

*Tirana, March 8, 2014*

## STATEMENT

**The Gender Alliance for Development Centre wishes to all Albanian women and girls  
Happy International Women's Day!**

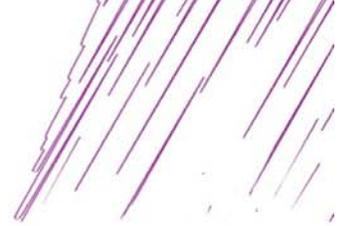
We would like to remind and continue to seek from the main actors of the Albanian society, positive actions for the progress of the Albanian women, their economic development and decision-making. We have some suggestions for various parties, which are based on the findings from the studies conducted on the causes of gender issues and from conclusions from meetings with Albanian women and girls throughout the country.

### ***Suggestions for the members of the Albanian Parliament:***

- To promote inclusive and detailed policies for the achievement of gender equality in Albania;
- To require enforcement and implementation of Gender Equality Strategy in Albania and monitor the implementation of the legislation and policies for gender equality and against gender based violence.
- To increase demands from political parties in order to include women in leadership positions, in order to achieve gender equality at all levels;
- To develop quality standards for systems of care for children, elderly and special needs persons due to their different abilities.

### ***Suggestions for the Albanian Government***

- To ensure adequate funding for programs, policies and actions pro women's rights and pro gender equality in every field;
- To require that each ministry and institution recognize and apply the principles of gender budgeting and to address important gender issues and social inclusion, especially for women's head of household and disable women;



- To integrate gender equality in textbooks and to include a course on gender based violence and its consequences in family and society in school curriculums;
- To promote employment of women by strengthening the Albanian Labour Code and its implementation at each Albanian enterprise;
- To raise funds for program development for women-run businesses;
- To recognize women's labour in rural areas, in agriculture and livestock farming, helping them increase production and sales through modernization of agricultural equipment, infrastructure, regulations and promotion of local products;
- To ensure women's economic independence and their right to social protection;
- To fight against poverty of the unemployed women as well as of those who are employed but living at or below poverty standards, by creating job opportunities and to end gender inequality in wages and consequently in pensions.

***Suggestions for the Albanian private sector:***

- To respect the rights of the employed women, by contributing to the payment of social security, health care and to create decent working conditions;
- To promote women and girls in leadership positions;
- To increase social responsibility towards employees, recognizing all their rights.

***Suggestions for the Albanian media:***

- To ensure that programs, articles and all other communications are free from gender stereotypes and sexist terms;
- To promote women and girls who are successful in leadership positions, business, politics, etc. .

*The Gender Alliance for Development Centre is a non-profit organization, founded in 1994 by a group of activists, protectors of women's rights as part of human rights. The Gender Alliance for Development Centre operates throughout Albania, trying to be the voice of the Albanian women and a force of change. Our organization works for and contributes to strengthening of Albanian women and to ensure justice for them in all aspects of life.*