



CHEMIN DU POMMIER 5
CASE POSTALE 330
1218 LE GRAND-SACONNEX / GENEVE (SUISSE)

TELEPHONE (41.22) 919 41 50
FAX (41.22) 919 41 60
E-MAIL postbox@mail.ipu.org
ADR. TELEGR. INTERPARLEMENT GENEVE

INVITATION

Geneva, 18 January 2008

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

We are pleased to write to invite your parliament to participate in a one-day parliamentary event entitled *The role of parliaments in financing for gender equality*. The event, hosted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations Division for the Advancement of Women, is being convened on the occasion of the forthcoming 52nd Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW) in February-March 2008.

The parliamentary meeting will take place on **27 February 2008**, from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and 3 to 6 p.m., in Room 4 at UN Headquarters in New York.

The IPU strongly encourages your parliament to request that both male and female members of parliament be included in your country's delegation to the CSW Session, including chairpersons or members of gender equality committees. Not only would this ensure their attendance and contribution to the parliamentary event, but it would also facilitate parliamentary inclusion in the CSW discussions which will take place from 25 February to 7 March 2008. A copy of the agenda of the 52nd session of the CSW can be found on the following website: <http://www.un.org/womenwatch/daw/csw/52sess.htm>

The 2008 parliamentary event will place particular emphasis on the role of parliament and the difference it can make in securing financial support for the empowerment of women and the achievement of gender equality. In so doing, it will provide an opportunity to contribute to the debates at the CSW which has as its priority theme "The Financing for gender equality and empowerment of women". One of the meeting's primary objectives is therefore to bring a parliamentary perspective and input to the CSW's deliberations.

Please find attached additional information on the event. We look forward to hearing from you, at your earliest convenience and preferably before **13 February 2008**.

Anders B Johansson
Secretary General
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Pier Ferdinando CASINI
Président
de l'Union interparlementaire