



## PARLIAMENTARY FORUM ON THE OCCASION OF THE FOURTH UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON THE LEAST DEVELOPED COUNTRIES (LDC IV)

Istanbul, Turkey 8 May 2011

*Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the  
Grand National Assembly of Turkey, with the support of UN-OHRLS*

### PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

8:45 a.m. Doors open

9:30 a.m. **Welcome and opening statements**

- Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Secretary General of the United Nations
- Prime Minister of Nepal, Chair of the LDC Group
- Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey

#### **PART I: POLICIES AND POLITICS OF LDC DEVELOPMENT**

9:45 a.m. **A hard look at the LDCs today: progress and setbacks, and their political underpinnings**

- Secretary General of the Fourth UN Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC IV) (5 min.)
- Senator, Parliament of Cambodia (5 min.)
- Member of Parliament, Turkey (5 min.)

Moderator:  
Member of Parliament, Zambia

#### ***Interactive discussion with participants (60 min.)***

- *How much of the problem is economic, and how much of it is political?*
- *Can the LDCs do more to help themselves and what supportive policies are needed from the international community?*

11:00 a.m. **Overview of the 2011 - 2020 Istanbul Programme of Action**

- Permanent Representative of Nepal to the United Nations (5 min.)
- Network for the Promotion of Democracy and Economic and Social Rights (5 min.)
- Member of Parliament - Member of the UN LDC Group of Eminent Persons (5 min.) (TBC)

Moderator: Member of the UN LDC Group  
of Eminent Persons / Member of  
Parliament (TBC)

***Interactive discussion with participants (60 min.)***

- *What are the main lines of action and principles of the IPOA?*
- *How will the IPOA work alongside other commitments such as the Millennium Development Goals?*
- *What role do parliaments have in the IPOA?*

12:30 p.m. *Lunch: Offered by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey*

**PART II: COUNTRY LEVEL INITIATIVES IN SUPPORT OF  
THE ISTANBUL PROGRAMME OF ACTION**

2:30 p.m. **From commitment to action: mobilizing parliamentary support for the IPOA**  
Group discussions (40 min.)

- *How can the IPOA be effectively integrated into national development plans?*
- *What capacities are most urgent to help parliaments oversee the IPOA and enact appropriate legislation?*

Responses from tables (20 min.)

Moderated by the IPU

3:30 p.m. **Presentation of the IPU-UN project proposal (PowerPoint) and discussion on a Parliamentary Action Plan (60 min.)**

- Director, Division of Programmes, IPU (7 min.)
- Acting Director (OHRLLS), Executive Secretary of LDC IV (7 min.)
- Member of Parliament, Bangladesh (7 min.)
- UN Resident Coordinator (7 min.) (TBC)

Facilitator: Assistant Secretary General and  
Director of the Bureau for Development  
Policy, UNDP

***Interactive table discussion with participants (60 min)***

- *How to best organize the work of parliament to exercise better oversight of development commitments such as the IPOA?*
- *What would a typical Parliamentary Action Plan to carry forward the IPOA look like?*
- *Are parliamentary focal points useful and what should their function be within parliaments and vis-à-vis the outside world?*
- *How can the UN system support parliamentary engagement with the IPOA at the country level?*

5: 30 p.m. **Closure of the meeting:** endorsement of the global Parliamentary Action Plan outline; parliamentary message to the conference; suggested activities during LDC IV, and other housekeeping business.

*Dinner: Offered by the Grand National Assembly of Turkey*