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**CANADIAN CENTRE FOR R2P SPEAKING ON RESPONSIBILITY TO PROTECT AT
THE 127TH ASSEMBLY OF INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

Québec City, CANADA – The 127th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), which is meeting this week in Quebec City, will be hosting a panel discussion on the role of parliament in the protection of civilians, specifically in implementing the responsibility to protect (R2P) principle.

The panel will be held on Tuesday, 23 October, from 2:30 to 6:00 p.m. in Room 200 B, level 2 at the Québec City Convention Centre. The panel is a part of a multi-phased process leading up to the eventual adoption by the 128th IPU Assembly (Quito, March 2013) of a formal IPU resolution on the responsibility to protect. The IPU is the international organization of Parliaments established in 1889. The Union serves as 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.

Tina J. Park, Executive Director of the Canadian Centre for the Responsibility to Protect (CCR2P), will be speaking on this R2P panel, along with two members of parliament and Mr. Edward Luck, former Special Adviser to the UN Secretary-General on the Responsibility to Protect. The parliamentary panellists (co-Rapporteurs) will be Mr. L. Ramatlakane (South Africa) and Mr. S. Janquin (France). The panel will be moderated by Mr. S.H. Chowdury (Bangladesh), President of the IPU's First Standing Committee.

The Responsibility to Protect, also referred to as RtoP or R2P, is an international principle coined in 2001 under the leadership of the Canadian government and later adopted at the 2005 World Summit by 150 heads of government. R2P states that when sovereign states are unable or unwilling to fulfill their responsibility to protect their own populations from mass atrocities such as genocide, ethnic cleansing, crimes against humanity and war crimes, the international community has the responsibility to do so. R2P is an emerging norm in international relations and has received much attention lately in light of the UN Security Council's resolutions on Libya.

The Canadian Centre for R2P (www.ccr2p.org), based at Munk School of Global Affairs, University of Toronto, is a leading Canadian, non-partisan and non-profit research organization which aims to promote scholarly engagement and political implementation of the R2P principle. In addition to English and French research divisions on parliamentary, media, civil society and legal dimensions of R2P, the CCR2P also houses *R2Plive.org*, an online aggregator of news and reports related to R2P.

For more information, please contact:

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