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...Matembe and Karooro leave the dialogue at the Crane Hotel on Tuesday

Women demand share of northern peace funds

By Joyce Namutebi

WOMEN MPs and civil society organisations want women in the north and north-east to get a share of the money for the Peace, Recovery and Development Plan.

At a press conference on Tuesday, the MPs and NGO representatives said the plan did not reflect women's needs.

They complained that it was not in line with the Constitution and the gender policy.

The acting chief for the Centre for Conflict Resolution, Rose Othieno, said women had to be involved in the implementation, monitoring and evaluation of the plan.

Women constitute over 50% of the conflict-affected population and are critical for sustainable recovery and reconciliation, they argued.

Apac district Woman MP Betty Amongi said a percentage of the sh100b committed to the recovery plan this year should go to programmes that affect women.

She cited the rehabilitation of maternity wards, scholarships and building dormitories for girls.

Amongi also suggested that women organisations get a revolving fund.

The recovery plan has a budget of sh1.1 trillion spread over three years.

The permanent secretary in the Office of the Prime Minister, Pius Bigirimana, recently said the money would go to 40 districts.

He said focus in the first year would be on education, health, roads and water.

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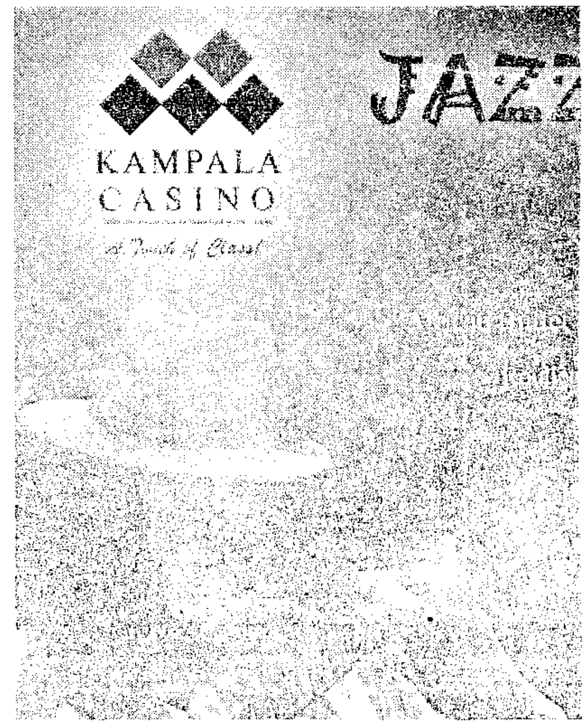
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