



## Women MPs of the world conference: strengthening visibility, driving change

Thursday 8 November 2018

### Call to Action: Accelerate Women's Equality

#womenmpsoftheworld

We gather here in the House of Commons in London, as elected women parliamentarians from around the world to recognise the importance of women's contribution to public life and politics, and to inspire the next generation of women leaders.

Today we celebrate the achievements of women parliamentarians in delivering legislative change to improve the lives of women and girls; in challenging the discrimination that women in politics can face, and the negative norms and attitudes about women's political leadership. We must redouble our efforts to tackle gender inequalities that hold back women and girls globally and in our respective countries, including working with and influencing men and boys, as essential contributors to more rapid and long-lasting change.

#### TODAY WE COMMIT TO:

- **Inspire a new generation of women to become social and political leaders** in their communities by reaching out to girls, mentoring aspiring women politicians, and encouraging women they know to stand for election. We commit to reducing the disproportionate personal cost of politics for women; creating safe spaces in their communities where women can speak (including online); working with political parties to support more women to stand as candidates for election; and, in line with the Dublin Declaration (2018) by the International Congress of Parliamentary Women's Caucuses, mobilising support for more gender-sensitive practices within parliaments.
- **End violence against women and girls** by championing better legislation to tackle perpetrators and better services to support survivors; campaigning for the recognition of intimate partner violence as the most widespread human rights abuse globally; driving change to end child marriage and achieve a world free from the practice of female genital mutilation (FGM) by 2030.
- **Break the barriers to girls' education**, providing the opportunity for at least 12 years of quality education and learning for all girls by 2030, by backing inclusive system reform and targeting the most marginalised girls including poor rural girls, girls with disabilities and those affected by child marriage, early pregnancy, FGM and conflict and crisis.
- **Champion efforts to enable all women to have access to voluntary family planning**, so they can decide whether, when and how many children to have; enabling them to complete their education, take up economic opportunities and have control over their lives. We will ensure legislation and policies are in place and address barriers, including social norms, which prevent women from using voluntary family planning.
- **Promote women's economic empowerment** by committing to tackling legislation that limits women's ability to work and to access as well as control key assets; advocating for the recognition, reduction and redistribution of unpaid care; engaging with the private sector to improve women's opportunities, pay and working conditions, and; reducing and closing the gender pay gap.
- **Promote implementation of international commitments to protect and empower women and girls and promote gender equality** including the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), the Sustainable Development Goals (particularly Goal 5.5), and UN Security Council Resolution 1325 and related resolutions on women, peace and security