



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION  
114<sup>th</sup> Assembly and related meetings  
Nairobi, 4 to 12 May 2006



Meeting of Women Parliamentarians  
Agenda

FEM/11/A.1  
24 March 2006

## Eleventh Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

*Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC)*  
7 and 11 May 2006

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### I. PRACTICAL AND PROCEDURAL ARRANGEMENTS

#### Schedule and Rules

The Eleventh Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will take place on the premises of the Kenyatta International Conference Centre (KICC) and will comprise four sittings:

- Two regular sittings on Sunday, 7 May, from 9.30 a.m. to 1 p.m., and from 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. at the latest, to consider all the agenda items except item 3(b);
- One special sitting on Thursday, 11 May, from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m., to elect new titular and substitute regional representatives to the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians;
- Another special sitting on Thursday, 11 May, will be held as of 4.30 p.m. to elect the President and two Vice-Presidents of the Coordinating Committee.

The proceedings will be governed by the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

#### President of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians

In accordance with Rule 8, the Meeting will be opened by the President of the Coordinating Committee who shall conduct the election of the President of the Meeting. As per Rule 7, the Meeting will be chaired by a woman member of the host Parliament of the 114<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

#### Participation and speaking rights

Women members of parliament who are part of their delegation as delegates to the Nairobi Meetings can take the floor. Those who accompany the delegation in a capacity other than that of delegate can observe the proceedings of the Meeting but cannot take part in them (Rule 3 of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians).

The debates are also open to men parliamentarians. Only those who form part of their delegation as delegates can take the floor (Rule 4.2 of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians).

Representatives of international parliamentary assemblies that are Associate Members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and representatives of international organizations that enjoy observer status may also ask to take the floor.

#### Debating arrangements

The work of the Meeting will be carried out partly in plenary and partly in working groups.

The debates will be conducted in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.

The President will seek to promote an active and spontaneous dialogue. Interventions should therefore be brief and not exceed three minutes. Participants are urged to refrain from reading out prepared statements and are encouraged to debate ideas, illustrating their comments, where appropriate, with examples from their country.

No list of speakers will be drawn up in advance. In plenary, participants will be able to indicate their wish to take the floor by completing the registration form they will find on their desks and handing it to the ushers who will pass them on to the President. This procedure will be optional in the discussion groups.

## **Documents**

The Secretariat will make available in the meeting room a set of official documents, in English and French only, prepared for the session and various IPU publications.

Participants wishing to present developments in their country with regard to issues on the agenda or general gender issues can display documents on tables outside the meeting room. Prior to that, two copies of the documents should be given to the Secretariat. It must also be noted that these documents cannot be translated and reproduced by the Secretariat.

## **II. ANNOTATED PROVISIONAL AGENDA**

The Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians prepared the following provisional agenda at its last session held on the occasion of the 113<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the IPU (October 2005).

### **1. Election of the President of the Meeting**

### **2. Adoption of the agenda**

*The Meeting will be required to adopt its agenda at the beginning of its proceedings.*

### **3. Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians**

#### **(a) Work at the sessions held in Manila, Geneva and Nairobi and recommendations**

*Participants will be informed of the Coordinating Committee's deliberations during its sittings on 7 April 2005, in Manila, 16 October 2005, in Geneva, and 7 May 2006, in Nairobi.*

#### **(b) General elections to the Coordinating Committee**

The term of office of the Coordinating Committee's regional representatives and of its President and two Vice-Presidents expires at the 114<sup>th</sup> Assembly. The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will therefore hold elections to the Coordinating Committee on Thursday, 11 May.

A description of the election process is detailed in Annex I.

Geopolitical groups are requested to submit candidatures in writing by Tuesday, 9 May at 6 p.m. at the latest. Candidatures should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (3 paragraphs maximum) of the candidates in English and/or French only, for distribution to participants.

#### **(c) Work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group**

*Participants will be informed of the work of the Gender Partnership Group.*

#### **(d) Questions relating to the panel discussion on "HIV/AIDS and Children" organised on the occasion of the 114<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly**

*Participants will be informed of the arrangements made for the panel discussion on "HIV/AIDS and Children" scheduled for Wednesday, 10 May (9.30 a.m. to 12.30 p.m.). An information note on this event will be made available.*

#### **(e) Specialised meetings and other initiatives**

*Participants will be briefed on the results of activities and meetings carried out by the IPU concerning gender issues.*

- (f) Any other business

*The discussion on the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians will conclude by 11 a.m.*

#### **4. Contribution to the work of the 114<sup>th</sup> Assembly**

The Coordinating Committee decided to invite women parliamentarians to discuss item 4 of the agenda of the 114<sup>th</sup> Assembly entitled *The role of parliaments in environmental management and in combating global degradation of the environment*, according to the following procedure:

Participants will split into two groups to discuss the following sub-themes:

**Theme 1:** Women's contribution to natural resource management

*Participants will be asked to discuss the particular contributions of women to the management and preservation of natural resources. Specific attention will be given to water management, in view of the outcomes of the Fourth World Water Forum, which took place in Mexico in March 2006.*

**Theme 2:** Mainstreaming gender in environmental policies

*Participants will be asked to discuss ways and means of ensuring that environmental policies are gender sensitive: that they take into account the particular needs of both men and women and consider the specific contribution of women to the preservation of the environment. What data is needed? How should policies be developed?*

Beforehand, the participants will elect, on the recommendation of the Coordinating Committee, a moderator and a rapporteur for each of the working groups formed. At the end of the discussion, each group will agree on the key ideas to be presented by the rapporteur to the afternoon plenary Meeting of Women Parliamentarians.

The rapporteurs of each discussion group will be in charge of drafting amendments to the draft resolution submitted to the Second Standing Committee for discussion. These amendments will be drafted in consultation with the President of the Coordinating Committee and the President of the Meeting and submitted on behalf of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. The amendments will aim at introducing a gender perspective to the resolution.

Each discussion group will debate from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

*The Meeting will adjourn for lunch from 1 to 2.30 p.m.*

#### **5. Debate on women in politics**

- (a) Progress and setbacks of women in parliament in 2005
- (b) Dialogue session on the theme *Positive action measures for the promotion of women in politics: pros and cons*

This year, the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians invites men and women to discuss the challenging issue of positive action measures for the promotion of women in politics. The debate will be introduced by two keynote speakers and will take place from 3.00 p.m. to 4.30 p.m.

#### **6. Report of the discussion group rapporteurs**

Each of the two rapporteurs of the discussion groups will present their reports. The Meeting will then ask them to prepare, in consultation with the President of the Coordinating Committee and the President of the Meeting, amendments to be presented during the general debate of the Second Standing Committee on Monday, 8 May.

**7. Action by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to strengthen the parliamentary dimension of United Nations efforts to promote partnership between men and women**

Participants will be briefed on the status of cooperation between the IPU and the United Nations in this field.

**8. Place and date of the Twelfth Meeting of Women Parliamentarians**

The Twelfth Meeting will take place in April/May 2007, during the 116<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Bangkok, Thailand).

In accordance with the provisions of Rule 11 of the Rules of the Meeting, the Coordinating Committee will draw up the provisional agenda at its sitting on Friday, 12 May 2006.

## **Procedure for the general elections to the Coordinating Committee**

### ***Schedule***

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will hold elections to the Coordinating Committee on Thursday, 11 May. In accordance with the provisions of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, this session will consist of two sittings, as follows:

The first sitting will be held from 2.30 to 3.30 p.m. to elect the titular and substitute regional representatives. Immediately following the first election, the newly constituted Coordinating Committee will meet *in camera* to nominate candidates for the offices of President and First and Second Vice-Presidents of the Committee. These candidatures will be put to vote during the second sitting of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, to be held at 4.30 p.m.

### ***Elections of the regional representatives and their substitutes: rules and procedure***

Rule 31.1(c) of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians provides for the election of two titular and two substitute representatives from each of the geopolitical groups as established by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which, to date, are as follows:

- African Group
- Arab Group
- Asia and Pacific Group
- Eurasian Group
- Latin American Group
- Twelve Plus Group

This rule also stipulates that the regional representatives shall be elected *ad personam* for a two-year term of office and shall be eligible for re-election for a further two-year period.

The geopolitical groups should submit candidatures in writing by Tuesday, 9 May, at 6 p.m. at the latest. Candidatures should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (3 paragraphs maximum) of the candidates in English and/or French only, for distribution to participants.

Women MPs who have already served two terms as titular regional representatives are therefore ineligible for re-election as titular regional representatives. Similarly, women MPs who have served two terms as substitute regional representatives are also ineligible for re-election as substitute regional representative; they are, however, eligible for the position of titular representatives.

The current composition of the Coordinating Committee is found in Annex II.

### ***Election of the President and the First and Second Vice-Presidents of the Coordinating Committee: Rules and procedure***

Rule 32 of the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians stipulates that "*after each renewal of the regional representatives, every two years, the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians shall, on the proposal of the Coordinating Committee, elect the President, First Vice-President and Second Vice-President of the Coordinating Committee from among parliamentarians of different regions*".

The President of the Coordinating Committee will become an *ex-officio* member of the Executive Committee of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

**Composition of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians**  
(March 2006)

		<b>Expiry of term</b>
<b>Bureau</b>		
<b>President</b>	Ms. J. Fraser (Canada)	May 2006
<b>First Vice-President</b>	Ms. S. Damen-Masri (Jordan)	May 2006
<b>Second Vice-President</b>	Ms. L. Madero (Mexico)	May 2006
<b>Elected Members</b>		
<i>Regional representatives (elected for two years)</i>		
<b>Group of African countries</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. B. Henrique da Silva (Angola)	Ms. O.T. Ascofaré (Mali)	May 2006
Ms. E. Beyene (Ethiopia)	Ms. S. Moulengui-Mouele (Gabon)	May 2006
<b>Group of Arab countries</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. S. Damen-Masri (Jordan)	Ms. K. Al-Nattah (Libyan Arab Jamahiriya)	May 2006
Ms. B. J. Al Jishi (Bahrain)	Ms. M. Osman Gaknoun (Sudan)	May 2006
<b>Group of Asia and Pacific countries</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. M. Singh (India)	Ms. B. Tuya (Mongolia)	May 2006
Ms. Chew Mei Fun (Malaysia)	Mrs. K. Hull (Australia)	May 2006
<b>Eurasia Group</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. H. Hakobyan (Armenia)	Ms. B. Baymagambetova (Kazakhstan)	May 2006
Ms. N. Baranova (Belarus)	Ms. N. Narotchnitskaia (Russian Federation)	May 2006
<b>Group of Latin American countries</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. L. Madero (Mexico)	Ms. V. Mata (Venezuela)	May 2006
Ms. I. Allende (Chile)	Ms. M. Müller (Argentina)	May 2006
<b>Twelve Plus Group</b>		
Titular:	Substitute:	
Ms. P. Ernstberger (Germany)	Ms. G. Gautier (France)	May 2006
Ms. J. Fraser (Canada)	Ms. D. Stump (Switzerland)	May 2006
<b>Ex-officio Members</b>		
<b>Members of the Executive Committee (ex officio, for the duration of their term on the Executive Committee)</b>		
Ms. M. Mensah (Namibia)		September 2007
Ms. K. Komi (Finland)		April 2008
Ms. K. Serrano Puig (Cuba)		September 2008
Ms. A. Vadai (Hungary)		September 2008
Ms. L. Lerksamran (Thailand)		October 2007
Ms. E. Papadimitriou (Greece)		October 2009
<b>Chairperson of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians (ex officio for two years)</b>		
Ms. D.M. Sauri Riancho (Mexico)		May 2006
Ms. P. S. Cayetano (Philippines)		April 2007