



**Address by His Excellency  
Mr. Adel Bin AbdulRahman AlAsoomi  
President of the Arab Parliament  
Before the 143<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary  
Union  
At the general debate  
On  
Parliamentary action to promote democracy  
Around the world**

**Madrid-Spain  
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Hon. Mr. Duarte Pacheco President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Hon. Mr. Martin Chungong Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Honorable Speakers of Parliaments and Honorable Head of delegations

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Allow me at the outset to express my pleasure to participate in the meetings of the 143<sup>rd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, expressing as well my gratitude and appreciation to the organizers of these meetings, whether from the Inter-Parliamentary Union or the Spanish Parliament, for the appreciable efforts they have made to hold these meetings.

I should like also to commend the selection of the general debate topic for this session, which has been allocated to the role of Parliamentarians in promoting democracy, and it is a subject of great importance, on the basis that parliamentarians are the cornerstone of the democratic development process in any country, through their legislative and oversight roles entrusted to them.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The successive developments witnessed by our contemporary world in all areas of life, accompanied by a great development in the mechanisms of democratic transformation and its components, so that it is no longer limited to the traditional concept of democracy based on parliamentarians representing their people and exercising their legislative and oversight role only, but other vital issues have emerged that have become closely related to democratic practices, foremost among which is the empowerment of women and the support and protection of their rights, youth empowerment and involving them in the decision-making process and public policy formulation, as well as the right to information, allowing civil society organizations to do their part. We are not exaggerating when we say that achieving sustainable development in its comprehensive concept, confronting hate speech and intolerance, promoting the language of dialogue, are all issues that have become among the main requirements for strengthening democratic practices.

In this context, parliaments at their various levels, national, regional and international, are now required to be more able to keep pace with these developments, and participate in the implementation of the broader concept of democracy through new and unconventional roles.



This will only be achieved by developing tools and mechanisms for parliamentary action, in a way that enhances the level of public confidence of the people in the capabilities and performance of those who represent them and defend their rights.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

You may agree that our role in this session should not only stop at delivering speeches or issuing a final declaration at the end of meetings, but we should take actual steps and adopt practical mechanisms that contribute to developing the role of parliaments in strengthening democracy.

**In this context, allow me to present an initiative on behalf of the Arab Parliament, which is “Preparing a Code of Conduct for Parliamentary Action to Promote Democracy around the World”, so that it will serve as a guidance document that contributes to building and strengthening the capacities of parliamentarians in the field of promoting democracy in its contemporary concept, and working on applying its main requirements on the ground.**

There is no question that the Inter-Parliamentary Union, with all its long-standing expertise in the field of parliamentary work and support for democratic practices, has the ability and capabilities to prepare this Code and translate it into different languages of the world, and work to constantly update it, in order to keep pace with the updates and developments of modern democratic practices, and we are fully prepared to take part in these efforts.

I look forward to your acceptance of this initiative, and for us to adopt it at the end of these meetings.

Thank you for listening