



**Under the High Patronage of His Majesty King Mohamed VI,**

**The House of Councillors organizes**

**In Partnership with the Economic, Social and Environmental Council**

**The 7th International Parliamentary Forum on Social Justice**

**On the theme**

***“Human Capital: Main lever of Social Justice”***

**Tuesday, February 21th, 2023**

**Concept Note**

On the occasion of the World Day of Social Justice, the House of Councillors, in partnership with the Economic, Social and Environmental Council, organizes the Seventh International Parliamentary Forum on Social Justice on the theme: "**Human Capital: Main Lever of Social Justice**", on Tuesday 21 February 2023.

The choice of "**Human Capital**" as the theme of the Seventh International Parliamentary Forum on Social Justice comes within the perspective of permanent institutional interaction of the House of Councillors with the visionary Guidelines of **His Majesty King Mohammed VI, may God Assist Him**, concerning social justice issues, notably those embodied in the Royal Message addressed to the participants in the works of the First International Parliamentary Forum on Social Justice, held on 19 and 20 February 2016, emphasizing the following: *"In Our Speeches and Messages addressed to various national and international forums, We have constantly stressed the close correlation between economic development, social justice and social cohesion. We are firmly convinced that achieving a high level of economic development depends on concerted and coordinated action, based on effective and appropriate public policies founded on a fair and equitable distribution of the benefits of economic development among all categories of our populations. Furthermore, the investment effort deployed by our country in key structuring projects will only be effective if it is sustained by investment in human capital."*

The Special Commission on the Development Model, in its report of April 2021, provided in this regard, an innovative vision for a New Development Model that supports the principles and values of freedom, social justice, equality and solidarity, on the basis of the main foundations required to overcome the emerging economic and social and development challenges. Furthermore, the "valorization of the human capital" comes in the forefront of these foundations, considering that the citizen is an important capital and a key pillar for the

sustainable development, insofar as his education, his qualification as well as his involvement in the development process are part of the efforts engaged by the State.

Moreover, it should be stressed that the Kingdom of Morocco is firmly committed to achieving the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) (2015-2000) and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) (2016-2030), most notably in terms of improving quality education, health and well-being, as well as reducing inequalities. In this regard, there has been significant improvement, since efforts carried out have led to the generalization of fundamental education and to the enlargement of the healthcare services. Nevertheless, these efforts have not been combined with the expected improvement in the quality of public services.

Following the reform of the Constitution in 2011, which attached a particular importance to the social dimension, our country has achieved a significant progress in terms of economic indicators, as well as an improvement in some aspects of social life, particularly in the scope of the generalization of the social protection system. However, most of the reform projects carried out have not been equitably beneficial to all citizens and have not reached the hoped-for level of human development. Indeed, large social segments, estimated at 2.28 million Moroccans according to the Global Multidimensional Poverty Index (MPI) 2022, still face a multidimensional situation of deprivation in terms of access to education, health, basic social infrastructure and housing conditions, with a notable spatial disparity, adding to the problem of social inequality that of spatial inequality. This reflects, on the one hand, the disparities in the distribution of wealth between different social groups, as clearly illustrated by the Gini index of 0.46, according to the recent estimate of the Haut-Commissariat au Plan. And on the other hand, it impedes the equal contribution of all to the global and sustainable development of the Kingdom of Morocco, particularly post the COVID-19 pandemic, which has exacerbated the pre-existing social inequalities. This situation is illustrated by the World Bank's Human Capital Index, which determines at only 50% of the amount of human capital by which a Moroccan child born today could contribute to the development of his/her

country once he/she reaches adulthood, compared to a full rate of productivity if this child would have benefited from a high level of education and health conditions.

In this regard, the issue of Human Capital in Morocco is of crucial importance not only in terms of fostering economic development, but also as the main lever of social justice which is founded on equitable access to basic services for all people regardless of their economic, social and cultural conditions.

In order to deepen the debate and pursue the collective reflection on the means and options of strengthening Human Capital, with the aim of achieving social justice and fostering the conditions for an effective implementation of the New Development Model of the Kingdom of Morocco, the works of the Seventh International Parliamentary Forum on Social Justice will be structured around four thematic axes, as follows:

1. Generalization of Quality Health Services and Social Protection.
2. Challenges of improving the quality of the educational system;
3. Human Resources Development within the professional circles: a lever for the promotion of the economic and social well-being of all people;
4. Cultural diversity and the challenges of building an open and coherent society;

## **Institutions and Personalities invited to take part in the work of the Forum**

### **At the international level:**

- President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union;
- President of the Pan-African Parliament;
- United Nations agencies (UNESCO, UNDP...);
- Director General of ISESCO;
- Director General of ALECSO

### **At the national level:**

- Head of Government and relevant Ministers (Minister of National Education, Preschool and Sports, Minister of Higher Education, Scientific Research and Innovation, Minister of Health and Social Protection, Minister of Economic Inclusion, Small Business, Employment and Skills, Minister of Youth, Culture and Communication, Minister of Solidarity, Social Integration and Family...)
- Speaker and Members of the House of Councillors;
- Speaker of the House of Representatives, Chairman and Members of the Social Sectors Committee of the House of Representatives;
- Secretaries General of the political parties and Professional and Trade Union Organizations represented in the House of Councillors;
- President and Members of the Economic, Social and Environmental Council;
- President of the National Human Rights Council of Morocco and Presidents of the Regional Human Rights Commissions;
- Haut-Commissaire au Plan;
- President and Members of the Supreme Council for Education, Training, and Scientific Research;
- President and Members of the National Commission for Education, Culture and Science;
- President of the National Observatory of Human Development;
- Directors of Regional Academies of Education and Training;

- Presidents of Universities, Deans and Directors of Higher Education Establishments;
- Royal Institute of Amazigh Culture;
- Royal Advisory Council for Saharan Affairs;
- Association of Regions of Morocco;
- Moroccan Association of Presidents of Councils, Prefectures and Provinces;
- Moroccan Association of Presidents of Communal Councils;
- Experts.