

ANNUAL PARLIAMENTARY FORUM

*Building a stable and durable peace: the role of Parliamentarians in support of peace processes*

35<sup>TH</sup> SESSION

9-10 December 2013

Parliament of Colombia, Bogotá

Bogotá/New York/The Hague, 22 October 2013

Dear PGA Member,

It is our distinct honour to invite you to participate in our *35th session of the Annual Parliamentary Forum*, which will take place in the Chamber of Representatives of the Parliament of Colombia in Bogota from 9-10 December 2013 on the occasion of International Human Rights Day.

Every year, PGA convenes a high-level parliamentary forum bringing together MPs from around the globe to exchange best practices and discuss policy strategies on a relevant international issue. During the forums, PGA members have the invaluable opportunity to discuss these issues with other members from around the world and with parliamentarians who are not members of PGA, as well as with government officials and high-level experts and intergovernmental organisations representatives. Since 2000, PGA's annual forums have been held in Italy, Canada, Ireland, Japan, New Zealand, Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Sweden and the United States. This year, the Parliamentary Forum will take place in Colombia to address the topic of "**Building a stable and durable peace: the role of parliamentarians in support of peace processes**" to contribute to generate parliamentary support to the peace process in Colombia in order to end a war of over 50 years.

We would like to encourage your participation in this event and also to kindly ask you to approach the Speaker of your parliament to ensure that he/she sends a delegation to take part in the Annual Parliamentary Forum, including, if possible, the main PGA members such as yourself, in this official delegation. We have sent a letter of invitation (enclosed) to your Speaker for this purpose on 21 October through IPU channels and we would thus be grateful if you could follow-up on this invitation with his/her office.

We hope you will be part of it. We would be most grateful if you could confirm your participation, prior to October 30, 2013 to [forum2013@pgaction.org](mailto:forum2013@pgaction.org). Should you have any questions or need further information please contact the email address aforementioned.

We look forward to benefiting from your participation in Bogota and to work together towards the realisation of PGA's vision, "*the creation of a Rules-Based International Order for a more equitable, safe and democratic world*".

Please accept the assurances of our highest esteem and consideration.

**H.R. Iván Cepeda**  
Co-President, Committee on Peace  
Vice-president, Committee on Human Rights

**Hon. Ross Robertson, MP** (Vice-President  
Chamber of Representatives, New Zealand)  
*President, Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)*