



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 139<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 14 – 18 October, 2018

Standing Committee on  
United Nations Affairs

C-IV/139/A.1  
14 June 2018

## Draft agenda

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
2. **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 138<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (March 2018)**

3. **Panel discussion: *Would a UN intergovernmental tax body help resolve outstanding issues of corporate tax evasion?***

Corporate tax evasion and avoidance including through illicit financial flows, tax havens and other schemes reduce public funding for development and the SDGs. For many years a majority of developing countries have called for a tax body to be established at the UN to help address this problem. Such a body might also open the door to a binding international tax treaty. However, due to the opposition of developed countries the proposal has gone nowhere.

What explains this impasse at the UN and is there a way forward that parliaments can propose?

4. **Panel discussion: *What scope for cooperation between parliaments and WHO as the leading UN agency for global health?***

This year's UN General Assembly Resolution entitled *Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union*, adopted on 22 May 2018, specifically encourages cooperation between the IPU and the World Health Organization (WHO). Another resolution of the UN General Assembly called on the IPU to make a contribution to the 27 September UN General Assembly High-level Meeting on the prevention and control of non-communicable diseases (cancer, diabetes, heart disease) which are responsible for 40 million health-related deaths each year. Health is a key determinant of sustainable development. The IPU has a programme on health under the political leadership of a parliamentary Advisory Group. Parts of this programme are carried out in partnership with WHO.

What does WHO do to assist countries around the world? How can the partnership with the IPU be strengthened further?

5. **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The Committee will fill the existing vacancies on the Bureau based on proposals received from the geopolitical groups.

6. **Any other business**



#IPU139