

THE HARARE COMMUNIQUÉ

“ENHANCING GRASSROOTS PARTICIPATION IN SOCIAL PROTECTION” AFRICA PLATFORM FOR SOCIAL PROTECTION DELEGATES CONFERENCE, 2013

We, the representatives of twenty-three¹ (23) National Social Protection Platforms from across the continent of Africa and five² (5) African Governments and two (2) Development Partners, convened in Harare, Zimbabwe, under the auspices of the Africa Platform for Social Protection (APSP), from 31st October to 1st November 2013 to reflect and discuss on the theme “**Grassroots Participation in Social Protection.**”

Acknowledge that since the African Union (AU) Ouagadougou Summit of 2004, a number of African countries are implementing Social Protection initiatives, which are helping to address poverty and vulnerability on the continent;

Cognisant of the fact that while countries in Africa are among the fastest growing economies in the world; poverty, food insecurity, man-made and natural disasters, the effects of HIV/AIDS and conflict, continue to increase the vulnerability of many individuals;

Recognise the pivotal role of grassroots participation in the promotion and roll-out of Social Protection policies and programmes to alleviate poverty in Africa;

Submit that governments, Civil Society Organisations (CSO's), the private sector and other stakeholders are partners in enhancing grassroots participation and should work together to:

- a. Enhance awareness and knowledge to stimulate demand for Social Protection as part of the social contract;
- b. Advocate national Social Protection Policies and strategies (where they do not already exist);
- c. Ensure the participation of all the citizens in shaping the debate on Social Protection including, policies, programme implementation, monitoring and evaluation to increase transparency and accountability;
- d. Develop and implement universal Social Protection schemes, to ensure that vulnerable groups are covered;
- e. Ensure that Social Protection interventions are nationally owned and contextualised for relevance, ownership and sustainability where the grassroots are empowered to participate;
- f. Research and document evidence of what works and what does not work – and share widely;
- g. Advocate increased national budget allocation and corporate social responsibility to ensure sustainability of comprehensive Social Protection systems;
- h. Ensure that grassroots participation in Social Protection explicitly includes the active participation of all vulnerable groups

Harare, Zimbabwe, 1st November, 2013

¹ Australia, Burkina Faso, Cameroun, Republic of Congo, Democratic Republic of Congo, the Gambia, Ghana, Ireland, Kenya, Kingdom of Lesotho, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Senegal, South Sudan, South Africa, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe

² Liberia, Niger, South Sudan, Uganda and Zimbabwe

Organisations Represented



LEADING NATIONAL ACTION ON AGEING
REGISTERED WELFARE ORGANISATION
W.O. 11/89



Mozambican Civil
Society Platform for
Social Protection

Malawi Social Protection Platform

act:onaid



"Addressing Vulnerabilities"

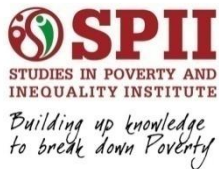
Republic of Congo Social Protection Platform

Nigeria Social Protection Platform



SOCIAL PROTECTION
ACTORS FORUM

DRC Social Protection Platform



PRIVACY INTERNATIONAL



Tanzania Social Protection Platform

Republic of Congo Social Protection Platform

Zimbabwe Social Protection Platform

CONCERN
worldwide



HelpAge International

age helps



of Persons with Disabilities



Lesotho Social Protection Platform

