13th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament (13SWSP)

Women at the centre: From confronting the pandemic to preserving achievements in a gender-responsive recovery

Vienna (Austria), 6 September 2021, 09:00-16:00 CEST
Austria Center Vienna, Hall D, Level -2

Final Programme

09:00–09:30  Opening session
- Ms. Tone Wilhelmsen Trøen, Speaker of Parliament (Norway) and Chairperson of the Summit
- Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the National Council (Austria)
- Mr. Duarte Pacheco, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

09:30–09:45  Keynote address
Ms. Ghada Fathy Ismail Waly, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Director-General of the United Nations Office at Vienna
Group photo

09:45-10:00  Coffee break

10:00–12:00  Session 1: Women in the pandemic: A tribute to everyday heroes
This first session aims at taking stock of, recognizing and paying tribute to women from all walks of life who have been instrumental in confronting the COVID-19 pandemic.

Introductory remarks by Ms. Hedy Fry, Canadian MP and Special Representative on Gender Issues at the Parliamentary Assembly of OSCE (video message)

10:15–12:00  Doha Debate style panel
Session moderated by Ms. Christine Muttonen, International Expert and Managing Partner of Central East Connect
- Debate on Motion 1: “Women working on the front lines during the COVID-19 pandemic are more effective in providing care and services than men in the same field”
  - Ms. Claudia Ledesma Abdala de Zamora, Provisional President of the Senate (Argentina)
  - Ms. Fawzia Zainal, Speaker of the Council of Representatives (Bahrain)
  - Ms. Puan Maharani, Speaker of the House of Representatives (Indonesia)
  - Ms. Stephanie D'Hose, President of the Senate (Belgium)

Discussion among participants
Debate on Motion 2: “Women’s care work at home should be paid an hourly wage based on the national minimum wage”
  - Ms. Inara Murniece, Speaker of Parliament (Latvia)

Discussion among participants

Debate on Motion 3: “Today, 60 per cent of women are not covered by any type of social protection. By 2030, universal and gender-responsive social protection systems will be available for everyone”
  - Ms. Meritxell Batet, President of the Congress of Deputies (Spain)
  - Ms. Borjana Krsto, Speaker of the House of Representatives (Bosnia and Herzegovina)
  - Ms. Lesia Vasylenko, MP from Ukraine and President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

Discussion among participants

12:00–13:30 Lunch break

13:30 – 13.35 Special Remarks by Mr. Abdulla Shahid, President-Elect of the 76th UN General Assembly

13:35–15:30 Session 2: Women in the post-pandemic recovery: Preserving achievements, furthering progress

This second session aims at identifying ways and means of preserving and consolidating women’s achievements and furthering progress in a gender-responsive recovery agenda, leaving no woman and no girl behind.

Introductory remarks by Ms. Pramila Patten, United Nations Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Conflict and Acting Executive Director of UN Women

13:45–15:30 Doha Debate style panel

Session moderated by Ms. Christine Muttonen, International Expert and Managing Partner of Central East Connect

- Debate on Motion 1: “Political will can make parity in parliament a reality globally by 2030”
  - Ms. Esperança Laurinda Francisco Nhiuane Bias, Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic (Mozambique)
  - Ms. Beatriz Argimón, President of the General Assembly and of the Senate (Uruguay)
  - Ms. Eliane Tillieux, President of the House of Representatives (Belgium)

Discussion among participants
• Debate on Motion 2: “Laws, policies and resource allocations that aim to empower women economically will help achieve a global economic recovery post-pandemic”
  - Ms. Akiko Santo, President of the House of Councillors (Japan)
  - Ms. Galina Karelova, Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Federation (Russian Federation)
  - Ms. Sahiba Gafarova, Chairwoman of the National Assembly (Azerbaijan)
  - Ms. Fanny Carolina Salinas Fernández, President of the Central American Parliament (PARLACEN)
  - Ms. Anita Demetriou, President of the House of Representatives (Cyprus)
  - Ms. Claudia Roth, Vice President of the German Bundestag (Germany)

Discussion among participants

• Debate on Motion 3: “By 2030, violence against women and girls and harmful practices such as child marriage and female genital mutilation will have disappeared”
  - Ms. Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of Parliament (Bangladesh)
  - Ms. Mabel M. Chinomona, President of the Senate (Zimbabwe)
  - Ms. Margareta Cederfelt, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE Parliamentary Assembly)

Discussion among participants

15:30-15:45  Coffee break

15:45-16:00  Closing session
  - Special remarks on the 14th Summit of Women Speakers of parliament by Ms. Tanzila Narbaeva, Chairwoman of the Senate (Uzbekistan) – video message
  - Ms. Tone Wilhelmsen Trøen, Speaker of Parliament (Norway) and Chairperson of the Summit
  - Mr. Harald Dossi, Secretary General of the Austrian Parliament
  - Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

19.30  Social event organized by the Austrian Parliament
Opera “Tosca” at the Vienna Opera House (only for Women Speakers + one accompanying person each)