



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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**Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the
XX International AIDS Conference
Melbourne, 21 July 2014**

CONCEPT NOTE

Introduction

The XX International AIDS Conference (IAC) will be held from 20-25 July 2014 in Melbourne, Australia. As in previous years, it will bring together many of the major actors from various sectors, including parliamentarians, working to end AIDS. Parliamentary Meetings at the International AIDS Conference have been organized by the IPU in partnership with the UN system since the XVII International AIDS Conference in Mexico City in 2008. These Meetings have provided an important space for parliamentarians attending the Conference to share knowledge and experiences in working to end AIDS, and on key trends and challenges in the global effort to combat the epidemic. It is expected that parliamentarians from all regions and continents will be present at the International AIDS Conference in Melbourne, and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) have agreed to coordinate a Parliamentary Meeting on this occasion.

Objective

- Identify evidence of legal obstacles to the AIDS response in order to inform policy and service development;
- Review progress made to improve domestic legal environments;
- Discuss minimizing obstacles to access to treatment and prevention; and
- Promote exchanges among parliamentarians on good parliamentary practice.

Date and venue

The half-day meeting will take place from 2.30 to 6.30 p.m. on 21 July 2014 at the State Parliament of Victoria in Melbourne.

Outcome

- Sensitize participants to the importance of the national legal climate as an essential contributor to ending AIDS; and
- Encourage participants to promote national dialogue, legislate, and conduct effective government oversight to advance the progress of their national AIDS response.

Participation

An invitation will be issued to all parliaments to send appropriate representatives to attend the Parliamentary Meeting. A registration form for the Parliamentary Meeting that will accompany the invitation will help the organizers to compile the list of participants at the Parliamentary Meeting.

Language

The language of the Parliamentary Meeting will be **English only**.