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## Second Regional Seminar for African Parliaments on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

**Djibouti, 5-7 December 2022**

Organized jointly by the National Assembly of Djibouti and  
the Inter-Parliamentary Union

### CONCEPT NOTE

In September 2015, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development which closely relates to the Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want, the strategic framework for inclusive growth and sustainable development adopted the same year at the 24th African Union Summit. Both plans outline a roadmap for a more sustainable and prosperous future.

Parliaments are uniquely positioned to shape policy directions and priorities, and make sure that the needs of all segments of the society – especially of the most vulnerable and marginalized – are duly taken into account. They can play a crucial role in translating commitments taken by governments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into enforceable domestic law and in monitoring the implementation of these laws. They can also ensure that government is held accountable to the people for national progress on sustainable development.

Since 2000, African countries have been making progress in various SDG areas such as, for example, Goal 10 (Reduced Inequalities), Goal 2 (Zero Hunger), Goal 3 (Good Health and Well-Being), Goal 4 (Quality Education) and Goal 6 (Clean Water and Sanitation). Nevertheless, more strengthened and coordinated actions are urgently needed to enable Africa to achieve all SDGs by 2030. Natural and human-caused disasters (climate change and conflicts, forced migration, food insecurity, water scarcity, increasing energy prices, inflation and the socio-economic impact of the COVID 19 pandemic) are in fact hampering, and even challenging, the development achieved so far. Over the past decade, alarming declining trends in democracy have also been observed on the continent.

Jointly organized by the National Assembly of Djibouti and the IPU, the meeting will follow up on the conclusions of the previous [seminar hosted by the Parliament of Uganda](#) (2017) as well as the IPU's [virtual SDG event](#) organized for the region in 2020. It will provide African parliaments with the opportunity to renew the commitment made at the 132nd IPU Assembly in the [Hanoi Declaration \(The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action\)](#) to do their utmost to achieve the SDGs, and enhance parliamentary cooperation and dialogue in support of sustainable development.

### Objectives

The seminar aims to:

- Provide parliamentarians and parliamentary staff with up-to-date information on the status of SDGs implementation in Africa, as well as on the main developmental challenges and opportunities for parliaments to effectively contribute to SDG implementation.

- Promote discussion and exchange of experiences among parliamentarians to accelerate the achievement of the SDGs through their political work and functions at the local, national and regional levels.
- Identify and share recommendations on concrete actions African parliaments should put in place to comprehensively mainstream SDGs into their core functions (law-making, oversight, budget, representation) and ensure the effective and coherent implementation of the SDGs.

**Venue and dates:** The seminar will be held from 5 to 7 December at the Djibouti Palace Kempinski.

**Draft Agenda:** The agenda will be jointly agreed upon by the IPU and the National Assembly of Djibouti

**Participation:** The seminar is open to the following African parliaments:

Algeria, Angola, Benin, Botswana, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cameroon, Central African Republic, Chad, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Djibouti, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Eswatini, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Kenya, Lesotho, Liberia, Libya, Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Togo, Tunisia, Uganda, United Republic of Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Language:** The working languages will be English, French and Arabic.