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## **Speech**

Mr. Martin Chungong IPU Secretary General

Launch of the Indonesian SDG Digital Platform

Geneva, 19 August 2021

Distinguished Members of Parliament,

Ladies and gentlemen,

I am honoured to have this opportunity to make this keynote address. Let me start by thanking the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, in particular Madam Speaker, Puan Maharani, for her leadership and commitment to the SDGs agenda.

The House of Representatives has always been an active IPU Member, keen to do its utmost to promote global peace, democracy, cooperation and prosperity. The IPU warmly applauds the exemplary commitment shown by the House of Representatives in pursuing our common purposes and in putting SDG implementation at the national, regional and global levels, high on its political agenda.

In particular, I am very much looking forward to the Global Parliamentary Meeting on the SDGs that the IPU will co-organize with the Indonesian House of Representatives at the end of next month. This will be an important moment to take stock of progress and set the political direction that is needed to further advance towards the realization of the goals set out in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Ladies and gentlemen,

We are all aware of the importance and magnitude of the task of delivering on the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Global Goals. Now more than ever, there is a need for parliaments to strengthen their actions to ensure that the SDGs are comprehensively institutionalized and mainstreamed into the legislative process and parliamentary mechanisms.

Governments are responsible for SDG implementation, but the realization of the goals can only be achieved if all stakeholders are actively engaged. Parliaments have a central role to play in this effort. It is critical for parliaments to evaluate the impact of their work on people's lives and the planet especially during these trying times. Are parliaments doing their utmost to undertake a people-centred approach to decision-making?

The launch of the SDG Digital Platform represents a significant step that will provide all members of society with access to important information about the SDGs. With this information, communities will be better placed to become actors in the effort to achieve the goals. The Digital Platform creates a new impetus for engaging the public, a new tool for advocacy and for accountability. I offer my heartfelt congratulations on this initiative.

Ladies and gentlemen,

The IPU is strongly committed to mobilizing parliaments to take action on the SDGs, and to providing parliamentarians and communities with platforms and tools to participate in key decision-making processes.

We will follow with great interest the impact of the SDG Digital Platform and will be pleased to assist in bringing its results to the attention of other parliaments.

Thank you.