





Promoting better regional cooperation towards smart and humane migration across the Mediterranean

Conference for parliaments from the European Union and from the Mediterranean region organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Parliament of Malta and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

16-17 November 2017, Grand Hotel Excelsior - Grand Ballroom, Valletta (Malta)

Mr. Orla Hav, MP President of the Danish Inter-Parliamentary Group International Department (IPU-Sekr) Folketinget - Christiansborg Slot DK-1240 COPENHAGEN K (Denmark)

Geneva, 8 September 2017

Dear Mr. President,

The Parliament of Malta, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) are pleased to invite you to the above-mentioned Conference, which will take place from 16 to 17 November 2017 in Valletta, Malta.

In recent years, a growing number of people have made their way to Europe across the Mediterranean to flee on-going conflicts and repression or seek a livelihood in the absence of any economic opportunities in their countries. The magnitude and urgency of the current situation requires long-term measures to ensure that migration is governed in a fair, smart and humane way, in keeping with the Sustainable Development Goals.

In this context, parliaments and their members have a critical role to play in adopting adequate legislation, in ensuring that effective policies are in place and implemented and in mobilizing public support for such actions. The Conference will explore what this means concretely for receiving, transit countries and countries of origin. It will identify steps that the parliaments of those countries can take, including through stronger regional and cross-regional coordination and cooperation, to help ensure fair, smart and humane migration. The outcome of the conference is also expected to be a parliamentary contribution to the negotiation of a Global Compact for safe, orderly and regular migration that will take place at the United Nations between February and July 2018.

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We sincerely hope that your Parliament will be represented at the conference by a delegation not exceeding five persons in total. In keeping with IPU's and PAM's practice, each delegation should include both female and male members of parliament and reflect the political spectrum represented in parliament. The designated members of your delegation should ideally be directly involved in the discussion of migration issues in your parliament.

The provisional programme, practical information note, hotel reservation form and conference registration form are hereto attached. They are also available online at http://www.ipu.org/strct-e/futrmets.htm.

We kindly request participants to complete and return the registration and hotel reservation forms by **15 October** at the latest.

We look forward to your parliament's participation in this important event.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Dr. Angelo Farrugia Speaker of the Parliament of Malta Amb. Sergio Piazzi Secretary General of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

Encl.:

- Provisional programme
- General information
- Registration form
- Hotel reservation form