Third Regional Conference of Women Parliamentarians and women in political decision making positions of the GCC States

Partnership between women parliamentarians, the media and women’s associations

Sultanate of Oman, 21-22 December 2008

Provisional Programme

Sunday, 21st December

09:30-10:30 Opening Ceremony
- Shura Council of Oman
- Head of the delegation of Oman
- Representative of the IPU
- Patronage of the Conference

10:30-11:00 Coffee break

11:00-11:30 Session 1: Keynote address:
- Women in politics, the media and women’s associations: essentials for democracy
- Women’s representation and democracy: situation and challenges

11:30-13:00 Session 2: Women and the media: International and regional perspectives
- International frameworks on women and the media
- Image and portrayals of women in the media and contents of the “stories” on women in politics
  - Ms. Gülser Corat, Chief Section for Women and Gender Equality, UNESCO
- Women working in the media in the GCC States
  - Ms. Najla Al Awadi, Member of the Federal National Council, UAE - Vice-CEO of Dubai Media Incorporation – Government of Dubai and General Manager of Dubai One TV.

The presentations will be followed by a debate

13:00-14:00 Session 3: Women’s associations in the GCC States
- Women’s associations in Oman
  - Dr. Sheikha Al Meselmia, Member of Parliament, Majlis Al Dawla, Oman
- Women and NGOs in the GCC
  - Dr. Amal Al Shanfari, Adviser, Ministry of economy, Oman

The presentations will be followed by a debate

14:00-15:00 Lunch

15:30-17:00 Session 4: Media and women’s associations: political allies for women running for election?
- The support media and women’s associations provide to women candidates
  - Dr. Gehan Abu Zeid, Expert in Women Rights & Development in the Arab Region, Egypt
  - Mrs. Rose Mukantabana, Speaker, House of Representatives, Rwanda

Experiences from the region
- Mrs. Latifa Al Goud, Member of Parliament, House of Representatives, Bahrain
- Mrs. Rahila Al Riyamiya, Member of Parliament, Majlis Al Dawla, Oman
- Mrs. Ramziya Al Eryani, Secretary General, Arab Women’s Federation, Yemen

The presentations will be followed by a debate

Diner for participants, Crown Plaza Hotel, Muscat
Monday 22nd December

09:30-11:30 Session 5: The Media and women’s associations: political allies for women in political decision-making positions? Partnership to promote gender issues

- **Cooperation in promoting gender equality and women’s issues and the input of women in politics**
  - Dr. Gehan Abu Zeid, Expert in Women Rights & Development in the Arab Region, Egypt
  - Dr. Faten Ben Amor, Member of Parliament, First Vice-President of the IPU Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, Tunisia

- **Enhancing the visibility of women politicians**
  - Mr. Nasser Alsarami, Head of media, Al Arabia Channel

Experiences from the region

- Dr. Bahia Al Jishi, Member of Parliament, Shura Council, Bahrain
- Member of Parliament (Tbc)

- **The Arab Women’s Media Strategy**
  - Dr. Mohammad Ayish, Arab Women’s Organization

The presentations will be followed by a debate

11:30-12:00 Coffee break

12:00-13:30 Session 6: Women, parliament and the media

- **Women parliamentarians in the parliamentary broadcasting**
  - Mr. Peter Knowles, Controller, BBC Parliament

The presentations will be followed by a debate

13:30-15:00 Lunch

15:00-16:30 Conclusions and closing remarks