

- **Short historical background**

The Lebanese Democratic Women's Gathering is a secular non-governmental women organization which works with the democratic forces and represents a part of the advocacy secular democratic women's movement, on the basis of international pacts and treaties, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Universal Declaration on the Elimination of Violence Against Women, in order to promote women's status and participation and empower them, aiming at achieving full equality between both sexes.

- **Main Objectives**

Equality between woman and man ;

Lift all reservations on the International agreement for eliminating all forms of discrimination against woman;

Apply all international agreements to ensure equality between the two genders and in order to amend unfair clauses in penal code, labor, social security and Nationality laws;

Involve women in decision-making: within the family ,at work, in politics.

Protect and promote the culture of women's rights within human rights;

Eliminate violence against women;

Network and coordinate with women and civil society forces to enhance democracy and equality.

- **Programs and Activities**

ACTIVITIES

The Gathering activities revolve around 4 axes:

1- **Prepare studies and researches on the conditions of women in Lebanon.**

2- **Contribute in the organization and the implementation of pressing campaigns to eliminate all forms of discrimination against women and to protect them from violence imposed on them.**

3- **Program of Education on Human Rights**

- Perform specialized training sessions in the field of woman's human rights.
- Organize awareness and recognition meetings on women's human rights.

4- **Program for the Elimination of Violence against Women**

- Establish Listening centers to receive victimized women.
- Provide social, psychological, and legal consultancy through specialists.

5- **Adult Literacy program**

- Organize training courses for program coordinators.

- Conduct adult literacy sessions for beginner and advanced levels

STRUCTURE OF THE GATHERING

- General Assembly

- The General Assembly consists of all registered members of gathering in all Lebanese regions.
- The General Assembly elects the Board of Directors every three years.
- Its duties include the drafting of future strategies and the execution and evaluation of the programs.

- Board of Directors

- The Board of Directors consists of 12 female members.
- Each branch is represented by, at least, one member in the Board of Directors.
- The Board elects from among its members: The President, the Vice-President, the General Secretary, the Treasurer,

Branches' committees

- The General Assembly consists of all registered female members of the branch.
- The General Assembly elects a sub-committee for each branch.

- **Special Concerns**

Women's Rights, Gender Equality

- **Publications**

Women Working in Lebanon (Dr J.Kabenji & Dr A. Atat)

Marital Violence in Lebanon – Field Study (Dr F.Charafeddine & C. Succar)

Legislative Frame for the Violence against Women Issue in the Code of Penalties and its Comparison with the International Legislations

Women Defy science oppression (Dr.A.Taleb)

A reference documents on the training of trainers in the field of human rights (J.Merhy)

Guide assistant in the field of education and training on women's rights (J.Merhy & M.Zeaiter)

Violence against women: Terminology / international context / cultural dimension / and ways of confrontation (C. Succar)

- **Membership and Partners**

The Gathering member of :

- **On the local level**

- The Lebanese Women Network
- The Non-Governmental National Committee for pursuing Women's Issues
- The Lebanese Council of Women

- **On the Arab level**

- Arab Women's Forum (AISHA)
- Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND)

- **On the international level**

- Women's International Democratic Federation

- Euromed Civil Forum
