



# **SENADO FEDERAL**

## **REQUERIMENTO**

### **Nº 1.298, DE 2013**

Requeiro, nos termos do art. 40, que seja considerada como desempenho de missão no exterior, minha participação na Reunião de Mulheres Parlamentares, a convite da Agência Americana para o Desenvolvimento Internacional (USAID), a realizar-se dias 18 e 19 de novembro de 2013, em Washington, nos Estados Unidos, conforme anexo.

Para efeito do disposto no art. 39, comunico que estarei ausente do País no período de 17 a 20 de novembro de 2013.

Sala das Sessões,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Ana Amélia".

**Senadora Ana Amélia**  
**PP - RS**

De: Anda Filip [af@ipu.org]  
Enviado: terça-feira, 5 de novembro de 2013 18:36  
Para: Silvia Feitosa Moura Fé Cabral de Araújo  
Assunto: Message from Anda Filip, IPU

Hello, Silvia,

As per our discussion earlier today, please find in attachment the concept note for the meetings in Washington DC on the afternoons of 18 November (3-5 pm) and 19 November (4-5:30 pm), hosted by USAID and respectively the Congressional Women's Caucus (see formal invitation below). I also attach a copy of the new IPU publication that we will be launching on this occasion.

We very much hope that it will be possible for Senator Lenos to join us for these important events, and share the experience of the Women's Caucus (red de las mujeres parlamentarios) in the Brazilian National Congress.

The IPU would of course cover the costs of Senator Lenos' accommodation in Washington DC and her travel from NY to DC and back.

Please let us know if the Senator can accept this invitation.  
Many thanks, kind regards,

Anda Filip  
Director  
Member Parliaments and  
External Relations  
Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Geneva

Reps. Donna F. Edwards and Jaime Herrera Beutler Co-Chairs, Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues and Reps. Doris O. Matsui and Kristi Noem Vice-Chairs, Congressional Caucus for Women's Issues

invite you to a roundtable discussion for Members and Staff:

The Role & Impact of Women's Caucuses

Tuesday, November 19, 2013  
4:00 – 5:00 p.m.  
2325 Rayburn House Office Building

Much is expected of women parliamentarians. The public at large, women's organizations and their male colleagues scrutinize their work to assess how it might change the current political dynamics and bring fresh perspectives. Women parliamentarians, in turn, have entered politics with a strong commitment to make a difference and bring about meaningful change. In many countries, they have decided to establish cross-party women's caucuses. Indeed, such bodies (more than 80 around the world) have enabled women to strengthen their political impact, to bring greater equality between men and women in the daily work of parliament, and have served as an effective tool in shaping policies and legislation.

But for women's caucuses to work many hurdles need to be overcome, strategies developed and support gathered. The meeting will bring together women parliamentarians from various regions of the world. It will aim at highlighting the various roles of women's caucuses and their impact on advancing gender equality. It will highlight challenges faced in working effectively and strategies developed in response. The meeting will also be an opportunity to present IPU's Guidelines for Women's Caucuses which were developed thanks to the support of USAID.

Speakers will include:

Margaret Mensah-Williams, Deputy Speaker, National Council of Namibia  
Farkhunda Zahra Naderi, Member of Parliament, Afghanistan Katri Komi,  
Member of Parliament, Finland Ana Amelia Lenos, Senator from Brazil (to  
be confirmed) Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General, Inter-Parliamentary  
Union (IPU) Please RSVP to  
[Komaki.Foster@mail.house.gov](mailto:Komaki.Foster@mail.house.gov) or  
[Jessica.Wixson@mail.house.gov](mailto:Jessica.Wixson@mail.house.gov).

### The role and impact of women's caucuses

Much is expected of women parliamentarians. Their arrival, whether in large or small numbers, receives considerable attention. Great expectations await their presence in parliament. The public at large, women's organizations and their male colleagues scrutinize their work to assess how it might change the current political dynamics and bring fresh perspectives. They are subjected to strong pressures and expected, in a way their male colleagues may not be, to produce results. And their work can be especially difficult, particularly in an environment still dominated by the principles and work habits of men.

Yet, women parliamentarians have found creative ways to meet these challenges. They are carving out a space for themselves in parliament, coalescing around common positions and working in concert, both within and outside parliamentary chambers, to make their concerns heard, participate in decision-making processes and redefine political priorities. They are effectively leveraging their positions of influence to reshape political and legislative outcomes.

As confirmed by IPU studies on *Equality in Politics* and *Gender-Sensitive Parliaments*, the establishment of women's parliamentary caucuses is one of the mechanisms that have enabled women to strengthen their political impact.<sup>1</sup> Women's caucuses can also help to bring greater equality between men and women in the daily operations and work of parliament. Such caucuses have been particularly effective in changing legislation and policies from a gender perspective and raising awareness about equality between the sexes.

The success of women's caucuses stems primarily from their capacity to rally the support of women parliamentarians around common objectives, rising above political divisions. Women's caucuses also receive strong backing from civil society organizations and engage men in support of their actions. But there is no single model for a successful women's parliamentary caucus. Quite the contrary: the diversity observed among such caucuses, in terms of structure, composition, functioning and areas of activity, has been a function of the specific needs and objectives pursued by women parliamentarians in various countries, as well as the specific political and cultural context in which they evolve.

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<sup>1</sup> IPU, *Equality in Politics: A Survey of Men and Women in Parliaments*, Geneva (2008); and *Gender-Sensitive Parliaments: A Global Study of Good Practices*, Geneva (2011).

The meeting will bring together women parliamentarians from various countries and members of caucuses. It will aim at highlighting the various roles of women's caucuses and the impact such structures have had principally in advancing gender equality: It will also aim at highlighting challenges faced by caucuses in working effectively and strategies developed in response. The meeting will also be an opportunity to present IPU's Guidelines for Women's Caucuses which were developed thanks to the support of USAID. The purpose of these *Guidelines* is to provide a practical tool for women seeking to create a women's parliamentary caucus, or improve an existing caucus.

Panellists:

Margaret Mensah-Williams, Deputy Speaker, National Council of Namibia

Farkhunda Zahra Naderi, Member of Parliament, Afghanistan

Katri Komi, Member of Parliament, Finland

Senator Ana Amelia Lemos, Brazil (to be confirmed)

Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General, Inter-Parliamentary Union

*(À Comissão de Relações Exteriores e Defesa Nacional)*