

WAF Meeting Minutes

17th January 2019

Agenda Items:

1. Supreme Court on 'Jirga' - WAF statement
2. PERMA – WAF statement and endorsements by theatre groups etc
3. CAP – Update
4. 12th February Celebration - Recommendations and Suggestions needed
5. 8th March Celebration - Recommendations and Suggestions needed
6. Convenership – Need discussion
7. Recommendations for next session on 'Women's Movement' in collaboration with ASR+WAF – Need to mobilize groups

Fortunately, we had a quorum (6 members) and were able to make decisions.

1. We had a discussion on the item 1 and 2 and agreed that WAF statement committee should write a statement on both the issues and shared with other WAF WhatsApp group and other groups and uploaded on WAF fb. The statement committee (Ruby, Neelam, Meena and Farida) is requested to write these statements.
- ❖ Bunny give an update on the CAP (Citizen's Archives of Pakistan) and WAF collaborative work to caption the WAF photographs. She is going to have weekly sessions with CAP for this. We discussed the WAF book and decided that since the photographs were being captioned with texts that WAF bring out a WAF Lahore Photographic Herstory Book in the first instance. We will add an introduction to WAF and give a background to the issues. We will also include statements etc. It will be in Urdu and English. The first lot of captioned photographs should be ready in April/May and work on the book in terms of design and layout can be started. Bunny and Ayesha Jatoi will work on the book. Anyone wanting to volunteer to join in this work, especially after the captions are completed is most welcome.
3. Regarding the celebrations of 12th February, various ideas were floated by the members. It was agreed that WAF should hold an open activity with other women's groups, NGO's and individuals etc on the day at Liberty Roundabout. The responsibilities were discussed and elaborated among members. The proposed invitees for the event is WAF, Shirkatgah, Simorgh, DCHD, WISE, HomeNet, Aurat Foundation, Labour Education Foundation, Tameer-e-Nou, DASTAK, AGHS, HRCP, All Pakistan Trade Union Federation (APTUF), Bonded Labour Liberation Front (BLLF), Feminist Collective, Girls at Dhabas, Olomopol, Women's Democratic Front, AWP, Minorities groups (to be ask from Ayra). WAF will give the statement on the day. It will be translated in Urdu which will be shared with press and distributed among participants. The format of the program includes speeches, skits, songs and Walk. Nyla to share the details with Huma Safdar and

ask her to prepare skit. Riffat Maqsood (Tameer-e-Nou) has offered that she will also prepare a skit with her fellow women workers and they will present it.

4. 8th March Celebration – A WAF National Conference and Women’s March on 7th and 8th March. Bunny shared the details of her recent visit and meeting with Sindhani Tehreek, WAF Hyderabad and WAF Karachi. She shared the proposal of WAF Hyderabad, Sindhani Tehreeq and other Womens Orgnaizations to jointly organize a Women’s march on March 8th. It is to be inclusive and as national as possible. Hyderabad has invited all WAF chapters to join and to mobilize as many women as possible from the other provinces. This March will be jointly organized by participating groups.

They discussed this with Bunny and thought that this would be a wonderful opportunity for WAF (all chapters) to organize a one day National conference on 7th March in Hyderabad. This will be an open event and will be organized by WAF National. We would not only include our WAF members but women from other groups, NGOs, women in political parties, provincial and women academics and activists etc. The idea is for women from different areas, backgrounds and every walk of life to share their experiences and ideas for joint positions, strategies and actions. The panels should reflect this diversity.

The issues other than the panels of women and work should be our national concerns such as the women's movement , threats to provincial autonomy , 18th amendment, NFC award , construction of news dams its effects coastal and much more.

They requested every chapter to discuss this proposal in upcoming WAF meeting as soon as possible, because it is big event and they need to make arrangements accordingly. There are enough accommodations available in Hyderabad and Hyderabad chapter will try to book rooms in Sports Club which are affordable but if anyone wants to stay in hotels they can books as per their convenience.

WAF Lahore has appreciated this wonderful idea and agreed to join the Conference and Women’s March in Hyderabad on 7 – 8 March. Now we have to officially let WAF National know about our decision as soon as possible.

- ❖ We need to follow up on it in our upcoming WAF meetings.

5. Due to Anam’s engagements and other responsibilities, she is not able to regularly coming up in meetings, so it was requested to members to volunteer herself as co convener with Nyla. It was proposed that we should ask Nabiha. Nyla to contact her about it.
6. It was proposed that we should have a joint session on ‘Women’s Movement’ in collaboration with WAF and ASR with Taimur Rehman. Members appreciated and agreed upon it. Bunny is in contact with Taimur and shortly will confirm the final date.