



When it comes to the advancement of women, the IPU's priority area is on the

With a 56 per cent share of women members in Parliament, the Rwandan National

national parliament has a majority of women. This is cause for celebration.

The number of women in parliament around the world is now well over 18 per cent - an all-time high.

The example of Rwanda is significant in that it is also an interesting case where women parliamentarians have been able to make an impact on policy-making in the country and develop a partnership with men in defence of gender equality issues.

While the question of access to parliaments has been in the spotlight over the past decades, the question of ensuring women's effective participation within parliaments has received much less attention. This particular issue was the subject of a two

work and spread themselves too thinly by taking on several committee assignments.  
This also leads to women having a far heavier workload than men

**The third message** is that we need to look at the environment in which women  
evolve and question the functioning of institutions and their level of gender

