



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

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Geneva, 30 April 2025

Dear Madam Speaker,  
Dear Mr. Speaker,

I am pleased to invite you and members of your Parliament engaged in children's rights to take part in an online discussion entitled ***Preparing the Future: Ensuring Quality Education for Children***, to be held on **Monday, 19 May 2025**, from **13:00 to 15:00 CEST (Geneva time)**.

Quality education is essential to sustainable development and the empowerment of future generations. Yet, according to recent UNESCO data:

- **250 million** children and youth are out of school;
- **40%** of primary school-aged children lack basic reading skills;
- **765 million** young people and adults lack basic literacy;
- And low and lower-middle-income countries face a **US\$97 billion annual funding gap** through 2030 to meet their national SDG4 targets.

This urgent situation demands coordinated action. The **Global Education Meeting** (Fortaleza, Brazil, 31 Oct–1 Nov 2024) echoed this concern, highlighting stalled progress on **SDG4** and calling for bold measures focused on **inclusion, equity, and sustainable financing**.

Parliaments play a pivotal role in addressing these challenges through legislation, budget allocation, and oversight. In light of this, the **IPU**, in collaboration with the **UN Committee on the Rights of the Child** and with support from **UNICEF**, is organizing this online discussion:

- Share key data and trends in global education;
- Identify practical, targeted parliamentary actions, and;
- Facilitate the exchange of good practices.

Participants are kindly invited to register as soon as possible for the event on [this page](#) to help ensure the smooth organization of the meeting.

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

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong  
Secretary General