



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

132nd IPU Assembly

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



Assembly
Item 2

A/132/2-P.7
24 March 2015

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 132nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Belgium

On 23 March 2015, the Secretary General of the IPU received from the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Belgium a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 132nd Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“Cooperation between parliaments in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and Boko Haram”.

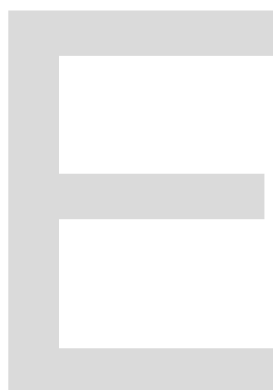
Delegates to the 132nd Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request (Annex I), as well as an explanatory memorandum (Annex II) and a draft resolution (Annex III) in support thereof.

The 132nd Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Belgium on Sunday, 29 March 2015.

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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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

Brussels, 23 March 2015

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

In accordance with Assembly Rule 11, the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Belgium requests the inclusion on the agenda of the 132nd IPU Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“Cooperation between parliaments in the fight against the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant and Boko Haram”.

A brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution are appended.

In addition, the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Belgium wishes to propose two subjects for study and discussion at future Standing Committee sessions:

- Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

“The sustainable protection of the world heritage of humanity (natural sites, architectural sites, works of art, etc.) against destruction and deterioration”

Questions to consider: How to reconcile respect for such sites and works with the explosion in mass tourism? How to reconcile the economic development related to tourism with respect for and maintenance of this heritage. How to protect this heritage from pollution and deliberate destruction by terrorist groups?

- Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

“The role of parliaments in the implementation of International Labour Organization Conventions, and cooperation between the IPU and the International Labour Office”

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Pol VAN DEN DRIESSCHE, Senator
President of the Belgian
Inter-Parliamentary Group

**COOPERATION BETWEEN PARLIAMENTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ISLAMIC STATE
IN IRAQ AND THE LEVANT AND BOKO HARAM**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Belgium

The recent terrorist attacks are a direct threat to the international community. Whether next door (in Paris) or further away (Nigeria, the Syrian Arab Republic, etc.), the threat is real and calls for a united response from the international community. Groups such as the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant, also called Daesh, reign by terror and commit countless atrocities of all kinds every day, in violation of all international standards. As the United Nations Secretary-General has stressed, "There is no justification for such crimes."

**COOPERATION BETWEEN PARLIAMENTS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST THE ISLAMIC STATE
IN IRAQ AND THE LEVANT AND BOKO HARAM**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of BELGIUM

The 132nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* that the insurrection launched by the Islamist organization Boko Haram in 2009 in Nigeria has caused over 10,000 deaths and displaced over one million people,
- (2) *Considering* the gruesome attacks committed by Boko Haram in Nigeria and in neighbouring countries,
- (3) *Recalling* that Boko Haram pledged allegiance to the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL, also known as Daesh) in March 2015,
- (4) *Bearing in mind* that ISIL accepted the Boko Haram pledge of allegiance presented by Abu Mohammed al-Adnani, ISIL spokesperson, as “the good news of the expansion of the caliphate to West Africa”,
- (5) *Considering* the scope and extent of the abuses committed by ISIL, which is steadily expanding into new territory in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic,
- (6) *Knowing* that these two organizations do not hesitate to conscript children and train them in camps to commit the most heinous crimes, as deplored by Human Rights Watch,
- (7) *Considering* that Nigeria, Chad, Niger, Cameroon and Benin decided to mobilize 8,700 men in early February to fight Boko Haram,
- (8) *Bearing in mind* that the UN Security Council has called on the international community to provide financial and logistical support in order to consolidate the regional force established by the above five countries to fight Boko Haram,
- (9) *Considering* the UN Security Council press release of 27 February 2015, in which it is stated that “the intolerance, violence and hatred [ISIL] espouses must be stamped out”,
- (10) *Bearing in mind* that the UN Security Council has called on governments and institutions to unite their efforts to fight ISIL,
- (11) *Recalling* UN Security Council resolution 2178 of 24 September 2014, which calls on States to identify best practices with a view to facilitating implementation of Security Council resolutions and to organize capacity-building missions in the countries that need them,
- (12) *Considering* that UN Security Council resolution 2178 calls on States to improve the exchange of information on suspected terrorist activities,
- (13) *Aware* that Nigerians went to the polls on 28 March in a context of instability,
- (14) *Considering* that ISIL and Boko Haram exploit the media for propaganda purposes,
- (15) *Bearing in mind* the appalling videos circulating on the Internet and showing ISIL and Boko Haram carrying out inhuman and barbaric executions,
- (16) *Considering* that social networks play an important role in jihadist propaganda, as confirmed by a Brookings Institute study that estimates that ISIL has 46,000 Twitter accounts,

(17) *Also considering* that ISIL's ideology inspires terrorist attacks in other parts of the world, for example Brussels, Paris and most recently Tunis, and that those attacks are clearly aimed at undermining democracy and hobbling intercultural dialogue and exchange by sowing terror,

(18) *Stressing* the need for a proactive approach to the threat of ISIL, in particular in view of its potential expansion to other regions, as in the case of Boko Haram,

(19) *Bearing in mind* the cultural destruction wrought by ISIL and deplored by UNESCO, which refers to "cultural cleansing",

1. *Requests* parliaments to use legislative channels to contribute to the implementation of recent UN Security Council resolutions;
2. *Invites* all parliaments vigorously and unanimously to condemn the acts committed by ISIL and Boko Haram;
3. *Calls* for the development of avenues of cooperation between State police forces in order to facilitate the exchange of information between States;
4. *Encourages* parliaments to pressure their respective governments to prosecute any person or organization helping to finance ISIL or Boko Haram, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 2161 (2014) and 2170 (2014);
5. *Requests* that any person having helped to commit war crimes or crimes against humanity in the name of those organizations be brought before the International Criminal Court;
6. *Also requests* that particular attention be paid to women and children in countries in which organizations like ISIL and Boko Haram are active;
7. *Calls on* parliaments to draw up a common strategy on citizens joining the ranks of such organizations and *proposes* that techniques for exchanging information between States be developed for that purpose;
8. *Also calls on* parliaments to adopt a common strategy for reflecting on the most effective means of fighting the remote recruitment of combatants and the propaganda on the Internet, especially on social networks.