Dear parliamentarians and partners,

As the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank (PNoWB) enters its tenth year of serving as a platform for parliamentarians from over 110 countries to advocate for increased accountability and transparency in International Financial Institutions (IFIs) and multilateral development financing, we would like to share with you some exciting updates on the Network's progress and draw your attention to new PNoWB activities, resources and publications.

PNoWB in 2010 has two main focuses: 1) mobilizing Parliamentarians to hold their governments and IFIs accountable to aid effectiveness and accountability principles throughout IDA 16 replenishment and implementation; and 2) illustrating positive examples of effective Parliamentary/World Bank relations leading to improved development outcomes and mutual accountability in both donor and recipient countries.

We encourage you to refer regularly to the Network's website, <u>www.pnowb.org</u>, for information on these priorities as well as the large number of conferences, summits, caucuses and discussions in which the network regularly participates. The site has recently been updated and now functions as a one-stop-shop for Network news, resources and publications, including:

- <u>Weekly news updates</u> and <u>featured resources</u>
- An "<u>about</u>" section including a <u>Network overview</u>, <u>PNoWB's mission</u>, information on the Network's <u>Board of Directors and governance structure</u>, <u>PNoWB secretariat</u>, <u>partners</u>, and <u>membership</u>.
- Information on <u>PNoWB chapters and how to create a chapter</u>
- A dedicated <u>Parliamentarians in the Field</u> section, with links to <u>mission reports from 2009</u> field visits
- An <u>Annual Conference</u> section that will feature information on the upcoming 10<sup>th</sup> annual conference in December
- A <u>Q&A tab</u> where law makers can submit their questions directly to the World Bank in <u>Arabic</u>, <u>English</u>, <u>French</u> or <u>Spanish</u>
- The new <u>publications section</u> featuring online access to <u>Network News issues</u>, PNoWB's
  <u>Parliamentarians and Development briefing series</u>; <u>Field visit reports</u>; <u>A Parliamentarian's Guide to
  the World Bank and topic-specific briefings</u>
- PNoWB will also make its <u>IDA 16 and Aid Effectiveness campaign</u> materials available on the website shortly

A PNoWB delegation just participated in the World Bank and IMF Spring meetings in Washington, D.C. from 22 to 27 April. Delegates met with top IFI representatives, potential future bi-lateral and private donors, and partner organizations-- to name just a few. PNoWB reports from this busy and important week will be available online at www.pnowb.org in early May.

Finally, we encourage you to contact the PNoWB secretariat (secretariat@pnowb.org) with news of your upcoming PNoWB country and regional chapter activities, as well any activities you may have scheduled with local World Bank offices or World Bank headquarters. This will allow PNoWB secretariat to support you in preparing for and reporting on your chapter activities; it will also allow us to share news from these activities with the wider Network.

Thank you for your continued engagement with PNoWB and we look forward to seeing and working with many of you in the months and years to come.

Best wishes,

**PNoWB** Secretariat