



BANDUNG DECLARATION ON GENDER HARMONY 2012

On Friday, 13th July 2012 in Bandung city we, the participants and speakers of the 2012 International Conference on Gender Empowerment, agreed to support gender empowerment against poverty towards family welfare today and into the future. We realise that the significant percentages of people with income below 1\$/day affected are women, resulting in higher percentages of women with HIV/AIDS, TB and malaria; and high percentages of maternal mortality particularly in developing countries.

In order to create equity in family welfare (including for women, men, children, the elderly, disabled, and the poor) gender empowerment is needed through harmony between men and women. We realize that the harmony in family life, particularly among husband and wife, may not always develop naturally, and therefore needs to be supported by concrete actions and processes that reduce inequitable gender status and enhance spirits with proper gender perception, creativity, togetherness, and actions of the equal relations that results in a healthy lifestyle, free from poverty/hunger and domestic violence.

On behalf of organizations represented at the IC-GEEm2012 and as individuals from 14 different economies and countries: Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Bruneidarussalam, Bangladesh, Philippines, Australia, Yemen, Switzerland, Romania, Austria, India, Malawi and Ethiopia – who support the MDG achievements by 2015, and in particular MDG#3 on gender empowerment, we urge ministers and senior government officials, along with private sector and community leaders everywhere, to endorse the 2012 Bandung Declaration on Gender Harmony by adopting gender harmony approach to gender equality actions and measures that lead to gender empowerment and family welfare. Actions are required on four key livelihood aspects, namely economic, social, cultural, and political that impact women's health and family welfare. We also draw attention to the need for access to education and culture change as key barriers for women's empowerment and the need to shift patriarchy culture-based practices to gender-inclusive practices in both public and private life. This will have economic, social and cultural benefits for women, their families, communities and regional economies. We encourage the empowerment of women to remove discriminatory practices which inhibit women's capacity and ability to build their skills. We advocate gender empowerment in the family and in the work place in order to create thriving communities, gender equality and more agents of changes.

We recognize the economic role as centrifugal action in family life with the power of ICT (*Information, communication and Technology*) for awareness rising and learning; accompanied by concrete gender harmony practices in building coping mechanism, will

create synergies and collaboration between men and women towards family advancement that integrates local wisdom with global connectivity and knowledge. We pledge to continue to contribute to the movement of gender empowerment by using gender harmony for a better world for women and men that incorporates equity in all living and work aspects.

In conclusion, this is a commitment among participants and speakers of the ICGEm 2012 as the starting point to push forward gender empowerment by advocating and implementing gender harmony practices in our own environments and by bringing the gender empowerment issue to the attention of world wide forums, so disadvantaged people and in particular women, may benefit. In turn this will help the reduction of poverty and domestic violence and achieve family welfare.

[Bandung, 13th July 2012](#)

[Participants and Speakers from 14 Countries.](#)



Under the coordination of Gender Harmony Foundation (YGH)

In collaboration with:

The Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection RI

The Ministry of Cooperation and Small Medium Enterprises RI

The Ministry of Health RI

The Ministry of Communication and Information RI

Ministry of Internal Affairs, West Java Province

UNFPA Indonesia, PT TELKOM and INERSIA AE