



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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131st IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 12 - 16.10.2014

Assembly
Item 2

A/131/2-P.7
8 October 2014

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 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Chile

On 8 October 2014, the Secretary General of the IPU received from the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Chile and head of the Chilean delegation to the 131st IPU Assembly, a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 131st Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The role of parliaments in supporting implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2178 and international support to address the humanitarian disaster caused by the terrorist attacks in Iraq and Syria."

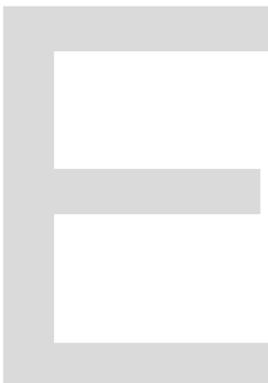
Delegates to the 131st Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 131st Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Chile on Monday, 13 October 2014.

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 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 ADRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP OF CHILE
AND HEAD OF THE CHILEAN DELEGATION TO THE 131st IPU ASSEMBLY**

Valparaíso, 8 October 2014

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to bring to your attention the request by the Inter-Parliamentary Group of Chile to include in the agenda of the 131st IPU Assembly an emergency item entitled:

"The role of parliaments in supporting implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2178 and international support to address the humanitarian disaster caused by the terrorist attacks in Iraq and Syria".

Please find enclosed a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution in support of this request.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Senator Juan Antonio COLOMA CORREA
President of the Inter-Parliamentary Group
of Chile and head of the Chilean delegation
to the 131st IPU Assembly

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2178 AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER CAUSED BY THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Chile

The delegation of the National Congress of Chile to the 131st IPU Assembly proposes the inclusion of an emergency item on the agenda entitled *The role of parliaments in supporting implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2178 and international support to address the humanitarian disaster caused by the terrorist attacks in Iraq and Syria*, on the following grounds.

- The spreading campaign of terrorist aggression in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, brutally perpetrated and coordinated by various extremist groups comprising more than 15,000 foreign irregular combatants from some 80 countries worldwide, is having a direct impact on the rights of millions of inhabitants of those countries and indirectly affecting the entire international community, which faces the risk that the terrorists will return to their places of origin to carry out attacks or other crimes.
- As a result of the activities of these groups, which have a considerable capacity to wage war and are characterized by their disregard for the life and human rights of the inhabitants of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic, the United Nations Security Council unanimously adopted resolution 2178 – originally sponsored by 104 countries – in which it decides that States shall take concrete and effective action to neutralize the capacity for terrorist activities of these groups and prevent them from crossing national borders to spread their methods of violent action.
- For their part, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights and the United National Assistance Mission for Iraq issued a joint report on 2 October 2014 on the devastating humanitarian crisis affecting vast swaths of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the irregular war being waged by the terrorist group “Islamic State” and other subversive groups. According to that report, almost 10,000 civilians died and another 17,000 were wounded in the first nine months of this year as a result of the jihadist offensive, and those figures do not take account of those killed by the indirect consequences of the conflict, such as lack of food, water and medicines. These heart-wrenching figures do not include internally displaced people – who number almost 2 million – or all the consequences their situation implies.
- The situation is compounded by the indiscriminate murder of civilians, abductions, rape and other forms of sexual abuse of and violence against women and children, such as human trafficking, families forced to separate, the destruction and desecration of sacred sites, undue appropriation of property and the absolute denial of fundamental freedoms. Members of the Turkmen, Shabak, Christian, Sabian, Kurd and Shiite communities have been especially affected.
- In view of this extremely grave situation, which should shock the international community into action, parliaments have a proactive role to play at both the political level and in terms of their legislative work. First, they should support UN Security Council resolution 2178 by urgently approving the legislation enabling implementation of its provisions. Given that the threat is supranational, all States should enact legislation making it possible to prosecute any citizens travelling abroad to fight alongside or provide logistic support for terrorist groups.
- In the humanitarian ambit, States with the physical and financial capacities should pledge to provide support for UN specialized agencies so that they can expand urgent humanitarian aid programmes for the conflict’s victims. In this regard, parliaments have a key political role to play, working with the executive to implement this task of integrated support.

THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN SUPPORTING IMPLEMENTATION OF UN SECURITY COUNCIL RESOLUTION 2178 AND INTERNATIONAL SUPPORT TO ADDRESS THE HUMANITARIAN DISASTER CAUSED BY THE TERRORIST ATTACKS IN IRAQ AND SYRIA

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of CHILE

The 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Considering* all the international instruments relating to the prevention of and fight against all forms of terrorism, political violence, action by irregular armed groups or assaults on human dignity on the part of States, such as declarations, conventions, and resolutions of the United Nations Security Council and other bodies in the international system,
- (2) *Mindful* of the international community's legal and ethical duty to ensure unreserved respect for international humanitarian law and therefore to provide effective protection for the civilian population, especially in times of armed conflict,
- (3) *Aware* of the serious and widespread deterioration in the situation in huge swaths of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic as a result of the irregular armed offensive being carried out by terrorist groups such as the self-named "Islamic State",
- (4) *Alarmed* at the brutal and intolerant methods used by the terrorist fighters to attack the human dignity of the civilian population in the areas under their influence, destroying its multi-cultural, multi-ethnic and multi-denominational character,
- (5) *Bearing in mind* that these extremist groups are supranational in nature and that this constitutes a geopolitical threat, not only for the area affected by their present activities, but also for the entire international community, given that their members come from over 80 States,
- (6) *Deeply shocked* at the humanitarian disaster in the territories of Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic affected by the conflict, which is resulting in millions of forced migrants, inconceivable abuse of women and children, the break-up of families, shortages of food and water, the destruction of infrastructure and buildings, and so on,
- (7) *Recalling* that, since its founding, the IPU has worked untiringly for international peace and security, that numerous Assembly resolutions consider that terrorism constitutes a blight on society and that, moreover, the international community has a moral and legal duty to ensure strict compliance with international humanitarian law,
 1. *Vigorously condemns* the terrorist activities being carried out by the self-named "Islamic State" and other irregular armed groups in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic;
 2. *Denounces* the senseless cruelty and intolerance with which these extremist groups operate, without any humanitarian consideration whatsoever, to the detriment of fundamental human rights, public and private property and sacred sites;
 3. *Appeals* to the world political community to react collectively in the face of this aggression, i.e. within the framework of the Charter of the United Nations and international law;
 4. *Calls on* national parliaments worldwide to provide robust and unequivocal support for UN Security Council resolution 2178, so as to facilitate preparation of the statutory provisions required for its effective implementation;
 5. *Urgently requests* States and regional intergovernmental organizations with the requisite physical, logistic and financial capacities to make them available to the specialized agencies of the United Nations common system and humanitarian non-governmental organizations, with a view to revitalizing and expanding the institutional humanitarian aid programmes and activities aimed at the victims of this grave conflict;
 6. *Emphatically appeals* to Heads of State and Government constantly to monitor the military and humanitarian repercussions of the conflict, taking united action without being tempted to execute individual operations alien to the spirit of international law.