



Issue - 29 19th February 2014

Leadership | Parliamentarians

Parliamentarians

3rd Conference of Muslim Women Parliamentarians Held in Tehran

Iran's capital of Tehran on 16 Feb hosted the third Conference of Muslim Women Parliamentarians, with an Iranian female lawmaker elected as the chairwoman of the Muslim Women Parliamentarians Committee. Laleh Eftekhari, a member of the Iranian parliament, took over from a female Sudanese legislator as the new chairperson of the Women Parliamentarians Committee for a one-year period. The Second Conference of Muslim Women Parliamentarians was held in the Sudanese capital of Khartoum in January 2013, under the motto "Together towards Intellectual Renaissance of High Values". (TASNIMNEWS)

AFRO-Asian Parliamentarians Meeting on Capacity Development, Uganda

Asian and African parliamentarian's capacity development on integrations of political issues into national development frameworks held at Lake Victoria Serena resort in Uganda early this month. Where issue of population growth and its linkages with environment, development and family planning was discussed. Speaker of the Parliament called upon women to embrace family planning to curb the increasing population levels in Africa. Ms. Florence Mpabulungi Country Director UNFPA informed that total of 215 million women worldwide were not able to access modern forms of contraceptives to control unwanted pregnancies. The meeting was organized by APDA (Japan) with UNFPA. (NEW VISION)

Myanmar to Have Law for NGOs

Parliamentarians in Myanmar are discussing law related to a bill on the registration of non-government organisations. The Association Registration Law was discussed by the Pyithu Hluttaw, or lower house, on February 11 but MPs did not agree with some changes made by the upper house. MPs said the bill should separate the duties and responsibilities of the Union Association Board and the Ministry of Home Affairs, as under

the current version these are combined. (MYANMAR TIMES)

Leadership

US to Shift Bangladesh Aid Away From Politicians

The United States said that it will curtail aid that benefits Bangladeshi politicians and redirect it to address labor and other concerns amid frustration over the country's prolonged political infighting. Addressing the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Assistant Secretary of State said the United States was "curtailing any programs that are providing any direct benefit to members of parliament." Instead, US assistance will support "broader issues of institutional strengthening" such as improving labor rights and making the judiciary more effective, she said. (GLOBALPOST)

Can the World Bank's 'Global Practices' Meet Country Needs

At a time when nearly all other aid donors are looking for ways to give partner countries a greater voice in determining development priorities, the World Bank is building a powerful framework to consolidate its own technical expertise that some fear could have the effect of isolating the bank from the needs of its client countries. Earlier this week, the World Bank's management reached out to staff for more input into the design of its "global practices," the organizational restructuring of the bank's technical offices. A memo from the "global practices solutions vice president," which was posted on the bank's intranet, called for ideas on how best to "promote a collaborative culture" within the structure to "ensure success for our clients." Reorganizing the bank's technical staff into global practices is a central pillar of President Jim Kim's ambitious reform efforts. The global practices are meant to help the bank better create and manage its practical development knowledge and disseminate it around the world. But as the plan enters its implementation stage, a central debate on decision-making that was at the heart of the design of the practices has yet to be resolved, at least publicly. (DEVEX)

No More Aid for Australian Political Parties for "Democracy Promotion"

The Canberra Times reported last week that the Australian Political Parties for Democracy Program is being scrapped. The controversial program, established under the Howard government, was managed by the now-departed AusAID even though only half of its activities involved developing countries. As per the news this is a program that was foisted upon AusAID. Its development impact is unknown and unlikely to be significant." (DEVPOLICYBLOG)

Why is Sustainable Management of Oceans, Forests and Biodiversity a Population Issue?

We need to protect our oceans as if our lives depend on it, because they do. That was the message brought by National Geographic to last week's Eighth Open Working Group (OWG) on Sustainable Development Goals (SDG) at the United Nations, where governments of 69 countries came together to discuss the theme of "oceans, forests and biodiversity." The pollution of our oceans is growing and loss of forests and biodiversity is increasing. With 7 billion people living in this world, each requiring resources from nature,

population dynamics need to be considered as a major factor when looking at responses to environmental degradation. The presenters at the Open Working Group urged delegates to recognize that oceans, forests and biodiversity are not just resources to be used, but engines of sustainable development. (POPNEWS)

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Message for Leaders

“Across the globe, people are uniting in a common struggle: to participate freely in the event and processes that shape their life.” (Mahbub ul Haq)



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