



Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

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Reporting exercise 2017

Article 6 of the IPU Statutes stipulates that all Members shall submit an annual report to the IPU Secretariat on their activities, including action taken to implement IPU resolutions and decisions.

Article 7 foresees that "it is the duty of the Members of the IPU to submit the resolutions of the IPU within their respective Parliament, in the most appropriate form; to communicate them to the Government; to stimulate their implementation and to inform the IPU Secretariat, as often and fully as possible, particularly in its annual reports, of the steps taken and the results obtained".

Over the years, the statutory reporting exercise has aimed at collecting information and good practices which are shared with the IPU governing bodies and broader membership. Members have been invited to:

- Report on how they have followed up on the IPU resolutions adopted during the previous year;
- Report on one follow-up action on a specific IPU resolution or activity (chosen by the Parliament concerned); this allowed the Secretariat to put together a very interesting table of specific courses of parliamentary action taken by Members;
- Respond to a checklist of parliamentary action taken on issues that are high on the IPU agenda, such as implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In all of the situations above, the rate of response has remained in the 30–40 per cent range.

At the 136th IPU Assembly held in Dhaka, the Chairs of the Geopolitical Groups and Standing Committees of the IPU discussed this issue and decided to support the implementation of a new reporting modality. The new format would be based on the following main considerations:

- A reduced number of reports, based on the principle of rotation;
- Greater visibility given to reports by IPU Members in the Governing Council, Standing Committees and other relevant bodies;
- Sustained support to IPU geopolitical groups in engaging with and securing responses from Members.

Looking ahead, and if the 2017 experience brings encouraging results, the IPU may wish to institute a more structured mechanism, in which:

1. All IPU Members will be required to submit periodic reports (for example, every five years on average). The Members that will submit a report could be determined each year by alphabetical order.
2. A periodic report would focus on what a Member Parliament had done to follow up on one or more IPU resolution(s) or decision(s) in the period since that Member last submitted a report.

3. Reports will focus on parliamentary follow-up to:

- Resolutions of the Standing Committees;
- Resolutions relating to the emergency item;
- Outcome documents of the General Debate;
- Decisions of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians;
- Plans of Action (such as the 2012 IPU Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments);
- Decisions of other IPU bodies.

4. In addition to the mandatory system of rotation, IPU Members would also be able to submit voluntary reports on follow-up action.

5. The geopolitical groups and the Executive Committee would monitor the submission of reports under this rotation system and would hold IPU Members to account for meeting their reporting obligations.

For the 2017 reporting cycle, the IPU geopolitical groups committed to identifying and proposing at least five parliaments (a minimum of three for the smaller geopolitical groups) from their respective regions that will report on parliamentary action related to recommendations arising from resolutions and other decisions, adopted by the IPU between March 2014 and April 2017.

Over the past three years, rich and comprehensive General Debates have resulted in outcome documents on parliamentary commitment to peace and security, gender equality, the SDGs, humane migration, youth participation, human rights, and redressing inequalities. The IPU also adopted a number of resolutions on emergency items, including on the situation in the Central African Republic, the international response to the Ebola epidemic, counter terrorism, protection of refugees, unregistered children and unaccompanied minors, the humanitarian crisis in Syria, and the famine in parts of Africa and Yemen.

In the area of peace and international security, resolutions have been adopted on issues relating to a nuclear-weapon-free world, cyber warfare, cooperation to combat terrorism and the principle of non-intervention. In the area of sustainable development, the IPU has adopted resolutions on risk-resilient development, water governance, protection of the cultural heritage of humanity, and the financial inclusion of women as a driver of development. With regard to democracy and human rights, the IPU has adopted resolutions on child rights, international law vis-à-vis national sovereignty, democracy in the digital era, and the political empowerment of women – see www.ipu.org/strct-e/stcnfres.htm. The Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians also adopted decisions on cases in more than 40 countries. Its decisions are available at www.ipu.org/iss-e/hr-cases.htm.

Your Parliament has been designated by your Geopolitical Group to take part in the reporting exercise for 2017. You are therefore invited to respond to a brief questionnaire on parliamentary follow-up in relation to one, or several, of the IPU resolutions and decisions mentioned above.

The Secretary General will issue a report to the Governing Council at the next Assembly (St. Petersburg, October 2017) based on input from Members. The IPU membership will be informed of the outcome of the reporting exercise during a dedicated session in St. Petersburg.

Please complete the questionnaire and submit it to us no later than 31 July. Your participation will be crucial to the success of this exercise.

Input to the 2017 report by IPU Members

Country	
Name of person completing this survey	
Job title/role	
Email Address	
Phone Number	

Organization of the national parliament's participation in the IPU

Concerning the resolutions of the 136th IPU Assembly (Dhaka, April 2017)

	Yes	No	Don't know
1. Have the resolutions been submitted to parliament?			
2. Have the relevant parliamentary committees been informed?			
3. Have the resolutions been communicated to the government?			
4. Has a report on parliament's participation in the 136 th IPU Assembly been submitted to parliament?			
5. Has any debate been held in parliament (plenary or Committee) on the outcomes of the Dhaka Assembly?			

Concerning the participation of parliament in the work of the IPU

	Yes	No	Don't know
6. Has parliament held a debate in the past five years about its participation in the work of the IPU?			
7. Are reports circulated in parliament on each IPU activity in which parliament participates?			
8. In addition to the Assemblies, does your parliament regularly participate in other IPU activities (Hearings at the UN, regional seminars, field missions, etc.)?			
9. Does parliament intend to celebrate the 20 th anniversary of the Universal Declaration on Democracy and the International Day of Democracy in 2017?			

The IPU Secretariat is compiling good practices about the organization of the work of National IPU Groups, the preparation for IPU Assemblies and the circulation of information on IPU activities. These good practices will be shared with IPU Members at the 137th IPU Assembly in October 2017.

10. Please provide details of **up to three good practices** from the past five years, using the table below.

Title of the good practice	
Description	
What happened as a result?	

Impact and influence of the IPU on the work of parliament

In the past five years:

	Yes	No	Don't know
11. Have any parliamentary questions been submitted in relation to the work of the IPU?			
12. Have any parliamentary decisions been influenced directly or indirectly - by the work of the IPU?			
13. Has parliament taken any specific actions in follow-up of decisions of IPU's Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians?			

The IPU Secretariat is compiling examples of the influence and impact of the IPU on the work of national parliaments. These examples will be shared with IPU Members at the 137th IPU Assembly in October 2017.

14. Please provide details of **up to three examples** from the past five years where the activity of parliament has been influenced by the work of the IPU, using the table below.

Title of the example	
Description	
What was the influence of IPU work in this example?	

Cooperation with the United Nations

In the past two years:

	Yes	No	Don't know
15. Has your parliament carried out any joint activities with the United Nations Country Team?			

If Yes, please describe	
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About the National IPU Group

16. Please provide the name(s) of the chair of the National IPU Group

Name	
Gender	
Year of birth	
Function in parliament	