

NEWSLETTER

DECEMBER 2022



KEY EVENTS

- Leading the way at the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Workshop
- Secretary WPC as Guest of Honour on Migration and Mobility Conference
- Secretary WPC's Interaction with Prime Minister of Pakistan Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif
- WPC Delegation's Visit to NADRA
- Capacity Building Workshop for Gilgit Baltistan Assembly Members

LEADING THE WAY AT THE COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS WORKSHOP

DECEMBER 5 - 7, 2022



Secretary WPC, Ms. Shahida Rehmani represented Pakistan at the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians' (CWP) workshop titled, "Champions for Gender Equality: Achieving Equal Participation in Commonwealth Parliaments", which was held in Canberra, Australia on 5th to 7th December 2022.

The workshop was hosted by the Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory and was attended by the Commonwealth Parliamentarians of 12 different jurisdictions from around the globe.

The workshop was designed to equip male and female Members of different

Parliaments with skills and resources to take action on gender equality to strengthen their roles as gender champions in their respective Parliaments.

Ms. Rehmani reflected upon the efforts of Women's Parliamentary Caucus of Pakistan for achieving equal participation of women in federal and provincial legislative assemblies of Pakistan.

She presented WPC Pakistan as a success story of cross-party alliance of Women Parliamentarians for collective good of women and other marginalized groups which was taken as a case study during the workshop.



THE INTERSECTIONALITY OF MIGRATION AND MOBILITY

DECEMBER 15, 2022



Secretary WPC Dr. Shahida Rehmani attended a conference as the guest of honour at the Migration and Mobility Conference which was organized by the International Centre for Migration Policy Development (ICMPD), where she talked about women participation in overseas migration and need of their skill development.

Ms. Rehmani highlighted that Pakistan is one of the top ten emigrant countries in the world and ranks second among South Asia for the spread of its diaspora around the globe. She reiterated on creating safe migration channels for women so that gender is not a hurdle in their decision to migrate.



The event explored various themes including youth, migration and sustainable development and promotion of safe migration through partnership and capacity building. The main objective of the conference was to bring together government officials and migration experts to exchange views on the intersectionality of youth, women and migration and the promotion of safe migration through partnership and capacity building. This conference brought together representatives from academia, government, civil society organisations, media and international organisations working in the area of migration to discuss these issues.



CAPACITY BUILDING WORKSHOP FOR GILGIT BALTISTAN ASSEMBLY MEMBERS

DECEMBER 22 - 23, 2022

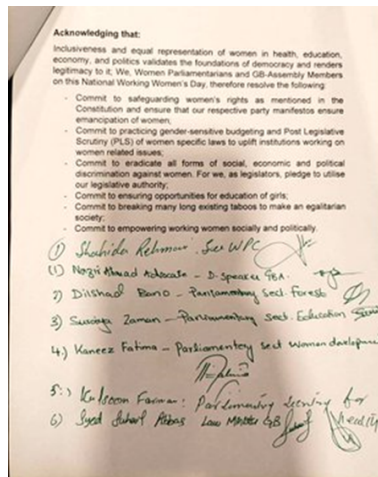
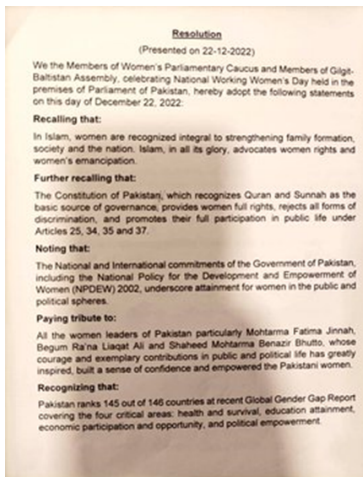
With a vision to enhance coordination with other national caucuses and work together for the cause of women throughout the country, a two-day capacity-building workshop was held at the WPC Secretariat for the legislators from Gilgit Baltistan Assembly. The delegation comprised of Honorable Deputy Speaker, Law and Finance Ministers, the Secretary Women Caucus and women legislators from the Gilgit Baltistan Assembly.

On the first day of the Capacity Building Workshop, Secretary WPC Ms. Shahida Rehmani briefed the delegation regarding the performance and achievements of WPC.

Additional Secretary Special Initiatives, National Assembly, Mr. Shamoon Hashmi briefed the

delegation on the importance of consensus building among Legislators across the party lines. GB Legislative Assembly Members discussed the hurdles they face while working for women-specific issues in their Assembly. The session resulted in strengthened understanding of the concepts of importance of dialogue at cross-party forums, significance of consensus building, and creating an inclusive and gender equal environment.





Furthermore, WPC Members and delegation of Gilgit-Baltistan Legislative Assembly members unanimously passed a joint Resolution on the National Working Women's Day, with an objective to eradicate all forms of social, economic and political discrimination against women and to emancipate them.

On the second day of the workshop, a detailed presentation was given on the working and structure of Women Parliamentary Caucus. Legislators stressed upon the importance of future collaborations and strong linkages of mutual cooperation at the end of the event



MEETINGS

ADVOCACY FOR WOMEN LEGISLATORS TO THE PRIME MINISTER OF PAKISTAN

DECEMBER 20, 2022

In a bid to empower women from within the corridors of power, Secretary WPC Dr. Shahida Rehmani effectively pleaded the case for women MPs during an interaction with the Prime Minister of Pakistan, Mian Muhammad Shehbaz Sharif during the National Assembly Session held on 20th December 2022.

Ms. Rehmani discussed the need to end gender-based discrimination against Women MPs in the Parliament. She highlighted that their voice is as powerful as that of their fellow male MPs and demanded an increase in allocation of development funds for Women MPs. The Prime Minister welcomed her suggestion and indicated to consider it for deliberation.



WPC DELEGATION'S VISIT TO NADRA

DECEMBER 21, 2022



A WPC delegation, under the leadership of Secretary WPC Ms. Shahida Rehmani, met with the Chairman of the National Database and Registration Authority of Pakistan, Mr. Tariq Malik at the NADRA head office, Islamabad, to discuss the initiatives being taken to include women in the national database.

The delegation was briefed about the working of Succession Facilitation Unit of NADRA and raised questions about the countrywide women voters' registration and identity cards issuance on immediate basis.

Women Parliamentarians also discussed and highlighted issues of socio-cultural barriers in registration of women CNICs and issues pertaining succession certificates

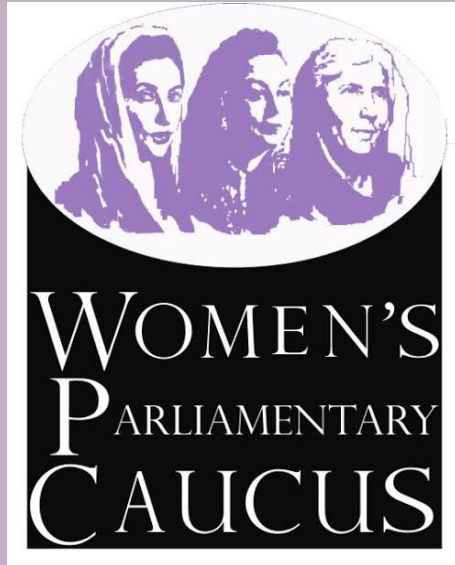
SOCIAL MEDIA CAMPAIGN ON INHERITANCE LAWS

DECEMBER 2022

During the month of December, a social media campaign was started from all social media platforms of the WPC for creating legal awareness of the inheritance laws in Pakistan. The objectives behind this campaign were to:

- Assess citizens' level of awareness regarding existing inheritance laws via polls
- Assess citizens' views on adequacy of existing laws on inheritance
- Investigate cultural and behavioral outcomes of inheritance laws
- Build political drive for legislative amendments in the existing laws on inheritance





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