



The Role of Parliaments in Enforcing Gender Equality and Women's Rights: 15 years after Beijing

A parliamentary event organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women on the occasion of the 54th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

2 March 2010, UN Headquarters, New York



ANNOTATED AGENDA

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10.00 - 10.15 a.m. *Opening*
Inter-Parliamentary Union
United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women

10.15 - 10.30 **Keynote address**
Fifteen years after Beijing, how much progress has been achieved in terms of gender equality and women's rights?

10.30 - 11.45 a.m. **Session 1: Women in parliament: The first step for progress**
- Progress and setbacks of women in politics over the past 15 years
- Overview of mechanisms to promote women's political participation

11.45 a.m. - 1 p.m. **Session 2: Building a gender-sensitive national legal framework**
- Reviewing discriminatory legislation: How is this done, and what mechanisms are available?
- Developing legislation to implement Beijing commitments

iKNOW Politics presentation

1 pm - 3 p.m. ***Lunch break***

3.00 - 4.15 p.m. **Session 3: Respecting women's rights: From De jure to de facto equality**
- Implementation, monitoring and evaluation: what are the parliamentary mechanisms needed? What is the role of parliamentary committees?
- What is the role of members of parliament in overcoming cultural barriers and changing mentalities?
- Adopting gender-sensitive budgets and building gender-sensitive enforcement and accountability frameworks (including securing access to justice and redress).

4.15- 5.45 p.m. **Session 4: Building partnerships to achieve gender equality**
- Parliaments and women's national machineries
- Working with civil society
- Public -private partnerships for gender equality

5.45 - 6 p.m. **Closing session**