



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Bringing gender equality to the UN General Assembly

*Motion adopted by the IPU Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs
(Luanda, 25 October 2023)*

The IPU Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs believes that gender equality is a critical enabler of democracy and sustainable development.

Gender equality is recognized in a number of high-level international commitments, including the 2030 Agenda for sustainable development and Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Achieving gender equality in decision-making at all levels, including in parliaments, is a key objective of the IPU and of the United Nations.

Resolution 76/269 of the General Assembly acknowledges the underrepresentation of women in diplomacy and proclaims 24 June the International Day of Women in Diplomacy.

However, 75% of Permanent Representatives in the General Assembly of the United Nations are men.

The Committee calls upon all parliaments to:

1. Review their recruitment process for their national foreign service to ensure that women are encouraged to apply and given equal opportunity for advancement as men;
2. Urge the government to set a deadline by which women and men will be represented in equal numbers in the foreign service and to provide the parliament with regular updates;
3. Use parliamentary processes to review their government appointment of Permanent Representatives to the United Nations (New York, Geneva, Vienna) and senior diplomats to capitals around the world from a gender perspective;
4. Meet with their Permanent Representatives to the United Nations yearly, inquiring specifically about advances toward a more gender-equal UN General Assembly;
5. Mark the International Day of Women in Diplomacy with a parliamentary hearing and other initiatives to raise the visibility of this issue in government policy and in national media and with the public at large.

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