



# INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

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TELEGRAPHIC ADDRESS : INTERPARLEMENT GENEVE

15 September 2009

Dear Madam President,  
Dear Mr. President,

The global economic crisis combined with high food prices in many countries has pushed one hundred million more people into acute hunger and poverty over the last year. A staggering one billion people - or one of every six persons on earth - now lives on the brink of starvation.

To address this crisis, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) will hold an extraordinary World Summit on Food Security in Rome from 16 to 18 November 2009. We wish to take this opportunity to encourage you to make sure that your parliament is represented in the national delegation that will attend this major global meeting from your country.

The purpose of this communication is to invite the members of your parliament who will be in Rome for the Summit to take part in a parliamentary meeting on the theme of ***Parliaments addressing agriculture, hunger and food insecurity in times of global crisis.***

The one day meeting will take place on Friday, 13 November 2009, in the Italian Chamber of Deputies. It is to be organized by the Italian Parliament in cooperation with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and has the full support of the FAO. The Speaker of the Italian Chamber of Deputies will report on its outcome to the Food Summit.

Further details regarding the parliamentary meeting will be sent to you in due course, including the draft programme and provisional agenda. Please note that this meeting is organized for those members of parliament who are part of their national delegation to the World Summit on Food Security. We therefore encourage you to contact the appropriate national authorities to ensure that members of your parliament accompany the delegation to the summit. Registrations for the meeting should be sent by email to: [cerimoniale@camera.it](mailto:cerimoniale@camera.it) or by fax to: +3906 676 02566.

We look forward to welcoming members of your Parliament at the parliamentary meeting in Rome and to engaging with them in a constructive discussion on action parliaments can take to achieve the goal of ending hunger in the world.

Yours sincerely,

Renato Schifani  
President, Italian Senate

Gianfranco Fini  
President, Italian Chamber of Deputies

Theo-Ben Gurirab  
President, Inter-Parliamentary Union