



## SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENTS

United Nations Headquarters, New York, 7 to 9 September 2005



CONF-2005/DR.Regl.  
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### DRAFT RULES FOR THE SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENTS

*Established by the Preparatory Committee of the Conference*

#### RULE 1

The Second World Conference of Speakers of Parliament is convened pursuant to the decision taken by the IPU Governing Bodies in September 2003 and resolution 59/19 adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in November 2004. The Conference is convened in order to express the voice of parliaments, the representatives of the world's peoples, take stock of action effected by parliaments since the first Conference in 2000 and examine how the IPU can provide support for international cooperation and the United Nations.

#### **Venue and duration**

#### RULE 2

1. The Conference is convened at the Headquarters of the United Nations in New York from 7 to 9 September 2005.
2. The Conference shall begin its deliberations in the General Assembly Hall at 3 p.m. on 7 September. It shall meet for the remainder of that afternoon and all day on 8 and 9 September from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 6 p.m.
3. If necessary, the President of the Conference may decide, on the advice of the Steering Committee, to extend the debate of some sessions.

## **Participants and Observers**

### **RULE 3**

1. Invitations to the Conference shall be extended to the Speakers, including in the case of bicameral parliaments those of both Chambers, of all IPU member parliaments and of non-member parliaments that meet the IPU definition of a national parliament.\*
2. The Speakers of the Palestinian Legislative Council and the Palestinian National Council may attend the proceedings of the Conference as observers.
3. The Presidents of the international parliamentary assemblies and organisations that figure in the list drawn up by the Preparatory Committee (see Annex I, Section A) may attend the proceedings of the Conference as observers.
4. Representatives of programmes and agencies of the United Nations system that appear on a special list approved by the IPU Governing Council at its 176<sup>th</sup> session (April 2005) may attend the proceedings of the Conference as observers (see list in Annex II).
5. Permanent Representatives to the United Nations in New York may also attend the proceedings of the Conference as observers.

## **Size of delegations**

### **RULE 4**

Each national delegation shall, in principle, be composed of no more than six persons, including the presiding officer(s). Observer delegations shall be composed of no more than two persons, with the exception of the delegation of Palestine, which shall be entitled to the same number of delegates as national delegations.

## **Agenda and Rules**

### **RULE 5**

At the beginning of its proceedings, the Conference shall adopt its Agenda and Rules. A provisional agenda approved by the IPU Governing Council at its 176<sup>th</sup> session will be before the Conference, along with the draft rules proposed by the Preparatory Committee.

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\* The Inter-Parliamentary Council, in 1993, defined a parliament as a "national assembly which, according to domestic law, is endowed as a minimum with power to legislate and oversee the Executive".

## **Presidency and Steering Committee**

### **RULE 6**

1. The President of the IPU shall preside over the Conference, open, suspend and close the sittings, direct the proceedings of the Conference, ensure that the Rules are observed, call upon speakers and declare the Conference closed. The President's decisions in these matters shall be final and shall be accepted without debate.
2. The President shall decide on all matters not covered by these Rules, after taking the advice of the Steering Committee if necessary.
3. The President shall be assisted by Vice-Presidents proposed on a regional basis from among the Speakers by the Preparatory Committee. If so requested by the President, the Vice-Presidents shall carry out his duties.

### **RULE 7**

1. The Steering Committee shall be composed of the President of the IPU, the Vice-President of the IPU Executive Committee, the Rapporteur appointed by the Preparatory Committee and the members of the Preparatory Committee.
2. The Steering Committee, which shall be assisted by the Secretary General of the Union, shall take all appropriate measures to ensure the effective organisation and smooth functioning of the Conference proceedings, in conformity with these Rules.

## **Speaking rights - Order**

### **RULE 8**

1. The following Speakers of parliaments, Presidents and other persons may be invited to take the floor and address the Conference:
  - (i) Speakers of national parliaments, including the Speakers of both chambers in the case of bicameral parliaments;
  - (ii) The Speakers of the Palestinian Legislative Council and the Palestine National Council;
  - (iii) The Presidents of the official parliamentary assemblies that are listed in Annex I, Section B.
2. The Secretary-General of the United Nations is invited to address the Inaugural Ceremony of the Conference, and the President of the United Nations General Assembly is invited to speak at the Conference. The President of the Conference may exceptionally invite other persons to address the Conference, following consultation with the Steering Committee.

### **RULE 9**

1. Each Speaker of parliament shall be entitled to five minutes' speaking time. In instances where both presiding officers from a bicameral parliament wish to address the Conference, each of them will be entitled to speak for four minutes. The same rule will apply to the

Speakers of the Palestinian Legislative Council and the Palestinian National Council, should both attend. The Presidents of the official parliamentary assemblies referred to in Rule 8.1 (iii) above shall each be entitled to three minutes' speaking time.

2. The President may authorise, on the advice of the Steering Committee, the inclusion in the records and subsequent publication of speeches that could not be delivered by a delegation present at the Conference.

#### RULE 10

The order of speakers shall be established by the IPU Secretariat, taking into consideration, as far as possible, the preferences expressed by each registered delegation. The President of the Conference, assisted by the Steering Committee, shall deal with all matters relating to the order of speakers.

#### RULE 11

Speakers may be interrupted by other delegates only on a point of order. The President shall rule immediately without debate on all points of order.

#### RULE 12

The President shall call to order any speaker who fails to keep to the subject under discussion or who prejudices the debate by using abusive language. The President may, if necessary, withdraw permission to speak, and may have the objectionable words struck from the record.

#### RULE 13

The President shall deal immediately with any incident that arises during the Conference and, if necessary, take any measure required to restore order.

### **Adoption of the Declaration**

#### RULE 14

1. The Conference shall conclude its work by adopting a solemn Declaration.
2. The draft declaration prepared by the Preparatory Committee shall be distributed to all participants in advance of the Conference. The Preparatory Committee shall meet on the eve of the Conference, and may amend the text if necessary.
3. The draft Declaration shall be presented to the Conference by the Rapporteur.

### **Official documents**

#### RULE 15

1. The provisional agenda, the draft Declaration drawn up by the Preparatory Committee, the draft Rules, the report on *Parliamentary involvement in international affairs*, the report on *Parliaments' contribution to democracy*, the list of participants and the daily journal of the

Conference proceedings prepared by the Secretariat shall be the only official documents of the Conference.

2. The provisional agenda, the draft Declaration and the draft Rules shall be prepared and distributed in the six official languages of the United Nations. The report on *Parliamentary involvement in international affairs*, the report on *Parliament's contribution to democracy*, the list of participants and the daily journal shall be prepared and distributed in English and French only, the two official working languages of the IPU.

3. Information documents that delegations may wish to have distributed shall be placed on tables set aside for this purpose at the entrance to the General Assembly Hall.

### **Secretariat**

#### **RULE 16**

1. The Secretary General or his representative shall assist the President in directing the proceedings of the Conference.

2. The Secretary General or his representative may be invited by the President to clarify any issue during the debate.

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES AND ORGANISATIONS THAT ARE INVITED TO ATTEND  
THE SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENT AS OBSERVERS**

- A.** ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA)  
African Parliamentary Union (APU)  
Amazonian Parliament  
Andean Parliament  
Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union  
ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Organization (AIPO)  
Assemblée parlementaire de la Francophonie  
Assembly of the Western European Union (WEU)  
Association of Asian Parliaments for Peace (AAPP)  
Baltic Assembly  
Central American Parliament  
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)  
Confederation of Parliaments of the Americas (COPA)  
East African Legislative Assembly  
Euro-Mediterranean Parliamentary Assembly  
European Parliament  
European Parliamentarians for Africa (AWEPA)  
Indigenous Parliament of the Americas  
Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Eurasian Economic Community  
Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Commonwealth of Independent States  
Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU)  
Inter-Parliamentary Council against Antisemitism  
Latin American Parliament  
Maghreb Consultative Council  
Nordic Council  
Pan African Parliament  
Parliament of the Economic Community of Central African States  
Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States  
Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (PABSEC)  
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe  
Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE  
Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and the Russian Federation  
Parliamentary Association for Euro-Arab Co-operation (PAEAC)  
Parliamentary Union of the Organisation of the Islamic Conference Members (PUOICM)  
Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC)

**PRESIDENTS OF PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLIES  
WHO ARE INVITED TO ADDRESS THE CONFERENCE**

- B.** European Parliament  
Latin American Parliament  
Pan African Parliament  
Parliamentary Assembly of the OSCE

**PROGRAMMES AND AGENCIES OF THE UNITED NATIONS SYSTEM THAT ARE INVITED TO  
ATTEND THE SECOND WORLD CONFERENCE OF SPEAKERS OF PARLIAMENTS  
AS OBSERVERS**

United Nations  
United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights  
United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)  
United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)  
United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)  
United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM)  
United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)  
World Food Programme (WFP)  
United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)  
International Labour Organization (ILO)  
Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)  
United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)  
World Health Organization (WHO)  
World Bank (IBRD)  
International Monetary Fund (IMF)  
World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)  
International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)  
International Atomic Energy Agency (IAEA)

World Trade Organization (WTO)