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# 131<sup>st</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 12 - 16.10.2014

Standing Committee on  
Sustainable Development,  
Finance and Trade  
Item 4

C-II/131/4-Inf.1  
10 September 2014

## Interactive debate on *Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water*

15 October 2014 (2.30 – 5.30 p.m.)  
Room 2, level 0, CICG

### Concept note

**Background:** This interactive debate will be organized around the theme of the future resolution, expected to be adopted by the Committee at the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly in Hanoi.

Specifically, the session will address the following questions:

- What is the importance of transboundary cooperation on water? What results have been achieved so far and what challenges remain?
- What is the role of parliaments in ensuring effective water governance at the national, regional and global levels?
- What forms can parliamentary action take to support water-related interministerial collaboration?
- What parliamentary strategies exist to ensure respect for the human right to water?
- How can parliaments effectively deal with multiple issues affecting water governance, such as biodiversity, agriculture, industry and human needs?

**Expected outcomes:** The debate will provide the Committee with an opportunity to learn about current issues related to water governance and exchange views with key actors in this area. It will also provide the co-Rapporteurs with ideas and information to be included in the draft resolution.

**Format:** The session will take the form of an interactive debate between parliamentarians and experts on water governance. After introductory remarks by the panellists, the floor will be open for an exchange of views and questions and answers.

### **Panellists:**

- Mr. Alejandro Iza, Director of Environmental Law Centre, IUCN
- Mr. Jean-Benoît Charrin, Executive Director, Waterlex
- Mrs Nola Marino, MP, Australia
- Mr. Fernando Bustamante, MP, Ecuador

The co-Rapporteurs, Mr. J.J. Mwiimbu (Zambia) and Mr. I. Cassis (Switzerland) will take the floor at the end of the debate to reflect on how these deliberations will shape preparations for the draft resolution.

