

WOMEN'S PARLIAMENTARY CAUCUS



JAN- AUG 2025 REPORT

MEMBERS SIGNATURES

Dated this 30th day of July 2025

NAME

Hon. Regina Esparon
Chairperson

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Regaron

Hon. Audrey Vidot
Vice Chairperson

.....
Vidot

Hon. Desheila Bastienne
Member

.....
DBastienne

Hon. Sylvanne Lemiel
Member

.....
Slemiel

Hon. Kelly Samynadin
Member

.....
KSamynadin

Hon. Doyace Porice
Member

.....
DPorice

Hon. Anne Bistoquet
Member

.....
ABistoquet

Hon. Louisette Tamboo
Member

.....
Ltamboo

Hon. Cecil Larsen
Member

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CLarsen

Hon. Valdana Sultan
Member

.....
VSultan

1. Introduction

The Women's Parliamentary Caucus (WPC) is listed as a Select Sessional Committee of the 7th Assembly and it is mandated to:

1. Consider questions of equal opportunities for women and men and activities, policies and legislation related thereto both locally and internationally.
2. Follow up on the compliance of the National Assembly and Government, in matters pertaining to equal opportunities for Women, men and children, people living with disabilities and other marginalized groups
3. Establish relations with and participate in meetings of local and International bodies promoting equal opportunities for women and men and represent the National Assembly in and follow the work of the relevant Intergovernmental expert committees that deal with issues pertaining to women and Parliament, both Regionally and Internationally.
4. Maintain working relations with the relevant Regional and International Organizations, such as SADC-PF, PAP, IPU, the United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM), the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), and the OSCE, Office for Democratic Institutions and Human Rights (ODIHR), Global Institute for Women's Empowerment (GIWE)
5. Encourage and advocate in favour of capacity building for women in Government and support the participation of women in politics in particular their contribution to the proliferation of good governance.
6. Encourage and Advocate in favour of children, families and other marginalize groups. And maintain close working relationships with local NGOs, Civil Societies and Organizations related to children and families, such as National Children's Council (NCC), Campaign for Awareness, Resilience and Education (CARE) Ending Rape In Seychelles ERIS,

7. Work in close collaboration with the Ministries of Family Affairs and Social Affairs.

2025 marks the final year of existence for this cohort. During these seven remaining months, the caucus have managed to carry out some meaningful activities. One of the most significant was the semi-orphan outreach—an event we had planned for a long time and we are proud to finally complete. This shows our dedication and ability to deliver, even with limited time.

Membership

The Caucus consists of all the woman MPs, making a total of 10 Members.

Namely: -

- Hon. Regina Esparon - *Chairperson*
- Hon. Audrey Vidot- *Vice-Chair*
- Hon. Sylvanne Lemiel - Member
- Hon. Kelly Samynadin - Member
- Hon. Desheila Bastienne - Member
- Hon. Anne Bistoquet - Member
- Hon. Doyace Porice – Member
- Hon. Valdana Sultan- Member
- Hon. Cecil Larsen- Member
- Hon. Louisette Tamboo- Member

The Caucus is also assisted by 3 support staff from the Secretariat; -2 Secretaries Mrs. Florette Monaie and Ms. Samia Lebon and an Assistant Secretary Ms. Denise Johnny.

2. Meetings of the Caucus

2.1. Ordinary Caucus Meetings

Meetings	Dates
1	5th March, 2025
2	8th April, 2025
3	10th June, 2025
4	22nd July, 2025

2.2. Meetings with stakeholders

Meeting with PS for family, Mr Mike Morel and the Senior Legal Draftsperson at the Attorney General's office, Mr Victor Hill- 15th May, 2025 and Ms Trisha Dine from the Gender Secretariat.

The aim of the meeting was to revise and compare the Domestic Violence Act and the SADC Modal Law on Gender Based Violence. An invitation was sent to all Members to participate. Mr Morel is drafting a report of recommendations to be presented to the Cabinet of Ministers, once this is approved, a copy will be shared with the WPC. The next cohort can take it up.



Group photo of participants



Meeting in session

3. Activities by the Caucus

Visit to Missionaries of Charity on International Women's Day- 8th March, 2025

To commemorate International Women's Day, WPC paid a visit to the women and missionaries. They handed out a rose to each and everyone and presented a fruit and veg basket to them.



Presenting fruit and veg basket

Lunch with Semi Orphans of La Digue and Visit to St Mary's Hospital – 7th May, 2025

The goodwill visit was for Members to interact with the semi-orphan on La Digue in a relaxed atmosphere where Members could interact with them and learn more about the support programs offered by the Agency for Social Protection. We were also accompanied by ASP Principal Benefit and Welfare Officer Ms. Marlene Folette

During the visit to La Digue, the Caucus also paid a visit to St. Mary's Hospital to extend their support to the staff and patient, and was given a guided tour of the hospital.



Group photo with semi-orphans



Group photo with St Mary's Staff

4. List of Motions by WPC Members

Hon Hon. Doyace Porice - 1st April 2025

Lasanble i demann Gouvernman atraver Minister Ledikasyon pou etabli en program letid ki a fasilite vizit bann etidyan segonder sorti lo Zil Pros kot bann sant profesyonnel lo Mahe pandan lannen skler.

Hon Kelly Samynadin- 27th May, 2025

Avek bi amelyor nivo disiplin dan bann Lekol Leta, sa Lasanble pe demann avek Gouvernman, spesifikman Minister Ledikasyon pour revwar Kod Kondwit pour bann etidyan ki date depi 2010.

5. Conferences and Workshops (Internationally and Virtually)

18th to 28th February, 2025- Hon. Desheila Bastienne

Sitting of The Permanent Committees and Presetting Meetings of The Pan African Parliament , Midrand South Africa

20th to 21th March, 2025- Hon Regina Esparon and Hon Kelly Samynadin

Physical Regional Parliamentarians Policy Advocacy Dialogue -SAfAIDS, Johannesburg, South Africa

4th to 9th April, 2025- Hon. Audrey Vidot

The 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Tashkent, Uzbekistan

22nd to 26th April, 2025- Hon Regina Esparon and Hon Kelly Samynadin

Standing Committee Session for the 57th Plenary Assembly Session - Johannesburg, South Africa

22nd to 23rd May, 2025- Hon. Valdana Sultan

'La reunion plénière de l'Association des Parlements des États membres de la Commission de l'océan Indien (AP-COI)- Mauritius

31st May to 7th June, 2025- Hon. Kelly Samynadin

57th Plenary assembly Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe

4th to 5th June, 2025- Hon Regina Esparon

Regional Symposium on “Indigenous Solutions for an Inclusive, Equitable and Gender – responsive Youth SRHR Outcomes in SADC, Johannesburg, South Africa

16th to 18th July 2025- Hon Regina Esparon

Southern Africa Sub-regional sensitization and training workshop on the Africa Agricultural Adaptation Atlas, Johannesburg, South Africa

10th to 11th July, 2025- All WPC Members

Training on Violence Against Women in Politics by UN-Woman- Mahe, Seychelles

6. Recommendations

That the 8th cohort continues to work together without political interference to

- Amend and modernize existing law affecting the Women, Children & marginalized groups.
- Continue the fight to Harmonizing the Domestic Violence Act and the SADC Modal Law on Gender Based Violence.
- Continue to advocate for more woman to take up leadership roles.
- Bring forward their own agenda for the betterment of the Woman, Children, Man and marginalized groups

7. Conclusion

Over the past years, the caucus has embarked on a rewarding journey marked by unity and collaboration. Despite challenges, Members set aside political differences to pursue shared goals, and they made it through with perseverance and dedication. This period has been a valuable learning experience for all involved, and it is hoped that returning Members in the 8th cohort will mentor, guide, empower and inspire newcomers to build on their success and achieve even greater things together. United as a team, in spirit and purpose, **the collective voice of the women remains**

stronger than ever, as we continue, to work towards increasing the number of women, in Parliament and decision Making.

We wish to thank , each and every caucus member, and parliamentary staff for their contribution towards our caucus activities, and wish you all the best in your new endeavours.

ANNEX

Photos of Overseas Mission



Hon. Audrey Vidot: The 150th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Tashkent, Uzbekistan- 4th to 9th April, 2025



Hon. Valdana Sultan: 'La reunion plénière de l'Association des Parlements des États membres de la Commission de l'océan Indien (APCOI)- Mauritius 22nd to 23rd May, 2025



Hon Kelly Samynadin: 57th Plenary assembly Session of the SADC Parliamentary Forum, Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe- 31st May to 7th June, 2025



Hon Regina Esparon: Regional Symposium on “Indigenous Solutions for an Inclusive, Equitable and Gender – responsive Youth SRHR Outcomes in SADC, Johannesburg, South Africa, 4th to 5th June, 2025



Hon Regina Esparon and Hon Kelly Samynadin: Meeting with the new political counsellor for Seychelles in the German Embassy Nairobi Miss Kerstine Pfirrmann



Group Photo
Training on Violence Against Women in Politics by UN-Woman- to 11th
July, 2025- Mahe, Seychelles10th

