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**CONVOCAATION OF THE  
2005 PARLIAMENTARY HEARING AT THE UNITED NATIONS**

Geneva, 22 July 2005

Dear Madam President,  
Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to announce that the 2005 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations during the 60<sup>th</sup> session of the General Assembly will take place on 31 October and 1 November. As in past years, it will be held in the Economic and Social Council Chamber of the United Nations Headquarters in New York. Details concerning registration and access to the UN Building are provided in the attached [information note](#) and its accompanying [registration form](#).

This year's meeting is entitled "*Our Shared Responsibility for a Stronger United Nations to Meet the Challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*". The discussions will centre on some of the key components of the United Nations Secretary-General's agenda for reform on promoting and implementing freedom from want, freedom from fear, and freedom to live in dignity. The agenda and speakers for each of these topics will be announced at a later stage.

The meeting will offer members of parliament and, in particular, those who are members of parliamentary standing or select committees on foreign affairs, national security and international development, an opportunity to receive substantive briefings and provide input to current debates at the United Nations. Each segment of the debates will be assisted by a rapporteur who will help in drawing some concrete conclusions and recommendations from the discussion. The rapporteurs will come back in the early afternoon of the second day of deliberations to present the summary of each session.

I look forward to seeing you and many of your colleagues at this year's meeting in New York.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson  
Secretary General