

Canadian Group
Inter-Parliamentary Union



Groupe canadien
Union interparlementaire

**Report of the Canadian Parliamentary Delegation
to the Annual Parliamentary Hearing
at the United Nations**

Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

**New York, New York, United States of America
19-20 November 2009**

Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nation

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations

1. Background

The IPU's Annual Parliamentary Hearing brings members of parliament to the United Nations Headquarters in New York for an interactive discussion with high-ranking UN officials, representatives of Member States and experts drawn from think tanks and civil society organizations. In accordance with the provisions of the General Assembly Resolution on cooperation between the UN and the IPU (<http://www.ipu.org/un-e/a-61-L6-e.pdf>), the Hearing is a joint event of the two organizations, heralding a greater political commitment on the part of the United Nations to hear the views of parliaments on some of the most urgent issues of our times. Among other things, the Hearing provides an opportunity for members of parliament to meet and hear from the United Nations management team. The conclusions of the Hearing are circulated to the wider UN community as well as to all national parliaments.¹

2. Programme for the Parliamentary Hearing

The main theme of the Hearing, which took place in New York on 19 and 20 November 2009, was: *The Way Forward - Building political support and implementing effective responses to the global economic crisis*. Panel sessions related to this theme addressed the following issues:

- Overview of the international response to the crisis
- Delivering a green recovery: solutions for a more sustainable economy
- Addressing the social impact of the crisis: safety nets, public goods, and workers' rights
- Building greater transparency and accountability of financial systems

The full programme, with more details on the theme and the complete list of panellists, may be found online.²

3. The Canadian Delegation

The Parliamentary Hearing was attended by parliamentarians from more than 50 countries as well as several regional parliaments. Representatives of Permanent Missions to the United Nations, as well as of intergovernmental and civil society organizations, also participated. The Canadian IPU Group was represented by the following parliamentarians: from the Senate of Canada, the Honourable Dennis Dawson, and from the House of Commons, Ms. Yasmin Ratansi, MP.

¹ Source: <http://www.ipu.org/Splz-e/unga09.htm>

² See: <http://www.ipu.org/splz-e/unga09/programme.pdf>.

4. The Parliamentary Hearing

A detailed summary report (A/64/649-E/2010/8) of the Parliamentary Hearing produced by the United Nations General Assembly, Economic and Security Council, may be found online.³

Respectfully submitted,

The Honourable Donald H. Oliver, Q.C., Senator
President, Canadian Group IPU

³ See : <http://www.ipu.org/Un-e/hearing09-e.pdf>

Travel Costs

ASSOCIATION	Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)
ACTIVITY	Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations
DESTINATION	New York, New York, United States of America
DATES	19-20 November 2009
DELEGATION	
SENATE	The Honourable Dennis Dawson, Senator
HOUSE OF COMMONS	Ms. Yasmin Ratansi, M.P
STAFF	Mr. Joseph Jackson, Analyst
TRANSPORTATION	\$6,177.89
ACCOMMODATION	\$1,836.98
HOSPITALITY	
PER DIEMS	\$ 681.28
OFFICIAL GIFTS	
MISCELLANEOUS	\$ 10.46
TOTAL	\$8,706.61