

*Steps that help us optimize our chances of achieving our goal of full political participation include:*

- 1. We must build partnerships of respect, knowledge, and support among ourselves, with other women and with men as well. It is increasingly important for women from different societies to communicate with each other, to support each other's work, to teach each other, and to learn from one another. It is also especially important for Muslim men to communicate and form partnerships with women from other religion, religious and cultures, we all need to learn and teach each other.*
- 2. We must work closely with broader social justice networks and organizations in a spirit of original cooperation. Especially, critical in this respect are, organization and movements, engage in human rights promotion, environmental advocacy, labor relations and democracy promotions, peace and conflict resolution.*
- 3. We must be conscious of the importance of capacity building at the levels of the undividable as well as civil society; we must become adept at mobilization, advocacy, defining issues, pinpointing problems, and finding solutions. All of these are related to building up leadership capacity.*
- 4. Leadership, which is essential to women's empowerment, is a problematic concept, we do not want power just for power's sake, and do not wish to become surrogate men. We want to be empowered in order to help change our societies for the better. The same understanding pervades our concept of leadership. We at the women's learning partnership and our partners across three continents have worked hard on the concept and developed an understanding of leadership as a communicative and dialogical model of interaction that represents the society we women desire and seek. In this model leadership emerges from a learning partnership and takes the characteristics of a system of give and take in which each participant is at once or alternately a leader and follower. This is the kind of condition we would want to inform the association that constitute our emerging civil society.*
- 5. We need to have our voices heard. Something exists and is developing in our time that did not exist in the past and that is information technology. We must do our best to acquire and use it to develop the kind of partnerships we were alluded to in leading to choices: A Leadership Training Handle for women, to forge political support, and to implement culture change. We have the knowledge potential, the resources potential, and the woman- power potential. We must work through our partnership to get ourselves and our societies culturally attuned to the indispensability of information technology not only learning about the world but also for making it.*