



ASSOCIATION DES SECRETAIRES GENERAUX DES PARLEMENTS
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The Hague, The Netherlands, 21 July 2017

Dear Secretary General, Dear Colleague,

As you know, I was very sorry to announce the resignation of Mrs Doris Mwinga as Clerk of the National Assembly of Zambia and therefore President of our Association. She has asked me to act as her replacement until the election of a new President, which will take place during our forthcoming conference.

The ASGP will meet in St Petersburg (Russia) from Sunday 15 until Wednesday 18 October 2017, in parallel with the 137th session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Further details can be found in the enclosed letter from the two joint secretaries.

Please find enclosed the draft agenda for our meetings in St Petersburg. The agenda may be subject to change. A finalised version will be agreed during our first plenary sitting, which will begin at 11am on Monday 16 October. Our work will take place over four days, including an excursion which is scheduled to take place on the first day (Sunday 15 October).

I hope that you will contribute to the three general debates that have been proposed:

- *Management of speaking time in parliamentary debates*
- *The Role and workings of Parliament in crisis situations*
- *The Opposition*

Written contributions are welcome in advance, although you may speak without having submitted.

Communications from individual parliaments have been thematically grouped under the headings of *Public participation and communication; Elections; Time Management; and Parliamentary groupings (interparliamentary groups, friendship groups and parliamentary clubs)*. Communications on these and other subjects remain welcome until 18 September 2017.

Elections will be held during the conference to fill the posts of President, Vice-President, and two posts of ordinary member of the Executive Committee. I remind you of the wish of the Executive Committee that candidates should be active members of the Association, and of the need to ensure adequate representation of women, and language groups, and of the various regions of the globe.

I am looking forward to seeing you in St Petersburg. With all good wishes.

Geert Jan A. Hamilton
Acting President of the ASGP