



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Geneva, 6 February 2023

The role of parliaments in advancing gender equality through technology

7 March 2023, ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters, New York

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

The Parliamentary Meeting at the 67th session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW67) will be held in New York on 7 March 2023. It is hosted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women). The Meeting will contribute to the CSW67 main theme, *Innovation and technological change, and education in the digital age for achieving gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls.*

The theme of the Parliamentary Meeting is *The role of parliaments in advancing gender equality through technology*. The Meeting will provide an opportunity to bring a parliamentary perspective into the CSW67 discussions by showcasing parliamentary engagement in harnessing technology to advance gender equality in parliaments and broader society. Members of parliament from around the world will share promising practices for empowering women and girls through technology, removing structural obstacles that hinder their access to it, and addressing risks such as technology-facilitated violence against women and girls. Participants will exchange with their peers and experts on how to deepen their work in these areas and harness technology's potential for making parliamentary working modalities more inclusive and gender-sensitive. I enclose the concept note and agenda of the Meeting and other relevant documents, which are also available on our IPU website here: <https://www.ipu.org/event/role-parliaments-in-advancing-gender-equality-through-technology>.

I wish to strongly encourage your Parliament to request that your country's delegation to the Commission on the Status of Women include both male and female members of parliament, notably chairpersons and members of gender equality, legal affairs, or human rights committees. This would ensure their attendance and contribution to the IPU-UN Women Parliamentary Meeting. It would also facilitate the inclusion of a parliamentary perspective in the Commission's deliberations that will take place from 6 to 17 March 2023.

In addition to the Parliamentary Meeting, the IPU is organizing a side event on **Wednesday, 8 March 2023**. The side event titled *Achieving equality in decision-making by 2030: what will it take?* will be held from **10 to 11.15 a.m.**, in Conference room B of the Conference building at the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Additional information is available in the attached information note. As the United Nations do not have interpretation facilities in the informal meeting rooms, please note that the debates for this side event will be held in English only.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong
Secretary General