

ADDRESSING GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE:

**A RESOURCE DOCUMENT FOR
PARLIAMENTARIANS**

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INTRODUCTION

Gender-based violence (GBV) remains a critical issue that undermines human rights, public health, and social stability across the Commonwealth. As parliamentarians, we have a crucial role in shaping legislation, advocating for effective policies, and ensuring robust enforcement mechanisms to combat GBV in all its forms.

This resource document is designed to support members of parliament in their efforts to address GBV by providing a collection of best practice examples, legislative strategies, and policy interventions being adopted across the Commonwealth. By sharing evidence-based approaches and spotlighting current initiatives, this document emphasises the ongoing work undertaken by parliamentarians, academics, and Civil Society Organisations to eradicate GBV.

As the newly elected Chair of CPA UK, I have seen the commitment of members of parliament and officials across the Commonwealth to scrutinise existing legislation and introduce new provisions to tackle GBV. This has included through their engagement with CPA UK's 'Strengthening Parliamentary Oversight and Effectiveness in Tackling Gender-based Violence' project and I would like to extend my thanks to all those who have dedicated their time to this important issue. I would also like to extend my thanks to the UK's Foreign, Commonwealth, and Development Office which has provided the funding for this project over the past two years.

As representatives of the people, parliamentarians have a duty to champion the rights and safety of those affected by GBV. By leveraging our legislative powers as parliamentarians and sharing our successes, as well as challenges, we can work together to ensure a Commonwealth where everyone can live free from violence and fear.

KATE OSAMOR MP

Member of the House of Commons, UK Parliament
& Chair of CPA UK



CONTRIBUTORS

Hon. Robert Midwinter MLC

Member of Legislative Council, Saint Helena

Mercy Mwangi

Executive Director, Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA), Kenya

Hon. Barr. Blessing Amadi DSSRS

Member of National Assembly, Nigeria

Prof. Katrin Hohl OBE

Professor of Criminology & Criminal Justice & Independent Advisor to the UK government on criminal justice responses to sexual violence, UK

Moira Matenje

Senior Legislative Counsel, Malawi

Oluwaseun Okediran

Gender Equality & Inclusion Advisor, Save the Children, South Sudan

Prof. Nicole Westmarland

Professor of Criminology & Director, Durham Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse (CRiVA), UK

Hon. Dulcie Tei

Member of Parliament, Kingdom of Tonga

Waruguru Kiai

Lawyer & Consultant, Kenya Parliamentary Association, Kenya

The views shared in this resource document are those of the contributors and do not necessarily represent those of CPA UK or the FCDO.

TAKING PREVENTATIVE ACTION AGAINST FGM

HON. ROBERT MIDWINTER MLC



St Helena Island is a very small British Overseas Territory, situated approx. 1,800km off the West coast of Southern Africa, and approx. 4,000km East of Brazil, with a total land mass of approx. 122km², and a resident population of around 4,500.

Prior to my own attendance at CPA UK's GBV workshop held in Nairobi, Kenya in November 2023, the legislative position in St Helena regarding certain types of GBV, such as Female Genital Mutilation (FGM) and Forced Marriage (FM) were not clearly understood. I would say that the main challenge we face here on the island is how to ensure that our legislation remains current and fit for purpose in an ever changing world, whilst ensuring that what we put in place does not infringe on civil liberties, such as the right to privacy. For example, here in St Helena, we have only had mobile phones since 2015, and our current Telecommunications Ordinance dates back to 1989. Therefore, we are having to look at how we put in place amendments that ensure protection within a changing landscape, such as the Sexual Offences (Communication with a Child) Ordinance, that we enacted in 2022. We also have to ensure that we have suitable legislation and public awareness raising in relation to cultural practices that, to the best of our knowledge, do not currently exist here, such as FGM and FM.

In some respects, as a British Overseas Territory, we are covered under English Law.

However, not in all cases, which can create a bit of a minefield when trying to create new legislation. This was certainly the case when I returned to the island and drafted a Private Members' Bill relating to the prohibition of FGM. The draft Bill was presented to my peers on the Legislative Council, who were supportive. However, when it was then published in preparation for our next formal sitting of the Legislative Council, concern was raised by the Attorney General's Chambers that the island was already in part covered by UK legislation (the FGM Act, 2003), through the St Helena English Law (Application) Ordinance, 2005, albeit that the powers relating to preventative action that were brought into effect through the UK Serious Crime Act, 2015, had not yet been applied to St Helena.

Once identified, it was the collective view of the AG's Chambers, the Chief of Police and myself, that it would be better to advocate for an Order in Council to be enacted by the Executive Council, adopting the updated provisions relating to FGM contained in the Serious Crime Act, than to bring forward bespoke legislation for St Helena.

This approach has been endorsed by Executive Council, and we anticipate seeing a number of GBV related pieces of UK legislation being adopted in the near future, as well as provisions relating to Modern Day Slavery, Cyber Security / On-line Safety, and Sexual Offences.

KOMESHA DHULUMA CAMPAIGN

KENYA

MERCY MWANGI



In September 2024, Olympic runner Rebecca Cheptegei was murdered by her boyfriend. Her murder re-emphasised the ongoing calls across Kenya, and the globe, for stronger action against femicide.

Amongst these continuing calls for action, the Kenya Women Parliamentary Association (KEWOPA) has answered, by launching the 'Komesha Dhuluma' campaign. This campaign, backed by H.E. President William Ruto's commitment to allocate Ksh. 100 million seeks to address GBV through transformative change at the grassroots level.

The campaign is driven by the 102 members of KEWOPA who have committed to undertake tailored community action in their constituencies to raise awareness and educate on GBV. The campaign is anticipated to directly engage with at least 106,000 individuals and reach over 10 million Kenyans through digital platforms and other outreach programmes.

Taking a multi-sectoral approach, the Komesha Dhuluma campaign will directly involve key stakeholders such as the Judiciary, law enforcement agencies, and women's rights organisations to ensure comprehensive support systems for survivors.

As this campaign is still in the early stages, the impact is yet to be seen, but the resource allocation and commitment of over 100 members to this initiative will make it one of the largest GBV campaigns in Kenya to date.

ENGAGING CONSTITUENTS

HON. BARR. BLESSING AMADI DSSRS



Nigeria has taken steps to tackle GBV through legislative frameworks, including:

- **The Violence Against Persons (Prohibition) Act (VAPP) 2015**, criminalising GBV, including domestic violence, harmful practices, and sexual offences.
- **The Child Rights Act 2003**, providing legal protection for minors against abuse, child marriage, and exploitation.
- **The Sexual Harassment Bill 2020**, targeting GBV in academic institutions.

Legislation alone cannot eradicate GBV. Engaging constituents is crucial for

awareness and enforcement. Key approaches include:

- **Grassroots Sensitisation and Advocacy:** Town halls, workshops, and radio programmes raise GBV awareness, break taboos, and empower survivors.
- **Partnerships with Traditional and Religious Leaders:** Engaging local leaders strengthens GBV law enforcement within traditional justice systems.
- **Economic Empowerment for Women and Survivors:** Financial dependence traps women in abuse. Local initiatives in training, microfinance, and jobs empower survivors.

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **Inclusive and Survivor-Centred Policy Formulation:** Laws and policies should integrate input from survivors, civil society, and legal experts to address real challenges effectively.
- **Enhancing Law Enforcement and Accountability Mechanisms:** Specialised GBV units and swift prosecutions are crucial to reducing impunity.
- **Leveraging Digital Platforms for Awareness and Reporting:** Technology, including mobile apps and helplines, enhances GBV reporting, support and policy responses.

Addressing GBV requires a multi-sectoral approach, combining legal reforms, community engagement, and institutional accountability. Parliamentarians must champion GBV laws, engage constituents, and build partnerships to eliminate GBV.

LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES & SURVIVOR CARE IN THE UK

PROF. KATRIN HOHL



Improving the police and criminal justice system's response to GBV remains a priority across the Commonwealth. Professor Katrin Hohl shares two current UK-based initiatives aiming to do just this. Whilst based in the UK, the initiatives act as best practice examples, with the strategies highlighted adaptable to different legal and social environments. As laws alone are not enough, it is essential for legislators to engage with and advocate for initiatives that strengthen enforcement and provide support to survivors within their own jurisdictions.

1. **Operation Soteria Bluestone** is a radical new approach to how police investigate rape and serious sexual offences and engage with victims. The programme has been described as a 'game-changer' for policing and credited with doubling the number of adult rape charges between 2021 and 2023.¹ A 2025 National Audit report singles the programme out as an effective use of government funds. More about the approach can be found in Hohl and Stanko (2024) Policing Rape: The way forward.²

2. **The Lighthouse, London**, is the first and only 'one-stop shop' victim care hub in England and Wales specifically designed for child victims of sexual abuse, following the 'Barnahus' model of Nordic countries.³ The Lighthouse provides integrated, multi-agency medical and psychological support, allows police to gather child victim witness statements, or give remote live evidence to Crown Courts across the country, supported by specially trained child psychologists. This model exemplifies how coordinated services can better support and enable access to criminal justice for the most vulnerable victims and improve the quality of evidence available to the police and Courts.

1. <https://news.npcc.police.uk/releases/operation-soteria-is-a-game-changer-for-policing> ; <https://lordslibrary.parliament.uk/rape-levels-of-prosecutions/>

2. <https://www.nao.org.uk/reports/tackling-violence-against-women-and-girls/> ; <https://www.taylorfrancis.com/books/oa-mono/10.4324/9780429444869/policing-rape-katrin-hohl-elizabeth-stanko?>

3. <https://www.thelighthouse-london.org.uk/>

LAW ENFORCEMENT RESPONSES & SURVIVOR CARE IN THE UK

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **Offending begins with offenders:** Invest in perpetrator-focused interventions and police investigations to increase currently minimal and often ineffective efforts to stop known perpetrators from re-offending. This shift in focus sits at the heart of effective prevention and prosecution of rape and sexual offences in Operation Soteria (see page 6).
- **Whole-person victim care:** Implement integrated support systems that holistically address victims' needs, ensuring victims receive coordinated support and reducing siloed, duplicate or conflicting work by police, social care, and the National Health Service (NHS). This is exemplified by the Lighthouse in London (see page 6).
- **Data collection and sharing:** Establish robust data collection and sharing mechanisms across agencies. The lack of integrated data systems between the police, Crown Prosecution Service (CPS), courts, probation and parole, as well as in multi-agency working means repeat perpetrators go undetected and victim care remains uncoordinated and inefficient. Integrated data sharing is a core enabler within Operation Soteria as well as the Lighthouse model.

About me: My current role has evolved from my initial appointment as the Independent Advisor to the Rape Review in February 2024. The Rape Review programme ended with the change of government in the UK in July 2024. I was re-appointed by the new government to advise more widely on improving the criminal justice response to rape and other forms of sexual violence. In this role, I take a truly end-to-end perspective on sexual violence, from barriers to police reporting through to probation and parole. I am also an internationally recognised academic in the field of sexual violence and domestic abuse and have led several significant research programmes. Most recently: Operation Soteria Bluestone, domestic abuse during the Covid-19 lockdowns, and a landmark survey on rape and sexual assault survivors' experiences of the police.

MALAWI'S GBV LEGAL FRAMEWORK

MOIRA MATENJE



In Malawi, GBV is addressed through various legislative frameworks and policies aimed at protecting victims, preventing the occurrence of GBV, and promoting gender equality. The Constitution of the Republic of Malawi provides foundational principles for protecting human rights, including provisions that promote gender equality and prohibit discrimination. The Gender Equality Act (2013), Child Care, Protection and Justice Act (2010), and the Prevention of Domestic Violence Act (2006) are the primary legislation addressing GBV in Malawi. These laws aim to provide protection and support for victims and hold perpetrators accountable. The National Gender Policy and the National Plan of Action on Gender-Based Violence, are policies outlining strategic approaches for prevention, protection and support services for GBV victims.

Domestic violence, particularly intimate partner

violence (IPV), remains one of the most prevalent and harmful forms of GBV in Malawi. This includes physical, emotional, sexual, and economic abuse within the household. There has also been a recent rise in child abuse in forms of defilement and physical child abuse in Malawi.

Some effective practices to address GBV in the Malawian legislature involve strengthening the legislation framework to:

- cover a wide range of forms of violence (physical, emotional, sexual, economic abuse)
- introduce other forms of GBV that are not regulated, for instance, GBV in disaster situations.

Additionally, strengthening support services for victims of GBV, such as the provision of shelter, legal aid, counselling and healthcare, would greatly improve the tackling of GBV in Malawi.

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **Gender-Sensitive Budgeting:** it is essential to ensure adequate budgetary and resource support for institutions that assist GBV survivors. This ensures effective oversight and enables institutions to provide justice and support for victims.
- **Regularly Review GBV Provisions:** GBV laws must be regularly reviewed to ensure they stay aligned with current trends and challenges. A good example is the regulation of GBV during disaster situations, an area in which Malawi currently lacks legislation, while other countries have established such frameworks. These practices are vital for strengthening our legal approach to GBV.

ADDRESSING GBV IN CONFLICT

OLUWASEUN OKEDIRAN



GBV in conflict is a devastating issue that demands urgent and effective action. Save the Children (SC) have been working in South Sudan, grappling with the devastating impact of the ongoing Civil War and conflict related GBV. The strategies implemented in South Sudan however are relevant to any and all countries facing similar challenges and the approaches discussed here offer valuable insight for legislators working to address GBV in conflict affected regions across the Commonwealth.

SC's key initiative in South Sudan involves strengthening community-based protection mechanisms that provide survivors with justice and support services. These mechanisms are vital for ensuring immediate and long-term

protection. We integrate GBV risk mitigation across sectors like education, health and livelihoods, embedding safeguarding measures to prevent harm. Gender-sensitive capacity-building is central to our approach, training local actors such as community leaders and service providers to better address survivors' needs. Additionally, we advocate for and engage in policy dialogue with national and local governments to enhance legal frameworks and ensure that GBV survivors receive comprehensive protection and support. Furthermore, we engage men and boys in GBV prevention efforts to challenge harmful gender norms and promote accountability, which has led to a reduction in violence.

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **Legislate Survivor-Centered Policies:** Laws should prioritise survivor protection, ensuring access to justice, healthcare, psychosocial support and economic empowerment. Policies must guarantee confidentiality and non-discriminatory access to services, particularly for marginalised groups.
- **Strengthen Accountability Mechanisms:** Effective GBV legislation should establish enforcement mechanisms, including specialised law enforcement units, survivor-friendly reporting systems, and accountability for perpetrators, particularly armed groups, involved in sexual violence.
- **Integrate GBV Prevention into Conflict Response Strategies:** Parliamentarians should advocate for the inclusion of GBV risk mitigation in peacebuilding, humanitarian response, and post-conflict recovery efforts. This includes addressing sexual violence in disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration (DDR) programmes, to ensure the protection of women and children during these critical processes.

COLLABORATING WITH ACADEMICS

PROF. NICOLE WESTMARLAND



Based in North-East England, the **Centre for Research into Violence and Abuse (CRiVA)** has been dedicated to designing and enhancing research-led education, policy and practice since 2013. The work of our world-leading researchers informs and improves legal, professional and societal responses to violence and abuse.

We are passionate about supporting people who have experienced violence and abuse – but also about ending it. We are currently supporting parliamentarians in the UK Government's

mission to half violence against women and girls within a decade. We have previously advised other governments around the world including the Victorian Government in Australia, which has probably had the largest programme of reform to end gender-based violence anywhere in the world.¹

Join us. Parliamentarians and their staff can become members of CRiVA for free and receive invitations to in person events and webinars throughout the year.²

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **By engaging with academics, parliamentarians can get the very most up to date knowledge on what works to address GBV:** Books and journal articles usually come out years after we have done the actual research, so a direct dialogue is crucial. Academics often have the translation of their research into policy and practice impact built into their research projects, so often short advice sessions will not require additional funding. Ask them questions such as 'what would you do in my position?' - to help them think about how their research could translate into tangible actions.
- **Gender-based violence is shapeshifting, and responses need to at least keep up and, if possible, get ahead of the problem:** I recently updated my 2015 book *Violence against Women* for a second edition, and I was struck by just how much not only responses had changed, but the violence and abuse itself had changed.³ It goes without saying that advances

COLLABORATING WITH ACADEMICS

in cyberspace have fundamentally shifted the way that GBV is experienced and perpetrated. While we are trying to respond to this shift, other changes will be happening. Trying to future proof interventions as far as possible is important, and this means talking to staff and volunteers delivering services on the ground, for example through helplines, to hear about the sort of violence and abuse that are being perpetrated now.

- **Men and boys are part of the problem, and they need to be part of the solution:** When it comes to responding to men's violence against women and girls, men are almost entirely invisible as part of the solution. It may feel uncomfortable for individual men to talk about the problem of men's violence against women, but men need to organise to scale up their role in change. This should be done respectfully, and in discussion with the women's sector organisations that have been doing this work for many decades. Although limited in scale, there are also lessons that can be learnt from men's activism to end violence against women in terms of how we can best get more men involved.⁴

1. <https://www.vic.gov.au/free-violence-second-action-plan-2022-2025>

2. <https://www.durham.ac.uk/research/institutes-and-centres/research-violence-abuse/>

3. <https://www.routledge.com/Violence-Against-Women-Criminological-Perspectives-on-Mens-Violence/Westmarland/p/book/9781032214597>

4. <https://bristoluniversitypressdigital.com/display/book/9781447357971/9781447357971.xml>

NAVIGATING LEGAL, CULTURAL, AND RELIGIOUS BARRIERS IN THE KINGDOM OF TONGA

HON. DULCIE TEI



The Family Protection Act (FPA) is a fundamental tool for the protection, security and justice for victims and survivors of domestic violence (DV) in Tonga. Enacted in 2013, the FPA is the main legislation that provides measures to protect persons who witness or experience DV. The forms of violence recognised under the FPA are physical, sexual, psychological and economic violence. The FPA is a landmark legislation as it has profound impacts on the cultural landscape of our nation. The Tongan culture and traditions underscore forgiveness and reconciliation. However, the FPA provides that it is not a defence for a perpetrator to have paid compensation or reparation to a DV victim or the victim's family. In addition to the FPA, a range of other laws address GBV, including the Criminal Offences Act and the Evidence Act. To keep pace with the rapid advancement in technology and communications, the Legislative Assembly of Tonga has also enacted the Electronic Communication Abuse Offences Act, which prohibits abuse of women online or using technology to facilitate the abuse of women.

In conjunction with enacting laws, Tonga's Parliament has consistently allocated funding to and provided support to the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Women's Affairs and Gender

Equality Division (WAGED) in its efforts to end DV. Consequently, the WAGED leads and steers national conventions on best practices and evidence-informed interventions and strategies to change attitudes, beliefs and norms regarding the acceptability of violence against women and girls (VAWG). Further, Tonga's Parliament recently completed the CPA Benchmark Assessment for Democratic Legislatures in November 2023. One of the recommendations that the Tonga Parliament is considering implementing is the development of means of conducting pre-and post-legislative scrutiny. This will hopefully provide an opportunity for Parliament to conduct gender-sensitive scrutiny on all legislation to ensure that legislation is in its best possible form and to ensure the effective implementation of GBV laws.

Addressing GBV in Tonga is fundamentally hindered by various institutional constraints underpinned by cultural and attitudinal barriers. Corporal punishment is still an acceptable form of discipline, and religious teachings and practices encourage forgiveness and reconciliation rather than reporting GBV. These cultural and religious beliefs are bolstered by the definition of DV under the FPA, which prohibits DV only if it is "beyond the reasonable expectations and acceptances of family and

NAVIGATING LEGAL, CULTURAL, AND RELIGIOUS BARRIERS IN THE KINGDOM OF TONGA

domestic life”. These features, unfortunately, demonstrate that GBV, to a certain extent, is permissible and acceptable in Tonga’s society and culture.

To effectively address GBV, it is necessary to have holistic, multi-sectoral approaches that seek not only to address GBV but also to change social and cultural norms and attitudes. From my standpoint, preventative interventions would be more effective if they tackle social and cultural norms, attitudes and behaviour that perpetuate GBV, challenge notions of masculinity linked to violence, and include and engage community members at all levels of society.

Addressing GBV also requires community-based interventions. Many initiatives in Tonga aimed at preventing GBV have mobilised communities through outreach campaigns. NGOs are using mass media campaigns and community-based education to change community norms and attitudes related to GBV. Community-based educational activities are crucial as they can expand women’s and girls’ knowledge of their legal and social rights and empower them to seek help for GBV. Community-based educational activities can also challenge the underlying beliefs that justify women’s subordination and the use of violence for discipline or to settle conflicts.

SPOTLIGHT INITIATIVE

SHIFTING THE NARRATIVE TONGA

The “Shifting the Narrative: Changing Mind Sets and Attitudes” project by the Tonga Women and Children Crisis Centre focuses on empowering and building skills of young girls and boys to prevent GBV, engaging men in violence prevention strategies and promoting a comprehensive approach to GBV prevention.

ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE

WARUGURU KIAI



1 Youth-Led Policy Dialogues:

Members of parliament (MPs) can create safe spaces for young people to speak up about their experiences and propose solutions. In Kenya, initiatives like youth parliaments, town hall meetings, and student-led forums have demonstrated how young voices can shape policy. One such example is the Komesha Dhuluma (translated as “End Injustice/Oppression”) Campaign, initiated by the President and championed by elected women representatives. This campaign was a direct result of sustained online and on-ground advocacy by young Kenyans in response to the spiraling numbers of femicide cases in the country. It underscores the urgency of leadership working hand in hand with young advocates to address systemic violence.

2 Educational Initiatives and Awareness Campaigns:

Education remains a powerful tool in dismantling harmful norms that perpetuate GBV. MPs can push for the integration of GBV education into school curricula and support community-led initiatives that empower young people with the knowledge to challenge violence. Kenya has seen impactful programmes that incorporate peer-to-peer mentorship, storytelling, and theatre-based advocacy, all of which resonate deeply with youth and encourage active participation in GBV prevention.

3 Leveraging Social Media and Digital Advocacy:

Young people are digital natives, and we cannot afford to ignore the power of social media in amplifying the GBV conversation. In Kenya, social media has become a vital tool in demanding accountability. When women took to the streets of Nairobi to protest against femicide, their voices were amplified by a sustained online campaign under the hashtag #EndFemicideKE. This movement forced MPs to respond, bringing the issue to the national stage. Parliamentarians can not only react to such movements but actively support them, using their platforms to push for legal and policy reforms that address GBV comprehensively.

4 Involving Young People in Law-Making and Policy Development:

The strongest policies are those informed by the lived realities of the people they seek to serve. MPs should create opportunities for young representatives to participate in parliamentary committees on GBV, ensuring their voices influence legislative decisions.

ENGAGING YOUNG PEOPLE

Young people are the heartbeat of change. Their voices, their energy, and their lived experiences make them invaluable allies in the fight against GBV. As someone who has worked closely with communities and policymakers, I have witnessed first hand the power of young people in driving transformative change. If we want a future free from GBV, we must actively bring young people into the conversation—not as spectators, but as key decision-makers and change makers.

Key Points for Parliamentarians:

- **Institutionalise Youth Participation in Decision-Making:** Beyond symbolic inclusion, youth advisory councils, parliamentary internship programmes, and formal consultation mechanisms can be established to ensure sustained engagement.
- **Strengthen Multi-Sectoral Collaboration:** MPs should work closely with youth organisations, civil society, and educational institutions to implement youth-centered GBV prevention strategies. A whole-of-society approach strengthens impact.
- **Champion Gender-Sensitive Education Policies:** Education that challenges gender stereotypes and teaches consent and respect should be standard in our schools. MPs must advocate for these reforms to shape a future where respect and equality are the norm.

KEY POINTS FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

- **Prioritise legislation that not only responds to GBV but actively works to prevent it;**
- **Develop and advocate for inclusive & survivor led policy formulation through consultations with survivors, civil society, and legal experts;**
- **Invest in perpetrator focused interventions & police investigations;**
- **Advocate for and practice whole person victim care, adopting a holistic and multi-sectoral approach;**
- **Establish robust data collection & sharing across agencies such as prosecution services, the police, probation & parole and the courts so that repeat offenders do not go undetected;**
- **Practice gender-sensitive budgeting & resource allocation - procure training for Public Accounts Committees so it becomes a mainstream practice;**
- **Collaborate with academics - academics often have the translation of their research into policy and practice impact built into their research projects, so often short advice sessions will not require additional funding;**
- **When engaging with academics ask them questions such as 'what would you do in my position?' to encourage them to think about how their research can become tangible actions;**
- **Include men and boys in the solutions - encourage open dialogues that include men and boys, whilst also supporting men's activism initiatives to end violence against women and girls;**
- **To include young people in these conversations, set up youth advisory councils, parliamentary internship programmes, and formal consultation mechanisms for sustained engagement;**
- **Develop and champion gender-sensitive education policies.**

**"ENDING GENDER-BASED
VIOLENCE REQUIRES MORE THAN
WORDS—IT DEMANDS ACTION,
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YOUTHS, WOMEN, AND GIRLS
ARE LEADING THE FIGHT, AND
THE WORLD MUST MOVE WITH
THEM. JUSTICE BEGINS WHERE
SILENCE ENDS."**

- WARUGURU KIAI

ABOUT CPA UK

**Supporting
and strengthening
parliamentary
democracy
throughout the
Commonwealth**

CPA UK supports and strengthens parliamentary democracy throughout the Commonwealth. It focuses on key priority themes including women in parliament, modern slavery, financial oversight, security and trade.

CPA UK brings together UK and Commonwealth parliamentarians and officials to share knowledge and experience through peer to peer learning. It aims to improve parliamentary oversight, scrutiny and representation and is located in, and funded by, the UK Parliament. .

**Building Stronger
Parliaments and
Advancing
Democracy**

CPA UK's core work is to build relationships with parliaments across the Commonwealth. This is achieved through a programme of parliamentary strengthening and capacity building activities.

CPA UK undertakes work at the request of other parliaments around the Commonwealth, and our tailored programmes include both individual country activities, and large scale projects and activities that bring together Commonwealth parliamentarians and clerks.

For more information about our work and activities, please visit our website: uk-cpa.org

CPA UK

Westminster Hall | Houses of Parliament | London | SW1A 0AA

T: +44 (0)207 219 5373

W: www.uk-cpa.org

E: cpauk@parliament.uk