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**Mogens Lykketoft**  
Speaker of the Parliament  
Folketinget, Christiansborg  
Copenhagen 1240  
Denmark

Bellerivestr. 29  
CH-8008 Zürich  
Tel: +41 44 268 69 21  
Fax: +41 44 268 69 22

**Brussels Office:**  
Boulevard Charlemagne 96  
B-1000 Brussels  
Tel: +32 27 33 13 44  
[mail@womeninparliaments.org](mailto:mail@womeninparliaments.org)  
[www.womeninparliaments.org](http://www.womeninparliaments.org)

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Dear Speaker,

The Women in Parliaments Global Forum (WIP) has the honour of inviting you, and a delegation of female Parliamentarians from your august Chamber, to the **WIP Annual Summit 2015, co-hosted with the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 23-25 March 2015.**

The WIP Annual Summit 2015 will be held under the theme **"New Leadership for Global Challenges"** in the Headquarters of the African Union, and will focus on the need for leaders that are willing to work together, share insights and innovations on how best to navigate the future. Special attention will be given to the **unique role female parliamentarians play in the definition and implementation of international commitments** such as the **Post-2015 Agenda** as well as the **Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action.**

It would be a great honour and indeed send a strong signal, if a delegation of female Parliamentarians from your Parliament could join us at the WIP Annual Summit 2015. It would pay tribute to your Parliament's and your country's dedication to gender equality and to advance society by encouraging female participation in politics. For this purpose, **we kindly invite you to set up a delegation of female Members of your Parliament to participate in the WIP Annual Summit 2015.**

Fully aware that the African Union has declared 2015 as the **"Women's Empowerment Year and Africa Development for the concretisation of Agenda 2063"**, WIP finds it most strategic to organise its WIP Annual Summit 2015 in cooperation with the African Union Commission in Addis Ababa.

In co-operation with international institutions such as the **African Union, European Union, OECD, United Nations and World Bank**, the WIP Annual Summit 2015 will gather female Parliamentarians from all over the world to discuss answers to challenges that lie in 2015 and



beyond. Highlights of the programme include plenary debates with prominent international speakers; special break-out sessions and interactive panel discussions; as well as not forgetting the prestigious WIP Awards to countries which outperform on closing the gender gap in politics. The WIP Awards, suffice to mention, are based on the rankings of the World Economic Forum's "Global Gender Gap Report".

Please be advised that the programme of the WIP Annual Summit 2015 will be sent to you in the near future and regular updates will be featured on our website. An invitation has recently been sent to all female members of national Parliaments, of which there are approximately 9000 worldwide.

The Women in Parliaments Global Forum is delighted to be hosted by the African Union Commission and is very much looking forward to welcoming your delegation to the WIP Annual Summit 2015.

Please do not hesitate to revert to us with any further concerns and remarks.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Silvana Koch-Mehrin', is written in a cursive style.

Silvana Koch-Mehrin

Founder Women In Parliaments Global Forum  
Former Vice President European Parliament

