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 143rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegation of Indonesia

On 23 November 2021, the IPU President received from the delegation of Indonesia a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 143rd Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Global parliamentary support for the humanitarian situation of the Palestinians".

Delegates to the 143rd 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 143rd Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Indonesia on Saturday, 27 November 2021.

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 IPU 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 recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. 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(d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 IPU PRESIDENT BY THE CHAIR OF THE COMMITTEE FOR INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COOPERATION OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA

Jakarta, 23 November 2021

Dear Mr. President,

On Behalf of the House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia, I would like to convey our gratitude for the good organization of the 143rd IPU Assembly in Madrid.

Pursuant to the convocation number A/143/C.1 on 15 October 2021 concerning emergency items, any member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda, and all proposals for an emergency item should be submitted to the IPU Secretariat by 17:00 on Friday, 26 November 2021, therefore Indonesia would like to take this opportunity to propose an emergency item entitled:

“Global Parliamentary Support for the Humanitarian Situation of the Palestinians.”

The Indonesian House is of the View that the crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly the deteriorating economic and fiscal situation as well as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, has resulted in socio-economic breakdown in the situation of protracted conflict and occupation and needs coordinated international support in fostering sustainable and inclusive recovery from the increasingly precarious situations for all Palestinians, including women, children, young people, refugees and other vulnerable groups. Details of the reason for the urgency of the emergency item are elaborated in the explanatory note.

We hope that Indonesia’s proposal will make a contribution to promoting democracy, peace and stability, and with your Excellency’s leadership the IPU will be more active and beneficial to the people of Palestine and the IPU Member Parliaments.

Thank you for your attention and your support. Please accept the assurances of my highest consideration.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Fadli ZON
Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation
House of Representatives of the Republic of Indonesia
GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OF THE PALESTINIANS

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the Indonesian delegation

The humanitarian situation of the Palestinians in the Occupied Palestinian Territory is deteriorating. Reports from the United Nations (UN) as well as from independent Bodies state that the State of Palestine is affected by a protracted protection crisis and suffers from chronic humanitarian concerns, particularly with the rise of tension in East Jerusalem, the escalation of hostilities in the Gaza Strip in May 2021, and the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. In 2020 alone, the global COVID-19 pandemic severely affected the State of Palestine, with 154,097 cumulative confirmed cases, of which 50 per cent were women and 14 per cent were children under the age of 18. A total of 1,539 deaths were confirmed. This has significantly impacted the daily lives of 2.3 million Palestinian children and youth.¹ More than a million children remain vulnerable and in need of humanitarian assistance. The spread of the COVID-19 virus aggravated existing vulnerabilities, affected children’s well-being, and limited children’s access to essential services such as education, health, nutrition, water, and sanitation and protection services.

Furthermore, Palestinians’ access to healthcare continues to be severely affected. The Israeli permit system and the complex system of movement restrictions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory have all posed serious challenges to accessing healthcare services. The situation above is worsened by persistent escalation of violence by Israeli settlers or military forces against the Palestinians. The severity of the crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly the deteriorating economic and fiscal situation, as well as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, have resulted in socio-economic breakdown in a situation of protracted conflict and occupation.

As the extension of the people, Parliament must take a stand to help the Palestinian people and mobilize international humanitarian assistance aimed at easing the burden on the Palestinian people, as well as providing medical support including vaccines for COVID-19. The Indonesian House also sees the need to urge national governments to promote an international coordinated response to resolve the humanitarian situation of the Palestinians, particularly women, children, young people, refugees and other vulnerable groups.

¹ State of Palestine Humanitarian Situation Report, End of Year 2020, UNICEF
GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT FOR THE HUMANITARIAN SITUATION OF THE PALESTINIANS

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of INDONESIA

The 143rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) Recalling all previous IPU resolutions which called for the cessation of tension and violence in the Middle East, namely those of the 104th Conference, October 2000 (Jakarta), the 106th Conference, September 2001 (Ouagadougou), the 107th Conference, March 2002 (Marrakech), the 109th Assembly, October 2003 (Geneva) and all other relevant IPU resolutions;


(3) Also recalling the internationally recognized principles of human rights law enshrined in various United Nations Declarations and Conventions, and the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the protection of civilians in areas of armed conflict and occupied territories;

(4) Deeply concerned about the persistent escalation of violence by Israeli settlers or military forces against the Palestinians, which aggravate conditions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;

(5) Fully committed to bear the moral responsibility towards the Palestinian people and the prolonged injustice they have endured while defending their just cause;

(6) Concerned about the severity of the crisis in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, particularly the deteriorating economic and fiscal situation as well as the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic, which have resulted in socio-economic breakdown in the situation of protracted conflict and occupation;

(7) Acknowledging the need for coordinated international support in fostering a sustainable and inclusive recovery from the increasingly precarious situations of all Palestinians including women, children, young people, refugees and other vulnerable groups.

1. Calls on interested parties to recognize and adhere to the principles of human rights and international law enshrined in the IPU resolutions, the United Nations Security Council resolutions and particularly the Fourth Geneva Convention regarding the protection of civilians in areas of armed conflict and occupied territories;

2. Urges the Israeli Government and the Palestinian National Authority henceforth to prevent any acts of violence;

3. Urges further interested parties to expedite a return to normality so as to improve the prospects for the Middle East peace process and to provide a supportive environment for international aid;

4. Condemns all acts of violence and provocation by the Israeli settlers or military forces that could further threaten international efforts to establish peace;

5. Calls on the international community to provide the needed protection for the unarmed Palestinian people against the violent measures by groups of Israeli settlers;

6. Encourages IPU Member Parliaments to urge their national governments to promote an international coordinated response to resolve the humanitarian situation of the Palestinians, particularly women, children, young people, refugees and other vulnerable groups;

7. Urges interested parties to prevent any plan for unilateral moves that would both exacerbate the crisis in the Occupied Territory and shatter the peace process.