

UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

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Geneva, 5 April 2013

**2014 Development Cooperation Forum of the United Nations:
First High Level Symposium**

Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 6 -7 June 2013

Dear Mr. Lorentzen,

Consistent with its strategic priorities, the IPU is working closely with the Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) of the United Nations to help improve the quality and quantity of development cooperation broadly defined. I am pleased to inform you that the first High Level Symposium of the 2014 DCF will take place in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, on 6-7 June of this year.

Theme and format of the symposium

The symposium, entitled “*A renewed global partnership for development for a post-2015 era*” comes at a critical time as the global community is about to re-think the development agenda for the period starting after 2015, when the current Millennium Development Goals will be replaced by a new set of Sustainable Development Goals addressing the world’s most important social, economic and environmental challenges.

The main purpose of the meeting will be to look specifically at the question of financing of the new Sustainable Development Goals. Given the changing landscape of development cooperation, which today includes much more than traditional aid from official sources, what should replace the current MDG 8 (on the global partnership for development) to help all countries carry forward a more ambitious agenda for sustainable development? What purpose should a renewed global partnership for development serve? What could be key features of a post-2015 monitoring and accountability framework to support delivery on commitments by all partners? These are the kind of questions that will be at the heart of the discussion in Addis Ababa.

As with previous meetings of the DCF, the symposium will be interactive, with plenary sessions and small group discussions among all stakeholders. While the official meeting will only last two days, on 6 and 7 June, an additional informal briefing for parliamentarians may be held in the afternoon of the day before, 5 June, for those able to arrive early.

Hon. Kristian Pihl Lorentzen, MP
President of the Danish Inter-Parliamentary Group
Folketinget
Denmark

cc.: Ms. Mette Vestergaard, Secretary of the Danish Inter-Parliamentary Group
mette.vestergaard@ft.dk

Participation

To keep this engagement manageable, only twelve members of parliament will be allowed to participate on a *first-come first-served basis* along with other stakeholders from governments, development agencies, civil society, private foundations and local authorities. A total of just over one hundred participants are expected. Given the budget constraints faced by many parliaments and our desire to ensure diversity and wide regional representation, we will only be able to accommodate *one member from each parliament*.

Registration for the event will close as soon as the quota of twelve is reached and by no later than 10 May. Note however that, for those requiring an entry visa, processing times may take some time, so early registrations are highly encouraged.

Limited funding may be available through the United Nations to cover the cost of travel and accommodation for a few MPs from Least Developed Countries. To qualify for funding, registrations must be received by Saturday, 20 April.

The member representing your parliament would need to be familiar with development cooperation issues, and able to draw from direct experience of interaction with development agencies, donors, civil society or other actors active in this field. It would also be important for your appointee to be allowed to participate in the next two symposia of the DCF in Switzerland (October 2013) and Germany (spring 2014) as well as the final session in July 2014.

Documentation

The IPU is working with the organizers to make sure that questions of particular interest to parliamentarians will be included in the agenda. A draft programme and a substantive aide memoire will be available by mid-May. Please refer to the attached concept notes for a more in-depth overview of the main topics.

Registration procedure and logistical information

It would be greatly appreciated if a member of your parliament could be designated to attend the symposium. The attached registration form should be submitted by either email or fax as indicated on the form (please copy to the IPU New York office at ny-office@ipu.org). Also attached is a logistical note providing a list of recommended hotels which each participant must reserve directly, information about the venue of the meeting, visa requirements and other useful details.

For further background on the DCF please consult the Web site at <http://www.un.org/en/ecosoc/newfunct/develop.shtml> or contact Mr. Alessandro Motter in our New York office (am@mail.ipu.org).

Thank you so much for your kind consideration.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Anders B. Johnsson', with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General