



## Seventh Annual Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament: Taking Action to Make Parliaments Gender-Sensitive

Islamabad, 15-17 November 2011  
Organized by the National Assembly of Pakistan and the Inter-Parliamentary Union



### DRAFT PROPOSED AGENDA

<b>Tuesday, 15 November 2011</b>	
5 - 6 p.m.	<b>Inaugural ceremony</b>
7:30 - 10:30 p.m.	<i>Dinner hosted by the Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan</i>
<b>Wednesday, 16 November 2011</b>	
9:30 - 11 a.m.	<b>Theme I: Women's Participation in Politics - Impediments and Challenges</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Overcoming cultural, social and traditional barriers</i></li><li>• <i>Political parties - structures, positions, manifestos</i></li><li>• <i>Political parties' role in facilitating women's entry into parliament --- Best practices</i></li><li>• <i>Changing political party structures to allow women's equal participation</i></li><li>• <i>Electoral systems (affirmative action to increase the number of women candidates)</i></li><li>• <i>Are quotas the way forward? Which systems have proven to be the most effective?</i></li></ul>
11 - 11:15 a.m.	<i>Tea and coffee break</i>
11:15 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.	<b>Theme II: Women in Parliaments: How to bring about change? Country Perspective</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Women in Parliament: What positions?</i></li><li>• <i>Progress and achievements of women parliamentarians</i></li><li>• <i>Gender-sensitive legislation and policy</i></li><li>• <i>Women Parliamentarians setting the socio-political agenda</i></li></ul>
12:30 - 1:30 p.m.	<i>Hosted lunch</i>
2 - 3:30 p.m.	<b>Theme III: Creating a gender sensitive environment in Parliament</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Strategies for gender mainstreaming in Parliament</i></li><li>• <i>Role of the Committee Chairperson in creating a gender-sensitive environment</i></li><li>• <i>Role of gender committees</i></li><li>• <i>Gender sensitive parliamentary structures and facilities</i></li><li>• <i>Working modalities</i></li></ul>
3:30 - 3:45 p.m.	<i>Tea and coffee break</i>
3:45 - 5:15 p.m.	<b>Theme IV: Forging Alliances and Networks</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Role of Women Caucuses</i></li><li>• <i>Networking at the country, regional and global levels</i></li><li>• <i>Role of educational and research institutes in building the capacity of women by creating a knowledge base</i></li><li>• <i>Cooperation with civil society and women national machineries</i></li><li>• <i>Gender issues as "people's issues": The role of male parliamentarians</i></li></ul>
7:30 - 10:30 p.m.	<i>Hosted dinner</i>

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<b>Thursday, 17 November 2011</b>	
9:30 - 11 a.m.	<b>Theme V: Strengthening Parliament's Capacity to Address International Commitments on Gender Equality in Politics</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>The role of intergovernmental bodies and international parliamentary organizations in strengthening parliaments' capacities</i></li><li>• <i>Parliament's role in overseeing international commitments such as MDGs, CEDAW, Beijing Platform for Action, EFA, etc.</i></li><li>• <i>Parliament's oversight role in the formulation and implementation of national action plans</i></li></ul>
11 a.m. - 12 p.m.	<b>Theme VI: Women Speakers championing women's rights</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Follow-up of the Bern Initiative for Global Parliamentary Action on Maternal and Child Health</i></li></ul>
12 - 1 p.m.	<b>Concluding session</b>
1 - 2 p.m.	<i>Hosted lunch</i>

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