



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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CSW Side Event: *One decade on: How gender-sensitive are our parliaments now?*

Background:

The year 2022 marks the 10th anniversary of the Plan of Action for Gender-Sensitive Parliaments (GSP),¹ an initiative that was unanimously adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union's 127th Assembly. Gender-sensitive parliaments respond to the needs and interests of both men and women in their composition, structures, operations, methods and work. They are institutions that remove barriers to women's full participation and offer positive examples to society by advancing towards political equality between men and women.

Since the adoption of the GSP Plan of Action in 2012, the IPU has proudly led a comprehensive and multi-stakeholder effort to promote GSP. This area of parliamentary support has enabled transformative change within institutions around the world, and strengthened their capacity to promote gender equality. UN Women works in several countries to support parliaments undertaking gender-sensitive reforms, to advocate for change in institutional culture and norms, and to strengthen women's capacity and influence, including through parliamentary networks. Other agencies and organizations have also taken up this concept and provide support to parliaments working to become more gender-sensitive².

Objectives:

To commemorate a decade of advocating for GSP and to take stock of parliaments' achievements in transforming their institutions to deliver on gender equality and promote women's full and effective participation, the IPU, UN Women and additional sponsors are organizing this event – *One decade on: How gender-sensitive are our parliaments now?* – on the occasion of the 66th session of the Commission on the Status of Women.

This side event will provide an opportunity to assess how gender-sensitive and inclusive parliaments have become, and to share experiences, good practices and innovations. Discussions will inform IPU's future GSP support to parliaments.

Members of Parliament and experts will provide examples of good practices and innovations in parliaments on each of the four themes. The interventions will provide an opportunity to showcase progress made in these fields over the past 10 years.

Provisional agenda:

Welcoming remarks

Introductory remarks on GSP

Session 1: Overview of developments over the past 10 years

Session 2: What has your parliament done to become more gender-sensitive?

¹ IPU (2012). *Plan of Action for Gender-Sensitive Parliaments*. <http://archive.ipu.org/pdf/publications/action-gender-e.pdf>

² European Institute for Gender Equality. *Gender-Sensitive Parliaments*. <https://eige.europa.eu/gender-mainstreaming/toolkits/gender-sensitive-parliaments/what-tool>



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Experience sharing among MPs on the following four elements of GSP:

1. Women's access to parliamentary leadership positions: establishing and implementing internal measures
2. Adopting and implementing gender provisions in parliamentary policies, including anti-harassment policies
3. Establishing childcare and family-friendly infrastructures in parliament
4. Working in partnership with men to advance gender equality

Wrap-up and closing

Participants are encouraged to send written contributions on parliamentary good practices developed over the past 10 years in one or more of the four areas listed above.

Registration form available [here](#)

Date: Tuesday, 15 March 2022

Time: 10:30 – 12:30 ET / 15:30 to 17:30 CET

Platform: Zoom (link to be provided upon completion of the registration form)

Languages: English, French, Spanish and Arabic