Draft agenda

1. Adoption of the agenda

2. Approval of the summary records of the Committee’s session held at the 146th IPU Assembly in Manama (March 2023)

3. Expert hearing on the theme Addressing the social and humanitarian impact of autonomous weapon systems and artificial intelligence

   Since the early 2000s, technological leaps have allowed for the deployment of many new technologies on the battlefield – over 20 years later, these include artificial intelligence and Lethal Autonomous Weapon Systems (LAWS), which are progressively removing human decision-making from the frontline and putting life and death decisions in the hands of opaque algorithms. Reducing human action in conflicts is creating an ethical grey zone within which international peace, human rights and established conventions could be challenged by automated decision-making outside of human control. In preparation for a resolution on the topic to be discussed and adopted at the 148th IPU Assembly, the Committee will hold an expert hearing to inform members about the ethical, legal and societal implications of LAWS, as well as the role of parliaments in regulating and shaping their development and deployment. The co-Rapporteurs will draw on the hearing and the subsequent debate as they write the first draft of the resolution.

4. Panel discussion on the theme Inventory of tools for MPs to engage in dialogue, legislation, oversight and prevention in the pursuit of peace

   The resolution Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace, adopted in March 2022, tasked the IPU with developing an inventory of tools for parliaments and parliamentarians to engage in dialogue, legislation, oversight and prevention in the pursuit of peace. This agenda item will include a presentation of the initial draft of this inventory of tools and the ensuing panel discussion will directly inform the final drafting process of the guidelines, giving MPs a platform to share insights into the application of the new concepts, and to discuss how the IPU and Member Parliaments can continue to promote further involvement of MPs in conflict prevention and peace processes.

5. Panel discussion on the theme The role of parliaments in promoting a culture of transparency, anti-corruption and citizen engagement to restore trust in national and international institutions and strengthen peace

   A cumulation of global crises has resulted in the degradation of trust in national and international institutions. This discussion intends to explore the challenges and opportunities for promoting transparency, including in public spending, the consequences of misaligned priorities, and ways to reinforce democratic institutions for peace and stability. It will also address strategies to strengthen parliamentary oversight and accountability mechanisms so that the needs of citizens are effectively met.

6. Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

   The Committee will fill the vacancies on the Bureau based on proposals received from the geopolitical groups. The Committee will also elect a new President and Vice-President from among the Bureau members.

7. Any other business