



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

FORUM OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS 27th SESSION

Geneva, 24 and 27 March 2018

Forum of Women Parliamentarians
Agenda

FEM/27/A.1
20 November 2017

I. MEETING SCHEDULE AND SPEAKING ARRANGEMENTS

The 27th session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians will be held at the International Conference Centre of Geneva (CICG), Switzerland, on Saturday, 24 March 2018, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m. The Forum will hold a special sitting on Tuesday, 27 March 2017, from 2 to 2.30 p.m. and from 3.30 to 4 p.m.

The session is meant to elicit spontaneous and active debate. Speaking time may not exceed three minutes. There will be no formal list of speakers. In plenary, participants will be able to request the floor by completing the form to be found on the desks.

II. ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA

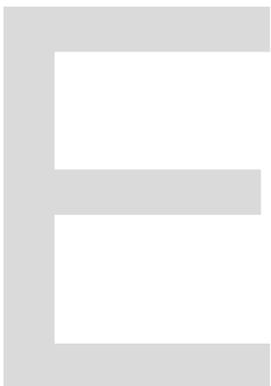
First and second sittings
Saturday, 24 March 2018, from 10.30 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 to 5.30 p.m.
Room 2, level 0, CICG

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Activities to advance gender equality

- (a) Report of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians
Participants will be briefed about the Bureau's deliberations at its sessions in St. Petersburg on 18 October 2017 and in Geneva on 24 March 2018.
- (b) Report of the Gender Partnership Group
Participants will be briefed about the work and recommendations of the Group. The Group works to ensure gender equality within the IPU. It initiates reforms in this area and oversees their implementation. It is composed of two men and two women members of the Executive Committee.
- (c) Update on recent IPU activities for the promotion of gender equality
Participants will be briefed about IPU's recent activities to promote gender equality.

The discussion will conclude by 11.15 a.m.



#IPU138

3. Contributing to the work of the 138th Assembly from a gender perspective

Participants will be invited to discuss the two draft resolutions on the agenda of the 138th Assembly. They will discuss each topic from a gender perspective and issue recommendations on amendments to be submitted by the Forum of Women Parliamentarians. For this purpose they will work in two groups, each covering one topic as follows:

Group 1 will discuss item 4 of the agenda:

“Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development” (Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)

Group 2 will discuss item 5 of the agenda:

“Engaging the private sector in implementing the SDGs, especially on renewable energy” (Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade)

After a short presentation on the two draft resolutions, the Forum will split into the discussion groups. On the recommendation of its Bureau, the Forum will designate a chairperson and a rapporteur for each group. The rapporteurs will submit the groups’ recommendations to the Forum of Women Parliamentarians at its afternoon sitting.

Each group will meet from 11.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The Forum will resume its work at 2.30 p.m.

4. Panel discussion on *Why are women still underrepresented in politics? The root causes and how to address them.*

The Forum will debate the current state of affairs of women’s political participation, based on the latest IPU analysis on women in parliaments. Looking beyond statistics, the discussion will also aim to explore the root causes of women’s underrepresentation. Participants will be invited to share best practices and innovative ways to address these challenges through a holistic and cross-sectoral approach. This will include a discussion on the International Gender Champions initiative and how it might impact positively on women’s political participation.

The panel discussion will conclude by 4.30 p.m.

5. Reports of the discussion group rapporteurs

The discussion group rapporteurs will present their reports. The Forum will then ask them to consult with the President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and prepare amendments to be presented during the debate of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security (scheduled for Sunday 25 March from 9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m. and from 2.30 to 6.30 p.m.), and of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade (scheduled for Sunday 25 March from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m.).

6. Venue and date of the 28th session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians

Third sitting
Tuesday, 27 March 2018, from 12 to 1 p.m. and from 3.30 to 4 p.m.
Rooms 3 & 4, level 0, CICG

7. Elections to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians (12 to 1 p.m.)

The 27th Forum of Women Parliamentarians will renew half of the membership of its Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, to replace those regional representatives whose terms expire in March 2018, as well as those members of parliament who have lost their seats in parliament.

After the elections, the sitting will be suspended until 3.30 p.m. to allow the newly-constituted Bureau to meet *in camera* and select candidates for its Presidency (President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President).

7. Elections of the Presiding Officers of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians (continued) (3.30 to 4 p.m.)

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians will resume its sitting to approve the candidatures for the offices of President and First- and Second Vice-Presidents of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians.

**COMPOSITION AND OFFICERS OF THE BUREAU
OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS
(As at 24 November 2017)**

OFFICERS (March 2016–2018)

President	Ms. M. Mensah-Williams (Namibia)
First Vice-President	<i>Vacancy</i>
Second Vice-President	Ms. N. Al Kharoosi (Oman)

REGIONAL REPRESENTATIVES

Expiry of term

African Group:

Ms. M. Mensah-Williams (Namibia)	Ms. J. Nze Mouenidiambou (Gabon)	March 2018
Ms. F. Adedoyin (Nigeria)	Ms. J. Gakuba (Rwanda)	March 2020

Arab Group:

Ms. N. Al Kharoosi (Oman)	Ms. S. Ksantini (Tunisia)	March 2018
Ms. H. Alhelaissi (Saudi Arabia)	Ms. M. Azer Abdelmalak (Egypt)	March 2020

Asia-Pacific Group:

Ms. W. A. Khan (Bangladesh)	Ms. A. Khalid Parvez (Pakistan)	March 2018
Ms. S. Sirivejchapun (Thailand)	Ms. R.W Karirathna (Sri Lanka)	March 2020

Eurasia Group:

Ms. V. Petrenko (Russian Federation)	Ms. A. Naumchik (Belarus)	March 2018
Ms. L. Gumerova (Russian Federation)	Ms. K. Atshemyan (Armenia)	March 2020

Group of Latin American and the Caribbean:

<i>Vacancy</i>	Ms. J. Vicente (Dominican Republic)	March 2018
Ms. E. Mendoza Fernández (Bolivia, (Plurinational State of)	Ms. K.J. Beteta Rubín (Peru)	March 2020

Twelve Plus Group:

Ms. S. Errante (France)	<i>Vacancy</i>	March 2018
Ms. S. Ataullahjan (Canada)	Ms. P. Locatelli (Italy)	March 2020

MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Expiry of term

(ex officio, for the duration of their term on the Executive Committee)

Ms. F. Benbadis (Algeria)	October 2018
Ms. M.I. de Oliveira Valente (Angola)	October 2019
Ms. H. Haukeland Liadal (Norway)	October 2019
Ms. A. Habibou (Niger)	October 2019
Ms. Y. Ferrer Gómez (Cuba)	October 2020
Ms. M. Kiener-Nellen (Switzerland)	October 2021

PRESIDENTS OF THE FORUM OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

Expiry of term

(ex officio for two years)

Ms. N. Luo (Zambia)	March 2018
Ms. D. Moni Nawaz (Bangladesh)	March 2019
Ms. G. Karelova (Russian Federation)	October 2019