



CAMPAIGN AGAINST UNWANTED PREGNANCY NEWSLETTER

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Policy Makers Educated on Unsafe Abortion in Nigeria

The Campaign Against Unwanted Pregnancy (The CAUP), on 6 November 2001, held a one-day workshop on Unsafe Abortion in Nigeria for Policy Makers at the Abuja Sheraton Hotel & Towers, Abuja. The programme was held in line with one of the CAUP's avowed objectives of sensitizing policy makers on the problems of unsafe abortion and unwanted pregnancy and their consequences. The forum afforded participants the opportunity to:

- Be sensitized on the issue of unsafe abortion in Nigeria
- Break the culture of silence on abortion
- Share findings of the CAUP abortion research
- Highlight the need for reformation of the abortion law
- Be engaged in developing and adapting a plan of action
- Develop an adoption law for Nigeria.

The participants at the workshop were drawn from key officials of

five Federal Ministries (Health, Information, Women Affairs, Education and Justice) and members of some related committees in the National Assembly.

The 13-point recommendation issued at the end of the one-day forum, among other things,

girls, teachers and principals as well as rural dwellers) in a way that will provide adequate and reliable information to these groups. There was also a call for the review of curricula of secondary and tertiary educational institutions to incorporate on a wider scope, the concept of reproductive health and



Group photograph of participants at Capacity Building Workshop for Policy Makers on Unsafe Abortion in Nigeria.

advocated the periodic organisation of comprehensive sexuality education workshops for various population groups (school boys and

rights. The reformation of the Abortion Law and enactment of culturally sensitive and realizable Adoption and Fostering laws by the various Legislative Houses was also advocated to make them enforceable, leading to a reduction in mortality related abortions.

The workshop also advocated continuous dialogue as the way forward on the issue of unsafe abortion. ■

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