

UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Kopi af FR  
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CHEMIN DU POMMIER 5  
CASE POSTALE 330  
1218 LE GRAND-SACONNEX / GENEVE (SUISSE)

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

**Law and justice: The case for parliamentary scrutiny**

Seminar for members of parliamentary human rights bodies  
Geneva, 25-27 September 2006

Geneva, 10 July 2006

Dear Mr. President,

Further to my letter of 19 June 2006 inviting your parliament to participate in the Seminar on Law and Justice: The case for parliamentary scrutiny, I am pleased to send you hereto attached the preliminary programme for the Seminar.

The final programme containing the names of the persons who will introduce the various topics on the Seminar's agenda will be posted on the IPU web site as soon as possible.

Our Secretariat remains at your disposal for any further information you may require regarding the participation of your parliament in the Seminar.

I look forward to welcoming a delegation from your parliament on this occasion and remain,

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson  
Secretary General

Mr. Jørgen Nielsen  
Consultant, Legal Affairs Committee 3  
Committee Secretariat  
Folketinget  
Christiansborg, 1240 COPENHAGEN K  
Denmark

✓cc: Mr. Christian Mejdahl, President of the Folketinget, Copenhagen  
cc: Mrs. Pia Larsen, MP, President of the Danish Inter-Parliamentary Group, Copenhagen

# Law and justice: The case for parliamentary scrutiny

Seminar for members or parliamentary human rights bodies organized jointly by  
the Association for the Prevention of Torture, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the International Commission of Jurists

GENEVA, IPU HEADQUARTERS, 25-27 SEPTEMBER 2006



## PROVISIONAL PROGRAMME

### MONDAY, 25 SEPTEMBER

8 a.m. - 9.30 a.m.

9.30 a.m. - 10.15 a.m.

10.15 a.m. - 11 a.m.

11 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

4 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.

4.15 p.m. - 6 p.m.

6 p.m.

### TUESDAY, 26 SEPTEMBER

9.30 a.m. - 11.15 a.m.

11.15 a.m. - 11.30 a.m.

11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2.30 p.m. - 4 p.m.

4 p.m. - 4.15 p.m.

4.15 p.m. - 6 p.m.

### WEDNESDAY, 27 SEPTEMBER

9.30 a.m. - 11 a.m.

11 a.m. - 11.15 a.m.

11.15 a.m. - 1 p.m.

2.30 p.m. - 3.45 p.m.

3.45 p.m. - 4 p.m.

4 p.m. - 6 p.m.

Registration of participants and distribution of documents

#### ► Inaugural session:

- Welcome address by Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
- Address by Mrs. Louise Arbour, United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (to be confirmed)
- Opening statements by Ms. Martine Brunschwig Graf, President of the APT and member of the Swiss Parliament, and Mr. Nicholas Howen, Secretary General of the ICJ
- Election of the President and Rapporteur of the seminar

#### ► Keynote presentation: Law and justice: the case for parliamentary scrutiny

##### Deprivation of liberty: Law and practice

- Arrest and detention
- The prohibition of (and challenges to) torture and other ill-treatment under international law

##### Coffee break

- The responsibility of parliaments and their members to prevent torture and ensure human conditions of detention: legislative and oversight measures
- Reception (IPU Headquarters)

#### ► Ensuring the fair course of justice

- The right to a fair trial: Legal overview
- The presumption of innocence, equality of arms and the right to be tried without undue delay: what parliaments can do to guarantee these essential ingredients of the right to a fair trial

##### Coffee break

- How to ensure an independent and impartial judiciary, a pillar of democracy

#### ► Security and Justice

- The use of military tribunals
- Administrative detention on security grounds

##### Coffee break

#### ► The fight against impunity: the International Criminal Court and transnational justice

#### ► Execution of sentence

- The purpose and forms of punishment
- The privatization of prisons and its impact on the human rights of detainees

##### Coffee break

#### ► Vulnerable groups

- The detention of asylum seekers, immigrants and mentally disabled persons
- Juvenile justice

##### Coffee break

#### ► Evaluation by participants

#### ► Conclusion