



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
124th Assembly and related meetings
Panama City (Panama), 15 – 20 April 2011



Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
Agenda

FEM/16/A.1
9 March 2011

Sixteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

15 April 2011

PRACTICAL AND PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

Schedule and Rules

The Sixteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will take place on the premises of the ATLAPA Convention Centre in Panama City and will comprise two sittings, which will be held on Friday, 15 April, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2.30 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, 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 124th Assembly.

Participation and speaking rights

Women members of parliament who are part of their delegation as delegates to the Panama City Meetings 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 of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians).

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 of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians).

Representatives of international 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 conducted 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 registration form they will find on their desks and handing it to the ushers who will pass them on to the President. This procedure will be optional in the discussion groups.

Documents

The Secretariat will make available in the meeting room sets of official session documents, in English and French only, and various IPU publications.

Participants wishing to present developments in their country with regard to issues on the agenda or general gender issues can display documents on tables outside the meeting room. Prior to that, two copies of the documents should be given to the Secretariat. It must also be noted that these documents cannot be translated and reproduced by the Secretariat.

II. ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

1. Election of the President of the Meeting

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Gender activities at the Inter-Parliamentary Union

(a) Work of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians

- i. Participants will be informed of the Coordinating Committee's deliberations at its sittings of March 2010 in Bangkok, of October 2010 and February 2011, in Geneva, and of 15 April 2011, in Panama City.
- ii. The 16th Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will be called upon to replace those titular and substitute representatives who have lost their seat and to fill a vacancy on that was not filled during the elections held in Bangkok in March 2010. The 16th Meeting will also be called to approve the Committee's proposal for its new First-Vice-President.

(b) Work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group

Participants will be informed of the work of the Gender Partnership Group.

(c) Any other business

4. Contribution to the work of the 124th Assembly

The Coordinating Committee decided to invite women parliamentarians to discuss the following items of the agenda of the 124th Assembly:

- ✦ *Providing a sound legislative framework aimed at preventing electoral violence, improving election monitoring and ensuring the smooth transition of power* (First Standing Committee)
- ✦ *Transparency and accountability in the funding of political parties and election campaigns* (Third Standing Committee)

Participants will split into two groups, one per topic.

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 the rapporteur to the afternoon plenary Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

The rapporteur of each discussion group will be in charge of drafting amendments to the draft resolution submitted to the First and Third Standing Committees for discussion. These amendments will be drafted in consultation with the President of the Coordinating Committee and the President of the Meeting 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.

The Meeting will adjourn for lunch from 1 to 2.30 p.m.

5. **Debate on women in politics**
Participants will discuss progress and setbacks of women in parliament in 2010
6. **Dialogue session between men and women on gender sensitive parliaments**
Debates will centre on the results of IPU's world survey on gender sensitive parliaments.
7. **Report of the discussion group rapporteurs**
The rapporteurs of the discussion groups will present their reports. The Meeting will then ask them to prepare amendments to the draft resolutions to be presented during the general debate of the First and Third Standing Committees on Saturday, 16 April, in accordance with the modalities specified under item 4.
8. **Action by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen the parliamentary dimension of United Nations efforts to promote partnership between men and women**
Participants will discuss follow-up of the 55th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, contribution to the CEDAW reporting process and cooperation with UN Women.
9. **Place and date of the 17th Meeting of Women Parliamentarians**
The 17th Meeting will be held in 2012 in Kampala (Uganda)
In accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 of the Rules of the Meeting, the Coordinating Committee will draw up the provisional agenda of the Meeting.

**COMPOSITION AND OFFICERS OF THE COORDINATING COMMITTEE
OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS (MARCH 2011)**

		Expiry of term
President	Dr. N. Assegaf (Indonesia)	April 2012
First Vice-President	Vacant	April 2012
Second Vice-President	Ms. M. Mensah-Williams (Namibia)	April 2012
Regional representatives		
Group of African countries:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Ms. Z. Drabo (Burkina Faso)	Ms. S. Shope-Sithole (South Africa)	April 2014
Ms. M. Mensah-Williams (Namibia)	Ms. S. A. Lyimo (United Republic of Tanzania)	April 2012
Group of Arab countries:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Vacant	Ms. R. Dashti (Kuwait)	April 2014
Vacant	Ms. A. Mubarak (Bahrain)	April 2012
Group of Asia and Pacific countries:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Dr. N. Assegaf (Indonesia)	Ms. K. Ghosh Dastidar (India)	April 2014
Vacant	Ms. F. Ajorloo (Iran, Islamic Rep. of)	April 2012
Eurasia Group:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Ms. A. Naumchik (Belarus)	Vacant	April 2014
Ms. V. Petrenko (Russian Federation)	Ms. E. Semenova (Russian Federation)	April 2012
Group of Latin American countries:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Ms. K.J. Beteta Rubín (Peru)	Ms. S. Fernández (Ecuador)	April 2014
Ms. L. Menchaca (Mexico)	Ms. R. Latorre (Argentina)	April 2012
Twelve Plus Group:		
<i>Titular:</i>	<i>Substitute:</i>	
Ms. F. Dağci Çiğlik (Turkey)	Ms. A. Krüger-Leissner (Germany)	April 2014
Ms. C. Markwalder Bär (Switzerland)	Ms. G. Gautier (France)	April 2012
Members of the Executive Committee (ex officio, for the duration of their term on the Executive Committee)		
Ms. Z. Drif Bitat (Algeria)		October 2011
Ms. M.A. Saa (Chile)		October 2011
Ms. D. Stump (Switzerland)		October 2013
Ms. S. Moulengui-Mouélé (Gabon)		October 2014
Chairpersons of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians (ex officio for two years)		
Ms. S. Minale (Ethiopia)		April 2011