Ninth Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament:
Economic empowerment of women: Women speakers of parliament taking the lead

IPU Headquarters, Geneva (Switzerland), 4-5 September 2014
Organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union

PROPOSED AGENDA

Thursday, 4 September

9.30 – 9.45 a.m.  Welcome remarks
9.45 – 10.15 a.m.  Key note address:
Economic empowerment of women – at the heart of sustainable development
Challenges and priorities
10.15 - 10.45 a.m.  Group photo
10.45 a.m. - 12.30 p.m.  Building a conducive legal framework for women’s economic empowerment
- Gender sensitive labor laws
- Securing access to and control over economic assets (land, property, inheritance rights)
- Facilitating access to finance; business services etc.

What role for women speakers of parliament?

12.30 – 2 p.m.  Lunch Break
2 - 3.30 p.m.  Building a conducive environment for women’s economic empowerment
- Reconciliation of family and work; Valuing the care economy;
- Valuing women’s unpaid work
- Addressing stereotypes and changing mentalities

What role for women speakers of parliament?

3.30 - 4 p.m.  Tea and coffee break
4 - 5.30 p.m.  Reducing risks and vulnerabilities
- Addressing discrimination – equal pay
- Addressing violence against women at work
- Addressing exploitation of women

What role for women speakers of parliament?

Friday, 5 September

9 – 10 a.m.  Ensuring investments and policies meet women’s economic needs and well-being
- How to ensure that national budgets and policies take into account the needs of women and in particular the poorest and most marginalized women (gender-budgeting; investments in water, energy, infrastructures; investments in education, health etc.)

What role for women speakers of parliament?
10 – 11.30 a.m.  **Facilitating women's economic leadership – giving a voice and decision-making power to women**
- Overcoming barriers to women's economic leadership (culture, customs etc.) and taking measures (quotas?)
- Investing in the next generation of women

What role for women speakers of parliament?

11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m  **Economic empowerment of women – the regional and international dimensions**
- What role for regional and international bodies?
- What role for regional integration?
- What role for the IPU?

1 – 2.30 pm  **Lunch Break**

2.30 -3.30 p.m.  **Preparations for the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament**
Participants will be briefed on preparations for the 2015 Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament and the specific contribution they would like to provide as women Speakers.

3.30 - 4 p.m.  **Tea and coffee break**

4 - 5 pm  **Conclusions – linking up with the next generation of development goals**