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## **Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments**

### **CONTRIBUTION**

from

**Mrs Luvsandorj ULZIISAIKHAN**  
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on

**“The role and organisation of parliaments in a time of pandemic”**

**Zoom Session**  
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Dear colleagues,

The global pandemic of COVID-19 has affected countries regardless of their continent or region they are located. We all aware of that the parliaments are working hard and paying more attention not only to deal with this global impact with less threat, but also to organize and implement post-pandemic reconstruction efforts.

I am pleased today to share with you our experience on how these efforts are being undertaken by the State Great Hural (Parliament) of Mongolia and its Secretariat.

First of all, the parliament of Mongolia has adopted the Law on COVID-19 pandemic in 2020, which aims to prevent and combat the COVID-19 pandemic, protect public health and reduce its negative social and economic impact.

In the context of a nationwide lock down and restrictions imposed, the Plenary sessions and the Standing and Temporary committee sittings and Working groups meetings have been organized digitally. The technical and technological provisions to create a new electronic voting system have been adequately addressed. As a result, all stages of the law making processes, from preparing drafts for initial discussions to approving them, are being digitalized.

By the November 2020, the legislative processes were successfully transferred to a fully electronic format, and for the first time, the 2021 state budget was approved digitally within the timeframe set by the domestic law, following amendments to the Law on Parliamentary procedures.

Not only the legislature but also other government services are being transferred to digital mode. During the lock down and remote working regime, in addition, the parliament of Mongolia and its Secretariat have been successfully integrated into a comprehensive intranet system to increase coordination and monitoring, to improve efficiency for MPs and the staffs and to disseminate information in a timely manner.

This was a successful implementation of the “e-Parliament-paperless parliament” campaign launched in 2020. On the other hand, within the framework of enliven the amendments to the Constitution of Mongolia adopted on November 14, 2019, it has contributed to adhere to the basic principles of democracy, promote transparency, ensuring citizens with their right to govern and create opportunities for public consultation in the legislative processes.

The parliament of Mongolia, moreover, has introduced the *Lawmaker* and *Lawforum* platforms to further ensure citizens’ participation in the legislation drafting process.

I am confident that we will overcome the difficulties caused by the pandemic and successfully carry out post pandemic recoveries by combining our efforts and hard works together.

I wish you every success in your very responsible and laborious activities and very best and good health.

Thank you for your paid attention.