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Geneva, 7 April 2011

2011 High Level Meeting of the United Nations on AIDS

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

The 2011 High Level Meeting on AIDS will take place at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 8-10 June 2011. The Meeting will review progress made in implementing the 2001 Declaration of Commitment on HIV/AIDS and the 2006 Political Declaration on HIV/AIDS, and will adopt a new declaration to guide the global AIDS response in the years to come.

The UN Resolution that establishes the modalities of the Meeting (A/RES/62/178) specifically encourages Member States to include parliamentarians in their national delegation to this event. HIV/AIDS is an important area of work for the IPU. It is an eminently political issue in which the participation of parliamentarians is vitally important. May I therefore urge you to make sure that members of your parliament who are active on HIV/AIDS issues are included in your country's national delegation to this important event.

The IPU will hold a briefing for the parliamentarians attending the UN High Level Meeting in the afternoon of **Tuesday, 7 June 2011**, from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m. in Room 6 at the United Nations Headquarters.

The briefing will provide legislators with all the latest information on the issues to be discussed during the UN High Level Meeting. It will serve as a forum for an exchange of views on the impact of law on HIV interventions, and legal factors that impede universal access to HIV services. I am pleased to attach a draft agenda for the event.

The languages of the parliamentary session will be English, French, Arabic and Spanish. Information about the meeting will be posted on the IPU web site at <http://www.ipu.org/strct-e/futrmets.htm>. I would be grateful if you could ensure that the enclosed registration form is returned to the IPU Office in New York by 30 May 2011. In accordance with established practice, requests for assistance regarding accommodation in New York and UN entry passes should be addressed directly to your country's Permanent Mission to the United Nations.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General