



## Informing democracy: Building capacity to meet parliamentarians' information and knowledge needs

16 October 2008, Geneva, Switzerland

### Agenda

<b>Moderator:</b> <b>John Pullinger</b> Director General, Information Services, House of Commons, United Kingdom	
<b>09:00-9.45</b>	<b>Opening and welcoming remarks</b> <b>Theo-Ben Gurirab</b> , President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union <b>Anders B. Johnsson</b> , Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union <b>Anders Forsberg</b> , outgoing President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments <b>Claudia Lux</b> , President of the International Federation of Library Associations and Institutions
<b>09.45-11.15</b>	<b>Session 1: <i>Parliamentarians' evolving information and knowledge needs</i></b> <b>Dennis Dawson</b> , Senator, Canada <b>Diego Cánepa</b> , Member of the House of Representatives, Uruguay <b>Tassana Boontong</b> , Senator, Thailand <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the information and knowledge needs of parliamentarians? To what extent do these needs and expectations vary among parliaments? How are the needs of parliamentarians evolving?</li><li>• How do parliamentarians meet their information needs? What challenges do they face?</li><li>• What expectations do parliamentarians have of their library and research services?</li></ul>
<b>11.45-13.15</b>	<b>Session 2: <i>The value of dedicated parliamentary library and research services</i></b> <b>Doris Mwinga</b> , Clerk of the National Assembly, Zambia <b>Xavier Roques</b> , Secretary General of the Questure of the National Assembly, France <b>Jan Keukens</b> , Chief of Documentation and Research, Netherlands <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• What are the potential benefits and outcomes of well-organized and resourced parliamentary library and research services?</li><li>• What strategic priorities should guide the evolution of parliamentary libraries and research services? What challenges and risks are there in this evolution?</li><li>• What changes in culture and in competencies are required by library and research services to provide better value for their parliamentary clients?</li></ul>

13.15-14.45	<b>Lunch break</b>
14.45	<p><b>Presentation of the Report of the 2008 Pre-conference of the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments</b></p> <p><b>Bill Young</b>, Parliamentary Librarian, Library of Parliament, Canada</p>
14.45-16.15	<p><b>Session 3: <i>Innovative strategies to meet parliamentarians' evolving needs</i></b></p> <p><b>Iain Watt</b>, Head of Client Services, Library of the European Parliament</p> <p><b>Gloria Insaïdoo</b>, Parliamentary Librarian, Ghana</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What new services and technologies can library and research services use to support parliamentarians in holding the executive to account and improving the quality of legislation?</li> <li>• How can parliamentarians communicate their changing needs to their research and library services? How can library and research services keep in step with the changing needs and expectations of parliamentarians?</li> <li>• How can library and research services be organized to innovate as rapidly as the best information service providers?</li> </ul>
16.15-17.45	<p><b>Session 4: <i>Sharing good practices and building capacity: Strategies to assist parliamentary institutions</i></b></p> <p><b>Anita Dudina</b>, Director of the Information Department, Latvia</p> <p><b>Mireille Eza</b>, Director of the Noria inter-parliamentary cooperation program, Assemblée parlementaire de la francophonie</p> <p><b>Martin Chungong</b>, Director, Division for the Promotion of Democracy, Inter-Parliamentary Union</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How can good practices in parliamentary library and research services be shared effectively?</li> <li>• How can programmes to help parliaments in less-developed countries build their library and research capacity be better coordinated? Are new programmes needed?</li> <li>• What role can international and regional bodies play in strengthening the support offered to parliaments?</li> </ul>
17.45-18.00	<p><b>Closing remarks</b></p> <p><b>Martin Chungong</b>, Inter-Parliamentary Union</p> <p><b>Hafnaoui Amrani</b>, President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments</p> <p><b>Gro Sandgrind</b>, Chair of the IFLA Section on Library and Research Services for Parliaments</p>