

Kingdom of Morocco

House of Representatives

142nd Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly General debate on the theme

"Overcoming the Pandemic Today and Building a Better Tomorrow:

The Role of

Parliaments"

Address of Mr. Habib El Malki

Speaker of House of Representatives – Kingdom of Morocco

Two-minute version

May 24-28, 2021

Honorable President,

Dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

First, I would like to express my appreciation to you for the successful holding this event. I would also like to thank all the components of the Inter-Parliamentary Union for being ever mindful of the interests of our peoples who are going through a tough juncture in the context of the COVID-19 pandemic. To face such a scourge all international actors are required to cooperate and coordinate closely, to take initiatives and join efforts and views.

What we went through during the past months will remain a global precedent for several reasons, and the exceptional humanitarian experience we are going through will undoubtedly bring deep strategic changes to the world we are living in, and reshape international relations and centers of power altogether.

One of the most important conclusions to be drawn from this experience is the imperative of creating a novel development model to sort issues regarding health, education, environment, unemployment, food security, and adopting pro-activeness and global solidarity and coordination to tackle the trans-boundary and intercontinental disasters.

Honorable President,

Dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

The Kingdom of Morocco adopted a proactive approach with a view to protecting humans, which set a model as to how the pandemic ought to be tackled.

For instance, the enlightened policy that His Majesty King Mohammed VI launched to revive the economy has succeeded in creating a comprehensive national and social mobilization that involved all Moroccan talents. This policy has also contributed to launching a major social project that aimed at universal social protection to combat poverty and inequality, create job opportunities, promote human rights, and stimulate economic and social recovery.

We are aware that vaccines give hope in the regression of the pandemic, but we must be vigilant about new waves and virus mutations. For this purpose, our country has adopted a national vaccination strategy based on a participatory approach that capitalizes the country's endogenous institutional strengths.

Dear colleagues, Ladies and Gentlemen,

In the post-Coronavirus world, our elites need to think collectively about how our countries should be in the future. In this respect, they should draw the necessary lessons from this crisis prominent of which is upgrading the healthcare and social protection systems, advancing education and encouraging scientific research, protecting the environment, cutting the social deficit, and fighting the various vulnerability and poverty manifestations within a collective project that revolves around human dignity, social economies immunity, and equal rights and obligations for all.

Thank you for your attention.