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For the attention of all IPU Groups

Geneva, 25 May 2022

Office of the Secretary General Dear Madam President, Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to invite your parliament to the online launch of the preliminary version of the new *Indicators for democratic parliaments, based on SDG targets 16.6 and 16.7.* The Indicators provide a framework to help parliaments to assess their capacity and performance in all segments of parliamentary work. They are intended to be a tool to support parliament's learning and further development.

The Indicators have been developed through a joint initiative of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and partner organizations: Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD), European Commission and INTER PARES, National Democratic Institute (NDI), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UN Women, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and Directorio Legislativo.

The virtual launch is repeated on successive days (8 June at 15:30 CEST and 9 June at 10:00 CEST) and participants can join the session that is most suitable for them. Details of the event and how to register are available on the IPU website. This event is likely to be of interest to parliamentarians and senior members of the parliamentary administration with responsibility for the effective functioning of the institution.

The Preliminary version of the Indicators is <u>available for download from the IPU</u> <u>webpage</u> and the companion <u>parliamentary indicators</u> website. For more information, please contact my colleague Irena Mijanovic at standards@ipu.org.

I hope that your Parliament will be able to join the launch event and would welcome its feedback as well on the preliminary version of the Indicators. I hope that many parliaments will already use this tool to assess capacity and performance in areas of interest and, at the same time, help us to improve and adjust the preliminary version of the Indicators. Our objective is for the Indicators to become a common tool within the parliamentary community, recognized and used by parliaments as a means to strengthen their institution.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong Secretary General