



SECOND REGIONAL CONFERENCE OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS AND
WOMEN IN DECISION MAKING POSITIONS OF THE GCC STATES

WOMEN MAKING A DIFFERENCE IN PARLIAMENT

United Arab Emirates, 29-31 October 2007

Monday 29 October 2007

Arrival of Delegates

Tuesday 30 October 2007

9.00 - 9.45 a.m. **Opening ceremony**

9.45 – 10.00 a.m. **Break**

10.00 - 11.30 a.m. **Session 1: Women's Political Participation: Mechanisms for empowering women in the political process**

- Regional and world status of women in politics: Trends and statistics
 - Progress and setbacks of women in the GCC States in the past year
 - Mechanisms to promote women in politics
- Presentations followed by a debate*

11.30 - 11.45 a.m. **Break**

11.45 – 1.00 p.m. **Session 2: Women in Parliament: How to bring about change?**

- Means of influencing the political agenda
 - Means of working with fellow parliamentarians
 - Coordination of women parliamentarians at a regional level
 - Experiences from the region and from other countries
- Presentations followed by a debate*

1.00 - 2 p.m. **Lunch break**

2.00 – 4.00 p.m. **Session 3: How to Mainstream Gender in Parliament?**

- The role of parliamentary committees on gender issues
 - How to mainstream gender in the legislative work of Parliament
- Presentations followed by a debate*

Wednesday 31 October 2007

9.00 - 11 a.m. **Session 4: Challenges Facing Women in Decision Making Positions in GCC**

- Political rights for women in the GCC
 - Education and capacity building for GCC Women
 - Equal working opportunities between women and men
- Presentations followed by a debate*

11.00 - 11.30a.m. **Break**

11.30 a.m.-1 p.m. **Session 5: Supporting Women in Parliament and other Decision-Making Positions: Working with partners**

- How women's organizations, including the state gender machinery, can support women in parliament and other decision-making positions
 - How civil society organizations can support women's participation
 - Mechanisms to promote coordination between women's organizations, civil society and women in parliament
- Presentations followed by a debate*

1.00 – 2.00 p.m. **Lunch Break**

2.00 – 4.00 p.m. **Session 6: Interventions by Delegates on the Topics of Discussion**

- Evaluation of seminar
- Conclusions and follow up to the seminar