



## 2007 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations



**ECOSOC Chamber  
20 – 21 November 2007**

13 August 2007

### ***CONVOCATION OF THE 2007 PARLIAMENTARY HEARING AT THE UNITED NATIONS***

Excellency,

We are pleased to announce that the 2007 Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations during the 62<sup>nd</sup> session of the General Assembly will take place in the ECOSOC Chamber at United Nations Headquarters in New York, on 20 and 21 November. We attach particular importance to this hearing, not least because it is the first time that we are holding it as a joint informal UN-IPU event, as referred to in paragraph 7 of General Assembly Resolution 61/6. You will find attached an information note and registration form.

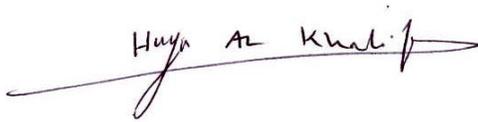
This year's meeting is entitled ***“Reinforcing the Rule of Law in International Relations: The Key Role of Parliaments”***. The discussions will centre on the following aspects:

- priorities, challenges and goals of the new United Nations management team;
- observing the rule of law in the implementation of key international commitments in the area of disarmament and non-proliferation;
- follow-up to the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and challenges in the formulation of an International Convention on Terrorism;
- the legacy of the international tribunals and building national capacities for an effective international criminal justice regime.

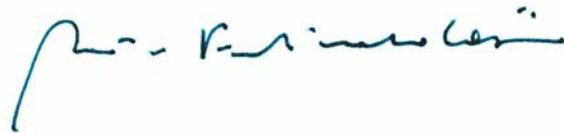
The full agenda and document sets will be sent to parliaments in September. Each session of the Hearing – to be organized in the form of panel discussions - will be assisted by a rapporteur, who will present a summary of discussions in the afternoon of the second day and submit conclusions and recommendations. The Report of the Parliamentary Hearing will subsequently be circulated.

As in the past, the 2007 Parliamentary Hearing will bring together legislators who are part of their national delegations to the United Nations General Assembly, as well as all other interested parliamentarians, in particular those whose work in their parliamentary committees concerns the issues outlined above. We kindly ask that you nominate a delegation to take part in this important event, and that the composition of your delegation be communicated by November 5, 2007.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of our highest consideration.



Haya Rashed Al Khalifa  
President of the 61st Session  
United Nations General Assembly



Pier Ferdinando Casini  
President  
Inter-Parliamentary Union



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### Information Note

The meeting will take place in the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), inside the main UN building (2<sup>nd</sup> floor), on **20 and 21 November**. The proceedings will start at 10 a.m.. Doors will open at 9:30 a.m. to allow delegations sufficient time to find their seats.

The President of the United Nations General Assembly and the President of the IPU will welcome participants at the opening. Panels will feature members of parliament, senior officials of the United Nations, members of the diplomatic corps, and experts. A complete list of discussants and sub-topics will be circulated by 15 October.

#### FORMAT

The proceedings will be structured as an interactive informal consultation. Following panel presentations, participants will be invited to ask questions or make comments in intervals of two to three minutes so as to allow for as many interventions as possible. Prepared statements are strongly discouraged and will not be circulated. There will be no formal list of speakers and all interventions (by show of hand) will be managed by a moderator who will endeavor to keep the discussion focused and interactive. Other details concerning the format of the meeting will be announced at the opening.

#### LANGUAGES

Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. In addition, there are two interpretation booths available to national delegations wishing to bring their own interpreters. Requests for these booths should be submitted by email to [ny-office@mail.ipu.org](mailto:ny-office@mail.ipu.org), and no later than 15 October. They will be satisfied on a first-come, first-served basis.

#### DOCUMENTS

Background notes on the various topics, together with a detailed programme of work, will be sent to member parliaments by 15 October.

## RECEPTION

All participants are cordially invited to a reception on the first day of the meeting (20 November) in the Delegates' Dining Room (4<sup>th</sup> floor of the UN building), beginning at 6 p.m.

## TRAVEL AND ACCOMMODATION

Delegations are expected to make their own travel and an accommodation arrangement, as neither the IPU nor the UN is in the position to handle the travel requests of hundreds of participants. Please note that hotels in New York can be fully booked during the fall period and that better rates and more choice may be afforded when reserving early. Your country's Permanent Mission to the United Nations may be of assistance with this.

## BADGE TO ENTER THE UN BUILDING

Security arrangements at the United Nations are very strict and no one is allowed to enter without a special badge issued by the Pass Office. Pass applications must be submitted in advance through your country's Permanent Mission to the United Nations, and at the request of your parliamentary delegation.

## REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS

Interested participants must register by faxing the attached registration form to the Office of the IPU Permanent Observer to the United Nations in New York. If preferred, the names and titles of participants can be transmitted by e-mail (please specify the country of origin, parliamentary title, etc. as per the registration form), beginning with the name of the Head of Delegation.

Accompanying staff such as secretaries, press officers and others must be listed separately, as indicated in the form.



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### ECOSOC Chamber 20 – 21 November 2007

**REGISTRATION FORM TO BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED BY 5 NOVEMBER TO:**

Office of the IPU Permanent Observer to the United Nations (New York, USA)

Fax: + (1 212) 557 3954

E-mail: [ny-office@mail.ipu.org](mailto:ny-office@mail.ipu.org)

**Country:** .....

*PLEASE PRINT*

Mr./Ms.	First Name	Family Name	Parliamentary Function <sup>1</sup>

#### FOR ACCOMPANYING PEOPLE ONLY

**(Personal assistants, secretaries, press officers, interpreters and others)**

Mr./Ms.	First Name	Family Name	Job Title

<sup>1</sup> Please specify if you are an MP or Senator, as well as if you are a member of a parliamentary committee dealing with the issues on the agenda. **Head of Delegation** should be listed first.