



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
110th Assembly and related meetings
Mexico City, 15 - 23 April 2004



C-III/2004/C.1
21 January 2004

CONVOCATION

STANDING COMMITTEE III - DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mexico City
20, 21 and 22 April 2004

1. In conformity with the decision taken by the 109th IPU Assembly, the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights will meet during the 110th IPU Assembly to debate item 6 of the Assembly agenda.

Dates and place of meetings

2. The Committee will meet at the *Centro de Convenciones del Sheraton Centro Histórico de la Ciudad de México*, the venue of the 110th Assembly and all other related meetings.

3. The Committee will meet on Tuesday, 20 April from 2.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. and on Wednesday, 21 April from 9 a.m. to 11 a.m. to debate the report and the preliminary draft resolution prepared by the co-rapporteurs. If the Committee chooses to appoint a drafting committee to continue discussion on the draft resolution, the latter will then meet instead of the full Committee on Wednesday, 21 April from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 2.30 p.m. to 5.30 p.m. to prepare a final version of the draft resolution. The Bureau of Standing Committee III will meet on Wednesday, 21 April from 5.30 p.m. to 6.30 p.m. Finally, the full Standing Committee will meet again on Thursday, 22 April from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. to take note of the report and adopt the draft resolution.

Agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Furthering parliamentary democracy in order to protect human rights and encourage reconciliation among peoples and partnership among nations
 - (a) Debate
 - (b) Preparation and adoption of draft resolution
 - (c) Appointment of a Rapporteur to the 110th Assembly
3. Preparation of the 111th Assembly
 - (a) Proposals for subject item to be considered by the Committee
 - (b) Proposals for two co-rapporteurs

4. Election of the Bureau of Standing Committee III
5. Any other business

Representation and voting rights

4. In conformity with Rule 2 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, the Members of the Union shall be represented on each Standing Committee by one member and one substitute.
5. The substitute shall have the same speaking rights as the titular member, but shall only vote in the latter's absence (cf. Rule 29.1).

Organisation of the debate

6. The Union's governing bodies have decided to make a determined effort to ensure an interactive debate in the Standing Committees. The reading of prepared speeches is therefore discouraged. There will be no pre-registration of speakers. Instead, the President of the Standing Committee will recognise speakers requesting the floor once the debate has begun.

Speaking time

7. The Union's governing bodies have also decided that delegates may take the floor several times but that no statement should exceed four minutes. According to the provisions of Standing Committee Rule 24, the President may review this question and take the necessary measures to ensure the smooth running of the debates, particularly since the President may have to restrict the speaking time in view of the number of speakers and length of the session.

Documents

8. Preparation of the report and the preliminary draft resolution on the subject item placed on the Standing Committee's agenda is the responsibility of the co-rapporteurs appointed by the 109th Assembly.
9. Arrangements and deadlines for the preparation and finalisation of the report and the draft resolution are contained in section 8 of the Convocation of the 110th Assembly (document A/110/C.1). Please note that, in accordance with Rule 17.1 of the Rules of the Assembly and Rule 12.2 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, amendments to the draft resolution shall be deposited with the Secretariat of the Assembly no later than one week before the opening of the Assembly, i.e. Sunday, 11 April 2004. Sub-amendments may be submitted up until the Standing Committee adopts the draft resolution intended for the Assembly (Assembly Rule 17.2).

Election of the Bureau

10. In conformity with Rule 7.2 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, officers of the Committee shall be elected or re-elected at the first annual session of the Assembly by an absolute majority of the votes cast.
11. All present members of the Bureau of Standing Committee III (both titular and substitute) were elected at the last sitting of the 108th Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Santiago de Chile, 11 April 2003) and are therefore eligible for re-election (cf. Rule 8.1).

12. The current composition of the Bureau is as follows:

Post	Name	Geopolitical Group
TITULAR MEMBERS		
President	Mrs. Rebecca A. Kadaga (Uganda)	African Group
First Vice-President	Mr. Jay-Kun Yoo (Republic of Korea)	Asia-Pacific Group
Vice-Presidents:	Mrs. Brigitta Gadiant (Switzerland)	Twelve Plus Group
	Mr. Abdelahad Gamaleldin (Egypt)	Arab Group
	Mr. José Machuca (El Salvador)	Latin American Group
	Mr. Sergey Zhalybin (Kazakhstan)	Eurasia Group
SUBSTITUTE MEMBERS		
	Mr. Alban Baghin (Ghana)	African Group
	Mr. Prem Chand Gupta (India)	Asia-Pacific Group
	Mr. Henrik S. Järrel (Sweden)	Twelve Plus Group
	Mr. Ahmed El-Kadiri (Morocco)	Arab Group
	Mrs. Addy Joaquin Coldwell (Mexico)	Latin American Group
	Mr. Tolib Nabiev (Tajikistan)	Eurasia Group

Proposals for the subject item and the rapporteurs for the 111th Assembly

13. The Members of the Union are invited to submit to the IPU Secretariat their proposals for the subject item to be discussed by Standing Committee III at the time of the 111th Assembly.

14. As far as possible, each proposal should be accompanied by the names of two prospective co-rapporteurs who should be knowledgeable about the proposed subject and ready to assume the responsibility for drafting the corresponding report and draft resolution. When nominating the candidatures of co-rapporteurs, it would be important to keep in mind that, in order to facilitate the work of the IPU Secretariat and ensure timely distribution of the drafts to the Members of the Union, all texts should be transmitted to the Secretariat by the co-rapporteurs in either English or French as the two official written languages of the IPU.

15. From the start of the Assembly, the Bureau of Standing Committee III will be expected to carry out consultations with geopolitical Groups and the Bureaux of other Standing Committees concerning the choice of subject items for the next Assembly. At its meeting on Wednesday, 21 April, the Bureau of Standing Committee III will consider relevant proposals taking into account the opinions of geopolitical Groups, and will decide upon a consolidated proposal, which it will then submit for approval to the full Committee at its sitting on Thursday, 22 April. Following that, the Committee's proposal for the subject item and the candidatures of rapporteurs for the next Assembly will be submitted for approval by the 110th Assembly at its last sitting on Friday, 23 April.