

State Counsellor urges all stakeholders to work together to ensure women are not left behind



July 8, 2020

The State Counsellor, Daw Aung San Suu Kyi, urged all stakeholders to work together to ensure that the role of women is not left behind, as 2020 is a critical year for promoting gender equality.

She made this remark in video clip sent to the Myanmar Women's Day celebration on July 3, 2020.

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi said "Women should also consider as men how to provide and support the needs of the country, and vice versa, the state actors, private sector and



Photo : Myanmar State Counsellor Office facebook page

civil society also need to think about how to help and promote women. I would like to ask social organizations to coordinate with each other in helping to create vocational jobs and providing necessary skills, addressing women's needs, and reporting their challenges."

The role of women is very crucial, even in strengthening civil society

organizations, and there is a need to make it stronger with a family spirit, and enhance its resilience with empathy. The State Counsellor called on all actors to work together to meet the needs of women and the country and to pass on the spirit of unity and resilience to the next generation.

Dr. Win Myat Aye, the Union Minister for Social Welfare, Relief, and Resettlement,

chaired a panel discussion regarding the "Role and Challenges of Women in the COVID-19 Response". The discussion focused on the role of women in response the impact of COVID-19 (Economic, Education, and Health sector) and strategies to overcome challenges that they face.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/state.counsellor/posts/1984581935009346>

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Election Targeted Research-based Advocacy (ETRA) program launched

July 22, 2020

The Election Targeted Research-based Advocacy (ETRA) program was launched in July by Enlightened Myanmar Research Foundation (EMReF).

The program is aimed for the 2020 elections and it intends to present research findings that would be helpful to develop necessary policies for the country. Despite having many studies related to several issues about Myanmar, the effectiveness of reaching the public and the contributions of the research in policy-making of the country is questionable.

Daw Myat Thet Thitsar, CEO of the EMReF said "Researchers say that evidence-based policy making has not been developed very well yet. So, how far could researchers send these research findings to policy makers? And how understandable and accessible are these research findings for the public? Researchers need to engage with policy makers to advocate a specific issue or policy, as they need to deliver the research findings to the public to make people aware. ETRA is also an effort for this."

EMReF intends to disseminate research findings and academic concepts and ideas in accessible ways to people and policy makers in Myanmar. Experts from various fields will provide advice and engage in discussion through the ETRA program, in order to develop good and comprehensive policies for multiple sectors including: politics, business, social, gender equality, and environmental issues.

ETRA aims to support political parties and candidates who will contest the upcoming election which will be held on 8 November, 2020, and current and newly elected political leaders, with research-based advocacy that will help drive policy-making in the new government. The program will start at the end of July and detailed information can be found on EMReF's website at www.emref.org and on its Facebook page.

Shwe Lay

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ETRA



Election Targeted
Research-based Advocacy



Photo : Yangon Hluttaw facebook page

Yangon Region Women's Committee implementing NSPAW, by developing yearly work plan

June 12, 2020

The Yangon Region Women's Committee is implementing the National Strategic Plan for the Advancement of Women (NSPAW) (2013-2022) by developing an annual work plan with the guidance of the Myanmar Women's Committee.

U Naing Ngan Lin, the Social Welfare Minister of Yangon Region Government explained that while responding to the question of Daw Kyi Pyar, Parliament member from Kyauktada Township, who was asked at the Yangon Hluttaw on June 5, "How is the Yangon region women's committee formed and what processes are being implemented?"

Social Welfare Minister U Naing Ngan Lin replied, "The Yangon Region Women's Committee was formed on 1 August, 2018, with the guidance of the Myanmar National Committee on Women. NSPAW (2013-2022) has identified the processes of 12 key areas and implemented the yearly work plan."

Yangon Region Women's Committee led the negotiation meetings and directed the district / township women's committees to work on violence against women in 2018 from the 12 strategic key areas. Out of 12 key areas in

2019, the Yangon Region Women's Committee directed the district/township women's committees to focus on: violence against women, women and human rights, decision-making with women and the issues of young women. The focus is on activities addressing violence against women which aim to respond to the needs of women and girls who have been victims of violence; and to raise awareness about violence against women among the general public. The One-Stop Women's Support Centre (OSWSC) opened at the Women's Vocational School (Yangon) and provides one-stop services to address the challenges women face. U Naing Ngan Lin also said that future projects will focus on child abuse cases and other priority issues for women.

Daw Kyi Pyar, a Hluttaw representative from Kyauktada Township, said that they just became aware of the township level structures; then she also asked to share 18 female MPs in Yangon Region about the tasks of the committee and the future plans, so that it would be easier for them to engage and coordinate with township committee members.

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/ygnhluttaw/posts/2690529097939552>

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi stated that she wants to see men and women representing actively in Myanmar

June 30, 2020

The State Counsellor Daw Aung San Suu Kyi stated that she wants to see men and women representing actively in Myanmar.

She made this remark on her Facebook page regarding the ASEAN Summit on June 27. She said that COVID has been a dominant issue at the ASEAN Summit; the impact of COVID on women and the role of women in "post-COVID rehabilitation" were discussed. In that post on Facebook page, Daw Aung Suu Kyi appreciated one of the male leaders' speeches that she heard at the meeting, and shared his quote, "Men are not aware that their positions and opportunities what they have benefitted from are not based on their own merit; rather, they benefit just because they are men."

Daw Aung San Suu Kyi wrote in



her post, "There are many things to think about that. No one can deny that we, women are working hard and smart. Also, this is an undeniable fact that those who are getting the highest positions are men, though about 70% of the staffs in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs are women.

So, it is important to think about how things will evolve in 10 years. I want to see the involvement of 50% of men and women. I would like to see equal and active representation of men and women in our country."

Source: <https://www.facebook.com/aungsan.suukyi.5661/posts/157301785919194>

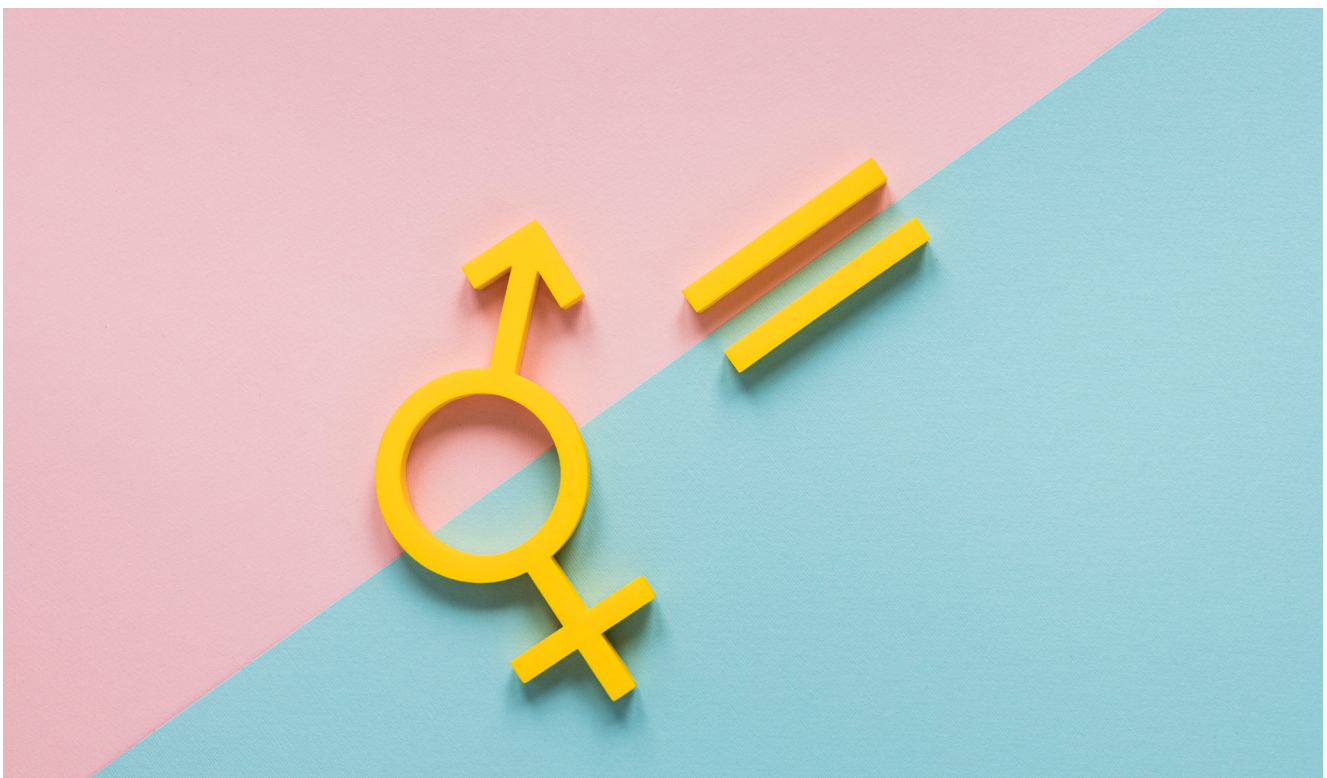




Photo: https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Michelle_Obama

World Famous Quotes

“There is no limit to what we as women, can accomplish.”

..... Michelle Obama (An American Lawyer & Author)

Women MPs submitted more proposals at the Union level Parliaments

July 16, 2020

Women MPs submitted more proposals at the Union level Parliaments during the second term of parliament, said U Aye Kyaw, Executive Director of Open Myanmar Initiative (OMI) based in Yangon, which monitors the parliamentary affairs.

In the Pyithu Hluttaw, Daw Yin Min Hlaing from Gangaw Constituency submitted seven proposals, and in the Amyotha Hluttaw, Daw Htu May from Rakhine State Constituency (11) submitted three proposals. Daw Yin Min Hlaing is from the National League for Democracy (NLD) and Daw Htu May is from the Rakhine National Party.

There are 440 Hluttaw members in the Pyithu Hluttaw, and 82 MPs submitted a total of 156 proposals. Among those who submitted proposals, 14 female MPs were from the NLD. There were 224 MPs in the Amyotha Hluttaw, but only 25 MPs submitted proposals. Three women among 25 MPs were from the NLD party.

Credit: RFA Burmese



Photo : Amyotha Hluttaw facebook page