CONVOCATION
OF THE INAUGURAL SESSION OF THE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE
MEDITERRANEAN

Madam President,
Mr. President,

We have pleasure in informing you that, at the kind invitation of the Parliament of Jordan, the
Inaugural Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean will be held in Amman
(Jordan), on 10 and 11 September 2006 at Le Royal Hotel.

Aims of the Inaugural session

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean was established to give more stature to
parliamentary diplomacy in the Mediterranean region. It is to provide the Mediterranean region
with a unique parliamentary forum of its own, unattached to any ongoing process, where the
members of the Assembly will be able to draw up and examine their own agenda. It will enhance
the participation of Mediterranean States, thus enabling them to proceed beyond conceptual
analyses to the drawing up of recommendations and opinions on questions of direct concern to
them and to the Mediterranean space.

The main objectives of this Inaugural session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean
(PAM) is to adopt its basic statutory documents, elect the Bureau Members and finalize
arrangements for the year 2007.

1. AGENDA

The agenda of the Assembly, as approved at the preparatory meeting in June 2005 in Naples, is as
follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Election of a President for the Inaugural Session
3. Adoption of the Statutes of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean
4. Discussion on and adoption of the Rules of Procedure
5. Election of the Members of the Bureau of the Assembly
6. Discussion and decision on the venue of the Headquarters of the PAM Executive Secretariat as well as the procedure and timing for the selection of the Executive Secretary
7. Discussion and decision on the PAM budget
8. Discussion and decision on the venue of the second session of the PAM
9. Discussion and adoption of themes for the agenda of the second session of the PAM
10. Discussion on and adoption of a Final Declaration
11. Closure of the Inaugural Session

2. PARTICIPATION

Article 5 of the draft Statutes of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean stipulates that:

"1. Upon request, the parliaments of the Mediterranean coastal States and Jordan, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia and Portugal shall be ex officio Members of the Assembly.
2. The parliaments of countries that are geographically situated near the Mediterranean or that have common interests with the region and inter-parliamentary organisations that are active in the Mediterranean region may, on request, be invited to participate in the work of the Assembly as Associate Members."

Article 11 of the draft Statutes of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean stipulates that:

"1. The principle of equality of the Members shall govern the composition of the Assembly and its decision-making process.
2. Delegations of the Member Parliaments at the Assembly sessions shall be composed of at most five members of parliament.
3. Members shall include male and female parliamentarians in their delegation."

3. PROGRAMME AND TIMETABLE OF WORK

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Meeting</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Saturday, 9 September</td>
<td>2 to 6 p.m.</td>
<td>• Arrival and registration of delegates</td>
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<tr>
<td>2006</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sunday, 10 September</td>
<td>9 a.m. to 6 p.m.</td>
<td>• Registration of delegates</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>2.30 to 4 p.m.</td>
<td>• Meeting of the Provisional Bureau</td>
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<td>4.30 to 6 p.m.</td>
<td>• Meetings of the geopolitical groups</td>
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<td>Monday, 11 September</td>
<td>9 a.m. to 1 p.m.</td>
<td>• Opening Ceremony</td>
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<td>2006</td>
<td>2.30 to 5.30 p.m.</td>
<td>• Plenary sitting</td>
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<td>5.30 to 6.30 p.m.</td>
<td>• Plenary sitting and close of the Inaugural session</td>
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<td>Tuesday, 12 September</td>
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<td>• Meeting of the Bureau of the PAM</td>
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<td>2006</td>
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<td>• Departure of delegations</td>
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4. **LANGUAGES**

The Secretariat of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will provide simultaneous interpretation into and from the two official languages of the Union, English and French, as well as Arabic, at the Assembly.

5. **ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE SESSION**

Further information concerning the session will be provided in the “General Information” document (available before the opening of the Session) and the "Additional practical information concerning the organisation of the Session" document (distributed to delegations on registering).

6. **REGISTRATION, HOTEL ACCOMMODATION AND VISAS**

Delegations are kindly requested to note the following deadlines for the registration of delegates and for hotel reservations.

**Registration of Delegates**

All participants must adhere strictly to the registration deadline of **18 August 2006**. Please return the registration form for delegations annexed to this Convocation to both the Parliament of Jordan and the IPU Secretariat by that date. The address is as follows:

Mr. Sufian Elhassan  
Director of Research and Information Dept.  
House of Representatives  
Parliament of Jordan  
P.O. Box 72  
11101 Amman  
Jordan

Telephone: +9626 563 5100 /200  
Telphone: +962 795523921  
Fax: +9626 568 5970

Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Chemin du Pommier, N° 5  
Case postale 330  
1218 Le Grand-Saconnex / Geneva  
Switzerland

Telephone: +41 22 919 41 50  
Fax: +41 22 919 41 60  
E-mail: postbox@mail.ipu.org

**IMPORTANT**

**Hotel reservations**

The hotel reservation forms annexed to the invitation from the Parliament of Jordan, which will handle all hotel reservations, must be returned to the following address by **10 August 2006**:

House of Representatives  
Parliament of Jordan  
P.O. Box 72  
11118 Amman  
Jordan

Telephone: +9626 563 5100 /200  
Fax: +9626 568 5970
The Parliament of Jordan has sole responsibility for all matters relating to delegations' accommodation and visas. It is therefore important that any communication concerning these matters be sent directly to the host Parliament (see address above), and not to the IPU Secretariat.

We hope that your Parliament will be represented at the Inaugural Session of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean and that the delegation, under your leadership, will take an active part in the proceedings.

Yours sincerely,

Pier Ferdinando CASINI
President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Anders B. JOHNSSON
Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union