

Hoang
ADDRESS BY HEAD OF THE VIETNAMESE DELEGATION
AT THE IPU-145 PLENARY SESSION

On the theme “*Gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments as drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world*”

Honorable chair,

Ladies and gentlemen,

First of all, on behalf of the Delegation of Vietnam, I would like to express our thanks and appreciation to the Parliament of Rwanda and IPU for the huge efforts in making this Assembly a reality. It is indeed a privilege to be in a beautiful country of Africa, with a very special history.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Gender equality is a basic human right, a goal of countries and an important measure to assess the progress and development of societies, of which, gender equality in parliaments is considered one important agenda, creating opportunities for women to speak, to promote their talents, to express their views in the process of policy making, and at the same time to serve as drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world.

We highly appreciate the active role of IPU over the years in protecting and promoting human rights, assisting member Parliaments in enhancing cooperation, exchanging experiences and offering solutions to promote gender equality and put an end to violence against women.

Vietnam attaches great importance to gender equality and the advancement of women. The National Assembly of Vietnam has actively promoted legislation related to gender in order to ensure and promote gender equality and women's empowerment; review and eliminate gender-biased stipulations; ensure gender mainstreaming in law and ordinance drafting programs. The number of legal documents which are

examined to incorporate gender equality has increased over the years¹. Gender equality is also mainstreamed in the process of oversight and decision-making on important national issues, especially in budget allocation.

On another aspect, the current proportion of women in the our National Assembly is 30.26%. The Women Parliamentarian Group was established in the 12th Legislature, and has continued to operate in the 13th, 14th and 15th Legislatures. This Group was established with the goal of creating a forum for female deputies to meet, exchange and share experiences, create a common voice on issues related to gender equality in the National Assembly's activities, and at the same time, to support them to function better and perform- more effectively.

In order to contribute to ensuring gender equality towards a more peaceful and resilient world, the Vietnamese Delegation would like to propose:

Firstly, it's necessary to improve the system of national policies to create a enabling legal corridor for promoting gender equality as well as the implementation of such policies.

Secondly, more work should be done to strengthen the voice and participation of women in the process of policy making and implementation.

Thirdly, cooperation should be further promoted between IPU, member parliaments, United Nations bodies and international forums on women, to better ensure women's rights and women empowerment.

Thank you very much. *for your kind attention!*

¹ During the tenure of the 12th National Assembly, there were 16 laws, 01 ordinance and 03 resolutions; During the tenure of the 13th National Assembly, there were 42 laws and 2 ordinances; During the tenure of the 14th National Assembly, there were 56 laws and 1 ordinance.