8 July 2020





On Tuesday 7 July 2020, at 19.00 - 21.00 hrs., the Inter-Parliamentary Organizations (IPU) and the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN) organized a high level dialogue of COVID-19 and Gender Equality via webinar. On this occasion, there were 5 members of the Thai parliament participated in a webinar, such as Hon. Mrs. Pikulkaew Krairiksh, Senator and Chairwoman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Hon. Mrs. Suwannee Sirivejchapun, Senator, Hon. Mr. Anusart Suwanmongkol, Senator, Hon. Mr. Issara Sereewatthanawut, Member of the House of Representatives and Hon. Gen. Lertrat Ratanavanich, Senator.

The dialogue presented various interesting issues by panellist from different areas of expertise such as Ms. Silvana Koch-Merin, President of Women Political Leaders (WPL), Ms. Maria Fernanda Espinosa, Former President of the United Nations General Assembly, Ms. Pumzile Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, and Ms. Gabriela Cuevas Barron, President of the IPU. The participants discussed the economic impacts of COVID-19 on women and an increase in domestic violence during 'lockdown' at home. Furthermore the dialogue focused on women work in public health area, women with disabilities and women refugees. The meeting called for the framework for these issues.

This dialogue was a good opportunity for parliamentarians and world-leading experts to share information, opinions, experiences and best practices to "Building Back Better". In addition, Hon. Mrs. Suwannee proposed the IPU to collect the best practice and learning from past experience and Hon. Mr. Isara Seriwattanawut discussed gender recognition issues and as COVID-19 has spread to countries around the world, children and young people need to be educated about the next normal attitude to equality.