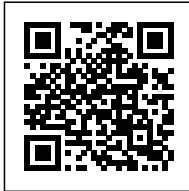


ADVANCING WOMEN'S POLITICAL PARTICIPATION IN MONGOLIA: PROPOSED ELECTORAL LAW AMENDMENTS AND PROGRESS MADE SO FAR

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The government has decided to combine more than 30 proposals for the draft law that amends the election law. Firstly, the government voted to regulate the conditions for political parties to participate in the mixed electoral system, which is undergoing revision under the electoral law. Thirty-eight members will be directly elected from the majoritarian constituencies, and 38 will be chosen from the party list using the proportional element.

Secondly, many political parties come together and form coalitions during elections. In such cases, the threshold is set at five percent. The government has proposed to adjust the threshold to 7 percent if three or more parties participate together in the election.

Thirdly, the proposed electoral law amendment seeks to increase women's participation in political decision-making. In previous elections, the percentage of women participating was set at 20-25 percent. In this bill, the threshold has been raised to 30 percent.

Mongolia has made significant progress in promoting women's participation in politics in recent years. In the 2020 parliamentary election, 13 women were elected to the 76-seat parliament, accounting for 17 percent of the total seats. While this is an improvement from the previous election, where only 11 women were elected, it falls short of the 20 percent target set by the quota system.

Mongolia also has a National Committee on Gender Equality that works to promote women's rights and gender equality in various sectors, including politics. Additionally, the country has established a Women's Caucus in Parliament, which provides a platform for female lawmakers to collaborate and advocate for policies that benefit women.

Despite these efforts, women in Mongolia still face significant barriers to political participation, such as limited access to resources and social and cultural norms that prioritize male leadership. Nevertheless, the government and civil society continue to work towards creating a more inclusive political environment where women's voices and perspectives can be heard and represented.