

# NEWSLETTER

## SEPTEMBER 2022



## KEY EVENTS

- Secretary WPC's Field Visit in Flood Affected Areas of Sindh
- International Democracy Day Celebration
- WPC in Third Regional Seminar for the Asia-Pacific Parliaments on Achieving SDGs
- GB Assembly Delegation Visit to WPC Secretariat
- Delegation of Freedom of Religion or Belief (FoRB) Visit to WPC Secretariat
- Secretary WPC Meeting with Country Director PODA Pakistan



## SECRETARY WPC'S FIELD VISIT IN FLOOD AFFECTED AREAS OF SINDH

SEPTEMBER 11, 2022

Secretary WPC Ms. Shahida Rehmani visited flood affected areas of Larkana, Sindh to provide flood relief services to affected people

She met with community representatives to hear their grievances and donated food items among the people severely affected by calamities of flood.





# INTERNATIONAL DEMOCRACY DAY CELEBRATION

SEPTEMBER 12, 2022

September 15 marks the International Day of Democracy worldwide. Globally governments renew their commitment to support and strengthen democracies. For 2022, the WPC planned to revive and highlight the true essence of democracy in contemporary Pakistan. With the theme of Inclusive Democracy: Priorities and Challenges in 2022, WPC presented its contributions to International Day of Democracy by discussing parliamentary endeavors and highlighting the developing democratic framework of Pakistan.

Parliamentary democracies are vanguards of rights of the oppressed. No democracy can work without the meaningful participation of women. Building upon the initiative of inclusive democracy for women and other socially marginalized groups, WPC - in collaboration with Aurat Foundation - organized the event with the theme of "Inclusive Democracy: Priorities and Challenges in 2022" at Pakistan Institute of Parliamentary Services (PIPS) on 12th September 2022.

Speaker National Assembly of Pakistan, Women Parliamentarians, representatives of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), minorities and transgender community, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), and academia were participants of the event.



# WPC IN THIRD REGIONAL SEMINAR FOR THE ASIA-PACIFIC PARLIAMENTS ON ACHIEVING SDGS

SEPTEMBER 14, 2022



Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Pakistan, in collaboration with the National Assembly of Pakistan, organized Third-Regional Seminar for Asia-Pacific Parliaments on Achieving SDGs.

One session of the event was with the theme of Women at the Centre of the Development Agenda. This session was in lieu of SDG5 of gender equality. WPC was presented as a case study during this event. Secretary WPC Ms. Shahida Rehmani presented the case study of WPC while discussing its milestones and achievements. She highlighted how this platform has been a cornerstone in bringing women-specific issues to the decision-making tables.

She reiterated the significance of such cross-party forums for women in leadership roles which play an imperative role in empowerment of women from every stratum.





## GB ASSEMBLY DELEGATION VISIT TO WPC SECRETARIAT

SEPTEMBER 19, 2022

Delegation from GB Assembly paid a visit to WPC Secretariat. WPC team briefed them on reforms achieved by this platform. Legal team of WPC presented its dashboard on the WPC website where all women specific laws are available. Ms. Zahra Wadood Fatemi, member WPC chaired the meeting. She reiterated the importance of political dialogue and parliamentary exchanges to promote meaningful engagement between the two Caucuses.

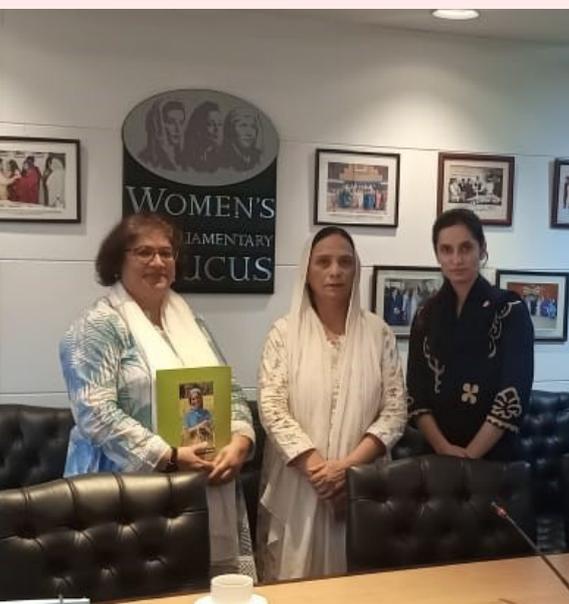
Future areas of collaboration between Women Parliamentarians of WPC and GB Assembly were discussed for women empowerment

## DELEGATION OF FREEDOM OF RELIGION OR BELIEF (FORB) VISIT TO WPC SECRETARIAT

SEPTEMBER 20, 2022

A delegation of former Parliamentarians along with Dr. Charles Rees and Mr. Niall Johnston from ForB visited WPC Secretariat.

WPC team briefed the delegation on the role of Caucus in promoting women-specific issues and effectiveness of such cross-party alliances in Parliamentary democracies.

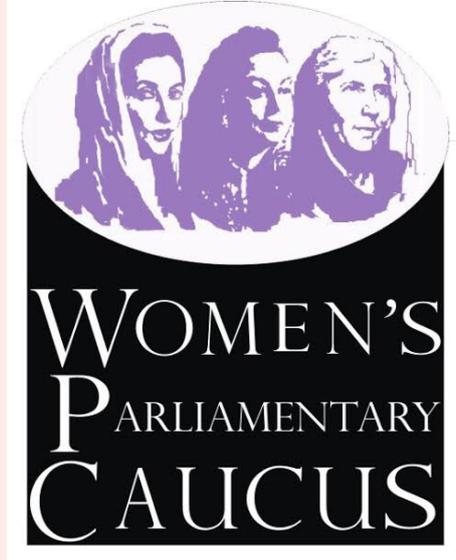


## SECRETARY WPC MEETING WITH COUNTRY DIRECTOR PODA PAKISTAN

SEPTEMBER 28, 2022

Country Director of Potohar Organization for Development Advocacy (PODA) visited WPC Secretariat. Secretary WPC Ms. Shahida Rehmani held a comprehensive meeting with her. Challenges faced by rural women were discussed in the meeting.

Ms. Rehmani discussed the role of WPC in uplifting rural women. Possible areas of legislative reforms to bring relief to rural women were discussed in the meeting.



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