



PERMANENT MISSION OF THE KINGDOM OF BHUTAN
TO THE UNITED NATIONS

Press Release

Bhutan became the 163rd member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) on 7th October 2013. Bhutan's membership was announced at the opening of 129th IPU Assembly which is being held in Geneva from 7th to 9th October 2013. Hon'ble Speaker of Bhutan, Tshogpon Jigme Zangpo is leading a six-member Bhutanese delegation to the IPU Assembly. Speaking at the formal announcement of Bhutan's admission into the IPU, Hon'ble Tshogpon said that it was a great honour for the Parliament and the people of Bhutan to have acceded to this important international body of parliaments. He expressed his confidence that Bhutan's membership to this global democratic forum will go a long way in building strong and sustained democratic culture and values in the Bhutanese polity.

Hon'ble Tshogpon called on the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr. Abdelwahad Radi yesterday. He is also scheduled to meet Mr. Anders B. Johnsson, the Secretary General of IPU, Smt. Meira Kumar, the Hon'ble Speaker of the Indian Parliament and other dignitaries during the course of the Assembly.

IPU is the international organization of parliaments. It was established in 1889. The Union is the focal point for world wide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and co-operation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy. IPU works to make parliaments more effective in fulfilling the government oversight and legislative roles, in guaranteeing people's rights and liberties and in securing peace and development.

Bhutan's application to join the IPU was endorsed by the Bhutan's First Parliament. Our membership to IPU is expected to open up new avenues for Bhutan to interact and contribute towards global peace and strengthening parliamentary democracy.

Tuesday, 8th October 2013

