

International IDEA, 2002, Women in Parliament, Stockholm (<http://www.idea.int>). This is an English translation of “Prakata dan Pernyataan Terima Kasih,” in International IDEA, 2002, *Perempuan di Parlemen: Bukan Sekedar Jumlah*, Stockholm: International IDEA, pp. iii-v. (This translation may vary slightly from the original text. If there are discrepancies in the meaning, the original Bahasa-Indonesia version is the definitive text).

Preface and Acknowledgements

International IDEA's objective is to promote and advance sustainable democracy and to improve and consolidate electoral processes worldwide. In this regard, IDEA is committed to contributing to the debate to advance gender and democracy issues in general, and to promote women's participation and representation in political life.

The objective of IDEA's gender work is to increase the political participation of women, first of all, by compiling research on how women can impact on political processes through their participation, and secondly, by identifying areas in which further information, research and assistance may be required. To this end, the *Women in Parliament: Beyond Numbers* handbook was published in 1998. The handbook identifies the obstacles that women face being elected to legislatures, and provides some suggestions and options for overcoming them. It also seeks to move beyond numbers by identifying the ways in which women can affect political processes through their participation in decision-making bodies.

Since its release in 1998, there has been an overwhelming interest and demand for the handbook from those advocating for change in all regions around the world. Now, International IDEA has embarked upon a series of regional versions of the handbook. This Indonesian language version is based on the original English handbook published in 1998. This version builds on the original text, which has been updated and revised, with the addition of four case studies from Indonesia, Malaysia and Pakistan to illustrate the different experiences of women in parliaments in the region. Therefore, it is not just a translation but a regionalisation of the handbook to address and bring to the fore the experiences of women in parliaments in South and South East Asia.

This handbook would not have been possible if it were not for the excellent and groundbreaking contributions of many individuals. Azza Karam was the driving force behind the production of the English handbook in 1998, and we thank her for her advice and assistance during the production of this regional version.

We thank all the authors who made this handbook possible with their contributions and assistance with updates in this volume: Gehan Abu-Zayd, Drude Dahlerup, Frene Ginwala, Azza Karam, Joni Lovenduski, Richard E. Matland, Mavivi Myakayaka-Manzini, Christine Pintat, Shirin Rai, Nadezhda Shvedova and Hege Skjeie. We are grateful to the additional authors in this edition: Wan Azizah, Julie Ballington, Cecilia Bylesjö, Khofifah Indar Parawansa, Sakuntala Kadirgamar-Rajasingham, Chusnul Mar'iyah, Socorro L. Reyes and Francisia SSE Seda.

The main responsibility of producing this version lay with Julie Ballington and Sakuntala Kadirgamar-Rajasingham. As Gender Project Manager, Julie Ballington laid the groundwork for regional versions of the handbook, and provided much of the substantive and editorial input. Sakuntala Kadirgamar-Rajasingham, Senior Executive for the Asia Programme, likewise provided invaluable editorial input and substantive advice on the contents of this version. Programme Managers Patrick Molutsi and Reg Austin are to be acknowledged for their guidance and substantive input in the process, as well as Project Manager, Indraneel Datta, for his contributions to the gender project in Indonesia.

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Lastly, as this publication builds on the earlier version, we renew our thanks to all those who were involved in the production of the English version of the handbook in 1998. We hope they will take pride in the sharing of their ideas and expertise through this translation and adaptation of the original handbook into Indonesian.

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