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## **CALL FOR APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR PRACTICE PARLIAMENT FOR YOUTH**

### **BACKGROUND:**

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

The Practice Parliament for Youth hopes to foster active participation of youth in the grassroots decision making process while also encouraging them to become change makers who can make a positive impact on the society and empower other young people to join and work towards a shared objective.

Practice Parliament builds on the concept of experiential learning to provide the opportunity for aspiring individuals to learn by doing, build new network and allies through shared understanding, engage in dialogue with other individuals of the same cohort to further inform their values and perspectives, and enable them to acquire new skills at a practical setting.

The objective of Practice Parliaments is to enable participants to:

- Identify the nuances in each policy issue, and guide how they need to manoeuvre within the complex political space to achieve a key facet in any democracy consensus.
- Strengthen understanding of parliamentary processes to demystify the parliament and boost the confidence women and young people to contest for parliament.
- Enhance knowledge on key policy issues to improve their ability to become effective change makers and legislators.



Practice Parliament for Youth 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.

## **WHO:**

All Maldivian youth aged 16-25 years and currently living in Maldives are eligible to apply for the Practice Parliament for Youth. All applicants must be able to fully commit to the full duration of the event.

Slots will be reserved for Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) for the event. 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.

## **WHAT:**

Call for applications are now open for Practice Parliament for Youth. **The deadline for submission of applications is 15<sup>th</sup> November 2021.**

## **WHEN:**

The Practice Parliament for Youth will be held from 5<sup>th</sup> to 9<sup>th</sup> December 2021.

## **WHERE:**

The Practice Parliament for Youth will be held in Male'.

## **SELECTION PROCESS:**

Individuals interested in applying for the Youth Parliament must complete a Google Form to express their interest. 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.



## ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA:

- Maldivian
- Aged 16-25 years
- Living in Maldives
- Able to commit to the full duration of the event

Interested applicants can apply to participate at: <https://bit.ly/3kisHZd>



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