



Kingdom of Morocco



Parliament



*Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.*

Rabat, 7 May 2013

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

We are pleased to invite you to a Regional Seminar on **The evolving relationship between citizens and parliaments in the Arab world**, which will be held on 5 and 6 June 2013 in Rabat, Morocco, to launch the first *Global Parliamentary Report* for Arab countries. The Seminar is being jointly organized by the Parliament of the Kingdom of Morocco, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP).

It is intended to:

- Initiate a high-level dialogue on how to strengthen the relationship between parliament and citizens in the dynamic and evolving context of the Arab world; and
- Examine the findings of the *Report* through the lens of the specificities of the Arab world and identify challenges and opportunities related to enhancing parliamentary representation in the current regional context.

The participants will be invited to draw up concrete measures aimed at strengthening parliament's relationship with citizens. The Seminar is also designed to facilitate collaboration and exchange of knowledge among Arab countries in the framework of South-South cooperation.

It is our hope that the delegations will be composed of two members who are leaders of parliamentary groups and committee chairpersons, with both the ruling party and the opposition represented. The Parliament of the Kingdom of Morocco, UNDP and the IPU are committed to guaranteeing women's participation by advocating an approach that seeks to achieve a minimum of 30 per cent women's participation.

Please find attached a provisional programme of the Seminar.

In the meantime, we await confirmation of your delegation's participation.

Yours sincerely,

Karim Ghellab



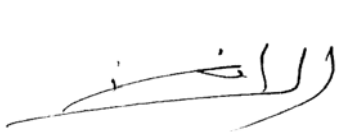
Speaker,
House of Representatives,
Rabat

Mohamed Cheikh Biadillah



Speaker,
House of Councillors,
Rabat

Abdelwahad Radi



President of the Inter-
Parliamentary Union

Bruno Pouezat



Director, Resident Coordinator,
UNDP