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 delegations of Mexico and Japan

On 14 October 2017, the President received from the delegations of Mexico and Japan a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Threats to peace and international security arising from nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK)."

Delegates to the 137th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request (Annex I) and a draft resolution (Annex II) in support thereof.

The 137th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegations of Mexico and 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(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE DELEGATIONS OF MEXICO AND JAPAN

St. Petersburg, 14 October 2017

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with Rule 11 of the Assembly Rules, the delegations of Mexico and Japan hereby respectfully request the inclusion in the Agenda of the 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union of an emergency item entitled:

"Threats to peace and international security arising from nuclear tests conducted by the Democratic People’s Republic of Korea (DPRK)".

A joint draft resolution is attached to this communication.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Laura ROJAS
Senator
Member of the delegation of the Mexican Congress
to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Shuko SONODA
Member of the House of Councillors of Japan
Leader of the Japanese delegation to the 137th IPU Assembly
THREATS TO PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY ARISING FROM NUCLEAR TESTS CONDUCTED BY THE DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE’S REPUBLIC OF KOREA (DPRK)

Draft resolution submitted by the delegations of MEXICO and JAPAN

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling that the Inter-Parliamentary Union shall work for peace and cooperation among peoples,

(2) Also recalling that the Inter-Parliamentary Union shares the objectives of the United Nations,

(3) Affirming that the proliferation of nuclear weapons constitutes a threat to international peace and security,

(4) Stressing the catastrophic humanitarian consequences that would result from any use of nuclear weapons, and recognizing the need to completely eliminate such weapons,

(5) Also recognizing that nuclear explosions arising from nuclear tests have serious health and environmental effects,

(6) Further recognizing that all States, including parliaments as fundamental State organs, need to make special efforts to establish the necessary framework to achieve and maintain a world without nuclear weapons,

(7) Bearing in mind the obligations under the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons,

(8) Underlining the importance of the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and its verification regime as a core element of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation,

(9) Referring to the adoption of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons on 7 July 2017,


(11) Reaffirming the importance of the Resolutions on the matter adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, particularly those adopted by the 130th IPU Assembly (Geneva, 20 March 2014), by the 120th IPU Assembly (Addis Ababa, 10 April 2009), by the 115th Assembly (Geneva, 18 October 2006), by the 108th Conference (Santiago de Chile, 11 April 2003), by the 101st Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Brussels, 15 April 1999), by the 94th Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Bucharest, 13 October 1995), and by the 91st Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Paris, 26 March 1994).
(12)  *Expressing concern* over the destabilizing effects for the region arising from the DPRK’s ongoing nuclear- and ballistic missile-related activities,

(13)  *Recognizing* that parliaments are in a privileged position to advance the nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament agenda and ensure implementation of internationally agreed commitments,

(14)  *Acknowledging* that the core role of parliaments in ratifying treaties and adopting and implementing legislation has the potential to extend the rule of law into the domain of disarmament,

(15)  *Bearing in mind* that the nature of parliamentarian representation is to oversee the interests and well-being of citizens, and *convincing* of the threat that nuclear weapons pose to humankind,

1.  *Strongly condemns* the recent nuclear tests undertaken by the DPRK;

2.  *Regrets* the decision of the DPRK to disregard its international obligations of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation;

3.  *Requests* that the DPRK not conduct any further nuclear test or launch of ballistic missiles and abandon its nuclear and ballistic missile programmes;

4.  *Calls upon* parliaments to encourage their governments to fully implement the relevant resolutions including United Nations Security Council resolution 2375 (2017);

5.  *Urges* parliamentarians to support the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons by promoting their full ratification and prompt entry into force;

6.  *Calls upon* parliaments to develop the legal, technical, institutional and political frameworks to phase out nuclear deterrence and achieve a nuclear weapon-free world;

7.  *Encourages* parliaments to adopt national implementation measures, including, but not limited to, border patrol, policing, securing nuclear materials and facilities, criminalizing banned activities, ensuring cooperation between government agencies, promoting public education to support nuclear disarmament and honoring treaty obligations;

8.  *Advises* parliamentarians to support nuclear non-proliferation and disarmament, through special parliamentary debates, policy dialogue in parliamentary chambers, the publication of parliamentary reports, joint-hearings with the parliamentary committees of other countries, investigations, disarmament caucuses among parliamentarians and any other appropriate means.