



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.9
10 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 Kuwait

On 8 October 2017, the President received from the Speaker of the National Assembly of Kuwait, a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The responsibility of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in putting an end to the blatant human rights violations against 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 Kuwait 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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 SPEAKER OF
THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF KUWAIT**

Kuwait City, 8 October 2017

Dear Mr. President,

I hope that you receive this letter in good health.

Please be informed that the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Kuwait National Assembly wishes to submit a request for the inclusion of an emergency item on the agenda of the 137th IPU Assembly in accordance with Article 14.2 of the IPU Statutes. The proposed emergency item is titled:

"The responsibility of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) in putting an end to the blatant human rights violations against the Rohingya minority in Myanmar".

Kindly find attached a brief explanatory memorandum along with the draft resolution with regard to the above-mentioned title of the proposed emergency item.

Please accept the assurances of my highest regards.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Marzouq A. AL-GHANIM
Speaker
National Assembly of Kuwait

**THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION (IPU) IN PUTTING
AN END TO THE BLATANT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE
ROHINGYA MINORITY IN MYANMAR**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Kuwait

For many decades the Rohingya Muslim minority has been subject to the worst types of discrimination and ethnic cleansing. In the 1982 Citizenship Law, the authorities in Myanmar denied the Rohingya minority the right to citizenship.

The Rohingya minority in the Rakhine State were the victims of systematic persecution and violence that resulted in more than 450,000 persons being forced to seek refuge in neighbouring Bangladesh. The estimated number of persons that have lost their lives due to the mass exodus caused by the violence is more than 1,500 individuals.

The IPU Statutes stress the importance of consolidating international peace and security, protecting of 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 RESPONSIBILITY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION (IPU) IN PUTTING
AN END TO THE BLATANT HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS AGAINST THE
ROHINGYA MINORITY IN MYANMAR**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of KUWAIT

The 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Condemning* the continued attacks and acts of violence committed by the Myanmar armed forces against the Rohingya ethnic minority, resulting in the deterioration of the human rights situation in Myanmar,
- (2) *Noting* that the Rohingya Muslim minority were for decades subject to all types of discrimination and persecution and deprived of basic rights,
- (3) *Recalling* the relevant UN General Assembly and IPU resolutions, in particular: *The urgent need to immediately stop the widespread human rights violations and to restore the democratic rights of the people of Myanmar*, adopted by the 117th IPU Assembly (Geneva, Switzerland, October 2007),
- (4) *Affirming* the joint statement issued by the IPU President Mr. Saber Chowdhury and the IPU Secretary General Mr. Martin Chungong condemning the human rights' violations against the Muslim Rohingya minority in Myanmar,
- (5) *Reaffirming* the importance of global stability, solidarity, and peaceful co-existence as essential elements of sustainable development,
- (6) *Calling* for justice for the victims of ethnic discrimination and cleansing in Rakhine State, *also calling* for a sustainable solution to the human rights situation there through the formulation of a peace-building plan; *and urging* the authorities of Myanmar to provide unrestricted access to humanitarian aid and allow international investigations to the affected areas in compliance with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW),
 1. *Strongly urges* the IPU Governing Council, in accordance with Article 21 (d) of the IPU Statutes, to establish an ad hoc committee to formulate a parliamentary roadmap for the protection of refugees and stateless persons, particularly in Myanmar, in close collaboration with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR);
 2. *Requests* that the IPU Secretary General communicate this draft resolution to the IPU Member Parliaments, the United Nations Secretary-General and the relevant regional and international organizations.