Welcome to today’s edition!

The fourth and last day of 2019 Gender Festival came with the launch of women manifesto ahead of 2019 local governments elections and 2020 General Election in Tanzania. It also involved sharing of key deliberations from all the workshops providing a direction and a way forward for feminist movement in Tanzania.

Enjoy your reading
Gender Activists have launched Election Manifesto just few months before local government elections and a year before 2020 General Elections in Tanzania. The process of developing the manifesto was led by TGNP Mtandao in association with Women Fund Tanzania (VFT) and Coalition of Women for Constitution and Leadership. The process was funded by Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation and UN Women.

“These are women voices drawn from various women groups who participated in the development of the manifesto. Also, the 2019 Gender Festival has validated the demands featured in the manifesto as part of resolutions reached in various workshops” Says Lilian Liundi, TGNP Mtandao Executive Director.

The manifesto on the last day of the 2019 Gender Festival which brought together more than 1500 participants from inside and outside the country. The demands put forth include ensuring friendly and enabling environment for women in and out of political parties to provide leadership positions and equal and fair participation in elections.

“Women Voters, let refuse to be mouth pieces during campaigns”. Says part of the 16 pages document.

Other demands include justice, fairness and safety for women during election process which have been directed to various government institutions including The Police, Office of Registrar of Political Parties, Human Rights Commission, National Election Commission, PCCB among others.

Another demand focused on improvement of social services notably water and health services. The demand was directed towards the political parties and aspirants to make sure that such issues are addressed in their party’s manifestos.

A call was also directed to the media to adhere to its obligation by providing education on women rights, influencing political parties appoint capable women aspirants and encouraging women who aspire to contest for various positions.

“The Manifesto also calls on women to contest for various positions and encourage women, men and society as a whole to trust and elect women into leadership positions” Added Lilian.

The forthcoming government “has a duty to put in place enabling environment of building a nation led by inclusive democracy while respecting women rights and the rights of other marginalized groups”.

Says part of the manifesto

Moreover, the document identifies women welfare and prosperity as key demand especially in economy and ownership and control of resources particularly for poor rural women. Political parties and aspirants are obliged to come up with plans and policies in their manifestos prioritizing women concerns such as women farmers and women engaged in other sectors of production.

This is the fourth women manifesto. Other women manifestos were developed in 2005, 2010, 2015 witnessing positive response especially from political parties.
Celebrating Women Manifesto

Targeting Who?

Women and Men Voters

National Electoral Commission

Registrar of Political Parties

All political Parties

CSOs

Media

Government

Police

PCCB

The Court

General Public
Participants of the 2019 Gender Festival dancing in celebration of the launch of the Women Manifesto. The event attracted more than 1500 women and men from across Tanzania and beyond.