SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS AND WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING POSITIONS OF THE GCC STATES

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PARLIAMENT

United Arab Emirates, 29-31 October 2007

Monday 29 October 2007
Arrival of Delegates

Tuesday 30 October 2007

9.00 - 9.45 a.m. Opening ceremony
9.45 – 10.00 a.m. Break
10.00 - 11.30 a.m. Session 1: Women’s Political Participation: Mechanisms for empowering women in the political process
- Regional and world status of women in politics: Trends and statistics
- Progress and setbacks of women in the GCC States in the past year
- Mechanisms to promote women in politics
Presentations followed by a debate

11.30 - 11.45 a.m. Break

11.45 – 1.00 p.m. Session 2: Women in Parliament: How to bring about change?
- Means of influencing the political agenda
- Means of working with fellow parliamentarians
- Coordination of women parliamentarians at a regional level
- Experiences from the region and from other countries
Presentations followed by a debate

1.00 - 2 p.m. Lunch break

2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Session 3: How to Mainstream Gender in Parliament?
- The role of parliamentary committees on gender issues
- How to mainstream gender in the legislative work of Parliament
Presentations followed by a debate

Wednesday 31 October 2007

9.00 - 11 a.m. Session 4: Challenges Facing Women in Decision Making Positions in GCC
- Political rights for women in the GCC
- Education and capacity building for GCC Women
- Equal working opportunities between women and men
Presentations followed by a debate

11.00 - 11.30 a.m. Break

11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. Session 5: Supporting Women in Parliament and other Decision-Making Positions: Working with partners
- How women’s organizations, including the state gender machinery, can support women in parliament and other decision-making positions
- How civil society organizations can support women’s participation
- Mechanisms to promote coordination between women’s organizations, civil society and women in parliament
Presentations followed by a debate

1.00 – 2.00 p.m. Lunch Break

2.00 – 4.00 p.m. Session 6: Interventions by Delegates on the Topics of Discussion
- Evaluation of seminar
- Conclusions and follow up to the seminar