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 Japan

On 12 October 2017, the President received from the delegation of Japan, a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Contribution of parliaments to the abandonment of nuclear and missile programmes by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea".

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 Japan 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(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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.
COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE DELEGATION OF JAPAN

Tokyo, 12 October 2017

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with Article 14.2 of the Statutes of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and Rule 11.1 of the Assembly Rules, the Japanese delegation hereby respectfully requests the inclusion of the following emergency item in the agenda for the 137th IPU Assembly to be held in St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) from 14 to 18 October 2017.

"Contribution of parliaments to the abandonment of nuclear and missile programmes by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea".

An explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution are attached.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Shuko SONODA
Leader of the Japanese Delegation to the 137th IPU Assembly
Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
CONTRIBUTION OF PARLIAMENTS TO THE ABANDONMENT OF NUCLEAR AND MISSILE PROGRAMMES BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Japan

On 3 September, the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) conducted its sixth nuclear test, despite calls from the international community. This is totally unacceptable for Japan, it being the only country that suffered from atomic bombing during the Second World War, and it is a flagrant violation of a series of relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions.

UNSC resolution 2375, which includes sanctions that restrict the supply of refined petroleum products, impose a total ban on the import of textiles from the DPRK and a ban on work authorizations for DPRK overseas workers by Member States, was adopted unanimously on 11 September 2017. In spite of this, a few days later on 15 September, after the missile launch on 29 August, the DPRK launched a ballistic missile over Japan.

The DPRK’s provocative actions pose an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat to peace and security in the region, including Japan, and seriously undermine peace and security in the region and in the world.

In the interest of peace and security in the world, the IPU needs to take an unequivocal stand against the DPRK’s conduct and also take action.

The draft resolution submitted by the Japanese delegation calls upon the DPRK to abide by the IPU and UNSC resolutions and to abandon its nuclear and missile programmes. It also expresses the commitment of parliamentarians to the full implementation of the relevant UNSC resolutions in order to ensure that the DPRK reverts to international legality.
CONTRIBUTION OF PARLIAMENTS TO THE ABANDONMENT OF NUCLEAR AND MISSILE PROGRAMMES BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of JAPAN

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling past IPU resolutions on nuclear weapons, in particular those entitled The announcement by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea of its nuclear weapons test and the strengthening of the nuclear non-proliferation regime (115th IPU Assembly, Geneva, October 2006), Advancing nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, and securing the entry into force of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban treaty: The role of parliaments (120th IPU Assembly, Addis Ababa, April 2009), Towards a nuclear-weapon-free world: The contribution of parliaments (130th IPU Assembly, Geneva, March 2014),

(2) Reaffirming the IPU’s determination to contribute to the promotion of nuclear non-proliferation and nuclear disarmament to ensure international peace and stability,

(3) Recognizing that the sixth nuclear test conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK) on 3 September 2017, in defiance of repeated calls from the international community, including from the IPU and the United Nations Security Council (UNSC), urging the DPRK to exercise self-restraint, poses a challenge to the nuclear non-proliferation regime and a clear threat to international peace and security,

(4) Also recognizing that the DPRK’s provocative actions, including its nuclear test and series of ballistic missile launches, pose an unprecedented, grave and imminent threat, and greatly undermine peace and security in the region and the world,

(5) Noting that UNSC resolution 2375, which includes sanctions that restrict the supply of refined petroleum products, impose a total ban on the import of textiles from the DPRK, and a ban on work authorizations for DPRK overseas workers by Member States, was adopted unanimously on 11 September 2017,

(6) Also noting that UNSC resolution 2375 reiterates the Security Council’s deep concern at the grave hardship that the people in the DPRK are subjected to and regret that the DPRK is diverting massively its scarce resources to the development of nuclear weapons and a number of expensive ballistic missile programmes,

(7) Reaffirming that the solidarity of the international community is indispensable to ensure that the DPRK reverts to international legality, and that States need to take action to fully implement the relevant resolutions, including UNSC resolution 2375,

1. Condemns in the strongest terms the nuclear test conducted by the DPRK on 3 September 2017, and reaffirms the importance of a nuclear weapons-free Korean Peninsula for peace and stability not only in the region but also in the world;

2. Urges the DPRK to abide by the relevant IPU resolutions, UNSC resolutions and the Joint Statement of the Six-Party Talks of September 2005, and not to conduct any further provocative actions including nuclear tests or launches using ballistic missile technology, and to abandon all nuclear weapons and existing nuclear programmes as well as ballistic missile programmes, in a complete, verifiable and irreversible manner;
3. **Emphasizes** the need for the DPRK to respect and ensure the welfare and inherent dignity of the people of the DPRK instead of developing nuclear weapons and ballistic missiles, **notes** the findings of the United Nations Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Assistance that well over half of the people in the DPRK suffer from major insecurities in food and medical care, and **calls upon** the DPRK to take concrete actions to promptly resolve the humanitarian concerns of the international community, including the abductions issue;

4. **Calls upon** parliaments to encourage their governments to fully implement the relevant resolutions including UNSC resolution 2375;

5. **Encourages** the IPU to report to future IPU meetings on concrete measures governments have taken to implement effectively, in cooperation with the United Nations, the provisions of UNSC resolution 2375;

6. **Confirms** the important role of parliamentarians in complementing ongoing diplomatic efforts and alleviating tension, and **expresses** its firm commitment to strengthen solidarity of parliaments to ensure that the DPRK reverts to international legality through the full implementation of the relevant UNSC resolutions.