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Geneva, 5 June 2012

Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the XIX International AIDS Conference
AIDS in 2012: What will it take to stop the epidemic?
Washington, D.C., 23 July 2012

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

The XIX International AIDS Conference (AIDS 2012) will be held in Washington, D.C. from 22 to 27 July 2012. This event takes place every two years and is the largest regular conference on any health or development issue. Full details regarding this unique meeting are available online at www.aids2012.org

We are pleased to announce that the IPU, in cooperation with UNAIDS, will be holding a Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of AIDS 2012. The theme of the parliamentary event will be ***AIDS in 2012: What will it take to stop the epidemic?*** The meeting will take place at the United States Capitol Visitor Center on Monday, 23 July 2012, from 2.30 to 6.30 p.m. and will be followed by a reception. Please consult the following website for important information on visiting the U.S. Capitol, including directions and a list of prohibited items: http://www.visitthecapitol.gov/visit/visitor_safety_and_policies/

The Parliamentary Meeting will provide legislators with up-to-date information on issues related to the HIV epidemic. It will serve as a forum for an exchange of views on major issues, such as the translation of scientific knowledge of HIV treatment and prevention into policy and practice. It will also provide an opportunity for members of parliament to discuss the concept of shared responsibility for the AIDS response and the centrality of parliamentary leadership to that response. The meeting will be conducted in English.

We hope that you will encourage members of your parliament and parliamentary staff to participate in the XIX International AIDS Conference and attend the Parliamentary Meeting on 23 July. The IPU and UNAIDS will prepare a list of other conference events of possible interest to legislators, which we will share with the registered participants closer to the date.

Please find enclosed the registration form, which we invite your parliament to complete and return to the IPU Secretariat by 10 July 2012 latest. The provisional programme and further information about the Parliamentary Meeting will be posted on the IPU website shortly.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johansson