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VAN DE REPUBLIEK SURINAME

## Regional Seminar on climate change and disaster risk reduction for Parliaments of the Caribbean

Paramaribo, 5-6 November 2018

Organized jointly by the National Assembly of Suriname and the Inter-Parliamentary  
Union

22 August 2018

Dear Madam Speaker,  
Dear Mr. Speaker,

We are pleased to invite your Parliament to take part in the Regional Seminar on climate change and disaster risk reduction for Parliaments of the Caribbean, to be held on 5 and 6 November 2018 in Paramaribo, Suriname. It is being jointly organized by the National Assembly of Suriname and the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Climate change is one of the major challenges of our time. The increase in the earth's average temperature is now an indisputable fact, and it is certain that climate change is directly related to human activity. There is no doubt that small Caribbean countries, and in particular the Small Island Developing States (SIDS) of the region, face major and specific challenges in this regard.

As representatives of the people, and as political decision-makers with legislative and oversight powers, parliamentarians are uniquely placed to lead the way so that disaster risk resilient societies become a reality for all. The Regional Seminar will be a crucial platform for parliamentarians of the Caribbean to discuss matters of common concern. It will give participants opportunities to showcase concrete ideas and initiatives on good parliamentary practices on combating climate change and implementing disaster risk reduction policies at national level. It will also be a rallying call for parliamentarians to unite and work together across borders around common challenges.

We are pleased to invite you to send a delegation of up to four parliamentarians to attend the meeting. In the interest of a balanced range of views, we encourage you to send a gender-balanced delegation. We also strongly encourage you to include members of specialized committees dealing with climate change and disaster risk reduction in the delegation.

We attach a concept note and a registration form. A more detailed information note and a preliminary agenda will be sent to you in due course.

We would be grateful if you could send your completed registration forms to [postbox@ipu.org](mailto:postbox@ipu.org) by 5 October 2018.

We look forward to hearing from you and to the pleasure of welcoming your delegation to Paramaribo.

Yours sincerely,

Gabriela Cuevas Barron  
President  
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Mrs. J. Simons  
Speaker  
National Assembly of Suriname