



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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

Geneva, 14-18.10.2018

Standing Committee on  
Peace and International Security

C-I/139/A.1.rev  
4 October 2018

## Draft agenda

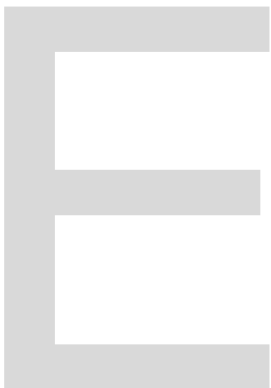
1. **Adoption of the agenda**
2. **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held during the 138<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (March 2018)**
3. **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The Committee will fill the existing vacancies on the Bureau based on proposals received from the geopolitical groups.
4. **Panel discussion on the theme *Comprehensive disarmament and non-proliferation***

In May 2018 the United Nations Secretary-General launched the new disarmament agenda *Securing our Common Future*. The aim of the panel discussion is to provide Committee members with an opportunity to reflect on the agenda, discuss the challenges to implement disarmament in a holistic manner, and consider arms control, disarmament and non-proliferation strategies related to weapons of mass destruction and conventional weapons. This session will also be an opportunity to expound on the long-term project on oversight of disarmament launched by the Committee.
5. **Panel discussion on the theme *Combating sexual violence in UN peacekeeping operations and beyond***

Sexual violence is used in many conflicts around the world as a weapon to humiliate and terrorize the population and to control reproduction. Since 1990, sexual abuse by UN peacekeepers is known to have occurred. However, UN peacekeepers are rarely held accountable for these violations. Participants will discuss possible measures that parliaments could take to contribute to oversee and end the sexual abuse of women and children during peacekeeping missions.
6. **Expert hearing on the theme *Non-admissibility of using mercenaries as means of undermining peace and violating human rights***

Mercenaries operate in armed conflicts and hybrid wars and in a grey area with limited oversight or army control. Recourse to mercenaries risks violating human rights, is an impediment to accountability and precludes remedies for victims. The Committee wished to place this subject on its agenda with the intention of adopting a resolution on the topic at the 140<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. To prepare for that, the Committee will hold an expert hearing to share opinions with members about how the concept of mercenaries has evolved and where the challenges lie. There will also be a discussion about the measures and actions parliaments can plan for in terms of legislation, policy development, evaluation and oversight. The co-Rapporteurs will draw on the hearing and the subsequent debate as they write the first draft of the resolution.
7. **Any other business**



#IPU139