

134<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly

Lusaka (Zambia), 19 - 23 March 2016



C-IV/134/A.1.rev

19 March 2016

Inter-Parliamentary Union For democracy. For everyone.

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs



## 1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held during the 133<sup>rd</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2015)

## 3. Elections

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

4. Interactive debate on the appointment process for the UN Secretary-General (2 hours)

In autumn 2016, a new UN Secretary-General will be elected for a five-year term, which is to begin in January 2017. In response to requests from across the world, the selection of the new UN Secretary-General will be more transparent and inclusive of all UN Member States. The United Nations has introduced a new modality for this process. It requires all interested candidates to be officially nominated and to appear before the General Assembly for a debate.

Based on a background note from the Secretariat (published online), the Committee discuss the new process for selecting the UN Secretary General, examine possible gaps and suggest further improvements. Questions to be considered include: should the UN Secretary-General be appointed for a single non-renewable term; should the General Assembly vote on more than one candidate recommended by the Security Council; how could gender balance be entrenched in the appointment process; and should regional rotation be a factor? The discussion will lead to an assessment of the role of the UN Secretary-General as a global leader in his/her own right.

## 5. Briefing: Institutional arrangements for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (2 hours)

In September 2015, the international community adopted the ambitious *Agenda 2030,* which includes 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets. Parliamentarians have a key role in helping both to translate that global agenda into national action and to monitor results.

The Committee will discuss possible modalities for reviewing national progress towards the SDGs and for institutionalizing the global review process at the IPU. This may include facilitating parliamentary engagement in the process for national sustainable development strategies, adopting a parliamentary motion on the SDGs, evaluating and improving upon the capacities of parliaments to mainstream the SDGs into their legislative and oversight processes, and participating in the global review of the new UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development.

6. Any other business

#IPU134