



Geneva, 30 August 2012

Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

We have the pleasure to invite your parliament to participate in a regional parliamentary workshop on political representation and constituency work, to be held in Port-of-Spain (Trinidad) on 26-27 November 2012. The workshop will be co-organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago.

The workshop will analyse the state of relations between parliaments and citizens in the English-speaking Caribbean. It is intended to help parliamentarians to identify practical ways to enhance their representative role, which is vital to the health of democracy. The workshop will build on the analysis developed in the first *Global Parliamentary Report*, published by the IPU and UNDP in April 2012 (www.ipu.org/gpr).

The workshop will also provide an opportunity to exchange information about the recent activities of the IPU, to strengthen channels of communication and cooperation between the IPU and parliaments in the region, and to examine modalities whereby these can engage more fully in global parliamentary cooperation.

In an effort to ensure that all parliaments are represented, the IPU will sponsor one return ticket to Port-of-Spain in economy class per parliament. The modalities for sponsorship are explained in the practical information note. It would be greatly appreciated if your parliament could send a delegation of up to three members to participate in this meeting, inclusive of men and women, and governing and opposition parties.

The draft agenda, background note, practical information note and registration form are enclosed. We look forward to receiving confirmation of your participation in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johansson
Secretary General
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Wade Mark
Speaker of the House of Representatives
Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago