Udvalget for Videnskab og Teknologi (2. samling)
UVT alm. del - Bilag 235
Offentligt

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People's Assembly of Egypt   European Parliament

1 September 2008

Excellency,

We are very pleased to inform you that the European Parliament in Brussels will host the World e-Parliament Conference 2008 on 25 and 26 November 2008.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2008 is co-organized by the European Parliament and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, a joint initiative of the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and a core group of partners, established in 2006 to promote the role of parliaments in advancing the effective use of ICT for the modernization of parliamentary processes.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2008 represents a unique opportunity for leaders and members of parliaments, parliamentary officials and experts to exchange views at a global level on the impact of new technologies as tools to strengthen the representative, legislative and oversight functions of regional and national assemblies.

The event builds on the results of the World e-Parliament Conference 2007, held in Geneva in October 2007, and on the outcome of the World e-Parliament Report 2008, the first publication on this topic issued by the United Nations, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament on 28 February 2008.

The World e-Parliament Conference 2008 is principally aimed at members of parliaments, secretaries general, parliamentary staff and officials, experts from international organizations and academics who work and deal with information and communication technologies as instruments to improve and modernize parliamentary business and citizens' participation in public decision-making processes. It is the world forum to learn about and analyze good practices, network with peers and build partnerships in an international setting.

Around 400 participants will take part in the general debate and parallel tracks forming the World e-Parliament Conference 2008. Presentations will be delivered by parliamentary leaders, renowned experts and parliamentary officials to showcase cutting edge solutions and case studies.

A number of key organizations, institutions and universities are currently joining the co-organizers to support the organization of the event.
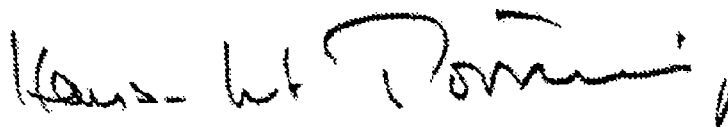
H.E. Mr. Thor Pedersen
President of the Danish Parliament
Denmark
Fax: (45) 33 32 85 36

At the World e-Parliament Conference 2008, the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament and its partners intend to present and launch guidelines, tools and concrete outputs developed in the past year to help parliaments assess and benchmark their technological level and/or adopt new technologies in the parliamentary environment. The Conference will also serve as a platform to identify and agree upon future goals and targets for parliaments along the lines outlined in the statement issued by the high-level Board of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament, herewith enclosed.
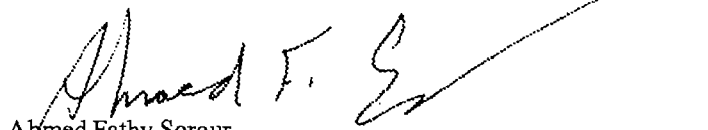
To ensure the representation of all parliaments from around the world, the European Parliament and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament will make efforts to support the travel and per diem of a number of parliamentary staff from developing countries. At the Conference, interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish. A document outlining the goals, expectations and structure of the World e-Parliament Conference is enclosed as a first reference. A follow up communication will be sent to you in the coming weeks with additional updated information. However, information can also be obtained from the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament in Rome, Italy (info@ictparliament.org; tel +39 06 6813-6320 ext. 210; fax +39 06 68211960) or from the Conference website at: www.ictparliament.org/worldeparliamentconference2008.

We very much hope that your Parliament will participate in this event and we look forward to receiving the names of your delegates in due course.
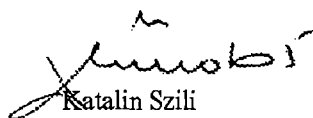
Yours sincerely,

Hans-Gert Pöttering
President
European Parliament,
Host of the World e-Parliament Conference 2008

Ahmed Fathy Sorour
Speaker
People's Assembly of Egypt,
Co-Chair of the Board of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

Katalin Szili
Speaker
Hungarian National Assembly,
Co-Chair of the Board of the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament

World e-Parliament Conference 2008
25 – 26 November 2008
European Parliament
Brussels

In October 2007 the World e-Parliament Conference 2007 brought together for the first time members of parliament, secretaries general, IT professionals, and other parliamentary staff from around the world to address the promises and challenges of ICT in parliament. Speakers and participants shared insights based on experiences in their respective countries and regions and demonstrated the value of an ongoing global exchange to promote the benefits of ICT for parliaments everywhere.
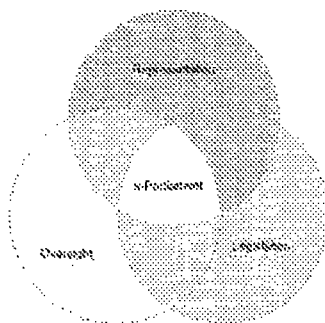
Building on the excellent results achieved with the first World e-Parliament Conference 2007 and on the findings of the World e-Parliament Report 2008, the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament intends to organize an even more ambitious World e-Parliament Conference 2008.

The Conference will be organized in cooperation with the European Parliament which will host it in Brussels on 25 and 26 November 2008.

While the World e-Parliament Conference 2007, through its structure and the confluence of key stakeholders, offered a unique opportunity to identify what the emerging innovative trends and the barriers to effective implementation of e-parliament are, the focus of the World e-Parliament Conference 2008 intends to shift towards how e-parliament can be achieved.

In line with the above the Conference will provide a platform for presentations and exchange of experiences on:

a) Concrete solutions for improving parliamentary business and supporting representative, legislative and oversight functions

b) The adoption of practices and approaches which support their implementation process.

The expected outcome of the World e-Parliament Conference 2008 are to:

- Establish a community of practice among members and staff responsible for information and communication technologies (ICT) in parliament.

- Engage parliaments from all regions of the world in fostering inter-parliamentary exchanges on ICT bilaterally, regionally, and globally.

- Identify standards designed to encourage the most effective us of ICT in parliament.

- Set future achievable goals for enhancing the global state of ICT in parliaments at all levels.

World e-Parliament Conference 2008
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25 November 2008

08:30 – 09:30	Registration
09:30 – 11:00	**Inaugural Session** ▪ Greetings and remarks from co-organizers and sponsors ▪ Keynote addresses to set the context and the goals of the conference
11.30 – 13.00	**Plenary session 1 - The State of ICT in Parliaments** Keynote presentation followed by the high-level panel discussion on *Meeting the Challenges: Leadership, Management, Planning*
13.00 – 15.00	Lunch break

	14.15 – 15.00	*Parallel side events organized by parliaments, academic centres or international organizations*

Parallel sessions		
15.00 – 16.30	**Open Standards for documents: case studies and practical solutions**	**Websites for parliaments: practices and standards**	**Meeting the information needs of members of parliament**
16:30 – 18.00	**Open standards for documents: towards global convergence?**	**Websites for committees and members: practices and standards**	**Engaging citizens to enhance the dialogue: concrete experiences**

18.00	Welcoming cocktail offered by the European Parliament

26 November 2008

Parallel sessions		
09:00 – 11:00	**Building systems for managing parliamentary documents**	**IT infrastructures in Parliaments: old and reliable, new and flexible**	**Organizational challenges: staffing and staff development**

Plenary sessions	
11.00 – 13.00	**Plenary session 2 - Meeting the needs of parliaments in developing countries** Keynote presentation followed by the high-level panel discussion on *The role of development partners and the instruments for assistance*
13.00 – 15.00	Lunch break

	14.15 – 15.00	*Parallel side events organized by parliaments, academic centres or international organizations*

Plenary sessions	
15.00 – 16.30	**Plenary session 3 - Opportunities for regional and global cooperation** Keynote presentation followed by the high-level panel discussion on *Benefits and barriers to parliamentary cooperation*
16.30 – 17.30	**Closing session** ▪ Findings and recommendations from the Conference ▪ Announcement of the World e-Parliament Conference 2009 and host parliament ▪ Official closing remarks