



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.18
15 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 Turkey

On 15 October 2017, the President received from the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Turkey a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The situation of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar".

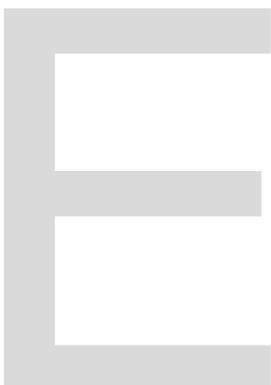
Delegates to the 137th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 137th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Turkey 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 PRESIDENT
BY THE SPEAKER OF THE GRAND NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF THE REPUBLIC OF TURKEY**

Ankara, 12 October 2017

Dear Mr. President,

I would like to bring into your attention that the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey would like to submit a request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 137th IPU Assembly in accordance with Article 14.2 of the IPU Statutes. The proposed emergency item is entitled:

"The situation of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar".

Please find attached a brief explanatory memorandum along with the draft resolution on the proposed emergency item.

Please accept the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Ismail KAHRAMAN
Speaker
Grand National Assembly of Turkey

THE SITUATION OF THE ROHINGYA MINORITY IN MYANMAR

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Turkey

The situation in the northern Rakhine State of Myanmar and reports of excessive violence against the Rohingya Muslim minority have caused serious international concern. The current humanitarian crisis has further deteriorated since the initial attacks on Myanmar security forces on 25 August 2017. The subsequent violence, mass displacement of civilians and grave allegations of human rights violations during the security operations have had serious humanitarian consequences with significant implications for regional peace and security.

The IPU Statutes stress the importance of consolidating international peace and security, protecting human rights and standing united against any threats to those principles.

Based on the foregoing, we request the inclusion of this item in the agenda of the 137th IPU Assembly.

THE SITUATION OF THE ROHINGYA MINORITY IN MYANMAR

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of TURKEY

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Emphasizing* the basic principles of human rights,
- (2) *Recalling* numerous resolutions, declarations, charters, conventions, protocols and documents including the IPU Statutes, that refer to international humanitarian law,
- (3) *Considering* the responsibility of the international community as well as of parliamentarians regarding humanitarian issues,
- (4) *Condemning* all kinds of terrorist acts,
- (5) *Being concerned* about the ongoing crisis in Myanmar and the internally displaced persons and refugees of this country,
- (6) *Taking into account* the risk that the situation in Myanmar may deteriorate,
 1. *Strongly condemns* the systematic violence committed against the Rohingya minority resulting in the displacement of more than 500 thousand Rohingyas;
 2. *Strongly urges* the Myanmar authorities to address human rights violations in strict accordance with the norms of justice and *calls on* them to fully investigate the allegations of human rights violations and to persecute those responsible for such acts;
 3. *Expresses concern* over the huge refugee influx in Bangladesh and the humanitarian and security consequences thereof;
 4. *Urgently calls* for unimpeded humanitarian access of humanitarian organizations to the northern Rakhine State and to all conflict areas, the resumption of life-saving services without discrimination throughout the state and for facilitated delivery of aid in Myanmar and to the refugee camps in Bangladesh;
 5. *Expresses appreciation* to those who have taken immediate action and have participated in humanitarian aid delivery to the refugee camps in Bangladesh;
 6. *Strongly recommends* to the Government of Myanmar to prepare a comprehensive strategy to close all internally displaced persons camps in the Rakhine State;
 7. *Recommends* to the Government of Myanmar to provide full and regular access to local and international media to all areas affected by recent violence and all other regions of the state;
 8. *Urges* the Myanmar authorities to fulfil their duty to protect all civilians from abuse without discrimination, to investigate grave human rights violations and to persecute those responsible, in accordance with human rights standards and obligations;
 9. *Calls upon* the Government of Myanmar to receive a high level Organisation of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) delegation and facilitate its visit to discuss issues of mutual concerns and the crisis facing the Rohingya people;

10. *Calls on* the Myanmar authorities to grant immediate and unhindered access to independent monitors, notably the United Nations Fact-Finding Mission established by the United Nations Human Rights Council in March 2017, so that they can conduct a thorough and independent investigation into all alleged violations of international human rights law and bring the perpetrators of such acts to justice;
11. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to eliminate the root causes of the crisis, including the denial of citizenship based on the 1982 Citizenship Act, which has led to the statelessness and continued discrimination of Rohingya Muslims and the deprivation of their rights;
12. *Supports* efforts in international fora aimed at reinstating the nationality and citizenship rights of the Rohingya Muslims and providing a lasting solution to the question of their legal status;
13. *Urges* the authorities of Myanmar to take concrete steps to prevent a further deterioration of the humanitarian situation in Rakhine State and to ensure the right of each individual to live and move without fear and persecution based on his or her religion or ethnicity;
14. *Calls upon* the international community to continue working with the Government of Myanmar to protect minorities in its territories and maintain inter-ethnic and communal harmony;
15. *Encourages* all efforts to promote the representation and participation of underrepresented groups, including ethnic minority groups, stateless and displaced communities and women, and improve civil society participation in policy design and implementation;
16. *Strongly recommends* that the Government of Myanmar facilitates dialogue within communities and ensures that inter-communal dialogue is conducted in a systematic manner with a clearly stated purpose at all levels of society;
17. *Encourages* the Implementation Committee for Recommendations on Rakhine State to immediately assume its functions in order to effectively implement the Rakhine Advisory Commission's recommendations, with a view to finding a comprehensive and inclusive solution to the challenges in Rakhine State;
18. *Supports* efforts to open an OIC Office for humanitarian affairs in Yangon after signing a Memorandum of Cooperation with the OIC to that effect so as to provide humanitarian assistance without discrimination to the victims of violence;
19. *Stresses* the importance of promoting long-term, socioeconomic development in the region in order to prevent the situation from becoming a fertile breeding ground for domestic and international terrorism and a threat to international peace and security;
20. *Urges* the Government of Myanmar to take immediate action to repatriate Rohingya refugees and internally and externally displaced Rohingya Muslims to their homeland in Rakhine State in safety, security, dignity and with ensured livelihoods;
21. *Calls upon* the international community to continue their efforts in conjunction with those of the United Nations to ensure the return of all Myanmar refugees displaced from their homes in Rakhine State.