

Date: 17th April 2022 Number: PR-EN/2022/09

CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR PRACTICE PARLIAMENT FOR WOMEN

BACKGROUND:

The Practice Parliament series is a project conducted by UNDP Maldives in partnership with People's Majlis of the Maldives, with the support of the Australian Government Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT).

Building on the success of the first Practice Parliament series held in December 2021, UNDP Maldives in partnership with People's Majlis of the Maldives is conducting three additional cycles of the initiative this year – two Practice Parliament for Women programmes (batch 01 and batch 02) and one Practice Parliament for Youth programme. The first Practice Parliament for Women in 2021 saw the participation of 48 women leaders, including 2 Persons with Disabilities (PWDs), from across five atolls (Kaafu, Laamu, Seenu, Gnaviyani and Meemu atolls).

The series aims to provide the opportunity for women and young people to build their capacity and confidence to participate in democratic processes, become change makers in their communities and eventually, contest for elected positions. In particular, the Practice Parliament for Women is to enable women to be more involved in the decision-making processes in the country by increasing capacity development and training programmes for women active in the political arena to build their skills and knowledge to contest for elected positions.

The Practice Parliament series will consist of two components; a training component where participants are informed on the fundamentals of civic education, key parliamentary processes, and relevant policy issues, followed by a Practice Parliament Sitting where they perform parliamentary proceedings.



ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Maldivian woman
- Aged above 25
- Living in the Maldives
- Able to commit to the full duration of the event (however flexibility will be given to those who require it to ensure as many women are able to join).
- Seats will be reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) for the event and all participants are required to list down whether they have any additional requirements such as a translator, helper or sign language interpreter who can assist them. Special considerations and assistance will be provided to such individuals throughout the event.

SELECTION PROCESS:

Women interested in applying for the Practice Parliament will send their details to the designated contact number to express their interest. Interest and willingness to commit and participate in the Practice Parliament as well as any previous experience in political parties, Women's Development Committees, NGOs, or community activities will be considered during the evaluation process. A pre-screening of all applicants will be done to ensure that they meet the eligibility criteria. Phone interviews will then be held with eligible applicants and scored against the selection criteria. The top 40 scorers will then be selected to join the event.

WHEN AND WHERE:

The Practice Parliament for Women (Batch 1) will be held from 22nd to 28th May 2022. The Practice Parliament for Women will be held in Male'.

The deadline for submission of applications is 30th April 2022.

The call for applications for Practice Parliament for Women (Batch 2) will be announced in August 2022.



Interested applicants can send their details to:

UNDP Maldives | 9397651

To register, please send a text message with Full Name, Island of Residence and National ID Card Number.

CONTACT:

For all media enquiries, from People's Majlis please contact:

Mr. Hassan Ziyau Director, Media & Communications People's Majlis Secretariat (Parliament of the Maldives) Tel: 3032636 Email: <u>media@majlis.gov.mv</u> People's Majlis on Twitter: @mvpeoplesmajlis

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