspension reflects a broader pattern of restrictions on civic space under the leadership of President Brice Clotaire Oligui Nguema. The president came to power after leading a military coup that ousted long-time leader Ali Bongo Ondimba, and later won elections that were expected to mark a transition toward constitutional governance. However, critics say the political environment has increasingly tightened, with reports of arrests targeting journalists, trade unionists, and other voices critical of the government.

Restrictions on digital communication platforms raise important concerns about civic participation and public trust in governance institutions. Social media has become a key space for political dialogue, citizen mobilisation, and information sharing, particularly among young people. When access to these platforms is curtailed, opportunities for open debate and peaceful civic engagement can be significantly reduced.

The implications are particularly significant for women’s rights advocates and grassroots organisations that rely on digital platforms to coordinate community initiatives, document human rights concerns, and mobilise around issues such as gender-based violence and political participation. Digital restrictions can therefore disproportionately affect women activists and civil society networks that already operate within constrained political environments.

Safeguarding civic and digital spaces is essential to ensuring meaningful participation in governance and peacebuilding processes. Transparent communication channels and inclusive public dialogue are critical to building trust, preventing misinformation, and enabling citizens—particularly women and youth—to engage constructively in national political life.

<https://www.latimes.com/world-nation/story/2026-02-18/gabon-suspends-access-to-social-media-as-critics-accuse-its-leader-of-crackdown-on-dissent#:~:text=0:00%20:00,were%20severely%20impacted%20on%20Wednesday>

OSE-HoA strengthens partnership with IGAD in advancing the Women, Peace and Security Agenda in the Horn of Africa

From 25–27 February 2026, the United Nations Office of the Special Envoy for the Horn of Africa (OSE-HoA) strengthened its collaboration with the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) to advance the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda across the Horn of Africa. The engagement focused on deepening cooperation between the United Nations and regional institutions to ensure that gender perspectives are more systematically integrated into peacebuilding, conflict prevention, and mediation processes in the region.

The discussions highlighted the importance of aligning regional peace and security initiatives with WPS commitments, particularly in a region experiencing multiple and overlapping crises, including armed conflict, political instability, and climate-related displacement. Strengthening institutional coordination between the United Nations and IGAD was identified as critical to improving the implementation of gender-responsive peacebuilding strategies and ensuring that women’s participation is embedded within regional mediation and security frameworks.



The Horn of Africa continues to face complex security challenges, with conflicts in countries such as Sudan, Ethiopia, and Somalia creating significant humanitarian and governance pressures. In these contexts, women and girls often face disproportionate risks, including displacement, economic marginalisation, and gender-based violence. Integrating the WPS agenda into regional peace and security mechanisms therefore remains essential to addressing the gendered impacts of conflict and ensuring inclusive responses to emerging crises.

The partnership between OSE-HoA and IGAD also emphasised the importance of strengthening women’s leadership and participation in peace processes at both national and regional levels. Regional organisations such as IGAD play a pivotal role in mediation and diplomatic engagement across the Horn of Africa, making them key actors in advancing the commitments outlined in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325 and subsequent WPS resolutions.

Reinforcing collaboration between the United Nations and regional institutions can help bridge the gap between global commitments and local implementation. Ensuring that women’s voices are included in conflict prevention, mediation, and post-conflict recovery efforts remains critical to building sustainable peace across the Horn of Africa. Strengthened partnerships such as this signal growing recognition that regional cooperation is essential to advancing gender-responsive peace and security frameworks.

<https://dppa.un.org/en/news/ose-hoa-strengthens-partnership-igad-advancing-women-peace-and-security-agenda-horn>



Conclusion

The developments of February 2026 illustrate the complex and interconnected nature of peace and security across Africa. From continental policy discussions on WASH to national debates on constitutional reform, and from ceasefire negotiations in conflict zones to restrictions on civic space, the challenges facing the continent extend across political, social, and environmental dimensions.

These developments also reaffirm the importance of addressing the structural drivers of insecurity. Resource governance, democratic accountability, institutional integrity, and civic participation all shape the conditions under which peace can either flourish or deteriorate. When these systems are weakened, the effects are often felt most acutely by women and girls, who face heightened exposure to violence, exclusion, and economic vulnerability.

At the same time, the continued mobilisation of civil society and regional institutions demonstrates that opportunities for progress remain. Initiatives aimed at strengthening gender mainstreaming, promoting inclusive governance, and advancing diplomatic solutions to armed conflicts highlight the potential for collaborative approaches to peacebuilding.

Moving forward, translating commitments into meaningful change will require sustained political will and the inclusion of diverse voices in decision-making processes. Ensuring that women are not only protected but also empowered to participate in shaping peace and governance structures is essential to building resilient societies.

As Africa continues to confront evolving security challenges, the Women, Peace and Security agenda remains a critical framework for guiding responses that prioritise inclusion, justice, and sustainable peace.

Keep up with what we're doing by following us online!



Copyright © 2026 Researchers without Borders, all rights reserved.