



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

132nd IPU Assembly

Hanoi (Viet Nam), 28 March - 1 April 2015



Standing Committee on
United Nations Affairs

C-IV/132/A.1
7 January 2015

Draft agenda

- 1. Adoption of the agenda**
- 2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 131st IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2014)**
- 3. Interactive debate to mark the 70th anniversary of the United Nations**

The discussion will provide an overall assessment of the achievements and challenges of the United Nations 70 years since its creation as the world's premier multilateral organization. Is the United Nations "fit for purpose" in the light of the world's many challenges? What is required for the United Nations to more effectively deliver on its mission and mandate?

Issues for discussion include: the relationship between the United Nations and competing multilateral forums, such as the G20; the impact of social media that stimulate global conversations directly among citizens; and the unfinished business of reforming the Security Council as the most influential UN body with direct impact on world affairs.
- 4. Review of IPU field missions to examine interaction between UN country teams and national parliaments**

Parliaments can build national ownership of development processes, defuse political tensions and provide feedback on UN system work in their country. Interaction between national parliaments and UN country teams constitutes a major pillar of the IPU's vision to engage parliaments in the work of the United Nations.

This debate will take its cue from the 2009 field mission to Viet Nam, with MPs and UN officials discussing how relations between the parliament and the UN country team have evolved. MPs from the other countries that have received related IPU field missions (Haiti, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Montenegro, Albania, Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana) will be invited to participate and relate the experiences of their parliaments in relation to the UN country teams.
- 5. Assessment of parliaments' institutional capacities to mainstream the new Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their work**

What are the key steps parliaments can take to ensure government policy is consistent with the SDGs plan in each country and that it is adequately monitored? Mainstreaming the SDGs through appropriate policies and budget allocations will be challenging as parliamentary capacities differ vastly.

This debate will build on the lessons learned from the MDGs and particularly the IPU case studies that examined dedicated structures such as committees, caucuses and task forces that helped coordinate parliamentary work. The Indonesian MDGs Task Force will be highlighted. Key processes such as budget laws and drafting national SDGs plans will be discussed.
- 6. Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The Committee will fill the existing vacancies on the Bureau based on nominations received from the geopolitical groups.
- 7. Any other business**