



# JOINT DECLARATION OF THE 2ND P20 MEETING OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS

**CAPE TOWN, SOUTH AFRICA 2025**

1. We, the P20 Women Parliamentarians, have convened during the G20 Parliamentary Forum, held on 29 and 30 September 2025 in Cape Town, South Africa, to address ongoing challenges, assess developments, and formulate recommendations to strengthen G20 parliamentary and government capacity to advance women's empowerment and their full, equal and meaningful participation in sustainable development and economic growth, in line with the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.
2. We reaffirm the foundational importance of the inaugural P20 Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, held during the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20), recognizing this multilateral forum as an essential platform for enhancing women parliamentarians' strategic involvement in G20 decision-making processes and for advancing women's rights.
3. We reiterate our commitment to the decisions of the 10th G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20), held in Brasilia, Brazil, to advance women's empowerment and meaningful participation through targeted measures that address existing gaps and barriers. We firmly embrace parliamentary diplomacy as a crucial tool for building consensus across diverse political systems and promoting legislative cooperation to advance initiatives on equal rights between men and women.
4. We will endeavour to sustain action in the priority areas identified during our deliberations:

**Create an enabling environment to advance women's rights, empowerment and participation in sustainable development policies:**

5. Work towards the greatest level of consistency between legislation and universally agreed human rights standards such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and other relevant international and regional instruments.
6. Eliminate all forms of discrimination against women in law and in practice and adopt rights-affirming legislation and gender-responsive policies.



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7. Advance the commitment to achieving gender parity at all levels of decision-making and in all areas, in line with CEDAW Committee General recommendation No. 40 and as enshrined in the Declaration adopted by the 15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament (Geneva, July 2025) and in the Plan of action for gender parity in parliaments adopted at the IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians (Mexico City, March 2025).

### **Make governance and budgeting gender-responsive:**

8. Emphasize the importance of sharing parliamentary best practices on gender-responsive budgeting, with a particular focus on integrating these frameworks into national budgets to support climate policies, strategies and action plans that address the differentiated impacts and challenges faced by women and girls.
9. Strengthen legislation, policies and related parliamentary oversight mechanisms to ensure transparent, targeted allocation of resources for gender equality through gender-sensitive budgeting frameworks.
10. Endeavour to enact, strengthen and enforce inclusive legislative measures that address the diverse needs of women and girls, across age, disability, race, ethnicity and socioeconomic factors.
11. Accelerate the development of sex-disaggregated, evidence-based policies to improve women's health, education and economic opportunities.
12. Create and sustain effective partnerships with civil society organizations advocating for gender equality and the empowerment of women in diverse situations and conditions, ensuring that women's voices inform policy development.
13. Advocate for the creation of transparent, accountable governance systems that prioritize women's rights and guarantee their meaningful participation in decision-making processes at the local, national and international levels.
14. Ensure women-led development and leadership in key governance agendas, including health, trade, technological governance, and peace and security, recognizing the essential contribution of women to the formulation of inclusive and sustainable policies.



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### **Make care a pillar of sustainable development:**

15. Promote comprehensive care policies and systems, as well as funding mechanisms that allow for investments in transformative care policies, as part of efforts to attain decent work for all, as well as of the fight against hunger and poverty.
16. Introduce measures to recognize, mitigate, redistribute and value unpaid care and domestic work performed by women and girls, acknowledging the impact of such work on the participation of women and girls in decision-making, leadership and education, as well as on their economic opportunities.

### **Ensure women's leadership in crisis management and disaster response:**

17. Support legislative reforms that institutionalize and advance women's full, equal and meaningful participation and leadership in climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk management efforts, developing effective disaster risk mitigation mechanisms at all levels.
18. Encourage the adoption of policy frameworks and the allocation of resources for gender-responsive strategies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, and ensure their implementation through parliamentary oversight and regular accountability assessments.
19. Combat the alarming prevalence of gender-based violence during disasters and armed conflict by establishing immediate response mechanisms, providing support services, and guaranteeing women and girls access to crucial resources and information.
20. Eliminate all discriminatory legal and policy barriers that hinder women's participation in crisis management, and allocate resources for this purpose.
21. Strengthen mechanisms for compliance with international humanitarian law to safeguard women's full enjoyment of human rights in emergencies.
22. Fully implement United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) on women, peace and security, as well as subsequent resolutions constituting the women, peace and security agenda.



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23. Ensure accountability and end impunity for perpetrators of gender-based violence through strengthened legal frameworks, effective prosecution and survivor-centred justice systems.
24. Guarantee access to comprehensive sexual and reproductive healthcare services for victims of rape, including contraception, safe and legal abortion, and prevention and treatment of sexually transmitted infections.

### **Make energy transition financing gender-inclusive:**

25. Provide for women's participation in decision-making processes in the energy sector, including through the procurement of energy-related products and services from women-owned small and medium-sized enterprises.
26. Review and reform legislation to streamline contracting procedures and eliminate bureaucratic barriers and establish dedicated support mechanisms such as targeted capacity-building programmes on bidding, financial literacy and market access strategies for women-owned energy businesses.
27. Encourage the private sector to develop specialized financial instruments that provide accessible capital for women entrepreneurs in the energy sector.

### **Empower women economically through agricultural development:**

28. Where necessary, urgently review legal frameworks to guarantee women's equal landownership and inheritance rights, removing all discriminatory provisions in line with the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.
29. Promote government-private sector partnerships to establish a gender-responsive financial services ecosystem, including collateral-free loans, microfinance programmes, and financial literacy training covering budgeting and investment strategies.
30. Accelerate the expansion of digital banking infrastructure to enhance access to services for women-owned agricultural enterprises, particularly in rural and underserved communities.



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31. Provide technical assistance and rural extension services that empower women in the production, storage, processing, marketing and comprehensive use of staple foods, thereby increasing value addition and income generation.
32. Strengthen management skills and promote the organization of women's associations, cooperatives and collective enterprises, with the aim of integrating them into agricultural value chains.
33. Promote the economic empowerment of Indigenous women by ensuring equitable access to land and productive resources, decent work, and financial independence, while valuing their traditional knowledge in sustainable agriculture.

### **Ensure climate policies are gender-responsive:**

34. Encourage the G20 to implement ambitious gender-responsive climate policies that advance gender equality while enhancing climate action, that respect diverse cultural contexts, and that are designed through consultations, ensuring that local realities inform agreed commitments to human rights and gender equality.
35. Support just transitions to ensure workers have access to retaining opportunities and by promoting the creation of decent, paid and equal employment opportunities for women in emerging clean-energy sectors, in line with the Brisbane Goal and the International Labour Organization's decent work standards.
36. Welcome the extension of the Enhanced Lima Work Programme on Gender for a 10-year period, and encourage G20 governments to implement its provisions through national action plans, with clear timelines, dedicated budgets and accountability mechanisms. Encourage adequate reporting in national submissions under the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, including measurable outcomes in promoting women's participation in climate decision-making and policy development.
37. Promote and implement policies that strengthen women's access to education and careers, skills training, and vocational programmes in science, technology, engineering and mathematics, ensuring equal opportunities for their employability, participation and leadership in just transitions.



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### **Accelerate women's climate leadership:**

38. Urgently call on the G20 to accelerate efforts to increase women's meaningful participation, partnership, decision-making and leadership in climate change mitigation and adaptation and disaster risk reduction strategies, including by delivering gender-responsive, environment-resilient solutions, particularly in waste management, sanitation and hygiene systems, to build resilience against climate impacts and environmental degradation. Recognize the leadership of Indigenous women in advancing sustainable, locally grounded solutions and defending territories against environmental degradation.

### **Support sustainable agricultural practices:**

39. Encourage the G20 to establish comprehensive support systems that provide women in vulnerable situations with access to climate-smart technologies, research funding and technical skills training to address the impacts of climate change on agriculture.
40. Encourage the G20 to create dedicated funding mechanisms for women in partnership with the private sector and implement capacity-building programmes that transfer knowledge and enhance agricultural resilience.
41. Encourage context-sensitive interventions for women farmers and agricultural entrepreneurs that prioritize rural and underserved areas, in order to avoid leaving women behind in climate adaptation efforts.
42. Encourage the G20 to establish transparent and accountable mechanisms for tracking, reporting and auditing climate finance flows, ensuring that resources reach women-led agricultural initiatives and contribute to measurable outcomes in resilience, food security and economic empowerment.

Following our productive deliberations at the 2nd P20 Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, conducted in the spirit of parliamentary diplomacy, this Declaration will be circulated among all participants for review and feedback before its formal submission to the G20 Parliamentary Speakers' Summit (P20).



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We support the implementation of these provisions through our respective parliaments and view P20 Meetings of Women Parliamentarians as important platforms for exchanging experiences and reporting on progress towards these targets, including challenges encountered and solutions developed.

We express our gratitude to the P20 Presidency and commend all women parliamentarians who contributed their expertise, leadership and dedication to the success of this gathering. Their collective commitment has shaped these deliberations and strengthened our shared resolve to advance gender equality and women's empowerment as fundamental pillars of G20 decision-making processes, paving the way for more inclusive, equitable global progress.

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*Note: It is recognized that some participants, owing to their constitutional positions or other factors, may not directly associate themselves with substantive political statements and therefore should not be seen as indicating specific support for all sections of this Joint Statement. However, on behalf of their chambers, they acknowledge the importance of the issues raised in this Joint Statement and support the spirit of their colleagues in proposing particular ways forward.*

*Adopted 30 September 2025*