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Geneva, 15 October 2009

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to write to you again regarding the annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations, which will take place in New York on 19 and 20 November 2009.

As you know, this year's hearing, entitled "*The Way Forward – Building political support and implementing effective responses to the global economic crisis*", is convened formally as a joint UN-IPU event. It is designed to enable parliamentarians to meet and engage with senior United Nations officials on a matter which continues to be very high on both the national and the international agenda. The United Nations Secretary-General and the President of the UN General Assembly, as well as other prominent members of the broader United Nations community, will join us for this important meeting.

I am pleased to send you the annotated agenda for the hearing, as well as the information note and registration form. In preparation for the discussions, we would encourage participants to consult the *Outcome Document of the UN Conference on the World Financial and Economic Crisis and its Impact on Development*, adopted in June of this year (available on the hearing webpage at <http://www.ipu.org/Splz-e/unga09.htm>), which recognizes the role and responsibility of parliaments in addressing the global crisis. This comes in the aftermath of IPU's own global parliamentary conference in May, which helped create a shared understanding among parliamentarians of the causes of the crisis and of the need to exercise more stringent oversight of both government action and of the international financial institutions. Further information about the previous Parliamentary Conference on the Global Economic Crisis (Geneva, 7-8 May), including the summary records of the proceedings and presentations by key panellists, can be accessed at <http://www.ipu.org/splz-e/finance09.htm>

In light of the growing cooperation between the United Nations and the IPU, and the need for greater solidarity among the international community in effectively dealing with the aftermath of the global economic crisis, we would strongly encourage all parliaments to send a delegation to the 2009 Parliamentary Hearing.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General