



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations

13 and 14 February 2022
New York



Geneva/New York, 9 December 2023

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

We are pleased to invite you and your colleagues to participate in the 2023 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations on ***“Water for people and planet: stop the waste, change the game, invest in the future”***, which will take place in-person, at the UN New York headquarters, on 13 and 14 February 2023.

The world is on the verge of a water crisis, a crisis that is intercontinental, affecting the lives of everyone, and above all a crisis that, if not dealt with properly and in a timely manner, will have repercussions which could affect a variety of vital sectors domestically and internationally. Humanity is running out of precious time, and we must collectively come together based on a renewed sense of purpose and solidarity through the lenses of crisis management and transformation. The UN Water Conference will be held on 22-24 March of 2023, the first in four and a half decades. Deliberations during the 2023 Parliamentary Hearing could provide valuable guidance/inputs for Member States to consider as they prepare for this crucial conference.

We need to challenge the underlying assumption in the minds of so many, that we all live in a zero-sum game in which one's win is another's loss. As Covid-19 reminds us, nobody is safe until everyone is safe. Nobody can prosper until we all prosper; nobody is free until we are all free; nobody can lead a healthy life until the entire environment and the people around us are healthy too.

Our joint hearing will aim to offer to governments, parliaments and the United Nations community a critical perspective on identifying gamechangers to better deal with looming crises, and bring about healthy environments that are grounded in sustainable development for generations to come.

To participate in the Parliamentary Hearing, IPU Member Parliaments are requested to register their delegations by completing the online form at <https://registration.ipu.org/ParlHearing2023> for *each member* of the delegation. Participants will need to abide by US entry Covid protocol as well as UN rules. For updates on the attached programme and information note please consult the website at www.ipu.org/events.

We look forward to your Parliament's strong participation in this important event.

Yours sincerely,

Duarte Pacheco
President of the IPU

Csaba Körösi
President of the 77th UN General Assembly