Sixth Annual Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament

Women Speakers take action on maternal, child and newborn health

Bern, 16-17 July 2010
organized by the Swiss Parliament and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

AGENDA

16 July

Starting at 08.30 Registration

10 - 10.15 a.m. Opening and welcome addresses by

  Ms. P. Bruderer Wyss, President of the Swiss National Council
  Dr. T-B. Gurirab, President of the IPU

10.15 - 10.25 a.m. Keynote address

  Achieving Millennium Development Goals 4 and 5 on child survival and maternal health: Where do we stand?

  Mr. B. Koenders, Former Minister of Development Cooperation, Netherlands

10.25 - 10.30 a.m. Presentation of the publication Taking the Lead: Parliamentarians Engage with Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

  Dr. F. Bustreo, Director, Partnership of Maternal, Newborn and Child Health

10.30 a.m. - 12 noon Theme 1: Building national health systems

  • How to ensure access for all
  • How to improve service delivery for women and children

  Ms. J. A. Bamford-Addo, Speaker of Parliament (Ghana) (TBC)
  Ms. E. Renner, Speaker of the National Assembly (Gambia)
  Ms. T. Tsacheva, Speaker of the National Assembly (Bulgaria)
  Ms. D. Tashmukhamedova, President of the Legislative Chamber (Uzbekistan)
  Ms. T. Thi Phong, Vice-President of the National Assembly (Vietnam)

  Presentations followed by a debate

12 noon - 2 p.m. Lunch break

1.45 p.m. Group photo

2 - 3.30 p.m. Theme 2: Legislation and policy: removing barriers to access to health for all

  • Addressing discrimination in the legal framework, which limits women’s access to health services and care

  Ms. B. Prammer, Speaker of the National Council (Austria)
  Ms. R. Mukantabana, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (Rwanda)

  Presentations followed by a debate

3.30 - 5 p.m. Theme 3: Funding for MDGs 4 and 5

  • Allocation of national resources
  • The role of ODA
  • The role of international organizations

  Ms. V. Macamo Dlovo, Speaker of the National Assembly (Mozambique) (TBC)

  Presentations followed by a debate

7.30 p.m.

Reception in Interlaken given by Ms. P. Bruderer Wyss, President of the Swiss National Council and Ms. E. Forster-Vannini, President of the Swiss Council of States
17 July

9.30 - 9.35 a.m. Introductory remarks by
Ms. E. Forster-Vannini, President of the Swiss Council of States

09.35 - 11 a.m. Theme 4: Empowering women, including by addressing violence against women

- Empowerment of women at the core of progress
- Changing mentalities and addressing cultural stereotypes
- Violence against women, especially in conflict situations

Ms. J. Topalli, Speaker of Parliament (Albania)
Ms. M. Kumar, Speaker of the Lok Sabha (India)
Ms. R. Mukantabana, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (Rwanda)
Ms. I. Passada, Speaker of the House of Representatives (Uruguay)
Ms. R. F. Rogombé, President of the Senate (Gabon)

Presentations followed by a debate

11 a.m. - 12.30 p.m. Theme 5: Raising awareness and building political will

- Educating women and children about their rights and health needs/care
- Sensitizing populations to maternal and child health
- Building political will nationally
- International commitment and partnerships

Ms. A. Sepúlveda, Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (Chile) (TBC)
Ms. N. Motsamai, Speaker of the National Assembly (Lesotho)
Rt. Hon. Baroness Hayman, Speaker of the House of Lords (United Kingdom)
Ms. A. Johannesdottír, Speaker of the Althingi (Iceland)
Ms. F. Mirza, Speaker of the National Assembly (Pakistan)

Presentations followed by a debate

12.30 - 1 p.m. Conclusion and planning for the future

Luncheon