Women in Parliament

Corruption is one of the root causes of poverty and poverty tends to have a disproportionate impact on the most vulnerable members of society, often women and children. While women make up just over 50 per cent of the world’s population, on average they represent just 20.7 per cent of parliamentarians and as little as 12.7 per cent in some regions. Women’s participation in politics and the different perspectives they bring to key policy issues can help to discover new dimensions in the fight against corruption.

GOPAC and the Women in Parliament Network

GOPAC’s Women in Parliament Network (WPN) seeks to build a system of peer support for women parliamentarians and to help them to build capacity and become actively engaged in the fight against corruption. The Network will also look at examples of incentives and barriers to women’s participation in parliament and learn lessons from various regional and national initiatives aimed at increasing the proportion of women parliamentarians.

Objectives

- Provide women with the training and tools to raise corruption issues in parliament
- Establish women’s caucuses on anti-corruption issues aimed at supporting the implementation and review of the UN Convention Against Corruption
- Increase the likelihood that women parliamentarians can apply their knowledge and skills to benefit GOPAC’s work at the national, regional and global levels
- Build capacity of all GOPAC members on gender-based analysis tools as part of the parliamentary oversight process
- Ensure that state budgets consider and, where appropriate, reflect particular gender issues and concerns
- Address gender imbalance by increasing female representation in Parliaments

WPN Members

- Sen Pia Cayetano
  Chair WPN
  Senator, Philippines
- Dr. Donya Aziz
  Vice-Chair WPN
  Former Member of National Assembly, Pakistan
- Hon Rosemary Seninde
  Vice-Chair WPN
  Member of Parliament, Uganda

WPN is recently established and currently looking for committed parliamentarians to join its membership. All interested members of GOPAC are welcome to participate in the Women in Parliament Network.

WPN Program Advisor

Mrs. Vicki Baxter Amade
GOPAC Global Secretariat
vicki.baxter@gopacnetwork.org