



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 130<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 16 – 20.3.2014

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13 December 2013

## CONVOCAATION OF THE STANDING COMMITTEES

**Geneva**  
**16 - 20 March 2014**

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1. In conformity with the decision of the IPU's governing bodies, all four Standing Committees will meet during the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. The meetings will take place at the *Centre international de Conférences de Genève* (CICG), Geneva, Switzerland.
2. The Convocation of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly provides details of the dates, times and rooms for the meetings of the Standing Committees and their Bureaux. It is available online at <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/130/ass-conv.pdf>
3. In order to ensure coordination and the smooth implementation of the new Rules of the Standing Committees, a Joint Meeting of the Standing Committees' Bureaux and Chairpersons of geopolitical groups will be held on 16 March 2014. All current members of the Bureaux are kindly requested to attend this meeting.

### Agenda

4. The agenda of each Standing Committee is presented in Annex I of this Convocation.

### Representation and voting rights

5. Members of the IPU shall be represented on each Standing Committee by one member and one substitute.
6. The substitute shall have the same speaking rights as the titular member, but shall vote only in the latter's absence.

### Organization of the debate

7. At the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, the Standing Committees will continue the discussions that began during the previous Assembly. The summary records of these panel discussions, held on the occasion of the 129<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (October 2013), will be made available in the coming weeks at <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/129agnd.htm>.

### Rules of the Standing Committees

8. The Rules of the Standing Committees were recently amended by the Governing Council, during the 129<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. The revised Rules have been circulated to all Members. They are available online at <http://www.ipu.org/strct-e/cmtrules-new.htm>.

9. An Information Note about the main changes to the Standing Committees is included in Annex II and can be accessed online at <http://www.ipu.org/conf-e/130/info-stcmt.pdf>.

### **Preparation of resolutions**

10. All Standing Committees will adopt resolutions at the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, with the exception of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs.

11. The draft resolutions will normally be circulated to Members on 31 January 2014. The detailed arrangements and deadlines for the preparation and finalization of the draft resolution are indicated in the Convocation of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

12. Amendments to the draft resolution must be deposited with the IPU Secretariat no later than 15 days before the opening of the Assembly, i.e. Sunday, 2 March 2014.

13. Sub-amendments may be submitted until the Standing Committee adopts the draft resolution.

### **Election of the Bureaux**

14. At their first meeting during the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, each Standing Committee will elect a new Bureau.

15. The Bureaux are composed of three representatives of each geopolitical group. The geopolitical groups shall designate not more than two candidatures of the same sex to each Bureau. Bureau members are elected for a term of two years and may be re-elected for a further period of two years.

16. The current list of Bureaux members and vacancies is available in Annex III of this Convocation.

17. Members are invited to submit candidatures for the Bureaux to their geopolitical groups, with copy to the IPU Secretariat, before the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly. More information about Bureaux and elections is available in the Assembly Convocation, as well as in the Information Note on Changes to the IPU Standing Committees.

### **Future agenda of the Standing Committees**

18. At the 131<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in October 2014, only the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights will adopt a resolution. The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade and the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security will meet to discuss the items that they have placed on their agenda, and will only adopt resolutions at the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly (March 2015).

19. Members are invited to submit to the Secretariat proposals for Standing Committee subject items, at the latest 15 days before the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, i.e. by 2 March 2014.

20. All texts submitted must be in one of the IPU's two official languages - English or French. As far as possible, proposals for future resolutions should be accompanied by the names of two prospective co-Rapporteurs who are knowledgeable about the proposed subject and ready to assume the responsibility for drafting the resolution.

21. The newly-elected Bureau of each Standing Committee will meet during the Assembly to study proposals for subject items to be placed on the agenda of the Committee and to consider other activities to be carried out by the Committee. Authors of proposals are invited to make a brief presentation to the respective Bureau when it meets during the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

22. Members are reminded that following the changes to the Rules of the Standing Committees adopted in October 2013, the Standing Committees may also commission research, discuss reports on good practices, review implementation of and follow-up action on previous IPU resolutions, organize field missions and hold hearings on subjects related to their field of competence.

23. The Bureaux will submit one or more proposals to the Committee for consideration at its last sitting. The Committees' proposals for subject items to be taken up will then be submitted to the Assembly for approval at its last sitting.

## **AGENDA OF THE IPU STANDING COMMITTEES**

### **Standing Committee on Peace and International Security**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 128<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Quito (March 2013)
3. Election of the Standing Committee Bureau
4. *Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: The contribution of parliaments*
  - (a) Presentation of the preliminary draft resolution prepared by the co-Rapporteurs, followed by a debate
  - (b) Preparation and adoption of a draft resolution
  - (c) Appointment of a rapporteur to the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly
5. Preparations for future Assemblies
  - (a) Proposals for a subject item to be considered by the Committee
  - (b) Proposals for two co-Rapporteurs
  - (c) Proposals for the future work plan
6. Any other business

### **Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 128<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Quito (March 2013)
3. Election of the Standing Committee Bureau
4. *Towards risk-resilient development: Taking into consideration demographic trends and natural constraints*
  - (a) Presentation of the preliminary draft resolution prepared by the co-Rapporteurs, followed by a debate
  - (b) Preparation and adoption of a draft resolution
  - (c) Appointment of a rapporteur to the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly
5. Preparations for future Assemblies
  - (a) Proposals for a subject item to be considered by the Committee
  - (b) Proposals for two co-Rapporteurs
  - (c) Proposals for the future work plan
6. Any other business

### **Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 128<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Quito (March 2013)
3. Election of the Standing Committee Bureau
4. *The role of parliaments in protecting the rights of children, in particular unaccompanied migrant children, and in preventing their exploitation in situations of war and conflict*
  - (a) Presentation of the preliminary draft resolution prepared by the co-Rapporteurs, followed by a debate
  - (b) Preparation and adoption of a draft resolution
  - (c) Appointment of a rapporteur to the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly
5. Preparations for future Assemblies
  - (a) Proposals for a subject item to be considered by the Committee
  - (b) Proposals for two co-Rapporteurs
  - (c) Proposals for the future work plan
6. Any other business

### **Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs**

1. Adoption of the agenda
2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 129<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2013)
3. Election of the Standing Committee Bureau
4. Discussion on the parliamentary contribution to the UN process of devising the next generation of development goals
5. Update and discussion of preparations for the UN General Assembly debate on the Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the IPU
6. Report and future work plan of the Committee on United Nations Affairs
7. Any other business



## INFORMATION NOTE

### CHANGES TO THE IPU STANDING COMMITTEES

During the current Assembly, the Governing Council is expected to make significant changes to the IPU Statutes and Rules that will have an impact on the work of the Standing Committees. This Note seeks to inform Members about those changes and how to prepare for them.

#### Resolutions currently in preparation

- Members may submit brief **written inputs** (no more than two pages in length) in one of the official languages of the IPU. They will be made available to the co-Rapporteurs to assist them in drafting the resolutions.

Members are invited to submit written inputs by 20 November 2013.

- The co-Rapporteurs will then prepare a draft resolution, which will be circulated to Members on 31 January 2014.
- There will be only **one round** of amendments to the draft resolution as compared with two rounds previously. The statutory deadline for amendments is 15 days before the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, i.e. 2 March 2014.
- Resolutions shall normally be finalized in the Standing Committees. A Standing Committee may, if necessary, set up a drafting committee.

#### Bureaux of the Standing Committees

- Membership of each Bureau will increase to **18 members**. All members will be "titular members" as the post of "substitute member" will no longer exist.
- Each Committee will elect a new Bureau at its **first sitting at the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly**.
- **Geopolitical groups** will be responsible for nominating candidates for election to the Bureaux. The principal criteria for candidates are: subject matter expertise; ability to participate in the activities of the Bureau; and gender equality.

Members are invited to submit candidates for the Committee Bureaux to their geopolitical groups, with copy to the IPU Secretariat, before the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly.

#### Committee work plans

- The Bureaux will have greater responsibility, notably for preparing the **detailed work plan** of their respective Committee. Work plans will no longer focus solely on resolutions, but will include other activities such as **hearings, reports and missions**.
- Three of the Committees will continue to adopt one resolution per year. The Committee on United Nations Affairs is not expected to adopt resolutions on a regular basis.

Members are invited to submit proposals for the agenda of each Committee at the latest 15 days before the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, i.e. by 2 March 2014.

## VACANCIES FOR THE STANDING COMMITTEE BUREAUX

Members are strongly encouraged to submit their candidature for the Standing Committee Bureaux to their geopolitical groups, with copy to the IPU Secretariat, **well in advance** of the start of the 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. The composition and vacancies for the Bureaux of the Standing Committees are as follows:

### ***Standing Committee on Peace and International Security***

#### African Group

- Mr. G. SCHNEEMAN, South Africa (End of first term: April 2014)
- Mr. A. BOUGUE, Cameroon (End of second term: April 2015)
- One vacancy, *which must be filled by a woman MP*

#### Arab Group

- Ms. S. HAJ HASSAN, Jordan (End of first term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *of which at least one must be filled by a man MP*

#### Asia-Pacific Group

- Mr. S. DANUSUBROTO, Indonesia (End of second term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *which must be filled by one man and one woman MP.*

#### Eurasia Group

- Three vacancies, *which must be filled by men and women MPs.*

#### Group of Latin America and the Caribbean

- Mr. D. FILMUS, Argentina (End of second term: April 2015)
- Mr. L.E. SIERRA GRAJALES, Colombia (End of first term: April 2014)
- One vacancy, *which must be filled by a woman MP*

#### Twelve Plus Group

- Three vacancies, *which must be filled by men and women MPs.*

### ***Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade***

#### African Group

- Mr. H.R. MOHAMED, United Rep. of Tanzania (End of second term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *which must be filled by one man and one woman MP.*

#### Arab Group

- Mr. N. NAJADAH, Kuwait (End of first term: April 2015)
- Mr. M. DMOUR, Jordan (End of second term: April 2015)
- One vacancy, *which must be filled by a woman MP*

#### Asia-Pacific Group

- Mr. I.A. BILOUR, Pakistan (End of second term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *which must be filled by one man and one woman MP.*

#### Eurasia Group

- Mr. B.-Z. ZHAMBALNIMBUYEV, Russian Federation (End of second term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *which must be filled by one man and one woman MP*

#### Group of Latin America and the Caribbean

- Mr. R. LEÓN, Chile (End of second term: April 2015)
- Mr. F. BUSTAMANTE, Ecuador (End of second term: April 2015)
- One vacancy, *which must be filled by a woman MP*

Twelve Plus Group

- Mr. F.-X. de DONNEA, Belgium (End of second term: April 2015)
- Ms. M. OBRADOVIČ, Serbia (End of first term: April 2015)
- One vacancy

***Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights***

African Group

- Three vacancies, *which must be filled by men and women MPs.*

Arab Group

- Ms. J. NASSIF, Bahrain (End of second term: April 2015)
- Mr. R. ABDUL-JABBAR, Iraq (End of second term: April 2015)
- One vacancy

Asia-Pacific Group

- Ms. F.Z. NADIRI, Afghanistan (End of first term: April 2015)
- Two vacancies, *which must be filled by one man and one woman MP.*

Eurasia Group

- Three vacancies, *which must be filled by men and women MPs.*

Group of Latin America and the Caribbean

- Mr. J.M. GALÁN, Colombia (End of second term: April 2015)
- Ms. G. ORTIZ, Mexico (End of first term: April 2015)
- One vacancy

Twelve Plus Group

- Mr. C. JANIÁK, Switzerland (End of first term: April 2015)
- Ms. L. WALL, New Zealand (End of first term: April 2015)
- One vacancy

***Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs***

A new Bureau will be established, composed of 18 members in observance of gender equality. Interested members of the current Advisory Group who meet Bureau requirements (relevant expertise and support from their parliaments to carry out operational activities) may submit their candidatures.

The following vacancies will need to be filled:

- African Group: three seats
- Arab Group: three seats
- Asia-Pacific Group: three seats
- Eurasia Group: three seats
- Group of Latin America and the Caribbean: three seats
- Twelve Plus Group: three seats