

# Speakers Stand in **Solidarity with Palestine**





























7ith the Israeli aggression in Palestine in general, and Gaza in particular, continuing to escalate for more than 11 months, the crimes and violations committed by the Israeli occupation have triggered widespread and growing outrage among the international community. Accordingly, the Speakers of the Councils and Parliaments of Islamic countries stood firmly and unitedly by the side of the oppressed Palestinian people, voicing their absolute solidarity with their just cause and their right to freedom and dignity.

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Morocco hosts the 52nd PUIC Executive Committee

The 52nd meeting of the PUIC's Executive Committee will be hosted by the Parliament of the Kingdom of Morocco in Rabat on 10 and 11 September 2024. The meeting is held in preparation for the 19th Conference of the PUIC, scheduled to be held in Indonesia in 2025. The executive committee's meeting will set the draft agenda for each of the four standing committees, as well as the agenda of the subsidiary organs, namely the Palestine Committee, the Conference of Muslim Women Parliamentarians, and the Association of Secretaries General of PUIC. The meeting also aims to set the agenda of the General Committee's meeting as well as the agenda of and the date of the 19th session of the PUIC Conference.

#### **Section**

By Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General

Anyone who imagines that the Islamic Nation would relinquish or



fail to preserve the City of Al Quds is just living in delusion and fantasy. Time will show that such a person is but a failure in judgment. He is ignorant of the status which this city occupies in the conscience of every Muslim. Al- Quds is the burial place of prophets (may peace be upon them). It is the destination of the nocturnal journey of our Prophet Mohammed (may Allah's peace and blessing be upon him), and from there was his ascent to the heavens. Beitul Maghdis was the First Qiblah of Muslims when performing their prayers.

Al-Aqsa Mosque, being the heart of the City of Al Quds, was built during the time of the Rashidin Caliphs, and seven-year revenues from Egypt where spent on it.

That part of history is still venerated and sacrosanct, despite the crusades, whereas colonialism was one of its chains. Through the past centuries Muslims, after the performance of Hajj and visiting Al-Medina Al- Munawara, used to head for Al- Aqsa Mosque. A hadith of the Prophet states that this Mosque is one of three mosques where Muslims ought to visit. This situation has been in existence until western colonialism planted the Zionist entity in the land of Palestine. Corruption become rife in this blessed land; its people were dispersed and those who stayed faced persecution and torture (Allah will torture the perpetrators). The Zionists prevented Muslims from visiting Al-Aqsa Mosque. They conceived the City of Al-Quds as their Capital city. They launched excavations underneath Al Aqsa Mosque in search of their alleged temple, and thus threaten the foundations of the Mosque. The Zionists continue their storming and desecrating of Al- Aqsa Mosque. They even deny worshipers entrance into the mosque, which is a provocation of the sentiments of Muslims. Recently they prevented the Imam of the Mosque and head of the higher Islamic organization in Al - Quds, Sheikh Ikrema Sabri, from entry the Mosque because, in his Friday sermon, he eulogized the martyr of Ismail Hanya, and asked mercy for his soul. All these developments take place, while the Zionist enemy is continuing its genocidal war on steadfast Gaza. Zionists must realize that Muslims will hold them accountable for their evil deeds in Palestine and in the region. They will also realize, sooner or later, that Al-Quds Al – Sharif, and the blessed Al- Aqsa Mosque in its heart, is a red line for the Islamic Nation. Saving and defending Al-Aqsa is the

responsibility for the entire Ummah.



# The 18th PUIC Conference: The Palestinian Cause and Challenges of Climate Change

Upon the invitation of H.E. Mr Adama Bictogo, Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, the Conference of the Parliamentary Union of the OIC Member States was held in Abidjan on 3-4 March 2024, under the theme 'Climate Change in the World: "How can PUIC Members respond?". The Conference was attended by 33 delegations, including (8) Speakers, (7) Vice Speakers and (4) observers.

#### **Opening Session:**

The Conference was inaugurated on Monday, afternoon 23 Sha'aban 1445H, corresponding to 4 March 2024, at the Palace of Conferences, in Sofitel Hotel, in Abidjan, with the presence of Speakers of Parliaments/Assemblies, Deputy-Speakers, Members of Delegations, as well as members of Diplomatic Corps accredited to Cote d'Ivoire.

The session began with the recitation of verses from the Holy Quran, followed by a speech by H.E. Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, in which he thanked Côte d'Ivoire for its warm welcome and hospitality, as well as H.E. Mr Brahim Boughali, Speaker of the People's National Assembly of Algeria for his efforts during his term of presidency of the PUIC. H.E. addressed the situation in Gaza, praising South Africa's initiative in bringing a case against Israel before the International Criminal Court, and emphasised that the Palestinian cause is the first cause of Muslims, pointing out the importance of Al Quds, especially the Al Aqsa Mosque. This was followed by the speech of the President of the 17th session of the Union, H.E. Mr Brahim Boughali, who indicated in his speech that he did his

best to achieve the objectives of the PUIC and that he was committed to supporting the Palestinian cause. Mr Boughali then handed over the presidency of the PUIC to H.E. Mr Adama Bictogo, President of the Ivorian National Assembly, who in turn delivered a speech welcoming the guests and thanking the former President for his efforts during his presidency, then reviewed the challenges facing the Muslimworld, stressing the importance of solidarity to overcome these challenges and achieve development. H.E concluded his speech by referring to the Palestinian cause and the importance it holds for the Muslim Ummah, as well as the importance of concerted efforts to combat climate change.

#### **▶** Speakers'Interventions

The Speakers addressed several topics, most notably the situation in Palestine and climate change, stressing the importance of solidarity to face the present challenges. They also strongly condemned the Israeli aggression and stressed that the Palestinian cause is the primary cause in the Islamic world, and that the military escalation must stop. In addition, they stressed that the Israeli aggression constitutes athreat to humanity and requires immediate action. They also called for the resolution of the

Palestinian issue and the establishment of an independent Palestinian state. They also thanked Côte d'Ivoire for the good reception and organisation of the conference, and thanked the President of Algeria's People's National Assembly for his efforts during his presidency of the Union.

#### **Work session:**

The Conference resumed its proceedings, on Thursday morning 5th March, 2024 under the Chairmanship of H.E. Mr. Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the Ivorian National Assembly, new PUIC President.

#### **Key themes of the speeches:**

The speeches emphasised support for the Palestinian cause and the need to stop the hostilities in Gaza. They also emphasised the need to combat climate change, terrorism and armed conflicts. The speeches also addressed the suffering of Rohingya refugees and Bangladesh's role in providing them with asylum, in addition to congratulating the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire on winning the 2023 Africa Cup of Nations.

#### Time and venue of the next meetings: 52nd Meeting of the PUIC Executive



Committee: Kingdom of Morocco; 19th Session of the PUIC Conference: Republic of Indonesia, in 2025; 20th Session of the PUIC Conference:

Assembly of People's Representatives of the Republic of Tunisia in 2026.

**Closing Session:** 

Mr Diomandé Abou Bacar Sidiki, Secretary General of the Ivorian National Assembly, read the Abidjan Declaration, which was then adopted.

# Abidjan Declaration

- **Affirm** that the Palestinian cause is the central issue of the PUIC since its establishment, and that the Union is continuing to support the struggle of the Palestinian people in order to liberate their land, and establish their independent state with Al-Quds Al-Sharifas its capital.
- Consider the protection of human life to be a fundamental right as recognised in our holy book, the Holy Qur'an, as well as in international legal instruments relating to international humanitarian law and international human rights law.
- We therefore call for an immediate ceasefire, the opening of a humanitarian corridor and the protection of vulnerable people, particularly children and women in Gaza.
- We **call** on the international community to assume all its responsibilities for a definitive and lasting solution to this conflict, which has gone on for far too long.
- Welcome the initiative of the Republic of South Africa for bringing a legal case against Israel for violating the agreement on preventinggenocide; and call upon all those withliveconsciences to hold together so that war criminals will not go free with impunity.
- Expressing our continuing concern vis-à-vis the growth of the phenomenon

- of Islamophobia, and its embodiment of hatred for Islam and Muslims; and call for the propagation of the spirit of peace and tolerance among human beings.
- **Confirm** the commitment of the PUIC states to confront the challenges of climate change which threaten all, especially that several of our states witnessed last year climate-change-related disasters. Insist on the necessity of solidary which is encouraged by our true Islamic religion.
- Call for paying special attention to the issues of combating desertification, drought and floods from which suffer some PUIC states, particularly in Africa. Consider that climate crisis is a real crisis. It is our duty to continue alleviating their impacts by adopting responsible, eco-friendly behaviour. International solidarity remains the best action with which to face these dangers.
- Strongly denounce terrorist actions witnessed by some Sahelian States, and the states of East Africa. Confirm our support of these states in order to combat terrorism. Request Islamic States to support African States to eliminate this phenomenon which has led to instability that has impeded efforts of development and resulted in political turmoil.

- Call for paying special attention to the issue of the displaced people and refugees which has worsened recently because of the growth of the phenomenon of terrorism and the increase of conflicts and disputes in several states as well as because of the international economic crisis.
- Confirm our great attention to the suffering of Muslim minorities here and there, as well as the violations of rights; this attention has been embodied in the formation of a committee for Muslim Communities and Minorities at the level of the PUIC, for seeking to set up a mechanism for monitoring and sensitizing people about the conditions of these communities.
- Express our sincere thanks and appreciation to the State of Côte d'Ivoire, to His Excellency Mr Alassane OUATTARA, President of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire, to His Excellency Mr Adama BICTOGO, Speaker of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, and to the people of Côte d'Ivoire, for the kind courtesies extended to us throughout our stay, for the warm welcome and generous hospitality we have enjoyed, and for the excellent organisation of the conference and its related meetings.





### Background on the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco:

His Excellency Mr Rachid Talbi El-Alami is a Moroccan politician belonging to the National Rally of Independence party and has been the Speaker of the House of Representatives of the Kingdom of Morocco since 2021. Mr El-Alami pursued his postgraduate studies at the Mohammed V Agdal University in Rabat, and obtained a PhD in Management and Finance from the NY University in the USA. He served as Minister of Youth and Sports from April 2017 to October 2019, as Deputy Minister in charge of Economic and Public Affairs from June 2004 to October 2007, and as Minister of Industry, Trade and Communications from 2002 to 2004. Mr El-Alami had also served as Speaker of the House of Representatives from April 2014 to October 2016.

# **Moroccan House of Representatives**

### Overview of the Moroccan House of Representatives:

#### **Formation:**

The House of Representatives is one of the two branches of the Moroccan Parliament (the other is the House of Councillors). The House of Representatives has 395 members elected for a term of five (5) years, 305 of whom are elected at the level of local electoral districts, while 90 members are elected at the level of regional electoral districts. The Speaker of the House of Representatives is elected twice, the first at the beginning of the parliamentary term, and the second in the April session for the third year of the term, for the remaining term. H.E. Mr Rachid Talbi El-Alami was re-elected in the April 2024 session, and will thus remain in office until the end of his term in 2026.

#### **Duties:**

The House of Representatives performs legislative functions, monitors the work of the government and evaluates public policies through the enactment of various laws. The government is held accountable either verbally, in writing, through factfinding committees, through oversight petitions, or through the monitoring mechanisms of the permanent parliamentary committees. The House also plays an important role in reviewing and discussing national policies and issuing legislations impacting citizens' lives. The House of Representatives is a vitalpartofMorocco's political structure, contributing to strengthening democracy and ensuring transparency in the work of the government. Its members enjoy broad powers that enable them to influence the decision-making process and contribute to the overall development of the country. **House Committees:** 

- •The Moroccan House of Representatives has nine standing committees which are:
- Committee on Foreign Affairs, National Defence, Islamic Affairs and Moroccans Immigrants.
- Committee on Interior Affairs, Territorial Communities, Housing and City Policy.
- Committee on Justice, Legislation and Human Rights.
- Committee on Finance and Economic Development.
- Committee on Social Sectors.
- Committee on Productive Sectors.
- Committee on Infrastructure, Energy, Minerals and Environment.
- Committee on Education, Culture and Communication.
- Committee on Public Finance Oversight.

# **Moroccan House of Councillors**



# Overview of the Moroccan House of Councillors:

#### **Formation:**

The Moroccan House of Councillors performs its tasks pursuant to the provisions of the 1996 law, and consists of 90 to 120 members elected by indirect universal suffrage for a period of six years. Threefifthsofthemembersrepresent territorial communities, distributed among the Kingdom's regions in proportion to their population, and taking into account regional equity. Two-fifths of the members are elected, in each region, by electoral bodies composed of those elected in the professional chambers and in the professional organisations of the most representative employers, and members elected at the national level by anelectoral college composed of representatives of the wage-earners. The Speaker of the House of Councillors

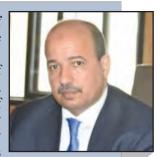
and the members of the Bureau, as well as the chairs of the standing committees and their bureaus, shall be elected at the beginning of the parliamentary term and again at the end of the mid-term of the legislative mandate of the House, and the members of the Bureau shall be elected on the basis of proportional representation of each group.

#### **House Duties:**

The House of Councillors has wide powers in the areas of legislation and monitoring government action, as it exercises these powers by voting on laws and evaluating the government's public policies. The House of Councillors can question the latter through a petition signed by at least five of its members, and this petition cannot be voted on until three full days have passed after its deposit and by an absolute majority of the members of this House.

### Background on the Speaker of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco:

H.E Mr Naam Miyara, Speaker of the Moroccan House of Councillors, was born in 1968 in the city of Smara. He completed his primary and secondary education in the city of Tantan where he also obtained his



baccalaureate. He graduated from the Hassan II Institute of Agriculture and Veterinary Science in Landscape Architecture, and joined the civil service in 1991 as head of the Green Areas Department of the Urban Community until 2009. He serves as the Speaker of the House of Councillors, the upper chamber of the Moroccan Parliament, since his election in October 2021. He is a member of the Istiqlal Party, which is one of the oldest political parties in Morocco. Mr Miyara is also the leader of the General Union of Workers of Morocco (UGTM), the trade union arm of the Istiglal Party. He has extensive experience in trade union work and politics, and held several leadership positions within the UGTM before assuming the presidency of the House of Councillors. In 1996, he was elected regional secretary of the National Union of Local Government Employees and Workers in Laayoune region of the General Union of Workers in Morocco (UGTM), a union organisation for which he was elected as a member of the Council of the Laayoune Boujdour Sakia El Hamra region in 1997 until 2015, during which time he served as vice president and budget rapporteur of the Council. He held several trade union positions within the ranks of the trade union arm of the Istiqlal Party. He rose through the ranks, from the regional office in Laayoune to the executive office of the General Union of Workers in Morocco, where he was elected in 2009 at the National General Conference held in Rabat, and then as a member of the Standing Committee, to which he was elected at the 2014 National Conference held in Bouznika. In May 2017, he was elected Secretary General of the UGTM, a position he holds to this day. H.E is one of the most prominent figures of the Istiqlal party from the Sahara regions of Morocco, having served as the regional coordinator of the Istiqual Youth in the southern regions, member of the Central Committee of the Youth, member of the National Council of the Istiqlal Party for three consecutive terms and member of the Central Committee of the party since the 17th General Conference. His priorities in the House of Councillors are promoting social dialogue and developing legislation that serves the interests of workers and society in general. Under his leadership, the House seeks to promote cooperation between the various political and social actors in Morocco to achieve sustainable economic and social development.

# Speakers Stand in Solidarity with Palestine



Boughali: The Israeli Occupation Must be Held Accountable for its Crimes

During the opening of the 34th session of the Executive Committee of the Arab Interparliamentary Union (AIPU) in Algiers, the President of the AIPU, Speaker of the People's National Assembly, Mr Brahim Boughali, called for the study of mechanisms to prosecute the crimes committed by the Zionist entity against the Palestinian people, especially intheGazaStrip.Hehighlightedthegrave regional and international developments and their deep impact on the Arab region, highlighting the situation in Palestine and the crimes committed by the Israeli occupation against Palestinians as part of a colonialist project aimed at liquidating the Palestinian cause and sabotaging the region. H.E stressed the responsibility of Arab parliamentarians, noting their duty to work diligently to enhance the status and role of AIPU to meet the needs of the current times and the aspirations of the Arab peoples. He explained that the situation in Gaza and the occupied Palestinian territories will be at the centre of the agenda of the 36th Conference of the AIPU, held in Algiers on May 26 and 27, 2024. His Excellency also called for proposing tangible and constructive initiatives to strengthen joint Arab parliamentary action, especially at the level of the IPU, and to study all possible mechanisms and ways to pursue the Israeli occupation for its crimes. He emphasised the importance of the Arab nation regaining its strong and effective role in the international stage, recalling the achievement at the UN General Assembly of the historic resolution on the full membership of the State of Palestine, which demonstrated the unity of the Arab



Bictogo Reminds the International **Community of its Obligations** Towards the Palestinian People

During the fifth conference of the League of Parliamentarians for Al-Quds held in Istanbul, Türkiye, on Friday 26 April 2024, the President of the National Assembly of Côte d'Ivoire, H.E. Mr. Adama Bictogo, called on parliamentarians in the Arab world to unite to find a peaceful solution to the crisis in Gaza. He pointed to the numerous violations of international law in the Gaza Strip and emphasised the need to take strong action to achieve a peaceful and lasting solution that restores Palestine's independence and freedom.

Mr Bictogo emphasised the need for these measures to be fully consistent with international law, stressing the importance of the international community's commitment to the Palestinian people's right to selfdetermination, as stipulated in the UN Charter and international legal instruments. He explained respecting this inalienable right is the key to achieving the two-state solution and ensuring the freedom and independence of Palestine.

Mr Bictogo proposed the establishment of a Turkish-led high-level group, comprising Speakers the parliaments, to facilitate dialogue and put an immediate end to violence, while upholding the Palestinians' right to self-determination and respecting international law, including territorial integrity. Under the slogan 'Freedom and Independence for Palestine', the event aimed to raise awareness and mobilise governments and international organisations to support the Palestinian cause and promote peace in the Middle



**Maharani Deplores International** Community's Silence Over Israeli Crimes

The Speaker of the Indonesian House of Representatives, H.E Mrs Puan Maharani, condemned Israeli violence against Palestinians in Gaza during the 148th IPU General Assembly in Geneva on Sunday, 24 March 2024, noting that recent Israeli attacks have become more intense, asking: 'How many more lives should perish before the international community makes a move? Are we going to stay silent?'

H.E. Ms Maharani expressed her outrage at the continued killing and bombing in Gaza, calling it an atrocity that cannot be justified. She called on world parliaments not to overlook the suffering of civilians in Gaza, and called on major powers to use their influence to stop the atrocities and restore humanitarian principles.

H.E also emphasised the need for an immediate ceasefire, safe passage of humanitarian aid and respect for humanitarian law. She also noted the importance of peace in other conflict zones such as Ukraine, Yemen, and Myanmar, emphasising that peace is the key to the progress of nations.

In her speech, she highlighted the role of parliaments in establishing global peace and security by enacting laws, promoting international parliamentary diplomacy and education to foster a culture of peace. She also emphasised that pressuring conflicting parties to sit at the negotiations table is an essential step in achieving long-lasting peace.

### Fattouh Demands an International Investigation into the Occupation's Crimes

The President of the Palestinian National Council (PNC), Mr Rawhi Fattouh, condemned the Israeli occupation's continued aggression. In a statement issued by the PNC on 15 August 2024, Mr Fattouh called for the creation of international investigation committees on the crimes committed by the occupation against the Palestinian people, as well as what was revealed by the Haaretz newspaper of the occupation regime regarding the occupation army's use of civilian women and children as human shields to sweep tunnels and buildings, in addition to exterminating hundreds of families and erasing them from the civil registry. His Excellency called on the International Court of Justice and the International Criminal Court to include these confessions issued by this newspaper in the war crimes case for which the occupation is being prosecuted.



## Nabih Berry: Necessity of Urgently Stopping the Genocidal War against the **Palestinian People**

The Speaker of the Lebanese Parliament, H.E.Mr. Nabih Berry, warned of the serious repercussions that threaten security and stability in the Middle East as a result of Israel's continued war on the Gaza Strip and Lebanon for more than nine months. Mr Berry dismissed the possibility of a largescale Israeli aggression against Lebanon, stressing the need to urgently stop Israel's genocidal war against the Palestinian people, considering that a permanent cessation of the war is the key to dees calating regional tensions. H.Estressed that Lebanon would not need new agreements to restore peace and stability in the border area, pointing out that the UN Security Council adopted Resolution 1701, and while Lebanon is committed to all its provisions, the international community must pressure Israel to cease its breaches and violations of the resolution's provisions.



## Al-Musalam: Bahrain is Firmly Committed to Supporting the Rights of the **Palestinian People**

H.E Mr Ahmed bin Salman Al-Musalam, Speaker of the House of Representatives, affirmed that in light of the exceptional circumstances witnessed by the region, especially in the political and economic spheres, and in view of the conditions and developments in Palestine, the suffering of the Palestinian people in Gaza, and the threat this poses to the peace process, security and stability, the 33rd Arab Summit hosted by Bahrain comes as an affirmation of the Kingdom's vital and important role in the context of supporting and promoting joint Arab action, in line with the noble royal approach and wise diplomatic policy based on moderation, balance and openness. H.E explained that the holding of the Arab Summit in the Kingdom of Bahrain for the first time is a notable event, and that the

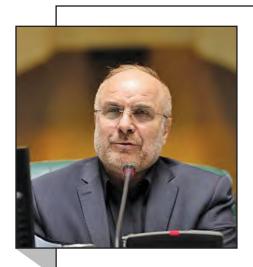


Palestinian cause and its developments will be a high priority on the agenda of the Arab Summit, and that Bahrain's historical position is firm in supporting the legitimate rights of the brotherly Palestinian people to establish their independent and sovereign state with East Al-Quds as its capital, in line with the two-state solution and the relevant UN resolutions.

### Gibaly Calls for Supporting the Palestinian People to Establish their Independent State

H.E Dr Hanafy Gibaly, Speaker of the Egyptian House of Representatives, delivered a speech at the 6th Conference of the Arab Parliament, in which he expressed his pleasure to be in the 'House of Arabs' and stressed the importance of the solidarity of the Arab countries at this sensitive time. H.E. pointed out that the Palestinian cause is still going through a critical phase, and warned of the serious threats facing the Palestinian people due to the Israeli aggression, which amounts to genocide. He called for intensive and continuous work with Arab parliaments to lift the injustice against the Palestinian people and support them in their struggle to establish an independent state on the 1967 borders with East Al-Quds as its capital. He also stressed the need to strengthen Arab cooperation in the fields of economy, politics and security to achieve integration and solidarity that strengthens the Arab position in international fora. He added that Arab unity is the only way to face the common challenges facing the Arab nation, stressing that the Egyptian Parliament will continue to support all efforts that serve the interests of the Arab peoples.





**Ghalibaf Praises the** Steadfastness and Struggle of the Palestinians Against the **Occupation** 

Ghalibaf praises the Resilience and Determination of the Palestinian People against the Occupation

Inhisspeechattheinternationalconference on 'Oppressed and Resistant Gaza' held in Tehran, the Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, H.E Mr Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, emphasised the importance of the international community's focus on the Palestinian cause. He praised the ICJ's condemnation of Israel and the growing support for Palestine that extends to all corners of the world.

Mr Ghalibaf reviewed the historical aspects of the Palestinian issue and recalled Imam Khomeini's injunctions on the need to address the Palestinian cause and eliminate the Zionist regime. He stressed that Imam Khomeini's unwavering commitment to Palestine has kept this issue in the minds and hearts of Iranians, and noted that 'International Quds Day' is a proof of this shared commitment. H.E strongly criticised Israel's practices, noting that its lack of humanity and wisdom will eventually lead to its collapse, and praised the steadfastness and determination of the Palestinian people and their supporters around the world. He concluded his speech with a message of hope, expressing his confidence that unity and steadfastness in the face of injustice and oppression will lead to victory, stressing his confidence in divine support and the legacy of the martyrs.



# Al-Mandalawi: Israel must Stop its **Aggressive Operations**



The Acting Speaker of the House of Representatives of Iraq, H.E. Mr Mohsen Al Mandalawi, in a statement, welcomed the UN Security Council resolution calling for a ceasefire in the Gaza Strip, supporting the full withdrawal of the occupation forces, the safe return of the population, the provision of humanitarian aid, and the rejection of any demographic change in the Gaza Strip. H.E also called on the international community, especially Arab and Islamic countries, to pressure Israel to implement the resolution and immediately stop

aggressive operations to protect civilians. He expressed his surprise at the unjustified international silence over the past months, which has led to the martyrdom and injury of thousands of Palestinians and a severe shortage of health and food services. H.E added that the Security Council resolution expresses the international community's rejection of the massacres and genocide carried out by the usurper entity, stressing the need for cooperation between Arab, Islamic and other countries to implement resolution and stop the bloodshed. He also called for criminalising the entity for committing massacres unprecedented in modern history. In closing, He reiterated Iraq's refusal of any attempts at normalisation with the usurper entity and rejection of its presence on Arab lands, stressing the establishment of an independent, fully sovereign Palestinian state with Al-Quds Al-Sharif as its capital.



# Al-Safadi Patronises a National Blood Donation Campaign for Gaza

The Speaker of the Parliament of Jordan, H.E Mr Ahmad Al-Safadi, patronised the "Knights of Change" blood donation campaign for Palestine, especially for the Gaza Strip, which was launched on Wednesday 17/04/2024 at (22) locations in various governorates of the Kingdom. Mr Al-Safadi said: Jordan is fulfilling its duty as dictated by conscience towards our people in Palestine. Everyone at the official and popular levels are aligned together in defence of the Gaza Strip and in support of the steadfastness of our people throughout the Palestinian territories. This campaign is only one of a series of measures in support of the Gaza Strip. His Majesty King



Abdullah II was personally involved in relief operations and air drops to the sector, and Her Majesty Queen Rania Al Abdullah provided key inputs in clarifying the facts before international public opinion.

# Johari Abdul: "A Ceasefire is not Enough!"

Malaysian Speaker of Parliament H.EMr Johari Abdul condemned the Israeli atrocities against Palestinians and urged for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza. He emphasized that the issue of Gaza and the plight of Palestinians are now of great concern to humanitarian values.

"The entire world is watching what is happening in Gaza. The issue of Gaza is one of value and conscience, and of humanity, it is incomprehensible how people can be treated as sub-human there. The Israeli regime moves freely into Gaza and mistreats Palestinians as if their lives have no value, as if they are not human beings. The problem is that the world is watching at the moment, and I believe that a ceasefire is not enough. What is more important is to allow the Palestinians to have their own state and their own country, and they should be given back what is stolen from them. The world is witnessing the suffering of the people of Gaza, their mistreatment by the Israelis, and the robbery of their independence and their state. A cease fire is not enough. The Israelis should return what rightfully belongs to the Palestinians."



## Al-Alami Calls for International Intervention to Stop the War



The Speaker of the Moroccan House of Representatives, H.E Mr Rachid Talbi El-Alami, called on the international community to take firm and decisive action to stop the ongoing Israeli war on Gaza that has been raging for more than 9 months, in a speech he delivered at the opening of the second session of the "Marrakech Parliamentary Economic Forum for the Euro-Mediterranean and the Gulf', held on 11 and 12 July 2024.

Mr El-Alami emphasised that the war on Gaza and the killing and displacement of civilians are the inevitable result of the reality of the occupation and the historical injustice that the Palestinian people have been subjected to for 76 years. He added that without a political vision for the conflict in the Middle East, and without a firm and decisive intervention by the international community, the conflict in the Middle

East will continue to generate crises in the region, and the spiral of violence will continue to destroy all hopes for peaceful coexistence.

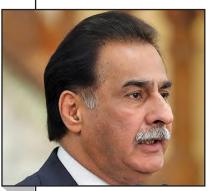
## Al-Maawali: Strong and Deterrent Sanctions must be Imposed on the Occupation



The Omani Shura Council, chaired by His Excellency Sheikh Khalid bin Hilal Al Maawali, condemned Israel's continued flagrant violations of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) resolutions. In its statement issued on 27 May 2024, the Council expressed its deep disappointment at the international stance that is not proportional to the heinous and indescribable massacres that call for urgent action, clear stances and bold decisions imposing deterrent and severe sanctions on the Israeli occupation state. The Council's statement was as follows: The Shura Council in the Sultanate of Oman condemns and denounces in the strongest terms the continued massacres and aggression against Gaza. The Zionist occupation carried out acts that are reprehensible and horrifying to humanity, in which it targeted a camp for displaced persons in Rafah. The Council condemns Israel's continued flagrant

violations of the resolutions of the International Court of Justice, its disregard for them, and to all efforts made. In view of all this, the Council expresses its deep regret at the international stance, which is not proportionate to the unspeakable and heinous massacres that require urgent action, clear stances and bold decisions that impose deterrent sanctions and strict penalties on the Israeli occupation state.

## Sardar Ayaz: Security Council should Ensure Implementation of ICJ Decision



His Excellency the Speaker of the Parliament of Pakistan, Mr Sardar Ayaz, commenting on the ICJ's ruling to halt Israel's illegal military operation in Rafah, stated the following:

"The ICJ has exposed the bitter facts of Israeli aggression and brutality to the world. Passing of this decision was a long time coming, and I hope that this is followed by a sustainable solution to the conflict. In the past, despite worldwide protests and judgement of ICJ, Israeli Occupation Forces did not stop the terrorism and genocide of innocent Palestinians. However, this time UNSC should ensure implementation of ICJ's decision along with the implementation of its recent resolutions regarding cease-fire in Gaza.

Furthermore, Israeli Occupation Forces should immediately remove all obstacles that hinder the access to aid in Palestine. Parliament and People of Pakistan extend their complete support to Palestine in their rightful struggle for the right to self-determination and also demand a State of Palestine with pre-1967 borders."

# Al-Ghanim Condemns the Escalation and Warns of Aggravating the Crisis

In its weekly session, the Qatari Shura Council, chaired by HE Hassan bin Abdulla Al Ghanim, condemned the Israeli attack on Rafah and warned of the danger of displacing its inhabitants. The Council expressed its strong condemnation of the bombing of Rafah by the Israeli occupation forces and the invasion of the land crossing, warning that another war crime would be committed by forcibly displacing Palestinians. The Council pointed out that the dangerous escalation by the occupation forces disrupts the ceasefire efforts and exacerbates the humanitarian crisis in the Gaza Strip, which represents a serious violation of international laws. The Council called on the world's parliaments



and parliamentary unions to take action to prevent a new genocidal crime against civilians in Gaza, calling for pressure on their governments to provide protection for civilians under international humanitarian law and take a decisive stance that obliges Israel to comply with international resolutions. The Council also emphasised the need for the international community to take action to prevent the worsening of the humanitarian crisis in Gaza and ensure the protection of civilians.



## Al-Sheikh Calls for an End to the Aggression on Gaza

During his visit to the House of Representatives of Jordan on 16 April 2026, the Speaker of the Saudi Shura Council, HE Dr Abdullah bin Mohammed bin Ibrahim Al-Sheikh, underlined the



importance of strengthening joint parliamentary action and coordinating stances in Arab and international parliamentary fora and Arab and Islamic causes, especially with regard to the Palestinian cause. The Saudi and Jordanian parties also emphasised the importance of supporting the rights of Palestinians and stopping the aggression, and stressed the need to establish an independent Palestinian state.

## Kurtulmuş Criticises Western Double Standards

In his speech at the NATO Summit of Speakers of Parliaments hosted by the US Congress to mark NATO's 75th anniversary, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (GNAT), H.EMr Numan Kurtulmuş, said: "we cannot ignore the immense humanitarian catastrophe in Gaza, one of the most pressing global challenges. Israel's massacres must be stopped and further bloodshed must be prevented." During his visit in Washington, Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş, told The Washington Post that the stance towards the war between Russia and Ukraine and Israel's inhumane attacks on Palestinian territories, especially Gaza, is a double standard and discrimination and cannot be accepted. He stated: "This is very clear hypocrisy, a double standard. This is blatant discrimination. If you don't regard Palestinian victims as equal to Ukrainian victims, it means that you want to establish a kind of hierarchy within humanity. And that is unacceptable."



#### **Parliamentary News**



### **New Elections and Reelections of Speakers of PUIC Member Parliaments:**

- **09** April 2024 H.E. Syed Yousuf Raza Gillani is elected President of the Senate of the Republic of Pakistan.
- 12 April 2024 H.E. Dr Rachid Talbi El Alami is re-elected President of the House of Representatives of Morocco.
- **02 May 2024 H.E.** Mr Segepoh Solomon Thomas is elected Speaker of the Parliament of Sierra Leone.
- **28 May 2024 H.E.** Mr Abdul Raheem Abdulla is elected President of the People's Assembly of the Republic of Maldives.
- **28 May 2024 H.E.** Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf is re-elected Speaker of the Iranian Parliament.
- 14 June 2024 H.E. Mr Kodjo Sévon-Tépé Adédzé is elected President of the House of Representatives of Togo.



#### Algeria

At the Women Parliamentarians Conference in Doha, MP Mrs Farida Ilimi, First Vice-President of the IPU's Women Parliamentarians Bureau, emphasised the role of Algerian women in the fight against terrorism. In her intervention on 'National Legislation Experiences and the Role of Women in Countering Terrorism", she provided a comprehensive analysis of the efforts made by women parliamentarians in developing and monitoring legislation, policies and strategies to combat terrorism and prevent violent extremism in Algeria. Mrs Ilimi highlighted the measures taken by Algeria under the leadership of President of the Republic Abdelmadjid Tebboune in this regard, emphasising their continued commitment to strengthening national and regional security and stability. At the end of her speech, she strongly condemned the ongoing human rights violations in the Gaza Strip and called on the members of the conference to adopt a recommendation calling for an immediate cessation of the Israeli aggression against the Gaza Strip and all the occupied Palestinian territories.



#### Bahrain

The Public Utilities and Environment Committee of the Bahraini Shura Council, chaired by Dr Mohammed Ali Hassan Ali, affirmed the Kingdom's commitment to increasing the green area and spreading agricultural awareness, in line with the directives of King Hamad bin Isa Al Khalifa. On World Environment Day, the committee praised government initiatives headed by Prince Salman bin Hamad Al Khalifa to support national plans to combat climate change. The committee praised the National Initiative for the Development of the Agricultural Sector to promote agriculture, increase green spaces, support agro-industries, and spread agricultural awareness through education and training. It also emphasised the importance of land restoration and adaptation to desertification and drought. The committee explained the keenness of the legislative authority to enact environmental legislations and sign international treaties, noting the Shura Council's participation in international conferences, such as the Conference of the Parties of the UN Convention on Climate Change and meetings of environmental parliaments.



### Cote d'Ivoire

Upon the invitation of the Speaker of the Turkish Parliament, H.E. Numan Kurtulmuş, the Speaker of the National Assembly

of Côte d'Ivoire, H.E. Mr Adama Bictogo, visited Türkiye accompanied by a delegation of Ivorian parliamentarians from 24 to 28 April 2024. During his visit, Mr Bictogo met with senior Turkish political officials, including members of the Turkish-Ivorian Parliamentary Friendship Group, the Minister of Trade, and the Minister of Energy and Resources. His Excellency also held a high-level meeting with Turkish President Mr Recep Tayyip Erdogan. In Ankara, Mr Bictogo and Mr Kurtulmuş signed an MoU to strengthen parliamentary cooperation. The Speaker then participated in the 5th Conference of the League of Parliamentarians for Al-Quds in Istanbul, where he addressed the conference. The visit reinforced the growing cooperation between Côte d'Ivoire and Türkiye, which has been characterised by increased trade, infrastructure projects and strong parliamentary relations.



### **Egypt**

The Egyptian House of Representatives, under the presidency of H.E. Mr Hanafy Gibaly, approved Egypt's hosting of the African Union Development Agency's Centre of Excellence for Climate Change and Adaptation. This came during the discussion of the report of the joint committee of the committees of energy and environment, African affairs, defence and national security, and economic affairs regarding Presidential Decree No. 93 of 2024 on the hosting agreement.MP Ahmed Hegazy reviewed the details of the agreement, noting that the centre aims to develop national climate resilience readiness audits and provide a multisectoral approach to understanding the 'readiness' of national systems for climate resilient investments. It also includes training on integrating knowledge and expertise, radio programming for farmers, and training women leaders in leadership and disaster risk management. The Centre aims to support African countries in facing and adapting to the adverse effects of climate change, fulfilling their international commitments on national climate change reports, and achieving Agenda 2063. It will also provide consultations and research related to climate change and serve as a scientific platform for African countries, while presenting international best practices.

# Ga

#### Gabon

On 03 May 2024 at the Senate, the Network of Women Senators of Gabon (REFESEG) organised a seminar on "Accelerating investment in women's financial empowerment: the keys to an enlightened institution". The aim of this women's organisation was to advocate greater participation by women in the country's

political life. In her keynote speech, H.E Mrs Paulette Missambo, President of the Senate and honorary resident of REFESEG, reminded women of the essential role of politics in the management of public affairs, urging them to take an active part in decision-making to shape the country's policies for the better. "Politics is the art of managing the problems of the city. It involves everything. We have to continue the fight with the younger generations, and that's only possible if we combine love of country with education", she said.

## **Indonesia and Malaysia**



The Indonesian House of Representatives Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation and the Malaysian Parliamentary Caucus for Palestine launched a Southeast Asian Parliamentary Forum in support of Palestine's independence. Both sides emphasised the importance of concerted efforts by regional parliaments to support the independence of Palestine and end the Israeli occupation, by inviting all parliaments in the Southeast Asian region to participate in this forum. The head of the Indonesian delegation, Mr Fadli Zon, noted in a statement that this forum aims to be a platform to fight for the independence of Palestine from a parliamentary perspective, particularly in Southeast Asia. Indonesian MP, Mr Jazuli Juwaini, also expressed his hope that all parliaments in the region would join the forum and said: "If all members of parliament in Southeast Asia have joined this forum, then the fight for Palestinian independence will be stronger. If Palestine wins its independence and colonialism stops, we must start to think about building Palestine post-independence".



H.E. Mr Mouhammad Bagher Ghalibaf, Speaker of the Iranian Parliament, expressed in a letter he addressed to the S.G of the PUIC, his profound regret and concern over the arrest of Mr Aziz Dweik, Speaker of the Palestinian Legislative Council. H.E emphasised that this act by the Israeli regime exposes its inhumane, occupying and human rights-infringing nature. H.E recapped that shortly after his release from the Zionist regime's prison, Mr Dweik was again subjected to violent arrest, which is a violation of international law and international conventions. He emphasised that the resistance of the innocent Palestinian people against the Zionist regime's aggressive policies continues to expose the Israeli failure and its expansionist policies to defeat the Palestinian resistance. The letter also highlighted the Israeli regime's ongoing crimes in Gaza and the West Bank, highlighting the rampant hypocrisy in Western stances.

#### **Kingdom of Morocco**

On 30 April 2024, the Moroccan Parliament and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) organised a debate on 'Migration and climate imbalances' within the framework of the project 'Supporting the Development of the Role of Parliament in the Consolidation of Democracy in Morocco 2020-2024'. The Speaker of the House of

Representatives, H.E. Mr Rachid Talbi El-Alami, called for adopting a positive approach towards migration, noting the impact of climate change on internal and cross-border migrations and the need for international solidarity to confront and adapt to it. Participants emphasised the importance of integrating migrants as an investment in human resources and the role of international cooperation in addressing climate and migration challenges, especially in the Mediterranean region. They also advocated adopting an approach based on integrating environmental rights into legislation and public policies, and strengthening regional cooperation to address the repercussions of climate change. The debate also called for facilitating safe and orderly migration, protecting the rights of migrants, and promoting legal migration routes, while emphasising the importance of continuing cooperation between the Moroccan Parliament and the PACE to strengthen political, institutional and technical relations.



#### **Sultanate of Oman**

The Omani Shura Council, represented by MPMr Ahmed bin Nasser bin Salem Al Abri, has called for strengthening cooperation between Arab countries in the field of technology and artificial intelligence to achieve a comprehensive developmental advancement. This came during his participation in the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Conference on Technology and Economy held in Amman, Jordan, under the title 'The Impact of Technology and Innovation in Promoting Arab Economic Growth' on 29 and 30 June 2024. The Shura Council representative stressed the importance of promoting investment in technology, encouraging innovation and supporting entrepreneurs, in addition to discussing digital transformation, artificial intelligence, and the associated legal and ethical challenges. He noted that the conference represents an opportunity to discuss and exchange ideas and expertise in the fields of technological innovation and its applications to economic growth, and to enhance interaction between the public and private sectors to achieve sustainable development and a knowledge-based economy in the Arab world.



#### **Pakistan**

On the occasion of the International Day Against Child Labour on 12 June 2024, the Speaker of the Senate of Pakistan, H.E Mr Yousuf Raza Gillani, called for intensifying joint efforts to eliminate child labour and protect children's rights. Mr Gillani explained that poverty and socio-economic inequality are the main drivers of child labour in developing countries. He stressed that child labour denies children their childhood and right to education, leaving them trapped in a cycle of poverty and exploitation. H.E emphasised that society must provide alternatives for poor families to ensure children's growth and learning. He praised the efforts of various stakeholders, emphasising the importance of cooperation between the government and civil society to combat exploitation and provide a safe and educational

environment for children. He also called on the public to report any cases of child labour or abuse.



In a statement issued on the occasion of the International Day of Parliamentary Work (30 June), Qatar's Shura Council emphasised the importance of the role of legislative councils in promoting peace and understanding, and thanked Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani for his unlimited support for the Shura Council. The Council congratulated its members and all parliamentarians worldwide for their role in representing people and protecting their rights. The statement also condemned human rights violations and war crimes, especially against Palestinians in Gaza, calling on the international community to take action to stop these crimes and lift the siege on Palestinian cities. The Council emphasised the need to hold war criminals accountable and support the Palestinian people, calling on the Inter-Parliamentary Union to stop the aggression on Gaza and build peace.



### Kingdom of Saudi Arabia

During the P20 meetings held in Masayo, Brazil, Saudi Shura Council member, Dr Alia Al-Dahlawi, highlighted the prominent role and significant development in policies and legislation supporting Saudi women's participation in national development, owing to the support and vision of the wise leadership. In her speech, she emphasised that the Kingdom's Vision 2030 has effectively contributed to providing diverse job opportunities, ensuring inclusive economic growth and providing equal opportunities that contribute to the country's prosperity. She pointed out that the participation rate of Saudi women in the labour market has reached 35.3%, thanks to great efforts that made women partners in national development in multiple sectors such as commerce, engineering, sports, justice, and technology. The two-day meeting, held within the framework of Brazil's 2024 G20 presidency, included women parliamentarians from the legislative assemblies of member states and a number of representatives of international organisations and the IPU, where they discussed the role of women in climate justice and environmental sustainability, and initiatives aimed at increasing women's economic participation and empowerment.



#### **Tunisia**

During her speech at the World Conference of Women Parliamentarians in Doha, Mrs. Sawsen El-Mabrouk, in her capacity as Deputy Speaker of the Tunisian House of People's Representatives and head of the PUIC delegation, stressed the role of women parliamentarians in preventing violent extremism and bringing about positive change in their society through the development of legislation and leadership participation in civil and political society. She touched on the efforts of women parliamentarians in empowering women economically and socially, developing their skills, and protecting them from recruitment and exploitation. The conference, held on 26 and 27 June 2024, discussed the role of women parliamentarians in combating terrorism and preventing violent extremism. Ms.

Sawsen El-Mabrouk touched on the measures taken by Tunisia to combat terrorism, such as issuing a counter-terrorism law and establishing strategic committees and plans. In concluding her speech, Mrs El-Mabrouk highlighted the resolutions of the PUIC Women and Family Committee, particularly those related to the need for solidarity with Palestinian women facing a destructive war machine, stressing the importance of enhancing their political role and guaranteeing their right to a safe life.



### Türkive

Since the start of the Israeli attacks on Gaza on 7 October 2023, the Speaker of the Turkish Parliament, H.E. Mr Numan Kurtulmuş, has ramped up his diplomatic efforts to support Gaza and stop the Israeli massacres in the Palestinian territories, meeting with nearly 200 figures, including heads of state, governments and parliaments, and in all his official meetings, he stressed that Israeli crimes in Gaza, which amounted to genocide, resulted in the killing of thousands of innocent civilians, 70% of whom were women and children. He emphasised that these atrocities will not be forgotten and stressed the need for the world to draw lessons from these ongoing crimes.H.E said: "Humanity will never forget that atrocity in which babies in incubators were killed before the eyes of 8 billion people,", stressing that the international community must take action to stop these tragedies. During his overseas visits, H.E launched an intensive diplomatic campaign to achieve an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and ensure humanitarian access. He also held multilateral meetings to unite Muslim countries and mobilise international support to confront the Israeli aggression.



## **United Arab Emirates**

H.E Mr Sagr Ghobash, Speaker of the UAE Federal National Council, in a statement on the occasion of the International Day of Parliamentary Work, on 30 June each year, stressed the richness of the UAE's parliamentary experience and its excellence in the practice of shura. H. E explained that the parliamentary experience in the UAE is marked by national awareness and sensitivity, which has led to tangible achievements in the exercise of the Council's powers and competencies. H.E. referred to the UN's recognition of the effective role of parliaments and the responsibility of parliamentarians in representing peoples and realising their aspirations towards stable and developed societies. He also emphasised the FNC's commitment to reflecting the UAE's official policy, enhancing communication with the world's parliaments, and expressing the country's positions on various national and international issues. H.E added that the international status achieved by the UAE is the result of joint work between all state authorities, pointing out the importance of international diplomacy and co-operation with countries around the world, and the UAE's role in spreading peace and tolerance. He also stressed the effective role of parliamentarians in serving the inter-parliamentary work and the role of the IPU in common issues, stressing the importance of human values and ethics as the foundation of civilisations.



On Saturday morning, 23 March 2024, the consultative meeting of the Islamic Group washeld on the sidelines of the 148th Meeting of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) at the Conference Centre in Geneva, Switzerland. The meeting was chaired by H.E. Mr Adama Bictogo, Speaker of the National Assembly of the Republic of Côte d'Ivoire and President of the PUIC, and was attended by parliamentary delegations from a number of Member States.At the outset of the meeting, H.E. Mr Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, delivered a brief speech in which he reviewed the agenda of the consultative meeting. H.E. Mr Adama Bictogo, Speaker of the National Assembly

of Côte d'Ivoire and President of the PUIC, emphasised the need for unity, particularly at these critical times that the Muslim world is experiencing, and called for a unified stance on the emergency item on the agenda of the IPU meeting.

The representatives of the parliaments of the following countries took the floor: The Republic of Algeria, Kingdom of Bahrain, Republic of Bangladesh, Arab Republic of Egypt, Republic of Indonesia, Islamic Republic ofIran, Republic ofIraq, Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan, Malaysia, Kingdom of Morocco, State of Palestine, Republic of Pakistan, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Republic of Tunisia, Republic of

# PUIC Islamic Group Meeting in Geneva

Turkiye, Uganda, and United Arab Emirates. They expressed their strong condemnation of the Zionist entity's aggression against Gaza and emphasised the need for unity in passing the emergency item on the events in Gaza. The delegations of Indonesia and Malaysia expressed their readiness to withdraw their proposals in favour of the South African proposal, and it was agreed to support the South African proposal. The parliamentary delegations attending emphasised the importance of solidarity and cooperation among member states in confronting common challenges and coordinating efforts to promote peace and stability in the region.

## PUIC Members take part in the BRICS Parliamentary Forum



The BRICS Parliamentary Forum was held in Saint Petersburg, Russia, on 11-12 July 2024. The meeting was marked by the presence of three PUIC member parliaments, which are the parliaments of Iran, the United Arab Emirates and Egypt. The Speaker of Iran's Parliament, H.E. Mohammad Bagher Ghalibaf, focused in his speech on the issue of US sanctions

and the need to counter them. He noted that BRICS is seeking to establish financial institutions and systems parallel to SWIFT to facilitate economic exchange in currencies other than the dollar.

Meanwhile, the UAE signed a memorandum of understanding protocol to enhance parliamentary cooperation between BRICS parliaments during the forum. The

protocol aims to promote parliamentary exchange and develop legislative activities between member states through the exchange of views and expertise. The MoU also covered the mechanisms for drafting resolutions and consultations, determining the chairmanship of the forum and the frequency of meetings, and the characteristics and duties of the parliamentary working groups.

The parliament of Egypt was represented by Dr Hanafy Gibaly, Speaker of the House of Representatives, who delivered a speech on 'The Parliamentary Aspect of BRICS Countries: Prospects for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation'. In his speech, he emphasised the importance of Egypt's engagement in BRICS activities to face global challenges and promote peace, highlighting the threats facing the world order as a result of conflicts and disputes. It is worth noting that these countries joined BRICS earlier this year, bringing the number of countries in that group to 9 members, while Saudi Arabia is still reviewing its decision to join.

# **Activities of the Secretary General**

## the 15th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference

H.E. Mr Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, participated in the 15th Session of the Islamic Summit Conference held in Banjul, Republic of Gambia on 4-5 May 2024.

On the sidelines of the Summit, H.E. held several meetings with the participating delegations and reviewed with them their relations with the PUIC and the issues currently facing the Islamic Ummah, especially the vicious war waged by the Zionist entity against the Gaza Strip and



its inhabitants who have been subjected to genocide for seven months.

The Islamic Summit, which was held

under the theme: "ENHANCING UNITY AND SOLIDARITY THROUGH DIALOGUE FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT", underlined the concerted efforts of Islamic countries to confront the humanitarian catastrophe inflicted on the Gaza Strip and its people as a result of the ongoing Israeli aggression. It also called upon the countries of the world to take action to stop the genocide committed by the occupation against the Palestinian people in the Gaza Strip.

# The Inauguration Ceremony of the New President of Iran



On 28-30 July 2024, H.E. Mr. Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, participated in the inauguration ceremony held in Tehran of H.E. Dr. Masoud Pezeshkian, the new President of the Islamic

Republic of Iran, following his victory in the presidential elections held in Iran on 5 July 2024.

# Inauguration of the 12th Session of the Iranian Parliament

On the 28th May 2024, the PUIC Secretary General participated in the ceremonies of the inauguration of the 12th Session of the Iranian Parliament, which was attended by a group of senior officials of the country and



newly-elected MPs and Former Speakers as well as members of the diplomatic corps accredited to Tehran.



#### The 18th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean

H.E. Mr Mouhamed Khouraichi Niass, Secretary General of the PUIC, participated in the 18th General Assembly of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, held at the Portuguese Parliament in Braga on 15-16 May 2024. On this occasion, participants called for fostering an open dialogue on the one hand, and demonstrating solidarity on the other, in order to jointly address the challenges facing the regions of the Mediterranean Parliament, such as conflicts, wars and the aggravation of the phenomenon of climate change.

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### The 6th Conference of the Arab Parliament



H.E. the Secretary General of the PUIC participated in the 6th Conference of the Arab Parliament and Heads of Arab Parliaments and Councils held at the headquarters of the Arab League in Cairo, Arab Republic of Egypt, on 27/04/2024. The main theme of the conference was titled "An Arab Parliamentary Vision for the Safe Use of Artificial Intelligence".