Abstract

Reviewing a host of literature on trade and gender one is almost certain to say that goal of empowering women through trade still remains an unaccomplished task. Until recently women’s experiences in the labour force have been ignored or labelled with simple stereotypes. Although Kenya’s employment’ laws are gender neutral, one finds that in practice women have not been sufficiently catered for.

The Constitution guarantees the right to equality in Art 82(3): “the expression ‘discriminatory’ means affording different treatment to different persons attributable wholly or mainly to their respective descriptions by race, tribe, place of origin or residence or other local connection, political opinions, colour, creed or sex whereby persons of one such description are subjected to disabilities or restrictions to which persons of another such description are not made subject or are accorded privileges or advantages which are not accorded to persons of another such description”.

The paper in essence points out how the different policies available to promote gender equality have had no effect on spatially integrating the men and women in employment.

At this critical juncture all concerned – the government, private sector, NGOs, community, and international organizations like, WB, IMF, WTO and above all UN must share a common responsibility.