



Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

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## Parliamentary Forum at the 2019 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and related meetings

Geneva, 17 May 2019

Office of the  
Secretary General

Dear Madam President,  
Dear Mr. President,

This year's United Nations High-Level Political Forum (HLPF) on Sustainable Development in New York, promises to be a particularly rich one for parliamentarians.

As a result of the United Nations growing recognition of the key role of parliamentarians in the implementation of the SDGs, the IPU side event at the HLPF has been upgraded to a full-fledged *special event* to be known as the **Parliamentary Forum**. This event will take place on the afternoon of Monday, **15 July**, on the eve of the ministerial segment of the HLPF.

The Parliamentary Forum will focus on the main theme of the HLPF this year *Empowering people and ensuring inclusiveness and equality*, in which questions of inequality and governance feature prominently. It will also review the results of new IPU surveys on parliamentary engagement in the SDGs, including the important process of the government-led Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs).

The 2019 HLPF will, among other things, review progress on SDG 16 whose focus on effective institutions, peace and rule of law underpins a lot of IPU's work. In addition to the Parliamentary Forum, a number of other events are being organized by or with the support of the IPU, and offer parliamentarians an opportunity to take part in the HLPF discussions. These include:

- A Senior Level Meeting (SLM) of the Global Partnership for Effective Development Cooperation on 13 and 14 July, co-sponsored by the IPU, which will bring together some 600 participants to discuss development cooperation.
- A workshop for MPs to assess the readiness of parliaments to engage in SDG implementation (a mock SDG self-assessment exercise) on 16 July 2019 in the afternoon.
- A side event on the right to nationality and on statelessness, date to be confirmed.
- A side event on inclusive decision making and effective institutions, date to be confirmed.

The programmes of some of these meetings are enclosed along with an information note and a registration form. More detailed information about other events and regular updates will be posted by the end of May on the IPU web site at <https://www.ipu.org/events/new-events>.

As per past practice, only parliamentarians *duly accredited through their Permanent Missions as delegates to the HLPF session* will be able to attend the meetings at UN Headquarters, with the exception of the stand-alone Senior Level Meeting. Events taking place outside of the UN Headquarters premises are open to all participants. All travel arrangements must be made by the participants themselves. The enclosed information note includes further details on accreditation and registration.

The full programme of the HLPF session, which runs from 8 to 18 July, is available at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2019>. I look forward to a robust parliamentary participation.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Martin Chungong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Martin Chungong  
Secretary General