

# Parliamentary oversight in the area of security in West Africa

## Parliamentary seminar

Hosted by the National Assembly of Senegal and organized by the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) with the support of the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Dakar, 21 - 22 September 2010



National Assembly of Senegal



Geneva, 19 July 2010

Dear Madam Speaker,

We are pleased to invite your parliament to take part in the regional parliamentary seminar on ***Parliamentary oversight in the area of security in West Africa***, which the National Assembly of Senegal will be hosting on 21 and 22 September 2010. This seminar is a joint initiative of the National Assembly of Senegal, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces and is supported by the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS). It will take place at *Le Méridien Président* hotel in Dakar.

Ensuring healthy democratic civil-military and civil-security relations is crucial for the sustainability of democratic governance in West Africa. The same is true of the oversight role of national parliaments in achieving this goal. This two-day seminar in Dakar aims to strengthen the capacity of parliaments to effectively address security issues by placing the emphasis on good parliamentary practice in carrying out effective oversight of the security sector. The ultimate objective of the seminar is to enhance the contribution of parliaments to security sector governance at the national level and to further parliamentary cooperation on security issues at the regional level through the ECOWAS Parliament.

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Please find attached a concept note and provisional seminar programme, a registration form and a hotel reservation form. All parliaments are invited to send a delegation of a maximum of three persons, preferably two members of security and defence committees and one parliamentary staff member servicing these committees. In keeping with IPU practice, participating delegations will have to cover their own costs. The host Parliament will receive delegations at the airport and assist with room reservations at *Le Méridien Président* hotel.

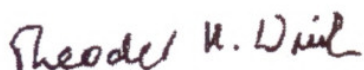
Looking forward to the participation of your parliament in the seminar, we remain,

Yours sincerely,

Dr. Theodor H. Winkler

Hon. Mamadou Seck

Anders B. Johnsson



Director of the Geneva Centre for  
the Democratic Control of Armed  
Forces

President of the National  
Assembly of Senegal

Secretary General of the  
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Annex:    Concept note and provisional programme  
          Seminar registration form  
          Hotel registration form