



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
116th Assembly and related meetings
Nusa Dua, 29 April to 4 May 2007



Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
Agenda

FEM/12/A.1
15 March 2007

Twelfth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

Bali International Convention Centre (BICC)
29 April 2007

I. PRACTICAL AND PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

Schedule and Rules

The Twelfth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will take place on the premises of the Bali International Convention Centre (BICC) in Nusa Dua and will comprise two sittings on Sunday, 29 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 of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, 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 116th Assembly.

Participation and speaking rights

Women members of parliament who are part of their delegation as delegates to the Nusa Dua 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).

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 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 a set of official documents, in English and French only, prepared for the session 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

The Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians prepared the following provisional agenda at its last session held on the occasion of the 115th Assembly of the IPU (October 2006).

1. Election of the President of the Meeting

2. Adoption of the agenda

3. Report on gender activities at the Inter-Parliamentary Union

- (a) Work of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians at the sessions held in Nairobi, Geneva and Nusa Dua and recommendations
- (b) Work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group
- (c) Questions relating to the panel discussion on "Violence against children: Making School Safe for Children", (Wednesday, 2 May, from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.)
- (d) Briefing on specialised meetings and other initiatives
- (e) Any other business

4. Action by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen the parliamentary dimension of United Nations efforts to promote partnership between men and women

Participants will be briefed on the status of cooperation between the IPU and the United Nations in this field.

5. Contribution to the work of the 116th Assembly

The Coordinating Committee decided to invite women parliamentarians to discuss item 4 of the agenda of the 116th Assembly entitled *Job creation and employment security in the era of globalization*, according to the following procedure:

Participants will split into two groups to discuss the following sub-themes:

- Theme 1:** Empowering women workers and as entrepreneurs
How can globalization offer work opportunities to women? How to enhance women's capacities? The role of education and training; Breaking the glass ceiling; Ways and means to empower women as entrepreneurs and job creators; the role of microfinance; other support mechanisms

Theme 2: Work conditions of women
Does globalization improve women's work conditions? How to protect women from exploitation? How to accommodate family and work responsibilities? The question of maternity leave? How to address unequal pay? The question of unpaid work.

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.

6. Debate on women in politics

- (a) Progress and setbacks of women in parliament in 2006
- (b) Dialogue session on the theme *Political parties and women's political participation*

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 5. The amendments will be submitted to the Second Standing Committee during its general debate of Monday, 30 April.

8. Place and date of the Thirteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

The Thirteenth Meeting will take place in April 2008, during the 118th IPU Assembly (Cape Town, South Africa).

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