



Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations

28-29 November 2011
United Nations Headquarters
New York



14 September 2011

Madam President,
Mr. President,

We are pleased to announce that the 2011 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations will take place during the sixty-sixth session of the General Assembly, on 28-29 November, at UN Headquarters in New York. We attach particular importance to this annual Hearing, which is convened as a joint UN-IPU event, pursuant to General Assembly resolutions 61/6 and 63/24.

This year's meeting is entitled ***Strengthening political accountability for a more peaceful and prosperous world***. You will find attached an information note and registration form. The full agenda and other relevant documentation will be sent to parliaments in the coming weeks. The Hearing will take the form of panel discussions and inter-active exchanges with UN officials, experts and diplomatic representatives. It will examine aspects relating to:

- The role of the United Nations General Assembly in strengthening global accountability;
- Youth participation in the democratic process – challenges and opportunities;
- Accountability in the management of public funds – good practices and model legislation for budget transparency;
- Strengthening the links between national institutions and civil society – toward more open societies.

As in the past, the summary report of the Parliamentary Hearing will be circulated as an official document of both the IPU and the United Nations General Assembly. The meeting proposes to bring together legislators who are part of their national delegations to the UN General Assembly, as well as other interested parliamentarians, in particular those whose work in their parliamentary committees concerns the main themes of the Hearing. We invite parliaments to confirm their participation by 14 November.

Yours sincerely,

Theo-Ben Gurirab
President
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Nassir Abdulaziz Al-Nasser
President, 66th Session of the
United Nations General Assembly