- We the delegates of Women in Public Service Institute 2013, Peacebuilding and Development, representing 35 countries from Asia, Africa, America, Europe and Middle East from diverse sectors, ethnicities, ages, cultures and religions;


- Deeply committed to undertake responsibility to promote gender equality, especially in the areas of public service, politics, economics, foreign policy and security, peace-building and development, both in our respective countries and at the international fora;

- Witnessing waves of political destruction, unbearable social situation, and threats to a safe and secure life for women in different parts of the world;

- Pledging to engage in mentoring, sponsoring and supporting other women in our communities and organizations in developing their full potential, as well as to commit to both individual and collective acts that support the role of women in public service through community development, peace-building, information sharing, research, training, policy influence and advocacy in our respective organizations and communities.

Adopt the following:

**DECLARATION**

**1. Economic Empowerment**

We call upon the Governments and international organizations to urgently address gaps and challenges in women’s economic empowerment and undertake to, support and strengthen women’s entrepreneurship through skills development, leadership associations as well as greater access to higher education, fiscal, banking, and infrastructure mechanisms that enable women, even without collateral or savings, to start or expand businesses.
2. Education & Health Care
We call upon the Governments and international organizations to ensure that education and healthcare of girls and young women are fundamental human rights, and to provide full and equal access to these rights as pre-requisites for further development and integration into public life.

3. Peace building & Conflict Mitigation
We call upon our Governments and international organizations to recognize women as equal stakeholders in peace and conflict mitigation processes and take all necessary constitutional, legislative and policy measures to ensure that they are involved in all stages of peace process including policy making, negotiations and reconciliation, etc.

4. Political Participation
We call upon the Governments and political parties to increase women’s political participation and representation, place women in electable positions on candidate lists, and to support women in elected offices; to provide internal election procedures that enable women to take party’s leadership positions that carry authentic power; and to use special measures such as quotas to increase not only the participation of women but their role as decision-makers.

5. Constitutional & Statutory Legislation
We call upon the Governments and political parties to provide unambiguous constitutional protection for women representation and we urge the amendment of electoral, party and campaign laws and practices in order to include quota for women representation, as well as ensure rigorous implementation of gender equality and other relevant laws, and full implementation of national action plans that realize country commitments to international covenants using sanctions and incentives to make this more likely.

6. Security & Foreign Policy
We call upon the Governments to fully respect CEDAW and promote greater participation of women in foreign policy, military and security spheres, including representation in diplomatic missions, military and defense institutions, participation in the work of the international organizations without any discriminations.

7. Violence against Women
We call upon the Governments to condemn and take decisive measures to eliminate violence against women in all its forms as enshrined in CEDAW and other related international instruments and to ensure that any custom, tradition or religious consideration will not avoid their obligations with respect to its elimination.
8. Access to Justice

We pledge and call upon all Governments and international organizations to undertake all measures and support through concerted effort the promotion, protection and practical realization of women’s rights as human rights through informed and sensitized judiciary.

9. Solidarity

We pledge solidarity with all our sisters suffering political persecution, genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes, rape, and other forms of torture or degrading treatment, underlining that human dignity is an inalienable human right for all women around the world.

10. 50 by 50

We pledge and call upon our Governments to act in achieving 50% of Women in Public Service the latest by 2050.

We the undersigned resolve to contribute to the aforementioned commitments by engaging in networks, partnerships and create synergies with our respective governments, civil society and media as also through regional and international forums in the furtherance of this declaration:

1. Agnes Igoye, Migration, Peace and Security Scholar-Practitioner, Uganda
2. Amna Waheed, Chairperson, Gender Integrated Peacebuilding Foundation (GRIP), Pakistan
3. Ana Luisa Alveno Oliva, Masters in Educational Leadership and Management, Guatemala
4. Azra Jafari, Mayor of Nili- Daikundi Province - Afghanistan
5. Bhawana Bhatta, Youth Activist, Nepal
7. Carmen Da Cruz, Department of Social Rehabilitation for vulnerable groups Ministry of Social Solidarity of Timor-Leste
8. Celine Bankumuhari Pan-Africa Program, Communications Officer, Governance Section-State of the Union Program, Oxfam-GB
9. Dagmara Mejia, Development, Peace and Security Practitioner and Scholar, Ecuador
10. Hon. Ebun Jusu, c/o Ministry of Foreign Affairs and International Cooperation, Sierra Leone
11. Florence de Sola, Development Practitioner and Researcher, El Salvador
12. Frances Bulathsinghala, Development and Communication Practitioner, Sri Lanka
13. Georgia Genoway, Peace and Development Activist, Liberia
14. Dr. Hanna Shelest, Head of the Board, NGO "Promotion of Intercultural Cooperation", Ukraine
15. Helen Kuyembeh, Member of Parliament, Sierra Leone
16. Jacqueline Mogeni, Commissioner, Transition Authority, Kenya
17. Jasmina Zivkovic, Member of Parliament and Chairperson Standing Committee on Rights for Interests of Communities & Return, Kosovo
18. Juliana Trajkovikj, Macedonia
19. Kabui M. Mpolokoso, Zambia
20. Langiwe Joyce Ngoma, Nonviolent Peace Force, South Sudan
21. Linda Ochiel, Director Policy, Advocacy and Communications, Commission on Administrative Justice (Office of the Ombudsman), Kenya
22. Martha Mutisi, Peace, Security and Conflict Resolution Scholar-Practitioner, Zimbabwe
23. Margaret Akullo Elem, Executive Director of Lango Female Clan Leaders Association and Deputy Head Teacher, Akaalo Secondary School, Uganda
24. Marayah LWM Fyneah, National President, Coalition of Political Parties Women in Liberia, Liberia
25. Mary Mwende, Partnership Manager, Global Give Back Circle, Kenya
26. Mary Nyaulang Ret, Member of Parliament, South Sudan
27. Meena Sharma, Senior Program Coordinator - Women Peace and Security, SFCG, Nepal
28. Mercy Chriesty Barends, Vice Chair of Parliament of Maluku Province, Indonesia
30. Nini Chanturia, Chairwoman, Women's Democracy Network of Georgia, Georgia
31. Nisan Ahmed - Journalist and Activist, Syria
32. Nthabiseng Nkomo –American Friends Service Committee, Zimbabwe
33. Samrawit Assefa, Gender Based Violence Senior Manager, Ethiopia
34. Selvete Dibrani – Legal Consultant, Republic of Kosovo
35. Sharada Jnawali, Peace Building Expert, Nepal
36. Snežana Kresoja, Advisor to the President of the Assembly of the Autonomous Province of Vojvodina, Serbia
37. Soe Htet, Chairperson Concord Institute, Myanmar
38. Suheir Rasul, NGO Director, Palestine
39. Triphonie Habonimana, American Friends Service Committee, Burundi
40. Tsungai Elaine Mutongwizo, Human Rights Lawyer, Zimbabwe
41. Violet Akurat Adome, Commissioner Uganda Human Rights Commission
42. Vjosa Osmani, Member of Parliament - Kosovo