



Mobilizing Parliamentary Support for MDG Policies and Plans

A side event of the MDG Summit
Organized by the IPU and the UN Millennium Campaign

Tuesday, 21 September 2010
1:15 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.
New Temporary Building, Room 7 (second floor)
United Nations Headquarters
New York

DRAFT AGENDA

1. Overview of the role of parliaments in the MDGs

There are many ways for parliaments and MPs to work on development issues such as the MDGs. A recent manual for MPs and a guidance note on development effectiveness highlight some key modalities. These will be highlighted as part of a more general discussion of the oversight role of parliaments in holding governments to account for their development commitments.

2. Launch of the joint comparative study of how parliaments are working to integrate the MDGs in their institutional mechanisms and political agendas

The IPU and the Millennium Campaign have studied the practices of parliaments in seven countries: India, Indonesia, Italy, Kenya, Mozambique, Nigeria, South Africa. The study compares parliaments that have established MDG-specific committees or caucuses with those that have chosen to mainstream the MDGs throughout their entire committee structure. While no particular model may be indicated to all parliaments, the findings illustrate the pros and cons of each model and provide further guidance to parliaments in the next five years.

3. The MDG Summit Outcome Document: main messages for parliamentarians

The Outcome Document of the Summit is expected to contain a long list of policy recommendations for each of the MDGs as well as a review of shared principles to inform government action. The IPU has also campaigned to have parliaments adequately reflected in this document. A brief presentation of the document will be made to help focus MPs on its principal messages.

4. The way forward: the commitment of the IPU and the UN Millennium Campaign to assist parliaments in the run-up to 2015

This segment will consist of a brief review of the work plans and operational strategies of the IPU and of the Millennium Campaign to further engage parliaments with the MDGs. Among other things, it will highlight the need to strengthen the capacities of parliaments to deal more effectively with development issues across the board.

The discussion will be led by Mr. Anders Johnsson, IPU Secretary General and Ms. Korinne Woods, Executive Director of the UN Millennium Campaign. A few MPs who have contributed to the joint study mentioned in point 2 above will also be featured. A UN representative will be invited to present the Outcome Document of the Summit.

The meeting will be informal and comments from all participants will be encouraged.