Concept note

This joint IPU-ASGP session is based around the preliminary version of the new Indicators for democratic parliaments, based on SDG Targets 16.6 and 16.7. The 25 Indicators provide a framework to help parliaments assess their capacity and performance in all areas of parliamentary work and identify priorities for change. They are intended to be a tool to support parliamentary learning and development.

The joint session will begin by introducing the Indicators and sharing feedback from online focus groups held with Secretaries General in September 2022.

The main focus of the joint session will be a practical exercise to test Indicator 1.1, Parliamentary autonomy. This indicator consists of four dimensions, on the institutional, procedural, budgetary and administrative autonomy of parliament. Participants will work in small groups to consider how they would assess these dimensions in their own parliamentary context. This will be an opportunity for participants to reflect on practices in their own parliament and to learn about parliamentary autonomy in other parliaments.

The objective is that, by the end of the joint session, participants will have gained new insights into issues surrounding parliamentary autonomy, as well as the way in which the Indicators could be used by parliaments as a means to strengthen their institution. The feedback from the discussions will be used to further refine the Indicators, helping them to become a common and universally relevant tool within the parliamentary community.

Interpretation will be available in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.

References:

- Documents for the joint session (in English, French and Spanish): https://drive.google.com/drive/folders/1HUtJkZQQC7nPISAATVA0qRYsM?usp=sharing
- Participants are invited to read Indicator 1.1. Parliamentary autonomy in advance of the joint session.
- Indicators for democratic parliaments: https://www.parliamentaryindicators.org/

For more information, please contact standards@ipu.org