

**Speech of**

**H. E. Mr. Ahmed Bin Abdulla Bin Zaid Al-Mahmoud  
Speaker of Shura Council**

**At**

**The Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments (5WESP)**

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**On**

**Wednesday, 19 August 2020 - Thursday, 20 August 2020**

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**Her Excellency Mrs. Gabriela Cuevas Baron, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,**

**Excellencies, Speakers of Parliaments of the countries of the World,**

**Excellencies, Members of Parliaments,**

**His Excellency Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary-General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,**

**Excellencies, Representatives of International and Regional Organizations,**

**Brothers and sisters,**

**May Allah's Peace and mercy be upon you**

It gives me great pleasure to participate in this meeting and to express to the Presidency of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its General Secretariat our sincere gratefulness for all the recent efforts they made for convention of this Fifth Conference of the Speakers of Parliaments of the World virtually through video means, when holding it in the beautiful city of Vienna in person has become unattainable, which we wished to hold it in it upon a kind invitation from His Excellency Mr. Wolfgang Sobotka, President of the Austrian National Council.

This conference, organized by the IPU is of great importance and is one of the most important parliamentary events, bringing together the speakers of the world parliaments, which provides an opportunity to exchange useful ideas and experiences for parliamentary work.

**Brothers and Sisters,**

Parliaments proved in the past years that they could surpass their traditional role in legislation and oversight and have moved to undertake an equally important task in the field of parliamentary diplomacy enhance cooperation

between peoples, contribute to achieving international peace and security and to resolve all international disputes and issues through peaceful means and in accordance with the principles of international law essentially the goodly neighborhood. I am pleased to specially praise here the constructive cooperation between the United Nations and all its organs on the one hand and the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the national parliaments on the other.

National parliaments have proved to be an effective element at the international level, thanks to the strong relations between each other's and to the cooperation with various organs of the United Nations Organization to take joint action to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, to establish international peace and security, and to respect the rule of law, which helps us achieve stability and eliminate poverty, ignorance, diseases, violence and conflicts throughout the world.

In this context, the pivotal role of parliaments emerges in achieving the seventeen sustainable development goals set by the United Nations General Assembly to free the world's peoples from poverty, wars and lack of progress and development.

The role of parliaments is essential in consolidating cooperation, exchanging experience, bringing people together and strengthening solidarity among them to successfully address all challenges facing humanity. I am pleased to assure you all that the wise and rational policy steadfastly pursued by the State of Qatar, under the leadership of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of the State of Qatar, (May Allah Protects him), is based on respecting the principles of international law and its sovereignty; fostering cooperation and friendship between the peoples of the world; assisting them to overcome difficulties and to combat plagues and natural

disasters. In light of the spread of “Covid-19” pandemic, The State of Qatar has taken many preventive and precautionary measures, which have enabled her to reduce the spread of the pandemic and provide treatment and care to all citizens and residents of Qatar. The State of Qatar also confirmed its firm adherence to its humanitarian stances and attitudes towards many countries and peoples, especially the Palestinian people, who are suffering from the siege and arbitrary measures imposed by the occupying entity, in addition to suffering from the repercussions of the Corona pandemic. The State of Qatar has provided various types of material and moral support to them, including field hospitals, drugs and medical equipment.

The State of Qatar has also strengthened its support to the United Nations and its various bodies working in the humanitarian field. In this regard the State of Qatar allocated generous donations to the UN and its programs, including its \$5 million support to the World Health Organization, and has contributed \$20 million to the World Vaccine Alliance (Gavi), which is seeking to discover a vaccine for the Corona pandemic.

### **Brothers and Sisters,**

As representatives of our nations, we have a responsibility to support and strengthen the role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and to provide it with all means to achieve the goals for which it was founded.

To conclude I hope that all of our efforts will be successful and that the outcome of this conference will be a supporting force for our efforts to establish peace, security and achieve sustainable development as prerequisites for the well-being and happiness of our peoples.

***May Allah’s peace and mercy be upon you***