

# **The role of the Korean National Assembly in the preparation and review of South Korea's 8th Periodic Report**

**June 24, 2019**

**Nam In-soon,  
Member of the Korean National Assembly  
Former Chairperson of the Committee on Gender Equality and Family**



# Table of Contents

- 1) Importance of parliamentary involvement in implementing CEDAW**
- 2) South Korea's accession to CEDAW**
- 3) Case study:**
  - The role of the National Assembly in Korea's Periodic Reports**
- 4) Our work with NGOs on CEDAW**
- 5) Areas for further action**

# Importance of parliamentary involvement in implementing CEDAW

## **Statement by the Committee on its relationship with parliamentarians adopted at its 45th Session in 2010:**

**Ratification and  
withdrawal of  
reservations**

**Oversight of the  
executive,  
legislative and  
budgetary  
functions**

**Drafting of  
reports and  
follow-up**

**Raising  
awareness,  
increased  
communication**

# South Korea's accession to CEDAW

## KOREA'S STATUS

- Ratified on December 27, 1984
- In effect since January 26, 1985

## PERIODIC REPORTS

	1 <sup>st</sup>	2 <sup>nd</sup>	3 <sup>rd</sup>	4 <sup>th</sup>	5 <sup>th</sup>	6 <sup>th</sup>	7 <sup>th</sup>	8 <sup>th</sup>
Submitted	Feb. 1986	Dec. 1989	Sep. 1994	Jan. 1998	Dec. 2002	Feb. 2006	Jan. 2010	Jul. 2015
Reviewed	1987	1993	Jul. 1998	Jul. 1998	Jul. 2007	Jul. 2007	July. 2011	Feb. 2018



# The role of the National Assembly in the 7<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report

July 19, 2011

## CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS

9. ...the Committee stresses that the Convention is binding on all branches of Government and invites the State party to encourage its National Assembly, in line with its procedures and where appropriate, to take the necessary steps with regard to the [implementation of the present concluding observations](#) and the [Government's next reporting process](#) under the Convention.

# The role of the National Assembly in the 7<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report

## LEGISLATIVE EFFORTS

Framework Act on Gender Equality (adopted in 2014)

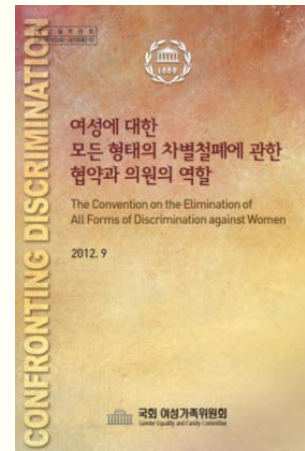
Labor Standards Act (revised in 2012 and 2014)

## 126<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY

**Article 5 of the Resolution “ACCESS TO HEALTH AS A BASIC RIGHT: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN ADDRESSING KEY CHALLENGES TO SECURING THE HEALTH OF WOMEN AND CHILDREN”**

- *Urges* parliamentarians to closely monitor the domestic implementation of international, regional and national human rights instruments so as to ensure that all health-related obligations and recommendations, including those under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, CEDAW, the CRC and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, are fully implemented and respected by all levels of government, and *calls upon parliamentarians to participate in the deliberations of the UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women and the Committee on the Rights of the Child, and to seek the support of the IPU Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians;*

## RAISING AWARENESS



### **CEDAW Booklet**

- 7th Concluding Observations
- CEDAW Convention text
- IPU Handbook for Parliamentarians:  
CEDAW and the Optional Protocol

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF CEDAW



## The role of the National Assembly in the 7<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report

April 2013

### Main Areas of Discussion

- Special focus on areas requiring follow-up in two years
  - Paragraph 15 (Anti-Discrimination Act)
  - Paragraph 21 (Sexual and Domestic Violence Act)
- Withdrawal of Reservations (Ministry of Justice)
- Revising the Mother and Child Health Act (Ministry of Health and Welfare)

# Framework Act on Gender Equality

May 28, 2014

## ARTICLE 40(5)

When the Government intends to submit a report on implementation of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women or any other report on implementation of any women-related international treaty that the Republic of Korea has entered into, [it shall submit it to the National Assembly beforehand.](#)

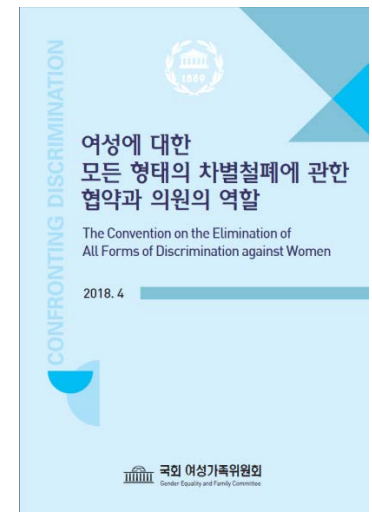


# The role of the National Assembly in the 8<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report

## SUB-COMMITTEE ON MONITORING OF THE IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL CONVENTIONS



### **CEDAW Booklet** 8th Concluding Observations



# The role of the National Assembly in the 8<sup>th</sup> Periodic Report

## NGO FORUM ON THE KOREAN GOVERNMENT'S RESPONSE TO THE 8<sup>TH</sup> CEDAW CONCLUDING OBSERVATIONS (MARCH 2018)



# Areas for further action

- **Better governance structure**
  - Comprised of the parliament, government and civil society
- **Review mechanism needs to be expanded to include all Committees**
  - Installation of an advisory body in each Committee or under the National Assembly Speaker
- **Prioritized legislation**
  - Bills required to implement recommendations to be given priority in discussions and processing in relevant Committees