



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
126th Assembly and related meetings
Kampala (Uganda), 31 March – 5 April 2012



No. 1

JOURNAL¹
Saturday, 31 March 2012

Time	Meeting	Place
8 a.m. – 9.15 a.m.	Coordinating Committee of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians	Achwa Room KSCC (first floor) (in camera)
9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Meeting of Women Parliamentarians	Primrose Hall Imperial Royale Hotel (ground floor)
9.30 a.m. – 1 p.m.	Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	VIP Meeting Room KSCC (ground floor) (in camera)
2.30 –6.30 p.m. 3 p.m.–5 p.m.	Meeting of Women Parliamentarians ♦ Dialogue session on <i>Mentorship: Supporting the next generation of women MPs</i> . Women and men parliamentarians will be invited to discuss the question of mentorship and ways and means of bringing into parliament underrepresented groups (young women, minorities, rural women). How is mentorship carried out? How systematic is it? What benefits does it bring? How can it be strengthened? What strategies can be applied? Participants will be asked to share examples of innovative initiatives and personal experiences and make suggestions on the way forward. To introduce the session, panellists will present concrete examples on the subject.	Primrose Hall Imperial Royale Hotel (ground floor)
2.30 p.m.– 6 p.m.	Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	VIP Meeting Room KSCC (ground floor) (in camera)
2.30 p.m.– 6 p.m.	Committee on Middle East Questions	Achwa Room KSCC (first floor) (in camera)

¹ Information as of 30 March, at 6 p.m.

7.30 p.m.	Inaugural Ceremony of the 126th Assembly in the presence of His Excellency General Yoweri Kaguta Museveni, President of the Republic of Uganda	Speke Resort Munyonyo
	<ul style="list-style-type: none">♦ Delegates are kindly requested to wear their badges and show their invitation cards.♦ Delegates are further requested to be seated before 7 p.m.♦ Interpretation will be provided in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.	

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OTHER EVENTS OF THE DAY

2 p.m. – 3 p.m.	Meeting of the Network of Secretaries and Advisers to Delegations	Cardenia Hall Imperial Royale Hotel (ground floor)
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Preview of programme for Sunday, 1st April

9 a.m.–10 a.m.	Governing Council	Victoria Hall KSCC (ground floor)
9 a.m.–1 p.m. 2 p.m. – 3 p.m. 3.30 – 6.30 p.m.	First Standing Committee Presentation of the report and start of debate Continuation of debate <i>or</i> start of drafting committee Start or continuation of drafting committee	Primrose Hall Imperial Royale Hotel (ground floor) <i>or</i> Scarlet Hall (same floor)
10 a.m. – 12 noon 12 noon – 1 p.m.	Assembly Election of the President of the 126 th Assembly and start of the general debate Open debate with Mr. Anthony Lake, Executive Director of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), and Dr. Babatunde Osotimehin, Executive Director of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)	Victoria Hall KSCC (ground floor)
2.30 – 6.30 p.m. 4 .30.p.m.	Continuation of general debate Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item	
2.30 p.m. – 6 p.m.	Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	VIP Meeting Room, KSCC (first floor)
3.30 p.m. – 6.30 p.m.	Third Standing Committee Presentation of the report and start of debate	Primrose Hall Imperial Royale Hotel (ground floor)

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OTHER EVENTS OF THE WEEK

Monday, 2 April 2012

- 12 noon – 1 p.m.** **Launch of the *Global Parliamentary Report*** **Victoria Hall
KSCC
(ground floor)**
- The *Global Parliamentary Report* will be launched during a special session of the Assembly. The Report investigates the state of relations between parliaments and citizens. It analyses the challenges and parliamentary responses, and provides examples of good practice. Following a presentation of the Report's conclusions, delegates will be invited to take part in an interactive debate on ways to modernize parliament and renew the relationship with citizens. The Report is a joint publication of the IPU and UNDP. The lead author, Mr. Greg Power, will lead informal discussions with delegates on the Report's themes throughout the Assembly.

Tuesday, 3 April 2012

- 9 a.m. – 12 noon** **Panel discussion on *Tackling malnutrition in young children: The role of parliamentarians*** **Gardenia Hall
Imperial Royale Hotel
(ground floor)**
- Child malnutrition is a hidden crisis that threatens to reverse development gains. There are however effective and efficient ways to address this crisis. The cost of intervention is small; the payoff is large; and the MDGs will not be met unless this crisis is tackled.
- The aims of this IPU–UNICEF panel are to inform legislators on the ways of combating malnutrition in young children and pregnant women, and to facilitate an exchange of views on what parliaments and their members can do to promote progress in this area. Particular attention needs to be paid to policies for improving mother and child nutrition; their integration in national development plans; and the provision of essential supplies, food and training for community workers involved in child nutrition and health care.
- Panellists include members of parliament, representatives of civil society as well as UNICEF representatives.
- 10 a.m. – 11 a.m.** **Renewing the IPU website: Focus group for parliamentarians** **Achwa Room
KSCC
(first floor)**
- Work to rebuild the IPU website will begin in 2012. To make it as useful as possible, the IPU Secretariat wishes to hear from parliamentarians about the kind of information they need from the IPU. The focus group will be an open, informal discussion, led by the IPU's Director of Communications. The focus group will be held in English.
- 11 a.m.** **Address by His Excellency Mr. Edward Kiwanuka Ssekandi, Vice-President of the Republic of Uganda, to the Assembly** **Victoria Hall
KSCC
(ground floor)**

- 12.30 – 2.30 p.m. Informal panel discussion on *Disaster risk reduction and sustainable development*** **Gardenia Hall
Imperial Royale
Hotel
(ground floor)**
- Countries are recognizing more and more that disaster risk reduction is crucial to sustainable development. Increased commitment to and action on disaster risk reduction will accelerate development, protect investments and reduce poverty. In response, the IPU, the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC) and the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs have been working together to develop a "Model Act" based on the internationally accepted "Guidelines for the Domestic Facilitation and Regulation of International Disaster Relief and Initial Recovery Assistance".
- The panel discussion will offer the opportunity to share views and experiences on the linkages between disasters, development and risk reduction. It will also offer MPs the opportunity to learn more about the Model Act and the Global Resilient City Campaign.
- The event is open to all delegates. Interpretation will be provided in English, French and Spanish.
- 3 p.m. – 5.30 p.m. Panel discussion on *Making the law work for the response to AIDS: zero new infections, zero discrimination and zero AIDS-related deaths*** **Gardenia Hall
Imperial Royale
Hotel
(ground floor)**
- Today, progress against AIDS is picking up pace thanks to the bold and committed actions of political leaders, scientists and affected persons. Infection rates are dropping across the world, and antiretroviral treatment has been proven not only to save lives, but also to reduce infectiousness by 96 per cent.
- However, laws themselves have not always kept pace with scientific or political developments. As a result, many countries still have laws, regulations or policies that present obstacles to effective HIV prevention, treatment, care and support. From a global perspective, recognition of the critical relevance of the law with regard to HIV has led to a growing commitment by States to ensure that laws, policies and regulations support effective AIDS responses.
- The panel discussion will focus on the successes and challenges in making laws work for the AIDS response, reflecting on how they can combat discrimination and ease access to HIV prevention and treatment.
- The IPU–UNAIDS event is open to all delegates. Interpretation will be provided in Arabic, English, French and Spanish.
- 3.30 – 5.30 p.m. Open briefing session of the Committee to promote respect for international humanitarian law on *Health care in situations of conflict and violence*** **Achwa Room
KSCC
(first floor)**
- Violence against health-care workers, facilities and beneficiaries is one of the most serious humanitarian challenges in the world today. And yet it frequently goes unrecognized. Tangible solutions exist; others need to be devised.
- The session will bring together experts from the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), as well as MPs, to discuss ways and means of protecting health care in situations of conflict and violence. It will pay particular attention to the role of parliaments in adopting laws and overseeing their enforcement as a mechanism to secure the provision of health care.

Wednesday, 4 April 2012

9.30 a.m. – 12 noon *Parliamentary oversight of government external loans and related processes*

**Gardenia Hall
Imperial Royale Hotel
(ground floor)**

**Workshop and launch of a joint global survey report
(IPU, World Bank and IMF)**

Parliamentary oversight of loan agreements and related processes helps enhance national ownership of development and is an important element of the aid effectiveness agenda. The loans that governments contract with the World Bank and IMF often come with conditions attached that must then be taken up by parliaments through the legislative process.

This interactive workshop will discuss the findings of a new global survey that investigates the extent to which parliaments possess a proper *legal authority* to ratify loans, as well as effective *practices* to oversee loan approval and related processes. The survey was conducted in 2011 as a joint initiative of the IPU, the World Bank and the IMF, and involved some 100 parliaments in developing countries and transition economies. It presents data never collected before and provides a first baseline to measure future progress in parliamentary oversight of these important processes.

12 noon – 1 p.m. **Renewing the IPU website: Focus group for IPU Group Secretaries**

**Achwa Room
KSCC
(first floor)**

Work to rebuild the IPU website will begin in 2012. To make it as useful as possible, the IPU Secretariat wishes to hear from IPU Group Secretaries about how they use the IPU website and the kind of information they need from the IPU. The focus group will be an open, informal discussion, led by the IPU's Director of Communications. The focus group will be held in English.

Thursday, 5 April 2012

10.30 – 12.30 p.m. **Informal meeting of young parliamentarians**

**Achwa Room
KSCC
(first floor)**

The meeting aims to discuss follow-up to the IPU resolution on *Youth participation in the democratic process* (2010). It will focus on the "youth" contribution to politics and to the IPU.

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OTHER INFORMATION

- ◆ **Procedure for the registration of speakers for the General Debate:** Delegates are reminded that the list of speakers will be opened 24 hours before the beginning of the first plenary meeting of the Assembly, **i.e. as from 10 a.m. today, Saturday, 31 March**, at the Speakers' Registration Desk located close to the main entrance to the Plenary Hall (Victoria Hall, ground floor, KSCC). At 6 p.m., the Secretariat will determine by the **public drawing of lots** the final order of speakers who have registered by that time. Speakers registering after the drawing of lots will be added to the list in the order in which they have registered, until the Assembly closes the list. Delegates are reminded that, in conformity with Rule 22.1 of the Rules of the Assembly, "every delegation shall be entitled to 8 minutes' speaking time". A **list of speakers** will be published for this Debate and made available in the meeting room, at the Document Distribution Service (foyer, ground floor, to the right of the main entrance to Victoria Hall) and at the Registration and Information Service (marquee in front of the main entrance of the KSCC).

◆ **Standing Committees**

➤ **Speaking time**

Delegates may speak for a maximum of four minutes at a time. There will be no speakers' list.

➤ **Submission of sub-amendments to the draft resolutions**

Delegations may submit sub-amendments to the Submission and Control of Documents Service (**IPU Secretariat Area, Katonga Hall, first floor, KSCC**) until such time as the Standing Committees adopt their draft resolution intended for the Assembly.

◆ **Proposals for subject items:** Delegates are kindly requested to submit their proposals for the agenda of the 128th Assembly to the Submission and Control of Documents Service as soon as possible, and **not later than 5 p.m. on Monday, 2 April**, to allow the Bureaux of the Standing Committees to consider them at the start of their work.

◆ **List of Delegates:** Delegations have received in their pigeonholes a Provisional List of Delegates. Delegations are kindly requested to collect from the Registration and Information Service (marquee in front of the main entrance of the KSCC), on Sunday, 1st April, a document containing information relating to the composition of their delegation. In order to ensure the accuracy of the final List of Delegates, delegations are kindly requested to report any changes to be made, by indicating them on the above-mentioned document, which should be signed by the head of delegation and returned to Ms. Marina Filippin at the Registration and Information Service, **before 6 p.m. on Monday, 2 April**. The final List of Delegates will be distributed in the pigeonholes of all delegations during **Wednesday, 4 April**.

◆ **List of Governing Council members:** Delegations which have not yet done so are requested to inform the **Submission and Control of Documents Service** (IPU Secretariat Area, Katonga Hall, first floor, KSCC) of the names of their representatives on the Governing Council for the period from the 126th to the 127th Assembly.

◆ **Distribution of messages:** The sending of messages through the Information Desk is a service made available to delegations solely in order to facilitate communications among them on all matters relating to the working of the sittings.

Delegations wishing to make known to the Members of the Union their point of view **on any question other than those relating to the working of the sittings** may do so, **under their own responsibility**, by leaving documentation on tables set aside for this purpose in the Victoria Gallery Lobby on the first floor of the KSCC.

◆ **Distribution of documents:** As usual, working documents will be made available to delegates in the various meeting rooms. Delegates will be able to obtain additional copies from the Document Distribution Service (foyer, ground floor, to the right of the main entrance to Victoria Hall).

◆ **Results of the Assembly and related meetings:** All delegations will receive **two** printed copies of the Results of the 126th Assembly. IPU Members are also reminded that the **different sections** of the brochure are **accessible** on the IPU website (<http://www.ipu.org>) two weeks after the close of the Assembly. In addition, a **complete electronic version** of the Results may be downloaded from the IPU website in PDF format.

◆ **Summary records:**

– **Summary records of the Assembly and of the Standing Committees** will be made available to all IPU Members no later than four months after the closure of the Assembly.

– **Summary records of the Governing Council** will be made available, after the Assembly, to all IPU Members.

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VACANCIES TO BE FILLED DURING THE 126th ASSEMBLY

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

On 5 April 2012, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one member**, as follows:

Twelve-Plus Group : One vacancy to replace Ms. D. Stump (Switzerland), who is no longer a member of parliament and whose term would have ended in October 2013.

In accordance with Article 23.6 of the Statutes, if a member of the Executive Committee ceases to be a parliamentarian, the Member of the Union concerned shall appoint a substitute to serve until the next session of the Governing Council, when an election shall be held. If the newly elected member is from a different parliament than the outgoing member, he/she will serve a full term. Otherwise, the new member shall complete the term of office of his/her predecessor (in this case until October 2013).

SUBSIDIARY BODIES OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians

The 17th Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will be called upon to renew half of the membership of its Coordinating Committee, and to replace those titular and substitute regional representatives whose terms of office expire in April 2012 and those members of parliament who have lost their seats.

Posts to be filled include:

- **One titular and one substitute regional representative** per geopolitical group, for a four-year term of office;
- One titular regional representative for **GRULAC** to fill the seat left vacant (end of term: April 2014);
- One substitute regional representative for the **Arab Group** and **Eurasia Group**, respectively, to fill seats left vacant (end of term: April 2014).

According to the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, a retiring member of the Coordinating Committee shall not be eligible for re-election for two years.

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will hold elections to the Coordinating Committee on Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

Geopolitical groups are requested to submit candidatures in writing by 6 p.m. on Monday, 2 April 2012, to the Gender Partnership Programme (Ms. Z. Hilal). Candidatures should be accompanied by a signed covering letter from the geopolitical group and a brief curriculum vitae (three paragraphs maximum) in English and/or French, for distribution to participants.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

On 5 April, the Governing Council will be required to elect:

- **Two titular members** to replace Mr. P. Mahoux (Belgium), whose term of office expires at the 190th session of the Governing Council; and Mr. B. Barovic (Slovenia), who is no longer a member of parliament;
- **One substitute member** to replace Mr. J.P. Letelier (Chile), who was elected titular member at the 189th session of the Governing Council.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

Committee on Middle East Questions

On 5 April, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one substitute member** to replace Mr. H. Alir (Turkey), whose term of office expires at the 190th session of the Governing Council.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

Committee to promote respect for international humanitarian law

On 5 April, the Governing Council will be required to elect:

- **Three titular members** to replace Mr. S. Gavrilov (Russian Federation) and Mr. J.C. Romero (Argentina), whose terms of office expire at the 190th session of the Governing Council; and Ms. B. Gadiant (Switzerland), who is no longer a member of parliament;
- **Four substitute members** to replace Mr. J.J. Mwiimbu (Zambia), Ms. M. Osman Gaknoun (Sudan), Ms. B. Gohar (Pakistan), and Ms. E. Arguedas (Costa Rica), whose terms of office expire at the 190th session of the Governing Council.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Wednesday, 4 April 2012.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

STANDING COMMITTEE BUREAUX**First Standing Committee (Peace and International Security)**

Apart from **one vacancy** of titular member representing the African Group, all present members of the Bureau of the First Standing Committee are eligible for re-election.

		<i>Expiry of term*</i>		<i>Expiry of term*</i>
President:	Mr. S.H. Chowdury (Bangladesh)	April 2014	<i>Asia-Pacific Group</i>	
First Vice-President:	Mr. H. Quiroga (Argentina)	April 2015	<i>Latin American Group</i>	
Vice-Presidents:	TITULAR		SUBSTITUTE	
<i>African Group</i>	Vacancy		Mr. A. Bougue (Cameroon)	April 2015
<i>Arab Group</i>	Ms. L. Bennani-Smires (Morocco)	April 2014	Ms. N. Rousan (Jordan)	April 2015
<i>Asia-Pacific Group</i>	Current President		Mr. S. Danusubroto (Indonesia)	April 2015
<i>Eurasia Group</i>	Ms. N. Mazai (Belarus)	April 2014	Mr. V. Nefedov (Russian Fed.)	April 2014
<i>Latin American Group</i>	Current First Vice-President		Mr. O.S. Reyes (El Salvador)	April 2015
<i>Twelve Plus Group</i>	Mr. P. Moriau (Belgium)	April 2015	Mr. N. Evans (United Kingdom)	April 2015

Candidatures from the *African Group* (titular) may be submitted up to the time of the elections, which will take place on Tuesday, 3 April 2012, at the last sitting of the Committee.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

Second Standing Committee (Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade)

Apart from **two vacancies** – one titular member representing the African Group and one substitute member representing the Eurasia Group – all present members of the Bureau of the Second Standing Committee are eligible for re-election.

		<i>Expiry of term*</i>		<i>Expiry of term*</i>
President:	Mr. S.E. Alhousseini (Saudi Arabia)	April 2013	<i>Arab Group</i>	
First Vice-President:	Ms. B. Contini (Italy)	April 2015	<i>Twelve Plus Group</i>	
Vice-Presidents:	TITULAR		SUBSTITUTE	
<i>African Group</i>	Vacancy		Mr. H.R. Mohamed (United Republic of Tanzania)	April 2015
<i>Arab Group</i>	Current President		Mr. W. Rawashdeh (Jordan)	April 2015
<i>Asia-Pacific Group</i>	Mr. I.A. Bilour (Pakistan)	April 2015	Mr. D. Adams (Australia)	April 2015
<i>Eurasia Group</i>	Mr. B.-Z. Zhambalnimbuyev (Russian Federation)	April 2015	Vacancy	
<i>Latin American Group</i>	Mr. R. Léon (Chile)	April 2015	Mr. F. Bustamente (Ecuador)	April 2015
<i>Twelve Plus Group</i>	Current First Vice-President		Mr. F.-X. de Donnea (Belgium)	April 2015

Candidatures from the *African Group* (titular) and *Eurasia Group* (substitute) may be submitted up to the time of the elections, which will take place on Wednesday, 4 April 2012, at the last sitting of the Committee.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

* The date indicated corresponds to the theoretical maximum duration of the Officer's term. In accordance with Rules 7.2 and 8.1 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, Officers shall be elected or re-elected on an annual basis, for a maximum of four years.

Third Standing Committee (Democracy and Human Rights)

Apart from **one vacancy** of titular member representing the Eurasia Group, all present members of the Bureau of the Third Standing Committee are eligible for re-election.

	<i>Expiry of term*</i>		<i>Expiry of term*</i>	
President:	Mr. O. Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu (Ghana)	April 2014	<i>African Group</i>	
First Vice-President:	Vacancy		<i>Eurasia Group</i>	
Vice-Presidents:	TITULAR		SUBSTITUTE	
<i>African Group</i>	<i>Current President</i>		Ms. P. Fouty-Soungou (Congo)	April 2014
<i>Arab Group</i>	Ms. J. Nassif (Bahrain)	April 2015	Mr. R. Abdul-Jabbar (Iraq)	April 2015
<i>Asia-Pacific Group</i>	Mr. S.S. Ahluwalia (India)	April 2014	Mr. R. Fatyana (Pakistan)	April 2015
<i>Eurasia Group</i>	Vacancy		Mr. S. Gavrilov (Russian Fed.)	April 2014
<i>Latin American Group</i>	Mr. J.M. Galán (Colombia)	April 2015	Ms. C. Chacón (Peru)	April 2015
<i>Twelve Plus Group</i>	Mr. E. Francu (Romania)	April 2015	Mr. J. Winkler (Germany)	April 2014

Candidatures from the Eurasia Group (titular) may be submitted up to the time of the elections, which will take place on Wednesday, 4 April 2012, at the last sitting of the Committee.

To date, no candidatures have been received.

ADVISORY GROUP OF THE IPU COMMITTEE ON UNITED NATIONS AFFAIRS

There are currently eight vacancies in the Advisory Group:

- **Two members from the African Group** to replace Ms. S. Sani (Nigeria) and Mr. T. Toga (Ethiopia), who are no longer members of parliament;
- **One member from the Arab Group** to replace Mr. M. El Feki (Egypt), who is no longer a member of parliament;
- **One member from the Eurasia Group** to fill a position that has been vacant for the past year;
- **One member from GRULAC** to replace Mr. M. Maia (Brazil), who has not participated in any Advisory Group activities over the past year;
- **Three members from the Twelve Plus Group** to replace Mr. L. Fraga (Spain) and Ms. M. Lugaric (Croatia) who are no longer members of parliament, as well as Mr. N. Treacy (Ireland) who has not participated in any Advisory Group activities over the past year.

Given the nature of the work conducted by the Advisory Group, geopolitical groups are encouraged to designate representatives that have a strong background and experience in United Nations operations at both the national and international levels. It is also important for candidates to have a good command of one of the IPU's two working languages – English and French.

Candidatures from the corresponding geopolitical groups, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 12 noon on Tuesday, 3 April 2012.

To date, the following candidature has been received:

- Mr. J.C. Mahía (Uruguay): candidature submitted by the Uruguayan Inter-Parliamentary Group.

**Any candidatures may be submitted to the
*** Office of Submission and Control of Documents ***
IPU Secretariat Area, Katonga Hall, KSCC (first floor)**

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After the Inaugural Ceremony, a dinner and cultural programme will be hosted at the Resort by the Speaker of the Parliament of the Republic of Uganda, Rt. Hon. Rebecca Alitwala Kadaga.

- ♦ Delegates are kindly requested to wear their badges and present the appropriate invitation.

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* See footnote on previous page.