



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

149th IPU Assembly

Geneva
13–17 October 2024



Governing Council
Item 9

CL/214/9-P.1-rev
12 October 2024

Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules

In 2023, a broad consultation was carried out on possible amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules, further to which proposals were gathered from Member Parliaments, the geopolitical groups, the IPU's specialized bodies, and the IPU Secretariat. The proposals were studied extensively by a Working Group established by the Executive Committee in March 2024 (three meetings of the Working Group were held between March and May 2024). Subsequently, at its meeting in Zanzibar in June 2024, the Executive Committee agreed on a series of proposed amendments ([A/149/8-P.1](#)) for submission to the membership (three months prior to the 149th Assembly, as per Article 30 of the Statutes).

By the deadlines of 2 September 2024 (amendments to the Statutes) and 14 September 2024 (amendments to the Rules), several Member Parliaments had availed themselves of the opportunity to provide feedback and propose sub-amendments. The admissible sub-amendments and clarifications by the Secretariat on several related points were sent to the membership on 26 September 2024 ([A/149/8-P.1-Am](#)).

At its meeting on 11 October 2024, the Executive Committee endorsed the sub-amendments proposed by France and Switzerland and referred the proposed amendment to Article 10.1 of the Statutes (along with sub-amendments proposed by Thailand and Türkiye) back to the Working Group for further consideration. The Working Group will resume its work later in 2024 to consider this matter along with other pending requests.

This document contains the final proposed amendments to the Rules of the Governing Council, the Rules of the Executive Committee, the Rules of the Standing Committees, the Rules of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians, and the Rules and Working Modalities of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. The Governing Council is invited to adopt these amendments.

A separate document (A/149/8-P.1-rev) has been submitted to the Assembly with the final proposed amendments to the Statutes and the Rules of the Assembly.

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Amendments to the Rules of the Governing Council

Throughout the Rules, where applicable, change “Member” to “Member Parliament” (Rules 1, 9, 10, 36, 43 and 45, and Special Rules for virtual sessions 2, 3, 9 and 10)

Rule 2

Delete the entire Rule:

~~2. — A member of the Governing Council who is unable to attend may be replaced by another representative of the IPU Member in question duly authorized for that purpose (cf. Statutes, Art 18.3 and Governing Council, Rule 1.1).~~

Rule 3

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. The Presidents of the Standing Committees may participate in Council meetings in an advisory capacity when questions concerning the work of their Committees are being discussed (cf. Standing Committees, Rule 17.2). **The President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and the President of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians may also participate in Council meetings in an advisory capacity when questions concerning the work of their respective Forums are being discussed.**

Rule 9

Amend sub-paragraph 1 as follows:

1. If the President is absent, he/she shall be replaced by the Vice-President of the ~~Executive Committee~~ **Inter-Parliamentary Union**, designated in conformity with Rule 5.2 of the Rules of the Executive Committee.

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. In case of resignation, loss of parliamentary mandate or death, the President's functions shall be exercised by the Vice-President of the ~~Executive Committee~~ **Inter-Parliamentary Union** until such time as the Governing Council elects a new President. The same provision shall apply when the rights or affiliation of the Member of the IPU to which the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union belongs are suspended (cf. Statutes, Art. 19.4).

Rule 28

Add a new sub-paragraph 2bis:

2bis. For expediency, on procedural and organizational questions and upon the proposal of the President, a vote on a one-country-one-vote basis may be conducted by show of hands.

Rule 44

Amend Rule 44 as follows:

44. The Secretary General shall submit to each ordinary session of the Governing Council a written report on the state and work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, **including progress made with the objectives of its Strategy.**

Amendments to the Rules of the Executive Committee (approved by the Executive Committee)

Throughout the Rules, where applicable, change “Member” to “Member Parliament” (Rules 2 and 5).

Rule 1 & 2

Change all instances of “Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians” to “Bureau of Young Parliamentarians”

Rule 5

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. A Vice-President of the ~~Executive Committee~~ **Inter-Parliamentary Union** shall be appointed by the Executive Committee each year at its last session to replace the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in case of the latter's absence, or to exercise the latter's functions until such time as a new President is elected by the Governing Council in case of resignation, loss of parliamentary mandate, death or of the suspension of the rights or affiliation of the Member of the IPU to which the President belongs

Add a new sub-paragraph 2bis as follows:

2bis. The Executive Committee shall appoint six Vice-Presidents of the Executive Committee, nominated by each of the geopolitical groups respectively, who shall assist the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in his/her work between statutory sessions.

Rule 13

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. The Executive Committee shall adopt and amend the ~~Terms of Reference~~ **Rules** of the Sub-Committee on Finance.

Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee on Finance

Change the title as follows:

~~Terms of Reference~~ **Rules** of the Sub-Committee on Finance

Rule 3 of the Sub-Committee on Finance

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. The Sub-Committee shall elect a ~~Chairperson~~ **President** from among its members.

Amendments to the Rules of the Standing Committees

Throughout the Rules, where applicable, change “Member” to “Member Parliament” (Rules 2, 4, 6, 7, 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 18, 19, 39, 42 and 43, and Special Rules for virtual sessions 1 and 5).

Rule 6

Add a new sub-paragraph 5bis:

5bis. At sessions when they are not adopting resolutions, the Standing Committees may adopt short motions expressing an opinion or calling for action on issues of relevance to their mandates. Motions thus adopted shall be submitted to the Assembly for information.

Rule 7

Amend sub-paragraph 1 as follows:

1. Each Standing Committee shall elect a Bureau composed of three representatives of each of the existing geopolitical groups, which shall designate to each Bureau not more than two candidates of the same sex. The President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and the President of the ~~Board of the Forum~~ **Bureau** of Young Parliamentarians, **or their representatives**, shall be ex officio members of each Bureau. Every effort shall be made to include young parliamentarians and encourage candidatures from new Member **Parliaments** of the IPU as well as Member Parliaments that do not hold other offices in the IPU.

Amend sub-paragraph 5 as follows:

5. The Standing Committees shall elect a President and a Vice-President from among the members of their Bureau. The posts of President and Vice-President shall normally be filled at a single election. The geopolitical groups shall coordinate among themselves so as to ensure, ~~to the extent possible,~~ **gender parity and an equitable distribution between the geopolitical groups** of the posts of President and Vice-President of **the** Standing Committees.

Rule 13

Amend sub-paragraph 2 as follows:

2. The IPU Secretariat shall send the draft resolution and the explanatory memorandum to the Member **Parliaments** in advance of the session. Member **Parliaments** may propose amendments to the draft resolution no later than ~~45~~ **21** days before the opening of the Assembly. However, the Forum of Women Parliamentarians shall be permitted to submit amendments which incorporate a gender perspective into the draft resolutions at any time prior to the closure of the first sitting of the respective Standing Committee. The Committee will finalize the draft resolution and submit it to the Assembly for adoption (cf. Assembly Rule 17.4).

Rule 16

Add a new subparagraph 3bis as follows:

3bis. When a draft resolution is tabled for consideration by the Standing Committees, it shall be accompanied by a brief evaluation of its programme and budget implications, prepared by the Secretariat.

Amendments to the Rules of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians

Throughout the Rules, where applicable, change “Member” to “Member Parliament” (Rules 6, 11, 21, 23, 32, 36 and 39).

Amendments to the Rules and Working Modalities of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

Change the title as follows:

~~Rules and Working Modalities of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU~~

Throughout the Rules, where applicable, change “Member” to “Member Parliament” (Rules 4 and 7)

Throughout the Rules, change all occurrences of “Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians” to “Bureau of Young Parliamentarians” and all occurrences of “Board” to “Bureau”

Rule 4

Amend sub-paragraph 1 to read as follows:

1. The Member **Parliaments** of the IPU shall be represented at the meetings of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians by their delegates who are below the age of ~~45~~ **40** years.