



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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130th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 16 – 20.3.2014

Assembly
Item 2

A/130/2-P.3
10 March 2014

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 130th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Morocco

On 7 March 2014, the President of the IPU received from the President of the House of Councillors of the Kingdom of Morocco a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 130th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Helping to restore peace and security and consolidate democracy in
the Central African Republic: The contribution of the IPU".

Delegates to the 130th 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 130th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Morocco on Monday, 17 March 2014.

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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 PRESIDENT OF THE IPU BY THE
PRESIDENT OF THE HOUSE OF COUNCILLORS OF THE KINGDOM OF MOROCCO**

Rabat, 7 March 2014

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with Rule 11.1 of the IPU Statutes, I have the honour to submit herewith a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 130th IPU Assembly, to be held in Geneva (Switzerland) from 16 to 20 March 2014, of an emergency item entitled:

"Helping to restore peace and security and consolidate democracy in
the Central African Republic: The contribution of the IPU".

Please find attached a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution to this effect.

Please accept, Mr. President, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(Signed)

Mohamed Cheikh BIADILLAH
President of the House of Councillors
Kingdom of Morocco

**HELPING TO RESTORE PEACE AND SECURITY AND CONSOLIDATE DEMOCRACY IN
THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE IPU**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Morocco

The parliamentary delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco to the Inter-Parliamentary Union hereby requests the inclusion in the agenda of the 130th Assembly of an emergency item entitled: *“Helping to restore peace and security and consolidate democracy in the Central African Republic: The contribution of the IPU”*. The grounds for this request are as follows.

The severe security and humanitarian crisis that has been afflicting the Central African Republic for a year now poses a major risk for the stability of the Central African region and a threat to international peace and security.

This crisis culminated last December when 200 Central Africans were executed in the town of Bangui in a single day, 5 December 2013. That same day, the UN Security Council took the emergency decision of authorizing an African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA), as well as the use of force by French troops to protect civilians and maintain peace.

According to data published by the UN Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs and the Office of the High Commissioner for Refugees, as part of their operations in the Central African Republic, the entire Central African population of 4.7 million has been affected by this crisis: 1.6 million have been displaced, more than 68,000 have taken refuge in neighbouring countries - Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), Republic of the Congo (Congo), Chad and Cameroon - nearly 700,000 face severe food insecurity, and more than 450,000 require urgent humanitarian assistance.

The parliamentary delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco considers it important for the Inter-Parliamentary Union to lend its support to the activities being conducted by the United Nations and by various regional and subregional organizations to restore peace and security, provide humanitarian assistance to the populations affected by this crisis and support the transitional authorities in the Central African Republic in their efforts to consolidate the democratic process. This will create the conditions needed for the organization of free, transparent and credible elections and permit a return to constitutional order, suspended since 24 March 2013.

**HELPING TO RESTORE PEACE AND SECURITY AND CONSOLIDATE DEMOCRACY IN
THE CENTRAL AFRICAN REPUBLIC: THE CONTRIBUTION OF THE IPU**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of MOROCCO

The 130th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Expressing its grave concern* over the security situation in the Central African Republic, which continues to deteriorate, as characterized by a breakdown in public order, a decline in the rule of law and a rise in interreligious and intercommunity tensions,
- (2) *Remaining deeply concerned* about the proliferation and intensification of violations of international humanitarian law and widespread human rights violations and abuses – including extrajudicial executions, forced disappearances, arbitrary arrests and detention, acts of torture, sexual violence against women and children, and the recruitment and use of children – that have been committed both by former elements of Séléka and by militia groups, in particular those referred to as “anti-balaka” and “the Lord’s Resistance Army”,
- (3) *Reaffirming* that some of these acts may constitute crimes under the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, to which the Central African Republic is a party, and that the perpetrators must be held accountable,
- (4) *Considering* the risk that interreligious and intercommunity tensions in the country might degenerate into religious and ethnic conflict on a nationwide scale and imperil national unity and territorial integrity, with potentially grave repercussions throughout the Central African region,
- (5) *Underscoring* that the alarming situation in this country threatens to create a climate conducive to transnational criminal activity, including arms trafficking and the illicit exploitation of natural resources,
- (6) *Considering* that the situation in the Central African Republic constitutes a threat to international peace and security,
- (7) *Recalling* resolution 2134 (2014), adopted by the United Nations Security Council at its 7103rd session, held on 28 January 2014,
 1. *Affirms* its support for the Libreville Agreement of 11 January 2013, for the N’Djamena Declaration of 18 April 2013, and for the Brazzaville Appeal of 3 May 2013 and for the Declaration on the Central African Republic, adopted by the International Contact Group at its third meeting, held in Bangui on 8 November 2013;
 2. *Strongly condemns* the continuing violations of international humanitarian law and the widespread human rights abuses and violations perpetrated by armed groups in the Central African Republic, and in particular by former elements of Séléka, as well as forces referred to as “anti-balaka” and “the Lord’s Resistance Army”, which imperil the population; and *underscores* that the perpetrators must be held accountable for their acts;
 3. *Also condemns* the escalation of interreligious and intercommunity violence in the Central African Republic and *demands* that the protagonists immediately halt all acts of violence, whatever their motivation, and in particular those grounded in religion or ethnicity;
 4. *Further demands* that all parties to the conflict facilitate safe and free access for humanitarian organizations and their personnel, without delay, to areas where populations are in need so that they may swiftly provide the necessary humanitarian assistance in accordance with United Nations guiding principles on humanitarian emergency assistance;

5. *Calls upon* the national parliaments that are Members of the IPU to press their respective governments to respond rapidly to appeals for urgent humanitarian action and to the pressing and growing needs of affected populations and of refugees who have fled to neighbouring countries; and *encourages* international organizations and their partners to proceed without delay in executing their humanitarian projects;
6. *Welcomes* the nomination by the National Transition Council, on 20 January 2014, of H.E. Catherine Samba-Panza as transitional Head of State and of H.E. André Nzapayeke as transitional Prime Minister, as well as the formation of a transitional government; and *underscores* that it is incumbent primarily upon the transitional authorities of the Central African Republic to protect the population and to guarantee the security and national and territorial unity of the country;
7. *Also welcomes* the creation on 22 January 2014 of an international commission of inquiry into reported violations of international humanitarian and human rights law as well as human rights abuses allegedly perpetrated in the Central African Republic, irrespective of party, since 1 January 2013;
8. *Demands* that all parties to the current armed conflict in the Central African Republic, former elements of Séléka as well as groups referred to as “anti-balaka” or “the Lord’s Resistance Army”, expressly prohibit violations and abuses committed against women and children, in contravention of applicable international law, and expressly prohibit acts of sexual violence; and *requests* the transitional authorities to undertake and fulfil a firm and explicit commitment, when violence against women or children is alleged, to ensure that investigations are conducted as soon as possible and that perpetrators are prosecuted and held to account for their acts;
9. *Welcomes* the decision of the United Nations Security Council to prepare plans for the imposition of targeted sanctions, including a travel ban and freezing of the assets of individuals having acted to undermine peace, stability and security, in particular by engaging in violations of human rights and of international humanitarian law, the recruitment and deployment of children in armed conflict, sexual violence, or by lending their support to illegal armed groups or criminal networks involved in the illicit exploitation of natural resources in the Central African Republic;
10. *Urges* the transitional authorities to develop and implement disarmament, demobilization and reintegration or repatriation programmes; and *underscores* the importance of strengthening the institutional capacity of the police, the judiciary and the penitentiary system to uphold the rule of law;
11. *Also urges* the transitional authorities to establish an inclusive national dialogue among all forces in the country – political, social and religious – with a view to institutionalizing in the near future a credible process of national equity and reconciliation;
12. *Thanks* the countries that have already deployed contingents to help restore peace and security in the Central African Republic; and *urges* African countries to help ensure that the African-led International Support Mission to the Central African Republic (MISCA) has the funding it needs to fulfil its mandate;
13. *Welcomes* the establishment of a special fund through which States and international, regional and subregional organizations can contribute to the MISCA, and *expresses support* for the organization of an international donors conference as soon as possible to request contributions, in particular through this fund;
14. *Also welcomes* the establishment of a national electoral authority on 16 December 2013 and *underscores* how important it is for the transitional authorities, with support from the United Nations Integrated Peacebuilding Office in the Central African Republic (BINUCA), to organize free and regular elections, providing in particular for

the participation of women – and this without delay: during the second half of 2014 if possible and by February 2015 at the latest;

15. *Decides* to make available the IPU's expertise in providing technical assistance for the organization of free, transparent and credible elections to the national electoral authority of the Central African Republic; and, to that end, *decides* to send a needs identification mission to work with the transitional authorities;
16. *Recommends* that the United Nations Security Council deploy, by the earliest possible date, a UN peacekeeping mission to the Central African Republic with an expanded mandate to cover support for the political transition, the restoration of State authority throughout the country, the organization of elections, protection for the delivery of humanitarian assistance and the return of refugees and of persons displaced by violence; and
17. *Entrusts* the Secretary General with the task of transmitting this resolution to all IPU Members, Associate Members and Observers and to the other international organizations.