

CL/191/SR.1
4 February 2013

SUMMARY RECORDS
OF THE
GOVERNING COUNCIL
(191st SESSION)

22 and 24 October 2012

QUEBEC CITY (Québec City Convention Centre (QCCC))

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FIRST SITTING

Monday, 22 October 2012

The meeting was called to order at 9.25 a.m. with the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr. A. Radi (Morocco) in the Chair.

Item 1 of the agenda

ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA AND PROPOSALS FOR THE ELECTION OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE 127th ASSEMBLY (CL/191/A.1 and A.2)

The revised agenda contained in document CL/191/A.1 was adopted.

Mr. S. Eda (Japan) proposed that Mr. Donald Oliver, President of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, be nominated President of the 127th Assembly.

The Governing Council approved the nomination by acclamation.

Item 2 of the agenda

APPROVAL OF THE SUMMARY RECORDS OF THE 190th SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL (CL/190/SR.1)

The summary records of the 190th session of the Governing Council were approved.

Item 3 of the agenda

QUESTIONS RELATING TO IPU MEMBERSHIP AND OBSERVER STATUS

(a) Requests for affiliation and reaffiliation to the IPU (CL/191/3(a)-R.1)

The President noted that there were no formal requests for membership to present to the Council. The Senate of Lesotho, in agreement with the National Assembly, had passed a resolution requesting that the membership of Lesotho be held by both Chambers of Parliament. He took it that the Governing Council wished to approve the Executive Committee's recommendation in respect of the request, as contained in document CL/191/3(a)-R.1.

It was so decided.

(b) Situation of certain Members

The President was pleased to inform the Council that no Member was liable for suspension due to non-payment of financial dues.

(c) Observer status

The President informed the Council that no requests for observer status had been received.

Item 4 of the agenda

REPORT OF THE PRESIDENT

**(a) On his activities since the 190th session of the Governing Council
(CL/191/4(a)-R.1)**

The President read out his report on his activities since the 190th session of the Governing Council, contained in document CL/191/4(a)-R.1.

(b) On the activities of the Executive Committee

The President said that the Executive Committee had held two full days of discussions. Most of the subjects discussed had been covered by other items on the Council's agenda and he would report on those matters at the appropriate time. He noted that the Committee had approved a Code of Ethics and a Fraud and Corruption Prevention and Control Policy developed by the Secretariat as part of its work to upgrade its managements systems and achieve greater efficiency and accountability. The Committee had also appointed a new Chairperson of the Consultative Commission, which mediated disputes between staff and management. Lastly, the President of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP), Mr. M. Bosc, had presented a detailed report of the ASGP's activities to the Committee.

Item 5 of the agenda

**INTERIM REPORT BY THE SECRETARY GENERAL ON THE ACTIVITIES OF THE IPU SINCE
THE 190th SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL**

**(a) Oral report of the Secretary General on the activities of the IPU
since the 190th session of the Governing Council**

The Secretary General said that the IPU had pursued implementation of the Strategy adopted the previous year. The Organization had continued to provide capacity-building and support to many parliaments, showcasing its unique knowledge of best practices and parliamentary procedure. The focus was primarily on countries emerging from conflict or in transition to democracy.

The IPU continued to promote gender equality and was in the final stages of developing a plan of action for gender-sensitive parliaments.

The IPU also continued to carry out its unique work in the defence of the human rights of members of parliament. Some members of parliament were under threat, some were in jail while others had been stripped of their parliamentary mandate or had seen their rights

curtailed. The Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians was currently examining over 100 cases.

Turning to the IPU's work with the United Nations and the various UN agencies, the Secretary General referred to the landmark resolution adopted by the UN General Assembly in May 2012. The adoption of a far-reaching resolution on interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the IPU was a recognition of the crucial role of parliaments vis-à-vis the United Nations.

With regard to development assistance, he commended the work done by IPU Members at the previous IPU Assembly in Kampala. He highlighted the adoption of the resolution on Access to health as a basic right: The role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children. That resolution had been recognized notably by the World Health Organization. A number of parliaments had asked the IPU for assistance in developing programmes to implement that resolution while a number of donor parliaments and agencies had expressed their willingness to fund the IPU's work in that area.

The Secretary General reported on the strengthening of the IPU as an Organization. Proposals had been made with a view to strengthening assemblies, the standing committees and the Committee on United Nations Affairs through more focused work, greater participation of Members and a review of the length of statutory assemblies. He invited the geopolitical groups to seize the opportunity to discuss those proposals and provide feedback.

With the appointment of a new communications director and the greater use of social media, the new communications strategy would seek to heighten the visibility of the IPU. Moreover, the recruitment of an IT and web manager would result in strengthening the visual identity of the IPU in the coming year.

Lastly, the Secretary General reported on the management of the IPU. Thanks to the Sub-Committee on Finance, which had now completed a full working year, an improved and more thorough budget process had been developed. Furthermore, the IPU had adopted new accountability tools such as a Code of Ethics and a Fraud and Corruption Prevention and Control Policy.

With regard to staff changes, he extended thanks to the Parliament of Egypt for seconding a senior official to advise the IPU on Arab affairs, and to the Parliament of the Republic of Korea for seconding a senior researcher. He intended to promote three Directors – Mr. M. Chungong, Ms. A. Filip and Ms. A. Lorber-Willis - to the D1 posts for which they had originally been recruited. In addition, he intended to make Mr. Chungong Deputy Secretary General; that would merely be a formalization of the duties he already performed in the Secretary General's absence. The cost implications of those promotions in terms of salary increases would be minimal and absorbable in the existing budget. He felt that it was important to maintain and strengthen the current management team.

The Secretary General concluded his report by thanking the Secretary of the Governing Council and Executive Committee, Ms. Jill Toedtli, who would be retiring at the end of the year, for her many years of sterling service.

(b) Annual reporting exercise by IPU Members

(CL/191/5(b)-R.1)

The Secretary General referred to the report contained in document CL/191/5(b)-R.1, noting the positive action taken by Members regarding implementation of the resolutions adopted at the 124th Assembly. He noted that less than one-third of Members had submitted reports, which was a decrease from the previous year. He realized that not all parliaments had the resources to respond to questionnaires for a variety of reasons – scarce resources, language limitations and the cross-sectoral nature of questionnaires - and undertook to find ways to

make reporting easier. He reminded Members that although membership in the IPU was a right, they were bound by minimum obligations.

(c) International Day of Democracy
(CL/191/5(c)-R.1)

The Secretary General noted that 15 September 2012 marked the fifth annual International Day of Democracy. He made special mention of the activities many parliaments had undertaken to celebrate the Day, including holding special debates and exhibitions and, in the case of Uruguay, the unveiling of a commemorative stamp. He referred the Council to document CL/191/5(c)-R.1 for further information on celebration of the Day. He concluded by drawing attention to recent IPU publications, which were available on the IPU website.

Item 6 of the agenda

FINANCIAL SITUATION OF THE IPU
(CL/191/6-R.1)

The Secretary General referred the Council to document CL/191/6-R.1 which set out the financial situation of the IPU at 31 August 2012. The amount of arrears of contributions had been reduced from CHF 1.9 million to CHF 1.4 million given that more Members had paid their contributions since the preparation of the document. That was a very good result compared with previous years.

Item 7 of the agenda

DRAFT PROGRAMME AND BUDGET FOR 2013
(CL/191/7-P.1)

The Secretary General began by reminding Members of the process for the presentation of the draft programme and budget for 2013; he would provide a general overview of the document while Mr. K. Örnfjäder, Chair of the Sub-Committee on Finance, would discuss the process and political considerations in the production of the budget. He also noted that the geopolitical groups would be discussing and debating the budget at their subsequent meetings.

The total income from assessed contributions was expected to stand at CHF 10.94 million for 2013. The staff assessment totalled CHF 973,000 and was based on the current staffing table.

Projected voluntary funding would reach CHF 1.5 million. That figure was based on a multi-year funding agreement with the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida), UNDP, the European Commission, USAID and, particularly in the areas of maternal, newborn and child health, the Norwegian agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD), the World Health Organization and the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health.

Gross operating expenditure stood at CHF 13.62 million. Reduced expenditures in core areas had been offset by the increased funding from voluntary resources. Furthermore, cost savings had been achieved through staff reductions, although secondments from other parliaments were providing additional staff.

The Secretary General concluded his remarks by noting that the IPU was able to implement the IPU Strategy for 2012-2017 with the help of the continued support of voluntary funding.

Mr. K. Örnfjäder, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Finance, commented that it was the first time the governing bodies had been so closely involved at all stages of the development of an IPU budget. The budget was designed to cope with the freeze in contributions at a time of economic austerity for many Members. He pointed out that there had been no increase in Members' contributions apart from the addition of new Members. Furthermore, he stated that the total amount of Members' contributions currently stood below that of 2007.

In order to balance a tight budget, the Chair informed members that the Executive Committee had proposed that additions to the reserve for major building repairs be frozen for 2013 but that efforts to offset carbon emissions should be pursued. In addition, although the budget anticipated that the IPU would benefit from CHF 1.5 million in voluntary funds, that amount would actually be closer to CHF 1.9 million in light of new funding pledges in support of certain strategic objectives, namely maternal, newborn and child health and the Gender Partnership Programme.

He concluded his remarks by recommending that the Council adopt the 2013 budget.

The President suspended further consideration of the item to the next sitting of the Council.

Item 10 of the agenda

REPORTS ON RECENT IPU SPECIALIZED CONFERENCES AND MEETINGS

- (a) **Regional seminar on Joining the initiatives and experiences of national parliaments for an effective campaign against child trafficking and labour**
(CL/191/10(a)-R.1)

The Secretary General reported on the regional seminar held in Abuja in collaboration with the Economic Community of West African States. He explained that the IPU was working with Member Parliaments in a bid to encourage them to pass legislation to combat child trafficking.

- (b) **Parliamentary briefing at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio + 20)**
(CL/191/10(b)-R.1)

The Secretary General observed that the Conference had illustrated the need for the development of a new set of post-2015 development goals. The IPU component had consisted of a briefing session for parliamentarians attending the Conference with the various Heads of State. The participants had urged the IPU to ensure a strong parliamentary contribution to the processes emerging from Rio + 20.

(c) Regional debate on Gender-Sensitive Parliaments
(CL/191/10(c)-R.1)

The Secretary General said that the regional debate, held in Valparaíso, had discussed the findings of the related IPU study. Some of its recommendations were echoed in the draft IPU plan of action for gender-sensitive parliaments.

(d) Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the XIX International AIDS Conference
(CL/191/10(d)-R.1)

The Secretary General remarked that in the wings of that major international conference, held in Washington, D.C., the IPU's Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS had organized a Parliamentary Meeting that had seen a large number of members of parliaments in attendance. The event had served to highlight the work of the IPU and share knowledge.

(e) World e-Parliament Conference 2012
(CL/191/10(e)-R.1)

The Secretary General noted that the conference, held in Rome in collaboration with the International Centre for ICT in Parliaments and the Italian Chamber of Deputies, had encouraged ICT and related parliamentary committees to share experiences and best practices.

He invited Members to consult the report and click on the relevant links to see the presentations made at the conference. He drew attention to the good work being done by the UK Parliament, which was moving towards cloud computing and by the Parliament of the Republic of Korea, which had taken transparency to a new level by allowing citizens to know where every member of parliament was at any given time.

**(f) Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of
the United Nations High-Level Meeting on the Rule of Law**
(CL/191/10(f)-R.1)

The Secretary General remarked that, as part of the 67th session of the UN General Assembly, the IPU had organized a Parliamentary Meeting on the rule of law. That had been prompted by the predominance of the issue in the IPU Strategy and the fact that it would be debated at the General Assembly. He informed Members that the UN General Assembly had adopted a High-Level Declaration on the Rule of Law recognizing the essential role of parliaments

(g) Seventh Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament
(CL/191/10(g)-R.1)

Ms. M. Kumar (India), Speaker of the Lok Sabha, reported on the meeting held in New Delhi on 3 and 4 October, 2012, which had culminated in the adoption of the New Delhi Initiative for Gender-sensitive Parliaments. She enumerated seven steps to make parliaments more gender-sensitive, namely: realizing the full potential of women in political participation; placing gender equality high on the parliamentary agenda; improving the parliamentary working environment; taking initiatives to shore up responsibility for gender equality programmes; developing new laws; participating in parliamentary committees; and ensuring that gender issues were debated in parliament.

The President informed members that there was quorum of 101.

The meeting rose at 10.50 a.m.

SECOND SITTING

Wednesday, 24 October 2012
(Afternoon)

The meeting was called to order at 2.30 p.m. with the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, Mr. A. Radi (Morocco), in the Chair.

Item 4 of the agenda
(continued)

Report of the President

(b) On the activities of the Executive Committee

The President informed the Council that the Executive Committee had completed its agenda the previous evening. Earlier in the week, it had discussed the statutory provisions relating to membership and in particular those governing suspension, based on a paper prepared by the Secretariat. He noted that the paper had also been discussed by some of the geopolitical groups over the past few days. He asked the Governing Council to endorse the following conclusions:

- The IPU was founded on the basic tenet of dialogue as a means of resolving differences. In order to be effective, it strove to achieve universal membership. That had been most recently reconfirmed in the IPU Strategy for 2012-2017.
- The Statutes and Rules that guided the Organization did not make any provision for the exclusion of Members. Those relating to suspension of membership had been formulated and applied in a restrictive manner.
- The arguments put forward on past occasions in favour of a legal rather than a political interpretation of the statutory provisions relating to membership seemed as compelling today as before. The Executive Committee consequently decided not to propose a new provision granting it discretionary powers to suspend or exclude a Member on political grounds.

It was so decided.

Item 7 of the agenda
(continued)

Draft programme and budget for 2013
(CL/191/7-P-1)

The President reminded the Council of the presentations made by the Secretary General and the Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Finance recommending the adoption of the 2013 budget. As the geopolitical groups had had an opportunity to discuss the budget, he opened the floor to discussion.

The Secretary General informed the Council that at the meeting of the Executive Committee the previous evening, the Japanese delegation had submitted a request via another delegation for the IPU to review how the budget was used and to pursue a policy of cost-cutting and "scrap and build". The delegation had also requested that its contribution – the highest of all IPU Members – currently fixed at 11.75 per cent – be revised downwards in light of economic hardship. The Committee had not had an opportunity to meet with the Japanese delegation since receiving that proposal. However, he assured the Council that the Sub-Committee would consider the Japanese request at its next meeting, when it intended to examine future scales of contribution and budgets.

Mr. R. del Picchia (France) asked whether an adjustment of the contribution of one Member implied a reduction in the budget or whether that amount would be redistributed among the other Members. In other words, would that result in reducing the budget?

The Secretary General noted that at the Assembly held in Bern in October 2011, the Council had adopted a scale of contributions for all Members. That scale was to be adjusted in the future on the basis of changes to the UN scale of contribution, upon which it had been modelled. A maximum contribution had been fixed for one member, Japan, at 11.75 per cent. If that level were to be revised, the budget would have to be reduced in order to absorb that change or the shortfall would have to be distributed among and absorbed by all Members. Due to the complexity of the matter, he suggested that the Sub-Committee on Finance be entrusted with examining the issue and that it meet with the Japanese delegation to review the matter in greater depth.

Mr. K. Ornfjäder, Chairperson of the Sub-Committee on Finance, informed the Council that the Sub-Committee had not had an opportunity to meet with the Japanese delegation regarding the letter sent to the Executive Committee through the Cambodian member of the Executive Committee at its most recent meeting. However, he assured Members that the matter would be taken up at the Sub-Committee's next meeting.

The President said that he took it that the Governing Council wished to adopt the 2013 budget.

It was so decided.

Item 8 of the agenda

Implementation of the IPU Strategy 2012-2017
(CL/191/8-P.1, P.2 and Inf.1)

The President drew the attention of the Council to document CL/191/8-P.1, which contained a set of proposals regarding the format of statutory assemblies, the functioning of the Standing Committees and the status of the Committee on United Nations Affairs. He stated that the Executive Committee had examined those proposals in depth and that the geopolitical groups had also been discussing them during the course of the Assembly.

The Secretary General informed the Council that the document in question had been distributed earlier in the week and confirmed that all the geopolitical groups had had an opportunity to discuss it. Rather than go through the entire document, he pointed out a number of changes that had been made as a result of the latest meeting of the Executive Committee. Paragraph 8 of the document on the composition of delegations had been modified to include a requirement for both gender and political balance in delegations. In addition, it had been proposed that delegates assigned to a standing committee should attend at least two consecutive meetings in order to ensure some continuity.

He observed that a broad consensus had been reached on the text. The next step would be to translate the proposal into specific working documents, identify cost implications and determine any possible modifications to the Statutes and Rules. The Executive Committee, in turn, would have to review the working documents at the next Assembly in Quito and subsequently in October of 2013. Any changes would come into effect as of 2014.

The President said he took it that the Governing Council wished to approve the proposal.

It was so decided.

The President informed the Council that the Secretariat would work towards implementing the agreed changes. At the next Assembly in Quito the Council would be examining the proposals for the new Assembly format and necessary amendments to the Statutes and Rules with a view to putting those changes into effect by 2014.

He invited the Council to consider the proposal to expand the mandate of the Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS as contained in document CL/191/8-P.2.

The Secretary General reminded the Council of the IPU's longstanding programme to promote parliamentary action to address HIV and AIDS. When the programme had been established several years earlier, an Advisory Group had also been created. It was composed of members of parliament from different parts of the world who had experience in public health and who had been working on HIV/AIDS. They were thus able to advise the IPU from a parliamentary perspective on its programme activities in that area and recommend policy guidelines. The proposal aimed to expand the mandate of the Group so that it could also address maternal, child and newborn health issues.

That was due in large part to the development over the past four years of important activities at the IPU to facilitate the work of parliaments in achieving MDGs 4 and 5 on reducing child mortality and improving maternal health. The programme was similar to the HIV and AIDS one insofar as it sought to develop good practices and harness expertise from all quarters to help parliaments better legislate in that area and hold their governments to account. The current financial realities prevented the creation of another body to cover those issues, hence the proposal to incorporate them into the mandate of the Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS.

He explained that the document was divided into two parts: the proposal to expand the mandate of the Advisory Group and an annex containing rules culled from existing documents.

Mr. R. del Picchia (France) reminded the Council of the budgetary limits contained in the IPU Strategy for 2012-2017 and expressed concern that that proposal have an impact on the budget.

The Secretary General responded that donors had expressed an interest in the IPU's work in women's and children's health and had proposed financial support. Therefore, the IPU would actually be receiving additional funds that would be earmarked for those areas. He assured the Members that there would be zero impact on the IPU budget.

The President said he took it that the Governing Council wished to approve the proposal.

It was so decided.

Item 9 on the agenda

Cooperation with the United Nations system
(CL/191/9-R.1)

Mr. M. Traoré (Burkina Faso), President of the Advisory Group to the Committee on United Nations Affairs, briefed the Council on the most recent parliamentary field mission, which had taken place from the 10 to 14 September in Montenegro and Albania. He referred to the Group's 14-page report, which provided specific details about that visit. He noted that, since the Group had been established in 2008, it had developed a number of initiatives within its purview. In particular, the field visits conducted by the Group had proven to be very useful.

He explained that the purpose of the field visits was to strengthen the links between national parliaments and the United Nations and enable the former to take greater ownership of UN-driven processes and feel like real partners of the United Nations in the field.

During the most recent visit, the Group had met with speakers of parliament, committee chairpersons, UN in-country representatives, UNDP and other UN agencies, various donors and non-governmental organizations (NGOs).

One of the main conclusions reached was that parliaments could and should be more involved with the United Nations so as to better influence UN decisions. He believed that the time was right for fostering closer links between the various UN entities and parliaments.

He concluded that parliaments should designate a single body to follow UN affairs and follow-up on related processes and reports. Often when UN agencies visited country projects, parliaments got lost in the crowd. He considered that UN agencies should be more open to parliaments and that, in turn, parliaments should be better informed about the work carried out by the United Nations through its various agencies in their respective countries.

Mr. F.-X. de Donnea (Belgium) was pleased to note that mention had been made on page 3 of the report of the IPU's commitment to work closely with the UNDP Office on technical cooperation and capacity-building activities. He noted that, in certain countries, there was a duplication of efforts by NGOs. As some of those NGOs and similar agencies were large and had significant budgets, such as the National Democratic Institute in the USA, he cautioned that the IPU should tread carefully regarding its involvement. He suggested that the IPU should meet with UNDP and other stakeholders in New York to talk about an overall work

programme. It was urgent to avoid duplication and a coordinating meeting should be held to organize the work across regions in an efficient manner.

The Secretary General said that the IPU was aware of the proliferation of efforts and that issue had recently been raised in the Executive Committee. The IPU would seek a coordination meeting with the various organizations in the field.

Mr. R. del Picchia (France) concurred with the delegate from Belgium. He underscored the need to organize efforts and clearly define goals and objectives. He felt that it was only appropriate that the IPU take the initiative in that matter. He suggested that a meeting take place in New York, where the headquarters of most agencies were located, at the next IPU Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations on 5 December. He asked if it would be possible to organize at least a preparatory meeting.

The Secretary General indicated that a meeting could be set up in New York. However, he pointed out that New York was not the headquarters for most of those agencies; only UNDP was based there. Others were based in Brussels and other European capitals, Washington, D.C. and in Africa. The IPU had already engaged other stakeholders in a similar discussion.

He drew the Council's attention to the report on IPU activities carried out in cooperation with the United Nations contained in document CL/191/9-R.1.

Item 11 on the agenda

Activities of committees and other bodies

(a) Coordinating Committee of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians (CL/191/11(a)-R.1)

Ms. B. Amongi (Uganda), Second Vice President of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, reported on the meeting held on 21 October. The meeting had followed up on the Committee's work at the previous Assembly in Kampala and had laid the groundwork for the meeting at the next Assembly in Quito.

She informed the Council that many members had reported on parliamentary action taken following the adoption of the IPU resolution on Access to health as a basic right: The role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children. Many important developments and initiatives had been showcased in that area. That clearly demonstrated the importance and impact of the resolution at the global level.

The gender dimension of the three Standing Committee reports had also been discussed. Regarding the subject item chosen by the First Standing Committee, it had been noted that women were the most affected group in situations of conflict. They were victims of rape and other forms of sexual violence used as weapons of war. Concerning the subject item selected by the Second Standing Committee, the Committee had recommended that fair trade should take into account the pivotal role and rights of rural women. It had felt that the report should reaffirm the Outcome Document of Rio+20, in particular the references to women's role in sustainable development. The Committee had welcomed the possibilities offered by social media, with regard to the subject item of the Third Standing Committee. However, it had noted that access problems remained in certain countries and that social media could also be misused and abused. It had suggested that laws were needed to control social media in order to prevent abuses without placing restrictions on freedom of expression.

The Committee had subsequently discussed preparations for its next meeting. It had agreed to discuss the agenda items proposed by the First and Second Standing Committees at the 128th Assembly: Enforcing the responsibility to protect: The role of parliament in safeguarding civilians' lives and Fair trade and innovative financing mechanisms for sustainable development respectively. It had been decided that the dialogue between men and women that afternoon would be devoted to the topic of combating violence against women. In addition, it had been agreed that the panel discussion on children should examine possible parliamentary action to promote the rights of disabled children. The Plan of Action for Gender-Sensitive Parliaments had also been discussed and endorsed. The Committee had been proud to be involved in the development of that document and hoped to see it adopted by the Assembly.

(b) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

(i) Election of two substitute members
(CL/191/11(b)-P.1 and P.2)

The President informed the Council that there were two vacancies on the Committee for substitute member to replace Mr. Patrice Martin-Lalande (France) and Mrs. Kairuki (United Republic of Tanzania). He noted that two candidatures had been received: those of Mr. Laka Boris Mbuku (Democratic Republic of Congo) and Ms. Inger Stojberg (Denmark). He invited the Council to elect the candidates as substitute members of the Committee.

It was so decided.

(ii) Report of the Committee
(CL/191/11(b)-R.1)

Mr. K. Tapo (Mali), President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians, before presenting the results of the Committee's work, briefly reviewed the new working methods that had been adopted with a view to greater efficiency. The Committee regularly handled over 100 cases at a time and had been reviewing its practices so as to develop a better approach to solving more cases in a shorter period of time. In July 2012, the Committee had adopted new working methods, resulting in four strategic changes.

First, the Committee had agreed to establish a priority list of cases. At each meeting of the Committee, priority would be given to cases requiring immediate attention and the Committee would no longer look at all cases as had been done in the past. He assured the members, however, that all cases would still be reviewed at least once a year.

Second, in a bid to become more proactive, it had been agreed that the Committee would conduct more field missions and hold fewer meetings in order to make direct contact with sources and local parliamentary authorities. Members of regional and international organizations and agencies would be contacted to support the missions.

Third, the Committee would be taking a number of initiatives to raise its profile, which would require greater commitment from IPU members. It would endeavour to interact more with Members and inform them of the problems encountered by the Committee with regard to specific cases. One such initiative would take the form of an information session to be held the following day on "Parliamentary Immunity: Benefit or Burden?"

Lastly, it had been agreed that all cases would be made public in order to promote the human rights of parliamentarians more effectively and to improve transparency of the Committee's work. In addition, Committee members would be seeking the solidarity and

support of other members of parliament and would be interacting more directly with the various geopolitical groups.

At the Québec Assembly, rather than look at all the cases, he informed the Council that the Committee had decided to examine 20 priority cases. During that session the Committee examined the cases 135 MPs in 35 countries and the report focused on cases in 13 countries.

Democratic Republic of Congo

Since the beginning of the year, the Committee had been seized with many cases involving current and former members of parliament of the Democratic Republic of Congo. Mr. Pierre Jacques Chalupa, a former parliamentarian, had been arrested on 2 February 2012 by the Presidential Guard on charges of using false citizenship documents. He had since been held in detention in a Kinshasa prison.

Mr. Agboyibo, former Prime Minister of Togo, had travelled to Kinshasa on behalf of the Committee from 25 July to 2 August 2012. He had been unable to access the file on Mr. Chalupa although it was a public document. Mr. Agboyibo had concluded that the accusations against Mr. Chalupa lacked credibility and that he had been arrested based on political considerations.

In addition, 29 other members of parliament had seen their mandates revoked at the legislative and presidential elections, the Supreme Court having invalidated the results for a number of members. Their case had been presented to the Committee on the grounds that their mandate had been arbitrarily invalidated. During his mission, Mr. Agboyibo was supposed to have attended hearings at the Supreme Court, which had been postponed at the last minute. The Committee had expressed concern that the Supreme Court of Justice had delivered sentences in spite of major procedural flaws and non-respect for the right to a defence.

In the case of Mr. Eugène Diomi Ndongala, an opposition member of parliament, the Committee had been presented with two contradictory versions of events. According to the sources, Mr. Ndongala had been abducted by the national police on 27 June 2012 and had "reappeared" on 11 October 2012. However, according to certain authorities, he had fled to avoid his arrest and was accused of raping minors. On 19 July 2012, the Attorney General had requested that the National Assembly lift Mr. Ndongala's parliamentary immunity.

The Committee had expressed its deep concern over the allegations and Mr. Ndongala's reportedly arbitrary detention. Furthermore, it was at a loss to understand the contradictory version of events. The accusations of rape had been subject to procedural flaws and were a cause of great concern. The Committee had called for an independent inquiry into the matter.

The delegate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo said that the Government in Kinshasa had looked into those cases. He noted the serious statements that had been made about the Democratic Republic of the Congo. Of particular concern was the call made in the Committee's report for the competent authorities to take all necessary measures to remedy that situation. Furthermore, the report had insinuated that the Supreme Court of Justice was trying to suppress the opposition by withdrawing the rights of its members. Of the 17 invalidated cases in 2007, only two concerned members of the opposition, while 15 involved members of the majority party, so that was a serious accusation indeed.

The Committee needed to take a closer look at its cases involving Congolese MPs. He explained that following the elections, provisional results had been published immediately and two months later, the Supreme Court had published the final results. Currently, the authorities were looking into cases of members of parliament who had been confirmed but a grey area remained for those who had not been elected officially.

Mr. Ndongala had been prosecuted for the rape of two minors, who, along with their parents, had appeared on radio and TV. While that was irrelevant to the case, it illustrated the gravity of the matter and the fact that the State was within its right to undertake its investigation in that case. He considered that the case had been treated too quickly by the Committee.

With regard to Mr. Chalupa, he had never been a parliamentarian. His election had been invalidated and he was being prosecuted for fraud and false citizenship, yet those facts had not been mentioned in the report. It was not until very recently that he had actually been sentenced. The Democratic Republic of the Congo had serious reservations about the Committee's report.

Mr. K. Tapo stated that he was not surprised that the delegation from the Democratic Republic of the Congo did not see eye to eye with the Committee regarding its report. Yet he assured the delegate that those cases had been reviewed carefully by the Committee and were not fabricated. With regard to the case of Mr. Chalupa, the Committee recognized him as a parliamentarian unlike the Congolese authorities. It had found that he had indeed been a parliamentarian during the 2006 legislature.

The delegate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo claimed that Mr. Chalupa's status as a parliamentarian had been invalidated. While he had been a member of parliament for a time, his status had been invalidated when it had been uncovered that he had obtained his citizenship through falsified documents.

Mr. K. Tapo expressed the Committee's deep concern over the fact that the official who had supplied the false citizenship document had been acquitted. With regard to the 29 other cases, they were currently before the Committee and, although the need for a constitutional court had been recognized, it had yet to be created.

The Governing Council adopted by consensus the draft resolutions relating to the case of Mr. Pierre Jacques Chalupa, to the case of 29 parliamentarians, to the case of Mr. Eugène Diomi Ndongala and took note of the reservation expressed by the delegation of the Democratic Republic of Congo.

Chad

In February 2008, during an attack on the capital by rebels, Mr. Ngarleji Yorongar, an opposition member of parliament, had been arrested in his home by the military, held in an unknown location and subjected to torture. According to his version of events, he had managed to escape at the beginning of March 2008 while being transported to a cemetery, where he was to be executed. He had then taken refuge in Cameroon and subsequently in France, where he had obtained political asylum.

The Committee had been following the case for the past four years. However, the perpetrators of human rights abuses against Mr. Yorongar had not yet been identified and no suspect had been arrested. Some inroads had been made by a report published in August 2008 by the National Commission of Inquiry, established by the President of Chad, to shed light on the events of February 2008. The report implicated the Defence and Security Forces of Chad in the arrest of Mr. Yorongar and other opposition members of parliament. Mr. Yorongar's file had been sent to the Prosecutor's Office and Mr. Yorongar had been heard, but the inquiry had been at a standstill for a few years now. After reiterating its concern on that matter, the Committee asked the Council to engage the relevant authorities to ensure that the inquiry was pursued in a diligent manner.

The Committee was pleased to inform the Council that the Supreme Court of Justice had closed the legal proceedings against Mr. Gali Ngothé Gatta, an opposition member of parliament. The Supreme Court had acquitted Mr. Gatta of the accusation against him dating back to 7 March 2012 concerning the illegal hunting of warthogs and corruption.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolutions relating to the case of Mr. Ngarleji Yorongar and to the case of Mr. Gali Ngothé Gatta.

Bahrain

Two former parliamentarians, Mr. Mata Ebrahim Matar and Mr. Jawad Fairuz Ghuloom, had been prosecuted following their participation in demonstrations while they were still parliamentarians. At the time of reporting, only one of the two was still being prosecuted. However, the Committee was still concerned by the fact that, a year and a half after their detention, the authorities had yet to begin proceedings against those responsible for the treatment inflicted upon the two. The Committee invited the Bahrain authorities to do their utmost to offer quick and efficient reparations to the two parliamentarians.

The delegate from Bahrain thanked the members of the Committee for their efforts. However, he noted that the report did not include any reference to the letter submitted to the Committee on 17 October. He also noted that the report referred to the fact that the Committee had sent the draft report out on 27 September. In his opinion, the fact that the final report did not make any reference to the proposed correction rendered it invalid. The two parliamentarians in question had resigned, along with other members of parliament. When they had been arrested they were no longer parliamentarians but ordinary citizens. Invitations to appear before the Committee to explain matters had gone unanswered. He requested that the report be withdrawn until such a time as it made specific reference to the letter sent by the Bahraini authorities on 17 October.

Mr. K. Tapo observed that there was some confusion. The two individuals in question had been parliamentarians when the Committee had been asked to take on the case. With regard to the above-mentioned letter, the summary produced thereof referred to legislative work under way, of which the Committee was fully aware.

The delegate from Bahrain asserted that the President of the Committee had misleading information and reiterated that the parliamentarians had already resigned. Moreover, he commented that a request to meet with the Committee had gone unanswered. He did not see the point of continuing to discuss those cases as the parliamentarians in question had been released.

Mr. K. Tapo insisted that the individuals in question had been parliamentarians at the time of the demonstrations and of their arrest.

The Governing Council adopted by consensus the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Matar Ebrahim Matar and the case of Mr. Jawad Fairuz Ghuloom, and took note of the reservation expressed by the delegation of Bahrain.

Cambodia

Mr. Sam Rainsy, the leader of the opposition, had been sentenced to nine years in prison. That verdict would effectively prevent him from running in the 2013 elections. In the meantime, his parliamentary mandate had been revoked. His crime, committed in October 2009, consisted of removing temporary markers on the border with Viet Nam. He had been additionally accused of providing false and misleading information by claiming, in his defence, that the markers were clearly in Cambodian territory. The Committee believed that that matter was purely political and should therefore be resolved at the political level. The Committee regretted that Mr. Rainsy could not return to Cambodia to take part in the 2013 elections.

The delegate from Cambodia informed the Council that Cambodia had been paying close attention to the case of the alleged violation of Mr. Rainsy's rights. The Cambodian National Assembly has been trying very hard to work within the prescribed framework of the rule of law. Mr. Rainsy had not exercised his functions within the framework of the rule of law. Consequently, his immunity had been lifted. He had been found guilty as charged by the courts and had been convicted.

Mr. K. Tapo reminded the Council that that was a long-standing case. He noted that Mr. Rainsy's trial had been held in camera and that he had thus not been present to defend himself. The resolution called on all political parties of Cambodia to allow the leader of the opposition to be able to participate in the next election.

The delegate from Cambodia responded by stating that the procedure for lifting Mr. Rainsy's immunity had been done according to Cambodian law. The action had in no way been political.

The Governing Council adopted by consensus the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Sam Rainsy and took note of the reservation expressed by the delegation of Cambodia.

Mr. K. Tapo noted the good news in the case concerning Ms. Mu Sochua - that the Court of Appeal had acquitted her and she was to regain her parliamentary immunity. Consequently, the Committee had agreed to consider the case closed but nevertheless invited the National Assembly of Cambodia to review its procedure regarding parliamentary immunity so as to render it an effective tool against flawed procedures motivated by political considerations.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Ms. Mu Sochua.

Iraq

Mr. Mohammed Al-Dainy, in the course of his parliamentary activities, had publicly denounced on numerous occasions the use of torture by the national security forces in secret detention areas. Mr. Al-Dainy had been sentenced to death in January 2010 having been found guilty of a number of serious accusations. The Committee believed that the accusations were false and fabricated and made evident in the report of a special committee set up by the Iraqi Parliament in March 2012. The Committee considered that the entire trial should be invalidated and that the death sentence be lifted as a matter of urgency.

The delegate from Iraq noted that that was the fourth time the case had been brought before the Council. The decision had been taken by the judiciary on a former member of parliament. Mr. Al-Dainy had not been subjected to torture. He reminded the Council of the promise to allow Mr. Al-Dainy to return to Iraq to defend his case.

Mr. K. Tapo argued that the matter was moot given the fact that Mr. Al-Dainy had already been found guilty.

The delegate from Iraq indicated that the death sentence could be overturned if new evidence was produced. He noted that the sentence remained suspended until Mr. Al-Dainy returned to provide his defence.

The Governing Council adopted by consensus the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Mohammed Al-Dainy and took note of the reservation expressed by the delegation of Iraq.

Malaysia

Mr. Anwar Ibrahim, the leader of the opposition People's Alliance, had been tried and acquitted on a charge of sodomy. The proceedings, which had been followed by an IPU observer, had raised serious doubts about respect for the rights of the defendant. The Committee indicated its intention to continue to monitor events related to that case.

More recently, Mr. Ibrahim had been accused of inciting a riot and ignoring a court order in relation to his participation in a demonstration calling for fair and open elections. The Committee expressed its concern over those new accusations given the irregularities surrounding Mr. Ibrahim's previous experiences with the courts. The Committee intended to monitor the proceedings and send a trial observer if necessary.

The delegate from Malaysia noted that the matter was currently being appealed and, therefore, should be allowed to continue without interference. He reaffirmed his belief in the separation of powers. Regarding the latest charges, Mr. Ibrahim and four others had been accused of removing barricades, which had been captured on video. He reiterated that every citizen had the right to participate peacefully in protests.

The Governing Council adopted by consensus the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Anwar Ibrahim and took note of the reservation expressed by the delegation of Malaysia.

Maldives

The Committee expressed its grave concern over the climate of violence and confrontation that persisted in the Maldives. It deplored the murder of a parliamentarian and trusted that the law enforcement authorities would do their best to bring the perpetrators to justice. The Committee also expressed its concern over the fact that no action had been taken against the police officers involved in the mistreatment of parliamentarians on 8 February 2012. It requested the relevant authorities to scale up their efforts on that front.

Many opposition party parliamentarians had had legal proceedings brought against them for participating in demonstrations or simply exercising their freedom of expression. The Committee suggested that a mission to the Maldives should be dispatched in order to obtain first-hand information regarding those complex cases and ascertain the current political situation.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of 19 parliamentarians.

Pakistan

Mr. Syed Hamid Saeed Kazmi had been held from March 2011 to August 2012 in Islamabad for alleged acts of financial corruption committed during the Haj pilgrimage to Mecca in 2010. He had been released on bail in August 2012. Despite extensive investigations, no incriminating evidence had been found. Furthermore, Mr. Kazmi had been seriously injured in an assassination attempt in 2009, when he had been minister of religious affairs responsible for reducing the influence of militant religious groups. He believed that his arrest had been largely based on his role as minister. The Committee expressed its concern that Mr. Kazmi would not benefit from a fair trial at the Supreme Court.

The delegate from Pakistan noted that the Parliament of Pakistan had no jurisdiction over matters before the Supreme Court and stated that both the Government and Parliament fully supported Mr. Kazmi. He informed the Council that the Speaker allowed Mr. Kazmi to attend parliament and that he was treated well in prison.

The Governing Council adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Syed Hamid Saeed Kazmi and took due note of the Pakistani delegation's comments.

Mr. Riaz Fatyana was well-known to the IPU as a member of the Third Standing Committee. After having denounced police brutality on many occasions in parliament and other alleged violations by law enforcement officials, his home had been attacked on 19 June 2012. Upon arriving at the scene, the police had arrested Mr. Fatyana along with 13 of his employees, who had been illegally detained until 21 June 2012. The report by the chief of police on the matter had confirmed a case of personal vendetta by the local police in the matter. It had also confirmed the names of those involved and the fact that only one member of Mr. Fatyana's staff had subsequently been arrested. The Committee called on the relevant authorities to take immediate and appropriate action and to conduct an independent inquiry into the matter.

The delegate from Pakistan explained that law and order of regional authorities did not come under the purview of the national parliament. However, he informed the Council that the Parliament of Pakistan had expressed its desire to the local parliamentary authorities to see a speedy and fair resolution to the matter.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Riaz Fatyana and took due note of the Pakistani delegation's comments.

Palestine

The Committee did not have any new information regarding the case of Mr. Marwan Barghouti. Although there had been a recent exchange of prisoners between Israel and Hamas, Mr. Barghouti had not been among those released. The Committee reiterated its call for Mr. Barghouti's release.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Marwan Barghouti.

The situation regarding the case of Mr. Ahmad Sa'adat had remained unchanged other than the fact that his solitary confinement had ended after three years. He had been sentenced to 30 years in prison for matters regarding his leadership of the Popular Liberation Front, in other words for political reasons. He was currently suffering from poor health and members of his family were unable to visit him. The Committee expressed its wish to receive more information regarding the conditions of Mr. Sa'adat's imprisonment and called for his immediate release.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Ahmad Sa'adat.

At the beginning of the year, 23 parliamentarians elected to the Palestinian Legislative Council had been placed in administrative detention in Israel. The Committee informed the Council that currently only five of them still remained in such detention. Encouraged by those developments, the Committee called for the release of the remaining five parliamentarians.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of 23 parliamentarians.

Philippines

The Committee was pleased to note that the legal proceedings against current and former parliamentarians had been either dropped or were on the verge of being dropped.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of four parliamentarians.

Thailand

Mr. Jatuporn Prompan, a leading figure in the movement against authoritarian rule and a member of the House of Representatives, had played a key role in the "red shirt" demonstrations in Bangkok from 12 March to 19 May 2010. He had been placed in protective custody on the day of the 2011 elections and had thus been unable to vote. For that reason, he had ceased to be a member of his party and had lost his parliamentary status. The Committee expressed its desire to see the Thai authorities reconsider the invalidation of Mr. Jatuporn's mandate.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of Mr. Jatuporn Prompan.

Turkey

Nine parliamentarians had been allowed to stand for election while in prison. After they had been elected, they had requested their release in order to assume their parliamentary functions. That request had been denied. The Turkish Parliament had passed a law allowing detained parliamentarians to be released on bail in order to exercise their mandate. The Committee considered that a mission to Turkey was in order to better understand the exact charges against those parliamentarians, the status of the procedures in place and the parliamentarians' ability to participate in parliamentary business.

The Governing Council unanimously adopted the draft resolution relating to the case of nine parliamentarians.

(c) Committee on Middle East Questions

(i) Election of three titular members and one substitute member
(CL/191/11(c)-P.1-P.6)

The President informed the Council of three vacancies for titular members of the Committee on Middle East Questions since Mr. F.-X. de Donnea (Belgium) and Mr. A. Ponlaboot (Thailand) would be completing their terms at the current session and Mrs. A. Miltenburg (Netherlands) had resigned her post on the Committee following her election as Speaker of Parliament. The Council would also need to elect one substitute member to replace Mrs. E. Papademetriou (Greece), who was no longer a parliamentarian. He reminded the Council of a decision taken previously to ensure gender parity in the composition of the Committee.

For the titular posts, the candidatures of Mr. T. Henare (New Zealand), Lord Judd (United Kingdom), Mr. A.O. Al Mansoori (United Arab Emirates) and Mr. F.K. Chowdhury (Bangladesh) had been received. He proposed that the Council vote by show of hands on the four candidates.

The Governing Council proceeded to a vote by show of hands and elected Mr. Henare (New Zealand) and Lord Judd (United Kingdom) as titular members.

The President informed the Council that only one woman candidate, Mrs. Z. Benarous (Algeria), a substitute member of the Committee, had been nominated for a post of titular member. He proposed that the Governing Council elect Mrs. Benarous as a titular member of the Committee.

It was so decided.

Given the election of Lord Judd and Mrs. Benarous as titular members, two substitute posts had become available. The President informed the Council of the candidatures of Mr. H. Franken (Netherlands) and Mr. D. Papadimoulis (Greece). He took it that the Governing Council wished to elect them as substitute members.

It was so decided.

(ii) Report of the Committee
(CL/191/11(c)-R.1)

Mr. F.-X. de Donnea (Belgium), Rapporteur of the Committee on Middle East Questions, read out the Committee's report contained in document CL/191/11(c)-R.1. He informed the Council that the Committee had examined a set of draft rules based on a previous decision and recommendation of the Governing Council, which defined its role, composition and functioning in a formal manner. He invited the Council to approve the report and draft rules.

It was so decided.

(d) Gender Partnership Group

(CL/191/11(d)-R.1)

Ms. R. Kadaga (Uganda), Rapporteur of the Gender Partnership Group, read out the Committee's report contained in document CL/191/11(d)-R.1. She invited the Council to adopt the report.

It was so decided.

(e) Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

(i) Election of three titular members and two substitute members

(CL/191/11(e)-P.1-P.3)

The President informed the Council that three titular members were to be elected for the Arab Group, the Eurasia Group and the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean. For the titular posts the candidatures of Ms. Gabriela Cuevas (Mexico) and Ms. Yasmina Meftali (Algeria) had been submitted. He took it that the Governing Council wished to elect Ms. Cuevas and Ms. Meftali as titular members of the Committee.

It was so decided.

The President informed the Council of the two vacancies for substitute members from the Arab Group and the Asia-Pacific Group. He proposed that the Council elect the sole candidate for the post, Mr. Phiraphan Phalusuk (Thailand).

It was so decided.

(f) Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS

(CL/191/11(f)-R.1)

The Secretary General presented a brief overview of the Advisory Group. He noted that it had organized a Parliamentary Meeting in the margins of the broader XIX International AIDS Conference in Washington, D.C. He spoke of the Group's visit to Tanzania and the work initiated with the parliamentary coalition. The report described the work carried out in Tanzania and stated that the parliamentarians present would table reports in their respective parliaments.

(g) Meeting of young parliamentarians

(CL/191/11(g)-R.1)

Mr. K. Dijkhoff (Netherlands) read out the group's report contained in document CL/191/11(g)-R.1.

Item 12 of the agenda

128th IPU Assembly
(CL/191/12-P.1)

Mr. F. Bustamante (Ecuador) reminded the Council that the 128th Assembly would be held in Quito, Ecuador. It was both a great honour and an enormous responsibility to host that event and he looked forward to welcoming all delegates in Quito.

The President invited the Governing Council to approve the list of observers contained in document CL/191/12-P.1.

The Governing Council approved the list of observers.

Item 13 of the agenda

Future inter-parliamentary meetings
(CL/191/13-P.1)

The President drew the attention of the Council to the declaration of principle on the first page of document CL/191/13-P.1. The Executive Committee had felt that it was essential for the Governing Council to reaffirm the principle that IPU Assemblies could only be held if all IPU Members and Observers were invited and if their representatives were certain to be granted visas in order to participate.

The delegate from Saudi Arabia noted that, in the interest of promoting the role of the IPU and raising its profile, the conditions guaranteeing a wide participation of all participants must take into account religious holidays. The current Assembly was taking place during the Eid al-Adha holiday and, as a result, many delegates had not been able to attend the Assembly.

The delegate from Pakistan concurred, expressing concern that the dates of the 129th Assembly would again coincide with the holiday. She called on the IPU to show greater consideration regarding the scheduling of events during religious holidays.

The Secretary General commented that every effort was made to avoid scheduling meetings during religious holidays and festivities. It would be difficult to change the dates of the Assembly in 2013 because of availability of conference facilities. However, he promised to pay more attention to that issue in the future.

Referring to document CL/191/13-P.1, he noted the dates and venues of the next two assemblies. Additionally, he informed the Council that discussions were underway with potential hosts for future assemblies. Some had issued direct invitations while others had expressed an interest in hosting a future assembly. The Executive Committee had asked that the second assembly be held systematically in Geneva. It had also asked the Secretariat to pursue discussions with the two host parliaments of the first Assembly in 2014 and 2015 and to prepare detailed proposals for consideration in Quito.

He drew the Council's attention to the list of specialized meetings, including one to be held in Trinidad and Tobago the following month for Caribbean parliaments to discuss the relationship between parliaments and citizens. The intention was to raise the profile of parliaments in the Caribbean region and encourage them to join the IPU. All the meetings on that list had already been foreseen in the budget or had received voluntary funding.

The President took it that the Council wished to approve the list of future meetings.

The General Council approved the list of future meetings.

Item 14 on the agenda

Appointment of two Auditors for the 2013 accounts
(CL/191/14-P.1 and P.2)

The President informed the Council that two candidatures for the post of auditors had been received, namely those of Mr. H.R. Mohamed (United Republic of Tanzania) and Mr. D. Pacheco (Portugal). He took it that the Governing Council wished to appoint Mr. Mohamed and Mr. Pacheco as Auditors for the 2013 Accounts.

It was so decided.

Item 15 on the agenda

Elections to the Executive Committee
(CL/191/15-P.1 and P.2)

The President informed the Council that it was required to elect two members to the Executive Committee to replace Mr. A. Díaz-Caneja (Mexico), whose term was to expire at the current session of the Council, and Mr. Michael Vardanyan (Armenia), who was no longer a parliamentarian. The candidature of Mr. D. Vivas (Venezuela) had been submitted, as well as that of Mr. K Chshmaritian (Armenia) to complete the term of office of Mr. Vardanyan, which would expire in October 2013. He took it that the Council wished to elect Mr. Vivas and Ms. Chshmaritian to the Executive Committee.

It was so decided.

The Secretary General said that the newly elected members of the Executive Committee were invited to attend the next meeting of the Committee the following day at noon.

The meeting rose at 5.20 p.m.