

CASINI ELECTED PRESIDENT OF THE IPU

19-10-2005



The Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) today elected Mr. **Pier Ferdinando Casini** President of the IPU. The final tally was 230 votes for Mr. Casini and 107 for the other candidate, Mr. Vernick. The new IPU President will succeed Chilean Senator Sergio Pérez for a three-year mandate.

Mr. Pier Ferdinando Casini, the candidate proposed by the Italian Inter-Parliamentary Group, was born in Bologna, Italy on 3 December 1955. He has been President of the Christian Democratic Party. Since his election in 2001 as President of the Italian Chamber of Deputies - the third highest office in the country - he has no longer involved in the activities of his party. Mr. Casini has served on the Foreign Affairs and Defence Committee and was Vice-President of the Commission of Inquiry on terrorism in Italy, and was a Member of the European Parliament from 1994 to 2001.

Established in 1889 and with its Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, the IPU, the oldest multilateral political organization of parliaments has an Office in New York, which acts as its Permanent Observer at the United Nations.

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