



Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

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2018 High Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and related IPU activities

Geneva, 9 May 2018

Office of the
Secretary General

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

This year's United Nations High Level Political Forum (HLPF) on sustainable development will meet at the ministerial level from **16 to 18 July in New York**. I hope your parliament will contribute to this important process.

As you know, the HLPF is the UN's main hub for the global review of progress toward the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The **main theme** of the 2018 session is "*transformation toward sustainable and resilient societies*." In addition to assessing overall progress, the session will review six specific SDGs (6, 7, 11, 12, and 15) as well as SDG 17, on the means of implementation. Forty-seven countries will present **national reports** on the implementation of the SDGs.

As a distinct contribution to the HLPF, the IPU will undertake the following activities:

1. Parliamentary **side event** on the main theme of the HLPF: on Monday, 16 July, from 1:15 pm to 2:45 pm. This event will have interpretation in English, French, and Spanish.
2. Parliamentary **workshop** to assess the readiness of parliaments to engage in SDG implementation, using the IPU-UNDP self-assessment toolkit on the SDGs: on the morning of Tuesday, 17 July (exact time and venue tbc). This workshop will be open to a maximum of 25 parliamentarians on a first-come first served basis, and in English only.
3. Individual **video interviews** of 5-10 minutes each. These interviews of interested parliamentarians will be conducted in English or French. They will be featured on the IPU website (via link to YouTube) and used in future IPU meetings for the purpose of knowledge sharing.

More detailed information about these activities will be posted on the IPU web site at <https://www.ipu.org/events/new-events> by the end of May.

As recommended by the 2016 resolution of the General Assembly on *interaction between the UN, national parliaments, and the IPU*, governmental delegations to the HLPF should seek to include **representation from the parliament**. I encourage you to discuss with the minister(s) responsible for the HLPF the possibility of including at least one MP in the national delegation to the session.

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If your country is among the forty-seven that have volunteered to undergo a national review and to present its findings at the session, I refer to my 1 December 2017 letter regarding a **questionnaire on the engagement of the parliament in the national review process** (attached for ease of reference). I would appreciate it very much if you could facilitate a response to this questionnaire as the deadline of 1 June is quickly approaching. The full list of countries can be found at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/vnrs/>.

I would be grateful if you could let us know of any member of your parliament who will participate in the upcoming HLPF session, including the IPU side event and/or workshop, by contacting the IPU New York office at ny-office@ipu.org.

Only parliamentarians *duly accredited through their missions* will be able to attend the HLPF session and related IPU activities. The IPU will not be able to provide accreditation and entry badges. All travel arrangements must be made by participants themselves.

The full programme of work of the 2018 HLPF is available at <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/hlpf/2018>

I hope very much that together we will be able to provide a robust contribution to this process.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Martin Chungong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Martin Chungong
Secretary General