

**The Kingdom of Morocco
Parliament
House of Representatives**

Rabat, November 11, 2018

Press Release

Speaker of the House presides over the ceremonial inauguration of the Moroccan Parliament branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace

On Wednesday, November 7, 2018 in the committee room, Mr Al Habib Al Maliki, Speaker of the House, presided over the launch of the Moroccan Parliament branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace in the presence of the International President of the Universal Peace Federation (UPF), Dr. Thomas G. Walsh, and the European President of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace Mrs. Erna Hennicot-Schoepges, members of the bureau and leaders of political groups from the House of Representatives and the Board of Advisors, in addition to representatives of the federation and foreign parliament members.

In his address given on the occasion, the Speaker of the House highlighted the significant contribution that the Kingdom of Morocco has made to the establishment of peace and stability in different areas around the world. He noted that the launch of the Moroccan Parliament branch of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace is taking place on the day after the Moroccan people celebrated the 43rd anniversary of the Green March, wherein the Moroccan people confirmed in a peaceful and civilized manner their commitment to the unity of their land.

Mr Al Maliki outlined the challenges that threaten world peace and security, and the role of national parliaments in spreading a culture of peace, and strengthening democratic development. He clarified that the dedication to democracy and the establishment of a nation of associations is considered a window of safety in the face of these threats and dangers that could result in wars, migrations and unstable circumstances.

On his part, the UPF President emphasized that Morocco receives much appreciation from other nations around the world, due to its stability and as a result of its contributions to the realm of peace and security. In his address, he presented a glimpse into the role and goals of the federation and the importance of establishing a branch in the Kingdom of Morocco.

The European President of the International Association of Parliamentarians for Peace emphasized that Morocco is considered a pioneering nation in the realm of stability and security. She stated that the "Green March which Morocco is celebrating the 43rd anniversary of its launching, constitutes a unique example in this area." She clarified that parliaments play a

prominent role in strengthening peace and stability through their authentication of laws, especially financial laws, and through exercising their different specializations.

Of notable mention, the Universal Peace Federation (UPF) is a Non-Governmental Organization in General Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations. UPF is a global network of individuals and organizations that include religious and governmental leaders, civil society, and the private sector, with the aim of establishing world peace, with branches and representatives in various regions around the world.