

UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

5, CHEMIN DU POMMIER
CASE POSTALE 330
1218 LE GRAND-SACONNEX / GENÈVE (SUISSE)

TELEPHONE (41.22) 919 41 50
FAX (41.22) 919 41 60
E-MAIL postbox@mail.ipu.org
ADR. TELEGR. INTERPARLEMENT GENEVE

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Madam President,
Mr. President,

IPU, in cooperation with the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) and the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions (IFLA) Section on Library and research services for parliaments, will organize a Conference on **“Informing democracy: Building capacity to meet parliamentarians’ information and knowledge needs”** in Geneva (Switzerland) on **Thursday, 16 October 2008**.

The Conference will focus on the evolving information needs of parliamentarians, the role that can be played by parliamentary library and research services, and the development of good practices. It will enable an exchange of perspectives on the challenges faced by parliaments in obtaining the information and knowledge they require. The Conference will be relevant to parliamentarians, secretaries general and staff of parliamentary library and research services.

The Conference will be held immediately after the 119th IPU Assembly to facilitate the participation of delegates who may already be in Geneva for the IPU Assembly and the ASGP meeting. It will build on the successful experience of organizing conferences on parliamentary broadcasting (2006) and information technology in parliament (2007).

Interpretation will be provided in English, French, Spanish and Arabic. The provisional agenda for the Conference is enclosed, as well as a registration form and a background document. All documents will also be posted on the IPU web site.

I very much hope that your parliament will participate in this event and look forward to receiving the names of your delegates in due course.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General