Implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
The Role of Parliaments and their Members
Geneva, 11 October 2007

Provisional Draft Program

08:45-09:30 Registration
09:30-09:45 Welcoming remarks
09:45-11:00 Introducing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and its Optional Protocol
  ➢ Why a Convention on discrimination against women?
  ➢ Why an Optional Protocol to the Convention?

Presentations by:
A member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
An officer of the UN Division for the Advancement of Women
The presentations will be followed by a debate

11:00-11:15 Coffee break
11:15-12:30 Implementing the Convention: the Role of Parliament
  ➢ Developing an adequate legislative and oversight framework
  ➢ Working with civil society and the media
  ➢ Keeping track of progress
  ➢ Parliamentary involvement in the CEDAW reporting mechanism

Presentations by:
A member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
A parliamentarian
The presentations will be followed by a debate

12:30-14:30 Lunch
14:30-15:45 Article IV of the Convention: Temporary special measures
  ➢ What are temporary special measures?
  ➢ Pros and cons
  ➢ What are the challenges faced?
Presentation by:
A member of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
The presentation will be followed by a debate

15:45 - 17:00 Temporary special measures in practice
  ➢ Quotas for women in politics
  ➢ Temporary special measures in the private sector and in education

Presentation by:
An IPU officer
An officer of the UN Division for the Advancement of Women
An expert
The presentations will be followed by a debate

17:00 - 17:30 Conclusions and recommendations