



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
120th Assembly and related meetings
Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), 5 - 10 April 2009



Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
Agenda

FEM/14/A.1
24 February 2009

Fourteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

United Nations Convention Center (UNCC)

5 April 2009

I. PRACTICAL AND PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

Schedule and Rules

The Fourteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will take place on the premises of the United Nations Convention Center (UNCC) and will comprise two sittings on Sunday, 5 April, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. at the latest.

The proceedings will be governed by the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

President of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

In accordance with Rule 8 of the Rules, the Meeting will be opened by the President of the Coordinating Committee who shall conduct the election of the President of the Meeting. As per Rule 7, the Meeting will be chaired by a woman member of the host Parliament of the 120th Assembly.

Participation and speaking rights

Women members of parliament who are part of their delegation as delegates to the 120th Assembly can take the floor. Those who accompany the delegation in a capacity other than that of delegate can observe the proceedings of the Meeting but cannot take part in them (Rule 3).

The debates are also open to men parliamentarians. Only those who form part of their delegation as delegates can take the floor (Rule 4.2).

Representatives of parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and representatives of international organizations that enjoy observer status may also ask to take the floor.

Debating arrangements

The work of the Meeting will be carried out partly in plenary and partly in working groups.

The debates will be held in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

The President will seek to promote an active and spontaneous dialogue. Interventions should therefore be brief and not exceed three minutes. Participants are urged to refrain from reading out prepared statements and are encouraged to debate ideas, illustrating their comments, where appropriate, with examples from their country.

No list of speakers will be drawn up in advance. In plenary, participants will be able to indicate their wish to take the floor by completing the appropriate registration form and handing it to the ushers who will pass it on to the President. This procedure will be optional in the discussion groups.

Documents

The Secretariat will distribute in the meeting room a set of official documents, in English and French only, and various IPU publications.

Participants wishing to make available information concerning developments in their country regarding issues on the agenda or general gender issues can display them on tables outside the meeting room. Prior to doing

so, they are invited to provide two copies of the documents to the Secretariat. It must also be noted that these documents cannot be translated and reproduced by the Secretariat.

II. ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians prepared the provisional agenda of the Meeting at its last session held during 119th IPU Assembly (October 2008).

1. **Election of the President of the Meeting** (FEM/14/1-Inf.1)
2. **Adoption of the agenda** (FEM/14/A.1)
3. **Gender activities at the Inter-Parliamentary Union**
 - (a) **Work of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians at the sessions held in Cape Town, Geneva and Addis Ababa and recommendations** (FEM/14/3(a)-Inf.1)
Participants will be informed of the Coordinating Committee's deliberations at its sittings of April 2008, in Cape Town, of October 2008, in Geneva, and of 5 April, in Addis Ababa.
 - (b) **Work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group** (FEM/14/3(b)-Inf.1)
Participants will be informed of the work of the Gender Partnership Group.
 - (c) **A Parliamentary response to Violence against Women**
Participants will be briefed on IPU's recent work in this field and cooperation with the United Nations to end violence against women
 - (d) **Parliaments leading the change on maternal, child and newborn health**
Participants will be briefed on IPU's recent work in this field and cooperation with the United Nations to meet Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5.
 - (e) **Questions relating to the panel discussion *Adolescent girls: The girls left behind?* organised on the occasion of the 120th IPU Assembly** (FEM/14/3(e)-Inf.1)
The panel will take place on Wednesday, 8 April (9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.).
 - (f) **Recent IPU Specialised meetings and other initiatives** (CL/184/7(b)-R.1, CL/184/7(h)-R.1, CL/184/7(j)-R.1, CL/184/7(k)-R.1)
Participants will be briefed on the results of activities and meetings carried out by the IPU concerning gender issues.

The discussion on Gender activities at the Inter-Parliamentary Union will conclude by 11 a.m.

4. **Contribution to the work of the 120th Assembly** (FEM/14/4-Inf.1, C-II/120/R-rev, C-II/116/DR-rev)
The Meeting will discuss the following Assembly item from a gender perspective.
 - ✦ *Climate change, sustainable development models, and renewable energies* (Second Standing Committee)Participants will split into two groups to discuss two sub-themes:
 - **Group 1: The gender dimensions of climate change**
This group will discuss the differential impact of climate change on women and men. It will also aim at highlighting women's role in climate-related change activities, especially their important role in facilitating adaptation to climate change and contributing to risk reduction.
 - **Group 2: Gender and renewable energies**
This group will discuss how gender is related to the renewable energy debate. In particular it will look at how renewable energy can help women; it will also discuss the question of equitable access, use and control of renewable energy.

Both groups will be invited to frame their discussions within the overall objective of achieving sustainable development.

Beforehand, the participants will elect, on the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee, a moderator and a rapporteur for each of the working groups formed. At the end of the discussion,

each group will agree on the key ideas to be presented by its rapporteur to the afternoon plenary Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

The rapporteurs of each discussion group will be in charge of drafting amendments to the draft resolution of the Second Standing Committee, to which they will be submitted for discussion. These amendments will be drafted in consultation with the Presidents of the Coordinating Committee, of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians and of the working groups and submitted on behalf of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. The amendments will aim at introducing a gender perspective to the resolution.

Each discussion group will debate from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

5. **Debate on women in politics (FEM/14/6-Inf.1)**
Progress and setbacks of women in parliament in 2008 will be presented and discussed.
6. **Dialogue session between men and women on “The role of women in ensuring financial stability and contributing to economic development”**
The dialogue session will examine in particular the gender dimensions of the economic and financial crisis, highlighting the impact of the crisis on women as well as the role that women can play in addressing current challenges, preventing future instability and contributing to economic development.

The debate will be introduced by two keynote speakers and will take place from 3 to 4.30 p.m.
7. **Report of the discussion group rapporteurs**
Each of the rapporteurs of the discussion groups will present their reports. The Meeting will then ask them to prepare amendments, as outlined under item 4. The amendments will be submitted to the Second Standing Committee during its general debate of Tuesday, 7 April.
8. **Action by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen the parliamentary dimension of United Nations efforts to promote partnership between men and women**
9. **Place and date of the Fifteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians**
The Fifteenth Meeting will take place in 2010 in Bangkok, Thailand.

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 of the Rules of the Meeting, the Coordinating Committee will draw up the provisional agenda.