



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

THE SECRETARY GENERAL

Geneva, 20 August 2013

2013 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations 14 – 15 November, New York

ADVANCE NOTICE

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to inform you that this year's Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations, New York, will take place on 14 and 15 November under the joint sponsorship of the President of the General Assembly and the President of the Economic and Social Council.

The hearing will focus on the new development framework that is to emerge in 2015, when the current Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) expire. As agreed at the Rio+20 Conference last year, the new framework will have to take full account of the sustainability challenges of our time and apply to both developed and developing countries. Hence the need to replace the MDGs with a new set of global Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

As you know from the information provided by IPU President Radi earlier this year, the IPU is fully engaged in this process in order to ensure that the views of parliamentarians around the world are heard. We have worked to develop clear positions on key questions of democratic governance and on the economic model to support sustainable development. To that end, we interacted with the UN Secretary-General's High-level Panel on the post-2015 development agenda, whose final report reflects some of our main recommendations. We also devoted the General Debate of the 128th IPU Assembly to the question of human well-being and adopted the Quito Communiqué as a result, and have made the views of parliamentarians known at the UN General Assembly Open Working Group that is working on the first model of the SDGs.

The upcoming Parliamentary Hearing will represent the culmination of this campaign. It will afford parliamentarians an opportunity for direct discussion, with decision-makers and officials at the United Nations, of the possible scenarios for the new development framework, which all agree must be "transformational" in terms of both vision and concrete policy recommendations.

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The programme for the hearing is currently being drawn up in close cooperation with our two UN partners, but I can anticipate that it will focus on a few pivotal issues. These will likely include the limits to economic growth as the driver of development in a finite world, gender equality in all spheres of life - economic, social and political - as the linchpin of the entire development agenda, and, last but not least, the question of democratic governance, which the IPU and others are actively promoting as a distinct goal of the future development agenda. Drawing from the lessons of the MDGs, the hearing will also focus on the institutional question of the role of parliaments and parliamentarians in the implementation of the future development framework.

The formal convocation to the Parliamentary Hearing along with a more detailed provisional programme will be issued in late September, when the President of the 68th Session of the General Assembly has taken office. However, registrations are already open and can be submitted directly to our New York office via the enclosed form.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anders', with a stylized flourish extending from the end of the name.

Anders B. Johnsson



Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations



14-15 November 2013
United Nations Headquarters
New York

REGISTRATION FORM

PLEASE FILL OUT A SEPARATE FORM FOR EACH PARTICIPANT

Submit all forms to the IPU New York office by either fax or email:

Fax: +1 212 557 3954; E-mail: ny-office@ipu.org

Ms. <input type="checkbox"/> Mr. <input type="checkbox"/>	First Name:	
Last Name:		
Name of Parliament/ Chamber:		
Country:		
Member of parliament: <input type="checkbox"/> Senator: <input type="checkbox"/> Aide or staff person: <input type="checkbox"/>		
Full title:		
Check this box if you are the head of delegation to the meeting: <input type="checkbox"/>		

Participant's direct e-mail address ¹	
Personal e-mail:	
Office e-mail:	

[For parliamentarians only]

Please list up to three parliamentary committees to which you belong	
1.	
2.	
3.	

¹ This information will be used to provide each individual participant with a copy of the final report of the meeting. Participants will also be registered to receive the IPU eBulletin, an electronic newsletter that provides information on IPU activities around the world.