

## Office of the Secretary General

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To all Presidents of IPU Groups

Geneva, 15 December 2022

Dear Madam President, Dear Mr. President,

I am pleased to share the new World e-Parliament Report, which analyses changes in parliamentary working methods since the COVID-19 pandemic. Data from the report shows that over half of parliaments (51%) have held a virtual plenary since March 2020 and more than three quarters (77%) a virtual committee meeting.

Parliaments are now in the "immediate post-COVID" phase in which they are considering what features of hybrid working to retain and how to embed digital strategy into overall planning for the parliament.

I invite members of your parliament and senior staff to join an online event to discuss the findings and recommendations from the report on Wednesday, 25 January 2023 from 14:00 to 15:30 CET (Geneva time).

Entitled *Will hybrid working become the "new normal"* for parliaments?, the central objective of this event is to investigate if, why and how hybrid working is becoming part of regular working practice in parliaments.

Parliamentarians will exchange perspectives on how hybrid working affects their work. They will consider how hybrid working impacts the legislative and oversight functions of parliament, and also to what extent hybrid working makes parliaments more modern, gender-sensitive and family-friendly workplaces. Participants will also share views on how to ensure the resilience of parliament in future emergencies.

Interpretation in English, French, Spanish and Arabic will be available.

A concept note is enclosed, and participants can register at the following link: <a href="https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrcuqupiMpHNMgygENXsLwPZtglwLHmlah">https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZYrcuqupiMpHNMgygENXsLwPZtglwLHmlah</a>

I look forward to receiving your feedback on the new World e-Parliament Report and to welcoming representatives from your Parliament to the online event.

Yours sincerely,

Martin Chungong Secretary General