



## **COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK- RESEAU DES FEMMES DU COMMONWEALTH COMMONWEALTH CAVYPHA**

Commonwealth governments accredited organisations Strengthening the Commonwealth. Building Businesses and Civil Society Organisation's. Advancing Women and Men. 54 Countries. One Platform. The only organisation accredited by Commonwealth Governments focused on women's, Gender, Economic Empowerment *POBOX 2022- Douala, Cameroon*

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# **COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S PROCESS**

## **1981-1983 : STARTING COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S PROCESS**

**HER Excellency Gracious Royal Majesty Queen Elisabet2**

**After calling working with her Cabinet and meeting with commonwealth foundation president and the commonwealth secretary general of the commonwealth secretariat london uk, while looking forward to create a gender organisation that will enable to work with civil societies organisations and private to emplement gender mechanism alogside the commonwealth and commonwealth foudation, giving more voices to women.**

**Testing and Launching.**

### **1983-1984:**

- **Testing the Symbol:** Online consultation start for gender organisations at national level Commonwealth members countries organisations to prepare the Beijing CONFERENCE ON WOMEN and creation environment to put in place a gender organisation in the Commonwealth. Influence by participating in key events like Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM) and commonwealth women affairs meeting.
- **Second online consultation with continental and international women's empowerment and gender organisations, private sector, experts on gender issue.** The first named Commonwealth women's ngo was given.
- **Network Expansion:** Introduced " COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK Week," an annual awareness event held each March.



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The network expanded to 28 chapters and over 1400 allied organizations across Africa.

- The "vanishing point" symbol was developed to represent the concept of zero incidences of domestic violence and sexual assault. Logo was created by Sterling Brands. The symbol was tested across diverse audiences, including young people and men, who found it memorable and necessary.
- **2011-2012:** Further development and refinement of the symbol and campaign continued, preparing for a public launch.
- **2013:**
  - **Public Launch:** . This launch marked the beginning of COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK as a unifying symbol and gender movement.

### **2015-2017: Expanding Reach and Network**

- **2015-2017:**

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### **2018-2019: Becoming a Charity and New Initiatives**

- **2018:** Continued expansion and engagement with broader audiences and communities.
- **2019:**

**Partnership with the Commonwealth:** Collaborated to amplify the reach and impact of NO MORE's initiatives across the 56 member countries of the Commonwealth [of Nations]. By joining forces, both entities sought to promote awareness and preventative measures against domestic and sexual violence on



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a global scale, leveraging the Commonwealth's extensive network and influence.

### **1985-2000: Response to Global Challenges and Strategic Partnerships**

- **2001:**
  - **Commonwealth:** Launched new campaigns in response to the women's and men's need in the commonwealth to direct citizen to support services and equip women and men alongside their community. The first named COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NGO was accepted.
- - **Launch of the COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NGO :** Introduced the groundbreaking , the new name COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK was lauch after the Commonwealth women affairs minister's meeting gave their approval and autorisation as a gender mechanim emplementing organisation in over 45 Commonwealth countries, developed in collaboration with the Commonwealth Foundation a intergovernmental organisation in the commonwealth.
  - **Expanding Our Reach:** In 2000 and 2003, ran the COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK Challenge, sponsored by CCAVYPHA, which raised over 1.3 million for over 100 small domestic violence and sexual assault programs. Notable efforts included the COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK Week billboard in Times Square, which reached 2.5 million people
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- **"Join The Chorus" Campaign:** Commonwealth foudation partnered with the Commonwealth Secretariat to launch the Join The Chorus of Commonwealth women affairs minister's meeting , engaging 54 Commonwealth countries and influential figures..
- **Generation Equality Forum Beijing:** Spoke at this significant global gathering organized by UN Women, marking anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action, focusing on accelerating gender equality and women's rights.

### **2003-2008 : Global Movement-Building**

- **After documents studied by the Board of Governors and other commission on accreditation in the Commonwealth Secretariat London UK, the COMMONWEALTH WOMEN'S NETWORK** gained approval and accreditation from the Commonwealth Secretariat and Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM).
  - **Global Advocacy and Recognition:** Expanded its international influence by participating in key events like Commonwealth Heads of Government Meeting (CHOGM). The Commonwealth Secretary-General, the UN Deputy Secretary-General, and other esteemed delegates.
  - **Community Engagement and Support:** Launched the "Event-in-a-Box" toolkit for grassroots awareness events and continued to enhance the Global Directory, providing critical resources to nearly 62,000 people in 49 countries and territories.
- **-2008 2023:**
  - **Becoming a Charity:** Grew to become the largest and most successful domestic violence and sexual assault awareness



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initiative. It became an independent 501(c)(3) public charity in January 2009.

- **10th Anniversary and New Initiatives:** We celebrated a decade of impact with NO MORE Week's special events and the introduction of the KNOW MORE Global Dialogue Series, which facilitated monthly webinars addressing domestic and sexual violence.
- **Launch Our Stories Platform:** NO MORE launched a digital space for survivors and advocates to share their experiences with domestic and sexual violence. This initiative aims to amplify voices, foster community support, and inspire change by highlighting the resilience and courage of those affected.
- **Innovative Campaigns and Expanded Reach:** NO MORE partnered with organizations like Uber and Avon for campaigns to prevent sexual assault and emotional abuse and launched new chapters in Cameroon, Tanzania, Madagascar, and U.S. universities, growing their network to over 30 active chapters worldwide.

COMMONWEALTH FOUNDATION  
FONDATION DU COMMON WEALTH



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