



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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134th IPU Assembly

Lusaka (Zambia), 19 - 23 March 2016



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Vacancies to be filled during the 134th Assembly

Executive Committee

On 23 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **two members**, as follows:

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| African Group | : | One vacancy to replace Ms. Z. Drif Bitat (Algeria)* who is no longer a member of parliament; |
| Arab Group | : | One vacancy to replace Mr. R. Al Shariqi (United Arab Emirates)* who is no longer a member of parliament. |

* In accordance with Article 25.6 of the Statutes, if a member of the Executive Committee ceases to be a parliamentarian, the Member of the IPU concerned shall appoint a substitute to serve until the next session of the Governing Council, when an election shall be held. If the newly elected member is from a different Parliament than the outgoing member, he/she will serve a full term. Otherwise, the new member shall complete the term of office of his/her predecessor.

To date, the following candidature has been received:

- Mr. Ali Jasem Ahmed (United Arab Emirates): candidature submitted by the Parliament of the United Arab Emirates to complete the term of office of his predecessor (April 2017).

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians

The 23rd Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will be called upon to renew half of the membership of its Coordinating Committee.

One titular and one substitute regional representative are to be elected from each geopolitical group, for a four-year term, to replace those titular and substitute regional representatives whose term expires in March 2016.

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians is currently reviewing its Rules, with a proposal to eliminate the notion of titular and substitute members of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians. Should these Rules be adopted by the Meeting and the Governing Council in Lusaka, they will come into force immediately. Consequently, there would no longer be any distinction between titular and substitute members of the Coordinating Committee (all would be fully-fledged members).

#IPU134

According to the Rules of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, a retiring member of the Coordinating Committee shall not be eligible for re-election for two years.

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians will hold elections to the Coordinating Committee on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

Geopolitical groups are requested to submit candidatures in writing by Monday, 21 March, 12 noon. Candidatures should be accompanied by a signed cover letter from the geopolitical group and a brief curriculum vitae (3 paragraphs maximum) in English and French, for distribution to participants.

Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

On 23 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one member** to replace Ms. C. Giaccone (Argentina) who is no longer a member of parliament.

In light of the Committee's rule on gender balance, according to which there shall be no fewer than four members of either sex, Ms. Giaccone will have to be replaced by a woman.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

Committee on Middle East Questions

On 23 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one titular member** and **one substitute member** to replace Ms. Z. Benarous (Algeria), and Mr. H. Franken (Netherlands), respectively, who are no longer members of parliament.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

Group of Facilitators for Cyprus

On 23 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one Facilitator** to replace Ms. R. Albernaz (Portugal) whose term of office expired at the 197th session of the Governing Council.

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

On 23 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect:

- **One member (male)** from the African Group to replace Mr. E. Dombo (Uganda), whose term of office expires at the 198th session of the Governing Council; and
- **One member (male)** from the Eurasia Group for the vacancy that was not filled at the 197th session of the Governing Council

Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 22 March 2016.

The Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

At its meeting on Sunday 20 March, the Forum will be required to elect:

- **Two Board members (one man and one woman)** from the Eurasia Group for the vacancies that were not filled during the 133rd Assembly and previous assemblies;
- **One Board member (female)** from the Twelve Plus Group to replace Ms. M. Lugarić (Croatia) who is no longer a member of parliament;
- **One Board member (male)** from the Arab Group to replace Mr. F. Al-Tenajji (United Arab Emirates) who is no longer a member of parliament.

To date, the following candidature has been received:

- Mr. D. Asylbek uulu (Kyrgyzstan): candidature submitted by the Eurasia Group.

The concerned geopolitical groups are encouraged to submit candidatures, preferably of the youngest members of parliament, by 3 p.m. on Saturday, 19 March 2016.

Standing Committee Bureaux

Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

There are **three vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Arab Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Latin American Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman.

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

There are **six vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a woman
- Arab Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Eurasia Group** : Three vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a woman
- Twelve Plus Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman.

The following candidature has been received:

- Ms. Z. Grechani (Republic of Moldova): candidature submitted by the Eurasia Group.

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

There are **six vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a woman
- Asia-Pacific Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man
- Eurasia Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a woman
- Twelve Plus Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man.

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

There is **one vacancy** to be filled by the following Group:

- Eurasia Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman.

Due to the specificities of this Bureau's work, it is recommended that candidates have a working knowledge of one of the two official IPU languages, English or French, and are able to travel for activities in the field and at UN Headquarters in New York.

Candidatures from the respective geopolitical groups, which may be submitted up until the time of the elections, should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (maximum one page), specifying Committee membership in parliament and familiarity with the issues covered by the Committee, as well as the candidate's full contact details. The CV should also be accompanied by a commitment from the candidate's parliament that s/he will be supported in their work and included in future delegations to Assemblies.

In October 2015, a Joint Meeting of Chairpersons of the Geopolitical Groups and Presidents of the Standing Committees was held, which examined the situation of the Standing Committees and functioning of the Committee Bureaux. It was agreed that, in light of the IPU reform of 2013, the Rules of the Standing Committees needed to be strictly observed. That included the provision (Rule 10.2) that those Bureau members who had been absent for two or more consecutive sessions of their Bureau without a valid reason would lose their seat, and that elections would be held to fill those new vacancies.

Several Bureau members are concluding their first term in March 2016. In light of repeated absences and lack of engagement in the work of the Standing Committees, it is proposed that the Bureau members concerned (ten in total) no longer be eligible for automatic re-election. A formal decision will be taken by the respective Standing Committees during the Lusaka Assembly.