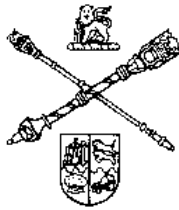


**PARLEMENT VAN DIE REPUBLIEK VAN SUID-AFRIKA
PARLIAMENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF SOUTH AFRICA**



Cape Town, May 2002

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

As a country itself faced with substantial development challenges and keenly aware of the need for a constructive partnership between the developed and developing world that must recognise our common, but differentiated responsibilities for working towards sustainable development, South Africa is privileged to host the World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg from 26 August to 4 September 2002. The World Summit will focus the world's attention and direct action towards meeting the difficult challenges of achieving sustainable human development.

As you know, the IPU Council, at its session in Marrakech, decided to lend its full support to the World Summit. In this respect, the IPU has, over a number of years, been urging national parliaments to take an active part in the preparation, holding and follow-up of the Summit. The Council has formally approved the holding of a parliamentary meeting to run concurrently with the Summit in order to mobilise parliamentary action in support of its objectives. We are therefore pleased to invite your Parliament to participate in a two-day meeting on 29 and 30 August 2002 on the theme: *Sustainable development: The role of Parliaments in ensuring implementation and accountability*.

The event is convened to stimulate an exchange of views on concrete actions in which Parliaments and their members can engage. In addition, it will provide a parliamentary dimension to the intergovernmental negotiations on a Programme of Action for Sustainable Development through a parliamentary message delivered to the Summit in Johannesburg. As the host of the Meeting, the South African Parliament expresses the sincere hope that you and senior members of your Parliament who are involved in the promotion of sustainable development, such as the chairpersons of relevant parliamentary committees, will be part of your national delegation to the World Summit.

We are equally pleased to take this opportunity to invite all participants to attend a reception which the South African Parliament will host on the evening of 29 August.

A convocation letter from the IPU with all relevant details about the parliamentary meeting is attached for your information.

The South African Parliament is looking forward to welcoming your representatives in Johannesburg. We are confident that you will find the event stimulating and will enjoy our South African hospitality.

Yours sincerely,



Dr. F.N. Ginwala
Speaker of the National Assembly
of South Africa



Mrs. G.N.M. Pandor
Chairperson of the National Council
of Provinces of South Africa