



Global Centre  ICTParliament
Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament

Bilag 1

24 January 2007

Excellency,

We have the pleasure to inform you that the Chamber of Deputies of Italy is organizing the International Conference "The policymaking role of Parliaments in the development of the Information Society". The Conference, hosted by the Chamber of Deputies in its Assembly Hall, will take place on 3 and 4 March 2007 in Rome.

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-Parliamentary Union are providing substantive and technical inputs to the Conference through the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament.

The main purpose of the event is to gather inputs and elements for a Conference Presidency's summary containing a set of recommendations on how national and regional assemblies can best address and concretely contribute to the effective implementation of the Information Society, adding a key parliamentary dimension to it. The Conference will do so by providing a platform for a global inter-parliamentary dialogue on a range of critical issues.

We see the Conference as an important step towards the implementation of the World Summit on the Information Society outcome and a crucial contribution to the activities of the Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament, launched in November 2005 in Tunis by the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs with the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

Against this background, it is our privilege to invite you to attend this event and to nominate a country delegation of up to two members of parliament, with due consideration for gender balance and political representation, to participate in the Conference. An aide m emoire on the event and organizational guidelines are enclosed for ease of information.

It would be much appreciated if your office could confirm your presence and the participation of your country delegation by 12 February 2007 by sending the attached registration form to the Secretariat of the Conference: fax: +39-06-68211960; e-mail: conference@ictparliament.org.

We sincerely hope that the International Conference "The policymaking role of Parliaments in the development of the Information Society" will be enriched by the presence of your institution's delegation and look forward to an early reply.

Fausto Bertinotti
President
Chamber of Deputies of Italy

Jos  Antonio Ocampo
Under-Secretary-General
United Nations

Pier Ferdinando Casini
President
Inter-Parliamentary Union

International Conference
The policymaking role of Parliaments
in the development of the Information Society

3 - 4 March 2007
Palazzo Montecitorio
Chamber of Deputies
Rome, Italy

AIDE MEMOIRE

Background

As institutions that exercise oversight, policymaking and legislative functions, Parliaments can play a critical role in promoting enabling frameworks for the development of comprehensive and sustainable ICT policies and national e-strategies and in fostering a political environment conducive to the development of the Information Society. In doing so, Parliaments, as institutions representing a variety of constituencies and communities, can effectively safeguard cultural heritage, linguistic diversity, identity and local content.

Nonetheless, Parliaments' constitutional responsibility in this regard may vary from country to country. It is therefore important to provide for a space for dialogue, where experiences and different perspectives of particular relevance to legislatures that have recently started to address these issues can be shared.

The event is being convened as part of the gradual process of moving towards the establishment of an equitable and inclusive Information Society, as outlined in the World Summit on the Information Society (WSIS) outcome, and intends to draw the attention on the Parliaments' institutional role in this process and on the opportunities for international cooperation in this area.

Objectives

The overall objective of the event is to gather inputs and elements for a Conference Presidency's summary containing a set of recommendations on how national and regional assemblies can best address and concretely contribute to the effective implementation of the Information Society, adding a key parliamentary dimension to it. The Conference will do so by providing a platform for a global inter-parliamentary dialogue on a range of critical issues.

By paying special attention to north-south and south-south inter-parliamentary cooperation and partnership, the discussions will mainly focus on:

- a) The crucial role of Parliaments as political catalysts for the promotion of consistent strategies aimed at directing information and communication technologies towards social and economic development goals.
- b) Legislative instruments that can both enhance public and private interventions for the development of ICT and the Information Society, and ensure adequate protection of new and emerging rights.
- c) The impact of new technologies on political representation and citizens' empowerment and participation in public life.

- d) National institutional mechanisms, including public and private bodies, which play a key role in promoting the use of ICT.

Throughout the conference, emphasis will be given to crosscutting issues such as cultural diversity, multilingualization, local content development, vulnerable groups and indigenous people.

Format of the Conference

The two-day conference will be organized around plenary sessions focusing on themes to be addressed from both the institutional and societal perspectives.

The first three sessions will tackle general issues aimed at generating broader policy impact. From these sessions should stem the general outline of the Conference Presidency's summary.

a) Policymaking and the Information Society

This session intends to focus on the institutional, political and legislative role of Parliament, and its policymaking capacity, to promote the building blocks around which the Information Society can prosper, as envisaged in the WSIS final recommendations. In particular, it will try to analyze the catalytic and essential function of parliamentary assemblies, which can attract different strategic elements in order to create consensus around a unified political view, as well as their capability to engage the executive over an Information Society long-term strategy while including all social groups and preserving cultural diversity. The session should also consider: global emerging issues such as new modalities for citizens' participation and for political engagement and representation; emerging needs for the establishment of constitutional and legal guarantees acting as appropriate balancing of increasing power of technologies; and, more generally, the challenge for new legal instruments called for by the evolution of the Information Society.

b) International cooperation, democracy and the Information Society

Many efforts are being made by the international community to harness the benefits of globalization and avoid the marginalization of weak economies from the global society. The adoption of new technologies and the development of the information society, particularly in developing nations, have become necessary actions for countries that want to narrow domestic and external divides and expand peoples' opportunities and human development. This session intends to address the above issues by looking at how improved coordination mechanisms of international cooperation and new forms of partnership, enriched by the proactive engagement of parliamentary institutions, can more effectively leverage funding increases and exploit available knowledge and expertise.

c) Effectiveness of institutional architectures for governing the Information Society

Different national mechanisms guiding the implementation of the Information Society, with particular attention placed on e-government, e-education, IT skills development and TLCs issues, will be analyzed in this session to understand the role of public and private bodies in this field, as well as to highlight how country and society specificities can impact on national institutional architectures and their effectiveness. Legislatures' functions will also be scrutinized from an institutional and legislative perspective to identify the best way for Parliament to actively engage in this domain.

The remaining four sessions intend to enrich the Presidency's declaration, by focusing on relevant and punctual topics on which legislatures can play an important role.

International Conference
The policymaking role of Parliaments
in the development of the Information Society

3-4 March 2007
Palazzo Montecitorio
Chamber of Deputies
Rome, Italy

ORGANIZATIONAL GUIDELINES

Organizers

The Chamber of Deputies of Italy is the organizer of the International Conference "The policymaking role of Parliaments in the development of the Information Society".

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs and the Inter-Parliamentary Union are providing substantive and technical inputs to the Conference through the Global Centre for Information and Communication Technologies in Parliament.

Venue, registration and accreditation

The Conference will take place in the Assembly Hall or Hemicycle of the Chamber of Deputies of Italy, located at Piazza Montecitorio in the heart of the city centre.

Participants must confirm in advance their attendance by sending the attached form by 12 February 2007.

Accreditation (badges and documentation) will take place at the hotels in the evening preceding the conference or at the conference venue starting at 8:30 a.m.

Invitations

Letters of invitation were sent to national and regional assemblies, international organizations, institutions and centres of excellence. It is expected that around 400 participants will gather in Rome to take part in this event.

Accommodation

The Chamber of Deputies of Italy will pay for accommodation in selected hotels (up to three nights) to Speakers/Presidents heading their delegation and to up to two members of parliament per country.

Details on the accommodation will be sent to participants after the pre-registration.

Extra hotel charges (such as phone calls, etc.) will not be covered by the organizers.

*The Policymaking Role of Parliaments in the
Development of the Information Society*

23-4 March 2007

Chamber of deputies
Palazzo Montecitorio
Rome, Italy

REGISTRATION FORM

COUNTRY _____

CHAMBER _____

Function	Family name	First name

Accompanying persons:

Function	Family name	First name

Fax _____ Telephone _____ E-mail _____

Date and time of arrival _____ Flight _____

Date and time of departure _____ Flight _____

PLEASE SEND THE REGISTRATION FORM TO:

FAX NUMBER: +39.06.68211960

OR

E-MAIL: conference@ictparliament.org

We would like to remind you that the deadline for your confirmation to participate is no later than **February 12th 2007**.

- *For information on substantive and technical matters, please do not hesitate to contact the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament:
phone: +39-06-681 36 320 ext. 210
fax: +39-06-682 10 256
e-mail: conference@ictparliament.org*
- *For information regarding accommodation:
phone: +39-06-6798864
e-mail: aarata@carlsonwagonlit.it*



Bilag 2

**9TH EUROPEAN CONFERENCE OF MEMBERS
OF NATIONAL PARLIAMENTS ON
INFORMATION AND COMMUNICATION TECHNOLOGIES**

Dear Colleague. Madam/Sir,

Web-based media are conquering their place in nowadays media market. They successfully compete for the attention of the spectator, consumer and voter. We, the parliamentarians and politicians in Europe, are offered a variety of tools and services to position ourselves in this new media space. However, we are still learning how to make best use of them.

How will 21st century citizens perceive complex content through the various web-based formats, and how do they use new web services to discuss on this content? How can the elected representatives of democracy use web services and technologies to get closer to their constituency? Is there a chance to use the web to counteract the decrease in interest for politics generally?

By raising these questions the Portuguese Parliament is happy to host the

**9th European Conference of Members of National Parliaments
on Information and Communication Technologies
19/ 20 March 2007 in Lisbon**

to which I cordially invite you. On the previous similar occasions, each Parliament has sent a delegation of up to three delegates with a particular interest in Information and Communications Technology.

I am looking forward to welcoming a delegation from your parliament to this important conference.

We would appreciate very much if you could inform us about the delegates who will attend the Conference no later than February 16th, 2007.

With best regards

Jaime Gama

President of the Assembly of the Republic

Attachment: Description of the topic and preliminary agenda

To register, go to http://www.parlamento.pt/epri_2007/ (Login as "epri2007", using the password "Welcomelishon"), where it is also possible to submit a presentation for the conference. For further information, please contact Sandra Himmel, tel. +49 39203 82552 or 82540, Fax +49 39203 82550, Mail: sandra.himmel@tsa.de



**Ninth European Conference of Members of Parliaments of
Europe on Information and Communication Technologies**
Lisbon, 19 - 20 March 2007



Simplifying the Complex

- Creating the space for complex political topics on the Web -

Conference Languages: English, French, Portuguese
Monday 19 March

<i>Time</i>	<i>Preliminary Title</i>	<i>Speaker/Comment</i>
13:45	Buses leave the hotels	
14:00 - 14:30	Registration	
14:30 - 14:40	Opening speech by the President of the Assembly of the Republic	Mr. Jaime Gama
14:40 - 14:50	Welcome, conference information by the Secretary General of the Assembly of the Republic	Mrs. Adelina Sá Carvalho
14:50 - 15:05	Welcome by the Chairman Summary of the previous conference	Mr. José Lello (chair 1 st day) Representative of the Czech Senate
15:05 - 15:30	Expert Statement 1	Mr. Luis Antonio (Camara dos Deputados - Brazil)
15:30 - 15:55	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
15:55 - 16:20	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
16:20 - 16:30	Questions	
16:30 - 17:00	Coffee break	
17:00 - 17:25	Expert Statement 2	n.n. (eDemocracy specialist from Portugal)
17:25 - 17:50	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (parliamentarian)
17:50 - 18:15	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
18:15 - 18:30	Questions and Closure 1 st Day	
18:30 - 19:15	Tour through the Palace of S. Bento	(Optional)
20:15	Buses leave the hotels	
20:30	Dinner hosted by Portuguese Parliament	

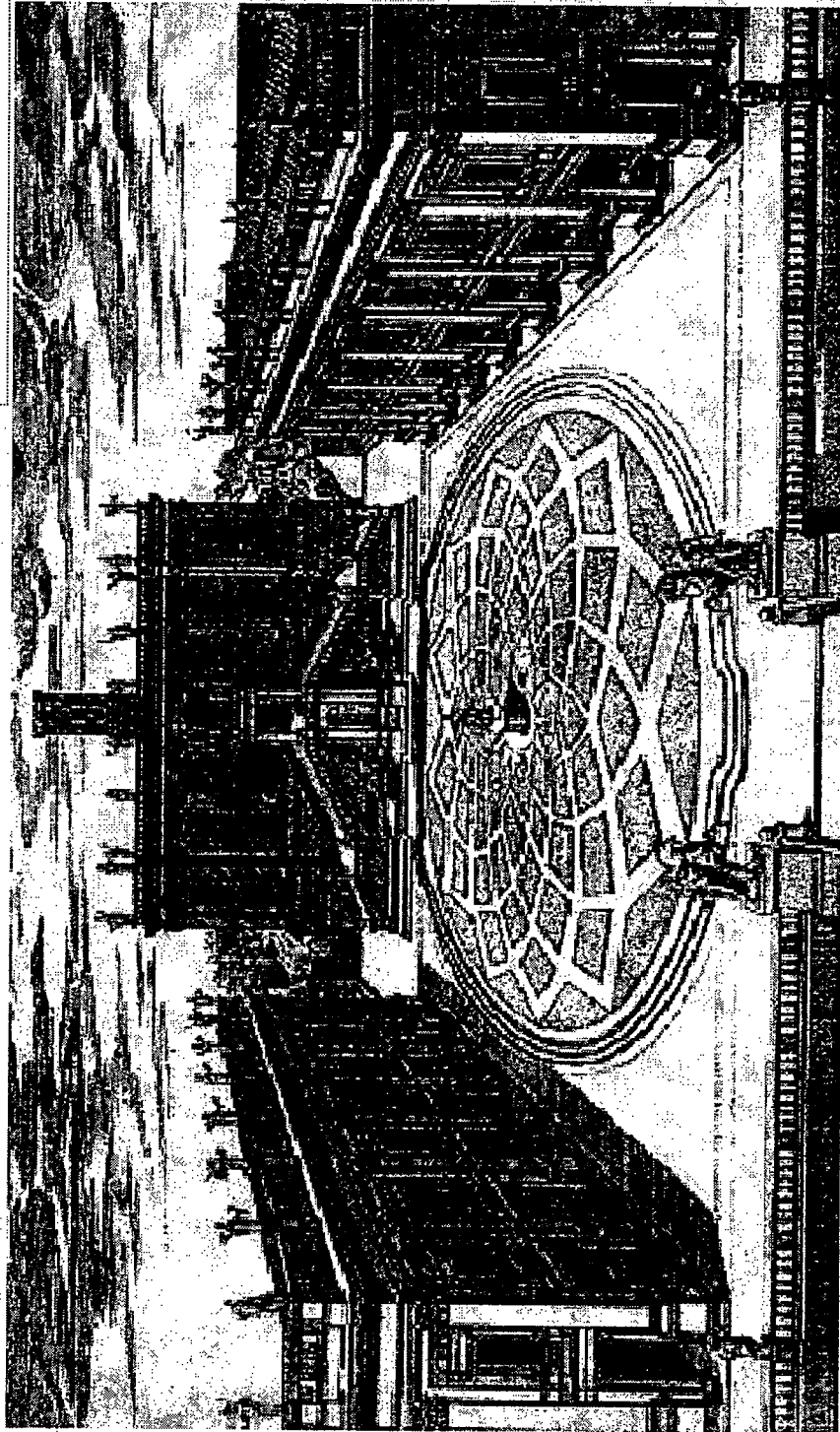
Tuesday 20 March

<i>Time</i>	<i>Preliminary Title</i>	<i>Speaker/Comment</i>
08:30	Buses leave the hotels	
08:45 - 09:00	Coffee	
09:00 - 09:15	Welcome by the Chairman; Update on the EPRI project	n.n. (Chairman 2 nd day) Marco Langhof (EPRI)
09:15 - 09:40	Expert Statement 3	n.n. (Plain English Initiative)
09:40 - 10:05	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
10:05 - 10:30	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
10:30 - 10:45	Questions	
10:45 - 11:00	Photo Session	
11:00 - 11:15	Coffee break	
11:15 - 11:40	Expert Statement 4	n.n. (Marketing Researcher)
11:40 - 12:05	Parliamentarian Experience	n.n. (Parliamentarian)
12:05 - 13:00	Panel Discussion	Mr. K. Gutmann (moderator)
13:00 - 13:10	Summary and conclusions	Chairman 2 nd day
13:10 - 13:20	Closure	
13:20 - 15:00	Lunch	
15:30 - 18:00	Optional: Guided City Tour	



XVII EUREKA INTERPARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE
Rome - Campidoglio 22-23 MAY 2007

HLG
Catania - 24-25 January 2007
EUREKA Doc. HLG2528



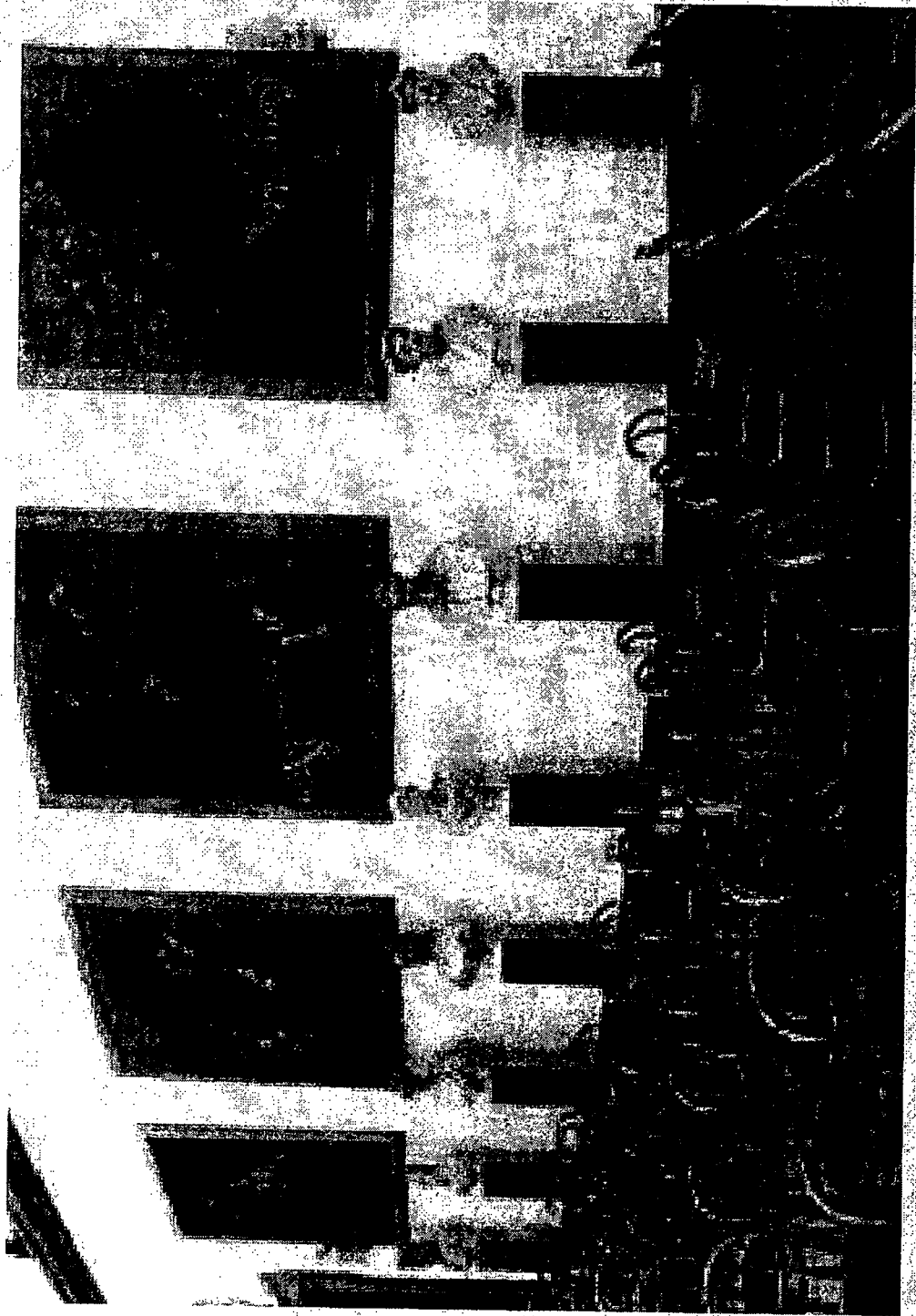
Michelangelo's design for the "Piazza Capitolina" (Étienne Du Pérac, 1559)

EUREKA 06/07
Italian Chairmanship

Bitag 3



Campidoglio - Sala Protomoteca



EUREKA 06/07
Italian Chairmanship



IPC proposed issues

Main target of the Conference: E! awareness throughout the political world

E! Mission

- E! history and success stories
- E! from 17 to 38, building the future for more than two decades
- E! as an experimental field for the EU (enlargement, majority rule..)
- E! as a tool for a common European technological culture
- E! as a powerful instrument of competition in the global markets
- E! in the Lisbon strategy toward the ERA



IPC proposed issues (2)

Initiatives to fulfill the mission

- The Small and Medium sized Enterprises as a backbone of the European economy
- The R&D performing SME and the technological SME in Europe (Distretti Tecnologici, Poles de Competitivité, ...)
- The EU - E! synergy strategies (art 169, art 171, JTI's ...)
- EUROSTARS, first example of EU - E! convergence



IPC Draft Agenda (1)

22 May

2 pm Conference Opening

Plenary session

- Italian Parliament Member - Welcome address
- Italian Minister of Research speech
- European Commissioner speech
- HLG Chairman speech
- SME networks as European competitiveness backbone (Distretti Tecnologici, Pole de Competitivité, ...) – speaker(s) tbs
- EU-EUREKA synergy toward ERA. The EUROSTARS initiative

Official Dinner

**EUREKA 06/07
Italian Chairmanship**

Catania January 24, 2007



Piero Di Porto

piero.diporto@miur.it

EUREKA 06/07
Italian Chairmanship