



AGENDA

Inter-Parliamentary Meeting for ParlAmericas' Anglophone Membership:

Partnerships to Transform Gender Relations

Kingston, Jamaica | January 24-25, 2018



In order to reduce our ecological foot print, the meeting documents, resources and publications are available at www.parlamericas.org. For easy access through your mobile phone, we invite you to download a QR code reader application.

This workshop-style meeting will explore how parliamentarians can collaborate strategically with various actors to eliminate gender inequality. In recent years, more integrated approaches to promoting gender equality have been adopted, as seen in national policies and other frameworks, which recognise the importance of multi-stakeholder partnerships to address the root causes of inequality -- namely, power imbalances and social norms leading to discrimination against women, girls and other marginalised groups. Parliamentarians can play a critical role in this agenda through their lawmaking, constituent representation, and budgeting functions, and can also contribute significantly to the development, execution, and oversight of coordinated responses.

Please note that all activities will take place in the Legacy Suite of the Jamaica Pegasus Hotel unless otherwise indicated. Address: 81 Knutsford Blvd, Kingston 5, Jamaica

Tuesday, January 23, 2018

- All day **Participant arrivals**
- 18:00 **Welcome reception for all delegates offered by the Parliament of Jamaica**

Wednesday, January 24, 2018

- 08:45 – 09:00 **Participant registration in the official hotel**
- 09:00 – 9:40 **Opening ceremony**
- Inaugural remarks
 - Dr. Sapphire Longmore (Jamaica), Senator and Member of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors
 - Honourable Olivia Grange (Jamaica), CD, MP, Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport
 - Performance by Shaday Afflick
- 09:40 – 10:00 **Keynote address on partnerships for gender equality**
- Sheila Roseau, Deputy Regional Director for the Americas and the Caribbean, UNFPA
- 10:00 – 10:15 **Official photograph**
- 10:15 – 10:30 **Coffee/tea break**

- 10:30 – 12:00 **Session 1: Comprehensive approaches to address gender inequality**
- Patricia Mohammed, Professor, Institute for Gender and Development Studies, UWI St. Augustine

This session will explore select examples of comprehensive strategies already in existence in the Caribbean and Canada that bring together stakeholders from multiple sectors, such as national policies on gender equality or action plans on prominent issues like violence against women. Participants will then consider the roles that parliaments can play within these broader initiatives, such as advocating for and ensuring the inclusion of diverse voices in their consultations, design, and monitoring.

12:00 – 13:30 **Lunch offered by the Parliament of Jamaica**

13:30 – 15:30 **Session 2: Effective strategies for engaging men**

- Humberto Carolo, Executive Director, White Ribbon
- Patrick Prendergast, Acting Director, UWI Mona Western Jamaica Campus

As men's involvement is critical to achieving gender equality, this session will feature case studies of initiatives that successfully engage men as active partners in transforming thinking on gender and masculinities. Particular emphasis will be placed on good practices and strategies that are transferrable across different sectors.

15:30 – 15:45 **Coffee/tea break**

15:45 – 17:45 **Session 3: Media and cultural agents**

- Moderator: Elaine Wint, Media Specialist
- Lana Finikin, Executive Director, SISTREN Theatre Collective
- Patricia Phillips, Executive Director, WMW Jamaica

This session will focus on creative projects or campaigns undertaken by civil society organisations to raise awareness on the root causes of gender inequality and specific legal reforms. The initiatives explored will showcase how the media and other cultural agents can positively influence gender relations, and how parliamentarians can support these efforts.

17:45 – 18:00 **Tour of the live graphic recording of the meeting's discussions**

19:00 **Dinner offered by the Parliament of Jamaica**

Location: The Gardens, Jamaica Pegasus Hotel

- Remarks by Laurie Peters, High Commissioner of Canada to Jamaica and the Bahamas
- Cultural programme

Thursday, January 25, 2018

09:00 – 11:00 **Session 4: Advancing legislative reforms for workplace equality: Critical moments for change**

- Performance by SISTREN Theatre Collective
- Presentations
 - Rose-Marie Antoine, Dean, Faculty of Law, UWI St. Augustine
 - Honourable Olivia Grange (Jamaica), Minister of Culture, Gender, Entertainment and Sport

- Joyce Murray (Canada), Parliamentary Secretary to the President of the Treasury Board
- Velma Newton (Barbados), Regional Project Director for the IMPACT Justice Project and former parliamentarian

Moments of heightened public awareness can create pressure or momentum for parliaments to respond to particular gender equality problems. Taking into consideration current global mobilisations to end sexual abuse and harassment in the workplace, participants will discuss appropriate legal responses and how diverse actors can come together to achieve the necessary change. This process could include evaluating legal frameworks, renewing cross-party efforts to advance legislation under review, or drafting new legislation with regional model laws or conventions as reference.

11:00 – 11:15 **Coffee/tea break**

11:15 – 13:45 **Session 5: Mobilising partnerships: Building a gender equality campaign**

The final session encourages participants to consider the elements of a comprehensive approach to transforming gender norms in the context of an International Women’s Day (IWD) campaign. Occasions like IWD are strategic opportunities to raise awareness, evaluate progress, build partnerships, and showcase ongoing initiatives – legislative and otherwise – that seek to address the root causes of inequality. Participants will discuss key considerations to ensure IWD campaigns are effective at delivering the message of the day, and also contribute to broader, long-term national and international efforts to address gender inequality.

13:45 – 14:00 **Evaluations and closing remarks**

14:00 **Lunch offered by the Parliament of Jamaica**

15:00 **Optional site visit organised by the Parliament of Jamaica**

Please note that meeting sessions will be audio-recorded to become podcast episodes. Find ParlAmericas on iTunes and Google Play to listen to sessions and presentations from our past gatherings held across the hemisphere.



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