

Inter-Parliamentary Union
128th Assembly and related meetings
Quito (Ecuador), 22 – 27 March 2013
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25 January 2013

**CONVOCATION OF THE
EIGHTEENTH MEETING OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS**
San Francisco Convention Centre, Friday, 22 March 2013

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to inform you that the Eighteenth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will take place in Quito, on Friday, 22 March 2013, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 2.30 to 6.00 p.m., at the latest. The provisional agenda, drawn up by the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians at its session in Quebec City (October 2012), is appended hereto.

As you will see, at its morning session the Meeting will discuss the draft resolutions of the First and Second Standing Committees, with a view to developing possible gender-related amendments. The afternoon session will include a debate on women in parliaments followed by a special dialogue session between men and women parliamentarians on *Violence against women, in particular sexual violence*.

The Meeting will also be called upon to fill vacancies on the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians that were not filled during the elections held in Kampala in March 2012. The annex to the provisional agenda details the current membership of the Coordinating Committee.

As you know, Article 10.1 of the Statutes provides that each national delegation to the meetings organised by the Inter-Parliamentary Union shall include at least one man and one woman parliamentarian. I therefore wish to urge you to make a special effort to ensure that one or more women parliamentarians represent your Parliament at the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. Men parliamentarians are encouraged to follow and contribute to the debates, in particular the special dialogue session, and I very much hope that a good number will attend.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General

Encl: Annotated provisional agenda