



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 1- 5 April 2017



Assembly  
Item 2

A/136/2-P.4.rev.1  
29 March 2017

## 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 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Palestine, on behalf of the Arab Group

On 29 March 2017, the Secretary General received from the Speaker of the Palestine National Council, on behalf of the Arab Group, a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The legalization of settlements by the Israeli Regulation Law:  
A violation of international law".

Delegates to the 136<sup>th</sup> 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 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Palestine, submitted on behalf of the Arab Group, on Sunday, 2 April 2017.

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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY THE  
SPEAKER OF THE PALESTINE NATIONAL COUNCIL, ON BEHALF OF THE ARAB GROUP**

29 March 2017

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

In accordance with the relevant rules of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in particular Assembly Rule 11.1, the delegation of Palestine submits, on behalf of the Arab Group, a request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, to take place in Dhaka from 1-5 April 2017, entitled:

"The legalization of settlements by the Israeli Regulation Law:  
A violation of international law".

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Saleem AL-ZANOON  
Speaker of the Palestine  
National Council

**THE LEGALIZATION OF SETTLEMENTS BY THE ISRAELI REGULATION LAW:  
A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

***Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Palestine,  
on behalf of the Arab Group***

On 6 February 2017, the Israeli Knesset passed the so-called "Settlement Regulation Law", which, for the first time, retroactively legalizes the expropriation of Palestinian privately-owned land that Israeli settlers have illegally grabbed in order to build settlements.

This is an escalation of the Israeli policy of settlement construction, which is a flagrant violation of international law, the United Nations Charter, the UN Security Council resolution 2334 of 23 December 2016 and the principles of the IPU, and which destroys the prospects for peace on the basis of a two-State solution.

It is a danger to the integrity of the IPU that a Member Parliament should adopt a law, which contradicts the basic values of the United Nations Charter, the Fourth Geneva Convention and the IPU Statutes.

Parliaments, as elected representatives of the peoples of the world, should take action to encourage the international community to end impunity and defend international law and values.

**THE LEGALIZATION OF SETTLEMENTS BY THE ISRAELI REGULATION LAW:  
A VIOLATION OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

***Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of PALESTINE, on behalf of the ARAB GROUP***

The 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Reaffirming* relevant UN Security Council resolutions 242 (1967), 338 (1973), 446 (1979), 452 (1979), 465 (1980), 1397 (2002), 1515 (2003), 1850 (2008) and 2334 (2016), the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice, the fourth Geneva Convention (1949) and relevant resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,
  - (2) *Expressing grave concern* about the Israeli policy of colonizing and settling occupied Palestine, which continues to systematically deny Palestinians their inalienable rights, including the right to self-determination, and to destroy the two-State solution that has been internationally endorsed and recognized,
  - (3) *Condemning* all measures designed to alter the demographic composition of Palestine (whose territory has been occupied since 1967), particularly in and around East Jerusalem, including measures to construct and expand settlements, transfer Israeli citizens to the occupied territories, confiscate land, demolish homes, revoke residency rights and forcibly displace Palestinian civilians, which violate Israel's obligations under international humanitarian law,
  - (4) *Reaffirming* that there is no legal validity to any of the legislative and administrative actions taken by Israel (the occupying power) to change the status of the city of Jerusalem, from expanding settlements and transferring sections of the population, to legislating in order to annex the occupied territories to the State of Israel,
  - (5) *Restating* that, under international law and according to the principles of the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, it is inadmissible to acquire territory through the use of force,
  - (6) *Considering* that several measures taken by the Israeli Knesset, including the Regularization Act (6 February 2017), put peace at risk and violate the basic principles of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,
  - (7) *Expressing grave concern* about:
    - (a) The Israeli Knesset's violation of the Statutes of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the lack of commitment to the principles and values the Organization espouses,
    - (b) Israel's lack of commitment to the UN Charter, on which the IPU Statutes are based,
    - (c) The role of the Israeli Knesset in passing laws that contradict human rights principles, of which the most racist law is the Regularization Act (6 February 2017),
1. *Reaffirms* that the establishment by Israel, the occupying power, of settlements in the occupied State of Palestine, including East Jerusalem, has no legal validity and constitutes a flagrant violation under international law and a major obstacle to the achievement of the two-State solution and a just, lasting and comprehensive peace;
  2. *Calls upon* Israel, the occupying power, to immediately implement its obligations under international humanitarian law and human rights conventions, UN resolutions, and signed agreements, and to completely cease construction and all settlement-related activities in the occupied Palestinian territory, including theft and exploitation of natural resources, as well as policies concerning the forcible displacement of populations, including home demolitions, evictions, and residency revocations;

3. *Underlines* that it will not recognize any changes to the 4 June 1967 borders, including with regard to Jerusalem, in accordance with the agreements signed between the two parties, which do not allow any party to make any change that may affect the final status negotiations;
4. *Stresses* that the cessation of all Israeli settlement activities is essential for salvaging the two-State solution, and calls for affirmative steps to be taken immediately to reverse the negative trends on the ground that are imperilling the two-State solution;
5. *Demands* that the Israeli Knesset immediately suspend and abolish the so-called "Settlement Regulation Law" authorizing the unlawful act considered a war crime under the Rome Statute of the of the International Criminal Court, and an egregious violation of international law and conventions, including United Nations Security Council resolution 2334 (2016);
6. *Highly appreciates* the decision taken by many countries, organizations, institutes, universities, unions, churches etc. not to deal with any products produced in the settlements erected in the occupied Palestinian territory and calls on all countries to act in a similar way;
7. *Calls upon* all IPU Members to recognize the State of Palestine in accordance with the 1967 borders, as an investment in peace for the Middle East region, and for the respect of the inalienable rights of the Palestinian people.