



**CONSIDERATION OF REQUESTS FOR THE
INCLUSION OF AN EMERGENCY ITEM IN THE ASSEMBLY AGENDA**

**Request for the inclusion of an emergency item
in the agenda of the 129th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegation of France**

On 4 October 2013, the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union received from the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Group of France a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 129th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The security and humanitarian crisis in the Central African Republic: Facilitating assistance for the population and promoting the transition to democracy".

Delegates to the 129th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request (Annex I), as well as an explanatory memorandum (Annex II) and a draft resolution (Annex III) in support thereof.

The 129th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of France on Monday, 7 October 2013.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a major event of international concern on which it appears necessary for the IPU to express its opinion. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted;
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted;
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject;
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY THE PRESIDENT OF
THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF FRANCE**

4 October 2013

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The French delegation wishes to request the inclusion on the agenda of the 129th IPU Assembly of the emergency item entitled:

"The security and humanitarian crisis in the Central African Republic: Facilitating assistance for the population and promoting the transition to democracy".

An explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution supporting the request are appended.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurance of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

Senator Michèle ANDRE (Mrs.)
President of the Inter-Parliamentary
Group of France

**THE SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:
FACILITATING ASSISTANCE FOR THE POPULATION AND PROMOTING
THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of France

The instability and violence that have ravaged the Central African Republic in the past several months require action on the part of the international community. Parliaments, which have a collective responsibility to protect civilians and uphold human rights, must mobilize to support, together with the United Nations, the African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States, the action being taken to promote the restoration of peace and security in the Central African Republic.

Transitional institutions were established under the agreements signed by the belligerents in Libreville in January and in N'Djamena in April. However, fresh violence has broken out and the Central African Republic, which has been hit by extreme insecurity, is in the grip of an exceptionally serious humanitarian crisis. The entire population of 4.6 million people is affected by the crisis: 1.6 million people have been displaced, over 60,000 have sought refuge in neighbouring countries, nearly 500,000 are facing severe food shortages and 60,000 children may die from malnutrition. Human rights are being violated on a massive scale.

This situation, if it lasts, represents a major threat to the region's stability. The collapse of the Central African Republic would allow criminal and terrorist networks to spread throughout the region.

The IPU's Member Parliaments must back the efforts of the United Nations and regional organizations to provide emergency humanitarian aid to the population and to facilitate the transition to a democratic system able to guarantee security, respect for human rights and the well-being of the inhabitants of the Central African Republic.

**SECURITY AND HUMANITARIAN CRISIS IN THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC:
FACILITATING ASSISTANCE FOR THE POPULATION AND PROMOTING
THE TRANSITION TO DEMOCRACY**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of FRANCE

The 129th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* that it is incumbent on the international community to give effect to the “responsibility to protect” principle formulated by the United Nations General Assembly during the 2005 World Summit,
- (2) *Observing* that, in the crisis currently ravaging the Central African Republic, the civilian population as a whole, men, women and children, is the victim of the worst acts of violence, such as summary execution, murder, rape, displacement, pillaging, lack of care and food,
- (3) *Aware* of the difficulties neighbouring countries face in taking in and caring for the people obliged to flee and seek refuge outside the Central African Republic,
- (4) *Concerned* by the threat that the armed conflict, fomented by groups arriving from abroad, poses for the stability and security of the entire region,
- (5) *Conscious* that, to date, the agreements signed in Libreville and N’Djamena have not been respected and that the current government is unable to discharge its primary mission, which is to ensure the population’s security,
 1. *Calls on* the United Nations Security Council to address the issue, notably by conferring a mandate on and allocating the necessary logistical and financial means to an African force tasked with restoring stability to the country;
 2. *Concurs* with the vote on the resolution of the United Nations Human Rights Council on the situation in the Central African Republic, which condemns all the human rights violations committed there and appointed an independent expert to assess the situation and provide assistance to the authorities of the Central African Republic with a view to enhancing respect for human rights;
 3. *Endorses* the efforts of the regional organizations, the African Union and the Economic Community of Central African States, notably the current deployment of the International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA), an African Union-led peace force whose numbers should be increased from the current 1,500 to 3,500;
 4. *Calls on* the parties on the ground in the Central African Republic:
 - to stop and bring a halt to the violence and human rights violations;
 - not to impede the delivery of humanitarian aid to the population;
 - to implement the Libreville and N’Djamena agreements by preparing the transition to free and transparent presidential and legislative elections and the establishment of a democratic constitution;

5. *Urges* neighbouring countries to take in refugees from the Central African Republic to the best of their abilities;
6. *Calls on* the international community to provide financial aid to countries taking in refugees from the Central African Republic;
7. *Invites* the IPU's Member Parliaments to make the general public in their respective countries aware of the situation in the Central African Republic and to incite their respective governments to take part in international endeavours to resolve the state of violence;
8. *Requests* the IPU President to report on the implementation of this resolution to the 130th IPU Assembly and to the United Nations.