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Morocco
1-3 JUNE, 2018

ENOMW
GENERAL ASSEMBLY

REPORT

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Our 2018 General Assembly was a successful and crucial event for our network. This year we had an opportunity to get to know one another even better and break internal barriers that are inevitable for such diverse and wide-spread network as ours. This year meeting's overarching theme was solidarity & sisterhood: between countries, cultures and generations. We brought together African, Latina, Arab, Asian and European voices and the youngest of our participants celebrated her 14th birthday in Rabat.

For three days, we worked – individually and collectively – on ourselves and our network's capacity to create a strong vision of the world in which women are afforded the space to generate, lead and sustain real positive change. We did this through feminist consciousness raising, critical debate, physical exercise and art.

This report is a summary of activities and moments that filled this meeting in Rabat with reflections, laughter, tears and most beautiful memories...Thank you everyone who made this possible !



"We should always strive to identify leaders among migrant women. We should support them and encourage to be active not only in their communities but wider political life. A lot of these leaders are here with us in the network. We should not be afraid to put ourselves forward, be nominated, run for positions of power...even if we don't succeed it is important to be role models and send a message to other migrant women that our leadership is possible.."

ENOMW PRESIDENT Salome Mbugua, AGM Welcome speech

DEFINITION OF SISTERHOOD

Sisterhood is not friendship
It's a woman akin
Related to you by the pain you've been in.

When I say sister
I do not mean friend
I mean a woman complete
Whose cracks never need mend.

When I say sister
I mean I echo the gong of your moon
And giddy or mad
You're safe to do you
When I'm in the room.

When I say sister
It means, hold my hand
Even though you don't like me
And you'll never understand
Why my humour is wicked
And my manner is crass
Why I'm still immature
And my temper is fast.

When I say sister
It doesn't mean you make me relax
It means you make me uncomfortable
But I welcome that.

When I say sister
It means you have the power to make me hurt
But I trust all I receive from you
Will give me a lesson to learn.

When I say sister
It means this promise
I'll keep working on my strength
And from it
I'll become the warrior
The medicine
And the mama

Because one day
Just in case you ever need me
When I say sister
It means
I'll be ready.



ENOMW New Members !

We are glad to welcome our new FULL members who became admitted to the network by the General Assembly Vote. We are looking forward to working together and enriching ENOMW with their expertise and knowledge ! We also encourage our old members to reach out and build links with our new members !



Iroko Onlus - Italy

Based in Turin and working internationally, Iroko Onlus provides support, services and shelter to the most vulnerable women, such as migrant women victims of trafficking, sexual exploitation and male violence. www.associazioneiroko.org/en

ENOMW representative: Esohe Aghatise



Osez le Feminisme! - France

OSF is a France-wide NGO promoting the rights of women and girls, including migrant, refugee and ethnic minority women, through advocacy, campaigns and grassroots actions. OSF is one of the strongest feminist initiatives in France. <http://osezlefeminisme.fr>

ENOMW representative: Marie-Paule Grossetete



Critical Sisters - UK

CS are proudly left-wing, secular and gender-critical. They stand in opposition to the man-made beliefs and fight to ensure that women's rights are prioritised above religious faith or ideology of gender. www.criticalsisters.co.uk

ENOMW representative: Sadia Hameed



Afghan Woman Organisation - Sweden

Based in Gothenburg, AWO works to empower migrant and refugee women locally and raise awareness on the issues of VAW, prostitution, traditional harmful practices, racism and inequality. www.facebook.com/Afgwomens

ENOMW representative: Spogmy Jabharkil



Additionally, during the last year we admitted two Supporting Member Organisations*, both based in Belgium



SIEMPRE - Making Latina Women Visible

Siempre's mission is to make visible and to strengthen the networks of Latina women in Europe and their contributions and points of view on women's rights, science, education, and culture. <http://siempre-org.org>

ENOMW representative: Ana Valenzuela



Collectif Femmes Survivantes Belgique

An empowerment project by a collective of women of diverse ethnic origins, for, by and with women who live/d a situation/ spiral of machist violence (institutional, 'domestic', GBV). www.survivantesviolenceconjugale.blogspot.be

ENOMW representative: Monica Weissell



ENOMW STRATEGY 2017-2020: work in progress

MOVEMENT BUILDING

KEY ACTIONS: ✓ EU Visibility Events; ✓ Workshops & Webinars; ✓ Communication;
✗ MediaHub; ✓ Expert Database

REFUGEE WOMEN

KEY ACTIONS: ✓ Refugee Girl-Child; ✓ Mental Health; ✓ Violence against Women

ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

KEY ACTIONS: ✓ SMART Project; ✗ Mentoring Platform

Board Internal Rules & New Board Member

GA discussed and adopted new [Internal Rules for the Board](#). The Rules detail the procedures & principles for election, participation and conduct of the board members. The main new elements of the Rules are :

- SLIDING BOARD – elections can be held every year, based on individual 2 year term (3 terms maximum) of each board member
- 9 PERSONS – Maximum Number of Board members (with minimum 4)
- LOSS OF BOARD POSITION – missing three consecutive meetings / 3 months non communication without reasonable justification



Welcome to Klaudia Jagne, new board member !

Native of Senegal and a board member of our founding member in Sweden, RIFFI (Swedish Federation of Immigrant's Women Associations) Klaudia has the background in international relations and skills and experience in mobilizing women at grassroots level. Klaudia supports women and girls both in the African region and in Europe, creating learning structural projects to educate and train girls in IT technology skills and their basic human rights.

Farewell to Inga Koralewska !

In this AGM Inga stepped down from the board, after serving the network for two years 2016–2018. She is moving to Australia ! Inga created ENOMW communication strategy (internal and external), shaped ENOMW 2017–2020 strategy and did our social media and member communication and was, simply, a reliable, committed and caring person. We are sorry to see Inga leave but this is not the end of ENOMW and Inga's friendship !



CURRENT ENOMW BOARD MEMBERS:

PRESIDENT	SALOME MBUGUA (Wezeshaj)	2nd term: 2017-2019
TREASURER	CATHY MAHORO (DoToBa)	1st term 2017-2019
BOARD MEMBER	NOURA RAAD (FFM)	1st term: 2017-2019
BOARD MEMBER	LUCY POLO (Por ti Mujer)	1st term: 2017-2019
BOARD MEMBER	KLAUDIA JAGNE (RIFFI)	1st term: 2018-2020

PRESENTATIONS

ARAB FEMINISM, by Alicia Arbid, AWSA-Be



Being in Morocco was a great opportunity to learn more about the long history of women's movement in the 'Arab world'. Alicia gave an overview of several generations of feminists, from 1800 till the present, emphasising the richness and diversity of feminist voices in the region.

AWSA's full presentation: <https://bit.ly/2yEQHjA>



Situation of women in Morocco, by Sarah Mantin, M.A.L.I.



Sarah explained principles, goals and strategies of M.A.L.I., among which are campaigning for freedom of (non)religious conscience, women's sexual-reproductive rights and against homophobia. She explained the difficulties faced by women in Morocco and noted that in Europe – due to 'identity crisis' – migrants sometimes retort to regressive values which is counter-productive in the universal struggle for women's rights. www.facebook.com/MALIMaroc09



Migrant & Refugee Women in France, by Marie-Paule Grossetete, Osez le féminisme !



Marie-Paule spoke on the situation of migrant women in France and the current proposed changes in the migration law that, if adopted, will negatively impact women seeking asylum in France, as well as potentially create barriers to exiting prostitution for the migrant women caught in the cycle of sex trade exploitation. Full presentation: goo.gl/5bzbqg



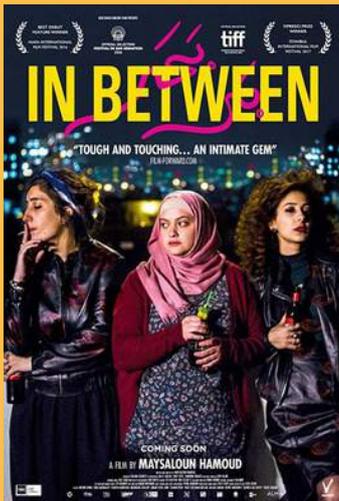
Young Feminists & Noura Hussein Campaign, by Sodfa Daaji, Africa Youth Movement & ENOMW



Sodfa's presentation focused on the role and position of young feminist activists in Europe and beyond. Drawing on her personal experience of patriarchal violence in Tunisia & Italy she explained how it stimulated her to self organise and become young migrant woman leader in Europe & Africa. She also shared the details of #JusticeForNoura campaign in which she played a key role.



FILM SCREENING & DISCUSSION



"In Between" (Bar Bahar), directed by a feminist film-maker **Maysaloun Hamoud**, tells a story of three strong and independent-minded Palestinian women – one practicing and one secular Muslim, and one Christian lesbian – sharing a flat in Tel Aviv. The film is a reflection on female identity under the weight of patriarchal traditions and the struggle of three distinctively different women to be true to themselves confronted with the expectations of others, while sealing the bond of friendship with each other.

"Bar Bahar" was declared haram by the mayor of Umm al-Fahm, the conservative Arab home town of the character Nour. A fatwa was issued against the director, who is a Palestinian born in Hungary but now resident in Jaffa.

The film was followed by a group discussion, in the form of physical movement & interactive question & answer, guided by Alicia Arbid. By answering specific questions posed by Alicia, our members shared their impressions and analysis of the story-line, characters and context of the film and gave feedback to each other's reactions.



Public baths in Morocco are embedded into a social-cultural history and play a significant role in both urban and rural settings. **Strict sex segregation** and **explicit nudity** are the two distinctive features of hammams in Morocco.

Women's accounts of visiting hammam can be anything from 'amazing' & 'relaxing' to 'disturbing' & even 'traumatising'. In practical terms, it involves being ordered around, sanded, scrubbed, washed and slapped around like a wet fish until there isn't a scale left your body.

In symbolic terms, Hammam is a space that can be used by women to (re)establish their agency, to network and even lobby each other. In an environment where public

spaces are heavily dominated by men, female-only hammam is a **safe space free from male violence and harassment**. Sometimes hammams are used by women to negotiate their **status and social position with other women**. Additionally, the practice of women's collective bathing, that predates the Islamic culture, evolved around the ancient rituals and taboos (e.g. purity / filth). Because of all these elements, as a symbolic space hammam has a potential to both perpetuate AND equalise power relations among women.

WORKSHOPS

Without a doubt our network has a wealth of knowledge, including practical exercises and workshops from which ALL our members can benefit in varied degrees. For this reason most our workshops are conducted by own members and are an intrinsic part of our Movement Building (Capacity Building: Solidarity; Skill Transfer) strategic objective.

CREATIVE WRITING : EXPLORING THE SILENCE, with Lisa Luxx

In this workshop we explored the noise of silence and awakening a mothering self-voice in the moments of raging quiet. Guided by Lisa Luxx, we first worked in small groups to explore what was silenced in us as women and as activists. We then created a collective poem based on individual verses from each participant to the workshop.



WENDO FOR WOMEN, with Olesya Malyugina

This two hour workshop that ran in parallel with Confidence Building workshop, was an exercise in building awareness around our personal boundaries, confidence to say "no" and physical exercise in self defence. By the end of the workshop most participants were able to break a wooden plate with their bare fist.



CONFIDENCE BUILDING, with Bwalya Mali, Ingwee

The workshop was build around the idea of women empowering women. As feminists and activists we speak a lot about empowerment but how often do we practice it with the women in our immediate environment ? Working in pairs guided by Bwalya we listened & shared personal life stories and then narrated them back to the group in an empathic and empowering way.



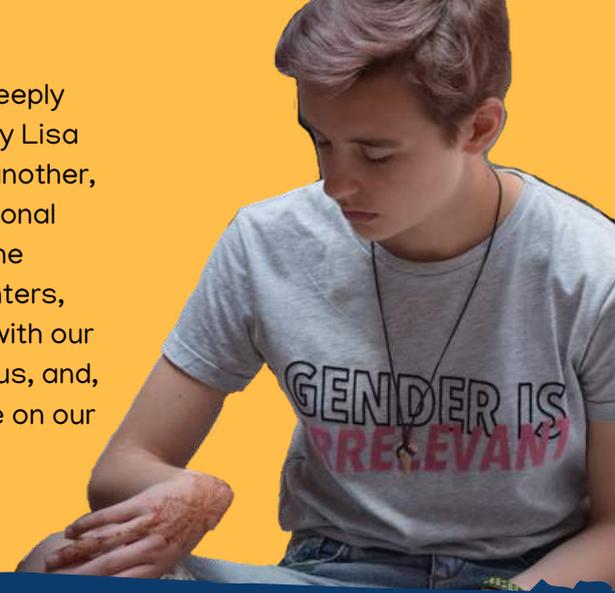
EPIGENETICS, with Ana Valenzuela, SIEMPRE

The workshop addressed several dimensions of migrant women's health, emphasising reproductive and maternity ones, how it is affected by our experience of migration, violence and discrimination and how, in turn, women's psycho-physical condition can be modified by pregnancy and motherhood. video summary of workshop: goo.gl/e4B4h5





In this very personal and deeply political workshop, guided by Lisa Luxx and supported by one another, we went through an emotional journey, by examining the relationships we, as daughters, women and feminists, have with our mothers, our mothers – with us, and, what implications these have on our lives...



Under current conditions of patriarchy is it possible to be a 'good mother' ?
What does it mean and what does it cost women?

What demands and expectations society imposes on women through motherhood and on mothers through sex roles & the hierarchy of gender ?

as agents
of oppression

OUR MOTHERS

as agents
of liberation

How do we reconcile the love and commitment to our mothers with the trauma or violence we might have suffered with the hands or by the silence of our mothers ?

What feelings we are allowed to feel towards our mothers ?
What language are we allowed to use to describe our experience ? What happens when we break the rules ?

Realising our mothers as our sisters... as women... as individuals... breaking the patriarchal cycle in which mothers–daughters often become caught.



Credits & Special Thanks



Pamela Palma Zapata: VIDEO & PHOTO

It goes without saying that this report would be a boring piece of text if we did not have Pamela with her amazing artistic photo and video skills. All photos here are her production and now we have photo and video materials till the next AGM! Pamela also created our name-tags !



Hannah Bondi: RESEARCH & ADMINISTRATION

It is the second year Hannah is helping us with our AGM, and it could not be any better. Hannah helped enormously in preparing the AGM, from doing background research for the Agenda, to compiling AGM documents, to taking minutes.



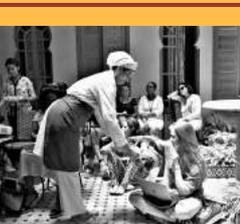
Maria Bondarenko: SOUND & VIDEO ENGINEERING

Meet the mastermind of our sound/video technologies! Not only Maria carried our projector all the way from Brussels, but she even missed the Hammam so that we could enjoy the film screening ! She also worked on preparing and documenting the meeting.



Lisa Luxx: POETRY, AGITATION & FACILITATION

Lisa Luxx was our special guest – an invited speaker and facilitator of workshops. It was important to rely on our skills, but having a feminist lesbian poet of Syrian background with us was a special experience . Thank you, Lisa, as well for generously allowing us to include in this report your yet unpublished poem Definition of Sisterhood..



Riad Dar Saidi

Madame Zeitouni, owner of the riad, an Algerian migrant woman in Morocco with 30 years experience in engineering, created a file in her computer, dedicated to ENOMW. It was called "Women's World"... The team of caring & dedicated women running the riad made our AGM very special !



FLDDF (La Fédération de la Ligue des Droits des Femmes) were very kind to provide lunch to us on 1/06 and they helped arrange catering on 2 and 3/06



M.A.L.I. (Mouvement Alternatif pour les Libertés Individuelles, Maroc) accompanied us all the way through: before, during and after AGM. They guided us through all the controversies of Ramadan , assisted in finding necessary information and accessing necessary goods and services :)