

Parliaments and the Rule of Law: toward justice for all

Jointly organized by the IPU and IDLO, with the sponsorship of the Mission of Italy

Wednesday, 26 September 2012; from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.

Conference Room 3 (NLB- UNHQ)

3 p.m.	<i>Welcome remarks</i> Mr. Anders Johnsson, Secretary-General, Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Ms. Irene Khan, Director General, International Development Law Organization (IDLO)
3:10 p.m.	The Rule of Law at the United Nations: a critical perspective on the High Level Meeting of Heads of State and its outcome document
	<i>Moderator</i> H.E. Mr. Antonio Bernardini, Deputy Permanent Representative of Italy to the UN <i>Presenters</i> Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba, Co-Facilitator for the High Level Meeting (Mexico) Ambassador Eduardo Ulibarri, Permanent Representative of Costa Rica to the United Nations Hon. Othmar Karas, Vice President, European Parliament Mr. Edric Selous, Director, United Nations Rule of Law Unit <i>Leading questions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• What ought to be the guiding principles of the rule of law both nationally and internationally?• How can all stakeholders work together to support the rule of law?• How can parliaments support the inclusion of citizens' voices in efforts to strengthen the rule of law as a foundation for international and national governance systems?• How can the rule of law reinforce the inter-linkages between the peace/security, human rights and development missions of the United Nations?
4:20 p.m.	Building confidence in the justice system: the role of parliaments
	<i>Moderator</i> Ms. Irene Khan, Director General, IDLO <i>Presenters</i> Hon. Eero Heinäluoma, Speaker of Parliament, Finland Hon. Asylbec Jeenbekov, Speaker of Parliament, Kyrgyz Republic Hon. Dr. Mouhamed Tete Diedhiou, Member of Parliament, Senegal Ambassador Rosario Green, fmr. Senator, Mexico Ms. Christina Storm, Founder, Lawyers without Borders <i>Leading questions</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• How can parliaments effectively safeguard the independence and fairness of the judiciary, especially in fragile states?• What role can parliamentarians play in ensuring that citizens enjoy equal access to justice?• How can parliaments contribute to enhancing legal awareness among citizens?• How can parliaments facilitate free and open access to law through the use of new technologies?
5:50 p.m.	Closing remarks, Mr. Anders Johnsson, IPU Secretary General