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empowering
parliamentarians

**Second Regional Seminar for Parliaments of the
Caribbean: Strengthening parliamentary action
on the Sustainable Development Goals**

Port of Spain (Trinidad and Tobago), 5 and 6 December 2019



25 October 2019

Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

It is our great pleasure to invite your Parliament to take part in the Second Regional Seminar for Parliaments of the Caribbean, entitled *Strengthening parliamentary action on the Sustainable Development Goals*, to be held on 5 and 6 December 2019 in Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago. This event is jointly organized by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

The seminar will build on the conclusions of the first regional seminar, held in Paramaribo, Suriname, in 2018, with the aim of further exploring the opportunities and challenges facing parliaments in the Caribbean region in exercising their role in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Following the priorities identified in the Paramaribo Declaration, special emphasis will be placed on action taken by parliaments in the Caribbean region on climate change, as well as on the impact of climate change on health and the role of parliaments in health emergency preparedness and response. The seminar will also showcase good practices in terms of introducing, managing and sharing innovation in parliament as a way for parliamentary institutions to become more transparent, accountable and effective. Given their legislative, oversight, representative and budgetary functions, parliaments are uniquely placed to lead the way in SDG implementation. This seminar will act as a platform for parliamentarians of the Caribbean to share experiences and good practices and foster parliamentary cooperation on their shared concerns.

We invite you to send a delegation of up to four parliamentarians. Ideally, the delegation should be gender-balanced and include members of specialized committees dealing with sustainable development and/or climate change and health.

Please find attached the draft programme, a general information note and registration forms. The concept note for the event will be sent out in due course. The registration forms should be completed and returned to the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago with copy to the IPU Secretariat by **25 November 2019 at the latest**.

We look forward to hearing from you and to welcoming your delegation to Trinidad and Tobago.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong
Secretary General
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Sen. The Hon. Christine Kangeloo
President of the Senate
Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago

Hon. Bridgid Annisette-George, MP
Speaker of the House
Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago