



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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133rd IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 17 – 21.10.2015

Assembly
Item 2

A/133/2-P.2
13 October 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 133rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Sudan

On 13 October 2015, the Secretary General received from the Secretary General of the National Assembly of Sudan a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 133rd Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in urging countries, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community to provide the facilities required for those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and economic situations".

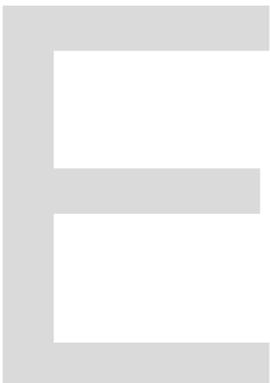
Delegates to the 133rd Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 133rd Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Sudan on Sunday, 18 October 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 SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF SUDAN**

8 October 2015
Ref: SNA/S-GO/IPU

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

In accordance with the IPU Assembly Rule 11.1 and Article 14.2 of the IPU Statutes. I have the honour, on behalf of the National Group of Sudan, to request the inclusion in the agenda of the 133rd IPU Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in urging countries, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community to provide the facilities required for those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and economic situations".

Please find attached a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution in support of this request.

The delegation of Sudan would be grateful if you could circulate this request among the IPU Member Parliaments.

Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Abdelgadir Abdalla KHALAFALLA
Secretary General of the
National Assembly of Sudan

THE ROLE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION IN URGING COUNTRIES, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE THE FACILITIES REQUIRED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME REFUGEES THROUGH WAR, INTERNAL CONFLICT AND ECONOMIC SITUATIONS

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Sudan

Many parts of the world today are witnessing an increasing number of refugees who seek asylum in other countries because of war, internal conflict and pressing economic situations. In many cases, host countries happen to share a border with the countries of origin where there is political unrest. These situations create additional burdens on the economies of host countries and make them even more incapable of rendering services and humane conditions to refugees. In turn, transit and destination countries definitely come under increasing pressure, as do refugees themselves.

According to reports of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, there were 19.5 million refugees worldwide at the end of 2014 registered with either the Office of the High Commissioner or the United Nations Relief and Works Agency. In 2014, conflict and persecution forced an average of 42,500 persons per day to leave their homes and seek refuge elsewhere, either within the borders of their countries or in other countries.

The UNHCR and the international community used to take responsibility for helping refugees and host countries in different parts of the world. The issue of refugees is nowadays mixed with illegal migration. That can open the door to human trafficking, a phenomenon that we should all fight with a strong will and determination.

In order to alleviate this economic burden, to create humane conditions for refugees and to help host countries, it is beyond doubt that the countries concerned must be assisted by the international community as well as by regional and international organizations. Those organizations are called upon to make more effort to meet the needs of growing number of refugees until they return to their own countries.

We believe that the IPU has an important role to play in urging countries, regional and international organizations and the international community at large to provide the facilities required by the refugees and host countries, and so ensure a decent humanitarian situation for refugees.

THE ROLE OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION IN URGING COUNTRIES, REGIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATIONS AND THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO PROVIDE THE FACILITIES REQUIRED FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BECOME REFUGEES THROUGH WAR, INTERNAL CONFLICT AND ECONOMIC SITUATIONS

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of SUDAN

The 133rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Considering* that war, internal conflict and difficult economic situations remain the most important reasons that compel people to leave their home countries and take refuge in other States,
- (2) *Cognizant* of the fact that a lasting and durable solution to the problem of refugees is to be found through negotiation, particularly the peaceful settlement of internal conflicts,
- (3) *Emphasizing* the vital role of regional organizations in helping countries and warring factions to reach peaceful solutions to internal conflicts,
- (4) *Stressing* the responsibility of regional organizations and the international community at large to render support in order to help and increase the capacity of host countries to deal with refugees, provide a humanitarian environment and solve the problems of the refugees themselves,
- (5) *Mindful* that national, regional and international charters, accords, treaties and other instruments aim to achieve a decent existence for the individual as the most important purpose of life,
- (6) *Aware* that unilateral measures which impose unjust sanctions hardly affect governments, leave a negative impact on individuals' quality of life and result in people becoming refugees for economic reasons,
 1. *Deplores* the tragic, inhumane situations and the anguish of those in many countries where people suffer from war, internal conflict and difficult economic situations;
 2. *Regrets* the fact that there is a huge gap in the quantity and quality of potable water, health care, children's education and other services provided in refugee camps;
 3. *Expresses deep concern* over the increasing number of those who, for various reasons, have become refugees all over the world, which results in many social, economic and environmental problems for host countries as well as damage to national, regional and international stability and security;
 4. *Calls on* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and national and international NGOs to shoulder their responsibility and provide humane conditions to refugees;
 5. *Invites* Member Parliaments, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community at large to make efforts to share the burden of refugees with host countries;
 6. *Regrets* that efforts made by a number of developing countries to realize economic development, which in turn contributes to the welfare of citizens, are hampered by the policy of imposing sanctions through unilateral measures and for political reasons, and *considers* that such a policy directly affects the welfare of ordinary people and contributes to the escalation of the problem of migration and refugee flows for economic reasons;
 7. *Draws* attention to the fact that the failure of the international community to deal with the problems of refugees results in other problems of illegal migration and human trafficking;
 8. *Calls on* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the IPU, the international community and national and international NGOs to declare 2016 as the year of refugees.