



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
106th Conference and related meetings
Ouagadougou, 9 - 15 September 2001



CL/169/C.1
3 August 2001

CONVOCAATION

169th SESSION OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COUNCIL Ouagadougou, 10 and 15 September 2001

Madam/Sir,

We have pleasure in informing you that the Inter-Parliamentary Council will hold its 169th session at the Ouaga 2000 Conference Centre, the venue for the 106th Conference of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.

- ▶ Delegates are requested to take note that the first sitting will be held from 9.30 a.m. to 11.15 a.m. on Monday, 10 September. The second sitting will be held from 9 a.m. on Saturday, 15 September and will last until the Council has completed its agenda.
- ▶ Furthermore, at its 234th session held in Geneva last July, the Executive Committee decided to propose to the Council that it hold a special sitting for a debate on the reform of the IPU. This sitting would take place from 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. on Tuesday 11 September and would replace the General Debate originally scheduled for that afternoon.

1. PARTICIPATION

The Council is composed of two members from each parliament represented in the IPU. The list of Council members may be found in the Directory of the Union's Members, who are asked to confirm the names of their representatives to the Council by 9 September 2001 at the latest.

In accordance with Council Rule 2, "a member of the Council who is unable to attend may be replaced by another representative of the Union Member in question duly authorised for that purpose". The IPU Secretariat should be notified accordingly.

2. PROVISIONAL AGENDA*

The provisional agenda for the session prepared by the Executive Committee at its 233rd (April 2001) session is as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Council will be required to adopt its agenda at the beginning of its proceedings. It will have before it a request by the Australian Group for the inclusion of a supplementary item in the agenda entitled "The suspension of Conference Rule 15(1) at the 107th Conference in Marrakech in favour of a full and open debate on the proposed IPU reform agenda and related matters."

The Executive Committee will pursue its consideration of this request, in conformity with the provisions of Article 24.2(d) of the Statutes, at its 235th session (September 2001)

2. Approval of the summary records of the 168th session of the Council

Members requesting corrections to the summary records of the 168th session (CL/168/SR.1) are requested to notify the Union's Secretariat in writing before the opening of the 169th session.

3. Proposals for the election of the President of the 106th Conference

In accordance with the Union's practice, a member of the host Parliament will be proposed by the Council for election as President of the Conference.

4. Questions relating to IPU membership

- (a) Requests for affiliation and reaffiliation to the Union
- (b) Situation of certain Members

The Council will have before it the report of the Executive Committee on any requests for affiliation and reaffiliation and on the situation of certain Members.

5. Report of the President

- (a) On her activities since the 168th session of the Council
- (b) On the activities of the Executive Committee

The Council will have before it the President's report on her activities and will hear an oral report on the activities of the Executive Committee, including the 234th session of the Committee, held in Geneva in July 2001.

6. Interim report by the Secretary General on the activities of the Union since the 168th session of the Council

The Council will have before it the interim report of the Secretary General on the activities of the Union since the 168th session of the Council.

* The Executive Committee will supplement this provisional agenda, if necessary, at its 235th session to be held in Ouagadougou in September 2001.

7. Reports on recent specialised Conferences and Meetings*(a) Parliamentary Meeting on International Trade*

The Council will have before it a report on the Parliamentary Meeting held in Geneva from 8 to 9 June 2001.

(b) Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the Third United Nations Conference on the Least Developed Countries (LDC-III)

The Council will have before it a report on the Parliamentary Meeting held in Brussels on 14 May 2001.

(c) Parliamentary session on the occasion of the 2nd Global Forum on Fighting Corruption

The Council will have before it a report on the Parliamentary Session held in The Hague on 28 May 2001.

(d) One-day Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the World Conference against Racism, Racial Discrimination, Xenophobia and Related Intolerance

The Council will have before it a report on the Parliamentary Meeting held in Durban on 4 September 2001.

8. Cooperation with the United Nations system

The Council will receive a progress report on the cooperation between the IPU and the UN system and in particular on the stage reached in negotiations concerning the establishment of a new and strengthened relationship between the Union and the General Assembly of the United Nations and its subsidiary bodies.

9. Reform of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The Council will have before it a report submitted by the Executive Committee on possible structures and functioning of the Union in the future.

10. Construction of new headquarters for the Union in Geneva

The Council will receive a progress report on matters concerned with the new IPU headquarters in Geneva.

11. Activities of plenary bodies and specialised committees

The Council will examine the reports of the following bodies and committees and will hold elections to fill any vacant seats within them:

*(a) Meeting of Women Parliamentarians**(b) Meeting of Representatives of Parties to the CSCM Process**(c) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians*
(i) Election of one titular and one substitute members
*(ii) Report of the Committee**(d) Committee for Sustainable Development*
(i) Election of one titular and one substitute members
*(ii) Report of the Committee**(e) Committee on Middle East Questions*
(i) Election of one titular member
*(ii) Report of the Committee**(f) Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law**(g) Group of facilitators for Cyprus*

(h) Gender Partnership Group

12. Draft Programme and Budget for the Year 2002

The Council will have before it the proposals of the Executive Committee for the Union's programme and budget for the year 2002.

13. 107th Inter-Parliamentary Conference

(Marrakech, Morocco, 17-23 March 2002)

(a) Establishment of the agenda

(b) Approval of the list of international organisations and other bodies invited to follow the work of the Conference as observers

The Council will have before it on 15 September the proposals of the Executive Committee concerning these two items.

14. Future Inter-Parliamentary meetings

(a) Statutory meetings

(b) Specialised meetings and other events

The Council will have before it the list of meetings included in the Union's programme, as well as any proposals for the holding of future events.

15. Appointment of two auditors for the 2001 accounts

(Cf. Rule 41 of the Rules of the Council)

The Council will proceed to such appointment on the basis of a proposal from the Executive Committee.

16. Election to the Executive Committee

(Cf. Article 23 of the Statutes and Rules 37, 38 and 39 of the Rules of the Council)

The Council will be required to elect two members to replace Mr I. Fjuk (Estonia) and Mrs. T. Yariquina (Russian Federation) whose terms of office will expire at the time of the 106th Conference.

17. Appointment of a Secretary General for a period of four years

(1 July 2002 – 30 June 2006)

Proposal of the Executive Committee (cf. Articles 21(m) and 24.2(i) of the Statutes and Rule 3 of the Secretariat)

The Council will be called upon to appoint a Secretary General. It is informed that, at its 234th session held in Geneva on 30-31 July, the Executive Committee unanimously decided to recommend that the incumbent Secretary General be reappointed for a further term of office.

3. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

In conformity with Council Rule 13, members of the Council may request the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda. Such items must fall within the competence of the Council which, according to Article 20.1 of the Statutes, determines and guides the activities of the Union and controls their implementation.

Any requests for the inclusion of supplementary items will be immediately transmitted by the Secretariat to all Council members. After hearing the opinion of the Executive Committee, the Council shall decide on such a request by a majority of votes cast if the request was received by the Secretariat at least 15 days before the opening of the session; otherwise by a two-thirds majority.

4. DOCUMENTS

Working documents regarding various items of the provisional agenda will be sent out at a later date.

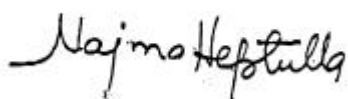
5. GENERAL INFORMATION

The Convocation of the 106th Conference (CONF/106/C.1) contains information relating to the Ouagadougou session of the Union. Moreover, the invitation of the Parliament of Burkina Faso provides all necessary details relating to the registration of delegates and accommodation.

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Yours sincerely,



Najma HEPTULLA
President
of the Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union



Anders B. JOHNSON
Secretary General
of the Inter-Parliamentary Union