

Address by Mr. Mohamed Ben Souf (Young Parliamentarian) 140th Session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Doha: 5-10 April 2019.

Distinguished Guests,

At the beginning, I would like to thank the Qatari Advisory Council for the warm welcome and the good organization of this session.

As a young parliamentarian coming from Tunisia, the cradle of the Arab Spring Revolution which is the youth revolution for freedom and dignity, I stress that young people are the real richness in which we should invest. I join with everyone who calls for empowering young people as the key to development.

It is important to recall that the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals Agenda does not consider the fourth objective of " improving the quality of education " as an independent goal, but they go even further to create a link between this goal and many other goals such as reducing gender disparities in education, eradicating poverty and establishing peace and justice.

The role of parliaments as a platform for promoting education for peace, security and the rule of law are even more important when the role of education is linked to sustainable development and the challenges facing our world today, especially the phenomenon of terrorism.

Education is the vanguard of resistance to extremism and terrorism, as well as the guarantor of the cultivation of generations on the values of tolerance, respect for the rule of law and awareness of the status of social peace.

I would like to end my address with the saying: "Agriculture fights the hunger, industry provides the needs, but education builds the homeland" to invite the present parliamentarians to adopt the idea of creating the Parliament of

the Child and the Parliament of the youth in their national parliaments, in order to bring this category closer to political life and decision-making positions and to enable them to contribute more effectively to public life. I would therefore urge parliaments to establish legislative systems that enshrine the right to education and ensure its foundation on equality principle.