



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
118th Assembly and related meetings
Cape Town (South Africa), 13 – 18 April 2008



CL/182/C.1
21 January 2008

CONVOCATION
182nd SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
Cape Town, 14 and 18 April 2008

Dear Madam,
Dear Sir,

We have pleasure in informing you that the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will hold its 182nd session at the Cape Town International Convention Centre (CTICC) in Cape Town, South Africa.

The Governing Council will hold a first sitting from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Monday 14 April. Its second sitting will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Friday 18 April.

1. PARTICIPATION

The Governing Council is composed of three members from each parliament represented in the IPU*. The Members are asked to confirm the names of their representatives to the Governing Council by 14 April 2008 at the latest, so that the Secretariat can update the list of Council members.

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

* Each parliament's representation on the Governing Council must include both men and women. Single gender delegations will be limited to two members (Rule 1.2 of the Rules of the Governing Council).

2. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The provisional agenda for the session prepared by the Executive Committee at its 249th (October 2007) session is as follows:

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
The Governing Council will adopt its agenda at the beginning of its proceedings.
2. **Approval of the summary records of the 181st session of the Governing Council**
Members requesting corrections to the summary records of the 181st session (CL/181/SR.1) are asked to notify the Union's Secretariat in writing before the opening of the 182nd session.
3. **Proposals for the election of the President of the 118th Assembly**
4. **Questions relating to IPU membership**
 - (a) Requests for affiliation and reaffiliation to the IPU
 - (b) Situation of certain Members
The Governing Council will decide on any requests for affiliation and reaffiliation and review the situation of certain Members on the basis of the report of the Executive Committee.
 - (c) Requests for observer status
5. **Report of the President**
 - (a) On his activities since the 181st session of the Governing Council
 - (b) On the activities of the Executive Committee
6. **Annual Report by the Secretary General on the activities of the IPU for 2007**
7. **Reports on recent IPU specialized conferences and meetings**
8. **Cooperation with the United Nations System**
The Governing Council will have before it the checklist of activities undertaken with the United Nations System since October 2007 and will review the overall status of cooperation with a view to preparing for the debate on that subject in the United Nations General Assembly. The Council will also have before it the report of the second meeting of the Advisory Group of the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs.
9. **Consolidation of the reform of the Inter-Parliamentary Union**
10. **Financial results for 2007**
The Governing Council will have before it the report of the Auditors on the Union's accounts for 2007.
11. **Action by the IPU to strengthen democracy and parliamentary institutions**
12. **Activities of committees and other bodies**
The Governing Council will examine the reports of the following bodies and committees and will hold elections to fill any vacant seats:
 - (a) Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
 - (b) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians
 - (c) Committee on Middle East Questions
 - (d) Group of Facilitators for Cyprus
 - (e) Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law
 - (f) Gender Partnership Group

13. 119th IPU Assembly (Geneva, 13-15 October 2008)

14. Future Inter-Parliamentary meetings

- (a) Statutory meetings
- (b) Specialized meetings and other events

15. Amendments to the Statutes and Rules

The Governing Council will be invited to approve amendments to the Financial Regulations and amendments to the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians and its Coordinating Committee.

16. Elections to the Executive Committee

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

The Governing Council will be required to elect one member to replace Ms. K. Komi (Finland) whose term of office expires at the time of the 182nd session of the Governing Council.

3. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

In conformity with Governing 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 is received by the Secretariat at least 15 days before the opening of the session; otherwise by a two-thirds majority.

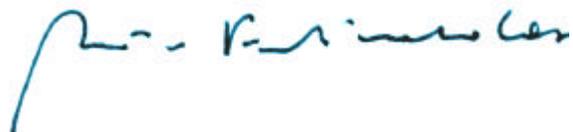
4. DOCUMENTS

To the extent possible, working documents regarding various items of the provisional agenda will be sent out to Members in advance.

Yours sincerely,



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



Pier Ferdinando CASINI
President
of the Inter-Parliamentary Union