



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
126th Assembly and related meetings
Kampala (Uganda), 31 March to 5 April 2012



**Parliamentary oversight of Government external loans
and related processes**

Workshop and launch of joint global survey report (IPU, World Bank and IMF)

Wednesday, 4 April 2012, 9:30p.m. – 12 noon
Gardenia Hall, ground floor, Imperial Royale Hotel

Parliamentary oversight of loan agreements and related processes helps enhance national ownership of development and is an important element of the aid effectiveness agenda. The loans that governments contract with the World Bank and IMF often come with conditions attached that must then be taken up by parliaments through the legislative process.

In addition, like all borrowing, these loans must be repaid and their accounting included in the budgetary process that goes through parliament. In many countries where the IMF provides macroeconomic advice (surveillance) to the government, parliaments are also expected to enact legislation or approve budgets to help carry forward a given policy course. If for no other reasons then, parliaments need to be appropriately involved in loan approvals as well as in related processes like IMF surveillance or the adoption of poverty strategy papers.

This interactive workshop will discuss the findings of a new global survey that investigates the extent to which parliaments possess a proper *legal authority* to ratify loans as well as effective *practices* to oversee loan approval and related processes. The survey was conducted in 2011 as a joint initiative of the IPU, the World Bank and the IMF, and involved some 100 parliaments in developing countries and transition economies. It presents data never collected before and provides a first baseline to measure future progress in parliamentary oversight of these important processes.

Facilitators:

- Mr. Alessandro Motter, Senior Advisor (economic and social affairs), IPU
- Mr. Steven Shalita, Senior Communication Specialist, Africa Region Strategic Communications, The World Bank
- IMF representative (TBC)

Languages:

English and French interpretation provided