

## Opening of the 7th Gathering of the Group of Women Parliamentarians of ParlAmericas

June 12th 2015

On Thursday June 11<sup>th</sup>, the opening of the 7<sup>th</sup> Gathering of the Group of Women Parliamentarians of ParlAmericas: *Action Plan for preventing political harassment and violence against women* took place in the Congress of the Argentine Nation in Buenos Aires.

During the welcoming speech, Mexican Senator and President of ParlAmericas Marcela Guerra, urged her colleagues to deepen and reflect on the subject: *“In the next few days we will address all edges of a subject as complex as political harassment as an obstacle on achieving gender equality. We will celebrate our progress, but we will also recognize the challenges we currently face. With such analysis, we will identify our priorities in the near future with the aim to work on them with zeal and dedication on our return to our countries”*. She emphasised that gender equality is not a subject of exclusive importance to women, but to the entire society.

Alongside, member of the Chamber of Deputies of Chile and Vice-President of the Group of Women Parliamentarians Claudia Nogueira, stressed the importance of the parliamentarians participation at this gathering: *“The exchange of experiences on legislative matters takes on greater importance. So does the awareness of the media in terms of distributing messages that will assist in the modification of habits, respecting women’s contribution within a climate of respect and non-violence”*.

The second session of the Gathering is taking place today in Termas del Rio Hondo, where a report by delegations on the work undertaken since the 2014 Gathering will be presented, as well as the Action Plan.