

UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE



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Geneva, 15 October 2009

**ENLARGED SESSION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF THE
PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE WTO**

held on the occasion of the seventh WTO Ministerial Conference

Geneva, 1 December 2009

Dear Madam President,
Dear Mr. President,

The World Trade Organization (WTO) will hold its seventh Ministerial Conference in Geneva, from 30 November to 2 December 2009. As you are probably aware, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the European Parliament have been jointly leading the way in a process known as the *Parliamentary Conference on the WTO* - a permanent mechanism of parliamentary oversight of this intergovernmental body, its de facto parliamentary dimension.

At its recent meeting in Geneva, the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO decided that, even though the seventh WTO Ministerial Conference was not intended to be a negotiating forum for the Doha Development Agenda, it would be politically important to ensure a parliamentary presence there.

Parliaments are therefore invited to see to it that, as far as possible, their members who are active on trade and development issues are included in their country's official national delegation to the WTO Ministerial Conference. Not only is this the only way to obtain access to the Conference premises, it will also facilitate visa and accommodation arrangements in Geneva, which are normally centralized by all delegations through government channels. It is important to underline in this regard that the IPU Secretariat is not in a position to provide accreditation for parliamentarians to the Ministerial Conference - this must be done at the national level.

For those members of parliament who will be present in Geneva at the time of the seventh WTO Ministerial Conference, the IPU and the European Parliament will organize a special, enlarged session of the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO. The session will provide an opportunity for parliamentarians to obtain first-hand information on the main issues and orientations of the Ministerial Conference, to meet with some of the Trade Ministers, WTO officials and key negotiators, and to exchange views on ways to revitalize the Doha Round.

**ENLARGED SESSION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE
OF THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE WTO
(held on the occasion of the seventh WTO Ministerial Conference)**

Geneva, 1 December 2009

PRACTICAL INFORMATION

Date and venue

1. The enlarged session of the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO will take place on **Tuesday, 1 December 2009**, on the occasion of the Seventh WTO Ministerial Conference (Geneva, 30 November - 2 December 2009). The session will take place at IPU Headquarters from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6.30 p.m., at the following address:

Inter-Parliamentary Union
5, Chemin du Pommier
Le Grand-Saconnex / Geneva
Tel.: +4122 919 41 50; Fax: +4122 919 41 60
E-mail: postbox@mail.ipu.org

2. A cocktail reception will be offered to all participants at 6.30 p.m. It will be served at IPU Headquarters.

Participation and registration

3. The enlarged session of the Steering Committee of the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO is open to all members of parliament present in Geneva at the time of the WTO Ministerial Conference. As a rule, they are expected to be registered to the Ministerial Conference as part of their respective national delegations. Please note that the IPU is not in a position to provide assistance in this regard.

4. To take part in the parliamentary session, all participants are kindly requested to complete and return to the IPU Secretariat the enclosed registration form, which is also available on the IPU website at <http://www.ipu.org/splz-e/trade09/registration.pdf>. The form should be returned by **15 November 2009 at the latest**.

Working languages

5. Simultaneous interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish. Official written documentation of the meeting will be made available in English and French only.

Accommodation and visas

6. All participants are responsible for their own visa, travel and accommodation arrangements in Geneva, unless they are registered to the WTO Ministerial Conference, with all practical questions settled in a centralized way. For practical reasons, the IPU Secretariat is not in a position to provide assistance with visa support and accommodation arrangements in Geneva, which remain the sole responsibility of each participant.

**SESSION ELARGIE DU COMITE DE PILOTAGE DE LA
CONFERENCE PARLEMENTAIRE SUR L'OMC**

A l'occasion de la 7^{ème} Conférence ministérielle de l'OMC / *On the occasion of the 7th WTO Ministerial Conference*

**ENLARGED SESSION OF THE STEERING COMMITTEE OF
THE PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE WTO**

Genève / Geneva, 1/12/2009

FORMULAIRE D'INSCRIPTION / REGISTRATION FORM

Nous vous prions de nous retourner ce
formulaire le plus rapidement possible et au
plus tard le :

*Please complete this form and send it back as
soon as possible and by no later than:*

15/11/2009



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Suisse
Fax : +4122 9194160
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PAYS ou ORGANISATION / COUNTRY or ORGANISATION:

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Nom (M./Mme) Name (Mr./Mrs./Ms.)	Titres et fonctions au sein du parlement Titles and functions within the Parliament	Est accrédité(e) à la 7 ^{ème} Conférence ministérielle de l'OMC* Is accredited to the 7 th WTO Ministerial Conference *
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DELEGUE(E)S / DELEGATES

		<input type="checkbox"/> Oui / Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Non / No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Oui / Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Non / No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Oui / Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Non / No

SECRETAIRES ET CONSEILLERS / SECRETARIES AND ADVISORS

		<input type="checkbox"/> Oui / Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Non / No
		<input type="checkbox"/> Oui / Yes	<input type="checkbox"/> Non / No

* Veuillez indiquer si cette personne est déjà accréditée à la 7^{ème} Conférence ministérielle de l'OMC dans le cadre d'une délégation officielle
* Please indicate if the person is already accredited to the 7th WTO Ministerial Conference as a member of an official delegation

Fax/E-mail

Date

Signature