

***AkiDwA, the African and Migrant Women's Network,***  
**in association with**

***Doras Luimni***

**Invites you to a seminar on**

***Integration: Opportunities and Challenges***

**Date:** 16 September 2011  
**Time:** 9.30am - 2pm  
**Venue:** **Limerick City Hall, Limerick**

While integration is widely considered a two-way process, some view it as a matter concerning migrants alone. Many migrants have taken the initiative to integrate through organising social and cultural events, workshops and exhibitions with aim to encourage dialogue and engagement with Irish society.

In 2007, Ireland saw the appointment of Conor Lenihan as the first Minister for Integration. However, this development was scrapped after the election in March 2011. Integration should however be everyone's business. It needs to be taken seriously, and true integration should involve engagement, dialogue, participation and meaningful interaction across communities. Diversity needs to be valued and respected.

Women migrants face additional, gender-based obstacles to integration and equality. The obstacles can include: their migration status, their roles as mothers, gender-based violence, female genital mutilation (FGM), reproductive health issues and also their often overlooked marginalisation within migrant communities. However, despite the difficulties they face, migrant women in Ireland have shaped and continue to enrich Irish society.

This seminar, hosted collaboratively by *AkiDwA* and *Doras Luimni* forms a part of *AkiDwA's* 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebrations. It aims to highlight the challenges faced and showcase the contributions made by migrant women in their communities and Irish society.

**Admission is free but booking is essential as places are limited. Please contact Catherine Mahoro at [catherine@akidwa.ie](mailto:catherine@akidwa.ie) or at 01 834 9851.**



*For full list of AkiDwA's 10<sup>th</sup> anniversary events, please visit [www.akidwa.ie](http://www.akidwa.ie)*