



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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United Nations Entity for Gender Equality
and the Empowerment of Women

Gender-sensitive parliaments: Advancing gender equality to end poverty

A parliamentary event organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and UN-Women
at the 68th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women

12 March 2024, ECOSOC Chamber, UN Headquarters, New York

INFORMATION NOTE

During the 68th Session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (CSW68), whose priority theme is *Accelerating the achievement of gender equality and the empowerment of all women and girls by addressing poverty and strengthening institutions and financing with a gender perspective*, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and UN-Women are organizing a parliamentary meeting entitled:

Gender-sensitive parliaments: Advancing gender equality to end poverty

The meeting will take place on **Tuesday, 12 March 2024**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 5 p.m. in the ECOSOC Chamber at the UN Headquarters in New York.

Objectives

In keeping with its policy of contributing to major international forums by seeking to introduce a parliamentary dimension into the proceedings of intergovernmental organizations, the IPU is organizing this one-day meeting jointly with UN-Women to provide a forum for debate on the above topic between parliamentarians from all over the world, and to contribute to the deliberations of CSW68.

The meeting aims to bring a parliamentary perspective into the CSW68 discussions by showcasing parliamentary engagement in formulating laws, policies and budgets that specifically address poverty with a gender lens and ensure public financing advances the empowerment of women and girls. Members of parliament from around the world will share observations and practices in the areas of poverty alleviation, taxation, access to credit and resources for women. The meeting will also serve to underline the imperative of having gender-sensitive parliaments and of fostering law-making environments that proactively address and rectify gender disparities. Participants will exchange with their peers and experts on how to deepen their work in all of these areas. The concept note, the meeting agenda and other relevant documents are enclosed.

Expected outcome

A brief message to CSW68 will be issued, stressing areas for future priority action, with particular emphasis on the role of parliaments.

Relevant documents

Background documents to be used throughout the meeting include:

- Written contributions of the panellists, when available
- CSW68 documents, when available.

Participants

The participants in the parliamentary event will include:

- Parliamentarians present in New York who are participating at CSW68 as members of their respective delegations. The IPU Secretary General will be extending a letter of invitation to the parliamentary meeting to all IPU Member and non-member parliaments.
- Representatives of governments, relevant organizations and funds of the United Nations system, and civil society.

Programme

9.45–10 a.m.	Arrival of delegates
10–10.15 a.m.	Opening remarks
10.15–noon	Session 1: Prioritizing poverty reduction to achieve gender equality
noon–1 p.m.	Special segment: Gender-responsive budgeting: A tool for poverty reduction?
1–3 p.m.	Lunch break
3–4.30 p.m.	Session 2: Gender-sensitive institutions breaking the poverty cycle
4.30–5 p.m.	Wrap-up and concluding remarks

Languages

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in four languages: Arabic, English, French, and Spanish.

Access badges for United Nations Headquarters

Security arrangements during General Assembly sessions are very strict and no one may enter the United Nations premises without a special badge (for delegates and visitors). In keeping with normal practice, delegations and diplomatic missions in New York will attend to all matters relating to visas, UN badges, hotel reservations and transportation. Participants must therefore request their badge from their country's Permanent Mission to the United Nations in New York.

Registration for the meeting

Persons wishing to participate in the parliamentary event are urged to register as soon as possible using the online form available at [this link](#). If you require any additional information regarding your registration to our IPU – UN-Women Parliamentary Meeting, please contact Ms. Marie-Graziella NGUINI (e-mail: mgn@ipu.org / Phone: +41 22 919 41 45) with copy to Mr. Ilias Trochidis gender@ipu.org.

Informal side-event(s)

In addition to the parliamentary meeting, the IPU will be organizing one or more side events in the course of the first week of CSW68. Additional information will be provided soon.