



The Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung and the Inter Parliamentary Union cordially invite you to a parallel event to the 12th session of the UN HRC on

WEDNESDAY, 16 SEPTEMBER 2009, 1.00 – 3.00 PM

GENEVA, PALAIS DES NATIONS, ROOM XXIV

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN THE UPR

Within democratic States parliament's primary roles consist of passing legislation and overseeing government action. Elected representatives, including from political minorities, play their role in a system of "checks and balances". In contrast to this significant national role accorded to parliaments, their role in the UPR process is surprisingly undefined. Nevertheless, some parliaments are changing this state of affairs and becoming actors of outstanding importance in the national preparation of the UPR and the implementation of its recommendations.

In this panel discussion, Members of Parliament will present their experiences of involvement in the UPR process during preparation of the national report, the actual review by the Council and, most importantly, the national implementation of the recommendations. We want to debate with civil society, national delegations and human rights institutions how the role of parliaments in the UPR can be strengthened and how human rights defenders can interact productively with those important national stakeholders.

Panelists

- ❖ *Herta Däubler-Gmelin, MP* (Chairwoman of the Parliamentary Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid, former Federal Minister of Justice, Germany)
- ❖ *Mélégué Traoré, MP* (Deputy Chair of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the WAEMU, Former Speaker of the National Assembly, Burkina Faso)

NGO Comment

- ❖ *Camilla Asano* (CONNECTAS, Brazil)

Moderation: *Türkan Karakurt* (Friedrich-Ebert-Stiftung)

INTERPRETATION AVAILABLE FRENCH – ENGLISH

☞ Sandwiches and light refreshments will be provided ☞

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