Convocation of the 196th session of the Governing Council of the IPU
Hanoi (Viet Nam), 29 March and 1 April 2015

Madam President,
Mr. President,

We have pleasure in informing you that the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will hold its 196th session at the National Convention Centre (NCC), Hanoi (Viet Nam).

1. PARTICIPATION

The Governing Council is composed of three members from each parliament represented in the IPU. 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. PROCEEDINGS OF THE SESSION

The first sitting of the Governing Council will take place on Monday, 29 March from 9 to 10.45 a.m. The second sitting will be held on Wednesday, 1 April, from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 to 5 p.m.

3. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The provisional agenda for the session, prepared by the Executive Committee at its 270th session (October 2014), is as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the summary records of the 195th session of the Governing Council
3. Proposals for the election of the President of the 132nd Assembly
4. Questions relating to IPU membership
   (a) Requests for affiliation and reaffiliation to the IPU
   (b) Situation of certain Members
   (c) Observer status

5. Report of the President
   (a) On his activities since the 195th 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 2014

7. Reports on recent IPU specialized meetings

8. Implementation of the IPU Strategy 2012-2017

9. Cooperation with the United Nations System

10. Financial results for 2014

11. Action by the IPU to strengthen democracy and parliamentary institutions

12. Activities of committees and other bodies
   (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
   (g) Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health
   (h) Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

13. Preparations for the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament
   *The Governing Council will receive a report on the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee.*

14. 133rd IPU Assembly (Cartagena de Indias, Colombia, 31 October to 4 November 2015)

15. Future Inter-parliamentary meetings
   (a) Statutory meetings
   (b) Specialized meetings and other events

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 elect two members to replace respectively Mrs. F. Diendéré-Diallo (Burkina Faso) and Mr. M. Uesugi (Japan) who are no longer members of parliament, and whose terms were normally due to end respectively in October 2015 and October 2018.*
4. **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 mandate of the Council which, according to Article 20 of the Statutes, determines and guides the activities of the IPU 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.

5. **DOCUMENTS**

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

We look forward to fruitful discussions in the Governing Council next March and remain,

Yours sincerely,

Martin CHUNGONG
Secretary General
of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Saber CHOWDHURY
President
of the Inter-Parliamentary Union