Programme

08:30-09:00  Registration

09:00-09:15  Welcoming remarks

09:15-10:30  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? What rights? What obligations?
- Why an Optional Protocol to the Convention? What rights? What mechanism?

Presentations by:
- Ms. F. Gaspard, Vice-President of the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- Ms. Jane Connors, Office of the High Commission for Human Rights

The presentations will be followed by a debate

10:30-10:45  Coffee break

10:45-13.00  Focus on Addressing laws that discriminate against women

- Article 2 of the CEDAW and general recommendations
- Overview of existing legislation that discriminates against women
- Addressing discriminatory legislation: What are the challenges faced?
- Parliamentary mechanisms: reviewing, amending and monitoring legislation

Presentations by:
- Ms. F. Gaspard, Vice-President of the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- Mr. M. Traoré, Member the National Assembly of Burkina Faso, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the WAEMU
- Ms. F. Banda, author of a study on discriminatory laws

The presentations will be followed by a debate

13.00-14.30  Lunch

14:30-17:00  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:
- Ms. F. Gaspard, Vice-President of the Committee for the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
- Ms. Jane Connors, Office of the High Commission for Human Rights
- A Member of Parliament

The presentations will be followed by a debate

17:00 - 17:30  Conclusions and recommendations