

People's Assembly of Egypt

Hungarian National Assembly

27 August 2009

Madam President, Mr. President,

We are very pleased to announce that the next World e-Parliament Conference will be held at the U.S. House of Representatives in Washington, D.C. on 3, 4 and 5 November 2009.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2009 is co-organized by the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the U.S. House of Representatives and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, and is intended to promote the effective use of modern technologies in legislatures.

The Conference presents a unique opportunity at a global level for parliamentary institutions to exchange views and lessons learned on the impact of new technologies on the representative, legislative, and oversight functions of national and regional assemblies. A number of key international organizations and institutions are joining the co-organizers to support the event.

The meeting builds on the results of the World e-Parliament Conference 2007 and 2008, held respectively in Geneva and Brussels, and on the World e-Parliament Report 2008, the first publication on this topic issued by the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2009 is aimed principally at members of parliaments, secretaries-general, parliamentary staff and officials, experts from international organizations, and academics who deal with information and communication technologies in parliaments. It is the leading world forum for learning about best practices, networking with peers, and building partnerships in an international setting.

Approximately 400 participants are expected to take part in the general debate and parallel tracks forming the agenda. Presentations, which will be delivered by parliamentary leaders, senior staff, and world renowned experts, will showcase cutting edge solutions, offer informative case studies, and provide important discussions of critical issues. At the World e-Parliament Conference 2009, the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament will present some of the preliminary results from its world-wide survey of ICT in legislatures. In addition, the Centre will launch guidelines and tools to help parliaments assess and improve their technological capacity. The conference will also serve as a forum to identify and agree upon future technology goals for the international community of parliaments - a shared e-parliament framework - which will help legislatures enhance their representative, legislative and oversight functions and improve inter-parliamentary cooperation.

To ensure representation from all parliaments around the world, the coorganizers will make efforts to support the travel and per diem of a number of parliamentary staff from developing countries. At the conference, simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish.

The preliminary agenda, a document outlining the goals, expectations and structure of the World e-Parliament Conference 2009, a practical information note and the registration form are enclosed as a first reference. Additional information concerning the Conference will be made available on the web site www.ictparliament.org/WePC2009. However, information can also be obtained from the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament in Rome, Italy (conference@ictparliament.org; tel +39 06 6813-6320 ext. 210; fax +39 06 68211960).

We very much hope that your Assembly will participate in this event and we look forward to receiving the names of your delegates in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Ahmed Fathy Sorour Speaker People's Assembly of Egypt

Co-Chair of the Board Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

Katalin Szili Speaker Hungarian National Assembly

Co-Chair of the Board Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

