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 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

On 8 October 2014, the Secretary General of the IPU received from the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 131st Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in promoting the UN Charter to resolve conflicts in a just manner and counter the growing threat of terrorism”.

Delegates to the 131st 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 131st Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Monday, 13 October 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(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 ADRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE ADVISOR TO THE SPEAKER OF THE ISLAMIC PARLIAMENT OF IRAN

Teheran, 8 October 2014

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

In accordance with Rule 11.1 of the Rules of the Assembly, the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran would like to propose the following subject as an emergency item at the 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), which will be take place in Geneva from 12 to 16 October 2014:

"The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in promoting the UN Charter to resolve conflicts in a just manner and counter the growing threat of terrorism".

It would be most appreciated if you could kindly have this item circulated among IPU Member Parliaments.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Hossein SHEIKHOLESLAM
Advisor to the Speaker of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
THE ROLE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION IN PROMOTING THE UN CHARTER TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS IN A JUST MANNER AND COUNTER THE GROWING THREAT OF TERRORISM

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

The Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to propose the inclusion of an emergency item entitled The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in promoting the UN Charter to resolve conflicts in a just manner and to counter the growing threat of terrorism on the agenda of the 131st IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2014), on the following grounds.

1. Not since 1948 and the occupation of Palestine has our region seen so many massacres, criminal acts, refugees, displaced persons and asylum-seekers.

2. Not since 1948 have the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations been breached like this past year: people have been beheaded, women and girls sold in the market, civilians, especially children, deliberately bombed, hospitals assaulted, UN shelters and convoys attacked, and human rights and respect for democracy and the right to self-determination assailed.

3. After the latest barbaric acts against besieged civilians in Gaza, we are witnessing new depths of barbarity in Iraq, the Syrian Arab Republic, Nigeria, Somalia and elsewhere.

4. In view of the suffering inflicted on the people of the region, we need decisive action to stop the atrocities and frank discussions about what brought about the threat in the first place, in order to stop it in its tracks.

5. The recent developments in the Middle East, the result of the terrorist activities of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the Al Nusrah Front (ANF), have threatened thousands of innocent lives and caused widespread destruction and displacement in those countries.

6. The growing threat to regional and international peace and security posed by terrorist activities and in particular foreign terrorist fighters requires urgent international action.

7. The Islamic Republic of Iran, as one of the victims of terrorism, has always strongly supported a genuine and effective fight against terrorism. It has continued to combat terrorism in the region, including through its recent contributions to the Iraqi and Syrian government struggles to fight terrorism and in particular the foreign terrorist fighters of ISIL and ANF.

8. We believe that the IPU, as the world organization of parliaments, can and should play a significant role in mobilizing the international community to address terrorism. It can also help strengthen the international consensus against this phenomenon.

9. The appended draft resolution therefore condemns all acts of terrorism, expresses grave concern at the threat posed by terrorist extremists and stresses the need for further national, regional and international measures taken in accordance with international law. It also calls on all Member Parliaments to enact national laws for combating terrorism.
THE ROLE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION IN PROMOTING THE UN CHARTER TO RESOLVE CONFLICTS IN A JUST MANNER AND COUNTER THE GROWING THREAT OF TERRORISM

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling all relevant United Nations General Assembly resolutions,

(2) Recalling also all relevant IPU resolutions, including that adopted by the 122nd Assembly (Bangkok, March-April 2010),

(3) Reaffirming that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations constitutes one of the most serious threats to international peace and security,

(4) Expressing grave concern over the acute and growing threat posed by extremist terrorist groups, especially foreign terrorist fighters, in particular in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, where terrorism has claimed thousands of innocent lives, caused widespread destruction and displaced numerous people,

(5) Reiterating the urgent need to take further national, regional and international measures, in accordance with international law, to effectively counter the threat posed by terrorist groups,

(6) Stressing that all efforts, policies and strategies for combating terrorism must be consistent with international law and the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations, in particular respect for the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,

(7) Emphasizing that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization,

1. Strongly condemns all acts, methods and practices of terrorism in all its forms and manifestations as criminal and unjustifiable, whatever considerations of a political, philosophical, ideological, racial, ethnic, religious or other nature are invoked to justify them;

2. Stresses the obligation of all States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of another State, or in any other manner inconsistent with international law;

3. Emphasizes the need to intensify and coordinate the efforts of all Member Parliaments, at national, regional and global level, effectively to help their governments counter the threat posed by terrorist groups, in particular foreign terrorist fighters, including by preventing them from moving and from financing, encouraging, providing training for or otherwise supporting terrorist activities;

4. Calls upon all Member Parliaments to accelerate the adoption of appropriate national laws for combating terrorism and the threat posed by terrorist groups, especially foreign terrorist fighters such as those of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and the Al Nusrah Front, and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida;
5.  *Reaffirms* the right to self-determination of all peoples, in particular those living under colonial or other forms of alien domination or foreign occupation;

6.  * Calls for* more intense national efforts to bring to justice, in accordance with applicable international law, terrorist groups, in particular foreign terrorist fighters of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and the Al Nusrah Front, and all other individuals, groups, undertakings and entities associated with Al-Qaida;

7.  *Invites* Member Parliaments to monitor, through their respective legislative mechanisms, the implementation of this resolution by their governments.