



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

148th IPU Assembly

Geneva, 23–27 March 2024

FEM/37/A.1-rev
21 March 2024

37th Session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians

Provisional agenda

Sessions of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians are open to women and men parliamentarians

Saturday, 23 March 2024, from 10:30 to 13:00 and from 14:30 to 17:30

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Activities to advance gender equality

Participants will be briefed on:

- (a) the work of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and its deliberations at the sessions held in Luanda on 23 October 2023 and in Geneva on 23 March 2024;
- (b) the work and recommendations of the Gender Partnership Group;
- (c) IPU activities for the promotion of gender equality (**Items 2(c)-Inf.1 to Inf.6**)

3. Contribution to the work of the 148th Assembly from a gender perspective (Item 3-Inf.1)

On the recommendation of its Bureau, the Forum will discuss one of the draft resolutions that is on the agenda of the 148th Assembly, entitled *Addressing the social and humanitarian impact of autonomous weapon systems and artificial intelligence* (Standing Committee on Peace and International Security). Participants will discuss the draft resolution from a gender perspective and issue recommendations on gender-related amendments to be submitted by the Forum of Women Parliamentarians to the Standing Committee. For this purpose, participants will work in plenary.

On the recommendation of its Bureau, the Forum will designate a Chairperson and a Rapporteur for the discussion. The Rapporteur will present recommendations from the discussion to the Forum of Women Parliamentarians at its afternoon sitting.

The discussion will take place from 11:30 to 13:00.

The Forum will resume its work at 14:30.

4. Panel discussion on *Women peacebuilders advancing sustainable peace* (Item 4-Inf.1)

The women, peace and security (WPS) agenda stresses the importance of women's full and effective participation as active agents in promoting peace and security. It advocates for the incorporation of gender perspectives into peace processes, peacekeeping, peacebuilding and security efforts. It also addresses how women and girls are affected by armed conflict and crisis in specific ways – and therefore calls for the implementation of measures to prevent, address and provide reparations for violations of their human rights.

E

#IPU148

Despite some progress, national and international diplomatic and security practices have failed to truly implement the agenda, particularly as regards the participation of women in decision-making processes on peace and security, which remains very low. Yet women peacebuilders are at the forefront of negotiating or mediating with armed groups and governments to secure food and medicines for the most vulnerable, and of helping displaced people and providing support to victims of gender-based and sexual violence in conflict. Their actions are not limited to formal and informal peacemaking procedures, but also encompass livelihood activities, humanitarian aid and traditional practices of dialogue within communities.

The panel discussion will explore how parliamentarians can improve implementation of the WPS agenda and work with women peacebuilders to promote inclusive and gender-sensitive processes that are more likely to lead to sustainable peace. It will also look at how parliamentarians can support the actions of women peacebuilders and ensure that they are safe, included in peace and security decision-making and have the resources to continue their critical work.

The panel discussion will take place from 14:30 to 16:30.

5. Report on the discussion on a draft resolution on the agenda of the 148th Assembly

The discussion group Rapporteur will present her report. The Forum will then ask her 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.

6. Elections to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians is called upon to fill the vacant seats on the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians. Elections will be held on the basis of candidatures submitted by the geopolitical groups.

7. Venue and date of the 38th session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians