

Endorsed pledges

Joint OHCHR-IPU Human Rights 75 Roundtable – *Parliaments and women’s rights: Implementing the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, realizing the Universal Declaration of Human Rights for all (22 June 2023)*

Recognizing that:

- a. *the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) has made an invaluable contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights worldwide;*
- b. *the 75th anniversary of the UDHR on 10 December 2023 provides a unique opportunity to rejuvenate respect for human rights globally and advance the Declaration’s promise of freedom, equality and justice for all;*
- c. *women’s human rights and gender equality are an integral part of international human rights law as laid down in the UDHR and codified in subsequent human rights treaties, including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women;*
- d. *parliaments play a critical role in institutionalizing women’s human rights and gender equality in society, including in line with the 2012 Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments, adopted at the 127th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union;*
- e. *the setting up or strengthening of standing parliamentary committees on human rights and on gender equality is a particularly effective way to achieve those aims, guided by the Principles contained in the annex to Human Rights Council report A/HRC/38/25.*

We, as parliamentarians, pledge to prioritize some or all of the following actions, over the next two years, in collaboration with relevant stakeholders, including the executive, political parties, civil society and national human rights institutions:

1. Take action to ensure women’s full, equal and safe participation in political decision-making at all levels, including by:
 - a. introducing or strengthening measures to prevent and combat offline and online gender-based violence against women in politics, including by adopting a zero-tolerance code of conduct and establishing an independent and specialized complaints mechanism;
 - b. introducing or strengthening legislated gender quotas aimed at achieving gender parity, that are mandatory, ambitious and duly enforced, to increase the participation of women in decision-making, including in peace negotiations and mediation teams.
2. Take action to ensure women’s access on an equal basis with men to decent work, including by:
 - a. promoting ratification of the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) of the International Labour Organization and introducing or strengthening legislation to ensure access to social protection for women employed in the informal sector;
 - b. introducing or strengthening legislation to ensure equal pay for work of equal value.
3. Take action to achieve gender equality in and through education and information systems, including by:
 - a. adopting or strengthening legislation to ensure that girls and boys have safe and equal access to good-quality, free-of-charge education, at primary and secondary level, and legislation to ensure that school curricula counter gender stereotyping;
 - b. adopting legislation to ensure the integration of a gender perspective in the development of technology, including artificial intelligence algorithms.