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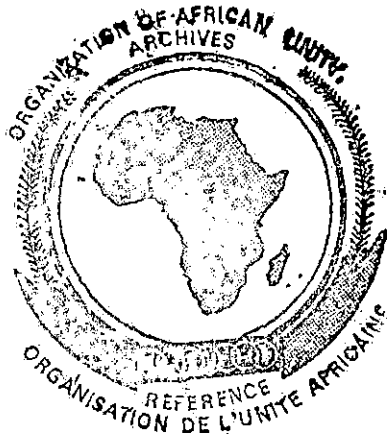
Thirtieth Ordinary Session

February 1978

CONSIDERATION OF APPLICATION FOR SUBVENTION

BY THE PAN-AFRICAN WOMEN'S

ORGANIZATION



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PAN-AFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Algiers, 6 August 1977

The Secretary General
The Organization of African Unity
Addis Ababa
Ethiopia

Request for Subvention

Mr. Secretary General,

We have the honour to inform you that the Pan-African Women's Organization will conduct a number of activities as shown in its programme of Action adopted during the meeting of the Pan-African Women's General Secretariat which was held in Algiers from 10 to 12 July, 1977 and which brought together 11 member organizations out of the 12 (From Algeria, Mali, SWAPO, Senegal, Cameroon, Ivory Coast, Egypt, Madagascar, Liberia, Congo and Tanzania).

Our programme especially recommended:

- 1) To seek contacts with member bodies with a view to strengthening and widening P.W.O. relations so as to further efforts of making known the documents of the 4th Congress of P.W.O. held at Dakar in 1974 as well as the resolutions of the International Year of Women and within the spirit of the Women's decade as observed by the United Nations Organization (U.N.O.).
- 2) The Holding of three important Seminars
- December 1977 Seminar of Solidarity with the peoples struggle against Racism and Apartheid in Southern Africa.

- First Half of 1978, Seminar on African Infancy within the spirit of children's International year (1979)
 - Second Half 1978: Seminar dealing with the Status of African Women if possible (in collaboration with Pan-African Jurists)
- 3) The meeting of Pan-African Women Organization's Council end of 1978.
- The strengthening of relations with International Institutions for a better understanding of problems encountered in the promotion of the African Woman.
 - Half-yearly publication of the journal "African Women".
 - The Running of P.W.O. Permanent Secretariat.

To enable us to achieve these initiatives within the best conditions, we kindly request from the 30th Session of the Council of Ministers of the Organization of African Unity a subvention of US.\$100.000 Dollars (One hundred thousand dollars) which will enable us to accomplish our programme of action, and pay back the debts acquired bearing in mind the financial problems as experienced by our organization.

We would like to recall to you that due to the unfortunate inefficiency surrounding the mail system in Africa, it was not possible for us to forward our requests for 1976 and 1977 to the OAU General Secretariat in good time, resulting in the loss of the subvention generally to be granted to us in the same manner as it is granted to other Pan-African Organizations.

Mr. Secretary General, as we emphasised to you during our meeting with you in Tripoli, the Pan-African Women's Organization has effectively distinguished itself in various fields thanks to the important assistance rendered to it on

one hand by the OAU and on the other hand by the host country of its headquarters. Unfortunately for two years we have not had the valuable aid from the OAU for two years, which has seriously handicapped our effectiveness and considerably reduced our impact. We herewith forward you the report of activities of our Organization presented to our last meeting on 10 July 1977.

As you will find out sir, our Organization has not fully accomplished its objectives in all its fields as recommended by OAU resolutions as well as in conformity with its statutes. Next year also promises to be a very busy one especially at this time when the struggle for the political and economic liberation is intensified and calls for increased mobilisation of all Pan-African peoples organizations.

Mr Secretary General, we urgently appeal to the Advisory Committee and the Council of Ministers through your good offices so that it may consider our present request very leniently and carefully, we dare say that the position of our organization will not make you indifferent and that you will whole-heartedly help us carry out the mission assigned to us, we assure you of our sincere desire of giving our modest contribution to the task you are performing for the people of Africa.

We forward to you enclosed herewith a copy of our previous request which was not followed up, as well as a copy of our report of activities and financial documents justifying the expenses of our last subvention.

We would like to reiterate our deep gratitude for the interest and deep concern you have always shown to our Organization.

Wishing you complete success in the accomplishment of your noble mission, please accept our total adherence to the objectives of the Organization of African Unity and our firm determination to support you in the realisation of all resolutions for the liberation and prosperity of African peoples.

P.W.O. Secretary-General
Mrs. Fethia BETTAHAR

PANAFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Ref. No. 00137/DPF/PAWO/SG/AZ/77

ATTESTATION

I the undersigned, Mrs. Taher Tsesurer -
General of the Panafriean Women's Organization, certify to
having bought at diplomatic price, a Peugeot 504 station wagon
car on 26 April 1977, for the Pan-African Women's Organization
as a service car.

In testimony whereof I am issuing this attestation.

Algiers 8 August 1977.

PANAFRICAN WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION
GENERAL SECRETARIAT

Algiers, 6 August, 1977

SUMMARY OF EXPENDITURES

During its Budgetary Session held in February 1975, the OAU appropriated the sum of US.\$ 35,000 Dollars (Thirty five thousand US. Dollars which is 161,000 DA (One hundred sixty one thousand Algerian Dinars)).

$$4.60 \text{ DA} \times 35.000 = 161,000 \text{ DA}$$

Expenditure on this Subvention:

Salary of Political Staff

a) From January to December 1976	72,000 DA
b) From January to December 1977	36,000 DA
- Postal Charges	29,933 DA 25
Equipment (purchase of 1 service car)	22,772 DA 64
	<u>160,705, DA 89</u>

REPORT OF ACTIVITIES OF PANAFRICAN
WOMEN'S ORGANIZATION

Meeting of 12 July 1977 in Algiers

As we mentioned in our introductory letter, we met at a very important historical moment of our continent. In fact, our session was held at an exceptionally important period with regards to matters related to the political developments of our people, characterised by increased imperialist aggressions against our peoples.

If our meeting today will be reviewing the P.A.W.O.'s activities, and looking at the situation, it will especially be aimed at looking at the real situation on the African continent and enlightening us as to how we can effectively devise new strategies to be undertaken by the Liberation Movements. Our concern in **conformity** with the statutes and the OAU charter remains the political and economic liberation of the African peoples who wishing that our present meeting be, like the 4th PAWO Congress in Dakar, a gathering of renewed friendship, of the African Unity; and also would pray that our deliberations be logical, that is to say, **bring** about understanding and active solidarity which should enable us together to study the problems of our continent with a view to **finding** appropriate solutions.

It is our hope that this meeting will mark the beginning of increased contribution of each one of us in the development of PAWO, in the strengthening of the Unity among our national Organizations, that unity which will contribute tremendously towards strong and genuine friendship and understanding among our States with a view to the strengthening of the OAU; to which we are fully committed.

Our last meeting in Algiers resulted in our confirming important resolutions and recommendations made by the 4th Congress and on the basis of which we prepared a broad programme of action which should enable our organization to undertake a

number of activities at national and international levels, and strengthen its moral authority and supporters.

We were preoccupied with the realisation of our tasks by the Congress as a priority during the International Year for Women which was well received by the 4th Congress.

Within the spirit of the International Year for Women as proclaimed by resolution 3010 of the United Nations General Assembly, which called for the doubling of efforts aimed at the promotion of equal rights, opportunities and responsibilities for the two sexes, to ensure full integration of women in world development activities and increased participation in international cooperation for the consolidation of World Peace. The PAWO recommends to all its affiliated bodies to deploy all their efforts in mobilising women for communal activities leading to social progress, national independence and international solidarity.

The International Year for Women was hailed by all African national organizations which were duty-bound to effectively and deeply participate in all activities to make this important event.

Thus in Mali, Senegal, Guinea, Somalia, Ivory Coast, Cameroon, Burundi, Rwanda, Congo to mention just a few countries, National Preparatory Committees were set up in which high officials and the authorities of these countries participated. A great deal of work was accomplished in terms of research contributing immensely to the success of this year.

Within this spirit, on 8 March the International Day for Women was observed for the first time during the International Year, in Niger, Rwanda, Guinea-Bissau, and Ethiopia.

The International Year for Women was an opportunity for giving confidence to millions of Africans and necessary strength for continuing their struggle for their objectives, a struggle crowned with success. In a number of African countries, Governments have undertaken concrete steps in the promotion of women.

In Zambia, and Tanzania the number of Women Members of Parliament has increased, in Kenya and Liberia women were appointed into the Governments, for the first time. In Cameroon, Mauritania, Benin and Gabon women were appointed ministers for Social Affairs.

For the first time in Africa, in the Central African Empire a woman was appointed Prime Minister.

Our Panafrican Women's Organisation, anxious to see that women are more and more conscious and dynamic in the political and economic liberation of Africa, undertook notable initiatives. From two notable seminars: The First Seminar at the initiative of only the PAWO which ended in total success was held in Mogadishu from 2 to 6 April 1975 in collaboration with Somali Women's Union during the International Year for Women dealt with such topics as "The Woman and her Fundamental Rights", "The African Woman the economic development of her Country", "The African Woman and the National Liberation Struggle".

The large participation by delegates from African Organisations, Liberation Movements, Observers, led to a harmonious agreement to take a common stand on major problems regarding the promotion of the African Woman.

PAWO would like to pay homage to the Somali Government, to the Somali Women's Union, for the hospitality offered to its Seminar and in spite of the economic situation seriously affected by drought.

The resolution adopted underlines the obstacles to be encountered in the harmonious promotion of the African Woman: especially colonisation and under-development.

During this meeting the delegates evaluated the present and future potentialities of the African Woman:

- In relation to opportunities offered by the political infrastructure: Independent State or Colonised,
- In relation to the economy, which is the material basis of the society.
- Concerning the place of women in the political life and planning at the local, national and international levels.
- Concerning legislative rules such as working rules.
- In relation to rights in marriage and family law.

The final resolution emphasised that the struggle for the woman's rights is inseparable from the struggle for national independence, liberty and for peace: thus following the recommendation for continuing with efforts in the promotion of women, it is necessary to defeat all forces which are against peace, the forces which are responsible for the economic and social injustice which trample over human

rights and support racist, colonial and neo-colonialist regimes; furthermore it was affirmed that full integration of the woman in the development of her society calls for radical changes in the political, economic, social and cultural structures inherited from the colonial period.

The second seminar equally significant, held in close collaboration with M.P.J. and the Congolese Youth Union in Brazzaville from 20 to 24 September 1976 dwelt on the central theme: "The Young African girl and her role in the political, economic and cultural struggle of the Continent". As a result of its detailed contents, the Young Girls' seminar emerged with a pledge from the African girls to take appropriate steps to bring about their increased participation in the political life side by side with other Youths of the Continent. This has obliged us to renew our thanks and gratitude to the Government of the Congolese R.P. and to the Congolese Youth Union for their generous contribution to the success of this meeting.

The first resolution adopted by the participants will be a relief not only by curbing the obstacles in the emancipation of the young African girl, but especially in emphasizing their abilities in important national social reconstruction tasks as well as in political struggle.

The two seminars were also great forums for all the people who are struggling and suffering from oppression the world over.

All the documents (reports and resolutions) issued by these two meetings were sent to the United Nations Organization to Mrs. Helvi Sipila, Secretary General of the International Year for Women and the Mexico Conference.

These two meetings constituted for PAWO, two important preparatory stages, for its active participation in the International Conference of Mexico (June 1975), as in the Forum of non-Governmental Bodies (June 1975), as well as in the World Women Congress (October 1975).

The Declaration and Plan of Action of the Mexico Conference organised by the United Nations dealt with basic problems to be resolved before women acceded to their equality. They embrace entirely the conclusions of our meetings. They corroborate that equal rights, opportunities, and responsibilities between man and woman signify equality of their intrinsic value and being, as well as total integration of the woman in national development and in the maintenance of world peace, should be effectively secured.

They strongly emphasise that international peace and cooperation suppose previous imperative: national liberation, political and economic independence, the elimination of colonialism, neo-colonialism, racism, apartheid, Zionism, Fascism, Discrimination in all its forms.

All these steps, all these meetings together with the efforts deployed for the special preparations of the Congress should show to the World Congress the climax of all exhibitions of the International Year for Women, and its universal dimensions.

On its part, PAWO, member of the Preparatory Committee, took part in all meetings in Berlin, Prague, Budapest. Our Organisation has, moreover, thanks to the valuable cooperation from the Algerian People's Democratic Republic, hosted in September 1975 an important working Preparatory Committee of the Berlin Congress charged with the preparation of the working document for the third Commission "The Woman and her Integration in Economic Development". PAWO was confided with presiding this third Commission in Berlin during the Congress' meeting whose resolutions had far-reaching repercussions.

CONTACT WITH MEMBER BODIES

All documents approved in Mogadishu, Brazzaville, Algiers, Mexico or Berlin and which largely reflect African Women's aspirations, have enabled the PAWO to launch a vast sympathetic and information campaign with PAWO member bodies through direct contacts at the continental level were thus contacted through our good offices: the Mali Women's Organisation, the Women Organisations of Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Sierra Leone, Ivory Coast, Togo, Congo, Somalia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Mauritius, Egypt, Libya and Gabon.

Everywhere we went an enthusiastic welcome greeted this initiative through the national organisations and the countries' leaders.

We had the honour of being received by their Excellencies Presidents of the Republic of Guinea-Bissau, Liberia, Guinea, Togo, Somalia and Libya and by Foreign Ministers of all the countries visited. All this shows a keen interest in the activities and aims of PAWO.

We on our part would consider this interest as a real support accorded the PAWO in carrying out its mission in the service of Africa.

By these tours we have been able to increase contacts widened our relations and have interested African States at the highest levels in the major pre-occupations of Pan-African Women's Organisation. We have been able to strengthen relations with the Union members and have examined with them, their activities, and achievements and sometimes their difficulties which hinder their development.

These trips equally enabled us to arrive at some conclusions such as those countries with economic problems (national organisations inspite of their fidelity and their attachment to our Organisation faced the same problems as their people which prevent them from meeting some material obligations vis-a-vis the PAWO Dues).

In spite of enormous economic problems facing many African countries such as Guinea's URFG true to its revolutionary engagement was able to host in February 1977, within the framework of the International Year ~~for~~ Women 75% contributed by the UNO, a far-reaching seminar in Conakry in close collaboration with the PAWO, FL.F, OSPAA, and UGFA. This seminar was held under the theme of solidarity with the peoples of Angola and South Africa. The theme was "The Experiences of Women of Independent African States in the victorious struggle against colonialism and the problems they encounter in overcoming colonial heritage in all its aspects such as political, economic and educational". Women's role and duties and their organisation in the struggle against colonialism and neo-colonialism, racial discrimination and Apartheid for national independence, Democracy and peace.

Delegations from 25 African and 24 Middle East countries, Socialist Countries, from Asia, Latin America as well as representatives from international organisations attended.

As regards material aid for the liberation movements, our PAWO occupied itself seriously with the issue in conformity with the resolutions of all our meetings.

Inspite of the Organisation's financial problems the permanent Secretariat tried to come to the aid of the noble

cause of these glorious South African freedom fighters.

Conscious of the insufficiency of information on the struggle of our sisters in Zimbabwe, Namibia and South Africa the Secretariat thought of setting up a Radio Station (under the PAWO) in Dar-es-Salaam; a front-line state. This Committee composed of liberation movements and militants would work in close collaboration with the Tanzania Women's Union, member of the PAWO General Secretariat responsible for South-Eastern Region.

This station will be charged with the responsibility of gathering maximum information on the situation in South Africa and in front-line states and to broadcast these. It could also assess the needs of our sisters in this area thereby enabling the General Secretariat to know how it could meet these needs.

Although it is obvious that this Bureau will be under the PAWO it is with great satisfaction that we announce to you that this project can finally be realised thanks to the exceptionally generous assistance from the Jamahireya (Republic of Libya) and His Excellency President Gaddafi who conscious of the importance and the impact of this project, accepted to finance the whole project.

May we on behalf of all our member organisations express our profound gratitude for this highly revolutionary generosity.

RELATIONS WITH THE OAU AND OTHER PANAFRICAN
ORGANISATIONS

The PAWO which fully subscribes to the OAU Charter and carrying out its resolutions has done all in its power to maintain the best of relations with the OAU, mother of Africa through permanent contact and its involvement in most of its activities.

Thus PAWO took part in OAU Summit:

- 1) At the 25th Session of the Council of Ministers and in the 12th Summit held in Kampala on 18 July 1975 which examined at length the admission of Four new members: Mozambique, Cape-Verde, Sao-Tome and Principe and Comoro Islands, many questions were dealt with such as Angola, Western Sahara, the so-called French Somaliland, Middle East and Palestine.
- 2) In the 11th Heads of State and Government Conference in the Democratic Republic of Somalia, the 1st Extraordinary Heads of State Conference was held in Addis Ababa from 8-12 January 1976 (with its unique agenda on the situation in Angola).

This was marked by very lively discussions. Recalling the fact that on the eve of this summit during a joint PAWO-MPJ and liberation movements meeting we examined the situation and adopted a joint Declaration in which we underlined the gravity of the problem and the involvement of popular African support for the MPLA.

On the basis of this declaration messages were sent to the then Chairman of the OAU and the General Secretariat calling for the recognition of the People's Republic of Angola and its admission to the OAU.

- 3) In the 27th session of the Council of Ministers and the 13th Summit of the OAU Heads of State and Government in Port Louis, Mauritius from 25-June to 5 July, 1976 which concerned itself with the situation in Southern Africa, Somalia and in Western Sahara.
- 4) In the second African Labour Ministers Conference in Tripoli (Libya) from 22 - 30 April 1977.
- 5) In the 29th Session of the Council of Ministers and the 14th Summit in Libreville, Gabon 1977 which dealt particularly with the problem of the liberation of Southern Africa taking into account the intensification of aggression and reprisals of the racist regimes in South Africa, Namibia, Zimbabwe and in the front-line states.

Besides, the PAWO seriously undertook to strengthen relations with the other Pan-African People's Organisations such as PYM (Pan-African Youth Movement) and (African Trade Union Organisation (ATUO)). Convinced by the fact that only close cooperation existing in our similar movements would enable us to mobilise popular support for the OAU objectives.

PAWO has also taken part in numerous African and international activities; namely in all the solidarity meetings of the national liberation struggles of which we name the following:

From 25 to 29 August 1975 International Women's Year Conference in Moscow.

8-11 September 1975 Guinea-Bissau meeting of the International Peace Council.

6-8 October 1975 Prague Seminar of Czechošlovak Women. Lusaka (ANC).

6-18 October Moscow World Meeting of Young Women.

23-25 September 1975 London Conference of Solidarity with SWAPO.

5-January 1976 Dakar International Conference on Namibia and Human Rights.

6-13 March 1976 Nouakchott 5th Session of the Arab Labour Conference.

7-11 January 1976 Khartoum Colloquium of Information on Afro-Arab Liberation and Development.

24-28 May 1976 Port Louis, Mauritius 40th anniversary of the Labour Party.

16-20 February 1976 Bamako, Mali Family Planning Seminar.

June 1976 Havana, Cuba Conference against Apartheid.

20-23 August 1976 Tripoli (Libya) Second Congress of the Organisation of African Trade Union Unity.

22 November 1976 Conakry (Guinea) Commemoration of the 22nd November anniversary.

10 June 1976 Luanda (Angola) Tribunal on Mercenaries.

13-15 August 1976 Tunis Congress of the UNFT
September 1976 Sofia (Bulgaria) Seminar on Women in Agriculture.



September 1976 Helsinki World Conference on Disarmament.

October 1976 contact with USSR and GDR Organisations.

October 1976 Addis Ababa OSPAA Conference in support of South Africa.

December 1976 Athens OSPAA Conference on Solidarity with the Peoples of Cyprus and Palestine.

January 1976 Moscow Forum on Disarmament.

25-30 April 1977 Tripoli Second Labour Conference.

5-11 May Vassovie Congress of Founders of Peace.

11-20 May 1977 Maputo UNO Conference on Namibia and Zimbabwe.

16-19 June Portugal World Conference against Apartheid - OSPAA.

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