



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Forum of Women Parliamentarians

Discussion on

Follow-up to the IPU Plan of action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments (2012)

Saturday, 1 April 2017
10 - 11 a.m.

Celebrity Hall, first floor, Bangabandhu International Convention Centre

In October 2012, IPU Members adopted a [Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments](#). The Plan of Action defines a gender-sensitive parliament as one in which there are no barriers – substantive, structural or cultural – to women’s full participation and to equality between its men and women members and staff.

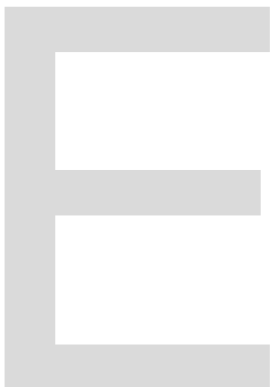
The Plan identifies seven key areas for action: equality in participation, strong legal and policy frameworks, gender mainstreaming tools, gender-sensitive parliamentary infrastructure and culture, women’s and men’s shared responsibility for gender equality, political parties as gender equality champions and gender-sensitive recruitment and staff development policies.

One key step is to take stock of progress made and identify persisting challenges. The IPU encourages parliaments to engage in self-assessments or gender audits as a means to inform and trigger gender-sensitive action. To facilitate such reviews, the IPU recently published a self-assessment toolkit, [Evaluating the gender-sensitivity of parliaments](#).

The discussion will start with a presentation of the IPU self-assessment toolkit, which will be followed by a Q&A with panelists and an exchange of views and experiences.

Participants are invited to share good practices and address the following questions:

- Why is it important to take stock of the level of gender sensitivity of parliament?
- What are the main challenges and benefits of engaging in a gender-sensitive self-assessment?
- What are the lessons learned from gender-sensitive self-assessments? How can follow-up be ensured and how can positive change be achieved?



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