

MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING

BETWEEN

Disabled Peoples' Organisations

AND

FEDOMA YOUTH NETWORK

MOU- FOR YOUTH POLICY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

In the years 2003-2004, FEDOMA implemented a project on Youth Advocacy whose aim was to build a network of youths to work towards sustainable disability advocacy work in Malawi. The project involved the identification of youths with disabilities based on competency and ability representing a fair national distribution. The chosen youths were sensitized on basic human rights issues and trained in advocacy skills so that they effectively advocate for disability issues.

The project had three components; Mobilization, Advocacy skills, training and awareness. All these three were implemented successfully with the awareness component which entailed organization of awareness campaign meetings in selected areas in the three regions of the country. This was an exercise for the trained youth to put in practice their newly acquired advocacy skills.

Before that the youth established three regional committees for the smooth running of their youth advocacy activities and these committees coordinated the organization of the awareness campaigns.

Since then, a lot of advocacy work has taken place by the trained youths in their respective areas. The main activities being the three awareness campaigns that were held in the three regions in the years 2004-2005. In addition they youth have been applying their skills individually and in groups.

As this first section of FEDOMA youth development programme comes to an end: FEDOMA wishes to enter into the second phase of its youth development programme through the strengthening of the position of the trained youths and the Youth structure in their DPOs.

For this reason FEDOMA has initiated the development of a youth policy to be implemented by all DPOs affiliated to it. For the implementation of this youth policy to be a success there is a need for both the trained youth with disabilities and authorities in their DPOs to work on a common understanding.

This has resulted into the necessity of coming up with this **Memorandum Of Understanding (MOU)** to be facilitated by FEDOMA on this day of..... Of the month of.....in the Lords year of..... And to be implemented by all DPOs.

PREAMBLE

The FEDOMA Youth Network and the DPOs with the common aim of securing and safeguarding the rights of people with disabilities and their families, children and youth inclusive, hereby agree to sign a partnership agreement. All clauses within this document form an integral part of the agreement.

GENERAL TERMS

The relationship between the Youth Network and the FEDOMA DPOs shall be one based on solidarity, partnership, and mutual respect and shall be built upon the common experiences of members of respective groupings. Open clear lines of communication shall be established and maintained between the interested parties.

CONTRACT PERIOD

This MOU is valid in 2007 – 2009.

OVERALL AIMS

The aims of the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) are two – fold.

- To help to contribute to the development of youth and young people working in the DPOs
- To assist in the implementation of the FEDOMA Youth Policy by all the DPOs working with FEDOMA, through different support.

SPECIFIC OBJECTIVES

Activities to be carried out during the period of the MOU are specified in the document entitled the FEDOMA Youth Policy plans and budget 2006 – 2009 attached as annex 1. FEDOMA and the DPOs shall contribute to these activities with financial support and assistance, as specified below.

EXPECTED OUTPUTS

The Youth Net work becomes an organization with branches from all the districts of Malawi where the DPOs are working with increased number of members. This process is expected to influence national, regional and local policy makers to make amendments hence creating a society for all.

FEDOMA ROLE

The primary role of FEDOMA shall be advisory, consultative and supportive.

FUNDING

In order for the Policy to be implemented FEDOMA and the DPOs shall be required to source funding for the activities specified in annex 1 as attached. Further to this FEDOMA and the DPOs shall be asked to include youth activities in their plans and budgets.

SUPPORT, TRAINING AND TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FEDOMA shall maintain an active interest in the implementation of the Youth Policy and youth development in the DPOs. FEDOMA shall make itself available as a sounding board and conversation partner for the Youth Network and offer advice to contribute to the development of the Youth Network.

FEDOMA shall provide training for members of the Network in different aspects of lobbying and advocacy work, as well as organizational building in general, in response to identified needs. FEDOMA shall inform the Youth Network of other relevant training programmes, and where appropriate, facilitate Networks participation.

KEY AREAS

The following areas have been agreed upon by the membership of the FEDOMA Youth Network and have been put forward for consideration by FEDOMA and all the DPOs:

- Need for youth development programmes in all the DPOs targeting young people especially those with disabilities.
- Key positions in organizations to be considered for youth so that they are trained while serving the organization.
- Recognition of Youth Programmes in all the DPOs
- The full implementation of the FEDOMA Youth Policy by all the DPOs and where appropriate support to be given
- Youth to be trained and equipped in different field as one way of imparting life skills
- Need for representation of youth in all the decision marking positions of both the DPOs and FEDOMA ie is in the executive council and board membership

In return the youth serving in different position shall make sure of:

- Their full participation in organization activities
- Help in the development of the organizations through helping in sourcing of funds
- Help in mobilization of youth and other people to join the DPOs

NETWORKING

FEDOMA shall, subject to availability of funds, provide opportunities for the Youth Network to participate in national, regional and international networking activities.

NETWORK'S OBLIGATION

The Network shall be responsible for implementation of the activities specified in the document attached as annex 1.

Funding provided by all parties shall be used solely for the purpose outlined in the document attached as annex 1.

Quarterly reports

The Youth Network shall submit quarterly reports to FEDOMA and all the DPOs on its activities and way forward regarding the activities of the Network.

The narrative report section shall be not more than 4 – 5 pages and shall cover activities undertaken during the previous quarter. The report shall relate clearly to the action plan for the year and account for any setbacks encountered in carrying out planned activities

The financial report shall also specify opening balances: all funds/interest/other income received since the beginning of the year and closing balance.

End of the year and Annual Financial Statements

A full annual report covering the whole of the year shall be sent to FEDOMA and all the DPO's indicating all the activities carried out by the Network and its Membership.

Evaluation

The Network shall provide FEDOMA and all the DPO's with copies of all evaluation carried out by the Network. The Network shall assist external evaluators in the event of an independent external evaluation commissioned by FEDOMA, and DPO or donor.

This Memorandum of Understanding enters into force on the date of signature of all the parties involved as specified below. If either of the parties fail to fulfill its obligation in this agreement, the agreement may be terminated by either party with 90 days written notice to the concerned party/parties. Two copies of this agreement have been signed and each DPO and FEDOMA retaining one copy.

Names and signatures of all the DPOs and FEDOMA

1

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

FEDOMA

2

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

MANAD

3

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

APDM

4

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

TAAM

5

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

MADISA

6

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

PODCAM

7

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

DEWODE

8

Date:

Place:

Executive Director

MUB