



WORKSHOP ON TOWARDS A NEW VISION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT: WHAT PLACE FOR DEMOCRATIC GOVERNANCE?

27 March 2013 (9.30 a.m. – 12 noon)
San Francisco Convention Centre, Quito
Salón Landábuero, level -2

Concept note

Governments at the United Nations are currently engaged in consultations on how to reframe the global development agenda in the light of new realities and from the perspective of sustainability. Among other things, they have already agreed to develop a new set of Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) that will apply to both developed and developing countries and that will build on the Millennium Development Goals when they expire in 2015.

As part of this process, the IPU is gathering the views of parliamentarians on the overall vision and the specific goals of the new development framework. Recognizing the role of democratic governance as a key enabler of sustainable development, as well as of well-being in general, the IPU is advocating at the United Nations for democratic governance to be included among the new SDGs as a stand-alone goal and/or as a dimension of other goals.

This workshop is intended to help parliamentarians reflect on democratic governance in its key dimensions and applications. It will help fine-tune the IPU position in this arena while also creating a common understanding among Members both of the issue and of the ways and means in which they can help support it.

In the lead-up to the workshop, parliamentarians will be invited to respond to a survey questionnaire that probes their own views on democratic governance. The workshop itself will consist of short introductory presentations on the general topic, a discussion of the results of the parliamentary survey, and small group discussions among participants on specific questions.

The outcome of the workshop will consist of practical inputs for the IPU to feed into the UN-led global consultations. It will also be designed to encourage MPs to supporting democratic governance as part of the new SDGs.

Questions to be discussed will be aimed at:

- Defining the objectives of a possible democratic governance goal that would apply to both developed and developing countries;
- Articulating key elements of participation, accountability and transparency; and
- Fleshing out strategic approaches MPs can utilize in support of the goal.

DRAFT PROGRAMME

Welcome remarks	The global drive towards new Sustainable Development Goals	5 mins.
Brief presentation of the process leading to a new global development agenda	Martin Chungong, IPU Deputy Secretary General	
General overview	Democratic governance and development: What linkages?	50 mins.
A review of the field complemented by real life illustrations of how democratic governance at various levels directly affects sustainable development outcomes.	Presenters: Charles Chauvel, Parliamentary Adviser, Democratic Governance Group, UNDP Member of Parliament (tbc)	15 mins.
	Interactive exchange with participants: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does democratic governance mean in practice? • How does it impact policy results in all domains – economic, social and environmental? • How does democratic governance differ between developed and developing countries? 	35 mins.
Survey presentation	A democratic governance goal: How would it work?	25 mins.
Presentation and discussion of a survey of MPs conducted in the course of the Assembly. The discussion will revolve around the question of possible targets that may be part of a new governance goal.	Short presentation of survey results by IPU and UNDP practitioners: MPs impressions on a governance goal and related targets	10 mins.
	Comments from participants in response to survey results	15 mins.
Group discussions	Principles vs. action: How can MPs support change?	60 mins.
Participants will be invited to form small groups to discuss a specific question (one per table). Each group will appoint a rapporteur to facilitate the discussion and report back to the room. Group reports will be further analysed in perspective.	Group guidelines and organization of the room	10 mins.
	Group 1 reviewing survey results	20 mins.
	Group 2 uncovering further aspects	
	Group 3 identifying MPs' follow-up actions (pledges)	
	Report from group discussions (2 mins. per table)	30 mins.
Questions to be discussed will seek to further define the objectives of a possible democratic governance goal, articulating key elements of participation, accountability and transparency, and fleshing out strategic approaches that MPs can utilize in support of the goal.		
Closing	Our shared message	10 mins.
	A brief summary of the key messages of the meetings will be introduced.	