

## PRESS RELEASE

*For immediate release*

Ottawa, March 25, 2021

### **The Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership launches Award for Good Practices in Women's Leadership with an Event on the Margins of CSW65**

On March 25, within the framework of the 65<sup>th</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership and the Summits of the Americas Secretariat of the OAS, with the support of the Government of Canada, are organizing the virtual side-event "**Accelerating efforts towards the achievement of SDG 5.5 from the Americas**" to inspire commitments and concrete actions in support of women's leadership throughout the region.

During this session, the **Inter-American Award for Good Practices in Women's Leadership** will be launched, seeking to recognize, highlight, and amplify public policies as well as initiatives from the private sector and civil society that promote increased representation of women in leadership positions.

The event will include welcoming remarks from the Honourable Marc Garneau, Minister of Foreign Affairs (Canada), a keynote presentation by Vice-President Epsy Campbell (Costa Rica), and a dialogue among government officials, private sector representatives, and civil society organizations who will discuss their work to promote women's leadership across different sectors and areas of power and decision-making.

This high-level discussion will also include the participation of the Honorable Valerie Woods (Belize), Speaker of the House of Representatives; Senator Martha L. Micher (Mexico); and Member of Congress Sonia M. Gutierrez (Guatemala). The parliamentarians and other panellists will present on their countries' advances in terms of women's political leadership, and they will offer reflections on the challenges the region faces towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 5.5 on ensuring women's full and effective leadership in political, economic, and public decision-making.

ParlAmericas is a founding member of the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Leadership.

For more information about the work of ParlAmericas, visit [www.parlAmericas.org](http://www.parlAmericas.org) and follow @ParlAmericas on social media.

-30-

Announced at the 8<sup>th</sup> Summit of the Americas, the Inter-American Task Force on Women's Empowerment and Leadership is a consortium of inter-American and international institutions with expertise and programming that contribute to achieving SDG 5 on gender equality across multiple sectors. As a founding member of the Task Force, ParlAmericas works with partner institutions to jointly increase the impact and sustainability of efforts to strengthen women's leadership and gender equality in the Americas and the Caribbean—particularly from the perspective of legislative politics

ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes parliamentary diplomacy in the inter-American system. Composed of the 35 national legislatures in North, Central and South America, and the Caribbean, ParlAmericas promotes cooperative political dialogue, facilitates the exchange of good legislative practices, and produces tailored resources to support parliamentarians in their work. The International Secretariat of ParlAmericas is headquartered in Ottawa, Canada. For more information, visit [www.parlAmericas.org](http://www.parlAmericas.org) or write to [info@parlAmericas.org](mailto:info@parlAmericas.org).