



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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137th IPU Assembly

St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
14–18 October 2017



Assembly
Item 2

A/137/2-P.10
12 October 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 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

On 12 October 2017, the Secretary General received from the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Necessity of urgent action by the international community to end all violent measures against the Rohingya people and protect their basic and inalienable rights".

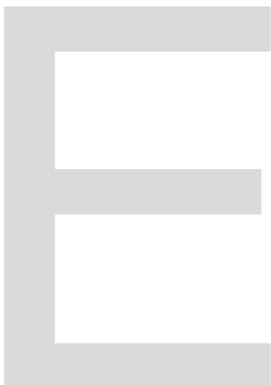
Delegates to the 137th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 137th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Sunday, 15 October 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 IPU 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 recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. 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.



#IPU137

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY THE DELEGATION OF
THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

Tehran, 12 October 2017

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wishes to submit a request for the inclusion of an emergency item on the agenda of the 137th IPU Assembly entitled:

"Necessity of urgent action by the international community to end all violent measures against the Rohingya people and protect their basic and inalienable rights".

Please find attached a brief explanatory memorandum along with the draft resolution in support of this request.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Zahra TARKASHVAND
Senior expert and Administrative Secretary of the
IPU Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran

**NECESSITY OF URGENT ACTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO END
ALL VIOLENT MEASURES AGAINST THE ROHINGYA PEOPLE AND PROTECT
THEIR BASIC AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

The grave situation facing the Rohingya Muslims, which has shaken the conscience of humanity, requires a rapid and robust response by the international community. The disturbing daily reports on the systematic and widespread violations of the human rights of the Rohingya people, including mass killings, torture, rape, destroyed homes, forced displacement and the tragic images of defenceless civilians and innocent women and children, are reminiscent of the worst human atrocities. The Rohingya people have been deprived of their basic rights, including the rights to territory, citizenship, security, social and political participation, cultural and religious freedom, and health, and access to jobs and the education system. The indiscriminate and systematic attacks against Muslims by extremist elements associated with some of the Myanmar security forces have caused anguish among the peoples of the world, regardless of their faith and nationality.

This situation, which constitutes a flagrant violation of international human rights law, international humanitarian law and the United Nations Charter, is a matter of grave concern for the international community. Unfortunately, the numerous human rights' violations against the Rohingya Muslims have been left unaddressed, which further encourages the perpetrators to continue and intensify their criminal acts. The negative consequences of this crisis are not solely limited to the Rohingya people and Myanmar; they also affect neighbouring countries and have the potential to seriously threaten the peace and security of the whole region. Given the extremely serious nature of this situation, all members of the international community are required to react promptly and deal with the perilous situation facing Rohingya Muslims. The Government of Myanmar must be called upon to prevent and end all violence, facilitate unhindered humanitarian access, and restore and uphold the basic and inalienable rights of the Rohingya people.

It is of the utmost importance that the IPU at its 137th Assembly devote greater attention to the grave situation of the Rohingya people by adopting a robust resolution on this emergency item. The Assembly should also take the necessary steps to send a delegation to Myanmar in order to engage in a frank and transparent dialogue with Government officials and parliament representatives and find long-term, durable solutions to the crisis.

**NECESSITY OF URGENT ACTION BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO
END ALL VIOLENT MEASURES AGAINST ROHINGYA PEOPLE AND PROTECT
THEIR BASIC AND INALIENABLE RIGHTS**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* the report of the Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights in Myanmar (A/HRC/34/67) and the relevant United Nations Human Rights Council and General Assembly resolutions on the human rights' situation in Myanmar,
- (2) *Reaffirming* the resolution adopted by the 133rd IPU Assembly (Geneva, 20 October 2015) entitled: *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions,*
- (3) *Also reaffirming* the joint statement issued by the IPU President Saber Chowdhury and the IPU Secretary General Martin Chungong on 14 September 2017, in which they condemn the human rights violations of the Rohingya Muslim minority,
- (4) *Taking into consideration* that the plight of the Rohingya Muslims in Myanmar cannot be tackled from a purely humanitarian perspective, and should be addressed within the framework of their inalienable rights as citizens,
- (5) *Taking note* of the initial steps taken by the Government of Myanmar, such as the establishment of the Central Committee for Implementation of Peace, Stability and Development of Rakhine State on 30 May 2016, and the Advisory Commission on Rakhine State on 23 August 2016, to improve the conditions of vulnerable communities, including the Rohingya Muslims in Rakhine State who face various forms of discrimination based on their religion and who are forced to live in segregation or in camps for internally displaced persons,
 1. *Condemns* the recent brutal acts perpetrated against the Rohingya community in Myanmar, which constitute a serious and blatant violation of international law, international humanitarian law and human rights law and have affected over 75,000 Muslims whose houses and places of worship have been burned down and who have been forcibly displaced to Bangladesh;
 2. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to eliminate the root causes of the crisis, including the denial of citizenship based on the 1982 Citizenship Act that has led to the statelessness and deprivation of the rights of the Rohingya Muslim minority, and the continued discrimination affecting the group, and work towards a just and sustainable solution to this issue;
 3. *Also urges* the Government of Myanmar to take urgent measures to ensure the sustainable return of Rohingya refugees and internally and externally displaced Rohingya Muslims to their homeland in the Rakhine State in safety, security, dignity and with guaranteed livelihoods;
 4. *Further urges* the authorities of Myanmar to take concrete steps to prevent the further deterioration of the humanitarian crisis in the Rakhine State and guarantee the right of each individual to live without fear and persecution based on their religion or ethnicity; *and reiterates* the call upon the Government of Myanmar to restore the citizenship of the Rohingya Muslim community and all associated rights that were revoked in the Citizenship Act of 1982;

5. *Encourages* the Government of Myanmar to cooperate fully with the fact-finding mission appointed by the United Nations Human Rights Council on 24 March 2017 (Resolution [A/HRC/RES/34/22](#)) to establish the facts and circumstances regarding the alleged abuses and recent human rights violations by military and security forces in the Rakhine State, with a view to making perpetrators fully accountable for their actions and ensuring justice for their victims;
6. *Expresses concern* over the spread of hate speech and incitement to violence, discrimination and hostility in the media and internet as well as the laws that were passed discriminating against the Muslim community in Myanmar, such as the interfaith marriage and religious conversion laws;
7. *Urges* the authorities of Myanmar to take all necessary measures to restore stability and launch a comprehensive reconciliation process that includes all segments of the Rohingya community, including persons who have lost their nationality and all internally displaced persons and refugees, and other individuals in irregular situations in or outside of Myanmar;
8. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to ensure full and immediate access to humanitarian assistance for Rohingya refugees, *and urges* the Government to fully implement the various outstanding cooperation agreements concluded between the authorities of Myanmar and the international community for the distribution of humanitarian aid to all affected areas, in particular Rakhine State;
9. *Urges* the international community, in particular the United Nations to seriously consider taking further action to address the ongoing crisis in Myanmar;
10. *Decides* to establish the IPU Contact Group on Myanmar in order to explore appropriate and practical measures to be undertaken by the global parliamentary community in cooperation with the Myanmar authorities to address the situation of the Rohingya Muslim minority and provide a peaceful and sustainable solution to the crisis;
11. *Requests* the IPU Secretary General to convey the present resolution to IPU Member Parliaments, the United Nations Secretary-General and the relevant regional and international organizations.