







African Communication Regulation Authorities Network (ACRAN- www.riarc.org) Mediterranean Network of Regulatory Authorities (MNRA – www.rirm.org) French Speaking Media Regulatory Authorities Network (REFRAM- <u>www.refram.org</u>) Ibero-american platform of Audiovisual Regulators (PRAI – <u>www.prai.tv</u>) Platform of West African Economic and Monetary Union Regulators (UEMOA)

Statement for the 62nd Session of the CSW - 2018

Considering:

- The framework set by the "Beijing Platform for Action", specifically Priority Area 10, "Women and the Media", at the 4th UN World Conference on Women, Beijing, September 1995;
- The "Agreed Conclusions" of the 47th Session of the CSW on "Women's participation and access to media and information and communication technologies, their influence on the advancement of women and the strengthening of women's rights and women's empowerment and their use for this purpose "(United Nations, March 2003);
- The "Report of the UN Secretary-General on the review and evaluation of the Beijing Platform for Action 20 Years Later" (59th session of the CSW, UN, March 2015);
- The 17 "Sustainable Development Goals SDG" for 2030 and especially Goal 5 (Gender Equality) adopted by the UN Member States (New York, September, 2015).

Taking into account:

- The intrinsically linked nature of freedom of communication and equality between women and men;
- The influence of the media, both traditional and new, in any democratic society, and their essential role in promoting gender equality in all areas;
- The role and respective fields of competence of the audiovisual media regulators.

We, audiovisual regulatory authorities members of REFRAM, ACRAN, MNRA, PRAI and UEMOA Regulators represented at the 62nd session of the CSW, and in accordance with the deliberations held within the framework of our respective statutory governance mechanisms¹:

Call on our respective Member States to:

- Put in place and / or ensure the effectiveness of laws and mechanisms establishing the principle of equality between women and men in and through the media;
- Include gender equality in and through the media in the framework of comprehensive and integrated public
 policies targeting the fight against gender stereotypes and sexism, discrimination and gender-based violence,
 and the promotion of gender equality;
- Ensure a balanced representation of women and men in the nomination / election processes of media organizations, including broadcasters and regulators.

Let us reiterate solemnly, as Networks of Audiovisual Regulators, our own commitments² to freedom of communication and gender equality in the implementation of our prerogatives.

¹ Steering Committee of ACRA (Rabat, 22/11/2017), 19th Plenary Assembly of MNRA (Marseille, 163/17/11/2017) and 5th Meeting of the Presidents of REFRAM (Geneva 24-25/11/2017).

² Respective Declarations of REFRAM (Brussels, 19 -9- 2011), of MNRA (Lisbon, 29 -11- 2012) and ACRAN (Cotonou, 8-12- 2016).