# Biographical data form of candidates to the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women

Name (family name, first name)**: EGHOBAMIEN-MSHELIA** **Esther**

Nationality: **NIGERIAN**

Date and place of birth: **21st April, 1959; IBADAN, NIGERIA**

Working languages: **ENGLISH**

# Current position/function:

**Convener/Founder, Women Arise Development and Humanitarian Initiative (WADHI):** A Nigerian organization committed to finding customized solutions to inequalities, gender injustice and exclusion, particularly women’s continued exclusion from financial and economic markets, technology and peace and security management processes.

**Chairperson Ministerial Technical Committee on Private Sector Initiatives**: task is to build partnerships and collaboration to facilitate the development of private sector led stimulus initiatives to promote gender sensitive corporate social responsibility, inclusion, accountability and good governance drawing on the competencies of women from all walks of life and mobilizing male gender champions

# Main professional activities:

* Work with partners and financial institutions to bridge gender gaps in the socio-economic sector and create market access while reducing funder’s financial/investment risks and undertake research on women’s financial exclusion, gender, trade and market access with leading banks in Nigeria like Bank of Industry, Stanbic, Federal Ministries of Industry, Trade and Investment and Women Affairs.
* As Head of Gender for the Commonwealth, led the implementation and reporting by National Women’s Machineries on progress towards global gender policies and targets and also led the setting up of the Commonwealth Women’s Forum in the wings of the Commonwealth heads of Government Meetings CHOGM and also ran Cabinet level GRB Training.
* Convene and Facilitate High Level Ministerial, Bilateral and Multi-lateral partnership meetings to mainstream gender into key sectors and broker partnerships for women’ organizations
* Support the development and review of Gender Policies at national and international levels
* Gender training and institutional mainstreaming expert and consultant on UNSCR 1325 National Action Plan development, implementation and review
* Multi-Sector Training specialist on women’s socio-economic empowerment
* Consultant on gender and trade issues including trade and procurement policies, financial policies, access for loans, credit and markets
* Support implementation of Ministerial Committee Thematic groups on Women’s Leadership and political development, Infrastructure, Technology and Industry, Women’s Access to Justice and Gender-Based Violence; Women, Peace and Security and Education, Health and Climate Change

# Educational background:

* Masters in Women Studies, University of Washington, Seattle (1996)
* Graduate Certificate in Public Policy, University of Washington, Seattle (1996)
* B.Ed (Hons) Guidance Counseling, University of Ibadan, Nigeria (1980)
* Value-based Leadership (Certificate) Aspen Institute for Humanistic Studies, Colorado (2011)
* Global Leadership Exchange (Certificate) Eisenhower USIA Exchange Programme, (2003)
* Women’s Leadership (Certificate) African Women’s Leadership Institute, Uganda (1999)
* International Institute of Education (Certificate) Hubert H. Humphrey Programme (1996)

# Other main activities in the field relevant to the mandate of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women:

* Innovator of **“KOWGO”** an indigenous gender friendly online/offline Mobile Technology-Based application for addressing the gender digital divide. KOWGO helps to provide financial literacy lessons and templates for traders and to track of business records
* Providing Digital technology training for women groups and
* Training for Women’s Groups, Women SMEs, Judges, CSOs and Faith-Based Organizations
* Development of gender tools, templates and manuals for GBV Management
* Undertake advocacy for women’s socio-empowerment in core economic sectors, access to markets, GBV, women’s political representation and led the Commonwealth Regional Colloquia Series on Women in Leadership
* Organize and provide business support services for women entrepreneurs
* Review of gender policy documents, WPS- National and State Action Plans
* Development of strategy and action plans for national and sub-national women’s institutions and projects and negotiating partnerships with regional and international organizations
* Production of technical & policy briefs, thematic reviews and position papers on gender equality and women’s empowerment including country reports
* Coordinated the design, delivery and monitoring of result-focused gender interventions for the Canadian International Development Agency Country programme in Nigeria
* Facilitated the establishment of the donor gender coordination group; Setup and management of the CIDA gender response fund, and donor basket funds on elections in Nigeria.
* Coordinate implementation of the Ministry of Women Affairs Ministerial Technical Committee strategic plan on private sector, gender and SDG Implementation
* Drive engagements with WTO, World Bank, ITC- She-Trades, Private Sector organizations, Commonwealth Secretariat, British High Commission and UN Women to implement global and national gender policy frameworks

# List of most recent publications in the field of discrimination against women and advancement of their human rights:

* GBV Protection Officers Manual and Guidelines
* Violence Against Persons Prohibition Act Implementation Assessment EU/British Council Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Project
* Global Sentinel Article on Women Peace and Security: https://globalsentinelng.com/2018/01/17/
* 2nd National & State Action Plans on UNSCR 1325, Women Peace and Security
* Technical Strategy paper on CEDAW country reporting for FMWASD (2016)
* Gender & State of Finance Policies – Commonwealth Finance Ministers Reference Report.
* Commonwealth Handbook on Gender Responsive Investments *(2013)*
* Gender Perspectives on the State of Finance Policies – Commonwealth Finance Ministers Reference Report 2011 by Henley Media Group Ltd. Wielding the Mandate Rightly: Action Toolkit for Women in Decision Making: published by jENdA, A Journal of Culture and African Women Studies. ISSN:1530-5686, Issue 12 *(2008)*

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