



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

133rd IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 17 – 21.10.2015

Standing Committee on
United Nations Affairs

C-IV/133/A.1
15 June 2015

Draft agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Elections to the Bureau

The Committee will fill the existing vacancies on the Bureau based on proposals from the geopolitical groups.

3. Approval of the summary records of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (March/April 2015)

4. Review of the work of the UN Peacebuilding Commission (PBC)

The PBC was instituted 10 years ago to help consolidate peace in post-conflict countries. A UN General Assembly resolution subsequently invited the PBC to work closely with the national parliaments of the countries involved. Two reviews of the PBC's performance thus far are underway and will be issued in June. The Committee will take stock of those reviews including possible findings on how parliament's involvement in the work of the PBC. The discussion could lead to recommendations on how the work of the PBC could be further improved.

5. Discussion on the role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the settlement of international disputes

The ICJ is a UN Charter-based body designed to facilitate the peaceful settlement of disputes through recourse to international law. These include territorial disputes, questions of interpretation of bilateral or multilateral treaties, diplomatic protection, human rights, international humanitarian law, environmental law, the protection of living resources and human health. Despite a strong record (130 cases heard in the past 70 years), the majority of UN Member States that are party to the ICJ do not recognize its jurisdiction as compulsory. In an effort to promote universal recognition of the ICJ's jurisdiction, a group of Member States (led by Switzerland and the Netherlands) have produced a Handbook for decision-makers and the public at large. The Committee will hear a presentation of the Handbook and engage in a discussion with some of its sponsors as a way of mobilizing support for the ICJ among parliamentarians.

6. Any other business

