

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

Name (family name, first name): NWANKWO, Theodora Oby

Nationality: Nigerian

Date and place of birth: 22 September 1956

Working languages: English

Current position/function:

Expert, CEDAW Committee (2012-2016); Executive Director, Civil Resource Dev and Doc. Centre (CiRDDoC) an NGO committed to the promotion and protection of human rights, women's rights, gender equality, good governance and access to justice. Independent Gender and Development Expert/Consultant to UN agencies, ADB etc. on Gender budgeting, anti-Corruption strategy, Women's rights, access to justice, Gender Policy among others.

Main professional activities:

Retired from Nigerian Judiciary after 23 years; runs an NGO that promotes women's rights and provides pro bono legal services to indigent women; trainer and facilitator on CEDAW, women's rights and gender; in the forefront of the campaign for respect for gender equality for over 3 decades; represents Africa on the Steering Committee of the Coalition for the ICC; Chairperson of the CSO Coordinating Committee on Constitutional and Electoral Reform; founding Coordinator of NCAA, a network of CSOs committed to the domestication of CEDAW and the adoption of affirmative action for women's increased participation in governance in Nigeria. Member: National Technical Committee on CEDAW, National Committee on the Review of Discriminatory Laws against Women; ICC Gender Justice Team and Board member of several NGOs and institutions including Nigeria Book Foundation.

Educational background:

LL.M University of Nigeria (1992); B.L Nigeria Law School (1980); LL.B University of Nigeria (1979), Women's Global Leadership Institute, Rutgers University, New Jersey (1999), Academy on Human Rights & Humanitarian Law, Washington College of Law, American University, U.S.A. (2003), Training on "Using International Human Rights Instruments in the Enforcement of Human Rights" by OMCT Geneva (2002).

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

Active involvement in legislative advocacy and campaign for the domestication of CEDAW in Nigeria as National Coordinator; facilitation of NGO shadow reporting on CEDAW; provision of technical advice to Government on CEDAW Periodic Country reporting; Consultant to OSIWA on the comparative analysis of CEDAW & AU Protocol domestication processes in different countries in Africa to inform the process in Nigeria (2009); Consultant for UNDP on engendering Nigerian national anti corruption strategy, & for UN Women on engendering the Liberian public finance management systems & policies within Government Agencies and development of Gender Policies and Strategic Results Frameworks. She has

attended all CEDAW Committee dialogues on Nigeria since 2004, Member UN DAW Experts Group on Good Practices in Legislation against VAW, Vienna, (2008).

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

Gender Inequality & South Sudan's parallel Legal Frameworks: A Case for Coordinated Approach; UN Women South Sudan (2013) Affirmative Action Strategies: Perspectives from around the Globe (Eds.) Egwu & Nwankwo; Nigeria's Obligation to Women under Human Rights Treaties & Instruments - Issues, Realities & Challenges – Chap. 3 in '*Affirmative Action for Women....*' (Eds) **Nwankwo & Surma**. Implications of the Failure of the ICC to Prosecute SGBV in the Lubanga Case – Chap. 11 in '**Domestic Implementation of the RS of ICC**' (Eds) **Nwankwo O & Olugbuo**.
