



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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# 144th IPU Assembly

Nusa Dua, Indonesia  
20-24 March 2022



FEM/33/A.1  
31 January 2022

## 33rd session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians

### Provisional agenda

The session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians is open to women and men parliamentarians who wish to take part in the various discussions and debates.

**1. Election of the President of the 33rd session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians**

**2. Adoption of the agenda**

**3. Recent activities to advance gender equality**

Participants will be briefed about:

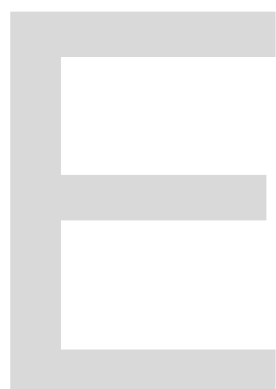
- (a) The work of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and its deliberations at the sessions held in Madrid on 26 November 2021 and in Nusa Dua on 20 March 2022
- (b) The work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group
- (c) Recent IPU activities for the promotion of gender equality

**4. Contributing to the work of the 144th Assembly from a gender perspective**

Participants will be invited to discuss the draft resolutions that are on the agenda of the 144th Assembly entitled *Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace* (Standing Committee on Peace and International Security) and *Leveraging Information and Communication Technology as an enabler for the education sector, including in times of pandemic* (Standing Committee on Sustainable Development). Participants will discuss the draft resolutions from a gender perspective and issue recommendations on gender-related amendments to be submitted by the Forum of Women Parliamentarians to the two Standing Committees. For this purpose, they will work in two groups as follows:

Group 1 will discuss: *Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace*

Group 2 will discuss: *Leveraging Information and Communication Technology as an enabler for the education sector, including in times of pandemic.*



#IPU144

After a short presentation on the draft resolutions, the Forum will split into discussion groups. On the recommendation of its Bureau, the Forum will designate a chairperson and a rapporteur for each group. The rapporteurs will submit the groups' recommendations to the Forum of Women Parliamentarians at its afternoon sitting.

*Each group will meet from 11:30 to 13:00.*

*The Forum will resume its work at 14:30.*

**5. Parliamentary experiences in promoting maternal, newborn and children's health in times of COVID-19 and in recovering from the pandemic**

Significant progress has been achieved in maternal, newborn and child health in recent decades, but inequalities remain, with 94 per cent of maternal deaths occurring in low- and lower middle-income countries, and only half of small and sick newborns having access to high-quality care. Most maternal, newborn and child deaths are preventable.

This does not only require investments and supportive legislation, but also structural causes and remaining barriers to be addressed. Too many women and children are prevented from benefitting from the health care they need because of cultural and gender norms, in particular in relation to sexual and reproductive health and rights, inability to pay, lack of information, or unavailability of quality services and trained personnel.

The COVID-19 pandemic further exacerbated inequalities, while attention and resources were diverted away from essential maternal and child health services, including in high income countries. At the same time, innovative approaches, such as the use of telemedicine and technology, have emerged. In this context, how are parliaments investigating the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on maternal and child health, and what redressive action are they taking? What new practices have emerged that can facilitate access to health for women and children and how can they be perpetuated? How can COVID-19 recovery plans help address poverty and inequalities and benefit maternal, newborn and child health?

**6. Reports of the discussion group rapporteurs**

The discussion group rapporteurs will present their reports. The Forum will then ask them to consult with the President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and prepare amendments to be presented during the debates of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development.

**7. Election to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians**

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians will be called upon to fill the vacant seat on the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians for the Eurasia Group.

**8. Venue and date of the 34th session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians**