



WOMEN IN PARLIAMENTS GLOBAL FORUM

# MEXICO SUMMIT 2015

MAKE IT HAPPEN! INFLUENCE AND POWER OF WOMEN IN PARLIAMENTS

7 - 9 OCTOBER 2015 | MEXICO CITY, MEXICO







## **MAKE IT HAPPEN!**

### **Influence and Power of Women in Parliaments**

40 years ago, Mexico hosted the first World Conference on Women. Delegations from 133 countries participated, out of which 113 were led by women. For the first time ever, 4000 representatives of NGOs attended a parallel forum called International Women's Year Tribune. The conference defined a World Plan of Action including guidelines for the advancement of women. Today in Mexico, 42.6% of the seats in the Mexican Congress are held by women, and 34.4% of the seats in the Senate. Women have influential roles in Mexican politics. This did not come overnight: already in 1953, the Constitution enshrined the citizenship and suffrage of women, as a result of long years of advocacy by women's organizations. One year before the first Conference on Women, in 1974, the Constitution was reformulated to establish equity between the sexes.

Recently, Mexico passed an amendment to its Federal Constitution stating that political parties should put in place rules to ensure gender parity in the nomination of candidates in federal and local congressional elections. The amendment is the first of its kind in Mexico and with this constitutional reform, Mexico joins those countries that have enshrined gender equality and women empowerment directly in their highest legal text, the national Constitution.

The WIP Mexico Summit 2015 will gather female Parliamentarians from all corners of the world to discuss concrete steps for increasing the number of women in decision making processes. The event will take place on the premises of the Mexican Foreign Ministry on 7-9 October, in a joint effort undertaken by the Mexican Senate and the Women in Parliaments Global Forum.

**TUESDAY, 6 OCTOBER**

WELCOME DELEGATIONS  
ALL DAY

20:00-22:00

**WELCOME COCKTAIL PATIO OF THE OLD SENATE HEADQUARTERS**  
VENUE: XICOTÉNCATL 9, HISTORIC CITY CENTRE

**WEDNESDAY, 7 OCTOBER**

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs  
Plaza Juárez #20, Col. Centro, Del. Cuauhtémoc, Distrito Federal CP 06010

08:00-10:00

Registration and accreditation of participants

10:00-11:00

**OPENING CEREMONY**

11:00-11:15

**GROUP PHOTO**

11:15-11:45

**PRESS CONFERENCE**

11:15-11:45

**COFFEE BREAK**

11:45-12:15

**KEYNOTE SPEECHES**

- **Michelle Bachelet**, President of Chile (Video message)
- **Viviane Reding**, Member of the European Parliament, Former Vice President of the European Commission



## **PLENARY SESSION MAKE IT HAPPEN! INFLUENCE AND POWER OF WOMEN IN POLITICS**

Since the first World Conference on Women in 1975, women's rights have become an important political issue. Still, many challenges remain, especially as women are still under-represented in political decision-making. This high-level panel discussion will review the achievements of Governments and Parliaments around the world with regards to gender equality in politics. Setting the scene for discussions to follow at the WIP Mexico Summit, panellists will reflect upon the current levels of influence of female politicians and what still remains to be done to achieve parity in politics on a global scale.

### **Speakers:**

- **Dr. Lina Shbeeb**, Minister of Transport, Jordan
- **Alicia Bárcena**, Executive Secretary ECLAC
- **María de los Ángeles Moreno**, Former President of the Mexican Senate
- **Tatiana Lebedeva**, Member of the Federation Council Committee for Social Policy, Russia
- **Saowanee Suwannacheep**, Member of the Thai National Legislative Assembly

### **Moderator:**

- **Silvana Koch-Mehrin**, Founder of the WIP and Former Vice President of the European Parliament

13:45-15:45

### **LUNCH**

Ministry of Foreign Affairs

16:00-19:00

### **PARALLEL SESSIONS**

#### **PANEL 1: ELECTORAL PARITY AND QUOTAS – THE MEXICAN EXAMPLE**

In many countries, there are still constitutions that have not ensured the right for women to participate in politics. Consequently, women are little, or not at all, involved in political life. What are the obstacles to the enjoyment of all the rights of women in politics and what could be the solutions? In the case of Mexico, what are the trends of the political leadership and the political will towards participation of women in politics?

### **Speakers:**

- **Rosario Pérez**, President of ProMujer, USA
- **Ambassador Carmen Moreno Toscano**, Executive Secretary of the Interamerican Commission of Women, OAS
- **María del Carmen Alanís**, Judge of the Federal Electoral Tribunal of Mexico
- **Dr. Lorenzo Córdova**, President of the National Electoral Institute (INE), México
- **Loide Kasingo**, Vice President of the National Assembly of Namibia

### **Moderator:**

- **María Lucero Saldaña Pérez**, Member of the Mexican Senate

## PANEL 2: HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN IN TRADE & BUSINESS

Women are important economic actors as investors and drivers of entrepreneurial development. Women also have a crucial impact on the multi-lateral trading system. This session will address the solutions for ensuring further participation of women in economic life by also pinpointing the fact that economic empowerment of women stimulates growth and positively impact our societies at large.

### Video Message:

**Margrete Vestager, EU Commissioner for Competition**

### Speakers:

- **Penelope Naas**, Vice-President and Head of EMEA Public Affairs, UPS
- **Michelle Orozco**, Chief of Diversity, PricewaterhouseCoopers, México
- **Cristina Pineda**, Founder of Pineda Covalín
- **Mtra. Cinthya Villarrael Muraira**, General Coordinator of the National Microenterprise Financing Program (PRONAFIM), México

### Moderator:

- **Lilia Guadalupe Merodio Reza**, Member of the Mexican Senate

## PANEL 3: HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN WITH THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

The United Nations General Assembly has adopted the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in September 2015. The WIP Mexico Summit provides the unique opportunity to review the outcomes and to address the crucial issue of implementation, where Parliaments will play a key role. Special attention will be given to the stand-alone goal on Gender Equality.

### Video messages:

- **Neven Mimica**, EU Commissioner for International Cooperation and Development
- **Thomas Gass**, Assistant Secretary General, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs

### Speakers:

- **Carolyn Hannan**, Former Director of the Division for the Advancement of Women in NY UN Women (2001-2009) (confirmed)
- **Dr. Isabel Studer**, Director and Founder of the Global Institute for Sustainability
- **Agneta Gille**, Member of Parliament, Sweden
- **Emilia Monjowa Lifaka**, Vice-President of the National Assembly of Cameroon
- **Corinna Küsel**, Country Director, GIZ Mexico

### Moderator:

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#### PANEL 4: HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN WITH MIGRATION

Women and girls account for almost 50 per cent of international migrants, yet women continue to be left out of conversations about immigration reforms. The increase of female migration has raised both prospects and challenges; and consequently, a sustainable solution to current and future immigration needs to take into account gender specific issues. This session provides the unique opportunity to discuss current immigration laws and policies, especially focusing on the role female Parliamentarians play in the process.

##### Speakers:

- **Mark Manly**, UNHCR Representative in Mexico
- **Montserrat Hernández**, International Organization of Migration, Mexico
- **Dr Cecilia Cabrejos Silva**, Attorney expert on migration
- **Farhana Qamar**, Member of Parliament of Pakistan
- **Kholoud Wattar Kassem**, WIP Coordinator for the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region, President and Founder of „mothers from Lebanon“

##### Moderator:

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#### PANEL 5: HOW TO MAKE IT HAPPEN: BETTER ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE

Evidence shows that there are many barriers to women's participation and retention in the labor force. Poor health is one of these barriers. Therefore, by strengthening women's health, one of the key barriers to women's labor force participation is mitigated. This panel will focus more specifically on women's health and inclusive economic growth and development. Bringing together speakers from the public sector, non-governmental organizations and businesses, discussions will focus on the twin challenges of women's health and economic empowerment.

##### Video Message:

- **Margret Chan**, Director General, World Health Organisation

##### Speakers:

- **Belén Garijo**, CEO and President of Merck Healthcare
- **Felicia Knaul**,
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- **Mercedes Juan López**, Secretary of Health, Mexico
- **Marie Lydia Toto Raharimalala**, Member of Parliament of Madagascar, Vicechairperson of FAWE África, Former Minister of State

##### Moderator:

- **María Elena Barrera Tapia**,

16:00-17:00

**TRAINING 1: SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING FOR FEMALE PARLIAMENTARIANS**

Social Media platforms are a key tool for Parliamentarians to engage with stakeholder and constituents. The Facebook's Politics and Government Outreach Team will organize a training session for female Parliamentarians that will improve the ability of the participants to use Facebook to regularly engage people and build an audience. The Facebook Team will share best practises, new features and tools to evaluate the success.

(In English for 20 participants – registration required)

17:30-19:00

**DEMONSTRATION: VISUALIZING ONLINE POLITICAL SPEECH**

This demonstration will look at a new tool that can scrutinize what elected politicians are saying on social media. By typing in a search term, the tool can present word clouds depicting how various groups of politicians are talking about a specific issue. For example, are there any major differences by party, gender, or region? Is the political speech of women MPs different than their male colleagues? This session will provide a demonstration of the tool and ask for your feedback on how women Member of Parliaments might use this tool to communicate with and respond to citizens.

(For 25 participants)

20:00-22:00

**GALA DINNER OFFERED BY THE MEXICAN SENATE**

Venue: Banker's Club

**THURSDAY, 8 OCTOBER**

Venue: Ministry of Foreign Affairs

Plaza Juárez #20, Col. Centro, Del. Cuauhtémoc, Distrito Federal CP 06010

08:00-09:00

Registration and accreditation of participants

09:00-09:30

**KEYNOTE SPEECH**

- Laura Chinchilla, Former President of Costa Rica

09:30-10:30

**PLENARY SESSION****WHAT HAS HAPPENED?****40 YEARS AFTER THE FIRST CONFERENCE ON WOMEN – IMPACT AND ADVANCES FROM 1975 TO 2015**

The first UN conference on Women defined a World Plan of Action, which offered a comprehensive set of guidelines for the advancement of women. Since then, world conferences focusing on women have been held in Copenhagen in 1980, Nairobi in 1985 and Beijing in 1995. To fully grasp the progress made since 1975, this plenary debate takes a holistic approach to the impact of the guidelines, especially focusing on lessons learned. This session will also highlight success stories and will welcome panellists who attended the Mexico conference 40 years ago.





**Speakers:**

- **Susanna Malcorra**, Chef de Cabinet of United Nations Secretary-General
- **Lorena Cruz Sánchez**, Presidenta de Inmujeres
- **Zipporah Kittony**, Senator, Kenya, participant of the the first UN conference on Women 1975 in Mexico
- **Belén Garijo**, CEO and President of Merck Healthcare

**Moderator:**

- **Rosa Adriana Díaz Lizama**,

**10:30-10:50 WIP TALK**

- **Rebeca Grynspan**, Secretary General, Ibero-Americana, former deputy Prime Minister of Costa Rica, WIP / In discussion with:
- **Silvana Koch-Mehrin**, Founder of the WIP and Former Vice President of the European Parliament

**10:50-11:05 COMMEMORATION OF BREAST CANCER MONTH**

**11:05-11:30 COFFEE BREAK AND SCHEDULED PHOTOS OF DELEGATIONS**

**11:30-13:30 WORKING SESSIONS**

**WORKING GROUP 1:  
VIOLENCE AGAINST WOMEN: STATUS, PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES  
ORGANISED BY THE MEXICAN SENATE**

Exploring different laws and regulation that prevent violence against women, this working session will discuss the remaining risks and challenges of violence and discrimination against women. It will focus on the implementation of legal instruments that prevent violence against women and promote women's rights.



**Speakers:**

- **Kathie Bolognese**, Member of the US National Committee of UN Women
- **Alejandra Negrete**, Commissioner for the National Commission to Prevent and Eradicate Violence against women (CONAVIM), Mexico
- **Ángela Quiroga**, Special prosecutor for crimes against women and trafficking
- **Imelda Henry**, Senator, Ireland, Senate spokesperson for Children

**Moderator:**

- **Angélica de la Peña**,

**WORKING GROUP 2:****DISASTER RISK REDUCTION - ENGAGING WOMEN FOR BETTER SOLUTIONS****ORGANISED BY UNISDR**

Disaster affects men and women differently. Involving female Parliamentarians is a crucial ingredient to building national and regional disaster resilience that also takes into account gender-specific vulnerabilities. This working group will bring together Parliamentarians and representatives from the Private Sector with the aim to catalyse disaster risk sensitive investment. It will highlight the need to increase the understanding of disaster risk and to create appropriate regulations. The working session will ultimately result in a set of recommendations for the private sector on how to participate in the creation of necessary policy and legislative frameworks.

**Speakers:**

- **Susana Fuentez**, Director General, PRECORP, Chile
- **Martha Patricia Herrera**, Responsibility Director, CEMEX
- **Mayela Rubio**, MARHOS
- **Guadalupe Oqueli**, Member of Parliament, PARLACEN

**Moderator:**

- **Liliana Lopez Ortiz**, Parliamentary Initiative, UNISDR

**WORKING GROUP 3: TAXATION****ORGANISED BY OECD**

Tax policy plays a key role in achieving a wide range of policy objectives that go beyond revenue collection. This session will focus on two key tax issues where women Parliamentarians can have impact. The first is international taxation, which is high on the global political agenda as governments around the world work together to tackle cross-border tax evasion and avoidance. The second issue is the role of tax in addressing gender-equity issues, a topic that has thus far received less attention than it should.

**Speakers:**

- **Monica Bhatia**, Head of the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes, OECD
- **Armando Lara Yaffar**, Chair of the UN Committee on Taxation, Chair of the OECD's Working Party on Exchange of Information and Mexican delegate to the OECD's Committee on Fiscal Affairs
- **Lucía Pérez Fragoso**, Economist specialising in Gender Dimensions of Fiscal Policies
- **Andreea Paul**, Member of Parliament, Romania

**Moderator:**

- **Grace Pérez-Navarro**, Deputy Director of the OECD's Centre for Tax Policy and Administration



#### WORKING GROUP 4: PEACE AND SECURITY ORGANISED BY UN WOMEN



Not since the Second World War, there have been so many refugees, displaced persons, asylum seekers and persistent pockets of violence. The 15th anniversary of the UN Security Council Resolution 1325 demands us to review our common strategies on women, peace and security as nearly half of all peace agreements say nothing about women's rights or needs. This working session will be looking at the implementation of Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, in particular, strategies for Women's leadership and participation in all decision making spaces on peace and security and engendering security policy agendas and institutions.

##### Video Message:

- **Marriet Schuurman**, NATO Special Representative for Women, Peace, and Security
- **Melanne Verveer**, Executive Director of Georgetown Institute for Women, Peace and Security, First U.S. Ambassador for Global Women's Issues

##### Speakers:

- **Marija Obradovic**, Member of the Parliament, Serbia, Chair of Defence Committee
- **Silva Arias**, Colombia Country Office Coordinator on women, peace and security
- **Amalia García**, Secretary of Labour of Federal District, Mexico

##### Moderator:

- **Iruno Aguirrezabal**, Advisor on Leadership and Political Participation for Latin America and the Caribbean

#### TRAINING 2: SOCIAL MEDIA TRAINING FOR FEMALE PARLIAMENTARIANS



Social Media platforms are a key tool for Parliamentarians to engage with stakeholder and constituents. The Facebook's Politics and Government Outreach Team will organize a training session for female Parliamentarians that will improve the ability of the participants to use Facebook to regularly engage people and build an audience. The Facebook Team will share best practises, new features and tools to evaluate the success.

11:30-12:30 (In Spanish for 20 participants – registration required)

12:30-13:30 (In English for 20 participants – registration required)

#### 13:30-15:00 LUNCH

Venue: Terrace of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs

#### 15:00-18:00 CULTURAL VISIT

Old Senate Headquarters, Xicoténcatl  
Zócalo México City  
Main Temple  
Cathedral  
National Palace

## FRIDAY, 9 OCTOBER

## 08:45-09:00 VIDEO MESSAGE

- Vera Jourova, EU Commissioner for Justice, Consumers and Gender Equality
- Lakshmi Puri, Deputy Executive Director UN Women

09:00-10:00 PLENARY SESSION  
WHAT SHOULD HAPPEN?

Reflecting upon progress made since 2015, this high-level plenary session will explore in detail the necessary next steps. Building on the lessons learned over the past 40 years, panellists will define the action plan for the next 40 years. Special attention will be given to how Women in Parliaments can impact and influence future successes.

## Speakers:

- **María Teresa Fernández de la Vega**, President of the Women for Africa Foundation, former Deputy Prime Minister of Spain and Permanent Counselor of the State Council of Spain
- **Ambassador Beatriz Paredes Rangel**, Ambassador of Mexico in Brazil
- **Manana Kobakhidze**, Vice Speaker of Parliament, Georgia, Chair of the Gender Equality Council
- **Silvia Hernández Enríquez**, President and Associate of Estrategia Pública Consultores, Mexico

## Moderator:

- Mexican Senator (TBC)



10:00-13:00 **PLENARY SESSION: STATEMENTS BY HEADS OF DELEGATIONS**

**Speakers:**

- **Statement by Phumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka**, Executive Director of UN Women delivered by Ana Guezmes, Regional Director of UN Women Mexico
- **Videomessage by Irina Bokova**, Secretary General of UNESCO, announced by Nuria Sanz, Head and Representative of the UNESCO Office Mexico

**Moderator:**

- **Laura Nereida Placencia Pacheco**, Chair of the Gender Equality Committee in the Mexican Chamber of Deputies

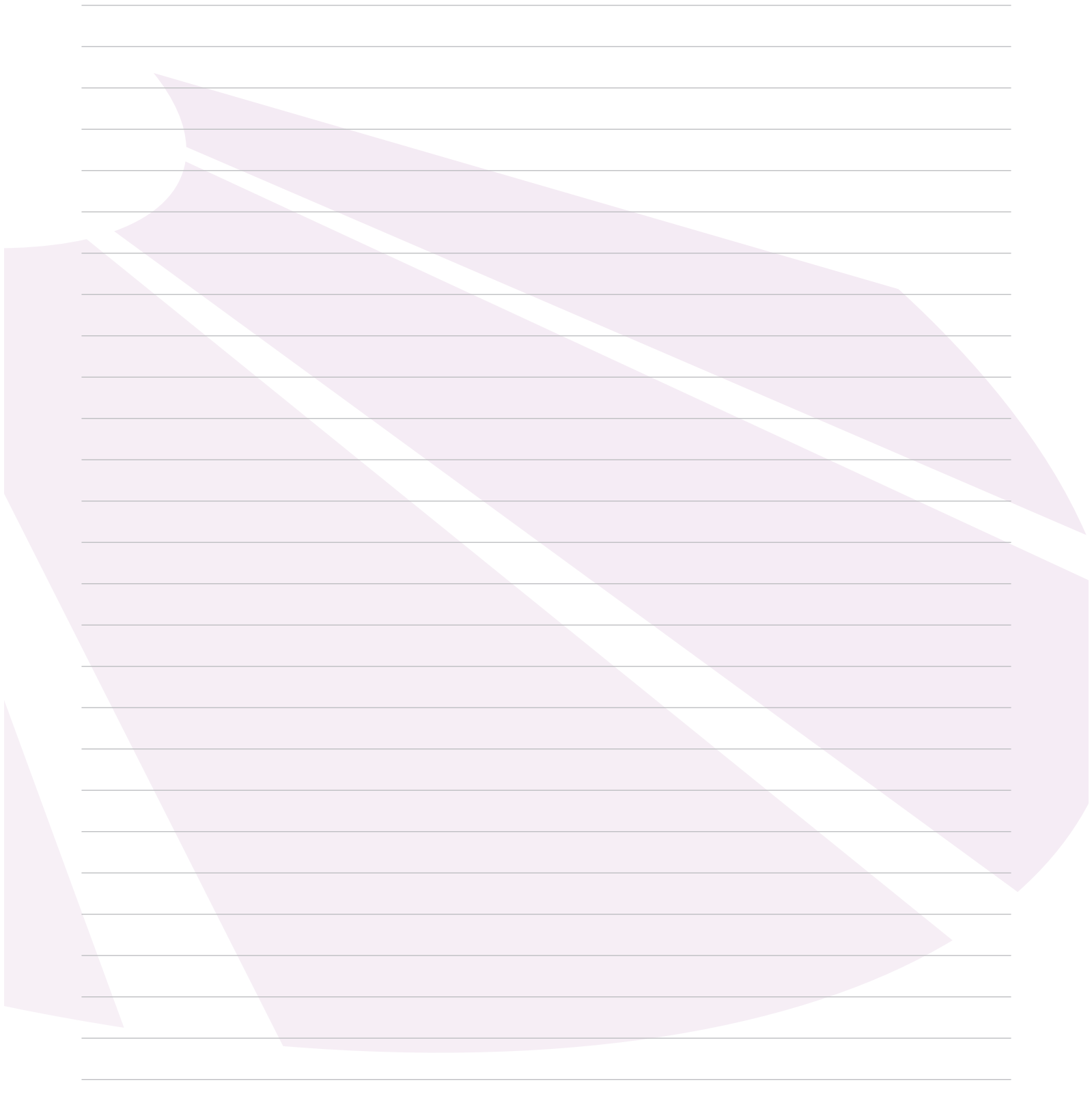
13:00-13:15 **COFFEE BREAK AND SCHEDULED PHOTOS OF DELEGATIONS**

13:15-14:15 **CLOSING CEREMONY**



NOTES

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