# Questionnaire

### **Empowerment of Women who are Blind or Partially Sighted**

**WBU Members are requested to share this survey questionnaire with blind and partially sighted women and encourage them to complete it and return it to the WBU Women’s committee**

**Introduction**

The World Blind Union (WBU) General Assembly (GA) met in Orlando, Florida, USA August 2016. At that meeting The WBU STRATEGIC PLAN 2017 – 2020 was approved with four specific priorities.

For the purpose of this questionnaire we will be concentrating on

**STRATEGIC PRIORITY 2**: STRENGHTENING Capacity - 2.4.1.

Objective # 1: Establish a Women’s Committee, with representation from all regions, to develop and implement a strategy aimed at the empowerment of blind and partially sighted women and leading to their increased engagement as leaders at the national, regional and international levels of WBU.

**1.1.1.5 INITIATIVE # 4: Develop program to enhance participation of blind women within leadership of WBU structures at national, regional and international levels.**

What are the BARRIERS experienced by women to assume leadership role? A brief meeting of interested women attending the GA brought forward many interesting concerns on skills training, leadership, mobility, safety, and other barriers. Following the GA a Women’s Committee was formed.

This committee has now developed the following questionnaire for women members, in particular, to assess the current situation, and barriers to women assuming leadership roles.

This questionnaire has been compiled to establish an improved understanding of the current situation and barriers to women assuming leadership roles in all regions of the WBU.

Following results from the survey the committee would develop an action plan to deal with barriers and combat discrimination preventing women from becoming leaders.

Members are requested to share this survey with blind and partially sighted women and encourage them to complete and return it to the WBU Women’s committee to aid in determining the reason for a low number of women leaders.

Please return the completed questionnaire by **31 January 2018 to the WBU Office at** [info@wbu.ngo](mailto:info@wbu.ngo).

# Questions

## Country (current):

## Country of Origin:

## Region:

## Name:

## **Age:**

18-30 years \_\_\_

31-50 years \_\_\_

51-65 years \_\_\_

Over 65 years \_\_\_

## Sight Level:

Partial Sight (legally blind): \_\_\_

Total Blind: \_\_\_

Deaf-Blind: \_\_\_

## Additional Disabilities:

Mobility: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Physical: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Intellectual: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Profound Disabilities: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

**Q:** Are you representing minority groups, or previously disadvantaged groups (other than on the basis of age, gender or disability, please specify the group)?

**Do you have access to:**

Internet: Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

WiFi: Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_\_

**Do you have Access to Assistive Devices?**

Yes \_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_

**Check device(s) you have access to:**

Handheld magnifier \_\_\_\_

Mobile CCTV \_\_\_\_

Table Top CCTV \_\_\_\_

Braille:

Note taker \_\_\_

Slate & Stylus \_\_\_\_

Braille instrument \_\_\_

Computer \_\_\_\_\_

Screen Reader \_\_\_\_

Laptop \_\_\_\_

Cell Phone \_\_\_\_

Smart Phone \_\_\_\_

Other \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

## Level of Education Attainment:

None \_\_\_

Elementary \_\_\_

Some High School \_\_\_

High School Degree \_\_\_

Some Post-Secondary, no degree \_\_\_

Associate degree \_\_\_

Bachelor's degree \_\_\_

Master's degree \_\_\_

Professional degree \_\_\_

Doctorate \_\_\_

## Leadership:

**Past or current** leadership roles held:

**Barriers experienced** in attaining roles or preventing you from your goals: (You may include barriers in your personal/family life as well as in your community.

## What resources are available in your region for persons with disabilities such as blindness?

## List tools and/or programs that are available in your area for Blind, partially sighted or deaf-blind women.

## Are you a leader in your area or are you aware of other women who are leaders in your community or country?

## Employment:

Never employed: \_\_\_

Reason why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Unemployed: \_\_\_

Reason why: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Employed:

Less than 1 year \_\_\_

1-5 years \_\_\_

6- 10 years \_\_\_

11- 20 years \_\_\_

Greater than 21 years \_\_\_

Retired: \_\_\_

## Transportation:

No Transportation \_\_\_

Little Transportation \_\_\_

Full Access to Transportation \_\_\_

## Housing:

## Access to schools, colleges, universities:

**Do you have any suggestions for eliminating barriers you experience?**

**Thank you for your time in completing this questionnaire.**

**Please return it to the WBU office at:** [info@wbu.ngo](mailto:info@wbu.ngo) **by 31 January 2018**