



# JPFP Newsletter

Secretariat of Japan Parliamentarians Federation for Population (JPFP)  
Asian Population and Development Association (APDA)

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## Regional Parliamentarians' Conference on Gender Empowerment for a Green Economy Held in Pakistan

On 12 August, the Regional Parliamentarians' Meeting on Gender Empowerment for a Green Economy was convened in Islamabad, the capital of Pakistan, which was attended by over 300 delegates, including parliamentarians, government officials, representatives from international organizations, NGOs, youth groups, and media from Asia and around the world. The opening ceremony was addressed by H.E. Sardar Ayaz Sadiq, Speaker of the National Assembly of Pakistan, Hon. Abe Toshiko, State Minister of Education, Culture, Sports, Science, and Technology of Japan who represented JPFP, and other dignitaries. Hon. Abe noted that gender equality and environmental sustainability are deeply interconnected and that gender equality and women's empowerment are crucial to the achievement of the SDGs. Given that progress has been uneven, with certain countries lagging behind in specific areas, she encouraged participants, through parliamentarians' networks such as this, to unite and drive progress in these areas by sharing policy initiatives and legislation against gender inequality and forming partnerships.

The thematic sessions that ensued underscored the importance of the implementation of the ICPD Programme of Action with a focus on gender equality, women's critical role and empowerment in responding to global crises such as climate change, and promotion of women's economic participation. The discussions raised persistent barriers, as well as legislative frameworks and policy reforms that were needed to address these challenges. The conference concluded with the adoption of the Islamabad Declaration as a course of action toward a gendered green economy. On the following day, 13 August, the delegates visited the National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA), Pakistan's premier agency responsible for overseeing disaster management activities, and paid a courtesy call to H.E. Syed Yousaf Raza Gilani, Chair of the Senate. The two-day event was widely covered by various media.

This meeting took place AFPPD Standing Committee Meeting on Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment, co-hosted as by the Asian Population and Development Association (APDA; Secretariat of JPFP), Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), and Ministry of Climate Change and Environmental Coordination of Pakistan, with the support of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and Japan Trust Fund (JTF) and the cooperation of the International Planned Parenthood Federation (IPPF).





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