

Thailand's Statement for General Debate during the 145th IPU Assembly (Young MP Segment), by Ms. Saratsanun UNNOPORN, Member of the House of Representatives, Thailand (2 mins: 268 words)

My fellow parliamentarians,
Dear colleagues,

1. Although Thailand is performing comparatively well, according to UN Women, in global and regional rankings of women occupying senior leadership positions in business, there is a long way to go to achieve the ideal gender-equal society.
2. Guided by the principle of gender balance embedded in the constitution and the organic law on political parties, Thai political parties are now keen to recruit more younger female candidates to run for the next general elections in 2023. The Thai voters are also very much looking forward to welcoming more young women MPs to our parliament next year, bringing Thailand closer to the global parliamentary average of 26% of women representation in parliament.
3. Apart from the establishment of a House Standing Committee dedicated to women and LGBTQ persons, for the first time in history, the draft bills to legalize same-sex marriage and civil partnership which are now being processed by the House of Representatives, to reaffirm our commitment to equality, inclusiveness and diversity, are expected to be enacted in the near future.
4. Championing gender equality is not a matter that lies only in the hands of women. I believe that promoting a gender-equal world begins with each and every one of us, regardless of our genders. It begins in our homes, our schools, and our communities and, of course, our parliaments. All of us can and must play our part in fostering positive attitudes on gender roles and making our societies better.

Thank you for your attention.

*Drafted by Mr. Tanukom Bamrungpon
Director of the IPU Division
Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations
Secretariat of the House of Representatives
The National Assembly of Thailand
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