Inter-Parliamentary Union  
Technical Cooperation Programme  
ACTIVITY PROFILE:  
TAJIKISTAN

Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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Activity Details

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Title:</th>
<th>Drafting of Rules of Procedure</th>
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<tr>
<td>Status:</td>
<td>Closed</td>
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<tr>
<td>Duration:</td>
<td>4 months (January-May 2000)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Budget:</td>
<td>US $ 35,100</td>
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<td>Donor Partner:</td>
<td>United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)</td>
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Background

In 1997 a General Peace Agreement was signed by the major parties involved in the civil conflict that had been raging in Tajikistan since the country gained independence in 1992. Key elements of the Peace Agreement included revision of the Constitution to enable the conduct of free and open multi-party elections and the creation of a permanent and professional parliament. The exact mode of operation of the two chambers of this new parliament was to be determined by the Rules of Procedure. At the time when the constitution was amended to introduce the division of the legislature into a bicameral parliament, the final Rules of Procedure had not yet been drafted.

It was with the aim of providing assistance in revising these Rules of Procedure that the IPU, under its programme of cooperation with UNDP proposed to field three missions to the Parliament of Tajikistan in Dushanbe. The missions were held both prior to and following the general elections to the House of Representatives. This activity fell within UNDP’s overall project of support to the Parliament of Tajikistan.

Areas of activity

Activities undertaken included most notably:

- Carrying out a detailed assessment of the present functioning of the Parliament;
- Reviewing the new constitutional provisions creating a bicameral parliament;
- Helping to draft new Rules of Procedure for each of the two newly created Houses of Parliament; these rules should reflect the bicameral nature of the new parliament;
- Making proposals for more rational working methods as dictated by the amended constitution.

In carrying out these activities, the consultant met and consulted with members of parliament, parliamentary officials, political leaders and other personalities whose contribution was deemed relevant to the objectives of the mission.

Target Beneficiaries

The foremost beneficiaries were the members of the two Houses of Parliament whose work got facilitated by drafting appropriate Rules of Procedure. Thus the parliament, being a key factor for the implementation of economic reform and the development of the civil society was strengthened as an institution.

Outcomes

The main outcome of the missions was the development of draft Rules of Procedure which were adopted in September 2000.

The expert who undertook the mission also prepared detailed reports containing an assessment of the functioning of the present parliament and proposals for more rational functioning of the new Houses of Parliament as stated in the Terms of Reference.

The expert undertaking the mission was:
Mr. Nikolai Isayev,  
Head of Section responsible for procedural and constitutional matters,  
State Duma  