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POSTAL ADDRESS - ADRESSE POSTALE : UNITED NATIONS, N.Y. 10017

CABLE ADDRESS - ADRESSE TELEGRAPHIQUE : UNATIONS NEWYORK

EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

21 February 2008

Excellency,

I would to thank you for your email of 5 February 2008 regarding the invitation for the Secretary-General to address the inauguration of the 118th Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assembly in Cape Town on 13 April 2008.

I regret to inform you that, although the Secretary-General had considered attending the meeting, it appears now that he will not be able to do so, owing to the multiple demands on his schedule. I am nevertheless pleased to tell you that the Deputy Secretary-General, Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, will take part in the event. In that connection, it would be appreciated if you could transmit the attached letter to Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, Secretary General of the IPU.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

His Excellency
Mr. Anda Filip
Permanent Observer of the
Inter-Parliamentary Union
to the United Nations
New York

28-01320

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EXECUTIVE OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY-GENERAL
CABINET DU SECRETAIRE GENERAL

REFERENCE:

21 February 2008

Excellency,

I would like to thank you for your letter of 1 February 2008, in connection with my 18 December 2007 interim reply to the invitation from His Excellency Pier Casini, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), for the Secretary-General to address the inauguration of the 118th IPU Assembly in Cape Town on 13 April 2008.

I regret to inform you that, as it appears now, other pressing demands currently on the Secretary-General's schedule will prevent his participation. However, I am pleased to tell you that the Deputy Secretary-General, Ms. Asha-Rose Migiro, will take part in the event.

Please accept, Excellency, the assurances of my highest consideration.


Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet

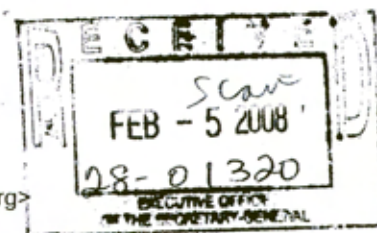
His Excellency
Mr. Anders B. Johnsson
Secretary General
Inter-Parliamentary Union
Geneva



"Anda Filip"
<af@mail.ipu.org>
05/02/2008 12:12 PM

To <nambiarv@un.org>
cc <haysom@un.org>, <yoona@un.org>
bcc

Subject IPU Assembly in Cape Town



L ACTION Y/C
COPY V n (2 letters)

Dear Ambassador Nambiar,

You will have seen the message at the end of last week from IPU Secretary-General Anders Johnsson, with regard to the forthcoming 118th IPU Assembly in Cape Town, South Africa, 13-18 April 2007 (I attach a copy of his note, as well as of the original letter of invitation personally presented last November to the UN Secretary-General). I know that you have also been in touch with amb. Kumalo on this same subject.

We understand that a formal decision has yet to be taken, that several requests are currently under consideration, and that other important events may be taking place at around the same time – including a visit of the Pope to NY and the opening of UNCTAD XII in Accra. What we would really like to avoid, however, is a situation in which a late decision would prevent an appropriate, high-level UN presence at the launch of the Assembly.

Once again, the Assembly – bringing together parliamentary leaders from around the world (many delegations – including the vast majority of African states – led by Speakers or Deputy Speakers of Parliaments) will focus on pushing back the frontiers of poverty - meeting the MDGs in Africa and development cooperation, child and maternal health, the political empowerment of women (with Speaker Mbete of South Africa convening the annual meeting of women Speakers on April 12th), national reconciliation and the rule of law. The Assembly is expected to conclude with political resolutions and a plan of parliamentary action on many of these issues. Traditionally, the message of the UNSG is delivered before the Assembly by the UNSG himself or by a high-level representative.

We look forward to your early response, so that we in turn may prepare accordingly.
Many thanks and warm regards,

Anda Filip

Ambassador Anda Filip
IPU Director for External Relations
Permanent Observer to the United Nations
220 East 42nd Street, Suite 3002
New York, NY 10017
Tel (212) 557-5880



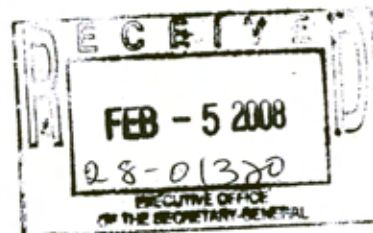
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THE SECRETARY GENERAL

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

ACTION
COPYGeneva, 1st February 2008

Dear Mr. Nambiar,

On behalf of the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini, I thank you for your letter of 18 December 2007 responding to the invitation extended to the Secretary-General to address the Inauguration of the 118th IPU Assembly in Cape Town on 13 April 2008.

We have noted the contents of your letter and look forward to receiving a definitive response to the invitation in due course. In the meantime, may we invite you to visit our website at the following address: <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/118agnd.htm> where you will find the agenda, programme and working papers for the Cape Town Assembly.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. Johnsson

Mr. Vijay Nambiar
Chef de Cabinet
Executive Office of the
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017

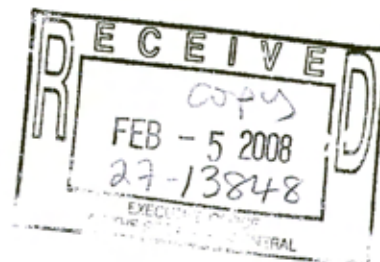
UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY
UNION

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ADR. TELEGR. INTERPARLEMENT GENEVE



12 November 2007

Dear Mr. Secretary-General,

We are pleased to invite you to the 118th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, which will take place in Cape Town from 13 to 18 April 2008. We would be honoured if you could deliver a keynote address at the official inauguration ceremony which will take place on the evening of Sunday 13 April, in the presence of the President of the Republic of South Africa, H.E. Thabo Mbeki. We hope that elder statesman Nelson Mandela will also be able to join us on this occasion.

The IPU Assembly will bring together some fifteen hundred delegates from over 140 parliaments for a week of political discussions on a broad range of crucial issues facing the international community today. Many of the delegations will be led by Speakers of Parliament, and the Cape Town Assembly will also be the venue for the 2008 Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament.

The 118th Assembly will take place under the overall theme of *Pushing back the frontiers of poverty* and will include thematic and panel discussions on issues relating to the Millennium Development Goals, development cooperation, peace building, political reconciliation and security, and migration. It will feature a large number of specialized events and offer unequalled opportunities for bilateral meetings and parliamentary diplomacy.

Your presence in Cape Town would be particularly significant and would, we believe, offer you an ideal opportunity to mobilize greater political support and commitment towards action in parliament to help meet your key objectives for the United Nations.

We hope to have the pleasure of welcoming you in Cape Town next year.

Yours sincerely,

Baleka Mbete
Speaker of the Parliament of
South Africa

Pier Ferdinando Casini
President of the
Inter-Parliamentary Union

Mr. Ban Ki-moon
Secretary-General
United Nations
NEW YORK, N.Y. 10017