# GRAN Future Directions

## A Renewed Vision and Mission

### Vision:

Our vision is a world where the human rights of older women, children and youth, and gender-diverse persons are recognized and protected so that they can achieve their full potential.

Our passion for this vision is a deep concern for the human rights and wellbeing of grandmothers in sub-Saharan Africa and the children and youth in their care, as well as those of vulnerable and marginalized women in communities of the Global South.

### Mission:

The mission of GRAN is to advocate for the human rights of these vulnerable groups, both globally and locally.

Our mission recognizes that, despite their courage and resilience, grandmothers, older women, and young people in sub-Saharan Africa experience gross inequities due to the intersection of multiple factors, among them: poverty, age, gender, and the stigma attached to HIV and AIDS. Our mission also recognizes and is made more urgent by the fact that inequalities are increasing between low-, middle- and high-income countries.

## Roles and Responsibilities

### Advocacy Planning Team (formerly the "Hill Team")

**Membership:** A core Hill Team group which has now grown beyond Ottawa to include representation from other parts of the country. An expanded group that includes further regional and Watch Group representation will be convened when considering advocacy proposals.

- Develop a multi-year GRAN advocacy plan, including overarching goals, for Steering Committee approval.
- Convene a dialogue among all interested GRANs to consider specific advocacy campaigns and play a "challenge" role with participants.
- Propose one all-of-GRAN advocacy campaign per year for Steering Committee approval in principle.

## Watch Groups (formerly "Working Groups")

**Membership:** Any GRAN who is interested in one of GRAN's issue areas, currently described as: Access to Medicines, Education, Ending Violence Against Women, Climate Justice, Rights of Older Persons, and Mining Justice.

- Research and follow their issue, acting as a source of expertise on this issue.
- Identify news and learning resources (including webinars) to share with GRANs.
- Develop and maintain partnerships related to their issue.
- Propose advocacy campaigns and participate in dialogue with the Advocacy Planning Team.
- Participate in all-of-GRAN campaigns.

## Campaign Teams (New)

**Membership:** Any GRAN interested in helping to develop and execute a specific advocacy campaign that has been identified by the Advocacy Planning Team and approved in principle by the Steering Committee. It is expected that a Campaign Team would be constituted each time GRAN wants to launch a campaign. Participation on the team would be time-limited to the duration of the campaign.

- Organize themselves to develop and implement an advocacy campaign.
- Prepare an Advocacy Action Proposal for approval by the Steering Committee.
- Develop learning events, backgrounders, action messages, news posts and other campaign resources for the use of the grassroots.
- Evaluate and report on the effectiveness of the campaign.

## Steering Committee (often referred to as "the SC")

**Membership:** Representatives from the Watch Groups, Advocacy Planning Team, Regional GRAN Groups, Coordinating Team and past Co-Chairs of GRAN. The Steering Committee will be supported by the Coordinating Team which will provide administrative services for Steering Committee meetings.

- Main decision-making body of GRAN: Approve GRAN's strategic direction, multi-year advocacy plans, advocacy campaigns and resources, budgets etc.
- Review reports from Watch Groups and Campaign Teams.
- Conduct the business of GRAN through monthly meetings chaired on a rotational basis by Steering Committee members.
- Provide members to sit on the Coordinating Team.

## Coordinating Team (formerly the "Leadership Team")

**Membership:** Team members will be selected from the ranks of the Steering Committee and Regional GRAN Groups. A process will be developed to identify a sufficient number of members to carry out the responsibilities of the Coordinating Team and allow for renewal.

- Serve as the Board of Directors for the purposes of GRAN's registration as a not-for-profit organization with the Government of Canada (Corporation Canada).
- Provide administrative support to the Steering Committee, such as assisting with meeting agendas, distributing documents, maintaining GRAN contact lists and Archives, etc.
- Develop and manage GRAN's budget (Treasurer's function) for Steering Committee approval.

- Renew GRAN's Strategic Plan for approval of the Steering Committee.
- Manage the Annual General Meeting.
- Manage external communications on behalf of GRAN as an organization, including signing letters and petitions developed by other organizations.
- Manage website.
- Undertake Recruitment and Recognition

## Regional GRAN Groups

**Membership:** A group of GRANs who work together in a specific geographic region.
- Plan and coordinate local meetings, events and communications.
- Provide a contact point and ongoing representation to the Steering Committee, sharing regional information and conveying  information back to the Regional Group.
- Encourage members to participate in GRAN's work at the national level, by joining Watch Groups, Advocacy Planning Team, Campaign Teams, etc.
- Suggest advocacy campaigns to the Advocacy Planning Team.
- Participate in "all-of-GRAN" campaigns by orchestrating regional actions appropriate to their local realities.
- Develop ongoing relationships with local MPs and Cabinet Ministers to advocate in support of GRAN campaigns.
- Partner with local organizations to enhance GRAN campaigns and, when appropriate, participate in campaigns of local organizations.
- Report back to GRAN on advocacy actions taken, to assist in measuring effectiveness of campaigns.
- Recruit and orient new members.

## Individual GRAN Members (sometimes referred to as "the grassroots")

**Membership:** Those who identify as a GRAN supporter and are willing to take part in GRAN advocacy actions.

- Suggest advocacy campaigns to the Advocacy Planning Team.
- Volunteer for Campaign Teams, depending on their interests.
- Participate in "all-of-GRAN" campaigns using GRAN resources to take actions adapted to their local realities.
- May choose to support and participate in campaigns of other organizations, for example ONE, Results, etc. using the advocacy resources provided by these organizations.
- Support local actions that relate directly to GRAN's vision and mission and that align with GRAN messaging, for example: Orange Campaign, Fridays for Future.
- Report back on their efforts, to assist in measuring campaign effectiveness.