

The Government

Bilateral agreements should favour the inclusion of affirmative action for women in all facets of Nigerian Public Life.

Co-operation should be sought over projects targeted at the majority women in the rural and peri urban communities. Educational projects, early child development initiatives, income generating skills are practical measures which give women the much needed independence and also act as 'gate openers' in accessing women towards discussing with them more strategic issues like their political rights. This is most important in predominantly Muslim areas where there is a greater resistance to change.

Review of existing laws so as to eliminate all forms of discriminations against women especially with a view to empowering Nigerian women to have equal access to resources as well as opportunities.

Private Sector

Equal employment opportunities across gender should be encouraged both in the private and public sectors.

All establishments should have supportive laws and facilities such as creches and day care centres to reduce the pressure on nursing mothers in paid employment. Private organisations should have women constituting not less than 30% of their employees.

NGO CBO Link

Greater awareness arising from the international outcry on the plight of women has led to the emergence of women's NGOs concerned with the utilisation of practical strategies as access to credit for women in the grassroots and peri-urban and urban areas.

Facilitating access to information for women towards enhancing their ability to negotiate with their environments. A critical method has been reinterpreting religious perspectives on women. Federation of Muslim Women in Nigeria (FOMWAN), Women Living Under Muslim Law - project, Women in Nigeria (WIN) and the Network for Women Studies in Nigeria (NWSN) are examples of women's organisations concerned with the deconstruction of knowledge and the creation of space for women.

The need to build a link between these women's groups and their community CBO counterparts is however important. This is necessary if women are to