



UNITED NATIONS



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

PARLIAMENT
OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA

PAN-AFRICAN PARLIAMENT

23 August 2010

Excellency,

We are very pleased to announce that the next World e-Parliament Conference will be held at the Pan-African Parliament in Midrand, Johannesburg, South Africa, on 21 and 22 October 2010.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2010 is co-organized by the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliament of South Africa and the Pan-African Parliament, and is intended to promote the effective use of modern technologies in legislatures.

The Conference presents a unique opportunity at a global level for parliamentary institutions to exchange views and lessons learned on the impact of new technologies on the representative, legislative, and oversight functions of national and regional assemblies. A number of key international organizations and institutions are joining the co-organizers to support the event.

The meeting builds on the results of the World e-Parliament Conference 2007, 2008 and 2009, held respectively in Geneva, Brussels and Washington D.C., and on the World e-Parliament Report 2010, the second edition of the publication on this topic issued by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN-DESA) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), and prepared by the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, a partnership initiative of UN-DESA and IPU.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2010 is aimed principally at Speakers, Deputy Speakers and members of parliaments, secretaries general, parliamentary staff and officials, experts from international organizations, and academics who deal, from the institutional and technical perspectives, with information and communication technologies in parliaments. It is the leading world forum for learning about best practices, networking with peers, and building partnerships in an international setting.

Approximately 400 participants are expected to take part in the general debate and parallel tracks forming the agenda. Presentations, which will be delivered by parliamentary leaders, senior staff, and world renowned experts, will showcase cutting edge solutions, offer informative case studies, and provide important discussions of critical issues.

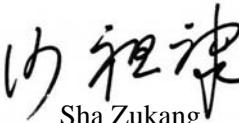
TO: Speakers of Parliaments

To ensure representation from all parliaments around the world, the co-organizers will make efforts to support the travel and per diem of a number of parliamentary staff from developing countries. At the conference, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in Arabic, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish.

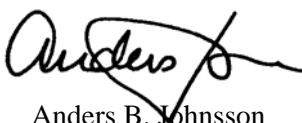
The preliminary agenda, a document outlining the goals, expectations and structure of the World e-Parliament Conference 2010, a practical information note and the registration form are enclosed for your reference. Additional information concerning the Conference will be made available on the web site www.ictparliament.org/WePC2010. Information is also available at the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament in Rome, Italy (conference@ictparliament.org; tel +39 06 6813-6320 ext. 210; fax +39 06 68211960).

We very much hope that your Assembly will participate in this event and we look forward to receiving the names of your delegates in due course.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Sha Zukang
Under-Secretary-General
United Nations



Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary-General
Inter-Parliamentary Union



Max Vuyisile Sisulu
President
Parliament of South Africa



Moussa Idriss Ndélé
President
Pan-African Parliament