



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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149th IPU Assembly

Geneva
13–17 October 2024



Assembly
Item 2

A/149/2-P.6
14 October 2024

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 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

On 14 October 2024, the IPU Secretary General received from the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 149th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

“The deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza and Lebanon”.

Delegates to the 149th 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 149th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran on Tuesday, 15 October 2024.

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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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.

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#IPU149

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE IPU SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE DELEGATION OF THE ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN**

14 October 2024

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I would like to inform you that, pursuant to Rule 11 of the IPU Rules of the Assembly, the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran requests the inclusion of an emergency item on the agenda of the 149th Assembly, to be held in Geneva from 13-17 October 2024.

The item reads as follows:

“The deteriorating humanitarian situation in Gaza and Lebanon”.

I kindly ask that the item is circulated to Members of the IPU for their consideration.

Yours faithfully

(signed)

Manouchehr MOTTAKI
Member of the Parliament of Iran
Head of the Delegation the Islamic Republic of
Iran to the IPU

THE DETERIORATING HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN GAZA AND LEBANON

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran

This draft resolution confronts the alarming humanitarian crisis escalating in Gaza and Lebanon. It calls for immediate international attention and cooperative efforts to alleviate the suffering of civilians in these regions. Its objective is to facilitate coordinated actions among Member Parliaments to ensure the delivery of humanitarian aid, the protection of civilians and the implementation of sustainable solutions for ongoing conflict-related adversities.

This draft resolution is based on the language and terminology utilized in United Nations General Assembly resolutions, in particular resolution ES-10/24, concerning the upholding of international law, the protection of human rights and responses to humanitarian crises. By referencing international principles and obligations, this draft resolution aims to address serious concerns arising from unlawful actions in the occupied territories and emphasizes the need for collective action to alleviate the suffering of affected populations.

This draft resolution recalls the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which reaffirmed the illegality of the Israeli occupation and the necessity for all States to ensure compliance with international law, and is grounded in the principles of justice and accountability.

The ongoing and unabated documented genocidal acts perpetrated by Israel in Gaza have resulted in substantial casualties, widespread displacement and the destruction of critical infrastructure. The imposition of blockades, coupled with recurrent military operations and airstrikes, has led to acute shortages of medical supplies, food, water and electricity. The civilian population, particularly women and children, bears a disproportionate burden of this violence.

Lebanon is facing multifaceted challenges due to continuous incursions and airstrikes by Israel, which have severely strained its health care system. **Noting with serious concern the continuation of Israeli aggression, including the unlawful blockade of Gaza and violations of international law**, this draft resolution strongly deplores the continued and total disregard by Israel of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, international law, and relevant United Nations resolutions, stressing that such breaches seriously threaten regional and international peace and security.

The draft resolution strongly condemns the ongoing Israeli aggression against Gaza and Lebanon, including the indiscriminate targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure, and demands the immediate cessation of all hostilities by Israel. It demands an immediate halt to all arms sales and military support to Israel, urging Member Parliaments to implement comprehensive arms embargoes until Israel complies with its obligations under international law. Furthermore, it calls for Israel's immediate withdrawal from all occupied Palestinian and Lebanese territories in full compliance with international law and the ICJ's Advisory Opinion.

The draft resolution emphasizes the importance of protecting civilians, particularly women and children, from the effects of armed conflict. It calls for respect for international humanitarian law and the avoidance of targeting civilian infrastructure.

The draft resolution also calls upon all States, in alignment with their obligations under international law and relevant United Nations resolutions, to recognize the essential role of their legislative bodies in promoting justice and accountability in the context of the ongoing situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory. In this regard, IPU Member Parliaments are urged to take action through the enactment of appropriate laws, regulations and oversight mechanisms.

The draft resolution calls for enhanced international cooperation, including support from the United Nations and other humanitarian organizations, to address the short- and long-term needs of the affected populations. It encourages diplomatic efforts to resolve the underlying causes of conflict through peaceful dialogue and negotiations, urging both regional and international communities to support de-escalation initiatives.

The humanitarian conditions in Gaza and Lebanon are deteriorating at an alarming rate, placing millions of civilians at grave risk due to ongoing crimes and atrocities committed by Israel. Failure to address these issues with urgency may lead to further destabilization of the region and prolonged suffering for its inhabitants.

As constituents of the global parliamentary community, the IPU and its Member Parliaments have both a moral and legal obligation to uphold human rights and ensure that civilians in conflict zones receive the essential aid and protection they require. Addressing these humanitarian needs is not merely a moral imperative; it is also a necessary step towards stabilizing the broader Middle East region. Sustainable peace cannot be achieved without effectively addressing the underlying humanitarian concerns.

This draft resolution serves as a call to action for all IPU Member Parliaments to fulfil their responsibilities in responding to the urgent humanitarian crises in Gaza and Lebanon. By mobilizing resources, supporting diplomatic solutions, and ensuring the protection of civilians, the international community can pave the way for lasting peace and stability in the region.

THE DETERIORATING HUMANITARIAN SITUATION IN GAZA AND LEBANON

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN

The 149th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Recalling* the principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, particularly the right to life, liberty and security of person, as well as the protection of civilians during armed conflict,
- (2) *Expressing deep concern* over the ongoing humanitarian crises in Gaza and Lebanon, marked by widespread destruction, loss of civilian lives, displacement, and the deterioration of essential services such as health care, water and sanitation,
- (3) *Acknowledging* the impact of previous conflicts on the civilian populations in Gaza and Lebanon and *recalling* relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, which call for a peaceful resolution to the conflicts in the region,
- (4) *Recalling* the Advisory Opinion of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on the legal consequences of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, which reaffirmed the illegality of the Israeli occupation and the necessity for all States to ensure compliance with international law,
- (5) *Emphasizing* the importance of upholding international humanitarian law and international human rights law, including the Geneva Conventions, to ensure the protection of civilians and civilian infrastructures, especially in conflict zones,
- (6) *Recognizing* the efforts of the international community, including the United Nations, the International Red Cross and Red Crescent Movement, and other humanitarian organizations, in providing aid and relief to those affected by the crises in Gaza and Lebanon,
- (7) *Reaffirming* the need to address the root causes of the ongoing humanitarian crises in Gaza and Lebanon, including ongoing aggression and occupation, poverty, and inequality, and *recognizing* the importance of inclusive political solutions to prevent further escalation of the conflict,
- (8) *Noting with serious concern* the continuation of Israeli aggression, including the occupation of Palestinian territories, the unlawful blockade of Gaza, and violations of international law,
- (9) *Recognizing* the condemnation by the UN General Assembly of the continued and total disregard and breaches by Israel of its obligations under the Charter of the United Nations, international law and the relevant United Nations resolutions, and the UN General Assembly's emphasis that such breaches seriously threaten regional and international peace and security,
- (10) *Noting with concern* the lack of accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights in the context of the conflicts, and *stressing* the need for mechanisms to ensure justice and accountability for such violations,
 1. *Strongly condemns* the ongoing Israeli illegal aggression against Gaza and Lebanon, including the indiscriminate targeting of civilians and civilian infrastructure, actions which constitute genocide, war crimes and crimes against humanity; and *calls upon* all IPU Member Parliaments to undertake judicial and legislative measures and establish the necessary legal mechanisms to hold the perpetrators of these Israeli crimes accountable;
 2. *Calls for* the establishment of an immediate ceasefire in Gaza and Lebanon, in order to safeguard civilian lives and ensure unimpeded and unconditional humanitarian access;

3. *Also calls for* immediate and unrestricted access for humanitarian aid to all affected populations in Gaza and Lebanon, ensuring that essential supplies, including food, medicine, water and shelter, are delivered without delay;
4. *Demands* an immediate halt to all arms sales to and military support of Israel; and *urges* Member Parliaments to implement comprehensive arms embargoes until Israel complies with its obligations under international law;
5. *Also demands* that Israel immediately withdraw from all occupied Palestinian and Lebanese territories and end its illegal occupation, in full compliance with international law and the ICJ's Advisory Opinion;
6. *Calls upon* all States, in alignment with their obligations under international law and the relevant resolutions of the United Nations, to recognize the essential role of their legislative bodies in promoting justice and accountability in the context of the ongoing situation in the Occupied Palestinian Territory; and, in this regard, *urges* IPU Member Parliaments to take the following actions through the enactment of appropriate laws, regulations and oversight mechanisms:
 - (a) to ensure that their nationals, companies and entities under their jurisdiction, as well as their governmental authorities, refrain from any actions that would entail recognition of, or provide aid or assistance in maintaining, the situation created by Israel's illegal presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
 - (b) to implement comprehensive legislative measures to halt the importation of products originating from occupied territories, ensuring that their laws unequivocally prohibit the provision or transfer of arms, munitions and related equipment to Israel, the occupying Power, particularly when there are reasonable grounds to suspect such items may be used in the Occupied Palestinian Territory;
 - (c) to enact targeted sanctions, including travel bans and asset freezes, against natural and legal persons actively engaged in perpetuating Israel's unlawful presence in the Occupied Palestinian Territory, including those implicated in acts of violence against Palestinian civilians;
 - (d) to enhance support for accountability efforts for all victims of Israel's unlawful actions in the Occupied Palestinian Territory and Lebanon, establishing parliamentary frameworks that facilitate cooperation with international justice mechanisms and support for human rights defenders;
 - (e) to engage in continuous dialogue within their legislative chambers, fostering a commitment to uphold human rights and international law, and ensuring that their policies reflect a strong opposition to any actions that undermine peace, security and justice in the region;
7. *Stresses* the importance of accountability for violations of international humanitarian law and human rights law in the context of the conflicts and *calls for* the establishment of independent mechanisms to investigate and prosecute such violations;
8. *Also stresses* the Inter-Parliamentary Union's full support to the United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres and the United Nations system;
9. *Requests* that the IPU Secretary General continue monitoring the situation in Gaza and Lebanon closely, report to the next session of the Assembly on developments, and work in coordination with relevant international organizations to support and consolidate parliamentary actions aimed at addressing the humanitarian crises.