Parameters 26/3/94 WAF meeting.

2. WAF's relationship to other movements
1. WAF as forum or organisation
3. WAF member repr. as individual capacities
4. Conflict of interest in identity when members also belong to other organisations
5. Commitment - taking initiative on WAF - responsibility

Meera Summary of last convention.
Nuzhat Minutes from Islamabad: Repr. at last or not to / selecting women - the name / aim: WAF would decide etc.
Rani - This was never been an issue.
Meera - Background to how this was started -
Rubina - Lahore can explain this as raised by Lhr.
Rita - 5 years How we go about to seeing how conceive how perceived split occured in WAF Lhr. and NGOs etc formed they were also members of WAF since WAF registered - need to come back + see if an issue / or org.
Nasreen when reg. need date
1984
If WAF made 1981 - DD character change when made into org.
Nuzhat Don't accept it as org.

CELEBRATION
WOMEN

Neelum Initially members of solit NGO + other org. meant to feed into waf. Now seems parallel activity which is fine but in terms of time + commitment. How much does NGO member give to waf.

How far can we shed NGO identity

Anis - Itch: felt waf no longer platform since others don't take on workload - fallen on indiv members of waf. central committee had decided

Neelum - Prob. more of funding members who are also waf - prob of identity. Do we bring id - Nusrat - [illegible] entirely in [illegible] ION

funded & nonfunded identity

Meera - Activism from waf now no longer - Maybe waf redundant - why are they still keeping in mem.

Rabia - Issues discussed in Bedari, PWO + Sonex A.F. mem - Discussion (tabled/split) doesn't solve matter. waf cooptation not a matter/issue. can discuss how to make it more effective

Eve of A for legal reform - expressed need for waf. Indirectly waf is being funded most time of NGO workers

Ishad feels do cooperate when they want to need waf.

Islad. NGOs diff. Here founding members formed NGOs - Islad not working counterpart members so no conflict like in Lhr.

2. why so wsf becoming chowdarani or paranoid? let people do their own thing - if want to join do so - As if wanted to stop others from doing their funded activity.

Rabia. we don't share info. + don't draw upon. Internal management issue - effectivity

pixie. Int'l wsf concerned with whole of organisation. Wsf. Best not getting back at rival.

Rabia. when inducting w.c. members can't stop those coming for indiv benefit.

meena. Islad. had meeting.

Lahore has not had nor Karachi. But clearly stated that ... raised it. did not call ... to ... + not Lahore art. Sheraz ... brought up. This mtg called becos all chapt wanted to clear this air.

Nahan - Is wsf becoming redundant. wanted to in Kchi. to sharing - what does it mean makes wsf different. Interesting disc. - wsf represents the mind set. thinking is different. Same as raised 6 years - imp. is mindset - to makes wsf significant Issue not numbers but strategy - we have grown

WOMEN IN ACTION

advancing thought further.

Rana - started GB only raised - thinks we should address issue of why women - issue is other from - what happ. to all other 4 f - who used to come + not associated with org but politicians. maybe looking for reasons elsewhere. where has waf failed - maybe focussing on something else.

Nasra - Is waf saying something diff - only then would I like to be identified on something other than other NGOs.

[illegible] what does it mean? e diff. [illegible]

Rana - Did Hina give an ans? "NO - just an issue"

Fehmida - 1) GB absent, disunity - why. Yes fight amongst selves to come + listen, ppl's bickering - "internal rivalries, jealousies + bickering come in papers".

2) Some people would rather go + Bedari + discuss the same things + disagree + same people

Kokam - 2 things in Kohi - the idea to push other ff's org - further + say things they don't.

Nishat - simplistic way of expl. - In terms of our activism - only justify ourselves but need to go ahead + not making - fragmented + divided. + people want to go to Bedari eh because more ordered - In waf can be as disorganised as we like.

Kokan

Fragmentation outside ourselves:

Jahira - WAF ran becos no permanence. Imp factor of what fighting against. Have been using WAF - can WAF play some role now - Is there need for WAF + how.

Pixie - not just permanence - when is funded org. have to deliver + paid personell. In N.L. there was an urgency - maybe not anger in the sense that other org + state preempting

cannot talk of WAF in terms of NGOs involved. [illegible] + will [illegible] need to repair what Nigar said - Asking her why she as A.F had withdrawn -

We need WAF definitely but AF can't replace what WAF does - we are not activist org but we spread message + support activism.

AF before WAF [illegible] some sort of activism but can't do that as we don't take to the streets - can't continue in present form - Platform relevantly if WAF finished + org. not skilled becos then need to run - Most open + can come in at any moment - one GB take in 1 direction + then at next mtg to another.

If platform then stop org If org. have discipline + criteria (split) but need commitment + work

The feeling that people not taking resp. + it's not fair despite commitment of only 3-4 people..
..younger people intimidated - say we're not over the head of what can & can't do.
younger people then left at sea.
..Need tight org. discipline
AF willing to take up & send out message.

Fareeda Shaheed: need to examine where wof's strength lies - AF platform not retained our org - we've fallen b/w the 2. wof's strength was on issues + mobilising. AF platform ~~[illegible]~~ used to use + retained ~~[illegible]~~ ION
whether Jalila/Julius etc. Burn out - but what can't have that wf hesitation at platform + should remain with them. Hen to be that links up with indiv/org
Sabira - How can ~~[illegible]~~ identity. WOMEN UNDER
Now the fact of being founder member + director of AF is a reality. Can't compartmentalize selves.
Farida Sher People got into other wof after wof - It has to stay as platform to allow for
we don't know what is happening - I know what gets to be done through donors - Its symptomatic + no sharing - wf does sense that Paris was monolithic + hence others' identities -

Anis - why want wsf on Lahaur (Pakistan) wsf degerating - no initiative from within wsf - strong the purpose of other wfs + seem to be it appendix - then no need to ponder what is wsf - Today other wf picking up same issues need to give more time / commitment - will come back to wsf when need wsf - Is there any need - Is it priority + commitment + how are we expressing it NO matter what we make it - it'll remain.

Rani - After 26th 4B - sent to ~~polio~~ I went to those who came regularly + said they were fed up for fighting - those who speak out are omitted + silenced wsf autonomous + not intimidated + we can say what we like - If keep fighting each other - as founder members not inspirational

Meena - Those who motivate + bring others on to wsf they're accused to become owners of wsf. I've been guilty + I don't know how much of an active effort made to mobilize + if did and IO did come it'll be perceived

what is neutral ground + who are - run into these problems

Sonya - let activism be in NGOs - not in an organization within it.

fear

Nasreen change of wof's name will bring a lot. no change - when issues high activity high or else drifters. Rise goes back + forth.

Ability failure - How to run wof? can't go on without cooperation - no support - lack of continuity in beg wof perceived as non political. Now feel. Can't start with wof

Neelum - NGO by nature can't be activist as process - need unpaid NGO so people can come together

Logistics - Do need wof - what making it impossible + unpleasant

Tahira - when Rani said they fight. seen as strident + aggressive. But when other wofs take out issues 300 ppl under - wof's image is too radical - when shelly, Noreen etc so inclusive all there - non threatening, non radical. Forgetting what we are - need to look at public image too cliche hidden personal is political.

within wof don't share

Donor driven NGO projects on issues are fine but activism on the issues that wof taken up under donor money

elections - violence -

loose the political edge -

USAID drying to fund wof to sap pol. edge

image – losing members.
time –
commitment –
fear of confronting –
patriarchal norms – them
If waf ... stand ... as supporting ... stg.
celebrate platforms – ensure diff. should dissolve

Aunty I. Activist from pol. mvt: ... are being snatched away & channelled thru NGOs. The perception by unions of NGOs to demobilize Kalam. Waf seen as platform but once they come in If people come can waf ask them what the vision of society within itself what is basis – distrust, rudeness – guilty + need to be proven innocent. If people not listening – Resentment energies how to direct these energies – Patriarchal ways of behaviour ... is it in sisterhood.

[illegible] waf [illegible] ... [illegible] ... [illegible] ...

where r this

either competition from NGOs being carried over. Make platform + how can you judge our commitment + if I can't take out 10 mins to know what happ. in meeting - Most of us here f NGOs -

Neelum - 1) NGOs picking up what WAF picking up losing pt edge due to funding 2) WAF issue picking up + others taking credit. Either dealt with it in sense of mukhaur or let WAF be catalyst - even if others take advantage

Fear of

Things being swept under carpet. If keep blaming others + not listen to others, it'll be fruitless.

Nuzhat - Identified several problems - Are we fundam entalist wafer There is changing role -

Pixie - Not so easy - WAF continues to be catalyst when relate to projects - will not bring project to WAF but who will bring half way through.

Look at it step wise Project made out + funded + then brought to WAF.

Future

Scared of Beijing initiatives - inspect WAF. Its NGOs

ASR Resource Centre
Interdisciplinary Women's Studies Conference Lahore, March 1994

this concept or only women or other org.

fear of conf. can't get, why cover - why today saying yes

donor driven activism - not only g.o. changing pos: forgetting

Interpersonal - loose structure - process

woman's nut - not only waf only part.

Coalitions eg-that - mistrust - pt. personalities reason

If another NGO takes initiative then should not be scared of taking it on -

Basic Inner conflict - strength within getting weakened

Beijing =

Rani -

Kokan - Repeating - what steps can we take? pick up one at a time

~~Fact~~

Pixie -

Abid - International first - most of its focus individual

DISINTEGRATION

Kokan - procedural point. ; personal conflicts have emotions also.

Nuzhat Tahira - seen, agreements not bickering.

Neelum - Agreement is necessary.

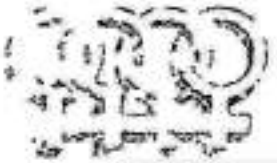
Rani Diff - never doubted the integrity. Think they are more ~~dedicated~~ than the other. Is it the NGO thing -

WOMEN

Nuzhat - symptoms - Is there conspiracy to fragment us - funding those activities -

Farida - Shrinking space - NGOs should bring activism to waf.

Kokan - see me for waf - what ultimate goal significance - no NGO working in some area + so waf can't work still there. Are we selling ff. Issue



Nuzhat - who will do it?
- what is vision + mindset?
People don't have a clue of what waf is?
- Disembodied. Distrust.
Waf is being used?

Jamida S: Today people wanted to be part of waf.

Jerida Shah - waf has been lobbying group - grass level not reached.

Anita - did not take feedback after 5th Beijing.

UNITED NATION

Anis - Role of waf been decided in conventions.
- who is waf is mp. Qs? Not able to be waf conceptually but practically no one - After 6 mth. why have you not done something + done other. Consultants for work. Anyone putting some person on the waf.

WOMEN

Anita - As pressure group can do more.

Kokum - we are deciding who is + isn't waf. The way we are working - If we are suspecting those who come in - what to do with them
Either we do something abt it or not.
not suspecting but fact.
If set up suspecting screen then will lose people + wonder abt hidden agenda + how will it be appropriated.

Kokum -

Pixie - If suspicions of people within WAF - where - why can't we use fem. way of process. functioning what are we + how behaving.

Farida Sher - Mistrust + suspicion cannot exist - How do we do it.

Anis - We have W.C + GB structure. Do we owe anything to WAF - Are we fulfilling duties - How dare you qs. my commitment - Who are you to ask me? NO WAF culture - W.C doesn't feel responsible. Had thought it [illegible] waiting functioning of [illegible] our subscription sufficient is the dialect - How do we showing it?

Andy -

Farida - I don't care - Give me work I'll do it but not prepared to come to all mtgs

Pixie - WAF [illegible] like any ideology - if can bring demands [illegible] work I shall do so.

Kokain - can't qs. commitment in kind but can keep accountability - have u given certain hours - need pattern of communication - feel not being understood.

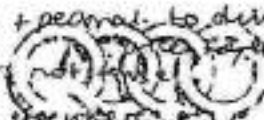
Tahira - we are tired - physically

Rokeya - Have to work out - bickering reason because no time given in the first place.

Can we move ahead?

ACTION WOMEN

1- celebrate on platform yet expect diff. + peaceful to dissolve
2 - young perception nor symptomatic – it's
3 - waf nor networking - can call some people
4 - concept of only ff from other org. but



6. lack of action who take position + change policy.

media – NO clarity – 6. old org –

Topsy – nor as motivated – so boring –

waf's credibility

why waf has this?

Nuzhat:

Farida

can go to people + say pls don't use waf. are fighting for [illegible] – resist [illegible] waf fighting platforms

FRUSTRATION

worked hard to get younger people on the new w.c – new ones ran off because scared of older people's attitudes –

WOMEN

Sonya – may [illegible] work – needed to raise issues – platform – structure diff – diff vision of doing things.

Tahira – its nor only lack of trust but also ego – to share name –

Kokum – A process where everybody feeling guilty.

Nuzhat – you act as a consultant.

Pixie – Tried to make rules since '85 – Conf – problem can't solve.

Rani – clear dichotomy / devalution – waf but nor repr. waf.

Nasreen - People working elsewhere created position
- how to manage realities

Kokum - looking at what others are doing rather than selves - can I expect understanding -

Anis - what external factors - bringing in identities from elsewhere - NOT relating, giving time -

Aunty: An indifference has come about -

Farida sher - Today made time is eg. of commitment - 2/4 people there stopped something scheduled

Aunty - Ladies difficult Aisle...

Nelum - Publically I would defend to the hilt. If now someone comes to me I will genuinely miss out that we must be critical. Pull each other down outside waf bringing it in -
what is it that we bring to WAF?

Farida - is waf the right place to air out. At waf meetings -

Farida/ what if waf issue - This is time to do it or poor W.C. -

Kokum - Need to raise the process within chapters what is our attitude - Are we resentful of people coming in esther late.

Seemys - solidarity aiming below overtly enemy gone.

~~Shirin~~

what r wef issue or shirkat gah + ASR issue.

Farida -

It is clearly a wef issue purely. It was a GB meeting. A wef chr issue

Tahira. ~~It is~~ It is a convention + Nusrat - Global issue - in Kchi etc created a problem identity problem

Rana 1) might be conflict issue 2) issue of how wef deals with resp. externally - when accused + takes action without giving chance to respond. Aside dissolves on democratic manner

Principal of how it was dealt with. without our knowledge it was raised - Action taken in 10 hours waited for a reply to our letter & it didn't come - At chapt. position r chr. our position was not included which created mistrust & integrity. clear transparent systems not followed

Election Committee

Neelum Meena - Topsy - we take resp. for a situation that was mishandled by wic which did take resp. + our response for clarification took late. Party election + party unhappiness + rouced with Sder committee.

Rana/ Clarification letter never handed to us + no copy to us

Became outward as people never got letter

Meena - G.B. must take full resp. also -
miscommunication - If issue taken to WAF convention
+ WC. how did it end up in convention

Pixie - Bedar. why WAF now considered redundant
+ irrelevant

Sunny - people working in constraints of NGOs
Tahira - those not in ngos feel threatened. now outside
feel why paranoid?
Founder ther - Energies less - whole experience last yr did
not entrance us - when 4 diff issues brought up
nothing happened - other means of devising means
where people feel decision making process too long.
Reem - when crisis of WAF ISC - SC had contributed
actively - writing up press releases, printing etc put in
time in morality. Involved completely & undue stresses
on top of that - ripple of friction. not as of competing
org are not membership, WAF in - of diff natures
only ffs org working in shared main mobilization.
To revitalize - personal problem as well as organisat.
would should resolve here.
Kokum - listed org. running wires

Uttar Singh - wires sent from PEA, PWD, etc. etc.
women of LHR

1. image - state fear — of dissenting / confronting
2. platform - expect pers + diff no directive; activism-c & not bringing initiative - esp if its lobbying
3. initiative - active lobbying

All talking abt falling out
dont want to be -
what are younger people looking for - should move back -

NO ideological clarity - where do we draw vision
Capital punishment + the other day nor -
Saroj's point - Are we giving them their own agenda.
Are we giving the space - Some youngers members wanted to work - Mistakes will be made -

•Nedha - Have to decide what our goals - significant
Meet new blood - have our identities - we must
expand into

Farida sher - need conceptual clarity - I dont want
to be caught in the details + put down if ask the Qs
then condemned -

To Now have need convincing powers - to sell with
all else.