

# DECLARATION FROM PORTIMÃO

*Portimão, Portugal  
3rd November 2007*

*At the international conference, taking place here in Portimão, Portugal on 2nd and 3rd November 2007 as part of the "Development and Implementation of Strategies for the Foundation and Optimisation of Local Instances of Gender Equality" project of The European Centre for Workers' Questions (EZA), the participating organisations, represented by their Project Coordinators, unanimously pass the following declaration:*

*All the undersigned declare that equality of opportunities is a current challenge for which suitable solutions must urgently be found. The key objective is to eliminate inequalities and promote gender equality.*

*The undersigned note to their regret that the existing declarations and recommendations of international organisations such as the EU, UN or IAO regarding equality of opportunities for women and men, which have been accepted by most democratic countries, have so far not been resolutely implemented in any EU countries. The practice of gender mainstreaming needs to be strengthened and more widespread.*

*The organisations gathering here in Portimão as part of the EZA's project therefore agree to:*

- 1. establish and bolster local entities for the equality of women and men,*

2. *demand and promote intervention in the form of sensitisation, information and social education in the societies of European countries,*
3. *to sensitise social and academic institutions, the workforce and regional and local authorities with regard to the theme of equality of opportunities, and the practice of gender mainstreaming,*
4. *convince local authorities, e.g. municipalities, to make decisions and implement programmes which are necessary to provide women and men with equal opportunities and conditions at work and in careers, and for political responsibility,*
5. *work together with these local entities in order to develop mechanisms to promote equal opportunities for women and men in professional life, the compatibility of family and career, and effective control mechanisms,*
6. *to promote local equal opportunities activities and motivate municipalities and regions to make monies available for the development of new projects or information campaigns regarding equality, and to continue to promote and optimise existing entities,*
7. *to demand and promote the permanent practice of gender budgeting to be used by local authorities,*
8. *to support and promote local institutions with the creation of child minding facilities which facilitate the compatibility of family and career,*
9. *create and promote initiatives to promote and develop projects in schools, with the aim of eradicating gender-specific role allocation in books, texts, image material and in vocabulary,*
10. *intensify relationships with unions, social organisations and employer organisations in order to generate equal working conditions, equal pay and equal career promotion opportunities for women and men, and*
11. *support, encourage and promote the development of local structures to monitor gender-specific violence in physical, moral, sexual and economic form, and provide comprehensive support for victims.*
12. *The undersigned will continue to regard equality of opportunities as a cross-cutting issue in all activities, i.e. constantly regard it as a component which*

