



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.



Regional Seminar on the Sustainable Development Goals and Gender Equality for the Parliaments of the Middle East and North Africa

Alexandria, Egypt, 18-20 September 2018

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the House of Representatives of Egypt and the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union

31 July 2018

Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

We are pleased to invite your parliament to the IPU regional seminar on the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and gender equality in the Middle East and North Africa. The event, to be held in Egypt (Alexandria) from 18 to 20 September 2018, is organised by the IPU, the Parliament of Egypt and the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union. It is part of a series of IPU seminars on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Parliaments play a crucial role in incorporating the SDGs into domestic policies and legislation, this seminar will examine the opportunities and challenges presented by the SDGs and the promotion of gender equality. It will identify the tools and capacities parliaments require in order to exercise their legislative, oversight, budgetary and representative functions and implement the SDGs. Governance, gender equality and the empowerment of women and girls will receive special attention, with a view to effectively advancing the implementation of the 2030 Agenda at the regional and national level.

Parliaments are encouraged to send delegations of up to four men and women members of the Parliament, with additional parliamentary staff if needed. Ideally, the delegates should be MPs who in their parliament deal with the issues covered by the seminar. Delegations should represent different political affiliations and both genders in a balanced manner. The working languages of the seminar are English, French and Arabic. As usual, participants are asked to make their own arrangements for visas, accommodation and travel.

We attach the general information note, the draft agenda and registration form for the event. Information about the seminar will be available on the IPU website at: <https://www.ipu.org/event/regional-seminar-sustainable-development-goals-and-gender-equality-parliaments-middle-east-and-north-africa>.

We very much hope that your Parliament will be able to attend this important event. We would appreciate it if you could confirm your participation **by 31 August 2018** at the latest.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong

Secretary General
IPU

Dr. Ali Abdel Aal

Speaker of the Egyptian
House of Representatives