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# Parliamentarians for Global Action

## THE RULE OF LAW AND THE PROTECTION OF CIVILIANS:

### THE ROLE OF LEGISLATORS

Regional Parliamentary Conference for Arab states  
in cooperation with the Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs  
with the support of the European Commission, European Union

**People's Assembly, Egypt**

**February 9-10 2005**

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Hosted by the People's Assembly of the Arab Republic of Egypt, the Conference will foster and facilitate discussion among legislators on establishing justice and the rule of law in post-conflict societies. It will also promote dialogue on the importance of international humanitarian and human rights treaties for the protection of civilians in times of conflict. As legislators, parliamentarians play an integral role in the establishment, consolidation or restoration of the rule of law. They have the important responsibility of ensuring not only that the most appropriate legal provisions, standards and principles for the rule of law are adhered to in transitional or crises situations, but also, of equal importance, that such provisions are recognized and accepted as the primary means of protecting civil, cultural, economic, political and social rights.

Participants will include legislators from the parliaments of Arab states, as well as the parliaments of Africa, Europe, and North America, leading experts on international law and human rights, and selected representatives of international organisations.

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### PROGRAMME

**February 8, 2005**

**6:30 h.**            **Welcome gathering at Semiramis InterContinental Hotel**  
Ambassador Club 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor

**February 9, 2005**

**9:00 h.**            **Opening Ceremony – Pharaonic Hall, People's Assembly**

*Address by* **H.E. Dr. Ahmad Fathi Sorour, MP**  
Speaker of the People's Assembly, Egypt

*Remarks by* **H.E. Amat Al-Aleem Alsoswa**  
Minister of Human Rights, Yemen

*Remarks by* **H.E. Dr. Amin Mobarak, MP** (Egypt)  
Chair of the Energy Committee, People's Assembly

*Remarks by* **Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah, MP** (Ghana)  
President of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

*Address by* **Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni**

President, International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI), DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, United States

**10:15 h.** Coffee Break

**Mobarak Hall, People's Assembly**

**10:30 h.** THE RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT

*\* The role of States*

*\* The role of the United Nations*

*Chair:* **H.E. Ambassador Mohamed Shaker**  
Vice Chair, Egyptian Council for Foreign Affairs

*Panel:* **Ms. Emma Bonino, MEP**  
Member of the European Parliament, Italy, former European Commissioner for Humanitarian Affairs

**H.E. Ambassador Ahmed Tawfik Khalil**  
Egyptian Council of Foreign Affairs

**Prof. Mona Makram Ebeid**  
Professor, American University in Cairo

*Open discussion*

**11:30 h.** STRENGTHENING THE RULE OF LAW IN THE WAKE OF CONFLICT

*\*The legacy of the Nuremberg Principles*

*\* Defining the Rule of Law*

*\*UN Secretary General's Report on the Rule of Law and Transitional Justice in conflict and post conflict societies (August 2004)*

*Chair:* **H.E. Dr. Moustafa El-Feki, MP (Egypt)**  
Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee

*Panel:* **Mr. Harlem Desir, MEP**  
Member of the European Parliament, France

**Ms. Farah Karimi, MP (The Netherlands)**  
Foreign Affairs Committee

**Dr. Nihal Fahmy PhD**  
Professor at large, Int'l Organizations and NGOs

**H.E. Tahani El-Gibali**

Judge, Supreme Court of Egypt

*Open discussion*

**12:15 h.** Coffee Break

**12:30 h.** **ASSESSING NATIONAL NEEDS AND CAPACITIES**

*\*The role of national and international experts*

*\*Legal and Technical assistance*

*\*Local consultation*

*Chair:* **Dr. Mohamed Saleh**, MP (Egypt)  
Chair, PGA Egypt National Group; Member, Human Rights Committee

*Panel:* **Judge Hatem Fouad Aly**  
Presiding Judge, North Cairo Court; seconded to the Afghanistan Judicial Training Program of The International Institute of Higher Studies in Criminal Sciences (ISISC)

**Mr. Antonio Vigilante**  
Resident Representative, UNDP Egypt

**Mr. Oliver Nette**  
Delegation of the European Union to Egypt

*Open Discussion*

**14:15 h.** **Lunch**

**February 10, 2005**

**9:00** **INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS LAW: FILLING A RULE OF LAW VACUUM**

*\* Lessons learned from the ad hoc tribunals (Rwanda, former Yugoslavia, East Timor, Sierra Leone)*

*\*The role of the International Criminal Court*

*Chair:* **Senator Alain Destexhe**, MP (Belgium)  
Convenor of PGA's International Law and Human Rights Programme; Member of PGA Executive Board

*Presentation:* **Prof. M. Cherif Bassiouni** (Egypt)  
President, International Human Rights Law Institute (IHRLI), DePaul University College of Law, Chicago, United States

*Panel:* **Dr. Ra'Ed K. Qaqish**, MP (Jordan)

Member, Foreign Affairs Committee, Vice-President, Education, Culture, and Youth Committee; Member of PGA International Council

**Dr. Herta Daubler-Gmelin MP** (Germany),  
Former Federal Minister of Justice; Professor of Law, Free University of Berlin

**Mr. Mohamed Oudor, MP** (Morocco)  
Member, Justice Committee

**Ms. Amal Basha** (Yemen)  
Regional Coordinator, Coalition for the International Criminal Court (CICC)

*Open discussion*

**11:00 h** Coffee Break

**11:15 h IMPLEMENTATION OF INTERNATIONAL HUMANITARIAN AND HUMAN RIGHTS TREATIES IN ARAB STATES**

*Chair:* **Dr. Mohamed Saleh, MP** (Egypt)  
Chair, PGA Egypt National Group

*Panel:* **Mr. Chérif Atlam**  
International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) Regional Coordinator for the Advisory Service on International Humanitarian Law in the Middle East and North Africa

**Mr. Shawki Al-Kadi, MP** (Yemen)  
Member, Human Rights and Public Freedoms Committee

**Ms. Naima Khaldoun, MP** (Morocco)  
Deputy Chair, Justice and Human Rights Committee

**Mr. Mohamed Aouini, MP** (Tunisia)  
Chair, Legislation and Legal Affairs Committee

**Mr. Hassan Araibi, MP** (Algeria)  
Member, National Defense Committee

**Mr. Mohamed Arslan, MP** (Jordan)

*Open discussion*

**12:45 h. CLOSURE OF THE CONFERENCE**

*\* Consideration of a Draft Final Document*

*\* Open Discussion among Participants*

*\* Deliberation and, as appropriate, adoption of the Final Document*

*Chair::* **Sen. Raynell Andreychuk** (Canada)  
Chair, Human Rights Committee

*Open discussion*

*Closing Remarks:* **Dr. Mohamed Saleh**, MP (Egypt)  
Chair, PGA Egypt National Group; Member, Human Rights Committee,