



ASSOCIATION DES SECRETAIRES GENERAUX DES PARLEMENTS  
ASSOCIATION OF SECRETARIES GENERAL OF PARLIAMENTS

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Bern, Switzerland, 18 July, 2018

Dear Secretary General,

Before you take some well-earned time off this summer, I am delighted to enclose the convocation for the next meeting of the ASGP, which will make excellent holiday reading, I am sure.

The meeting will take place in Geneva (Switzerland) from Monday 15 until Wednesday 17 October, 2018, in parallel with the 139<sup>th</sup> session of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU). Members of the ASGP are also requested to remain in Geneva on the morning of Thursday 18 October for a joint conference with their IPU colleagues on "How good is parliament at holding government to account?" Further details on all of this can be found in the enclosed letter from the two joint secretaries.

Please also find enclosed the draft agenda for our meetings in Geneva. The agenda is subject to change, and a finalised version will be agreed during our first plenary sitting, which will begin at 11am on Monday 15 October. Our work will take place over three days.

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

- *Public and private sittings, and their effect on the decision-making process*
- *The requirement for government to consult parliament before carrying out certain acts*
- *A new legislature: legal and administrative procedures*

The debates on *The requirement for government to consult parliament before carrying out certain acts* and *A new legislature: legal and administrative procedures* will be the subject of informal discussion groups composed on a linguistic basis. In a slight departure from previous practice, I will be contacting one person from each group in advance, to ask them to prepare to lead the discussion on the subject allocated to them.

Communications from individual parliaments have been thematically grouped under the headings of *In the news; transparency, parliament and government, representativeness, and renewal*. Communications on these and other subjects remain welcome until 17 September, 2018.

Elections will be held during the conference to fill at least one post 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, language groups, and the various regions of the globe.

I look forward to seeing you in Geneva, with all good wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Schwab', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Philippe SCHWAB  
ASGP President