



Panel discussion on
Progress in implementing One UN reform:
Political challenges, parliamentary perspectives



ECOSOC Chamber
19 November 2008, 3 - 6 pm

In September 2008, a parliamentary field mission took place in Tanzania, to look at the status of implementation of One UN reform at the national level. It came away greatly encouraged by the progress and tangible changes that have taken place on the ground towards UN Delivering as One, in support of national development priorities. It also drew some conclusions and recommendations on further steps towards strengthening national ownership and achieving greater coherence in UN operations on the ground. The panel proposes to bring forth some of these conclusions, and engage in a discussion about the road ahead.

Key issues for consideration:

- Managing international development assistance: building national capacities, strengthening local ownership, implementing the Accra Agenda for Action;
- Current state of play in relation to UN system-wide coherence and the implementation of the One UN principles;
- The role of parliaments in promoting greater effectiveness, transparency and accountability of United Nations operations at the national level;
- Lessons learnt from the Tanzania experience.

Introduction:

- Hon. Finn-Martin Vallersnes, Chair of the Advisory Group to the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs
- H.E. Mr. Augustine Mahiga, Ambassador of Tanzania to the United Nations
- H.E. Mr. John Paul Kavanagh, Ambassador of Ireland to the United Nations

Panelists:

- Hon. Samuel John Sitta, Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania
- Hon. Mélégué Traoré, former Speaker of Parliament of Burkina Faso, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)
- Hon. NC. Madlala-Routledge, Deputy Speaker of Parliament, South Africa
- Senator Rosario Green, Chairperson of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee of Mexico
- Mr. Oscar Fernandez Taranco, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Tanzania

Conclusions:

- Speaker Theo-Ben Gurirab, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union