

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Gender Harmony has been launched at the first time in 2010 by the support of the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection RI and the Presidential Council in Education and Culture. The approach is aimed to support gender equality and equity within all aspects of living. This becomes books, programme, declaration, training, talk show etc. The international network on Gender harmony (GH) has been expanded since 2011 by the celebration of International Women's Day with IFMSA (International Federation of Medical Students Association) on their General Assembly in Jakarta. The activities are performed through training, talk shows and seminar in Jakarta, South Sumatera and West Java province during 2011 up to presents.

In 2012 GH was discussed deeper during the International Conference on Gender Empowerment and then being supported by 14 countries in the Bandung Declaration on Gender Harmony. (See: the Gender Harmony movement and Bandung Declaration on Gender Harmony 2012 as attached).

Now, in 2013 the Gender Harmony is called by global arena for further opportunity to be a promising tool against gender violence when it is accepted to be discussed during CSW 57 (3-15 March 2013) in New York on 6 March 2013, 6.15pm, at the Armenian Convention Centre, 630 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue 35<sup>th</sup> Street. (Information announcement is attached)

The United Nations NGO CSW conference (commission on the status of Women) has been conducted after the world performed the Convention on the elimination of all forms of discrimination against women (CEDAW, 1979). Thus, the event of discussion and report of the United Nations have been performed 57 times between representation of transnational government for follow up reports of CEDAW and various NGOs in the world (non-government organization for the Committee on the status of women). There is a spirit of togetherness between NGO and government in partnership for eliminating VAW (violence against women) or over here we call by KDRT (Kekerasan Dalam Rumah Tangga).

NGO CSW opens registration for NGOs around the world to get a free accreditation, based on results and assessment programmes (to uphold CEDAW) which then confirmed by the United Nations ECOSOC (Economic and Social) in their database. Gender Harmony Foundation (YGH) got the accreditation in October 2012 based on results obtained during 2010-2012. YGH then be able to participate in the NGO CSW 57 conference, including co-organized event in New York. Indonesia every year is participating by sending delegation from the government (Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection, Social Welfare, Law and Human's Rights etc); this is aimed for reporting and progress the decrease of Violence against Women in Indonesia and all related policies / programs in order supporting the mission. The Gender Harmony

foundation (YGH) joined the NGO CSW 57 due to the proposal on performing a forum for Gender Harmony as Promising tool against gender violence is accepted; as determined on 6 March 2013 at the Armenian Convention Center.

Gender harmony activities are supported by the Gender Harmony network (Indonesia and abroad), Public Policy Forum (PPF) Indonesia where also being supported by the Ministry of Women Empowerment and Child Protection and UNFPA Indonesia since 2010/2011 (see: [www.genderharmony.info](http://www.genderharmony.info) ; [www.genderempowerment.com](http://www.genderempowerment.com) ). The GH Event in New York opened by Dr. Kartini Sjahrir, the Indonesia Ambassador for Argentina, with distinguished speaker Prof. Dr. Meutia Hatta Swasono, Member of Presidential Council on Education and Culture, and Dr.. Erna Surjadi MS.APBI PhD from YGH from as Indonesia; accompanied by other speakers Ms. Lois A. Herman, Coordinator WUNRN and Prof. Kristie Holmes PhD, from the WeHealth Project Millennia 2015 UNESCO as moderator. Booklet of the GH event is distributed to participants (attached). The other panelist, Mr. Gordon Manuain from the Presidential Special Envoy for MDG could not join due to funding constraints.

The main discussion covered GH strategy and approach which is developed based on various studies in Indonesia for KDRT, which is explained by Dr. Erna Surjadi PhD. She explained that the studies were performed during 2003-2004, 2005-2006 and 2008-2010 which concluded may decline the violence against women 56% through intervening factors of communication to lower the patriarchy culture impact and its crisis in family. The GH training was carried out from 2011 with KOWANI, training to the community in Kranji, road shows in the province of West Java (7x), through radio talk show, direct talk in Matraman; training for health workers during 2012 in collaboration with Pencerah Nusantara, KUKPRI MDGs in Bandung etc. . In 2012 GH is being supported by 14 countries during the International Conference on Gender Empowerment-ICGEm 2012 (see: [www.genderempowerment.com](http://www.genderempowerment.com))

The GH discussion in New York is accompanied by explanation about the importance of culture and education by Prof. Dr. Meutia Hatta Swasono and Human's rights violation in reality and concerns by Ms. Lois A. Herman. Dr. Surjadi explained a bit about GH training in health to prevent domestic violence. More material is provided in the GH booklet developed specially for the New York event. There are testimonies after the GH event in New York to support the gender harmony as a promising tool to turn down the KDRT cases, and slowly eliminating it; as expressed by participants from Argentina, Indonesia, US, India and Italy.

Three things are noted:

- 1) Audiences receive GH across cultures; stated by various countries
- 2) The audiences feel the practical elements of self communication can be trained and applied by anyone (men/women) and

- 3) An appreciation to the NGO-Government collaboration by Indonesia related to the GH development. This cooperation is needed for implementing the new policies, e.g. GH education from early childhood (Family, schools, etc.) as presented by the India participants and being emphasized by participants from U.S. and Italy; as well as the need for couple-counseling before and after marriage (as presented by participants from U.S., Finland, Australia, Indonesia etc.)

It is hoped that GH as 'Promising' tool against gender violence can be disseminated throughout the world.

### Way Forwards:

GH is a gift to all Indonesian families and the world!

GH offers development of *coping mechanism* in preventing domestic violence (DV) and to build synergy between men and women.

GH gives re-orientation to the cultural mindset about human being and roles as well as position of women for family advancement. The respect and Unity are main factors that should be developed within Gender Harmony through continuous education and cultural re-orientation.

Gender empowerment is important to be performed since early family career development;

- to be a basic knowledge of girls/boys and female/male before getting married;
- to understand why DV may happen and try to anticipate it –
- A primary prevention; a valuable asset for achieving family welfare free from domestic violence!
- To be educated in high school and college for basic foundation to gender harmony family development
- To be introduced within local wisdom

As the follow-up being planned for this activity: the GH International Actions Conference by September 2013 in collaboration between YGH with the Presidential Council on Education and Culture and KOWANI by the support Dr. Kartini Sjahrir, Prof Meutia Hatta Swasono, and Dr. Dewi Motik Pramono MSi. In addition there will be invited also the incoming host country for ICGEm 2014 and 2016: Malaysia and Thailand as well as other interest parties.

Jakarta, March 2013,

Dr. Erna Surjadi MS.APBI, PhD

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Founder and President Director of Gender Harmony Foundation

[www.genderharmony.info](http://www.genderharmony.info)