Day 1: Women Directors Forum

On Tuesday 20th June we started a sequence of important international meetings in Malindi Kenya which will continue till end of the General Assembly on 27th June. We wanted to keep the Federation informed of some of the exciting conversations which are emerging.

CD update from Elizabeth Johnson, AA Liberia

The day started with a trip to the beautiful city of Marafa, where the Female Country Directors and GS staff were received with warm hugs and excitement by the community inhabitants including women leaders, young people and AA Kenya’s Local Rights Programme team.

The Women Country Directors Forum was called to order with welcome statement followed by check-ins which provided the opportunity to understand the status of some of the female CDs wellbeing personally and professionally. It also offered the opportunity to welcome a number of new female CDs including Eva Polyzogopoulou from Greece, Alida Mayorga from Guatemala, Racha Nasreddine from Arab Region, Ines Mwangavu Rwanda and Ndellafaye Colley from The Gambia.

The personal became political during the Feminist Dialogue when women leaders shared experiences on the power dynamic within the federation and how that affects women at every level. The Feminist dialogue brought together women CDs, the Women’s Rights Community in ActionAid and the female Global Secretariat team.

After a sister-to-sister lunch, women from the community took the team through a gallery walk sharing on empowerment programs. The women, especially young, demonstrated how the program have greatly contributed towards improvement in their wellbeing and that of their families with Many inspiring stories.

The day concluded with a feedback session where the community women leaders shared progressed made since the establishment of the Women Movement 2011 with AA Kenya Support. Space for questions and answers were provided as the day came to end with some of the women’s rights groups calling the local authority present at the meeting to account.