



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

137th IPU Assembly

St. Petersburg, Russian Federation
14–18 October 2017



Assembly
Item 2

A/137/2-P.13
13 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 India

On 13 October 2017, the Secretary General received from the delegation of India a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The role of parliaments in countering the growing threat of terrorism".

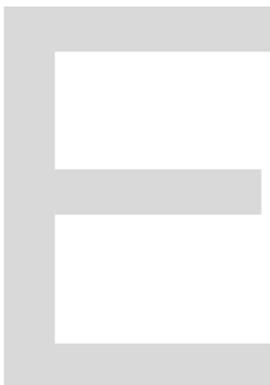
Delegates to the 137th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 137th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of India 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 INDIA**

New Delhi, 13 October 2017
Ref: 8/1/2017/IPU

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

As you are aware, an Indian parliamentary delegation led by the Honourable Speaker of the Lok Sabha is participating in the 137th Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly to be held in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 14 to 18 October 2017.

In this connection, I am directed to inform the Inter-Parliamentary Union Secretariat that the Indian IPU Group would like to propose an emergency item on the following topic for inclusion in the agenda of the above Assembly:

"The role of parliaments in countering the growing threat of terrorism".

A brief explanatory memorandum along with a draft resolution on the proposed emergency item are enclosed.

In this context, you are requested to kindly advise your Secretariat to include said proposed emergency item from India in the list of emergency items proposed so far.

Please acknowledge receipt of the above communication.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

L.V. RAMANA
Additional Director
Lok Sabha Secretariat

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN COUNTERING THE GROWING THREAT OF TERRORISM

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of India

1. Recent terrorist attacks around the world should once more remind us that we are failing to win the fight against terrorism and violent extremism. Terrorism and violent extremism have become one of the foremost threats to international peace and security, to the integrity of nations, to the enjoyment of fundamental freedoms and democracy, and to the protection of fundamental human rights.
2. Terrorism and violent extremism nowadays pose a global threat. Terrorism anywhere poses a danger to nations and peoples everywhere. Action by individual nations is no longer sufficient to defeat this scourge. The only way forward is concerted, coordinated international action by all Member Parliaments in the international system, without distinction between so called "good" and "bad" terrorists. Only then will we, as an international community, succeed in eradicating terrorism and leave the world a more secure and safe place for succeeding generations.
3. There has never been, nor will there ever be, any justification for terrorism. Terrorism is neither associated with religion, nor region or race. The killing and suffering perpetrated by terrorists must be treated as a crime against humanity.
4. Members of the IPU, made up of Parliaments from around the world and comprising duly elected representatives of the peoples from around the world, have a responsibility and a moral duty to their electorates to mobilize strong political support across the globe for the harsh measures required to combat terrorism and violent extremism.
5. Thus, the Indian delegation would like to propose the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly, of an emergency item entitled: *The role of parliaments in countering the growing threat of terrorism.*

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN COUNTERING THE GROWING THREAT OF TERRORISM

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of INDIA

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Considering* that all forms of terrorism are criminal acts, regardless of motivation and location,
- (2) *Recalling* all relevant United Nations and IPU resolutions on terrorism and organized transborder crime, and *condemning* all forms of financing of terrorism,
- (3) *Considering* that international cooperation in combating terrorism in keeping with United Nations General Assembly and Security Council resolutions can be effective if parliaments adopt measures aimed at preventing terrorism and defining terrorist acts in all forms and manifestations as a criminal offence,
- (4) *Reaffirming* that terrorism and violent extremism nowadays pose a global threat, and that terrorism anywhere endangers international peace and security, development, human rights and the economic and social advancement of people,
- (5) *Stressing* that terrorism cannot and should not be associated with any religion, nationality, civilization or ethnic group, and that terrorist safe havens need to be eliminated in every part of the world,
- (6) *Recalling* that any measures taken to counter terrorism must comply with the United Nations Charter and all other obligations under international law, bearing in mind the sovereignty, territorial integrity and political independence of all States,
- (7) *Expressing concern* at the increased use of information and communication technologies by terrorists to wreak destruction and facilitate their terrorist acts,
- (8) *Acknowledging* that terrorism and extremism often exploit a multiplicity of situations of lawlessness, hopelessness, hunger, unemployment, corruption, marginalization of particular groups or segments of society, which provide conditions conducive to terrorism or violent extremism,
- (9) *Condemning* all kinds of "State-sponsored terrorism" and "cross-border terrorism" targeting another sovereign country,
- (10) *Concerned* that individuals who have been recognized globally as terrorists, including by the United Nations, have not been prosecuted by Member Parliaments,
- (11) *Recalling* all IPU resolutions and the challenges faced in combating terrorism,
 1. *Requests* that parliaments use legislative channels available to condemn all acts of terrorism;
 2. *Emphasizes* the need for enhanced international cooperation and inter-parliamentary exchange of information to effectively address the threat of terrorism and to dismantle terrorist networks;

3. *Calls upon* IPU Member Parliaments to provide capacity-building assistance to other Member Parliaments where necessary, and upon request, to address the threat posed by terrorism;
4. *Reaffirms* that all Member Parliaments shall fully cooperate in the fight against terrorism in accordance with their obligations under international law, and shall not only deny safe haven to any terrorist, but also extradite or prosecute any person who supports, facilitates, participates or attempts to participate in the financing, planning, preparation or perpetration of terrorist acts;
5. *Reiterates* that the IPU, together with the relevant international organizations, should enhance inter-parliamentary cooperation with a view to sharing good practices on confidence-building measures that are conducive to peace and international stability and security;
6. *Strongly urges* States to intensify the exchange of basic information concerning persons or organizations suspected of terrorist-linked activities, in particular on their modus operandi and communication systems;
7. *Calls upon* all IPU Member Parliaments to harmonize their efforts in adopting counter-terrorism legislations with a focus on improving capacity building and providing technical assistance to combat terrorism;
8. *Further calls upon* IPU Member Parliaments to share their good practices in order to combat terrorism and other forms of violent extremism.