



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

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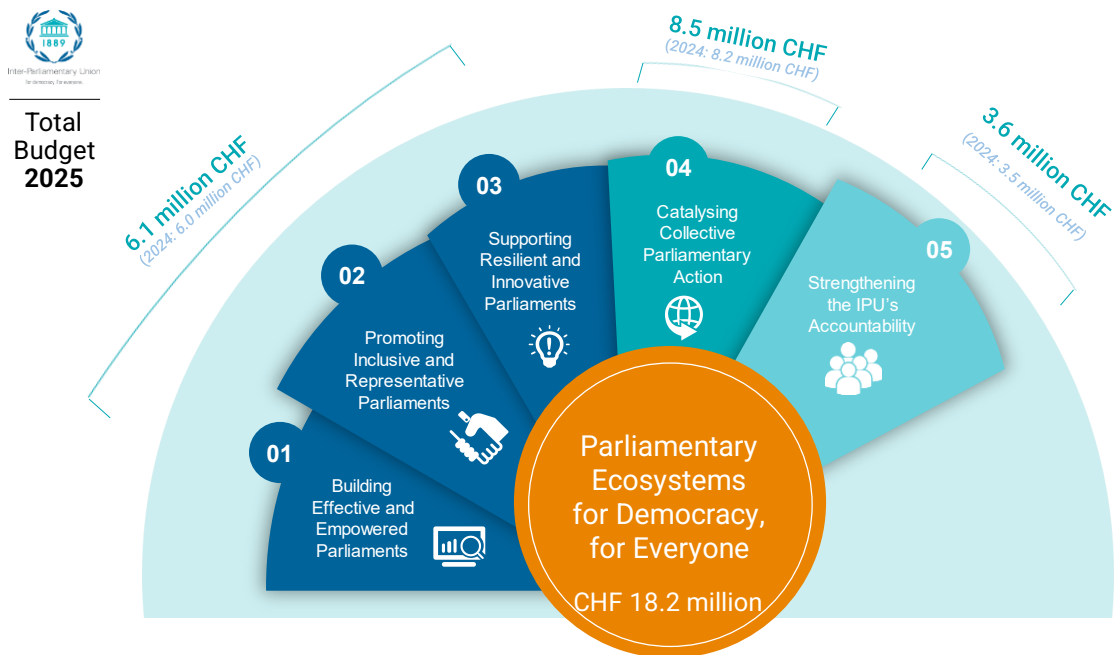
Executive Committee  
Item 8  
Governing Council  
Item 7

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## 2025 Consolidated Budget

### Driving parliamentary leadership towards a more inclusive future

The IPU is the global organization of parliaments. It was founded in 1889 as the first multilateral political organization in the world, encouraging cooperation and dialogue between parliaments of all nations. Today, the IPU comprises 180 national Member Parliaments and 14 regional parliamentary bodies. It promotes democracy and helps parliaments become stronger, younger, gender-balanced and more innovative. It also defends the human rights of parliamentarians through a dedicated committee made up of MPs from around the world. The IPU mobilizes parliaments across the world to work in support of peace and sustainable development.



The IPU’s vision is a world where parliaments and parliamentarians work “for democracy, for everyone” in a manner that is inclusive, collective, forward-looking, resilient, and responsive to the ever-evolving set of actors and dynamics that contribute to parliamentary ecosystems.

The 2025 consolidated budget is a financial translation of the plan to implement the IPU’s Strategy for 2022-2026 in its fourth year. The budget anticipates gross operating expenditure for the year of CHF 18.2 million. The bulk of the budget is funded by the contributions of Member Parliaments. These contributions are projected for 2025 at CHF 11.9 million. Voluntary income from a range of donors to carry out programme activities will supplement the regular budget income by an expected CHF 4.3 million, accounting for 24% of the total consolidated budget. The balance of CHF 2.0 million comprises staff assessment, other income and reserves.

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## 1. Introduction

### 1.1 Secretary General's summary

1. Under the plan and budget for 2025, the IPU will implement the fourth year of its Strategy for 2022-2026. The strategic approach brings five interconnected objectives together to consolidate the IPU's action and deepen its impact. Its ultimate goal is to develop parliamentary ecosystems for democracy that works for and delivers for everyone, taking a wider view of the full range of actors that engage with parliaments and their members. The challenges and uncertainty facing the world and the parliamentary community continue to be of concern. Progress towards all the IPU's Strategic Objectives will be attained through integration between programmes alongside the ongoing digital transformation of the IPU's working practices to supplement its regular in-person meetings, and a monitoring and evaluation framework that tracks and measures results and impact. In addition to its own digital transformation, the IPU will pursue efforts to enable parliaments to address the challenges of a rapidly evolving digital environment.
2. The total amount of Members' assessed contributions in 2024 remained below the level that it was in 2009. After many years of considerable reductions in contributions during the past decade, the Governing Council has agreed that it is important to rebalance the level of IPU contributions in order to meet the challenges of future needs and rising costs. The IPU's agenda has expanded in the context of its Strategy for 2022-2026 and requires a long-term funding commitment. In 2022, the Governing Council therefore agreed to continue to bring the IPU gradually back to its contribution level of 2010 by the end of the current Strategy period, by adding 3% per year to total contributions for each of the years 2024 to 2026 inclusive and maintaining a long-term commitment to growth of 2% per year from 2027 onwards. The IPU scale of contributions is patterned on the United Nations (UN) scale of assessment for 2022-2024, with some mathematical adjustment for the difference in membership (see pages 28-31).
3. Now in the middle of the 2022-2026 Strategy period, the IPU's parliamentary ecosystems approach is being applied to a world that is facing a range of persistent and developing crises. As the war in Ukraine continues and conflict intensifies in the Middle East, uneven economic prospects continue to add to the long-term effects of the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency and growing levels of inequality. The IPU's work will be responsive to demands arising from developing crises, with a focus on resilience and the broader inclusion of groups in vulnerable and marginalized situations.
4. Programme outputs will continue to be driven by the commitment and demand from parliaments to mobilize around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with five years to go to meet the targets set, as well as the human rights international frameworks. 2025 will witness a special global emphasis on gender equality and women's rights, as it marks the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, and the 25th anniversary of the UN Security Council resolution on Women, Peace and Security. The IPU Forum of Women Parliamentarians will also celebrate 40 years of existence. 2025 will also be the year of renewed commitments from States with regard to the implementation of the Paris Agreement on climate change. Robust parliamentary involvement in that process will remain a priority, as well as in the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the subsequent commitments made at the various Conferences of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the latest of which was in Dubai, United Arab Emirates in November 2023, with the next taking place in Baku, Azerbaijan in November 2024. The IPU will continue to support parliamentarians in implementing these key international agreements and in identifying ways to develop response strategies that are in line with environmental and sustainable development objectives. The IPU's foundational aspirations for peace and security have never been more relevant and will be supplemented by active parliamentary diplomacy to build peace. By breaking down silos and working across programmatic boundaries, the IPU Strategy is giving the Organization the mandate to deliver on expectations and to promote political dialogue, cooperation and parliamentary action. Mobilization of resources from a diverse range of partners will allow the IPU to maintain a stable level of activities while keeping Member Parliaments' contributions at low levels, comparable to those of over 15 years ago.

5. The first Assembly of 2025 will take place in Tashkent, Uzbekistan and the second will take place in Geneva. These two statutory Assemblies are planned to be held as full in-person meetings, along with the regular meetings of the Governing Council, the Executive Committee and other statutory bodies and committees. Investment in new technologies and services will enable virtual sessions of other events to be held as needed. The IPU's programme objectives are aligned under the Strategic Objectives with focus on identified priority areas and building parliamentary ecosystems. The Organization's new policies on transparency and accountability as well as harassment will be implemented stringently to maintain the IPU as a responsible and safe environment, an institution that walks the talk. The Secretariat continues to seek cost savings across all divisions and work areas and to maintain a strict control environment for regulating all expenditure despite inflationary cost increases.
6. Funding for 2025 will be used to bolster the priorities highlighted by the governing bodies in the Strategy. In terms of policy goals, the IPU will integrate work across its different programmes in achieving greater impact, specifically in democracy, peace and security, development, climate change, and scientific and technological innovation, including the emergence of artificial intelligence. The levels of funding allocated to the main areas of long-term IPU engagement are tentatively expected to be slightly higher than 2024 due to some new sources of voluntary funding. While the heart of the IPU remains grounded in political dialogue during in-person meetings, the digital transformation of working practices includes a range of tools for enabling more effective and inclusive remote participation, coordinated by the ICT team and the digital events coordinator. The management and maintenance of new collaboration infrastructure (including SharePoint) has also been established as an external service to enable the IPU digital environment to remain at the forefront of available technologies in future. Continued upskilling of staff for the new digital environment has been identified as an important priority. A sum of CHF 70,000 has also been set aside for evaluation of the Strategy, which will require strong engagement from Member Parliaments, and for further developing the IPU's monitoring and evaluation capacity to track results chains and measure the impact of the Strategy over its five-year span.
7. The IPU's digital presence, particularly its growing network of websites, and digital and social media channels, plays a pivotal role in the IPU's Communications Strategy. These platforms enable us to engage not only with parliamentarians but also stakeholders throughout the wider parliamentary ecosystem. To ensure our digital footprint remains dynamic, relevant, and a showcase for global parliamentary best practices, annual funding is essential for regular updates and content creation in a fast-moving environment. The budget for communications and capital projects allocates resources specifically for this purpose. Additionally, in 2025, targeted investment will be dedicated to developing Parline, ensuring it remains the premier global resource for parliamentary data.
8. Gender and human rights will continue to be mainstreamed and scaled up through the IPU's Strategy for 2022–2026. To improve the functioning and effectiveness of the IPU, the gender mainstreaming policy will continue to be applied to all aspects of the IPU's work to ensure that a gender perspective is present through all activities. The IPU is also applying a rights-based approach throughout its work and is ensuring cohesion between this approach and gender mainstreaming.
9. Voluntary funding for the IPU programmes in 2025 is projected to increase slightly from 2024 due to some new and expected grants. Existing funding from long-standing partnerships, including the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, have been supplemented by agreements with parliaments, the European Commission and the King Hamad Center for Peaceful Coexistence of Bahrain, among others. The major multi-year grant from Sida currently runs until the end of 2024 and is expected to be extended for a further two years to align with the end of the IPU Strategy period. Under this partnership, which represents the IPU's largest external grant agreement, Sida is supporting the implementation of the IPU's current Strategy across its objectives, particularly in building effective, resilient, representative and innovative parliaments. The IPU's programmatic links with the United Nations and its specialized agencies remain strong in areas including health, gender and peacebuilding, as well as through the IPU/United Nations partnership to help parliaments contribute effectively to global efforts to combat terrorism and violent extremism.

10. Other partnership initiatives are under discussion, although the full outcome of those proposals will remain unknown by the time the 2025 budget is approved. In preparing this budget we have only included those resources that are already quantifiable and committed or where there is a strong likelihood of their materializing. In any event, no funds will be spent or committed until donations are formally approved by a signed agreement. At present, voluntary contributions are expected to represent approximately one quarter of the total consolidated budget for 2025, with the majority of the IPU's funding still being derived from Members' assessed contributions in order to preserve the independence of the Organization. If the IPU is successful in mobilizing additional funds for more activities, the Secretariat will of course be responsive in notifying the Sub-Committee on Finance and Executive Committee and deploying the additional resources.
11. The balance of the Working Capital Fund (WCF) was CHF 10.6 million at the beginning of 2024, of which CHF 8.4 million represented available/liquid funds and the balance represented International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) accounting adjustments, which cannot be realized in cash. The liquid portion of the WCF stands at 91% of the target level set by the Executive Committee in 2006.
12. In 2012, IPSAS compliance increased the asset value of the Headquarters building, which in turn directly increased the WCF. In 2013, implementation of an IPSAS standard required the amortization of the long-term Foundation for Buildings for International Organizations (FIPOI) loan from the Swiss Confederation and raised the WCF value yet further. These increases in value have the effect of raising the depreciation charges, which must be serviced through the annual budget. The Governing Council has historically opted to cover these accounting entries from reserves in order to avoid reducing the IPU's budgeted activities. As decided for the 2014-2024 budgets, the Governing Council is invited to authorize the use of the WCF in 2025 and beyond to cover the incremental annual depreciation charges on the building (CHF 60,000 in 2025), the FIPOI loan (CHF 60,000) and the capitalized website development (CHF 110,000).
13. Following the discussions of the Executive Committee and its Sub-Committee on Finance, it is proposed that the 2025 budget be balanced by using up to CHF 435,700 of the liquid WCF, supporting the investments in the IPU's digital transformation and archives digitalization. The amount will be partly covered by expected savings in expenditure during 2024 and, as in previous years, this offset will only be applied if needed at the end of the 2025 budget period.
14. While the Governing Council has decided to rebalance total Members' assessed contributions, careful efforts will be made to manage the 2025 regular budget and the voluntary budget, keeping operational costs to a minimum while including the additional expenditure required for a complete programme of work and support to key priorities. Sourcing a reliable flow of voluntary income and appropriate partnership opportunities requires continual management efforts along with a careful appraisal of the potential risks to the IPU's independence and ability to deliver the Strategic Objectives defined by its Member Parliaments. Members are also being encouraged to support the IPU's fundraising efforts including by facilitating outreach to potential funding sources in their countries. The Secretariat will persist in its efforts to seek new Member Parliaments.
15. The parliamentary ecosystem as a whole continues to feel the impact of the various sources of global instability, whether climate change, conflict, inflation or pandemics. Despite these crises, Member Parliaments have maintained their strong commitment to funding the core budget of the IPU through regular payment of their statutory contributions. The IPU will need to act with dynamism, imagination and flexibility in 2025 to support Member Parliaments in implementing the Strategy, to respond to new demands and to ensure that inter-parliamentary dialogue and cooperation can continue, both in person and virtually. As the IPU seeks to build parliamentary ecosystems that are resilient, it must demonstrate its own capacity to be resilient. The IPU will continue to position itself as an organization that espouses the values inherent in democracy and multilateralism, including openness, transparency, accessibility and accountability. It will continue efforts to ensure that these values work for the well-being of the people parliaments represent, including in the context of its new policies on transparency and accountability as well as harassment.

## **1.2 Sub-Committee on Finance**

16. As usual, the Sub-Committee on Finance of the Executive Committee has been engaged throughout the process of budget preparation, advising the Secretary General and providing guidance and oversight. During the course of its online meetings, the Sub-Committee framed the core budget in broad terms based on the identified pillars of the Strategy and provided guidance on specific elements to be prioritized as well as continuing to identify opportunities for cost savings. Its guidance and direction have ensured scrutiny and quality control ahead of subsequent review by the Executive Committee and Governing Council. The Sub-Committee on Finance has stressed that the 2025 budget will strengthen the IPU's capacity to deliver during the strategic period while managing organizational risks. It sends a clear signal to encourage more Member Parliaments to step up their engagement for multilateralism, democracy and human rights in an efficient, modern and flexible manner. The IPU is the international organization for parliamentarism, built on active and strong Member Parliaments. The Secretary General is grateful to the Sub-Committee on Finance for its strong leadership in the preparation of this budget and looks forward to its ongoing support in the coming year.

**Estimates, by Strategic Objective, by source of funds (CHF)**

	2024 Budget	2025 Budget		
		Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
Assessed contributions	11,585,700	11,937,000		11,937,000
Working Capital Fund (IPSAS)	230,000	230,000		230,000
Working Capital Fund (liquid)	498,400	435,700		435,700
Staff assessment	1,159,400	1,162,100		1,162,100
Interest	100,000	100,000		100,000
Programme support costs	0	320,200	(320,200)	0
Other revenue	18,000	16,000		16,000
Voluntary contributions	4,116,900		4,323,300	4,323,300
<b>TOTAL REVENUES</b>	<b>17,708,400</b>	<b>14,201,000</b>	<b>4,003,100</b>	<b>18,204,100</b>
<b>1. Building effective and empowered parliaments</b>	<b>3,748,000</b>	<b>2,200,000</b>	<b>1,816,800</b>	<b>4,016,800</b>
<b>2. Promoting inclusive and representative parliaments</b>	<b>1,340,400</b>	<b>687,700</b>	<b>491,200</b>	<b>1,178,900</b>
<b>3. Supporting resilient and innovative parliaments</b>	<b>824,600</b>	<b>367,400</b>	<b>549,400</b>	<b>916,800</b>
<b>4. Catalysing collective parliamentary action</b>	<b>8,242,400</b>	<b>7,052,500</b>	<b>1,444,300</b>	<b>8,496,800</b>
<b>5. Strengthening the IPU's accountability</b>	<b>3,753,400</b>	<b>3,748,800</b>	<b>21,600</b>	<b>3,770,400</b>
Other charges	104,600	144,600		144,600
Eliminations	(305,000)		(320,200)	(320,200)
<b>TOTAL EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>17,708,400</b>	<b>14,201,000</b>	<b>4,003,100</b>	<b>18,204,100</b>

**1.3 Medium-term economic outlook**

17. The global economic outlook remains one of only moderate growth in 2025. Business and consumer confidence is rising as inflation is declining among G20 economies, despite the continued impact of tighter monetary policy. The global economy is projected to continue its partial recovery from the disruptions and geopolitical tensions of recent years. The International Monetary Fund (IMF) forecasts global GDP growth of 3.3% in 2025, up from 3.2% in 2024, indicating a stable outlook despite inflation risks. Emerging markets and developing economies are expected to grow by an average of 4%, driven by strong domestic demand and improved export performance, although this remains below pre-pandemic levels. Among advanced economies, growth is projected to align more closely in the coming period. Both the IMF and the World Bank emphasize concerns over an uneven recovery, particularly for low-income countries, and the potential impact of prolonged high interest rates on growth prospects. It remains uncertain whether the geopolitical tensions in the Middle East will threaten to damage energy and financial markets, which could stunt growth and push inflation back up.
18. The IMF has adjusted the growth forecast for the United States of America to 2.6% for 2024, with a further decline to 1.9% in 2025, due to a cooling labour market and reduced consumption. In the Euro area, growth is expected to rise from 0.9% in 2024 to 1.5% in 2025, driven by stronger services, higher real wages and increased investment. However, manufacturing weaknesses suggest a slower recovery. Growth in East Asia and the Pacific is projected by the World Bank to slow from 4.8% in 2024 to 4.2% in 2025, primarily due to reduced activity in China. In Latin America, growth forecasts for 2024 were downgraded for Brazil due to the impact of flooding, and for Mexico due to reduced demand. Brazil's growth forecast for 2025 has been revised upward, driven by flood recovery efforts and positive structural factors such as a rise in hydrocarbon production. In the Middle East and Central Asia, ongoing oil production limitations and regional conflicts are impacting economic prospects. Saudi Arabia's growth is forecast to decrease by 0.9 percentage points in 2024, primarily due to oil production cuts. The growth outlook for sub-Saharan Africa (SSA) has been downgraded to 3.6% for 2024, due in part to the impact of conflicts across the region and weaker-than-expected activity in Nigeria. However, SSA's growth forecast for 2025 is projected at 4.2%.

19. Switzerland's economic growth is projected to reach 1.1% in 2024 and increase to 1.4% in 2025, continuing its rise from 2023's GDP growth rate of 0.8%. Private investment and exports are likely to be constrained by weaker global trade and tight monetary conditions. Towards the end of 2024, inflation is anticipated to rise temporarily due to higher rent and electricity prices, but it will still stay within the Swiss National Bank's stability range of 0-2%. The main downside risks to economic activity include a further decline in foreign demand, supply chain disruptions, and a sharp correction in housing prices.
20. In 2025, the IPU Governing Council has agreed to a 3% increase in the total level of Members' assessed contributions. If further voluntary income is raised, the services and programmes under the relevant Strategic Objectives will be expanded. Meanwhile a conservative outlook has continued to be taken on revenues from interest and investments in 2025.

#### **1.4 Towards a carbon neutral IPU**

21. The IPU has long been committed to contributing to global efforts to tackle climate change. Within the framework of its campaign, *Parliaments for the Planet*, the IPU continues to promote the development of greener parliamentary institutions that are able to function while mitigating environmental impact and promoting responsible climate action. The Strategy for 2022-2026 takes this commitment to a new level by scaling up climate change activities and introducing a target for the Organization to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. A policy to achieve this target is under development and steps will be taken towards the goal in 2025. The Secretariat will calculate its carbon emissions in order to track progress and identify priority areas for action. Official travel will continue to be a necessary component of IPU work and emissions from travel are to be monitored and offset in full.
22. The new initiative will build on ongoing efforts by the IPU to reduce its emissions. The Organization obtains its electricity entirely from renewable sources on offer by the local utility company. The Headquarters has a state-of-the-art heating system and controls, thus limiting the options for further reducing energy consumption. However, the IPU continues to seek and employ environmentally sustainable sources for all required office materials and supplies. It systematically sets its printers/copiers to produce double-sided printouts, recycles paper, cardboard, glass, iron and aluminium, and restricts the amount of documents that are printed through its PaperSmart initiative. The Organization has been presented with an environmental certificate from PET-Recycling Schweiz for recycling all of its PET plastic waste, thereby saving the related impacts on the environment in terms of greenhouse gases and fuel.
23. This budget includes a provision of CHF 29,600 to offset carbon emissions from regular activities in 2025. The provision offsets the IPU's carbon emissions by paying for activities aimed at reducing the impact of climate change.
24. For 2025, the Governing Council is requested to appropriate funds from the reserve for offsetting carbon emissions to pay for climate change activities undertaken by the IPU, supplementing the funds which it expects to receive from voluntary sources for climate change activities. At present, the reserve of funds that had been set aside and accumulated from previous years is being fully expended on parliamentary involvement in climate change activities each year and is replenished annually through the above provision.
25. Climate change is a grave and mounting threat to people's well-being and a healthy planet. The scaled-up work on climate change will inform the IPU's work across all policy areas and Strategic Objectives, and primarily SOs 1, 3 and 4 in 2025. Support from extrabudgetary funds will allow the IPU to continue its work to enhance knowledge and capacities in parliaments so that they can more robustly engage in the topic of climate change through legislation, representation and oversight, and promote implementation of the Paris Agreement. Furthermore, by also focusing on MPs' outreach functions, the IPU will continue to provide platforms for interparliamentary dialogue, as well as to facilitate interactions between parliamentarians and key stakeholders at international forums and specifically the annual UNFCCC negotiations.



### **1.5 Gender analysis**

26. The Strategy prioritizes the long-term focus and high profile of the IPU's gender programme, as it works to promote and support the participation of women in politics, to protect and promote women's rights in general and to support the empowerment of women. This work is captured and reported across all five of the IPU's Strategic Objectives.
27. Voluntary funding for gender partnership/equality activities includes funding from donors including the European Union, Irish Aid, Sida and the United Arab Emirates. As and when additional funds are secured, they will be programmed in 2025.
28. Together, the estimates of combined regular budget resources and voluntary funding for gender-specific activities represent 8% of the total consolidated budget.

## 2. Income

### 2.1 Assessed contributions

29. The bulk of the IPU's income budget derives from its Members' assessed contributions. For 2025, the Governing Council has decided on a 3% increase in the total level of Members' assessed contributions. Up until 2011, contributions grew at an average of 3% annually in order to absorb inflationary increases and provide for adequate maintenance and reserves. Since then, the IPU has experienced a series of substantial cuts in Members' contributions due to the internal budget restrictions of many Member Parliaments. Between 2011 and 2016, the IPU reduced its annual assessed contributions by over 17%, representing CHF 7.5 million in cumulative savings for IPU Members, and bringing the rates of their contributions back to 1990s levels. Total assessed contributions were reduced by over CHF 2 million per annum coupled with a steady increase in the number of IPU Members from 152 to 180 during the period 2009-2024, which further relieved the burden on existing Members. In real terms, this brought the IPU's regular income down to levels that were last seen at the turn of the century. In 2025, the total amount of assessed contributions will still remain below its level in 2010.

YEAR	ACTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS ASSESSED*	CHANGE OVER PRIOR YEAR
2009	CHF 11,756,000	3.5%
2010	CHF 12,046,100	2.5%
2011	CHF 12,202,390	1.3%
2012	CHF 10,939,900	-10.0%
2013	CHF 10,950,800	0%
2014	CHF 10,952,900	0%
2015	CHF 10,601,676	-3.2%
2016	CHF 10,056,000	-5.1%
2017	CHF 10,238,600	1.5%
2018	CHF 10,443,400	2.0%
2019	CHF 10,515,200	0%
2020	CHF 10,959,200	4.1%
2021	CHF 10,920,800	0%
2022	CHF 10,920,800	0%
2023	CHF 11,248,400	3%
2024	CHF 11,591,500	3%
2025	CHF 11,937,000	3%

**\*IPU membership grew from 152 to 180 Members during the period 2009–2024**

30. In 2011, the Governing Council decided to update the IPU scale of assessment automatically in line with changes to the UN scale. The IPU scale presented with this budget reflects the most recently published UN scale for 2022–2024.

### 2.2 Staff assessment and other revenues

31. As international civil servants, IPU staff members pay a staff assessment or internal income tax to the IPU. The staff assessment rate is established by the International Civil Service Commission. This internal taxation system will generate gross returns of CHF 1,160,800 in 2025 to the benefit of all Member Parliaments. To prevent double taxation, the Organization is obliged to refund the portion of the staff assessment which is related to the national income tax levied on some staff members that live in France and Canadian citizens.

32. The supplementary revenues from observer fees, room rentals, souvenir sales and other related sources are expected to amount to CHF 16,000 in 2025. Interest and investment revenues are estimated at CHF 100,000, although they are difficult to forecast in an uncertain financial environment.

### 2.3 Voluntary contributions

33. Resource mobilization is estimated to generate voluntary contributions amounting to 24% of the total consolidated budget for 2025 (CHF 4.3 million). The current multi-year funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) for 2022-2024 is anticipated to be extended at a similar level for two more years up to the end of the IPU Strategy period, subject to agreement. This funding continues Sweden's commitment to long-term grants to support the work of the IPU across the programme spectrum, particularly in the fields of democracy and development. The European Commission is providing a range of support to the IPU, both to the gender partnership programme in cooperation with UNWomen, and to the Centre for Innovation in Parliament via IDEA/InterPares, as well as through country-level support in Djibouti. Following the conclusion of its three-year grant in 2024, discussions are under way with the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) with a view to securing future funding for the gender partnership programme.

34. Generous contributions have been made by a number of parliaments as support to the joint programme on countering terrorism and violent extremism, which is being implemented in cooperation with the United Nations. Ongoing support includes a new grant from China

(USD 1 million / CHF 0.9 million) for 2024-2028. A renewed grant from the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates for 2024-2028 is also providing USD 1 million (CHF 0.9 million), split between the counter-terrorism programme (33%), climate change work (33%), and the gender, youth and democracy programmes (33%). A new partnership with the King Hamad Global Centre for Peaceful Coexistence of Bahrain will provide a grant of CHF 400,000 over the coming three years.

35. Implementation of the SDGs is supported by the current grant from China with a five-year donation of USD 1.5 million (CHF 1.3 million) from 2021-2025 which allows the IPU to provide capacity-building support to parliaments in developing countries to contribute to the implementation of the SDGs. The 2021 grant of CHF 2 million from the Shura Council of Qatar is now almost completed and discussions are under way for further funding across several of the IPU's Strategic Objectives. The IPU continues to generate interest from a range of potential donors. As always, the Executive Committee will be kept informed of any resources mobilized after the 2025 budget has been approved.
36. The IPU will continue in 2025 to collaborate with the UN family, including the UN Development Programme (UNDP), on a range of country-based programmes including a multi-year agreement for the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The IPU and the World Health Organization (WHO) will continue to cooperate closely. A new memorandum of understanding was signed in March 2024 and a letter of agreement for CHF 110'000 is expected to be signed in the coming months. Discussions on the continuation of the collaboration with the WHO-hosted Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) are also under way to cover activities specifically promoting positive health outcomes for women, adolescents and children.
37. An addendum to the original grant of USD 100,000 (CHF 88,000) from the Julie Ann Wrigley Foundation, working through the Arizona State University, is providing a further USD 35,000 (CHF 30,000) to support the IPU's climate change campaign. As always, efforts are under way to fundraise from a wider range of other partners. The IPU has reached out to the Bertelsmann Foundation, a German philanthropic organization to identify funding for IPU youth activities.

### 3. Expenditures

#### 3.1 Strategic objectives

##### ***Objective 1 – Building effective and empowered parliaments***

###### **Rationale**

Parliaments and parliamentarians that are able to effectively exercise their mandates without fear or violence, deliver for the people, represent and defend the rights and interests of the community in all its diversity, make evidence-informed decisions and exercise oversight of their governments, are essential to democracy.

###### **Overview of activities in 2025**

###### **Ensuring MPs can exercise their mandates freely**

The IPU will pursue its efforts to ensure that MPs are able to exercise their mandates freely and safely in response to the growing threats and challenges that they face. The IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (CHRP) will manage its growing caseload by meeting regularly, carrying out on-site missions, holding hearings with victims, authorities and experts, mandating the observation of trial proceedings, and following up with Member Parliaments and other stakeholders to ensure action on decisions taken.

The IPU will present the findings of a global study on public intimidation of MPs, which aims to better understand trends and identify gaps and effective responses. It will also carry out awareness-raising activities and assist national parliaments in addressing challenges faced with regard to the exercise of freedom of expression – a prerequisite for democracy. In so doing it will make use of a new tool – a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on freedom of expression, developed in 2024.

The IPU will present the findings of a new regional study on violence against women in parliament in the Asia-Pacific region and how to address it. It will also implement support activities in Asia-Pacific parliaments in follow-up.

A new study focusing on the Americas will also be launched, complementing the series of studies published since 2016 (Global, Europe, Africa and Asia-Pacific).

###### **Building overall institutional capacity and action in key policy areas**

The IPU will continue its support for parliaments to enhance their institutional capacity in carrying out their constitutional mandate to legislate, oversee and represent the interests of the public. IPU support will aim to build their effectiveness, representativity, transparency, accountability and accessibility – key elements of SDG 16 and democratic parliaments.

Building on the set of Indicators for Democratic Parliaments, as well as IPU self-assessment tools, the IPU will support parliaments in making use of these frameworks to improve institutional functioning and ensure effective delivery of their mandate. The IPU will provide tailored capacity-building support for the institution as well as for MPs and parliamentary staff in a number of parliaments, with an emphasis on building oversight capacity of parliaments and building new partnerships to assist parliament in its work (State Audit Institutions, civil society organizations and research institutions). The IPU will focus on parliaments in countries in transition – and in particular parliaments in West and Central Africa – building capacity in terms of constitution drafting, inclusive decision-making, dialogue, public engagement and outreach to citizens. Many of these countries are in the throes of instability and it is the IPU's duty to help their parliaments to address the root causes thereof.

The IPU will complement institutional capacity-building with national targeted assistance to parliaments in priority policy areas. These include thematic areas such as human rights, gender equality, the elimination of violence against women and girls and of discrimination in the law, youth empowerment, climate change and disaster risk reduction, health equity and rights, human security and common security to build peace, sustainable development, and countering terrorism.

Gender equality and women's rights will be a cross-cutting priority. The IPU will support parliaments in addressing gender-based discrimination and advancing women's rights and empowerment, following up on recommendations resulting from UN review processes such as the Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review, Beijing +30 review, the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women. It will also support parliamentary action in relation to other United Nations treaty body processes, as well as the Paris Agreement on climate change.

#### **Developing standards and guidelines for parliaments**

The Indicators for Democratic Parliaments, launched in 2024, as well as other tools including the toolkit on *Human security and common security to build peace*, the toolkit on *SDG-informed legislative scrutiny*, a forthcoming toolkit on *Parliamentary oversight: Driving urgent and accountable climate action*, and research on the welcome process for new MPs will be widely disseminated and integrated into capacity-building work.

### **Key deliverables**

#### **Ensuring MPs exercise their mandates freely**

- Support to MPs at risk through the CHRP complaint procedure and follow-up (sessions, hearings, trial observations, missions)
- Finalization and launch of research on public intimidation of members of parliament
- Finalization and launch of research on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament in the Asia-Pacific region
- Regional conference on violence against women in parliament in the Asia-Pacific region
- Research on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament in the Americas
- Provision of advisory services to parliaments (upon request) on combating sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament
- Capacity-building on freedom of expression
- Raising awareness of violence against MPs, either State-sponsored or public intimidation, through specific communication campaigns and support of IPU research products

#### **Building institutional capacity**

- Support to parliamentary self-assessment and needs assessments on institutional capacity-building and select IPU policy priorities
- Capacity development for core functions of parliament for MPs and parliamentary staff, including women and young MPs, covering: oversight and scrutiny in relation to the SDGs and climate change, legislative drafting, monitoring and evaluation, research services, internal rules and procedures, budgeting, public engagement in the work of parliament, law-making and oversight, including on the IPU's policy priorities, and cooperation with key stakeholders, such as supreme audit institutions, national statistics offices and parliamentary training institutes
- Support to parliaments in countries in transition
- Support for the digital transformation of parliaments
- Advisory services including on parliamentary functioning, legislation, internal rules and procedures, national reconciliation
- Parline research on parliaments and their functioning

#### **Supporting action on national and global policy priorities**

- Capacity development for policy goal areas for MPs and parliamentary staff, in areas such as: freedom of expression, preventing public intimidation of members of parliament, SDGs, climate change and disaster risk reduction, gender equality in the law, violence against women, health, disarmament, oversight and governance, counter-terrorism legal instruments, science and technology, artificial intelligence, and trade. Specific attention will be placed on the provision of support to Small Island Developing States (SIDS)

- Capacity-building for implementation of UN human rights recommendations and other UN processes and legally binding agreements
- Enhanced production of IPU case studies, news stories and video interviews, including on emerging themes such as artificial intelligence

**Development and use of standards and guidelines for parliaments**

- Promotion and dissemination of the Indicators for Democratic Parliaments
- Development of standards and guidelines for enhancing parliamentary capacity and practice
- Dissemination of recently produced tools (toolkit on *Human security and common security to build peace*, toolkit on *SDG-informed legislative scrutiny*, MOOC on freedom of expression, toolkit on *Parliamentary oversight: Driving urgent and accountable climate action* and research on the welcome process for new MPs)
- Research and data collection on parliaments and their work on the IPU's policy priorities
- Overall data collection and documentation of good practices on: gender equality, youth engagement, climate change, common and human security, effective counter-terrorism legislation, prevention of violent extremism, SDGs, health, implementation of recommendations arising from the IPU's human rights cases, implementation of the Common Principles for Support to Parliaments
- Development of guidelines on parliaments and artificial intelligence
- Beginning of work on the next Global Parliamentary Report

**Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)**

	<b>Regular budget</b>	<b>Other sources</b>	<b>All funds</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>2,200,000</b>	<b>1,816,800</b>	<b>4,016,800</b>
• Salaries	1,644,800	594,300	<b>2,239,100</b>
• Services	347,500	912,900	<b>1,260,400</b>
• Travel	164,500	224,800	<b>389,300</b>
• Material	43,200	84,800	<b>128,000</b>

## **Objective 2 – Promoting inclusive and representative parliaments**

### **Rationale**

A key element to strong parliaments is the degree to which their members represent and articulate the concerns of society at large, paying particular attention to less represented groups and populations in vulnerable situations such as persons with disabilities, and the extent to which inclusive parliamentary practices create access and influence pathways for all members of the community.

### **Overview of activities in 2025**

#### **Enhancing gender and youth representation and participation**

Representation of women and youth has been part of the IPU's core work for the past few decades. With the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action, the 25th anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, and five years to go before the 2030 SDG targets, the IPU will contribute to these processes with timely data and information on women's and youth representation and participation in parliament, including developments and emerging trends, good practices, and lessons learned from parliaments' various experiences. It will produce advocacy tools to support the political participation of women and youth and pursue mobilization for more representative parliaments. In so doing, it will place a special emphasis on young women's political participation. It will also focus on the participation of groups of women and youth in vulnerable and marginalized situations.

The IPU will support national efforts to increase representation of women and youth in parliament (including technical support and expertise on positive measures and other initiatives that facilitate access). Particular focus will be placed on supporting parliaments where women account for less than 10% of membership.

The IPU will pursue the work around the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign to transform pledges into real actions to increase the numbers of young MPs and support them in their political careers.

#### **Building inclusive parliamentary processes**

The IPU will continue to build on the outcome of the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, to transform parliaments into gender-sensitive institutions which drive gender equality.

Research will delve into processes, mechanisms and strategies within parliaments to enhance women's and young MPs' participation in decision-making and influence and ensure that parliament as an institution mainstreams gender and youth considerations and interests.

The IPU will also support parliaments in building a conducive environment for women's and youth participation and their capacity to mainstream gender and youth issues in their work. This will be done through the implementation of gender-sensitive self-assessments, targeted support to empower women and youth in parliament, capacity-building of women and youth parliamentary caucuses, and initiatives to address sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament.

The IPU will seek to apply lessons learned from its work on the representation and inclusion of women and youth to other populations in marginalized and vulnerable situations and examine ways to achieve this objective. IPU work will emphasize the impact of parliamentary action on such groups in the areas of political empowerment, sustainable development, health and climate change.

The IPU will also develop work on politically inclusive decision-making processes with a special focus on relations between the majority and the opposition in Parliament.

**Support to public engagement**

Public engagement in the work of parliament will remain a focus, following up on the findings of the 2022 *Global Parliamentary Report*. The IPU will focus on public engagement in key policy areas, in particular climate change, women’s rights and health. It will implement initiatives to facilitate exchange of experience and provide support at national level to parliaments in their outreach and public engagement efforts, including through the use of IT for greater outreach. Public engagement will also be a priority in activities carried out in support of parliaments in transition.

**Key deliverables**

**Enhancing gender and youth representation**

- Research and data collection on women and youth in parliament; production of awareness-raising tools (Women in Politics map, infographics and other communication tools)
- Promotion of all IPU gender products that generate the most media attention for the IPU, especially those that mark the 30th anniversary of the Beijing Declaration on gender equality
- Provision of support to parliaments in enhancing women’s access to parliament, with a particular focus on parliaments where women account for less than 10% of MPs
- Continue to build on the success of the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign to support parliamentary action to enhance youth participation and empower young MPs

**Building inclusive processes within parliament**

- Support for national gender-sensitive self-assessments and follow-up
- Support for the establishment, work and impact of caucuses of women MPs
- Support for the establishment, work and impact of caucuses of young MPs
- Provision of leadership training and other capacity-building sessions for women and young MPs, including online
- Support to parliaments in implementing the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign
- Support to identify under-represented and marginalized groups and better map out their access to and participation in parliament, including persons with disabilities
- Capacity development for stronger parliamentary action in support of groups in vulnerable situations in the policy areas of sustainable development, health and climate change
- Guidelines on relations between the majority and opposition in parliament

**Enhancing public engagement efforts**

- Organization of webinars to share good practices and lessons learned on public engagement
- Support to parliaments’ national public engagement initiatives, in particular with regard to climate change, women’s rights and gender equality, health and follow-up to the research on public intimidation of MPs
- Engagement with youth civil society in an effort to raise public awareness on youth participation and around the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign
- Support to public engagement in countries in transition

**Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)**

	<b>Regular budget</b>	<b>Other sources</b>	<b>All funds</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>687,700</b>	<b>491,200</b>	<b>1,178,900</b>
• Salaries	597,500	76,700	<b>674,200</b>
• Services	63,900	371,800	<b>435,700</b>
• Travel	26,300	17,000	<b>43,300</b>
• Material	0	25,700	<b>25,700</b>



## **Objective 3 – Supporting resilient and innovative parliaments**

### **Rationale**

The COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis and cyberthreats are some of the key developments that have highlighted the need for parliaments and parliamentarians to be forward-looking, resilient, and able to evolve, adapt and manage risk as circumstances change. They have also brought to the fore the importance for parliaments to continue to modernize parliamentary strategies and business processes. The emergence of artificial intelligence as a major opportunity and challenge for parliaments and democracy at large has also increased pressure to adapt and plan for the future.

### **Overview of activities in 2025**

#### **Facilitating innovation in parliament**

In 2025, the IPU will pursue and enhance its work providing support to parliaments in integrating innovation and leveraging technology to become more efficient and resilient. The Centre for Innovation in Parliament will continue to serve as the main platform for parliaments to learn from each other's innovations, including on AI.

Efforts will focus on the provision of research and data and facilitation of discussions with a view to strengthening parliaments' ability to make effective use of digital technology as they carry out their core functions. The findings of the 2024 World e-Parliament Report will serve as the basis for exchanges and follow-up action.

The IPU will also continue to lead initiatives to develop good practices in the use of AI in parliaments. It will further develop the guidelines and use cases for AI published in 2024. The CIP network of parliamentary experts on AI will continue to exchange information and good practice, building on experience as parliaments take further steps with this emerging technology.

The IPU will furthermore support parliaments nationally in expanding on their digital and technological capacities.

#### **Greening parliaments**

Within the framework of the IPU's campaign, *Parliaments for the Planet*, the IPU will continue to promote the development of greener parliamentary institutions, i.e. institutions that are able to function while mitigating environmental impact and promoting responsible climate action.

The IPU will continue to raise awareness, collect good practices and give visibility to initiatives taken by parliaments, to serve as role models for other parliaments as well as other State institutions.

#### **Building parliamentary resilience to risks**

The IPU will support parliaments in addressing forward-looking priorities, turning towards the future (preparing for the impact of climate change, cyberthreats, artificial intelligence, science and ethics, etc.). It will facilitate discussions on how to enhance parliamentary capacity in apprehending the future and foresight thinking. This will include research and awareness-raising on the work of parliamentary Committees of the Future.

It will also carry out initiatives to promote implementation of the IPU Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology with a view to empowering parliaments to develop policies that place the human being at the centre of decision-making and to forge effective dialogue and exchange between scientists, researchers, policymakers and the public. The IPU will also support initiatives to anchor evidence-based decision-making in parliament.

Finally, the IPU will also support parliaments in apprehending and adapting to politically challenging environments, investing in conflict prevention including through mediation, dialogue facilitation and the use of the human security and common security approach to build peace toolkits.

**Key deliverables**

**Facilitating innovation in parliament**

- Support for the Centre for Innovation in Parliament, which includes building communities of parliamentary expertise in regional and thematic hubs; development of tools, sharing of good practices, including on digital transformation of parliaments
- Follow-up to the 2024 World e-Parliament Report and organization of the associated Conference
- Further development of guidelines, use cases and good practices in the use of AI in parliaments
- Webinars on digital transformation in parliaments
- Capacity-building for parliaments to enhance the use of IT and innovation to better exercise their functions, including in the areas of the IPU's policy priorities

**Supporting parliaments in promoting greener policies**

- Support to parliaments in implementing the 10 actions for greener parliaments
- Awareness-raising initiatives and facilitation of exchanges between parliaments on greening parliamentary work and functioning
- Feed the IPU's climate communications campaign *Parliaments for the Planet* with the latest good practices on greening parliaments and the planet.

**Building capacity to mitigate risks and apprehend the future**

- Support to parliaments in addressing forward-looking/future-oriented policy issues, and designing legislation thereon, including on science and ethics
- Raising awareness on the role of parliamentary Committees of the Future
- Organization of Summit of the Committees of the Future
- Giving visibility to case studies of innovative and resilient parliament success stories, especially focused on future-looking initiatives and artificial intelligence
- Support to parliaments in apprehending political risks – capacity-building in terms of mediation, dialogue facilitation and engagement

**Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)**

	<b>Regular budget</b>	<b>Other sources</b>	<b>All funds</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>367,400</b>	<b>549,400</b>	<b>916,800</b>
• Salaries	298,900	9,500	<b>308,400</b>
• Services	42,000	442,400	<b>484,400</b>
• Travel	15,500	91,500	<b>107,000</b>
• Material	11,000	6,000	<b>17,000</b>

## ***Objective 4 – Catalysing collective parliamentary action***

### **Rationale**

A key strength of the IPU since its founding has been its ability to connect parliaments and parliamentarians to each other, serve as the focal point for worldwide parliamentary dialogue, exchange, solidarity and diplomacy, and leverage the collective political strength of its Members at the global level and with regard to the United Nations, the World Trade Organization and the G20. The global convening power of the IPU is unique. Harnessing this collective power and transforming it into political action is particularly needed in the face of growing challenges to the multilateral system and the existential risks of climate change, nuclear warfare and the breakdown of international order.

### **Overview of activities in 2025**

#### **Convene and facilitate inter-parliamentary engagement**

The IPU will use its convening power to provide platforms for political mobilization and exchange, both online and in person. The objective is to accelerate national, regional and multilateral policy solutions to key global issues by catalysing inter-parliamentary cooperation and action.

In 2025, the IPU will hold global events including its flagship Assemblies, the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament preceded by a Summit of Women Speakers, the Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians, the first Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians, the Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations, the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO, the G20 Speakers' Summit (P20) and the second edition of the Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue. The IPU's integrated approach under its Strategy for 2022-2026 will be evident at these events.

As part of its efforts to identify and disseminate good practices, empower parliaments with tools to address major global challenges and mobilize parliamentary action for positive change, the IPU will continue to work closely with Member Parliaments in the context of the annual reporting exercise on the implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions.

#### **Support inclusion of parliamentary perspectives in key UN processes**

The IPU will organize global gatherings to address key thematic issues (SDGs, climate change, countering terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, cyberthreats, human rights, gender equality and combating violence against women, health, etc.) and open spaces for parliamentary contribution to UN processes by organizing parliamentary meetings on the occasion of major UN initiatives (Commission on the Status of Women, High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, COP30 on climate change, World Health Assembly, Internet Governance Forum, ECOSOC Youth Forum, etc.). It will also support parliaments through capacity-building events to contribute to and take part in key UN review processes such as the Universal Periodic Review, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention of the Rights of the Child and the voluntary national review of implementation of the SDGs, as well as supporting parliaments in acceding to and implementing major UN treaties and agreements on disarmament, non-proliferation and counter-terrorism.

The IPU will continue its efforts in building bridges between policy and science with the aim of fostering good governance and trust through the Science for Peace Schools, its work in science diplomacy, and on the implementation of the new IPU Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology. It will continue to support the Call of the Sahel, with a view to spurring collective parliamentary action to raise awareness and address the deterioration of the situation in the Sahel region.

The IPU will build on its strategic presence and partnership with the United Nations, through its offices in New York and Vienna and its Headquarters in Geneva to bridge the gap between international commitments and multilateral decision-making, and national priorities and implementation. It will also continue to advance the IPU's political project at the United Nations, in follow-up to the UN Summit of the Future and the relevant resolutions of both the IPU and the UN General Assembly.

**Better connect MPs to each other and to a wider ecosystem of stakeholders, enhancing solidarity and strengthening parliamentary diplomacy**

The IPU will step up its efforts to encourage solidarity between MPs in follow-up to IPU recommendations to address violations of the human rights of parliamentarians. It will also promote parliamentary diplomacy, seeking to facilitate political dialogue between the two Koreas, between Armenia and Azerbaijan, on Cyprus, and between MPs from Israel and Palestine, as well as in terms of carrying out the provisions of the IPU emergency item resolution on the peaceful resolution of the war in Ukraine. Particular attention will be attached to the work of the IPU Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, which is expected to adopt a resolution in 2025 on the role of parliaments in advancing the two-State solution in Palestine.

In all of its work, the IPU will build on its parliamentary ecosystem approach, which places IPU Members and parliamentarians at the centre while also engaging with other relevant stakeholders, including issue area experts, media, civil society and academia. This approach, which has shown valuable results in the context of the 2023 Interfaith Conference and of the IPU's involvement in the annual Geneva Peace Week, will be expanded to other IPU events and activities, including the World Conference of Speakers of Parliament.

**Key deliverables**

**Convene and facilitate inter-parliamentary engagement**

- IPU Assemblies in April (Tashkent, Uzbekistan) and October (Geneva) 2025
- Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, preceded by the 15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament
- G20 Speakers' Summit (P20)
- First Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians
- Annual Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians
- Second Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue
- Regional and interregional seminars on the SDGs

**Provide and advocate for parliamentary perspective in UN and WTO processes**

- Parliamentary Hearing at the UN, Parliamentary Forum at the HLPF, annual meeting at the Commission on the Status of Women, Parliamentary Meeting in the context of the COP on climate change, Parliamentary Track at the Internet Governance Forum
- Parliamentary Conference on the WTO
- Events in conjunction with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Development Programme, the World Health Assembly, UN Environment Programme and UNFCCC, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Conference of States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption, UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR), etc.
- Support participation of MPs in UN meetings of direct relevance to the IPU, such as the ECOSOC Youth Forum, the ECOSOC Science and Technology Forum, as well as other relevant high-level meetings of the UN
- Briefings for MPs on UN affairs, highlighting key reform issues
- New series of webinars on interfaith dialogue for peace and human dignity, in cooperation with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights
- Promoting IPU-relevant activities at the United Nations in New York, Vienna and Geneva
- Mobilizing Member Parliaments in communication and social media campaigns on International Women's Day (8 March), International Day of Parliamentarism (30 June), International Day of Democracy (15 September) and International Human Rights Day (10 December)

**Enhance parliamentary engagement on key policy issues and engagement in global processes**

- Coordination of parliamentary inputs and tracking of parliamentary participation in: Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Universal Periodic Review (UPR) processes, Committee on the Rights of the Child, regional UN Economic Commission forums on sustainable development, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), UNDRR

- Global or regional advocacy and awareness-raising events on: human rights sensitive parliaments, legislation that supports freedom of expression, gender equality, gender-sensitive parliaments, youth participation, climate change, SDGs, health, nutrition and food security, disarmament, science and technology for peace, counter-terrorism, prevention of violent extremism
- Science for Peace Schools, science diplomacy, IPU Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology
- Campaigns in support of accession to and implementation of major UN treaties: Arms Trade Treaty, Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty, Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, Convention on Cluster Munitions, statelessness conventions, WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies

**Strengthen MPs' and Member Parliaments' connections to each other and a wider ecosystem of stakeholders**

- Promotion of solidarity for MPs at risk
- Strengthening of relationships with Member Parliaments, other parliamentary organizations and geopolitical groups
- Advancement of universal IPU membership
- Promoting the use of tools available in the counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism programme, including the interactive map and the mobile application for parliamentarians
- Targeted engagement through campaigns and newsletters
- Enhanced content strategy which emphasizes case studies and good practices from parliaments and a wider ecosystem of stakeholders to inform, learn and inspire
- Update the IPU central database with new MPs and other stakeholders, especially after elections
- Conduct the 2025 annual MP global perceptions poll

**Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)**

	<b>Regular budget</b>	<b>Other sources</b>	<b>All funds</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>7,052,500</b>	<b>1,444,300</b>	<b>8,496,800</b>
• Salaries	4,722,500	9,500	<b>4,732,000</b>
• Services	1,508,400	957,300	<b>2,465,700</b>
• Travel	368,000	287,700	<b>655,700</b>
• Material	453,600	189,800	<b>643,400</b>

## **Objective 5 – Strengthening the IPU’s accountability**

### **Rationale**

Reinforcing and sustaining a culture of mutual accountability on all levels – for and between Member Parliaments, between Member Parliaments and the IPU Secretariat, and within the Secretariat – is both a key organizational value and a critical factor in ensuring that progress towards all Strategic Objectives is sustained and occurs in a transparent and democratic manner.

### **Overview of activities in 2025**

#### **Strengthen processes that require action by Members and enhance accountability**

The Strategy emphasizes the need to enhance existing accountability efforts within the IPU, engaging both Member Parliaments and the Secretariat itself. The IPU will expand its outreach and engagement with Members throughout the year, and with particular attention on those regions that face more difficulty taking part in the IPU. The opening of pilot IPU Regional Offices in Uruguay and Egypt will very much contribute to this effort. The IPU will seek to discuss and clarify further with Members responsibilities and expectations with regard to engagement in the IPU’s work and the implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions. The ongoing review of the IPU Statutes and Rules will seek to render the organization more effective, more inclusive and ultimately more responsive to the needs and expectations of the membership. The objective will be to further strengthen processes that require action by Member Parliaments, enhance the impact of IPU interventions at national, regional and global levels, and facilitate the sharing of progress and good practices. The IPU’s new policies on transparency and accountability as well as harassment will be implemented stringently to maintain the IPU as a responsible and safe environment.

#### **Develop and approve priority policies identified by the Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness**

Following the Comprehensive Transparency Report endorsed in March 2021 by the Governing Council, the Executive Committee established a Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness in November 2021 to implement the recommendations of the report. Priorities for 2025 include the approval and implementation of a policy on whistleblowers, review of the Secretariat Staff Rules and Regulations, and support for the continuing digitalization of the IPU both at Secretariat and governance levels. Training courses for the implementation of the recently developed IPU policies will be rolled out during 2024-2025. These mechanisms will be put in place to reinforce transparency, accountability and openness both at governance and Secretariat levels and will be underpinned by comprehensive risk management.

#### **Digital transformation of the IPU**

The IPU will step up its digital transformation with the key objective of improving its service to Members as well as modernizing the way the Organization conducts its business. This includes offering various digital platforms catering to different products and audiences, enhancing contact management, enriching the IPU’s database and reinforcing cyber-security.

#### **Gender, human rights and green transformation of the IPU**

The IPU will continue to lead the way in terms of gender sensitivity by implementing its Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and working towards targets identified for effective gender mainstreaming and achieving gender parity within the Organization. It will furthermore continue its efforts to systematically mainstream human rights in its work.

Similarly, the IPU will aim to be a role model by becoming a truly green organization. It will develop a comprehensive strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

**Sustain and strengthen Organization-wide monitoring, evaluation and learning (MEL) system**

The IPU will continue to build its MEL system and support Member Parliaments in developing their own systems as well. In 2025, the IPU will carry out an independent evaluation of its Strategy in preparation for the Member-driven review process of the next IPU Strategy, to be adopted in the second half of 2026.

**Key deliverables**

**Strengthen processes that require action by Member Parliaments and enhance accountability**

- Monitoring and tracking of Member implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions, including on individual human rights cases
- Implementation of accountability framework for the 2019 resolution on universal health care, the 2022 resolution on gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments, and for IPU work on climate change and disaster risk reduction
- Identification of other Member actions to be monitored and shared with the broader parliamentary community
- Continuing implementation of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Transparency Report pertaining to the IPU governing bodies

**Sustain and strengthen Organization-wide monitoring, evaluation and learning system**

- Carrying out of a review of the IPU Strategy
- Enhancement of system-wide organizational framework for monitoring and tracking progress against Strategic Objectives
- Development of regular internal accountability mechanisms to track progress and for joint learning

**Develop and approve priority policies identified by the Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness**

- Establishment and approval of a policy on whistleblowing
- Review of Secretariat Staff Rules and Regulations
- Training on compliance with the recent IPU policies including Code of Conduct, anti-harassment policy

**Digital transformation of the IPU**

- Implementation of the digital transformation road map
- Increased digitalization of processes and records (including IPU archives)
- Building of internal capacity for digital formats, events and projects
- Development of system-wide project management tools
- Reinforcing cyber-security on all platforms and training for new members of staff
- Maximizing the benefits of SharePoint and supporting teams in creating intranet sites
- Investing in growing information platforms (social media and instant messaging apps)
- Experimenting with new forms of digital content which are increasingly popular, e.g. producing more episodes in the IPU podcast series 'IPU on air'

**Gender, human rights and green transformation of the IPU**

- Developing and working towards milestones for a gender-sensitive IPU within the Secretariat and follow-up to the gender audit
- Building human rights mainstreaming internal capacity and mechanisms
- Completion of research to determine Secretariat-wide milestones to achieve carbon neutrality

**Enabling daily running of the IPU**

- Financial accounting, reporting and support
- Recruitment, compensation and benefits services
- Legal contracts and agreements
- Building and grounds management and security
- Staff capacity-building and evaluation
- Maintenance of in-house IT infrastructure and security
- Adaptation of the current Secretariat structure to match the needs of the Strategy
- Implementation of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Transparency Report pertaining to the Secretariat

**Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)**

	<b>Regular budget</b>	<b>Other sources</b>	<b>All funds</b>
<b>2025</b>	<b>3,748,800</b>	<b>21,600</b>	<b>3,770,400</b>
• Salaries	2,223,900	0	<b>2,223,900</b>
• Services	275,000	21,600	<b>296,600</b>
• Travel	161,300	0	<b>161,300</b>
• Material	561,600	0	<b>561,600</b>
• Financial charges	30,000	0	<b>30,000</b>
• Amortization	497,000	0	<b>497,000</b>



### 3.2 Provisions and grants

#### Overview of 2025

Provisions and grants are budgeted to provide adequate funding for present and future liabilities in accordance with prudent financial management practice.

Financial provisions and payments need to be made in appropriate amounts and in accordance with clear and approved policies.

The IPU sets aside funds to be used to offset carbon emissions from its activities, primarily travel. The amount of the contribution is currently determined by an online calculator, which estimates the investment that is required to compensate for emissions from travel reported by the Secretariat.

A reserve has been established for major repair work on the IPU Headquarters building. The reserve is being used to cover the depreciation cost of the work required to double-glaze and protect the windows of the IPU Headquarters. As of 1 January 2024, this reserve held a balance of CHF 372,000. As the reserve is depleted, the Governing Council will need to consider replenishing it in future years.

The reserve for doubtful accounts is a provision that comes into effect in the event that certain Member Parliaments' rights are suspended or they cease to participate and their contributions, which have already been recognized as revenue, are never received. Based on a prudent analysis, the expected 2025 contribution to the provision has been set at CHF 80,000.

The IPU provides an annual grant to the ASGP. The amount is determined each year at a level that is sufficient to meet expenses not funded from other sources. The grant was increased to a maximum of CHF 38,000 in 2017–2018 to enable the ASGP to reach out to more language groups through additional interpretation and translation services, and will remain at this level in 2025.

The IPU is contractually bound to guarantee the payment of the pensions of nine former employees of the Secretariat. The closed pension fund has been consolidated into the accounts of the IPU and its reserves are invested in a flexible mutual fund that is specifically designed for Swiss pension funds. It is anticipated that these reserves will be fully utilized and will be supplemented by the IPU's other invested funds as from 2026.

#### Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
<b>2025</b>	<b>144,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>144,600</b>

#### 2025 estimates, by objective and source of funds (CHF)

Objective	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
1. Statutory reserves and liabilities (net)	80,000	0	80,000
2. Assist the ASGP	35,000	0	35,000
3. Offset carbon emissions	29,600	0	29,600
➤ <b>Grand total</b>	<b>144,600</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>144,600</b>

### 3.3 Capital expenditures

#### Overview of 2025

The IPU makes prudent capital expenditures that will enhance asset values, or improve productivity or quality of work, while ensuring that future capital charges are sustainable.

In addition to the regular replacement of computers, a SharePoint server has been installed at the Secretariat which will enable the development of secure extranet access to the IPU file system in 2025. The IPU's digital presence, particularly its growing network of websites, digital and social media channels (including Parline – the premier global resource for parliamentary data), plays a pivotal role in the IPU's Communications Strategy and will continue to require development in specific areas in 2025 and beyond. Costs that are not covered through external donations will be capitalized and depreciated over four years.

#### Estimate of capital expenditures (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
<b>2025</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>0</b>	<b>150,000</b>

#### Estimates of capital expenditures by class, by year for 2024–2026

Item	2025	2026	2027
1. Replacement of computers and servers	35,000	35,000	35,000
2. Furniture	15,000	15,000	15,000
3. Website development	100,000	100,000	100,000
➤ <b>Grand total</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>	<b>150,000</b>

### 3.4 Staffing

38. The 2025 budget includes a staff establishment of 45.5 full-time equivalent positions. The table below shows the distribution of posts by strategic objective, category and grade, and the proportion of occupied posts currently filled by women.

Strategic Objective	2024	SG	2025 Budget					General services	Total
			Director	Professional Grades					
				5	4	3	2		
1. Effective parliaments	10		0.3	1.5	2.2	2	3.5	1.5	11
2. Representative parliaments	3.8		0.3		0.5	1.5	0.5	1	3.8
3. Innovative parliaments	1.2		0.4		0.8				1.2
4. Collective parliamentary action	19.8	0.5	2	1.5	4.5	1.5	4	5	19
5. IPU accountability	9.5	0.5	1	1			1	7	10.5
<b>Total</b>	<b>45.3</b>	<b>1</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>8</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>14.5</b>	<b>45.5</b>
<i>Per cent Women</i>	<i>58%</i>	<i>0%</i>	<i>75%</i>	<i>25%</i>	<i>50%</i>	<i>40%</i>	<i>67%</i>	<i>72%</i>	<i>58%</i>
<i>Number Women</i>	<i>26.3</i>	<i>0</i>	<i>3</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>4</i>	<i>2</i>	<i>6</i>	<i>10.5</i>	<i>26.5</i>

*N.B. Responsibility for gender mainstreaming lies with the Secretary General, supported by the Director of Programmes*

39. Grades are established in accordance with the UN common system of job classification. Two thirds of the Secretariat staff are women. Three out of the four director-level positions are currently held by women. The heads of both the New York and Vienna offices are women.
40. Annual adjustments to salaries are determined by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). The budget for Secretariat staff salaries in 2025 from regular sources is CHF 6,656,100. There is a further appropriation of CHF 464,000 for the salaries of project personnel paid from other sources.
41. Benefits such as pensions, dependency allowances and child education allowances are provided to staff in accordance with the UN common system. Some other benefits, such as health and accident insurance, are defined internally by the IPU. The budget for staff benefits from regular sources is CHF 2,122,800. In addition, the staff benefits charged to voluntary-funded project budgets amount to CHF 148,000.

## 4. Assessed contributions

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2025 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Afghanistan	0.006%	0.110%	13 100
Albania	0.008%	0.110%	13 100
Algeria	0.109%	0.240%	28 600
Andorra	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Angola	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Argentina	0.719%	0.940%	111 900
Armenia	0.007%	0.110%	13 100
Australia	2.111%	2.470%	294 000
Austria	0.679%	0.890%	105 900
Azerbaijan	0.030%	0.140%	16 700
Bahamas	0.019%	0.120%	14 300
Bahrain	0.054%	0.170%	20 200
Bangladesh	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Belarus	0.041%	0.150%	17 900
Belgium	0.828%	1.060%	126 200
Benin	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Bhutan	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.019%	0.120%	14 300
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012%	0.120%	14 300
Botswana	0.015%	0.120%	14 300
Brazil	2.013%	2.370%	282 100
Bulgaria	0.056%	0.170%	20 200
Burkina Faso	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Burundi	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Cabo Verde	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Cambodia	0.007%	0.110%	13 100
Cameroon	0.013%	0.120%	14 300
Canada	2.628%	3.030%	360 700
Central African Republic	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Chad	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Chile	0.420%	0.600%	71 400
China	15.254%	11.750%	1 398 600
Colombia	0.246%	0.400%	47 600
Comoros	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Congo	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Costa Rica	0.069%	0.190%	22 600
Côte d'Ivoire	0.022%	0.130%	15 500
Croatia	0.091%	0.220%	26 200
Cuba	0.095%	0.220%	26 200
Cyprus	0.036%	0.150%	17 900
Czechia	0.340%	0.510%	60 700
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Denmark	0.553%	0.750%	89 300
Djibouti	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Dominican Republic	0.067%	0.190%	22 600
Ecuador	0.077%	0.200%	23 800
Egypt	0.139%	0.270%	32 100
El Salvador	0.013%	0.120%	14 300
Equatorial Guinea	0.012%	0.120%	14 300
Estonia	0.044%	0.160%	19 000
Eswatini	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Ethiopia	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Fiji	0.004%	0.100%	11 900

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2025 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Finland	0.417%	0.600%	71 400
France	4.318%	4.820%	573 700
Gabon	0.013%	0.120%	14 300
Gambia (the)	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Georgia	0.008%	0.110%	13 100
Germany	6.111%	6.630%	789 200
Ghana	0.024%	0.130%	15 500
Greece	0.325%	0.490%	58 300
Guatemala	0.041%	0.150%	17 900
Guinea	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Guinea-Bissau	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Guyana	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Hungary	0.228%	0.380%	45 200
Iceland	0.036%	0.150%	17 900
India	1.044%	1.300%	154 700
Indonesia	0.549%	0.750%	89 300
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.371%	0.540%	64 300
Iraq	0.128%	0.260%	30 900
Ireland	0.439%	0.620%	73 800
Israel	0.561%	0.760%	90 500
Italy	3.189%	3.630%	432 100
Jamaica	0.008%	0.110%	13 100
Japan	8.033%	8.490%	1 010 600
Jordan	0.022%	0.130%	15 500
Kazakhstan	0.133%	0.270%	32 100
Kenya	0.030%	0.140%	16 700
Kuwait	0.234%	0.390%	46 400
Kyrgyzstan	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.007%	0.110%	13 100
Latvia	0.050%	0.160%	19 000
Lebanon	0.036%	0.150%	17 900
Lesotho	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Liberia	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Libya	0.018%	0.120%	14 300
Liechtenstein	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Lithuania	0.077%	0.200%	23 800
Luxembourg	0.068%	0.190%	22 600
Madagascar	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Malawi	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Malaysia	0.348%	0.520%	61 900
Maldives	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Mali	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Malta	0.019%	0.120%	14 300
Marshall Islands	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Mauritania	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Mauritius	0.019%	0.120%	14 300
Mexico	1.221%	1.500%	178 500
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Monaco	0.011%	0.110%	13 100
Mongolia	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Montenegro	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Morocco	0.055%	0.170%	20 200
Mozambique	0.004%	0.100%	11 900
Myanmar	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Namibia	0.009%	0.110%	13 100
Nepal	0.010%	0.110%	13 100

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2025 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Netherlands	1.377%	1.670%	198 800
New Zealand	0.309%	0.470%	55 900
Nicaragua	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Niger	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Nigeria	0.182%	0.320%	38 100
North Macedonia	0.007%	0.110%	13 100
Norway	0.679%	0.890%	105 900
Oman	0.111%	0.240%	28 600
Pakistan	0.114%	0.240%	28 600
Palau	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Palestine		0.100%	11 900
Panama	0.090%	0.210%	25 000
Paraguay	0.026%	0.130%	15 500
Peru	0.163%	0.300%	35 700
Philippines	0.212%	0.360%	42 900
Poland	0.837%	1.070%	127 400
Portugal	0.353%	0.520%	61 900
Qatar	0.269%	0.430%	51 200
Republic of Korea	2.574%	2.970%	353 500
Republic of Moldova	0.005%	0.110%	13 100
Romania	0.312%	0.480%	57 100
Russian Federation	1.866%	2.210%	263 100
Rwanda	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Saint Lucia	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Samoa	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
San Marino	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Saudi Arabia	1.184%	1.460%	173 800
Senegal	0.007%	0.110%	13 100
Serbia	0.032%	0.140%	16 700
Seychelles	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Sierra Leone	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Singapore	0.504%	0.700%	83 300
Slovakia	0.155%	0.290%	34 500
Slovenia	0.079%	0.200%	23 800
Somalia	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
South Africa	0.244%	0.400%	47 600
South Sudan	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Spain	2.134%	2.500%	297 600
Sri Lanka	0.045%	0.160%	19 000
Suriname	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Sweden	0.871%	1.110%	132 100
Switzerland	1.134%	1.400%	166 600
Syrian Arab Republic	0.009%	0.110%	13 100
Tajikistan	0.003%	0.100%	11 900
Thailand	0.368%	0.540%	64 300
Timor-Leste	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Togo	0.002%	0.100%	11 900
Tonga	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Trinidad and Tobago	0.037%	0.150%	17 900
Tunisia	0.019%	0.120%	14 300
Türkiye	0.845%	1.080%	128 600
Turkmenistan	0.034%	0.140%	16 700
Tuvalu	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Uganda	0.010%	0.110%	13 100

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2025 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Ukraine	0.056%	0.170%	20 200
United Arab Emirates	0.635%	0.840%	100 000
United Kingdom	4.375%	4.870%	579 700
United Republic of Tanzania	0.010%	0.110%	13 100
Uruguay	0.092%	0.220%	26 200
Uzbekistan	0.027%	0.140%	16 700
Vanuatu	0.001%	0.100%	11 900
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.175%	0.320%	38 100
Viet Nam	0.093%	0.220%	26 200
Yemen	0.008%	0.110%	13 100
Zambia	0.008%	0.110%	13 100
Zimbabwe	0.007%	0.110%	13 100

Associate Member	UN 2022-2024	Approved 2025 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Andean Parliament		0.020%	2,400
Arab Parliament		0.020%	2,400
Central American Parliament		0.020%	2,400
East African Legislative Assembly		0.020%	2,400
European Parliament		0.060%	7,100
Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States		0.020%	2,400
Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union		0.020%	2,400
Latin American and Caribbean Parliament		0.020%	2,400
Parliament of MERCOSUR		0.040%	4,700
Pan-African Parliament		0.020%	2,400
Parliament of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community		0.020%	2,400
Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States		0.020%	2,400
Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation		0.020%	2,400
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe		0.040%	4,700
Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie		0.020%	2,400
<b>Total</b>		<b>100%</b>	<b>11,937,000</b>