



Assembly
Item 2

A/119/2-P.2
11 October 2008

**CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE 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 119th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegation of Egypt**

On 10 October 2008, the Secretary General received from the President of the People's Assembly of Egypt a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 119th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The international financial crisis: its causes and implications for the global economy and developing nations, and the role of parliaments in resolving the crisis and mitigating its negative impact".

Delegates to the 119th 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 119th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Egypt on Monday, 13 October 2008.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the Union 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 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 major event of international concern on which it appears necessary for the IPU to express its opinion. 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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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
PRESIDENT OF THE PEOPLE'S ASSEMBLY OF EGYPT**

Cairo, 10 October 2008

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The Egyptian Inter-Parliamentary Group wishes to request the inclusion of an emergency item entitled:

"The international financial crisis: its causes and implications for the global economy and developing nations, and the role of parliaments in resolving the crisis and mitigating its negative impact"

in the agenda of the 119th IPU Assembly.

Please find attached the text of an explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution for your kind consideration and action.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

Dr. Ahmed Fathi SOROUR
President of the People's Assembly of Egypt

**THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CRISIS: ITS CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE
GLOBAL ECONOMY AND DEVELOPING NATIONS, AND THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS
IN RESOLVING THE CRISIS AND MITIGATING ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Egypt

A major financial crisis occurred in the USA which has had implications for large and small countries alike. It will affect the development and stability of all nations.

Parliament, as the institution that represents citizens, should examine the crisis and its causes and devise solutions thereto, particularly with regard to developing nations.

It is a well-known fact that globalization has resulted in the interdependence of national economies and the global economy. Accordingly, the major economic powers have a moral duty to shoulder the responsibility for this crisis.

THE INTERNATIONAL FINANCIAL CRISIS: ITS CAUSES AND IMPLICATIONS FOR THE GLOBAL ECONOMY AND DEVELOPING NATIONS, AND THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN RESOLVING THE CRISIS AND MITIGATING ITS NEGATIVE IMPACT

Draft resolution submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Group of EGYPT

The 119th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Emphasizing* the central role of parliaments in formulating economic and social policies and their significant contribution to the elaboration of measures adopted by States to deal with the current crisis,
- (2) *Considering* the consequences of the international financial crisis and its negative repercussions on the global economy, as well as its adverse effects, in particular on developing countries,
- (3) *Noting* that developing countries have contributed to the growth of the global economy, which makes it inadmissible for them to pay for erroneous policies and practices that have impacted negatively on the global economy,
- (4) *Underscoring* the responsibility of governments, especially those of developed countries, to take speedy and effective action to address this crisis, and immediately envisage plans to help redress the current economic situation,
- (5) *Stressing* the fact that this crisis has become overarching and has spread throughout the world, thereby affecting individual consumption and, consequently, economic growth rates,
- (6) *Mindful* of the economic gap between developed and developing countries that cannot be overlooked, thus rendering the effect of the international financial crisis on developing economies even more perilous, especially in view of the interdependence between the global economy and national economies,
- (7) *Asserting* the pivotal role of international organizations and multilateral institutions, especially the financial institutions, in containing the consequences of this crisis, surmounting it, and eventually achieving economic security,
- (8) *Convinced* that this crisis requires an approach based on collective responsibility that implies the intervention of central banks and the World Bank to curb any further escalation of the current economic conditions and restore confidence among dealers in financial markets,
- (9) *Affirming* the importance of cooperation among all parties, including parliaments, governments, international organizations and institutions, to develop long-term strategies to prevent the recurrence of such crises in the future and drive forward global economic growth,

1. *Calls upon* the parliaments of the world, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and regional parliamentary assemblies, in their capacity as representatives of the world's peoples, to shoulder their responsibility in addressing the international financial crisis and provide the necessary support and advice to governments to help them overcome the effects of this crisis;
2. *Invites* parliaments, especially parliamentary committees on financial affairs, to examine and identify the root causes of this international financial crisis, propose and devise possible solutions, make public and deliver their findings to the competent authorities as a basis for possible action to contain its side effects;
3. *Welcomes* the measures adopted by some governments to immediately handle this crisis, in addition to the concrete efforts made by the relevant international institutions to this end;
4. *Requests* the governments of the leading industrialized States that effectively shape the global economy to assume their responsibility for the developing countries by curbing the negative effects of this crisis on their national economies;
5. *Urges* the governments of developed States to act promptly and seriously to honour their commitments vis-à-vis the developing countries in order to help them resolve their domestic economic problems, eliminate poverty, illiteracy and disease and achieve higher growth rates, as recommended in relevant instruments, in particular the UN Millennium Declaration;
6. *Proposes* that international organizations and multilateral institutions, especially the United Nations, take the initiative to hold an international conference, with the participation of all official and unofficial parties concerned, to deliberate on this crisis and how to resolve it, and produce worthwhile recommendations to prevent the recurrence of such crises in the future;
7. *Requests* central banks and the World Bank to intervene forthwith to rein in the world financial markets and allocate more funds to offsetting defaulting loans and liquidity shortages;
8. *Calls for* the establishment of an international fund to which the leading industrialized States contribute the lion's share, said fund to be used to assist developing countries to assist them in offsetting losses incurred as a corollary of this crisis;
9. *Invites* parliamentarians throughout the world to assume their responsibility for overseeing government action taken to surmount the current economic stranglehold;
10. *Calls on* non-governmental organizations to step up their efforts and play an ethical role in redressing such situations, with particular emphasis on combating poverty, which has worsened as a result of this crisis, especially in the developing countries.