Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Summary Records of the Proceedings of the 152nd IPU Assembly

Istanbul, Türkiye
15-19 April 2026

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Introduction

Delegations from 133 Member Parliaments took part in the work of the Assembly:

Afghanistan*, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Belize, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cyprus, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Eswatini, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Gambia (The), Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guyana, Hungary, Iceland, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Malawi, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Monaco, Mongolia, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar*, Namibia, Nepal, Netherlands, Niger, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Paraguay, Peru, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Samoa, San Marino, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovenia, Somalia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Turkmenistan, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

The following 10 Associate Members also took part in the Assembly: the Arab Parliament, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the European Parliament, the Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), the Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), the Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO), the MERCOSUR Parliament (PARLASUR), the Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) and the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF).

Observers included representatives of:

(i) the United Nations and related organizations: United Nations, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women), World Health Organization (WHO), and the Preparatory Commission for the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization (CTBTO);

(ii) parliamentary assemblies and associations: African Parliamentary Union (APU), Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union (AIPU), ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly, Association of Senates, Shoora and Equivalent Councils in Africa and the Arab World (ASSECAA), Collective Security Treaty Organization Parliamentary Assembly (CSTO PA), Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), Interparliamentary Assembly on Orthodoxy (IAO), Maghreb Consultative Council, Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic States (TURKPA), Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UfM), Parliamentary Confederation of the Americas (COPA), Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States (PUIC), Southern African Development Community Parliamentary Forum (SADC-PF), and UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health;

(iii) international political party federations: Liberal International (LI) and Socialist International;

(iv) other partner organizations: International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) and the World Future Council.

Several special guests also attended the Assembly and gave addresses at high-level segments.

Of the 1,432 delegates who attended the Assembly, 697 were members of parliament (678 from Member Parliaments and 19 from Associate Member delegations), including 77 Presiding Officers, and 34 Deputy Presiding Officers. Member Parliament delegations included 244 women MPs (36%) and 85 young MPs (12.5%).

* As per the decision of the Governing Council in Madrid in November 2021, the IPU continues to engage with the former, democratically elected parliamentarians from Afghanistan and with the Committee to Represent Pyidaungsu Hluttaw (CRPH) for Myanmar. The corresponding delegations attend Assemblies in a non-voting observer capacity in accordance with Article 4.2 of the Statutes.

Inaugural ceremony of the 152nd Assembly

WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2026

The inaugural ceremony of the 152nd IPU Assembly took place at the Hilton Istanbul Bomonti Hotel & Conference Center, Istanbul, Türkiye, at 18:30 on Wednesday, 15 April 2026.

The IPU anthem and the national anthem of Türkiye were played.

A video promoting Turkish history and culture was shown.

Mr. Martin Chungong (Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union) said that it was the fourth time that an IPU Assembly had been convened in Istanbul. Having attended the 95th Conference in Istanbul in 1996 early in his career at the IPU Secretariat, he had come full circle, as the 152nd Assembly would be the last of his tenure as Secretary General. While he had initially expressed a desire to host the 152nd Assembly in Geneva, the city in which he had first been elected Secretary General, it had been a wise decision to host it in Türkiye. He expressed appreciation for the efforts undertaken to organize the Assembly and thanked the Turkish authorities for graciously hosting it in optimum conditions.

Despite the current global turmoil, it was heartening to see a record 77 Speakers of Parliament in attendance. Referencing the theme of the Assembly, he urged Member Parliaments to keep considerations about future generations at the forefront of their deliberations, since that emphasis should be central to all parliamentary work. To that end, the Assembly would feature a dialogue between a senior international figure and a eleven-year-old girl to discuss the expectations of both generations.

While the Assembly had not always reached a consensus on an emergency item proposal in recent years, he urged Member Parliaments to support the efforts under way to adopt an inclusive and forward-looking emergency item resolution to address current crises from the perspective of the global parliamentary community.

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians continued to spearhead the IPU's efforts to ensure that parliaments were inclusive and reflected society's diversity. Two forward-looking resolutions – on just and lasting peace and on a fair and sustainable global economy – were expected to be adopted by the Assembly and would bolster the Assembly's overarching themes of peace and justice. Among the meetings of the IPU's specialized bodies and other events scheduled to take place during the Assembly, he highlighted in particular the special session on advancing the two-State solution for Israel and Palestine and the discussion on Palestine to be hosted by the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, both of which would reaffirm the IPU's belief that the two-State solution was ideal for resolving the crisis in the Middle East. The Assembly would also feature a 50th anniversary celebration of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and the usual accountability segment, in which the Organization set great store, allowing it to assess Member Parliaments' implementation of IPU decisions and outcomes. The IPU was set to adopt a new Strategy, which he encouraged Member Parliaments to endorse, as it was a direct result of their deliberations and input.

In closing, he looked forward to fruitful deliberations and outcomes and thanked the IPU for its support during his 12-year tenure as Secretary General.

Mr. Babatunde Ahonsi (United Nations Resident Coordinator in Türkiye), introducing a message from the UN Secretary General, expressed his gratitude to the Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for his hospitality and to the leadership of the IPU for convening the Assembly. As the cornerstone of democratic governance, parliaments should ensure accountability and the rule of law and build national visions.

The role of parliaments was critical in the advancement of sustainable development. Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) required not only strong executive action, but also robust legislative frameworks, oversight and inclusiveness. The deliberations during the Assembly should therefore highlight parliaments' central role in building inclusive and resilient economic systems that responded to global challenges. Parliaments played an increasingly crucial role in shaping resilient and forward-looking public policy and strategic planning, necessitating informed debates, evidence-based legislation and a long-term perspective, especially when addressing emerging issues.

No one should be left behind. The role of parliaments had also become more critical in strengthening trust and social cohesion, including through dialogue, consensus-building and peaceful dispute resolution.

The active engagement of the IPU's Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians underscored the importance of inclusive representation in shaping policies that reflected all of society. Such participatory and comprehensive parliamentary engagement was required to address current global challenges.

The United Nations (UN) system attached great importance to its partnership with parliaments worldwide, which would be reflected in discussions throughout the Assembly and was critical to ensuring that global commitments were translated into national action. Strong parliamentary engagement was essential for effective multilateralism, national ownership of global agendas and accountability in implementation. As a regional and cultural crossroads, Türkiye's leadership in hosting the Assembly was timely and significant, bringing together many parliamentary voices. In closing, he reminded the Assembly of the emphasis placed by the UN Secretary-General on inclusive governance, multilateral cooperation and the central role of parliaments.

Mr. António Guterres (Secretary-General of the United Nations), speaking in a pre-recorded video message, expressed his best wishes to Mr. Chungong ahead of the conclusion of his mandate in June 2026, and said that parliamentarians' role of connecting citizens to institutions and national priorities to global responsibilities was vital in light of the current geopolitical tensions, inequalities, eroding trust and human suffering. Given the increasing civilian impact and instability caused by global conflicts, there was a need for dialogue, de-escalation and full respect for international law. It was necessary to address global inequalities by reforming the international financial architecture through enhanced representativeness, inclusiveness and alignment with current economic realities. Technology should be leveraged to provide inclusive opportunities. The current global situation also called for solidarity to implement climate action. He thanked parliaments for their leadership and commitment and encouraged them to continue advancing the aims of the IPU.

Dr. Tulia Ackson (President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union) said that IPU Assemblies should never be taken for granted. The rapidly evolving crisis in the Middle East had cast a long shadow over international affairs and multilateralism, but the IPU had remained firm in its position, demonstrating its resilience and conviction that people's voices would not fall silent in crisis. The IPU was as strong as its Member Parliaments, which was evident at the present Assembly. Recalling that IPU Assemblies were a vital space where the representatives of the people gathered when it mattered most, she thanked the Host Parliament for making the 152nd Assembly possible. It attested to the Host Parliament's dedication to dialogue and its resilience amid global tensions, thus reminding Member Parliaments that parliamentary diplomacy must endure, even in difficult times.

The current global turmoil had resulted from the pursuit of short-term interests and countries' repeated failure to settle disputes through peaceful means, which was a legal obligation under the Charter of the United Nations and a moral imperative to ensure that future generations lived in peace and dignity. It was therefore clear why many young people were disillusioned about the future. Their growing despair originated from a reduced sense of agency, demonstrated in the low youth participation rate in parliaments, whereas they accounted for half of the world's population.

Parliaments had failed young people most in the climate crisis, which called for foresight and responsibility. Many leaders, however, remained preoccupied with power struggles and diverted resources towards war. It was up to Member Parliaments to spearhead solutions to address the current state of affairs. Parliaments were key to public life and were fertile ground for building consensus. They must reject short-termism, ensure social and intergenerational justice through the fair distribution of resources, risks and opportunities, uphold political integrity and address gaps in representation and inclusiveness to ensure informed decisions, increased legitimacy and enduring tenures.

Recalling the IPU's priority theme for 2026, she underscored that the protection of human rights and the rule of law formed the bedrock of peaceful and just societies. Parliamentary committees must shoulder that responsibility, including through rigorous oversight, and should confront the drivers of the increasing instability and division worldwide.

As the year 2030 approached, priority must be placed on achieving tangible progress on the SDGs, thus building trust in public institutions. The best hope for peace and justice lay in a strong multilateral system, with the UN at its centre and with parliaments complementing traditional diplomacy by exercising legislative oversight and playing a budgetary and representational role to maintain dialogue even when formal channels were under strain. Parliaments were urged to promote

cooperation, dialogue and adherence to international humanitarian law and ensure that zero-sum thinking did not define global affairs. Referencing the theme of the Assembly, she renewed her call for inclusion, dialogue, foresight, courage and a clear sense of duty to future generations.

A video about the 152nd Assembly was shown.

Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş (Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye), welcoming delegates to Istanbul, said that it was an honour to host such an important gathering at such a critical time and expressed his heartfelt thanks to his colleagues and the IPU for their support in preparing for the Assembly. With about 1,500 registered participants from nearly 135 countries, including 77 Speakers of Parliament, the 152nd Assembly had been one of the best attended IPU gatherings in recent history.

As the principles of international politics were no longer applicable amid the current unprecedented global challenges, it was up to governments and parliaments to determine whether the new era they faced would be built on fairness, justice, equity and moral conscience. He looked forward to fruitful discussions that would provide guidance to future generations and put forward substantive proposals to achieve world peace. The uncertainty of the future called for efforts to share perspectives that served the common good and to find common ground, especially through parliamentary diplomacy.

Most institutions that had been established to address current global issues were not functioning effectively. The United Nations in particular had become shaped to suit the will of the powerful, giving rise to double standards that legitimized, for example, the attacks by Israel on Gaza and by Israel and the United States of America on the Islamic Republic of Iran and other countries in the Middle East. The rules constituting the founding philosophy of the UN had collapsed. However, countries would continue to sign instruments underpinned by those rules, which existed only on paper. The terminology of international relations had been rendered meaningless. Extraordinary efforts were necessary.

Recalling that South Africa's UN membership had been suspended in 1974 owing to its apartheid regime, he called for the suspension of Israel's UN membership, especially given that a decision adopted by the Israeli Parliament in March 2026 had introduced the death penalty, based on military rulings, for Palestinians in the West Bank only, but not for Israelis. That move constituted apartheid. Further recalling Europe's rejection in 2000 of Austrian far-right party leader Jörg Haider, he underscored that with will and determination, solutions could be found to resolve current issues.

In closing, he urged the international community to shoulder its primary obligations to ensure the sovereignty of all States and equal rights for all people and to build a just and equitable global system. He wished the Assembly every success.

Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş declared the 152nd IPU Assembly open.

Sitting of Thursday, 16 April 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 11:45 with Mr. N. Kurtulmuş, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye and President of the 152nd IPU Assembly, in the Chair.

OPENING REMARKS

The President of the Assembly declared the 152nd IPU Assembly open, expressing his commitment to ensuring a fair, fruitful and orderly debate. The theme for the General Debate, *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations* was highly relevant in the face of urgent global challenges, such as escalating conflict, deepening inequalities and mass displacement. Those challenges were not due to technical shortcomings but to deeper systemic problems. The international system was failing to effectively enforce its own rules and principles, instead applying them unevenly in a way that benefitted powerful actors while disadvantaging weaker ones. It had thus become a tool of oppression rather than protection.

The situation in Gaza, where the basic rights of civilians were consistently violated, was a key example of the failure of the international system. The inability to produce an effective and binding response to the situation was a serious concern, undermining the credibility of global institutions. Indeed, global institutions had no purpose if they did nothing to prevent suffering. The international community must seriously consider why such institutions were created, who they were meant to serve and how consistently its values were expected to be applied. What was needed now was not more declarations but concrete action on the commitments already declared.

He highlighted the danger of applying international law selectively, as was the case in Gaza, noting that violations must always be deemed as such regardless of the perpetrators. Silence in the face of suffering could not be disguised as impartiality, diplomacy must not be used as a pretext to mask oppression, and the right to life must never be subject to political bargaining. Parliamentarians were encouraged to speak honestly, rather than concealing the truth under the guise of diplomatic politeness, and to uphold universal human dignity when pursuing national interests. Global security could not be achieved by perpetuating the insecurity of others.

The prospects of younger generations were further undermined by economic inequality, which could not be separated from the peace agenda. Development could not be defined solely by growth metrics; it required the equitable distribution of prosperity, the protection of labour, and equal access to essential services such as education and healthcare. Climate and environmental fragilities must also be addressed.

The societies bearing the heaviest burdens were often those with the least historical responsibility for global challenges. In that context, there was a pressing need to distribute global responsibilities more equitably while making multilateral institutions more inclusive and representative. He stressed the importance of fair, civilized and respectful dialogue, even among differing viewpoints, noting that the world could not remain a place where the strongest players dictated the agenda. Through such an approach, it would be possible to achieve constructive outcomes for humanity and thus nurture hope.

Amid the above crises and ruptures, the international system must undergo a process of serious reflection and reckoning to determine whether its credibility could indeed be restored. Otherwise, the gap between principles and action would further widen, making it impossible to represent global consciousness effectively.

Dr. T. Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the IPU, said that the Assembly had gathered at a time when the present was increasingly in jeopardy, marked by global conflict, fragile peace and selective justice. It was important to be honest with future generations: if current trends continued, they would inherit a world that was irreparably damaged and dangerous, burdened by climate change, technological risks, displacement, persistent poverty, gender inequality and democratic decline. Urgent action was needed.

There was, however, reason for hope. The international system, established decades earlier to protect future generations – including those alive today – from the evils of war, injustice and inequality, remained a significant achievement despite its flaws. The shared commitment that nations continued

to have to multilateralism as well as to the fundamental rights and freedoms that underpinned peace and justice was equally noteworthy. The task going forward was simply to honour the commitments made by previous generations.

Parliamentarians had a crucial role to play in securing a better world for future generations given their ability to legislate, oversee governments, approve budgets, represent citizens and promote dialogue. With parliamentarians moving fluidly between ministers, fellow parliamentarians and constituents, parliamentary action and diplomacy were essential tools for resolving conflicts. How parliamentarians conducted themselves would directly influence public trust and the wellbeing of future generations even if the institutions themselves were not perfect.

Drawing on Article 1 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, she highlighted the importance of solidarity and the need to act in a spirit of brotherhood. Those were not just legal obligations but expressions of a shared humanity reflecting the interconnectedness of all people. Without them, commitments to one another and to future generations would lose their meaning and become purely mechanical.

Building a more optimistic, peaceful and just future for the world's children began with making good decisions today. Decisions taken for current generations must also work for future ones. She encouraged delegates to believe in their ability to make a difference, even through small actions.

Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico), President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that, in a world facing escalating wars, deepening inequality and growing distrust in democracy, where violence and force were increasingly normalized, many had been left in a constant state of instability and hopelessness. She warned against accepting war, injustice and poverty as inevitable, calling instead for a shift from isolation, fear and division to common purpose, commitment and dialogue. Hope and peace would not be rebuilt with weapons but through collective actions from countries, parliaments and communities.

There was no hope for future generations without equality. Yet, gender inequality continued to shape power structures, placing women at a disproportionate disadvantage, particularly in times of crisis. Women remained significantly underrepresented in parliaments, cabinets, and leadership positions, with representation in some cases even regressing. For example, in 2021, every parliament in the world had at least one woman, whereas by 2026 two had none. She warned against such backsliding and urged renewed commitment to gender equality, welcoming new milestones such as the upcoming appointment of the first female Secretary General of the IPU.

In their 15th Summit held in the summer of 2025, Women Speakers of Parliament had recommended three key actions: (1) to ensure that the Women, Peace and Security agenda, was a priority, recognizing the essential role of women in peacebuilding and conflict prevention; (2) to fully respect international humanitarian and human rights law, promoting peaceful, negotiated settlements in place of a growing reliance on violence and war; and (3) to address the gender-related consequences of violence and war in a survivor-centred way and ensure inclusive peace processes as the only sustainable path to lasting peace. She encouraged parliamentarians to trust women, who were the key to lasting peace.

Ms. N. Abu Ghosh (Jordan), President of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians, welcomed the theme of the Assembly, noting that every decision made by parliaments today carried consequences for future generations. Intergenerational partnerships were needed to make hope, peace and justice a reality, but to build them, it was important to be honest about where the world stood, including on youth participation. A new IPU report revealed that only 2.8% of parliamentarians worldwide were under the age of 30, with no progress since 2023 and even lower representation among young women – findings that were deeply alarming. Decisions affecting future generations must include the voices of young people today.

There was a need to address the impact of present-day conflicts, particularly in the Middle East, on young people, whose education, livelihoods and sense of safety were under threat. Justice for future generations could not be achieved by ignoring present injustices.

Parliaments had the tools to act and were encouraged to: (1) increase the participation of young people, especially young women, in parliaments through quotas and targeted support; (2) adopt long-term thinking in policymaking considering how circumstances might develop in 20 years and beyond; and (3) ensure the protection of young people's rights, including access to safety, education and healthcare during conflict.

Item 3 of the agenda

General Debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/152/3-Inf.1)

Special segment: Intergenerational exchange

Mr. T. Fitzsimons (IPU Secretariat), moderator, said that, with the world facing multiple overlapping crises, including war, climate change, rising costs and growing geopolitical tensions, it was difficult to maintain a sense of hope. Young people and future generations were particularly affected, as illustrated by the recent demonstrations by Generation Z around the world, who were frustrated by the lack of opportunities.

In that context, he stressed the importance of bringing different stakeholders together, especially those from different generations, to foster dialogue. It was through such dialogue that hope could be found again. He welcomed special guests, Mr. Salih (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)) and 11-year-old Ms. Magesa (Child Activist), to the intergenerational exchange, convened in that spirit.

He invited the two guests to share their first impressions of the IPU Assembly.

Mr. B. Salih (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) described the IPU as an important institution, praising its role in bringing together parliamentarians from around the world to exchange experiences and advance the shared values of peace and human dignity.

Reflecting on his own experience as an Iraqi refugee from a region long affected by conflict and displacement, he said it was both an honour and a profound responsibility to serve as UN High Commissioner for Refugees. Türkiye, the host of the Assembly, had been exemplary in its support for refugees, continuing to accommodate nearly 2.3 million Syrians almost 15 years after the start of the conflict. It was evidence of the continuing importance of the humanitarian, moral and legal mission of protecting forcibly displaced persons.

The world was at a critical moment with conflicts persisting in many regions and displacement reaching unprecedented levels. As such, the mandate of the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees remained as relevant as ever in providing protection to those fleeing conflict, persecution and climate-related shocks. He urged parliamentarians to uphold the values of humanity and solidarity, translating them into legislation and budgets that supported the protection and empowerment of refugees.

It was an honour to share the platform with Ms. Magesa. There was a shared responsibility across generations to build a more peaceful, prosperous, resilient and sustainable world for young people and future generations, rather than leaving them with greater conflict, displacement and hardship.

Ms. G. Magesa (Child Activist and Founder of the Georgina Foundation) shared a positive first impression of the Assembly, appreciating the IPU's efforts to include and protect children, who were the heart of the world and essential to safeguarding the planet. She highlighted the importance of showing children that they were not alone but part of a shared journey to nurture hope, secure peace and promote justice.

Mr. T. Fitzsimons (IPU Secretariat), moderator, noting that the two guests came from two different generations, namely the Boomer generation and Generation Alpha, asked what a genuine intergenerational partnership should look like and what each generation expected from each other.

Mr. B. Salih (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) reflected personally as a parent and grandparent, acknowledging the responsibility older generations had towards ensuring a safe, peaceful and opportunity-rich future for children. Drawing on experiences from refugee camps and visits to countries including Ukraine, Türkiye, Jordan, Lebanon, Chad and Kenya, he noted that children everywhere shared similar aspirations: access to education, basic services, jobs, sports, a clean planet, a stable environment and basic human dignity. It was essential for older generations to listen more closely to young people and act on their concerns. People in positions of authority, as custodians of the planet, must ensure they left behind a better world for future generations.

Ms. G. Magesa (Child Activist and Founder of the Georgina Foundation) said that children themselves were a source of hope, even in the most difficult circumstances, where they continued to smile, learn and believe in a better planet. She warned, however, that hope alone was not enough, noting that failure to act on issues such as climate change could lead to a future marked by environmental degradation, inequality and increased vulnerability for children. Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice must be treated as a responsibility rather than just a theme.

Calling for global cooperation, she urged leaders to work together across borders, moving from promises to concrete action. They must invest in education and ensure the inclusion of all children, especially those with disabilities. Absolutely no one could be left behind.

Some of the initiatives undertaken at the Georgina Foundation, which she had founded to empower children, included reading, tree planting and shared learning, demonstrating how small actions could create meaningful change. It was important to act with courage, unity and care. The future was not distant but already present and depended on the choices made today.

Mr. T. Fitzsimons (IPU Secretariat), moderator, asked Mr. Salih what one action parliamentarians should take home with them.

Mr. B. Salih (United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees) said that the global community had a moral and human obligation to help the nearly 120 million people worldwide, including children, who were forcibly displaced. A collective whole-of-society approach was needed to achieve UNHCR's ambitious goal of reducing long-term displacement by 50% within 10 years. The aim was to help displaced people move from dependency and victimhood towards agency and dignity.

On its 75th anniversary, parliamentarians must acknowledge the continuing importance of the 1951 Refugee Convention and the need to protect those fleeing conflict and persecution. While humanitarian assistance remained essential, it was vital to pursue lasting solutions, which ultimately depended on achieving peace and addressing the root causes of displacement. He further noted that supporting displaced populations was not only a humanitarian imperative but in the national security interest of all countries, warning that prolonged deprivation and dependency could deepen instability. Displacement must not be viewed merely as a burden to manage but as a matter to solve.

Mr. T. Fitzsimons (IPU Secretariat), moderator, drawing attention to her new book, asked Ms. Magesa to elaborate on her experience of climbing Mount Kilimanjaro in Tanzania, the host of the forthcoming 153rd IPU Assembly.

Ms. G. Magesa (Child Activist and Founder of the Georgina Foundation) described climbing Mount Kilimanjaro as a great honour and noted the mountain's beauty and global significance. She warned, however, that according to the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), all of Mount Kilimanjaro's snow and ice could disappear by 2030 because of climate change. Mount Kilimanjaro belonged to the whole world, not just to Africa, and must therefore be protected collectively. It was her hope that parliamentarians could experience it during the forthcoming Assembly.

PRESIDING OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT

Mr. A. Farrugia (Malta) said that, despite repeated commitments by the international community to peace, justice and human dignity, many people around the world were still waiting for protection. It was essential to move from declarations to concrete action.

Recognizing that peace could never be taken for granted, Malta reaffirmed its support for a rules-based international order, stronger multilateral cooperation and just and lasting solutions to conflicts, including a two-State solution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict. Peace should not be understood as the absence of war but as the presence of justice, civilian protection, strong institutions and respect for the rule of law.

It was important that international law did not remain declaratory but was consistently implemented, enforced and subjected to checks and balances. The gap between commitments and implementation currently remained too wide, with civilians suffering because international norms were neglected in practice. It was unacceptable that institutions tended to respond only after tragedy had struck.

Parliaments were encouraged to strengthen oversight on issues of peace, security and humanitarian responsibility; translate international obligations into national legislation and policy; invest more in prevention so that crises did not escalate into catastrophes, including through early

dialogue and education; and ensure that justice was applied more broadly to issues such as poverty, exclusion, environmental degradation and institutional mistrust. He further stressed the importance of defending international law consistently rather than selectively. Policies needed to be aligned with principles, and resolutions translated into concrete implementation. Accountability must be a habit, not an exception, with humans placed at the centre of every decision.

Citing both the UNESCO Constitution and the Qur'an, he called on parliamentarians to stand firm for justice and demonstrate the capability of parliamentarians to not only express humanity's hopes but also to advance them.

Mr. K. Ademović (Bosnia and Herzegovina) stressed that peace, justice and international law were both precious and fragile, requiring constant protection. Amid growing violations of international law, parliaments had an ever-more important role to play, not only as legislative bodies but as the conscience of the international community.

Recalling the suffering experienced during the war in Bosnia and Herzegovina in the 1990s, including the 1,425-day siege of Sarajevo, where more than 1,600 children had been killed, he emphasized that such tragedies represented lost childhoods and interrupted futures, creating a lasting obligation never to remain silent in the face of injustice. He drew parallels with the suffering of children in Gaza, stressing that no child should be a victim of war regardless of where they were born.
A two-State solution was the minimum basis for justice, peace and hope in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Challenges to the rules-based international order required parliamentarians to speak out more forcefully in defence of human rights, the rule of law and peace. Parliamentary democracy must be stronger, louder and more determined, and differences between peoples should become grounds for cooperation rather than division.

Mr. D. Zvizdić (Bosnia and Herzegovina) said that the experience of Bosnia and Herzegovina offered important lessons for addressing today's global crises, particularly in demonstrating the possibility of coexistence among diverse communities. Indeed, Sarajevo was a symbol of multiculturalism and religious coexistence, with mosques, synagogues, cathedrals and Orthodox churches having stood side by side for centuries, earning the city the title, "Jerusalem of Europe".

Referring to the Second World War, he recalled how the Sarajevo Haggadah, a valuable Jewish manuscript, had been preserved thanks to the courage of Muslims who had risked their lives to protect it. The story was a lasting example of solidarity and mutual respect that should serve as a model for relations among peoples and nations, and was just one of many such stories throughout Bosnia and Herzegovina's history.

In a world increasingly marked by political instability, geopolitical tensions and division, a stable and integrated Bosnia and Herzegovina was important for the security of Europe as a whole.
He therefore called for accelerating the country's accession to the European Union, alongside that of the wider Western Balkans.

Tolerance, cooperation and solidarity were the foundation for building hope for future generations, making it possible to create a world in which differences were respected rather than feared. Parliamentarians had a duty to build bridges rather than walls.

Mr. M. Mamataliev (Kyrgyzstan), stressing that parliamentarians had a shared responsibility towards future generations, said that nurturing hope meant ensuring that people's voices were heard, justice was upheld, and peace was not just an ideal but a reality. Peace and justice were not solely about ending conflict but about fostering mutual respect, cooperation and opportunities for development. Parliaments played a central role in that regard through legislation, oversight and dialogue with citizens, while also building sustainable institutions, upholding the rule of law and protecting human rights.

Highlighting the importance of education in promoting peace and non-proliferation, he drew attention to the International Day for Disarmament and Non-Proliferation Awareness, initiated by Kyrgyzstan and supported by UN Member States. He reaffirmed his country's commitment to a world free of nuclear weapons following its signing of the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons, stressing that such weapons should only ever be used for peaceful purposes.

Kyrgyzstan supported a just and inclusive global order in which all countries, regardless of size and economic potential, enjoyed equal rights and opportunities. In that context, it had submitted its candidacy for a non-permanent seat on the UN Security Council for 2027–2028, supported by the Central Asian States, where it would seek to advance sustainable development and strengthen peace and security.

Recognizing that environmental challenges transcended national borders, his country attached great importance to climate action and environmental protection and had recently ratified the Agreement on Marine Biological Diversity of Areas beyond National Jurisdiction. It was also actively participating in international efforts to promote the sustainable development of mountain regions, having led several initiatives on the topic at the UN, including the International Year of Sustainable Mountain Development and the Five Years of Action for the Development of Mountain Regions, 2023–2027. Preparations for the 2nd Global Mountain Summit, Bishkek+25, in 2027 were also under way. Lastly, Delegates were invited to attend the 6th World Nomad Games to be hosted by Kyrgyzstan – an opportunity to promote cultural diversity, mutual understanding and cooperation.

In conclusion, parliamentarians must represent not only the voice of the people but also the voice of the future, ensuring that development, justice, inclusion and solidarity remained accessible to all.

Ms. A. Lorber (IPU Secretariat) said that, in conformity with Rule 32 of the Assembly, the quorum for each Assembly was determined based on the number of delegations effectively participating in the first plenary meeting. A total of 125 delegations were present in the room, establishing a quorum of 63.

The sitting rose at 13:30.

Sitting of Thursday, 16 April 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 14:00 with Mr. K. Al Maawali (Oman) in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/153/3-Inf.1)

PRESIDING OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT (continued)

Mr. F. Jitoko (Fiji) said that his country and Parliament had been taking concrete steps to advance peace and justice for future generations. Maintaining an open and accessible Parliament was a national priority, and civic engagement initiatives, including open days, school outreach programmes and guided tours, had strengthened democratic engagement, particularly among young people. Fiji had also invested in information and communications technology to ensure that parliamentary sittings and committee inquiries were accessible through live streaming and free-to-air broadcasts. A youth mock parliament held the previous year had brought together 58 young participants, with equal representation of men and women, culminating in proceedings broadcast live from the parliamentary chamber. Gender equality and inclusive representation were also priorities: in 2024, a women's mock parliament had brought together 56 women, promoting greater participation of women in political life.

Climate change remained the most pressing threat to peace, security and prosperity for Pacific nations. Fiji had consistently advocated strong global climate action, and its Parliament had advanced legislation and budgetary measures aimed at strengthening resilience, disaster preparedness and sustainable development. Fiji was once again currently facing devastation caused by severe tropical cyclones, underscoring the urgent need for stronger international commitment and collective action. In addition, Fiji remained committed to parliamentary diplomacy, multilateralism and international cooperation through active participation in forums such as the IPU. Long-term thinking should be embedded into legislative and policy processes so that the decisions taken today would safeguard the interests and wellbeing of future generations.

Mr. S.M. Ould Errachid (Morocco) said that the multiple crises affecting the world, particularly in the Middle East, together with their humanitarian and security consequences, were unprecedented and called for coordinated international action and greater reliance on dialogue and diplomacy to resolve disputes peacefully. Morocco condemned attacks targeting the sovereignty, stability and security of Arab territories, particularly Gulf Cooperation Council countries, and stood in solidarity with measures taken to defend their territorial integrity and security. The Palestinian cause remained a test of human conscience and of the values of justice and equality, and the continued suffering of the Palestinian people made it a moral imperative to find a just and peaceful resolution to the conflict. Weakened multilateralism and widening gaps in international action threatened social and economic stability, and the IPU had a growing responsibility to promote political solutions, build trust and advance peace and sustainable development. The Moroccan Parliament had launched an ambitious reform process to strengthen confidence in public institutions and parliamentary work, with reforms based on three pillars: sustainability and responsibility towards future generations, the integration of technological and human capacities, and strengthening Morocco's resilience to external and regional shocks.

He called on the IPU to create a wider space for collective action, including by holding and participating in more multilateral and international events and interfaith dialogues. Such forums provided important spaces for consultation and collective reflection on contemporary challenges, and needed to be accompanied by concrete legislative action and effective implementation. In Morocco, policies had been adopted to strengthen the health sector, address challenges linked to technology, digital transformation and artificial intelligence, and protect rights and freedoms.

Ms. K. Kamissoko Camara (Côte d'Ivoire) said that the theme of the General Debate invited participants to do more than reflect; it was a call to immediate and resolute action. To nurture hope required restoring trust between the State and citizens through effective and responsive public action.

It was in that spirit that the Senate of the Côte d'Ivoire had launched a National Diaspora Forum aimed at mobilizing the skills and resources of Ivorians living abroad. To secure peace required addressing the root causes of vulnerability, including inequalities, exclusion and injustice. To that end, the Ivorian Parliament continued to exercise its oversight role through the evaluation of Government actions and policies to ensure they remained aligned with the population's expectations. In addition, the Association of African Senates strengthened cooperation among upper chambers across the continent in support of peace, democratic governance and sustainable development. Turning to justice for future generations, sustained investment in education was needed to ensure a more competitive and productive future for younger generations. Environmentally, climate considerations needed to be systematically integrated into territorial public policies, while technological innovation, particularly in the field of artificial intelligence, should be supervised and regulated so that it served human progress.

Three proposals were put forth: to establish permanent mechanisms within parliaments to monitor and evaluate the implementation of recommendations from forums and conferences; to develop inter-parliamentary cooperation frameworks to support local development financing through innovative instruments and public-private partnerships; and to elaborate a parliamentary charter on ethical and inclusive artificial intelligence adapted to the realities of different societies.

Mr. H. Badawy (Egypt) said that the Assembly was meeting at a pivotal moment that underlined the need for an international charter to secure peace and stability and nurture hope and justice for future generations. Palestinians continued to face relentless attacks and were being denied the right to self-determination and an independent sovereign State, and meaningful steps towards the two-State solution and the Arab Peace Initiative were urgently needed. Egypt strongly condemned the Israeli law authorizing the death penalty for Palestinian prisoners as a grave violation of international law, and rejected any attempts to dissolve the Palestinian cause or forcibly displace its people.

Sustainable mechanisms were needed to ensure unfettered humanitarian access to Gaza. With the Middle East at a watershed moment and the risk of severe consequences for international peace and stability, Egypt reaffirmed its solidarity with Gulf States, Lebanon, Jordan and Iraq, and denounced all forms of aggression against their sovereignty, infrastructure and waterways. Although the temporary ceasefire was an important step towards containing escalation, ending the conflict required a serious diplomatic and political process. Egypt remained committed to State sovereignty, international law and diplomatic engagement as the foundations for lasting peace, and reaffirmed its belief in parliamentary diplomacy as a means of advancing peace, justice and equality for all.

Mr. Y. Koshanov (Kazakhstan) said that amidst weakening respect for international law, escalating conflicts, economic crises, and global challenges such as illegal migration and trafficking, parliamentary diplomacy had a vital role to play in strengthening cooperation between States and upholding international law. Kazakhstan had consistently advocated for strict adherence to the Charter of the United Nations, including peaceful conflict resolution and constructive dialogue. Astana and Almaty had served as platforms for international negotiations, and Kazakhstani peacekeeping forces continued to contribute to ceasefire efforts in the Golan Heights. Central Asia had become a model of harmonious diplomacy, with border disputes resolved and major joint infrastructure projects under way.

Kazakhstan remained committed to the Sustainable Development Goals, with a parliamentary committee dedicated to their implementation, and the establishment in Almaty of the UN Regional Centre for the Sustainable Development Goals for Central Asia and Afghanistan. In addition, a regional ecological summit on water management and the green economy was to be held in Astana the following week. On digitalization, Parliament had adopted a digital code and a law on artificial intelligence based on the principles of transparency, security and accountability, with 2026 declared the year of digitalization and artificial intelligence. President Tokayev had made building a just and progressive Kazakhstan his primary goal, undertaking major political reforms, including a new constitution enshrining the principle of the State serving the people, and a transition from a bicameral to a unicameral parliament.

Mr. H. Al-Ghanim (Qatar) said that the widening gap between the principles of peace and justice and the current reality of escalating conflicts and unilateral wars showed no regard for international law. The international system had reached a state of fragility and paralysis, with no meaningful deterrence or accountability for violations of international law, and no global authority capable of safeguarding peace. The destructive wars afflicting the region and their repercussions on the global economy, energy security and supply chains underscored the urgent need to strengthen deterrence mechanisms and collective action. Despite Qatar's commitment to dialogue, mediation and good neighbourliness, it had been subjected to an Iranian assault targeting civilian facilities, damaging infrastructure and endangering civilian lives across Gulf and Arab states. This constituted a grave

violation of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, and necessitated a firm international response. Israeli aggressions against Palestinian territories also persisted, further deepening regional instability and highlighting the absence of an effective international system capable of deterring wars.

Parliamentarians must move beyond diagnosis to action, devising more effective mechanisms to reform the international system, strengthen respect for international law, and ensure that the use of force remained within the bounds of legitimacy. To that end, Qatar, in partnership with Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia and Poland, had submitted a request to include an emergency item on preserving ceasefire agreements and supporting the establishment of peace in the Middle East. He expressed the hope that the Assembly's deliberations and the IPU's Strategy for 2027-2031 would incorporate clear and effective mechanisms to strengthen international peace and security.

Ms. L.T. Gwebu-Diamini (Eswatini) took the Chair.

Mr. M. Nadir (Guyana) said that parliamentarians bore a heavy responsibility to the young people who would either inherit the world they built or deal with the ruins left behind. Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice were not aspirations to be deferred but immediate duties, requiring foresight, dialogue and impartial adherence to the law. Progress was evident in Guyana's National Assembly, where women held 37% of seats and 44% of MPs were under the age of 45.

Faced with an aggressive neighbour to the west, Guyana had chosen to bring the matter before the International Court of Justice in keeping with its commitment to multilateralism. Justice for future generations required not only environmental action but also a strong legal framework and a citizenry that valued peace, democracy and human rights.

Ms. S. Gafarova (Azerbaijan) said that at a time of growing uncertainty, conflicts and climate change, there was no alternative to a rules-based international order with the United Nations at its core. A stronger commitment and respect for international law was needed, and as parliamentarians, they must promote peace, uphold justice, and ensure that future generations were reflected in their decisions.

The General Debate's focus on future generations was timely and essential: young people were active agents of change, and parliamentarians had a responsibility to ensure that their voices were heard, their potential was realized and their participation was meaningful. The 2024 United Nations Declaration on Future Generations was of particular importance to Azerbaijan as it called for inclusive and forward-looking policies aimed at sustainable development. The Parliament of Azerbaijan had also established a comprehensive legislative youth policy framework, and had launched numerous programmes for young people to support employment, education abroad, and participation in public administration. Azerbaijan also promoted international youth engagement through platforms such as the Youth Forum and the Volunteer Forum, and parliamentarians were active in the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians. Progress in dialogue between Azerbaijan and Armenia demonstrated that even long-standing conflicts could be resolved through political will and respect for international law, and that parliamentary diplomacy played a key role in building trust.

Mr. M. Ndiaye (Senegal) said that humanity was facing an unprecedented accumulation of crises, with armed conflicts multiplying, international law being flouted, and the rule of law giving way to the law of the strongest. To those visible threats were added the more insidious perils of climate change, food insecurity and artificial intelligence, which challenged the world's democracies and the conception of humanity. The defining question was whether the world would slide towards the irreversible or whether parliamentarians would choose to reaffirm collective responsibility to future generations. Parliamentarians were called on to restore trust and make the system more just, more inclusive and more faithful to the people it claimed to serve.

Concrete actions included educating for peace from the earliest age, fully involving young people, listening to them and including them. Future generations should not inherit debts and wars: parliamentarians had a moral, political and historical duty to hand on a livable and more just world. As the watchdogs of democracy, parliaments served as counterweights to government and gave voice to the unheard, and it was in that spirit that Senegal had embarked on reforms to ensure justice for future generations.

Mr. A. Boji (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that the proliferation of conflicts**,** growing inequalities, the climate emergency and rapid technological change made it imperative to strengthen global governance and multilateralism, in the spirit of the UN Pact for the Future and the Declaration on Future Generations, which called for intergenerational justice to be placed at the heart of public

policy. The Democratic Republic of the Congo remained committed to the pursuit of lasting peace through strict respect for the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, openness to dialogue within constitutional bounds, observance of international law and regional frameworks in the search for lasting solutions, and the fight against impunity and transnational criminal networks. President Tshisekedi had consistently pursued a peaceful approach to resolving the crisis in the east of the country, which represented one of the greatest humanitarian catastrophes of modern times. Rwanda and its proxies, the Alliance Fleuve Congo and the March 23 Movement (AFC/M23), had repeatedly violated the Democratic Republic of the Congo's territorial integrity, looted its mineral resources and committed crimes against humanity, in a conflict that had claimed millions of lives, displaced millions internally and generated hundreds of thousands of refugees.

In addition, many UN resolutions and agreements between countries were failing to produce results on the ground, due to the absence of effective monitoring mechanisms and genuine political will, undermining the credibility of the international order and calling for collective responsibility to make the rule of law prevail over the law of force. It was therefore imperative that IPU Assemblies work to rethink multilateralism in order to generate positive synergies that would lay the foundations for a new pact for a just world. Parliamentary diplomacy should not be seen as a mere complement to traditional diplomacy, but as an essential lever.

Ms. V. Matvienko (Russian Federation) said that the world was living through a time of anxiety and risk, with a universal security system that had failed to materialize because the rule of law and the Charter of the United Nations could only be effective when based on the equal responsibility of all States. Globalization and geopolitics had come to serve only one pole of the international system, and the principle of indivisible security had been undermined by Western expansion operating outside universal international law. Many conflicts in Europe, Afghanistan and the Middle East, including the ongoing escalation involving the Islamic Republic ofIran, could have been prevented had the Charter of the United Nations and international law prevailed. The war in the Middle East had worsened hunger, poverty, energy insecurity and migration on a global scale, and the death of innocent civilians, including school children in the Islamic Republic of Iran, was a tragedy that admitted no justification. She expressed hope that talks between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States would succeed in ending the war.

President Putin had in 2024 proposed a Eurasian security architecture that was open and inclusive, and the Eurasian Charter for Diversity and Multipolarity in the 21st Century could serve as its foundation. Insufficient attention had been paid by the IPU to the Gaza conflict over the past two years, and failure to address the root causes of conflicts had left the international community vulnerable to future shocks. Parliamentary diplomacy nonetheless retained enormous potential, and the IPU's mission of promoting peace, democracy and cooperation was more relevant than ever. In conclusion, she called for collective efforts to restore hope, peace and justice in a multipolar world.

Mr. S.A. Sadiq (Pakistan) said that durable peace could not be forged through the projection of power, but through dialogue, mutual respect and inclusive diplomacy. Despite the comprehensive tools for the peaceful settlement of disputes provided for under the Charter of the United Nations, including negotiation, mediation, arbitration and judicial settlement, those mechanisms remained underutilized or selectively applied. India's continued denial of the right to self-determination of the Kashmiri people in the Indian illegally occupied Jammu and Kashmir remained the primary source of instability in South Asia. The final disposition of Jammu and Kashmir should be made in accordance with relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions and the aspirations of the Kashmiri people, and India must reverse the unilateral measures it had taken since August 2019. In addition, India's decision to suspend the Indus Waters Treaty was a violation of international law and the established norms of inter-State relations, and the weaponization of water had become a trigger for conflict with far-reaching implications for the region. Pakistan was fully entitled to take all appropriate steps to safeguard its water rights under the Treaty.

In Palestine, a time-bound and irreversible political process anchored in relevant United Nations resolutions was needed to establish a sovereign, independent State of Palestine on the basis of pre-1967 borders. On regional diplomacy, Pakistan had been carrying out intensive efforts to facilitate dialogue between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States, calling for a ceasefire and engaging in the Islamabad talks, which represented a significant breakthrough. Both sides were urged to maintain the positive spirit of those negotiations, and Pakistan remained committed to facilitating continued dialogue in support of durable peace in the region. Pakistan was equally committed to dialogue, peace and stability in Afghanistan, where the worsening security situation, including the presence of terrorist groups on Afghan soil, posed a grave threat to immediate neighbours and the broader region. On climate, recognizing it as an existential threat, Pakistan had prioritized domestic

action through initiatives including the Recharge Pakistan flood management project, a national carbon markets policy and climate-sensitive budgeting, with the aim of transitioning to a green economy and building resilience against the effects of the climate crisis.

Mr. M.R. Onanga Ndiaye (Gabon) said that hope, peace and justice were not mere concepts for Gabon but realities at the heart of public policy and parliamentary commitment. Since President Oligui Nguema had come to power, Gabon had been a country under construction, with the hope and aim of aligning its legal and institutional framework with the expectations of its citizens. It also hoped to provide Gabonese citizens with the infrastructure and equipment necessary for the diversification of the economy, the local processing of the country's raw materials, the development of youth employability and the creation of the conditions for collective wellbeing.

Achieving those reforms required the lasting establishment of a stable and harmonious political, economic and social environment. Gabon had recently passed through major milestones in its history, illustrating that peace was not imposed but built patiently, through robust mechanisms. The change of Government in 2023 had unfolded without violence, in a spirit of unity, and had been followed by an inclusive national dialogue in which all Gabonese citizens had been able to express themselves freely. Justice for present and future generations translated into a determined fight against unemployment and numerous youth empowerment initiatives. Parliaments must legislate and oversee the executive to guarantee laws that left no one behind and ensured a better future for youth. The Fifth Republic of Gabon being built today could not resemble its predecessor, and Gabon's parliament was resolutely turned towards the future and working for future generations.

Mr. M. Surasajja (Thailand) said that in an era of unprecedented vulnerability, marked by geopolitical conflicts, the climate crisis and the challenges of artificial intelligence, parliaments must act as pillars of hope and fairness, grounded in multilateralism and respect for human dignity.

The National Assembly of Thailand was committed to legal reform to ensure inclusive justice, including a new bill on the quality of life of persons with disabilities and a targeted approach to ensure no one was left behind. Parliament was also focused on eradicating intergenerational poverty through education and skills development for youth, and the proportion of women in Parliament had been steadily increasing. Thailand was advancing a climate change bill to establish binding mechanisms for reducing greenhouse gas emissions and assessing the impact of laws on future generations, and was integrating the Sustainable Development Goals into legislation. On artificial intelligence, Thailand supported the IPU initiative to define an AI governance framework to protect civil rights and strengthen democracy. Member Parliaments were encouraged to uphold the principles of multilateralism and international law to create a peaceful and just world for all generations in accordance with Sustainable Development Goal 16, and to promote parliamentary diplomacy for peace, human rights and climate justice.

Mr. Tran Thanh Man (Viet Nam) said that the world was witnessing growing instability driven by geopolitical competition, the undermining of international law and trade protectionism, compounded by disruptive technologies such as AI. Nevertheless, there remained grounds for hope, as commitment to multilateralism remained strong, common agendas such as the Pact for the Future and the 2030 Agenda formed the bedrock of collective action, and the recent high-level declaration of the Sixth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament had reaffirmed commitment to cooperation for peace and justice.

In the Asia-Pacific region, economic integration and multilateral cooperation were advancing, with the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) and the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA) making important contributions to peace and development. Viet Nam, marking 40 years of its landmark economic programme, Đổi Mới, was entering a new era with the goal of becoming a modern middle-income country by 2030 and a developed high-income country by 2045, driven by science, technology, innovation and digitalization, and guided by a foreign policy of independence, peace, friendship and cooperation. He called on Member Parliaments to advance parliamentary diplomacy, prevent and address the root causes of conflict, respect the fundamental principles of international law and the Charter of the United Nations, observe ceasefires and pursue peace talks. Parliaments should integrate commitments on climate resilience and non-proliferation into national law.

Mr. A. Almusalam (Bahrain) said that the theme of the General Debate was closely aligned with Bahrain's national strategies, which placed great importance on legislative action and parliamentary diplomacy. The Islamic Republic of Iran's attacks against the Gulf Cooperation Council States and Jordan constituted flagrant violations of sovereignty, international law, international humanitarian law

and international maritime law, threatening the lives and security of its citizens. Despite the adoption of United Nations Security Council resolution 2817 (2026), which had garnered unprecedented international support in condemning the attacks, the Islamic Republic of Iran had continued to launch ballistic missiles and drones targeting civilian infrastructure, including airports, ports, hotels, energy facilities, residential areas and diplomatic quarters, causing significant loss of life and material damage. The closure of the Strait of Hormuz resulting from the attacks had undermined international maritime security and disrupted global trade.

He called on the IPU to urge international organizations, and the United Nations in particular, to condemn the Islamic Republic of Iran's violations of international law and demand that it comply with UN Security Council and Human Rights Council resolutions. Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates had proposed an emergency item at the present Assembly, calling on the Islamic Republic of Iran to respect Resolution 2817 (2026), and Member Parliaments were encouraged to adopt it and thereby demonstrate that the IPU had honoured its responsibilities in defence of peace, security and justice for future generations. In addition, it was underscored that the international community had a responsibility to advance the Sustainable Development Goals, achieve sustainable peace and uphold the rights of the Palestinian people.

Mr. D.L. Keorapetse (Botswana) said that there was no sustainable development without peace, as conflicts destroyed economies, drained public budgets, and broke social bonds. Despite being surrounded by conflict-prone neighbours, Botswana had held consistent, uninterrupted, and peaceful elections since 1965, and had a smooth transfer of power without ethnic or political violence in 2024 after 58 years of single-party rule. A commitment to democracy, the rule of law and prudent economic management had made peace both a foundation and a driver of national development, underpinned by values of social harmony, tolerance, accountability and unity, consistent with the principles enshrined in Sustainable Development Goal 16.

Botswana's dedication to regional and international peacekeeping had been demonstrated through consistent participation in multilateral operations over the past three decades, including missions in Somalia, Rwanda and Mozambique. In line with the theme of the General Debate, it was essential to integrate foresight into national plans, ensuring peace and justice were not deferred dreams but lived realities. Botswana’s new administration had placed human rights at the centre of national development and foreign policy, and remained committed to multilateralism and the United Nations system, while acknowledging its imperfections and calling for reform to enhance its effectiveness and legitimacy. As legislators, they must advocate for peaceful conflict resolution, allocate resources towards human security and uphold fundamental rights. Technology, diplomacy and law-making should serve as bridges of hope rather than instruments of division, and parliamentary diplomacy should be channelled towards a future defined by peace, inclusion, justice and shared prosperity.

Mr. G.O. Akpabio (Nigeria) said that peace was not inherited but built, defended and sustained: a lesson shaped by Nigeria's own experience of civil war, conflict and insecurity. Conflicts across the globe, in Gaza, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Lebanon, parts of Africa, Russia and Ukraine, had made it clear that no nation was immune and no continent stood in isolation. Beyond the violence lay a deeper concern: a troubling shift in global moral equilibrium in which ‘might’ increasingly appeared to define ‘right’ and the sovereignty of weaker nations was too often compromised. This was not merely a crisis of security but of leadership and a test of global fairness. War's true cost lay not only in the dead but in the bereaved, the widowed, the orphaned, and the broken communities. Nigeria's concern was not with who was right or wrong, but with the erosion of humanity and the breaking of the bonds of human brotherhood.

As global institutions grew increasingly constrained and the world drifted towards disorder, the IPU must step into the void, be the voice of the voiceless and give renewed strength and purpose to the United Nations. He called on Member Parliaments to mark a turning point by acting in solidarity rather than isolation, renewing a covenant not just with their peoples but with posterity.

Mr. K. Al Maawali (Oman) said that the global situation was extremely fragile, particularly in the Middle East, where crises continued to undermine regional security and stability. That instability was the result of American and Israeli aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran in violation of international law, as well as attacks that had targeted Oman, Iraq and Jordan. Israeli actions in Lebanon, targeting civilian infrastructure, were destructive and criminal acts that threatened global peace. Moreover, the occupation of Palestinian territories remained a stain on the conscience of the world, and he condemned the Israeli law sentencing Palestinian prisoners to death as a flagrant

violation of international humanitarian law. He called on the international community to meet its legal and moral responsibility to end the bloodshed and strengthen efforts to preserve peace and security in the region.

Implementing the commitments of the Charter of the United Nations required not only legislation but sincere political will and the participation of all countries and civil society. Trust in the international system must be built on accountability and transparency, and all nations had a shared responsibility to work together to preserve human dignity and achieve intergenerational justice. The IPU's founding principles of peace, security and human rights were the framework within which those objectives should be pursued.

Mr. S. Papuashvili (Georgia) said that nations were ultimately guided by self-interest, which was the only reliable basis for foreign policy. Abstract doctrines and imposed ideologies had no grounding in popular will and would therefore fail, but when national interests reflected democratic will, it strengthened rather than undermined cooperation, peace and stability. A defining challenge of the current era was foreign interference, which, in an age of information warfare, threatened sovereignty not only at borders but within institutions and societies. Legislative frameworks to counter foreign interference had emerged across the world, from the Foreign Agent Registration Act in the United States to the European Democracy Shield in the European Union, and similar laws in France, the United Kingdom and Georgia, all reflecting the principle that democracy must be shaped by the people rather than by foreign powers. He noted, however, that double standards persisted, with measures praised in one country condemned in another, and called for consistent rules applicable to all.

Turning to the South Caucasus, he said the region was becoming more stable as Georgia, Armenia and Azerbaijan increasingly acted in line with their national interests. Georgia's Parliament had strengthened transparency and acted to ensure that political power belonged to the people. He called for a common, legally binding international framework to counter foreign interference and hybrid warfare, which he described as one of the greatest threats to democracy and sovereignty, arguing that consistent and fair enforcement of such a framework would strengthen peace, restore trust and secure a more just international order for future generations.

Dr. T. Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the IPU, introduced Mr. Robert Floyd, Executive Secretary of the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization, highlighting the IPU's close cooperation with the Organization and the importance of its international verification system for detecting nuclear explosions. The IPU was proud that so many Member Parliaments supported the Organization in its goal of achieving universal membership.

Mr. R. Floyd (Executive Secretary, Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty Organization) said that in reflecting on what previous generations had hoped to bequeath to their descendants, no one a century ago could have imagined the invention and use of weapons capable of obliterating entire cities and spreading radioactive fallout across the planet. The scale of nuclear testing in the decades following the Second World War had been staggering, with over 1,500 tests conducted by the time he was 25, compared to just six announced tests in the lifetime of today's 25-year-old: a transformation made possible by the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty, agreed in 1996 with the full support of the IPU. The Treaty had created a remarkable international monitoring system capable of detecting a suspected nuclear test anywhere on earth within minutes, with results shared transparently. Only nine States had yet to sign and nine more had yet to ratify the Treaty, and he called on the IPU to use its influence to bring those remaining States into the Treaty family and end all explosive nuclear testing once and for all.

The resumption of nuclear testing would represent a profound injustice to future generations, and every Government and Parliament represented at the Assembly had a role in making the choice between a world with or without nuclear testing. Recognizing the work of outgoing IPU Secretary General Martin Chungong, he noted that since 2021 the Treaty had gained nine new ratifications, a testament to what could be achieved through partnership and collective action.

Ms. S. Gafarova (Azerbaijan) took the Chair.

Mr. H.H. Abbas Al-Halbousi (Iraq) said that securing lasting peace was the best way of contributing to stability and development, and that peace in the Middle East was not merely a political choice but a human, moral and ethical obligation. People across the region were exhausted by war and sought a future in which human dignity and rights were guaranteed. Achieving peace required sincere political commitment from all stakeholders, constructive dialogue, recognition of legitimate rights, a rejection of violence, and an effective role for the international community in finding fair

solutions free from narrow interests. Iraq had waged a fight against terrorism, eliminating some of the world's most dangerous groups, including the Islamic State, yet was facing accusations of violating human rights in the prosecution of those terrorists. The international community, however, remained silent in the face of Israeli actions in Gaza and Lebanon that amounted to unprecedented human tragedies and a violation of the founding values of the international order.

Conflicts had to be resolved urgently or future generations would inherit a world without resources or security. As legislators, their primary responsibility was to adopt laws protecting children and future generations from the consequences of war, conflict and the rapid development of technologies, including artificial intelligence. He reaffirmed Iraq's commitment to supporting international efforts to secure peace and called on parliaments worldwide to work towards a fairer and more stable world in which human dignity was protected and the rights of peoples guaranteed.

Mr. M. Dick (Australia) said that Australia had contributed actively to the international multilateral system through annual peacekeeping deployments since 1947 and five terms on the UN Security Council, in addition to being the 12th largest contributor to the UN peacekeeping budget. Civic engagement was a cornerstone of democracy, and the Australian Parliament invested heavily in equipping future generations with the knowledge to become active citizens. The Parliamentary Education Office provided curriculum-aligned resources for students as young as nine, and Australia had become the first country in the world to ban social media platforms for under-16-year-olds, ensuring young people received information through teachers and parents rather than online. As Speaker of the House of Representatives, he had made youth engagement a personal mission, visiting almost 200 schools across the country, including in remote areas, and launching a national youth parliament in which 150 students would participate that year. He hoped the IPU would consider rolling out a similar initiative across all geopolitical groups, as civic education would strengthen democratic traditions worldwide.

As a Pacific nation, Australia shared a deep connection with its regional neighbours and was committed to meaningful climate action at home and in partnership with the region. It had endorsed the 2050 Strategy for the Blue Pacific Continent and had set a target of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, alongside providing support for Pacific Island countries to build resilience and access climate finance. Climate change was a multigenerational issue, and with young people making up more than half of the region's population, youth-led initiatives were powerful drivers of change.

Mr. M. Harouna Djingarey (Niger) said that the General Debate theme of nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations was of particular relevance to Niger, which had for several years faced attacks by terrorist groups in the region. Those groups had caused widespread harm to local communities, including violent attacks, forced displacement and the disruption of public services, particularly education, exposing young people to the risks of marginalization and radicalization. Niger, alongside the other member states of the Alliance of Sahel States, firmly condemned terrorism and reaffirmed its determination to continue to fight against it. The situation in the Sahel was not isolated, and the crisis in occupied Palestine and the wider Middle East also demanded attention. Political leaders had a responsibility to heed the lessons of the two World Wars and to respect the system of international governance that had emerged from them. No State could resort to force outside the framework of international law, and Niger reaffirmed its commitment to strict respect for international law and the right of peoples to self-determination.

Nurturing hope required restoring trust between citizens and public institutions, which in Niger was being pursued through the modernization of the judicial system, including the digitization of procedures to reduce delays, improve transparency and extend access to justice in remote areas. Efforts were also under way to improve access to legal services for vulnerable populations, including through land tenure reform. Peace could not be decreed but had to be built through dialogue, inclusion and social justice, with parliaments playing a key role. The involvement of traditional and community authorities had proven essential in easing tensions, and alternative dispute resolution mechanisms such as mediation and arbitration, rooted in local values, contributed to a culture of dialogue.

Mr. A. Simonyan (Armenia) said that hope, peace and justice were the foundation of a flourishing present and future, and that current generations bore the responsibility of acting on behalf of those who would come after them. The situations in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon were deeply troubling, and Armenia affirmed its willingness and moral responsibility to help.

Following the peace agreement signed in August 2025 by the leaders of Armenia, Azerbaijan and the United States, peace had prevailed in the region, marking a monumental achievement. Armenia also looked forward to deepening its relationship with Türkiye and invited it to join in building a broader tapestry of peace. A new era of confidence-building between Armenia and Azerbaijan had

dawned, with efforts now focused on translating the agreement into concrete realities on the ground. The implementation of the Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity, a connectivity initiative based on the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity, had the potential to promote stability, economic cooperation and prosperity across the South Caucasus and beyond, and trade between the two countries was beginning to re-emerge. Serious humanitarian issues nonetheless remained, including the release of 19 Armenians still detained in Azerbaijan and the clarification of the fate of missing persons. He urged all present to choose their priorities wisely and to leave future generations a legacy of peace rather than war.

Mr. N.P. Dahal (Nepal) said that the world was currently facing a permacrisis, grappling with geopolitical competition, proliferating conflicts, climate change, economic hardship, rising inequality and youth unemployment. Advances in artificial intelligence were accelerating societal change, deepening digital divides both between and within States. These crises were interrelated, and addressing them required collective, visionary and inclusive action.

Five areas for action were outlined. First, youth-centred policies were essential to sustaining hope and trust in the future. Following Gen-Z-led protests, Nepal had recently held elections that had resulted in a significantly younger House of Representatives, and 35-year-old Balendra Shah had become the country's new Prime Minister. Second, inclusiveness was a prerequisite for peace, prosperity and human dignity, and his country's proportional electoral system had ensured that women accounted for 35% of MPs. Third, it was important to address the differences and challenges in development, as peace was unattainable without development and development was unattainable without peace. Fourth, climate change posed a catastrophic threat, and climate justice was essential for vulnerable countries. Nepal faced severe impacts from rising temperatures in the Himalayan region, including glacial melt and disruption to water systems and livelihoods, and was committed to achieving net-zero emissions by 2045 and to advancing climate cooperation through parliamentary diplomacy. Fifth, technological and digital inclusion were vital, and the growing divide in access to artificial intelligence must be addressed. Nepal remained committed to multilateral cooperation and called on all nations to join in a collective endeavour to build a world in which future generations could live with dignity and prosperity.

Ms. A.T. Didiza (South Africa) said that contemporary conflicts and polarization served as a reminder that peace was an essential pillar of democratic stability, and that parliaments played a vital role in that regard, serving not merely as legislative institutions but as constitutional spaces where differing views were addressed through debate rather than confrontation. Trust in public institutions had grown increasingly fragile worldwide, and it was incumbent on parliaments to take deliberate steps to rebuild confidence and strengthen democratic legitimacy. South Africa's own democratic experience offered relevant lessons. At the birth of its democracy in 1994, the country had chosen negotiation over confrontation and had established the Truth and Reconciliation Commission to account for the lives lost during the conflict. Its Constitution, now 30 years old, had addressed historical injustices, including land dispossession and racial discrimination, and had enshrined gender equality to ensure women's full participation in all aspects of society. The democratic dividends of these achievements, however, remained elusive for many, and the journey of nation-building remained fragile.

Securing peace and ensuring justice required strengthening the independence of the judiciary and guaranteeing equitable access to judicial services. At the multilateral level, she called on the IPU to engage more actively in ongoing conflicts, including those involving the Islamic Republic of Iran, the United States and Israel, drawing on its earlier experience regarding the Russia-Ukraine conflict, so as to encourage dialogue between parliaments and support finding paths to resolution. South Africa remained committed to working with fellow parliaments to build a just, peaceful and resilient global community.

Mr. R. Fatooh (Palestine) said that parliaments bore a double responsibility at a critical moment in history, when international law was eroding and conflicts were escalating: to defend justice and reject realpolitik, while preserving whatever credibility remained of the international community. The Palestinian National Council rejected all forms of military escalation in the region, held Israel responsible for reigniting tensions through repeated and unjustified attacks, and condemned Iranian attacks against Arab states in the Gulf region and Jordan, warning that such escalation would widen the conflict and undermine international stability.

The Palestinian people were facing unprecedented and systematic violations of international law, including a law imposing the death penalty on Palestinian prisoners, which was an attempt to legalize intentional homicide and was a flagrant violation of the Geneva Conventions. A statement rejecting that law had been circulated by the Palestinian delegation, and Member Parliaments were

asked to sign it as a show of their belief in the values of the IPU, namely the protection of human rights and dignity. In addition, the West Bank was witnessing an alarming escalation of settler violence against unarmed civilians, supported by the occupying authorities, eroding Palestinian lands and isolating communities. Further violations included the withholding of Palestinian tax revenues, attacks on Islamic and Christian holy sites, and the undermining of Jordan's custodianship over those sites. In Gaza, the humanitarian situation continued to deteriorate amid the destruction of infrastructure and restrictions on humanitarian aid, and he called for unfettered humanitarian access, a halt to ceasefire violations and the full withdrawal of Israeli forces. Peace could not be achieved without ending the occupation and allowing the Palestinian people to establish an independent State. The IPU had a vital role to play in promoting accountability and advancing a just and equitable international order, and he called on Member Parliaments to support efforts to restore stability and build a fairer world.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply**,** said that he took strong exception to part of the remarks made by Qatar. The Islamic Republic of Iran had been subjected to two wars within ten months, initiated by Israel and the United States, including an attack on the Natanz nuclear enrichment facility. He asked why Qatar had not condemned those attacks, given that the Islamic Republic of Iran had done no more than exercise its legitimate right to self-defence. Regarding Bahrain, he said that the country had allocated significant territory to United States forces, including the Fifth Fleet, which had been used to attack Iranian military, civilian and industrial targets, and that Bahrain had effectively acted in concert with the United States and Israel against Iran's interests. He concluded by noting that the United States, having failed to defeat Iran militarily, had since sought negotiations through intermediaries including Oman, Türkiye, Pakistan and Egypt, though he cautioned that such talks would only be meaningful if, unlike in the past, the negotiating table itself was not undermined.

Ms. S. Nyirahabimana (Rwanda), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, and rejecting the accusations made by the Democratic Republic of the Congo, said that the conflict in the country was between the Congolese government and AFC/M23, a movement of Congolese fighting for their rights, and noted that over 260 armed groups were operating in the country, including the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), a group backed by the Democratic Republic of the Congo and descended from those responsible for the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi in Rwanda, which continued to pose an existential threat to her country. She recalled that Rwanda and the Democratic Republic of the Congo had signed a peace agreement in Washington, D.C. and called on the Democratic Republic of the Congo to take concrete steps towards its implementation, including the dismantling of the FDLR.

The sitting rose at 17:30.

Sitting of Friday, 17 April 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:15 with Mr. A. Pacheco (Dominican Republic) in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/153/3-Inf.1)

PRESIDING OFFICERS OF PARLIAMENT (continued)

Mr. R. Goñi Reyes (Uruguay) said that the focus placed on future generations was justified. For the first time in a long time, future generations believed that the future would be worse than the present, placing great responsibility on parliamentarians. They faced existential risks arising from armed conflicts and new technologies, including artificial intelligence. Older parliamentarians were among the last members of the analogue generation, the only people able to transmit values, such as democracy, to younger generations. Parliaments needed to move from commitment to action, which required innovation, particularly through participatory governance and Committees of the Future. Those Committees had demonstrated their capacity to address fast-moving change, uncertainty and bioethical considerations, specifically the aspects that humanity wished to preserve in a changing world. The Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) had proposed to the Governing Council the establishment of a network of Committees of the Future to ensure the consolidation and widespread use of participatory governance to adapt to new technologies and develop new methodologies. Approval of GRULAC's proposal would enable the IPU to address emerging challenges and thus build a future based on hope and democracy as the best means for cooperation. If future generations had hope, trust and credibility in parliaments would be strong.

Mr. S.G. Suleman (Malawi) said that addressing the current global challenges required strong political responsibility, with parliaments playing a central role in protecting vulnerable populations and nurturing peace and hope for the future. Founded on compassion, solidarity and respect for human dignity, Malawi had long been a beacon of peace, stability and democratic governance in Africa. It advanced humanitarian principles, the rule of law, a rules-based international order and inclusive governance through its long-term vision of peace as the foundation of sustainable development. Malawi's Parliament had implemented programmes to address poverty and food insecurity. The country remained committed to international cooperation, including through global frameworks such as the Paris Agreement and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and continued to uphold environmental protection through policies on sustainable land use and water resource management. It was engaging on emerging issues such as artificial intelligence, ensuring that technological advancements were guided by democratic principles and respect for human rights. Steps had been taken to engage young people through parliamentary outreach programmes, including with support from civil society organizations. Gender equality was promoted through legislative reforms and affirmative action, leading to an increase in women's political participation. While gaps remained, the progress made was guided by commitments under the Protocol on Gender and Development of the Southern African Development Community, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and national gender equality laws.

As an African Muslim, he had been taught that Christians and Muslims were brothers and sisters. The people of Palestine should not be abandoned. One man's decision was affecting the entire world and creating uncertainty. Leaders were being captured and murdered. The IPU needed to take a strong stance and achieve the common goal of respect for the rights of all.

Mr. C. Wiseler (Luxembourg) said that many conflicts were forgotten or invisible to the international community. Lasting peace was impossible amid oppression and injustice. In light of the widespread violence globally, it would be a serious mistake for parliamentarians to remain silent. Luxembourg called for an immediate de-escalation of tensions in the Middle East. It had supported the establishment of a special international tribunal to judge crimes of aggression against Ukraine.

Regarding the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, his Parliament had called for the two-State solution many times and in September 2025 had formally recognized Palestine according to the 1967 borders, as a starting point for reconciliation and justice. International rules still existed but what had crumbled was the will to uphold them. Questioning the legitimacy of the International Criminal Court and the International Court of Justice was not an option. Contrary to certain countries, Luxembourg was strengthening its commitment to the international order. Medium-sized countries, in particular, had a decisive role to play in that regard by building ties based on shared values.

Resilience must be built through joint efforts. As guardians of citizens' trust in institutions, parliamentarians were required to hold governments accountable. Democracy was measured by the strength of not only formal structures but also civil society, the weakening of which was the first sign of a collapsing democracy. Luxembourg actively supported civil society organizations. Parliamentarians needed to act proactively, ensure strong political will, and defend the rule of law, human dignity and equality through cooperation and solidarity.

Ms. N.B.K. Mutti (Zambia) said that the IPU's commitment to fostering dialogue and cooperation was more relevant than ever. The complex global challenges, including the human cost of conflict, were a stark call for all parliamentarians to reaffirm the power of diplomacy, dialogue and respect for international law in resolving disputes, and presented an opportunity to redefine a collective future as people-centred and based on inclusive sustainable development. Guided by its national values of dignity, equality and justice, Zambia placed emphasis on peace, unity and cooperation and had made strides in promoting stability and prosperity. History had taught the country that peace was built through tolerance, dialogue and a commitment to the common good. Nurturing hope began with strengthening democracy, freedoms and the rule of law. The Government had taken significant steps to consolidate democratic governance, transparency and national unity. It continued to implement constitutional governance reforms to strengthen democratic institutions and accountability. To that end, the Access to Information Act had been enacted in 2023, boosting transparency and citizen access to public information. Public finance management reforms, supported by the Public Finance Management Act, promoted fiscal discipline and transparent management of public resources.

To promote peace, the country continued to engage in dialogue, mediation and regional cooperation through active participation in regional and international bodies. Given that hope for future generations should be anchored in sustainable development, Zambia had implemented policies to improve economic resilience, youth empowerment and opportunities for women and marginalized communities. The Eighth National Development Plan 2022–2026 provided a strategic framework for inclusive economic transformation, focusing on human capital development, economic diversification and environmental sustainability. Zambia's Constituency Development Fund had empowered local communities by financing schools, health facilities, youth empowerment initiatives and community infrastructure. Investment in education had been strengthened by making education free from early childhood to secondary school, thus increasing the number of students by over 2.5 million over the previous four years. Governments should harness their collective strength to address global challenges, promote human rights and ensure that people could thrive free from the fear of war. She encouraged Members to reaffirm their commitment to working together across political divides.

Mr. V. Blondel (Belgium) said that while the current global circumstances might make it naive to speak of hope, peace and justice, failure to do so would be a form of surrender. It was necessary to uphold human rights as enshrined in UN instruments; only then would countries be fully governed by the rule of law. Parliamentarians needed to undertake their shared responsibility to hold governments accountable and ensure that IPU resolutions were translated into laws and concrete actions. Parliaments had an immense responsibility with regard to young people, who were not the future but the present. All decisions should be guided by intergenerational responsibility. The UN Declaration on Future Generations called for enhanced cooperation with stakeholders and intergenerational partnership through a whole-of-society approach. Parliamentarians therefore needed to join efforts with citizens, thus promoting institutional trust and strengthening cooperation and democracy.

Ms. L. Dlamini (Eswatini) expressed gratitude for the outstanding work of the IPU President and Secretary General, who had reached unprecedented milestones and would leave an indelible mark in terms of African contributions to international organizations. Aspiring for hope, peace and justice for future generations was anchored in Eswatini's National Development Plan 2023–2028, which sought to achieve economic recovery and sustainable livelihoods for all citizens. The National Development Plan was grounded in a commitment to social justice, political stability and inclusive

development, with good governance as the foundation for building hope for future generations. Eswatini pursued a deliberate and coordinated approach to national development. The Government's policy adopted an agile mandate and focused on strengthening inclusive economic growth, job creation, essential services, and combating poverty and corruption. To that end, the Government ensured strategic coordination of national priorities, including alignment with the SDGs, implemented comprehensive reforms to equip young people with relevant skills for the future, and had delivered a globally recognized HIV response, achieving the 95-95-95 targets, which underscored the importance of sustained multisectoral commitment. The Government also continued to foster entrepreneurship and innovation among young people through youth empowerment initiatives, was expanding access to justice, particularly for vulnerable communities, and was advancing development, using strategic partnerships to mobilize financing, technical support and trade opportunities that directly benefited citizens.

Eswatini remained committed to multilateralism and regional stability. Its engagement with continental human rights mechanisms reflected its openness to accountability and improvement, while its leadership role within the Southern African Development Community underscored its commitment to peace, security and cooperation in southern Africa. Her country's partnership with the UN, including through the UN Sustainable Development Cooperation Framework 2026–2030, positioned it to advance digital transformation, economic resilience and sustainable development. Other international efforts included the first session of the Africa-EU Parliamentary Assembly, which Eswatini would host from 7 to 14 May 2026. Concerning climate change, inclusive and decisive action was necessary. Amid the ongoing global tensions, international law and dialogue should prevail. Her country was proof that even with limited resources, significant progress could be achieved through focused leadership, national unity and strategic partnerships. Parliaments had a collective responsibility to legislate, oversee and advocate to produce tangible outcomes for citizens.

Mr. J.F.N. Mudenda (Zimbabwe) said that the importance of the theme of the General Debate was affirmed by the imperative in the Charter of the United Nations for global peace and security and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, particularly SDG 16, on inclusiveness, peace, justice and accountable institutions. The 2024 Sustainable Development Report had found that SDG 16 remained among the most off-track of the Goals. The alarming number of people forcibly displaced because of conflicts and living in violent settings had imperilled the objectives of the African Union's Silencing the Guns initiative and Agenda 2063. In light of exorbitant military expenditure globally, he urged the IPU to heed the exhortation by Pope Leo XIV to lay down all weapons and resolve issues through peaceful dialogue as equal partners. Although Zimbabwe had suffered greatly to gain independence, it had emerged from the process with a resolute commitment to global peace, security and reconciliation, enshrined in the Unity Accord of 1987 and the Bill of Rights of the 2013 Constitution. Members should religiously believe that hope did not disappoint and that justice was the ethical, philosophical and legal principle of fairness, equity and moral rightness that guaranteed peace for present and future generations. The peace dividend should be premised, not on unipolar hegemony, but on the full respect of international law and multilateralism.

Mr. F. Idizoda (Tajikistan) expressed concern and condemnation regarding the current escalating military conflicts, violations of human rights and international norms, threats to international stability and the escalation in the Middle East, which all had humanitarian implications for innocent civilians. Tajikistan called on all sides to refrain from further military action. Urgent measures should be taken, ensuring respect for international law, including the principles of sovereignty and territorial integrity. Diplomacy and constructive dialogue were the only means of de-escalation. The President of Tajikistan had always called for peaceful conflict resolution through negotiation and emphasized parliamentarians' important role in promoting national conciliation, security, regional cooperation and people's rights. The foundation of hope, trust in the political system, was reinforced by parliamentarians effectively delivering on their mandates. Their contribution to diplomacy, including parliamentary diplomacy, was essential, and fostered intergovernmental dialogue and cooperation.

It was impossible to achieve peace without justice. Ensuring justice, peace, including in foreign policy, and stability was essential. It required the work of parliamentarians acting in society's interest and was their responsibility towards future generations, which should be undertaken by supporting education, research, environmental protection and young people themselves. Hope should be built by ensuring inclusivity and enabling participation in legislative action, thus strengthening democracy. Parliaments must be transparent and work with civil society, taking various perspectives into consideration. Nurturing hope required lasting efforts.

Mr. S. Nguema Owono (Equatorial Guinea) said that parliaments played a significant role in fostering hope, peace and justice. They should adopt laws to reduce corruption and ensure equality before the law, thus promoting just, peaceful and inclusive societies; engage in parliamentary dialogue and international cooperation for peaceful dispute resolution; and implement international treaties through national legislative frameworks to protect the rights of all, including the vulnerable.
His Parliament promoted hope, peace and justice through its legislative and budgetary capacities, including by developing laws in recent years to authorize public spending on peaceful coexistence programmes, establishing an anti-corruption programme, restructuring the Ministry of Justice, bolstering gender equality, such as by promoting the education of adult and adolescent women, and improving living conditions. The common goal of strengthening hope, peace and justice was to build a better society and required legislation and the implementation of parliamentary diplomacy to advance the SDGs. Equatorial Guinea called for full respect of countries' sovereignty and equal rights for all countries.

Mr. S. Ghobash (United Arab Emirates) said that his country's policy had been guided by peace, hope and justice since its founding, through an approach grounded in tolerance, coexistence and peace as a strategic choice. A clear and principled stance must be taken against all those who threatened countries' sovereignty, destabilized regional security, and transformed international waterways into instruments of pressure and coercion. Such acts were no longer viewed as isolated incidents. Their prohibition had been attributed international legitimacy under UN Security Council resolution 2817 (2026) and UN Human Rights Council resolution 38 (2026), recognizing those acts as violations against the system meant to uphold sovereignty, protect civilians, guarantee freedom of navigation and prevent the use of force as a tool of political and economic blackmail. The current global situation constituted a recurring pattern of direct and proxy aggressive behaviour by the Islamic Republic of Iran, which was brutal, unjustified and unlawful and targeted civilian infrastructure. Obstructing the Strait of Hormuz had severely impacted energy trade and agriculture, particularly for the Global South. Acting with complacency or disregard would set a dangerous precedent, normalizing illegitimacy and replacing established rules with *faits accomplis*.

While the United Arab Emirates had welcomed the truce between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States of America and continued to follow ongoing negotiations, a legitimate and sustainable resolution should take into account the rights and concerns of affected countries, while balancing requirements for peace with security and stability. International maritime corridors were not subject to the will of any single party, nor should the world pay the price for threatening and intimidating policies. There was a legal and moral necessity to protect the international system and deter anyone who believed it possible to undermine the security of global trade without consequence. Member Parliaments were urged to explicitly condemn the systemic attacks by the Islamic Republic of Iran on the sovereignty of relevant countries, considering them as serious violations of international law; hold the Iranian regime accountable for obstructing the freedom of navigation, obligating it not to repeat such actions under any pretext and ensuring full compensation for resulting losses; and uphold the principle of distinction. Achieving peace required political will, equitable justice, respect for sovereignty, adherence to international law and the rejection of violence and interference. Peace was built on justice and could last only through wisdom and responsibility.

Mr. A.R. Abdulla (Maldives) said that nurturing hope began with empowering citizens, especially young people and women, by ensuring access to quality education, employment opportunities and healthcare and engaging them in decision-making. People needed to feel heard and safe. Peace and stability required constant efforts, dialogue and cooperation. It was necessary for countries to respect international law and exercise parliamentary diplomacy to maintain strong partnerships and resolve problems through cooperation. For Small Island Developing States (SIDS), peace and climate security were closely linked. Urgent and collective international climate action based on justice, accountability and equity was needed. Those countries most vulnerable to climate change should receive greater support. Justice was the foundation of lasting peace and required strong democratic institutions, accountable governance and respect for human rights and the rule of law. Ensuring justice for future generations called for decisions that protected young people's wellbeing. The Parliament of the Maldives was strengthening democratic governance and inclusiveness, including through reforms and modern technology, such as a recently introduced digital platform enabling citizens to submit concerns and proposals to Parliament, thus increasing public participation. It represented a major advancement in enhancing parliamentary accountability and an accessible legislative process.

Governments needed to boost global cooperation to build hope, peace and stability. The IPU was a key forum for inter-parliamentary dialogue and cooperation, which should be leveraged for society's benefit. Members should renew their commitment to future generations and develop laws on protection, equality and strong democratic systems. The humanitarian crisis in Palestine and other conflict-affected regions could not be overlooked. The Maldives condemned the military actions by Israel and the United States of America against the Islamic Republic of Iran, and by the Islamic Republic of Iran on several countries. All parties should exercise restraint. The international community should support a ceasefire and work towards achieving lasting peace.

Mr. L. Dorji (Bhutan) said that the current global situation affected not only the countries in crisis, but all people everywhere, especially in developing countries. Hope should become a responsibility of leadership anchored in action. Bhutan reaffirmed its commitment to multilateralism, the Charter of the United Nations and the rules-based international order as essential for peace and stability. The country's guiding principle of gross national happiness reflected its commitment to intergenerational responsibility and was put into practice through transparency, accountability and inclusiveness. The country was strengthening public trust in democratic institutions, essential for peace, social cohesion and long-term stability, and was advancing women's representation in Parliament and youth participation in the democratic process. Parliaments played a critical oversight role in upholding integrity. Independent constitutional bodies reported annually to the Parliament, reinforcing transparency, accountability and the rule of law. To advance parliamentary diplomacy, Bhutan sought to promote mutual understanding and contribute to collective solutions through dialogue and cooperation.

Ensuring justice for future generations required forward-looking action. The country's constitutional mandate to maintain at least 60% of forest cover reflected its commitment to environmental stewardship. Bhutan was carbon-negative, demonstrating that conservation and development could go hand in hand. It was addressing emerging challenges by advancing a responsible, human-centred and ethical approach to artificial intelligence and innovation. His country would continue contributing to global efforts, including the UN Pact for the Future and the Declaration on Future Generations. Parliamentarians should lead with wisdom, solidarity and compassion. A just and peaceful future should be built on human dignity, environmental responsibility and shared purposes, ensuring accountable governance and maintaining dialogue.

Mr. B. Boughali (Algeria) said that the nature of conflicts had changed, reflecting deeper structural imbalances, such as poverty, marginalization, food insecurity and environmental degradation, compelling parliamentarians to centre security on people's needs. Other countries should adopt Algeria's vision of strengthening trust, hope and justice through structured national action based on reconciliation, multilateralism and peaceful dispute settlement, upholding international law. The international community's credibility was seriously undermined by the continued suffering of the Palestinian people, which should not be overlooked. There was an urgent need to put an end to double standards, selectivity and impunity, to uphold legitimacy, confidence in multilateralism and the rule of law. Perpetrators of war crimes and crimes against humanity must be held to account. Algeria called for the immediate condemnation and repeal of the law adopted by Israel on the execution of its Palestinian prisoners. It was a racist law that violated international humanitarian law. Given the dangerous precedent the law would set, the prisoners should be protected in accordance with established legal norms. While his country welcomed the ceasefire agreement in the Gulf region and the Middle East and looked forward to the resumption of political dialogue and negotiation, there needed to be a comprehensive, permanent cessation of the Zionist aggression against Lebanon and Palestine and a comprehensive, just resolution of the root causes of the crisis. In that regard, it was imperative to implement international rulings, complete the decolonization process and safeguard the right to self-determination. Global governance reform was urgently required, while ensuring its adaptability to ongoing change, to strengthen equity among countries and the credibility and capacity of international institutions.

International peace and security required a comprehensive approach that respected non-interference. Investments in sustainable development, food security and environmental protection were necessary to build lasting peace. Parliaments should restore trust in institutions by bolstering transparency, accountability and political participation, and developing forward-looking legislative frameworks. International parliamentary diplomacy was key to enhancing dialogue and preventing conflicts, especially in regional contexts. With regard to technological advances, particularly artificial intelligence, international cooperation should be strengthened to adopt transparent and just regulatory frameworks that ensured its use was ethical and served society. In that regard, capacity building in

developing countries was necessary to support them in achieving the SDGs. In closing, he emphasized that hope necessitated political will, solidarity and the respect of shared values. Equality, democracy and stability should be promoted through joint efforts to safeguard human dignity and be future-responsive.

Mr. A.S.K. Bagbin (Ghana) said that hope was confidence in systems that delivered inclusive growth, protected livelihoods and expanded opportunities, particularly for young people. Sustainable peace entailed not just the absence of conflict, but the presence of justice, equity and resilient institutions. Parliaments were central to those efforts. The Parliament of Ghana shaped the country's democratic trajectory and development outcomes, translated national aspirations into laws and accountability mechanisms and contributed to peacebuilding and national cohesion.

Parliamentary diplomacy had become increasingly important to advancing peace, justice and multilateral cooperation. Ghana valued its longstanding relationship with the IPU, which had led to several initiatives by his Parliament on human and child rights, climate change and environmental stewardship and his country's hosting of the inaugural meeting of the Network of Parliamentary Training Institutes in 2026, which had culminated in the adoption of a decision to establish a global association of parliamentary training institutes. Hope, peace and justice required collective commitment and were interconnected and essential for sustainable and inclusive development. Justice was strengthened through equity and the rule of law. While Ghana had made progress in democratic governance, contemporary challenges required coordinated action and political will. Future-responsive policies were key to assuming intergenerational responsibility. Unilateralism had no place in the IPU.

Ms. T. Narbaeva (Uzbekistan) said that the theme of the Assembly required Members to know how to use the resources at their disposal. People under 30 accounted for 60% of Uzbekistan's population. Any Government policy that did not specifically target young people was destined to fail. Youth policy was central to the country's national development strategy. For the period 2026–2030, her country would be carrying out a sustainable future programme to develop its human capital by increasing young people's capacities to be competitive on the global labour market. The programme increased access to quality education, including for talented young people from low-income families, supported youth employment and entrepreneurship as investments in social stability, promoted culture, the arts and sports, which were indispensable to social harmony, and fostered environmental awareness and sustainable development, including by funding youth-led green initiatives. National efforts must go hand in hand with international cooperation. Global platforms should be created to facilitate interactions among young people, as they were a global resource. In that context, Uzbekistan would be hosting the 12th Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians in September 2026.
All parliamentarians, regardless of age, were invited to participate, given that strengthening hope started with intergenerational dialogue across cultures.

Mr. C. Wiseler (Luxembourg) took the Chair.

Mr. D.M. Dileita (Djibouti) said that in the light of the protracted crises in neighbouring countries, Djibouti was stepping up efforts to consolidate peace, security and sustainable development. In 2025, the Parliament had adopted constitutional reforms to ensure political continuity and institutional stability, which was essential to implement the SDGs and secure the future, thus strengthening the country's commitment to democracy, transparency, inclusiveness and citizen participation. Djibouti was a regional mediator; its stability and security made it an ideal actor to continue efforts towards peace consolidation and dialogue, including with international and civil society organizations. The conflicts in the region underscored the need for strong and lasting political commitment.

To build hope and safeguard the future, the Parliament had made education, youth affairs and employment central to its work, affirming that peace should be grounded in universal access to quality education, enhanced vocational training, support for youth entrepreneurship and decent work. That approach advanced the SDGs, especially SDG 4, on inclusive quality education, SDG 8, on decent work, and SDG 16, on peaceful, inclusive societies. Djibouti remained committed to preparing future generations to mount economic, social and environmental challenges. Justice for future generations should address environmental protection and climate change. The Parliament of Djibouti was undertaking efforts to strengthen environmental governance, promote sustainable development and transition towards green economic policies. The parliamentary community was encouraged to strengthen international cooperation in that area and exchange good practices to build a just, peaceful and sustainable world.

Mr. A. Gashi (North Macedonia) said that the 2018 Prespa Agreement had ended a decades-long dispute and paved the way for his country's NATO membership, underscoring the primacy of diplomacy, honest international cooperation, dialogue, political courage and mutual respect. The country's commitment to acceding to the European Union (EU) strengthened democratic reforms, the rule of law and public institutions. North Macedonia aimed to restore citizens' trust through real results. As Speaker, he sought to make the Parliament a home for the citizens. His Parliament advanced future-focused and sustainable law-making through its introduction of assessments of current and future impacts and consultative processes involving civil society, academia and the private sector. Recognizing parliaments' responsibility to lead digital transformation, North Macedonia was strengthening its legal framework in line with EU and international standards and supported the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on parliaments and responsible artificial intelligence. Governance frameworks on artificial intelligence should protect democratic principles, individual rights and the security of future generations.

North Macedonia's parliamentary agenda prioritized addressing the root causes of instability, including poverty, inequality, food insecurity and environmental issues. The country had developed stronger environmental laws and increased investment in green energy, understanding that environmental and human security were linked. Given the need to improve global youth participation in politics, North Macedonia was addressing barriers and strengthening intergenerational dialogue. It was parliaments' role to turn citizens' hopes into laws, ensure accountability and shape the future. His country stood ready to enhance inter-parliamentary cooperation and share experiences.

Mr. J. Ntakirutimana (East African Legislative Assembly (EALA)) said that the current interconnected global crises tested governance systems' capacity to respond to future issues. Building hope should be implemented through law. The EALA therefore worked to address citizens' concerns. Laws should safeguard peace, justice and human rights for future generations through a people-centred approach. It was parliaments' role to prioritize civilian protection in full respect of international humanitarian law (IHL), strengthen oversight and accountability mechanisms, and address root causes of insecurity, poverty, inequality, environmental degradation, food insecurity and unemployment, while fostering inclusive governance. The EALA was committed to enhancing parliamentary oversight on conflict prevention, adopting a human security approach and ensuring accountability for violations of IHL. It was also committed to boosting youth and women's participation and strengthening intergenerational dialogue and protections against exclusion and harassment. Stressing the need for responsible artificial intelligence governance, the EALA would continue developing frameworks for ethical and accountable artificial intelligence governance, ensuring that innovation served humanity and protected fundamental rights. It remained committed to constructive multilateral cooperation.

Mr. R. Gonzáles Patricio (Latin American and Caribbean Parliament (PARLATINO)) said that a corrupt and dehumanized global elite was driving various calamities, including cultural colonialism, which monopolized algorithms and corporate media. Hope was called for and required great effort. The theme of the Assembly was therefore applaudable. Contrary to the belief of those who promoted attitudes of resignation, war, injustice and the climate crisis, people-centred parliamentary diplomacy was necessary to foster hope, peace, justice and democratic international relations, as proposed by the IPU's *Universal Declaration on Democracy*. The UN had not prevented the current harsh conditions because its non-democratic system was exposed to the monopoly of the veto in the Security Council and to the sometimes-complicit passivity in organizational reforms. However, when a breach of international law gave rise to the law of the strongest, it was worth thinking how the world would have been different without the UN, or to what world society would be condemned by those benefiting from the burial of the UN and multilateralism. There was no future without cooperation, dialogue, peace and international law. The three pillars of the UN – development, peace and security and human rights – must be embraced and gave society hope not to give up on that organization. The UN had often failed when nations were not united. There was an urgent need for the international community to take a stand regarding barbarism, such as Israel's genocide in Gaza and the war initiated by Israel and the United States of America against the Islamic Republic of Iran. History legitimately mandated the IPU to contribute to reshaping multilateralism and peace.

The United States Congress was not interested in the IPU, and PARLATINO's attempts at dialogue had fallen on deaf ears. In 2025, the current United States administration had posed various threats to Latin America and the Caribbean, which was a zone of peace. The year 2026 had begun with military aggression against the Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela and the kidnapping of its President. The humiliation of migrants from the region continued, and an oil blockade had been imposed on Cuba, where a genocide was fast approaching. Regarding environmental issues,

PARLATINO stood ready to seek out and implement solutions. To that end, it had launched the Parliamentary Alliance for Climate Action and Just Transition, which constituted parliamentary and inter-parliamentary institutions from various continents. Parliamentarians were encouraged to join the Alliance. PARLATINO had also established a Green Fund Office in Panama, advanced the development of a parliamentary charter for climate action in Latin America and the Caribbean and created the Special Commission on Caribbean Affairs to address Caribbean-specific issues.

Ms. M. Ibrahima (Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)) said that common action was the only way forward. The theme of the General Debate was of utmost relevance. The violence around the world showed that war was never far away. Dialogue should be guided by peaceful coexistence, the only means of resolving a crisis. People's differences should be accepted to avoid conflict. It was necessary to respect the right to self-determination without external interference and safeguard human dignity. It was not by chance that the Assembly was convening in Türkiye, a geographical crossroads, while tensions in the Middle East were at their highest. Action must be taken. Parliamentarians needed to safeguard the peace and prosperity of future generations and send a clear message that they would not compromise with indifference, recognizing that clarity constituted courage, and ambiguity, complicity. The energy crisis was threatening economies and therefore social programmes. While most global leaders had not experienced World War II, they should have learned from it. It was impossible to achieve lasting peace and security without addressing structural causes, such as hunger, the climate emergency and artificial intelligence. Peace should be pursued relentlessly by actively supporting parliamentary diplomacy in crisis-affected regions, investing in education on peace and justice from an early age and guaranteeing women's and young people's full participation in politics. Intergenerational dialogue was necessary for justice.

Ms. K. López Rabadán (Mexico) said that the diversity found in parliamentary chambers was parliaments' greatest strength and the key to building lasting agreements. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to promote understanding, dialogue and cooperation to foster hope, peace and justice. In parliaments, respect should undergird the affirmation of beliefs and the recognition of others' right to do the same, thus restoring the noble mission of politics: to reach a consensus to pursue the common good, which consisted of ensuring security, opportunities and the wellbeing of all. There was a need for international cooperation and shared solutions based on evidence, dialogue and mutual respect to maximize efficacy, including by sharing experiences.

A recent UN report had highlighted the systematic and generalized disappearances in Mexico, which had not been driven by deliberate government action. The report had called for international cooperation to craft a comprehensive institutional response, demonstrating that multilateralism was grounded in the capacity to address issues based on objectivity, respect and cooperation. Such an approach would enable parliamentarians to develop long-term, people-centred solutions.
She encouraged Members to look past their differences and work for society's benefit.

Mr. M. Alyammahi (Arab Parliament) expressed the hope that the recent temporary ceasefire brokered in the Middle East would lead to a lasting agreement but emphasized that it could not be separated from the blatant attacks carried out by the Islamic Republic of Iran against several Arab countries, the most recent of which had not been isolated events and represented a direct and systematic threat against the stability and security of the countries of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC). In that context, for negotiations to be effective, a statement should be issued condemning the consequences of the attacks for all victimized countries to promote their sustainable development and protect their legitimate rights. National, regional and international parliaments should clearly and unequivocally condemn the attacks and reject any practices that undermined the sovereignty, peace, stability and security of Arab countries, especially any acts threatening the safety of maritime navigation. Accountability should be strengthened to stop impunity and prevent the recurrence of such attacks.

The adoption by the Knesset of legislation permitting the execution of Palestinian prisoners was a dangerous precedent that constituted a crime and a blatant violation of the basic principles of IHL. Addressing it was a responsibility that parliamentarians could not defer. The IPU was a forum for international legislative conscience that must act immediately to protect the principles upon which it had been built. Therefore, the Arab Parliament called for the suspension of Israel's membership of the IPU. Any parliament that legalized the execution of prisoners could not be welcome. It also called for the creation of an IPU-affiliated international parliamentary committee specifically tasked with following up on the legalized executions in question. History would remember a clear stand taken for justice.

Mr. R. Gamarra (MERCOSUR Parliament (PARLASUR)) said that it was not easy to discuss peace in light of the ongoing visible conditions of war. He hated war, having seen its consequences in his country, Paraguay. Peace should be a permanent construct, sustained through human beings, the most important natural resource, and dialogue, the only endless resource. Institutions should be strengthened to ensure peace and sustainable democracies, an approach that had allowed PARLASUR to develop more responsible laws and sustain harmony amidst the bloc's differences. It promoted growth by fostering dialogue and integration. It was no coincidence that the Assembly was being held in Istanbul, a city of unity reflected by its geographical position.

Mr. M.R. Rahmani (Afghanistan) said that his country had been navigating a complex situation for nearly five years, resulting in significant economic, social and humanitarian challenges. In that context, it was essential to adopt a pragmatic, engagement-oriented approach, focused on identifying a workable solution for the wellbeing of all citizens. The progress and stability of any society were linked to access to fundamental opportunities, such as education. Ensuring access to education for all, particularly girls, enhanced sustainable development and national self-resilience, reduced poverty, increased human capital and sustained social trust. It was also important to improve people's economic situation through job creation and support for the private sector. In that regard, regional and international cooperation to support Afghanistan's economy would be indispensable. Sustainable peace required mutual understanding, inclusive participation and respect. National institutions played a decisive role in fostering trust and meaningful dialogue. Regarding justice, ensuring the rule of law, transparency and equitable access to fundamental rights were key priorities. Justice was realized when all members of society, without marginalization, recognized themselves as integral to the national fabric.

Women played a significant role in Afghan society. Creating appropriate conditions for their gradual and meaningful participation in educational, social and economic spheres could contribute sustainably to social cohesion and development. Migration remained a major challenge for his country. Sustained cooperation and sustainable solutions were necessary to address the challenges faced by millions of Afghans living in the country and abroad. To leverage the new regional and international opportunities proposed to improve Afghanistan's situation, trust, dialogue and mutual understanding should be strengthened among all stakeholders. The IPU could play a meaningful and effective role by facilitating dialogue and cooperation among countries.

Mr. A. Aljarwan (International Parliament on Tolerance and Peace (IPTP)) said that security was a precondition for sustainable peace and should not be taken for granted. Achieving justice called for considerable efforts. Peace, security and justice required meaningful cooperation and close adherence to international law. The theme of the General Debate constituted a legal and moral responsibility to protect stability everywhere. Restoring hope required dialogue and peace based in law, which in turn required institutions to shape a peaceful future. The international order was built on legal frameworks, including those on maritime navigation, which safeguarded stability. The situation in the Strait of Hormuz, a major route for the energy trade, had impacted not only regional, but also global stability and progress. Achieving peace in the Middle East should not be dissociated from securing international stability. While the region had longstanding political issues, it had the potential to be a forum for cooperation.

The IPTP strongly condemned the attacks waged by the Islamic Republic of Iran on neighbouring countries, including the GCC countries, after negotiations had failed in that respect. The Islamic Republic of Iran had claimed responsibility for the resulting casualties and infrastructural damage, raising serious concerns about the future of humanity. Palestine reserved the right to be an independent sovereign State, to build its future freely, and to enjoy peace, development and stability. Permanent peace in the Middle East should not be imposed but built through ongoing dialogue, a steadfast commitment to diplomatic dispute settlement and international law, thus rejecting escalation and unilateralism, and political will based on common interests. The IPTP underscored Lebanon's right to territorial integrity, non-interference, self-determination and sovereignty. Upholding international law was the only means of achieving peace, equality and stability – preconditions for investment, development and prosperity, which formed the basis for tangible hope.

Mr. M. Aboueleneen (Parliamentary Assembly of the Union for the Mediterranean (PA-UFM)) said that citizens were expecting too much of parliamentarians. Against the backdrop of flowery speeches and the failure of an unjust international system, citizens should not be given more promises, but a joint vision developed by the IPU and supported by all parliaments to redress all wrongs. Shirking that responsibility would lead to consequences for all. The effects of modern-day

wars knew no borders; the turmoil in the Middle East would be no different. Justice was necessary for stability, as was respect for human rights for security. Disregarding international law, including through damage to civilian infrastructure and forced displacements, weakened legitimacy and fuelled despair and disenchantment. Parliamentary diplomacy should be parliaments' first line of defence. Members were urged to stand in solidarity against wars and escalation. There needed to be a lasting ceasefire in Gaza, as well as a peace process governed by the UN Security Council and supported by the IPU and other multilateral organizations to implement and accelerate progress on the Sharm El-Sheikh agreement. The Israeli and Palestinian authorities needed to uphold their commitments.

The Gaza Strip should be rebuilt through a transparent process involving all Middle Eastern countries and international financial institutions to develop a comprehensive programme for development. The entire international community should participate in shaping a common vision for the future from a new approach, including by restructuring the international order, particularly the UN. Foundational UN agreements must be revisited, the right to veto should be recognized as unfair and the poor representation of developing countries on the Security Council should be addressed. Justice and fairness were necessary for development and stability, while respect of international law and equality were key to stability and security. An international IPU programme should be established for all parliaments to achieve their objectives.

FIRST SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS

Mr. C. Cajado Sampaio (Brazil) said that his Parliament was fostering inclusive, sustainable and future-responsive development. To address poverty and inequality, the Parliament had developed SDG-aligned legislative frameworks and performed continuous monitoring of the benefits and disadvantages of relevant public policies through parliamentary observatories assigned to the SDGs. A comprehensive tax reform had been approved in 2024 to make tax collection more efficient and reduce the tax burden of the poorest. Regarding food security, a draft law had been approved in 2025 to establish national policy to combat food loss and waste across the entire production chain, ensuring access to food for the most vulnerable. Measures had also been approved to expand school feeding programmes and encourage institutional purchases from family farms, thereby strengthening food security in cities and generating income in rural areas. Environmental issues remained central to Brazil's legislative agenda. The country was committed to implementing proposals combining scientific research, technical assistance and resilient agriculture practices, ensuring that productivity and environmental conservation were complementary. The Parliament was also debating laws to regulate artificial intelligence and initiatives on digital markets to ensure that innovation served the public good. The Hacker Lab initiative incorporated digital technologies to enhance transparency and public participation in legislative processes.

Mr. L. Dorji (Bhutan) took the Chair.

Mr. R. Oliphant (Canada) said that parliamentarians should play a central role in addressing current global developments. While more senior parliamentarians had made great strides regarding cooperation, democratic governance and multilateral engagement, they acknowledged that there had been failures and that modern-day threats were more significant than in previous years. It was concerning that foundational principles, such as the rule of law, the international rules-based order, mutual respect and diplomatic norms, had been shattered. Parliamentarians needed to step up efforts to remove barriers to engagement, including through constructive and trustworthy listening, compromise and consensus, nationally and internationally. It was also necessary to build peace based on not only the absence of conflict but also access to opportunities for all. Parliaments were called on to develop legal frameworks to implement commitments to peace, development and justice, exercise oversight in periods of crisis, ensure accountability, establish stabilizing mechanisms to promote sustained dialogue, and uphold democratic principles. Parliamentarians should make a difference for their citizens, including future generations.

Mr. D. Carden (United Kingdom) said that the British Labour Party had been founded at a time of uncertainty, when activists had recognized that legislation was the most legitimate means of reforming world structures and promoting people's rights. Similarly, nurturing hope, peace and justice represented the highest aspiration of international parliamentarianism and required honesty about conditions in the world: multilateralism was under strain and conflicts were expanding because of a lack of legal mandates and consensus on UN Security Council resolutions. To safeguard the international order, Iranian attacks on his country's allies in the Gulf must be condemned, the Strait of Hormuz should be opened and countries should stand with Ukraine against the illegal invasion by the Russian Federation.

His Government had refused to participate in offensive operations against the Islamic Republic of Iran because a government's primary responsibility was to act in the interests of its citizens. No contradiction existed between the defence of national interests and of a predictable, just and consistent international order. Parliaments were most effective when they found the meeting point between the two. The United Kingdom's role in the conflict involving the Islamic Republic of Iran had been limited, grounded in law and consistent with its national interest, an important distinction that set a crucial precedent and preserved legitimacy. The events of recent months had exposed that European security could not be indefinitely subcontracted to US authorities, an uncomfortable truth that British politicians had long refused to say. The decades-long dependency was coming to an end, and the adjustment would be painful. The IPU should therefore refrain from anchoring deliberations in rarefied liberal principles, untethered from political reality, recalling that international institutions derived their legitimacy from the consent and credibility of their member countries.

Mr. A. Neofytou (Cyprus) said that current global challenges tested institutions and people's trust. Parliaments had a central role in restoring confidence through budgeting, oversight and legislation that balanced economic growth with social cohesion. The impact of emerging technologies should not be ignored but leveraged to serve humanity and strengthen democratic processes and security, while upholding ethical standards. Having been divided for over five decades, his country was committed to peace through a just, viable and lasting solution in line with the international law and relevant UN resolutions to ensure a bicommunal, bizonal Federation that benefited all Cypriots of all ethnicities. Parliamentary diplomacy had an important role to play in that process through dialogue, confidence building and cooperation. It was also important to ensure youth involvement. Parliamentarians should act with determination, strengthen institutions, reaffirm their commitment to international law and work collectively to build a future defined by peace, dignity and hope.

Mr. L. Bugli (San Marino) said that, amid the fragility of the global order, the biggest risk was not only conflict but that society was getting used to it and losing sight of its vision. Political choices were guided more by markets than by human dignity, thus weakening hope and undermining peace because of deepening inequalities. Parliamentarians were urged to think about future generations with a sense of responsibility, ensuring that their interests guided decisions. Peace required courage and efforts to look beyond resentment and build a shared future. Dialogue was the first form of security. Peace was defined by justice, dignity and inclusion. Necessary to unite society, diversity required robust support, policies and institutions and parliaments that listened. Parliaments needed to approach new technologies and the challenges they posed with vision and responsibility.

Ms. M. Cederfelt (Sweden) said that members of parliament laid claim to a special relationship with the UN. At a time of global upheaval, the world needed the UN, which should function as its founders had intended. The rules-based order benefited everyone. There was a need for UN reforms, particularly of the Security Council. New key players promoting peace, security, human rights and development should have a seat on the Security Council. For the UN to function, Member States should pay contributions on time and in full. Parliamentarians should shoulder their responsibility to hold governments accountable, ratify and implement UN treaties and hold the UN Secretariat to the highest standard. Parliaments were essential in translating global human rights commitments into concrete improvements in people's lives. Strong democracies should welcome scrutiny, including by independent authorities, and open political debate, ensuring that people's voices were heard and respected.

All parliamentarians should share the same fundamental respect for the basic tenets of human rights, rule of law, democracy and due process. The brutal war of aggression of the Russian Federation against Ukraine had been going on for almost as long as World War I, and was taking place in parallel to a violent crackdown on the Russian opposition, in which opposition leaders had been killed, poisoned and imprisoned. The war in Ukraine was a threat against the global order, food production and the environment and should be taken seriously by all. The Russian Federation should stop its violent war as soon as possible. The current situation in the Middle East was worrying and must end. The UN needed to intervene.

Mr. K. Atieh (Jordan) said that, amid the current unprecedented humanitarian crises, parliamentarians had a duty to protect populations, defend the principles of the international order, especially the rule of law and justice, and work together to develop strategies. Central to international security was the situation in Palestine. Occupation and repression continued. The conflicts in the region were perpetuated because they were politically motivated. The international community could

not simply stand by and watch Israel's actions. Serious systematic crimes in violation of IHL, including genocide and civilian massacres, continued to be committed against Palestinians, impacting other countries in the region. The war machine continued to flout international law; it was an outlaw organization that did not respect humanity. It had been completely unaccountable and was trying to impose its narrative on the world as a status quo. Israel was committing the worst atrocities and ethnic cleansing. The international community should undertake efforts to end the continued aggression to avoid its escalation and spread to the entire Middle East and the risk of mass displacement.

Jordan had always adopted a moderate approach, seeking to safeguard regional security and stability and defending Palestine through diplomatic efforts. It was crucial to develop a fair and comprehensive solution. Peace could be achieved only through ongoing efforts and could not allow impunity and occupation. The international community was urged to take effective steps to impose sanctions on Israel and compel that country to respect international law. The Palestinian people should enjoy their rights.

Mr. Ito Tatsuya (Japan) expressed deep concern about the global impact of the situation in the Islamic Republic of Iran, particularly on the vulnerable. He looked forward to working with parliamentarians worldwide to bring about swift de-escalation and ensure a stable supply of energy. It was up to parliamentarians to safeguard peace and justice for future generations. Parliamentary diplomacy had never been more important. Parliamentarians' experience in reaching agreements through deliberation allowed them to respond promptly to pressing issues through diplomacy, while promoting mutual understanding and benefit for the long term. It was crucial to maintain multi-layered exchanges from a perspective distinct from that of government. Parliamentarians should contribute to stability, freedom and democracy. Although his country faced structural changes, it strove to develop future-responsive policies through collaboration, including with the private sector, to provide equitable universal services. He encouraged Member Parliaments to strengthen solidarity.

Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya) said that, in its commitment to strengthening trust in public institutions and democracy, her Parliament had prioritized transparency, accountability and citizen engagement through open parliamentary sittings, enhanced committee oversight and digital access to legislative processes. It had also widened public participation in line with its Constitution. Kenya actively contributed to peer learning and democratic strengthening through inter-parliamentary platforms across East Africa. It had embedded progressive and practical sustainability principles in its legislative agenda, aligning national laws with long-term development frameworks and global commitments. The country's forward-looking approach prioritized climate resilience, fiscal responsibility and intergovernmental equity. Parliamentary diplomacy and multilateral cooperation remained key to Kenya's engagements, including through dialogue, regional mediation and active participation in global forums.

The country continued to advance peace, justice and cooperative solutions to shared challenges. To address emerging and lingering development challenges, the Kenyan Parliament had enacted laws and overseen policies targeting poverty reduction, social protection, food security and environmental sustainability and continued to strengthen legislative responses to inequality, technological disruption and climate change. In collaboration with the IPU, Kenya was set to host a regional parliamentary seminar on climate change and methane emissions reduction in May 2026. While artificial intelligence was a major disruptor, countries should recognize the opportunities it presented as a key driver of innovation and economic progress. The Senate of Kenya was processing a draft law to establish a comprehensive governance framework for AI, strengthen parliamentary oversight in that regard and address gaps in data protection and information technology. Her country remained committed to building resilient institutions and promoting inclusive development.

Ms. D. Bühler-Nigsch (Liechtenstein) said that, for small countries, peace, legal certainty and multilateralism were key to a sustainable future. Trust, the rule of law and democratic stability were the result of continuous parliamentary work. Her country set store by transparency, clear responsibilities and dialogue, thus strengthening public trust, preventing polarization and fostering peace and social cohesion. Liechtenstein safeguarded intergenerational justice in specific decisions and placed emphasis on reliable social systems, as reflected in its long-term fiscal and social policy, under which the old age and survivors' pension scheme held reserves for about 11 years, ensuring that society was not living at the expense of future generations. International law was a guarantee of security, equality and peace. Dialogue between parliaments fostered trust, even in times of political tension. Hope was built through forward-looking policies and international cooperation.

Ms. D. Roovers (Netherlands) said that society bore the responsibility of teaching future generations that the conditions on earth were not simply inherited from previous generations but borrowed from future generations. In recent years, politics had been reduced to short-term competition. Bringing the rights of future generations to the centre of political discourse was essential to developing a long-term approach, thus allowing parliamentarians to depolarize society and set ambitious goals. All politicians, regardless of their political ideology, sought to build a safe and enjoyable future for their children and should leverage that shared ambition to systematically represent the voice of future generations.

The Pact for the Future could provide cross-party inspiration to develop future-proofing mechanisms. Parliaments should also consider the use of randomly selected citizens' assemblies, which had proven useful in proposing long-term solutions. In 2025, the Dutch Senate had adopted a motion to promote forward-looking, sustainable law-making through assessment of legislative proposals and their long-term effects. There was an urgent need for parliamentarians to grant future generations a solid position in parliamentary decision-making. Hope required active efforts. She called for an IPU resolution on developing political instruments that promoted and established future-proof politics.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that he wished to give the delegate from the United Arab Emirates and delegates from other countries of the Persian Gulf a better understanding of the situation. The Islamic Republic of Iran was a responsible country, remained committed to international law and had always attached great importance to the freedom of navigation in the Strait of Hormuz, the Persian Gulf and the Gulf of Oman. Those waterways had been open to all in recent decades. Therefore, to say that the Strait of Hormuz had been closed was baseless and was a politically motivated effort to deviate public opinion from the real source of the region's instability: the illegal use of force by Israel and the United States of America against his country's sovereignty and territorial integrity. Such actions ran counter to Article 2 of the Charter of the United Nations. The Islamic Republic of Iran therefore reserved the inherent and legitimate right to safeguard its national security in accordance with Article 51 of the Charter and the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS). Article 31 of UNCLOS should be upheld.
The Pakistani authorities had proposed the establishment of a ceasefire and an agreement not to sabotage it. The Islamic Republic of Iran rejected the use of high-technology weaponry against it, particularly from neighbouring countries that had put everything they had at the disposal of the invading country, the United States of America.

The sitting rose at 13:10.

Sitting of Friday, 17 April 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 14:30 with Ms. G. Morawska-Stanecka (Poland), Vice-President of the IPU, in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/153/3-Inf.1)

FIRST SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS (continued)

Mr. D. Sillo (United Republic of Tanzania) said that his country had a long-standing record of peace and stability, contributed to UN peacekeeping operations and was a member of regional blocks, such as the East African Community and the Southern African Development Community, which promoted peace and security. Justice was the bedrock of trust and stability and should be ensured through the rule of law, combating of corruption and promotion of transparency. His Government was committed to ensuring that those who abused power were held accountable, and to protecting the planet and preserving water resources while promoting human rights and a culture of peace for future generations. More work remained to be done, however, and his Government would work with partners to promote a better future for all Tanzanians and contribute to the Sustainable Development Goals. He called for joint efforts to create a world where every individual, community and nation could thrive, and looked forward to welcoming delegates to Arusha in October.

Ms. J. Pejović (Montenegro) said that a Byzantine Emperor of Istanbul had called on his people to be worthy of their ancestors; she called on all those who made decisions for future generations to be aware of that responsibility. Her ancestors had not been heroes by choice but by necessity; they had been unable to retreat from battle because they would have forsaken future generations. From Ukraine to the Middle East, the care taken by those who bore arms when they stepped on the soil distinguished knights from criminals. That principle lay in the law of war, which existed to prevent war crimes. In the Balkans it was said that geography was destiny; the greatest moral code of her nation was that it was humanity to defend others from yourself and heroism to defend yourself from others. Actions measured by that scale would be worthy of ancestors and the descendants to whom it was imperative to leave a better world. The seed planted today would shade children tomorrow.

Ms. M. Mátrai (Hungary) said that, given the rise in global tensions, it was significant that the IPU Assembly was taking place in Türkiye, which was an indispensable player in peace, security and regional stability. Diplomacy was the only viable path to global stability; the language of weapons must be replaced by dialogue based on mutual respect. Multilateralism was a key means of international cooperation and her Government was committed to strengthening international forums that promoted peace. Difficult times had led to the founding of the IPU and, as a founding member, Hungary was convinced of the need to safeguard the multilateral system and uphold communication platforms. Each decision should be guided by the responsibility to bequeath a habitable, safe and just world. Hungary had been a reliable partner in peacekeeping for decades; the curbing of distant conflicts was also a means of protecting the future of Hungarian children. Her Government sought a sustainable and stable future for its young people – future generations must be passed down the belief that the world was a place where knowledge was valued, nature was a treasure and peace was not to be taken for granted. The international community could not afford to resign itself to crisis but rather should foster an atmosphere of trust to build a just and sustainable future.

Mr A.M. Khan (Bangladesh) said that his country had been created with two objectives in mind: democracy and the economic welfare of the underprivileged. The path to democracy had been a struggle but the people had remained steadfast. Bangladesh reaffirmed its commitment to the inclusive social development of its people and the people of the world. Inclusion was the foundation of lasting peace, stability and justice. A better future for the next generation began with the empowerment of those who were most often left behind. Inclusion required systematic transformation and his country was working to improve accessibility across the board and to removing physical and social barriers

that limited the opportunities of the common people. Parliament drove progress through inclusive legislation, adequate budgetary allocations and effective oversight. Since no country could achieve such goals alone, he called for stronger international cooperation, particularly on technology transfer; capacity-building, sharing of best practices, affordable assistive technologies and efficient social protection could be scaled up more effectively through global partnerships and the IPU provided a unique platform for such collaboration. The focus must remain on strengthened institutions, expanded and inclusive infrastructure and investment in human capital. Bangladesh sought the essence of democracy: the rule of the majority with the consent of the minority, with a call for peaceful coexistence.

Mr. Tian Xuejun (China) said that, against a backdrop of sweeping change, sustained geopolitical turmoil had dealt a serious blow to economic globalization and given rise to risks and challenges. Yet, the pursuit of peace and development remained. Sustainable development required concerted efforts by all to create an environment of peace and stability while contributing to a fair and just global governance system. President Xi Jinping had therefore launched the Global Governance Initiative, which had been supported by more than 150 countries and international organizations. China therefore suggested the upholding of sovereign equality and identification of the common denominator in global governance; adherence to international law and the UN Charter and the safeguarding of international justice; the pursuit of multilateralism and the strengthening of the UN with global rules made by all countries; a people-centred approach with the participation of all peoples; and action to advance the necessary reforms to global governance. Legislative bodies were duty-bound and well placed to leverage the rule of law, safeguard international solidarity and cooperation, and shape the new paradigm of international relations while building a shared future for humanity.
The previous month, the National People's Congress had launched the fifteenth five-year plan, which extended an invitation to all countries in a quest for common modernization. China stood ready to work with legislators around the world to exchange experience, help the IPU play a greater role in global governance and uphold international justice.

Mr. P.D.S. Osman (Brunei Darussalam) said that his nation was guided by values of compassion, justice and respect for human dignity and as a member of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), was committed to regional solidarity, mutual respect and consensus building. The theme of the General Debate recalled parliamentarians' responsibility for the present and the future. His nation remained steadfast in fostering peace, promoting social harmony and advancing sustainable development, with a pivotal role played by the Legislative Council. Hope required investment in people – his nation emphasized the education and wellbeing of young persons – and peace required a commitment to mutual respect, dialogue and non-violence. Parliamentarians must uphold the sanctity of human life and address the root causes of instability; ASEAN had demonstrated that dialogue, cooperation and respect for diversity were powerful tools for maintaining peace.

The continued loss of life in Gaza was deeply distressing and unacceptable, and he called for the immediate cessation of violence, the protection of civilians and unimpeded humanitarian access to those in urgent need. Peace could not endure without justice and justice could not prevail without compassion. The international community must act to secure justice, which encompassed legal frameworks, social equity, environmental stewardship and economic sustainability. Concerning the American and Israeli aggression against the Islamic Republic of Iran, he urged all parties to exercise restraint and immediately cease hostilities. He expressed his Government's belief in multilateralism and the rules-based international order under the framework of parliamentary diplomacy.

Mr. J. Meilvang (Denmark) said that he wished to ask a simple question: did the international community want a world of rules or a world where power decided? Following the Russian invasion of Ukraine that was no longer a matter of theory but of reality. If the situation was accepted, it sent a message that force worked and rules did not. No country was safe if borders could be changed by force. Silence was a choice and business as usual was not peace, it was acceptance. Without consequences, there were no rules, and without rules, there was no trust. Stronger action was needed for lasting peace. Parliamentarians had the power to support Ukraine, demand accountability and defend the IPU. History was watching. He called on participants to defend the rules that protected everyone.

Ms. S. Xayachack (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that the international community must continue to seek peaceful and lasting resolutions to conflicts and disputes; the theme of the General Debate was vital. Her country had suffered from decades of war and considered peace,

justice and development to be inherently interconnected. Lasting peace could not be achieved in the absence of trust, development and inclusive justice, and the root cause of conflicts must be understood. Parliaments must: strengthen peace through dialogue and political responsibility; uphold justice through inclusive and accountable governance; and build a fairer and more sustainable global economy for developing countries. Conflicts should be resolved peacefully, in accordance with international law and the principles of the UN Charter, and her Government supported an open, fair and rules-based multilateral trading system. Strengthened cooperation among developing countries would help to address common challenges and promote inclusive and sustainable development. Ensuring justice for future generations entailed investment in human resources development, particularly for young persons and women, the strengthening of institutions and the promotion of social harmony. Her Government remained committed to regional and international cooperation. Peace, development and justice were mutually reinforcing and should be pursued together.

Mr. B Ouch (Cambodia) said that the theme was a timely reminder of the responsibility of parliamentarians to uphold truth, save peace and defend the rule of law. His country's experience had led to the unshakeable conviction that peace could only flourish through an unwavering commitment to justice and the impartial rule of law, and that hope could endure only when truth was upheld. Truth could not prevail, however, when history was distorted for political interest to sow hatred and conflict among nations bound to live side-by-side. Justice could not endure when the rule of law was applied selectively; international law must be applied consistently to all nations, regardless of size, and international agreements must also be implemented consistently. Regional stability depended on unwavering respect for established treaty and boundary arrangements. Ceasefires must be upheld in letter and spirit as meaningful pledges for peace. The human and cultural dimension of conflict should be kept in mind and the desecration of cultural heritage was an affront to the shared responsibility to preserve the legacy of humanity. To create a world of hope and justice for future generations, the international community must act with resolve and determination, address the root causes of discord and uphold the principles that bound the international community.

Mr. X. Iacovelli (France) said that parliamentarians were temporary guardians of a world that they would pass on to future generations. War was a choice and all were responsible for violence; when parliamentarians failed to engage, civilians paid the price. Inaction was complicity. To cultivate hope was to have the courage to construct a world that was not dominated by conflicts and interests but by peace. Certain countries were turning their backs on democracy and freedom under the pretext of sovereignty or emergency, yet democracy was essential to the freedom of peoples and countries. Human rights must remain a universal language. What was tolerated in the present, would become normality for future generations.

Future generations also needed a world where they could breathe; a scorched earth was not an inheritance, it was a condemnation for the world's children. The environment was the foundation of sustainable peace and his generation would be judged according to what they left for the future. The world was changing faster than the law, with children on the front line of the impact of social media and artificial intelligence (AI). Healthy societies focused on education as the best weapon against ignorance. It was no coincidence that a retreat from democracy was often accompanied by a retreat from education, which should focus on learning to live together, not just facts. Hope was not just a feeling but a matter of political will; history would remember the world's courage or silence.

Mr. S. Rachkov (Belarus) said that there was little ground for optimism and without peace there would be no future generations. The global governance architecture was no longer fit for purpose, international law was increasingly ignored and conflicts were proliferating. The UN Security Council was practically polarized and multilateral institutions suffered politicization that undermined their credibility. That was all part of the inexorable decline of the so-called international order. Western nations sought to preserve that international order by instrumentalizing instability through the incitement of conflict and imposition of illegal sanctions. The transition towards a multipolar world was unstoppable, however, because it served the interests of the global majority, which wanted a win-win formula and development based on its understanding of the world and in the best interests of its peoples.

The Belarusian nation placed peace and justice at the heart of its State policy and social development, and stood for the peaceful resolution of conflict. It worked actively to build a just, multipolar world. Since 2023, Belarus had promoted the Eurasian Charter of Diversity and Multipolarity in the 21st Century, which would help to create a Eurasian security architecture and necessarily involved inter-parliamentary efforts to transform words into stable legal foundations. Parliaments were responsible for ensuring that the multipolar world was transparent and reflected the interests of citizens, not narrow elites.

Ms. H. Al-Sulaiti (Qatar), Vice-President of the Executive Committee, took the Chair.

Ms. D. Stefanescu (Romania) said that the theme of the General Debate was particularly timely, given the multiple crises and conflicts around the globe that required enhanced parliamentary input for cooperation and lasting solutions. Hope began with trust in institutions and the rule of law. Parliamentarians must strengthen democratic institutions and combat corruption and abuse of power. Peace meant food security, access to education, economic resilience and environmental protection; contemporary conflicts were increasingly fuelled by inequalities, climate change and competition for resources. Failure to address the root causes would not lead to lasting peace. Romania supported multilateral solutions and the role of parliamentary diplomacy in preventing conflicts. The IPU remained an essential platform for building bridges between nations. Decisions in every area shaped the world of tomorrow; intergenerational justice required balance rather than the onward transfer of disproportionate burdens. Since technology and AI raised questions about equity, access and rights, parliamentarians must ensure that technological progress served the common good and did not deepen existing divisions. Romania remained committed to the mission of the IPU. Future generations would judge the current generation on their actions.

Mr. M.A.O. Ba Sarra (Yemen) said that the principles of the Sustainable Development Goals had not been made visible and he did not see peace or justice on the horizon. Yemeni youth were in despair. Most countries were involved in an arms race and some countries had sacrificed their savings to purchase arms. Respect for the principles of the IPU was needed for parliaments to work.
His country was living through the tragedy that had followed the coup d'etat carried out by Houthi militias, and supported by the Islamic Republic of Iran, 11 years previously. The parliamentary system had been destroyed, alongside the country's infrastructure, and oil exports had been blocked. Thanks to Saudi Arabia, however, a level of social and economic recovery had been achieved. The role of the Islamic Republic of Iran and its militias in his country should be condemned, alongside the aggression that it had perpetrated against Saudi Arabia and the entire Gulf region. Yemen also condemned the aggression of the Zionist entities in Gaza.

Mr. K. Jallow (Gambia) said that the cultivation of hope was the cornerstone of resilient societies and the foundation of sustainable development. In the Gambia, parliament had played a pivotal role in the consolidation of democracy and restoration of public confidence in State institutions. Hope required more than institutional reform, however: it demanded investment in young people – who were the majority in his country – and their education, empowerment and opportunities. Parliamentarians should prioritize policies that developed human capital, bridged inequalities and promoted social inclusion to lay the foundation for sustainable peace and prosperity. In his sub-region of West Africa, security challenges had required a coordinated response rooted in dialogue, cooperation and respect for the rule of law. The Gambia remained committed to peacebuilding and conflict prevention; inclusive governance, respect for human rights and strong democratic institutions were essential to lasting peace. The role of parliaments was critical, through legislative action, budgetary oversight and representation. National policies must address the root causes of conflict, including poverty, marginalization and injustice. In the Gambia, transitional justice mechanisms sought to address past injustice and lay the groundwork for national reconciliation. Parliament had been instrumental in those efforts and in amplifying the voices of victims. Justice must not only be done but must also be seen to be done, and commitments to international law, human rights and justice for all should be reaffirmed.

Ms. M. Lauri (Estonia) said that uncertainty increasingly affected daily life due to international relations gone wrong. Reducing that uncertainty was one of the most important responsibilities shared by parliamentarians. Stability between States came from clear rules, open communication and a willingness to resolve disagreements peacefully. Respect for agreements and commitments, and participation in negotiations made for a more predictable and safer international environment. Disagreements were inevitable, given different interests, histories and perspectives, but when States continued to talk, tensions could be managed. Meaningful dialogue depended on the fundamental principle of equality of States; no State could claim special permission to ignore common rules. A more stable future required restored trust in dialogue as a continuous process and investment in diplomacy. The choice was clear; whether to allow pressure and force to define the global environment, or to reaffirm dialogue, equality and law as the basis for cooperation. Future generations needed a world where problems were addressed at the table, not on the battlefield.

Mr. C. Lohr (Switzerland) said that the theme of the General Debate was a reminder that contemporary decisions affected the lives of future generations. Hope grew when citizens saw clear responses that were just and grounded in reality, and had confidence in institutions. Democracy was not merely a system but an attitude; a willingness to listen to others and respect them. A strong democracy heard all voices, including those of women, young persons and persons with disabilities. The conclusions of the Summit of Women Speakers in July 2025 had emphasized the need for open institutions and for equality to become a reality. In a just democracy, barriers encountered by an individual were a signal for society to take action to ensure that all could participate fully in public life.

Many countries were experiencing increased mistrust, fear and polarization, alongside conflict, inequality and uncertainty. Parliamentarians must stand up for credible institutions and breathe life into democracy but also think about the world that they would leave to young persons, and peace and justice were part of that vision. The context was one of multiple challenges, including conflicts and rapid technological change. AI could offer much but also posed real issues. Progress must serve humanity and parliaments should therefore play an essential role through just law-making, oversight of government and a serious approach to the future. Decisions made should serve the common good, not just personal interest.

Mr. D. Diallo (Burkina Faso) said that to cultivate hope was not to deny the seriousness of crises but to refuse to let them define the outlook. Hope was built on coherent public policy, credible institutions and the capacity of societies for resilience. Parliamentarians must play their role to enact laws, anticipate, protect and provide guidance. In his country, those responsibilities were part of a transformation to strengthen strategic autonomy, enhance resources and invest in human capital. Peace called for mutual recognition, fairness in international relations and respect for sovereignty. In the Sahel, peace was being built in a context of security, humanitarian and social challenges. That experience demonstrated that stability could not be imported, it was built in place with the support of balanced and respectful partnerships, while parliaments played a key role in turning the shared vision of independence, sovereignty and harmonious development into reality.

There was no lasting peace without credible justice that was perceived as such; it must be impartial, accessible and grounded in people's reality, at the national and international levels. The quest for justice was inseparable from efforts to rebalance international relations. The countries of the Alliance of Sahel States were therefore reaffirming their sovereignty and seeking solutions tailored to their context. That would contribute to a more equitable international order based on mutual respect and shared responsibility. Parliamentarians should ensure that hope was not a matter of geographical privilege, that peace was not selective and that justice was not relative; those principles must regain their universal nature.

Mr. D.L. Keorapetse (Botswana) took the Chair.

Ms. B. Byrne (Ireland) said that the theme of the General Debate went to the heart of the shared responsibility of parliamentarians to make decisions that offered hope, peace and justice for future generations. The institutions and values of the UN were under increasing strain. For hope to endure, parliaments must show that democracy delivered real outcomes. The Irish parliament had improved transparency, accessibility and accountability with an expanded committee of scrutiny, strengthened research and budgetary oversight, and greater public engagement. Forward-looking law-making was supported through pre-legislative scrutiny by parliamentary committees, oversight and accountability mechanisms and legislative frameworks that were designed to endure.

Parliaments must respond carefully to technological change; AI had enormous potential but without democratic oversight it carried real risks to human rights, accountability and social cohesion. Justice for future generations called for political institutions that reflected those they served and the removal of structural barriers to political engagement. The Pact for the Future recalled that long-term thinking must be embedded in institutions, which parliaments were uniquely placed to ensure by strengthening the multinational system to respond to a changing world. Hope required belief and action, and was built through credible institutions, inclusive decision-making, respect for international law and a willingness to look beyond short political cycles.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his country had, over the previous 10 months, been subjected to two wars and one terrorist coup. The United States of America's criminal administration and the Israeli Zionist regime had declared that the objective for those activities was the overthrow of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the disintegration of his country. The United States had

initiated the first war in June 2025, before negotiations had been completed, by bombing three Iranian nuclear facilities and a number of cities. Following signs of defeat, the United States had requested a ceasefire. The American President had tried to incite a civil war by encouraging rioters to kill civilians but that coup had been defeated. Despite negotiations, the United States and Israel had martyred Supreme Leader Imam Khameini and had threatened to assassinate senior officials. One of the most heartbreaking attacks had been that on a girls' school perpetrated by the United States.

The history of the Islamic Republic of Iran was rooted in the determination to defend itself against any aggression; the American operations and the Zionist regime would have to accept defeat. His country would exercise its inherent right to self-defence under Article 51 of the UN Charter and in accordance with the Quranic directive to respond proportionately to aggression, and demand compensation for the damages resulting from the two wars waged by the United States and the Zionist regime. He called on the IPU to condemn the Israeli and American attack against the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Ms. S. Hjemdal (Norway) said that there were more autocracies than democracies in the world, which had implications for the exercise of human rights, particularly women's rights, the rule of law and freedom of speech. Populations that continued to live under democracy must not take it for granted. Norway's commitment to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) was a vital security guarantee and her country and its allies were increasing their defence budgets. Relations with the United States of America were improving and land, sea and air borders were being actively protected. Deterrents were prioritized because there was no other choice. The full-scale Russian invasion of Ukraine was unacceptable. Only the Russian Federation could stop that war and Norway supported any initiative to end it and to protect the unrestricted sovereignty of Ukraine.

Since the Islamic Revolution of 1979, the Iranian population had been terrorized by its own Government. The protests that had followed the death of Mahsa Amini in police custody – where she had been detained for violating Sharia laws on wearing the hijab – had resulted in the killing of hundreds of Iranians. Iranian women suffered every day under the systematic repression of the Iranian regime – Norway had not forgotten. The anti-regime protests of 2025–2026 had been the largest mass uprising since the Islamic Revolution and also the largest massacre in modern Iranian history, with tens of thousands of civilian casualties. That was not acceptable. The IPU Assembly must stand for freedom, democracy and human rights.

Mr. P. Comissario Afonso (Mozambique) said that the theme of the General Debate reflected real challenges and the sacred hope of peoples for peace and justice. The UN Charter remained relevant, since its objectives and principles were rooted in the protection of current and future generations. The Mozambican people had endeavoured to work in that direction since they had gained independence, in particular through the inclusive national dialogue that had been launched in 2025 to consolidate national unity, ensure peace and security, strengthen social cohesion and support the people's progress and wellbeing. Parliament played a key role in passing legislation that underpinned dialogue with a view to lasting peace and harmony. He encouraged inter-parliamentary cooperation, which contributed to the strengthening of national democracy and sharing of experiences.

Mr. M.B. Hadhri (Tunisia) said that the escalation in armed conflicts called for parliamentarians to uphold the principles of peace and security, on which the IPU had been built. His country had engaged in bilateral and multilateral events to counter blatant violations of the UN Charter and international law. The UN Security Council needed reform, particularly given that the Zionist entity had dragged the Middle East region into war, had undermined international legitimacy and had interpreted the principle of self-defence according to its own narrow interests. That jeopardized international humanitarian assistance in conflict zones and had brought the international order to the brink of collapse. Tunisia condemned military escalation in the Middle East and the undermining of State sovereignty and territorial integrity.

Tunisia stood in solidarity with all brethren in Arab States that had been targeted by attacks; he called on parliaments to strengthen their neighbourly ties and uphold the Charter of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation. He expressed Tunisia's solidarity with the Palestinian people, and respect for its right to establish a sovereign and independent State with Jerusalem as its capital. Tunisia also stood in solidarity with Lebanon. His country was committed to the principles of international law and the settlement of disputes through peaceful means. He called for an immediate halt to military action and a return to dialogue to spare lives. Tunisia would continue its democratic transition and renewed its commitment to human rights and freedoms, and sustainable development based on social justice.

Mr. M. Kulyyev (Turkmenistan) said that hope, peace and justice were a strategic path for humanity. Close cooperation between the IPU and the UN offered a way to find solutions to global challenges and ensure the triumph of the inviolable norms of international law. The peaceful resolution of regional issues guaranteed security and sustainable development for the entire world. Concrete legal and social foundations were needed to protect the interests of future generations. Turkmenistan was committed to the principles of neutrality, dialogue as a guarantee of peace, and peace through development. His country had outlined initiatives to strengthen international cooperation and international law at the 80th Session of the UN General Assembly, and attached great importance to open, equal and mutually beneficial relations with the countries of the world. Strengthened cooperation, trade and economic and cultural exchange were key tasks in that regard.

The 152nd Assembly should be a starting point for solutions and friendly relations to turn hopes for future generations into reality. Since the only way to maintain peace and stability was adherence to international law, Turkmenistan had proposed the declaration of 2028 as the year of international law, and he called on Member Parliaments to support that initiative. Cooperation between the IPU and the UN should extend beyond finding solutions to global problems to ensuring strict observance of international law and justice in inter-State relations.

Mr. P. Wurm (Austria) said that Austria had been referred to during the previous day's plenary in a negative context, with reference to former politician Jörg Haider. The Assembly should stand for a willingness to engage respectfully, even when views differed, and to confront complex histories with nuance. Parliamentarians had a mandate to strengthen democracy and trust to lay the foundations of global peace for future generations. Hope grew when people felt heard, in a context of security and economic stability, and could trust that political decisions served the public interest. States needed to take responsibility for their citizens, culture and future, starting in their national parliaments.

The situation in many conflicts, including the Middle East, remained tense. Peace must be secured with strong, sovereign nations as the basis for stable multinational relations. Peace and stability brought global economic stability, which required fair rules, counter-protectionism, lower trade barriers, the limitation of tax avoidance by multinational corporations and controlled migration policies. Economic cooperation must respect national sovereignty. Peacekeeping required cooperation through stable and effective multilateral institutions. The Austrian Parliament was a centre for education in democracy and held free and secure elections. Neutrality was a constitutional principle for his country, which hosted many international organizations. Dialogue was the only tool that united. If that failed, conflict and war would follow.

Ms. M.d.C. Alva Prieto (Peru) said that, in the previous week, general elections had been held in her country, which marked the return to a bicameral political system. In the face of the coup attempt of December 2022, the institutions of her country had stood firm, alongside its people, and the coup had been stopped. Democracy must be defended, even in its most difficult moments. Another challenge to democracies was the impact of new technologies. AI, in particular, had the potential to improve lives but came with significant risks to fundamental rights, privacy, freedom of expression and non-discrimination. Her parliament had passed a law to promote the intelligent use of AI for economic and social development, while other legal initiatives were aimed at regulation and the prevention of misuse. Increased youth participation in the parliamentary process was essential and Peru had hosted the 11th Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians.

In a context of armed conflict in many parts of the world, alongside cross-border challenges, threats to peace and security, and social, economic and environmental difficulties, she reaffirmed the value of cooperation and dialogue between nations. The response to that context should be more democracy, better institutions and a firmer commitment to human dignity, with a focus on young persons and future generations.

Mr. P.F. Casini (Italy) said that, 80 years after the creation of the UN, its mission remained topical. The war in Ukraine had challenged the European order established after 1991. In the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, Prime Minister Netanyahu's Government thwarted efforts for peaceful coexistence, even though it was clear that there would be no peace in the region until the two-State solution was implemented. The joint attack by the United States of America and Israel on the Islamic Republic on Iran and neighbouring countries risked further escalation. The situation would remain fragile until the ceasefire was implemented across the region, particularly in Lebanon. Other conflict hotspots around the world were also at risk of extending beyond their geographical boundaries.

Some believed that the logic of force would prevail over respect for international law. Geopolitical tensions and the tendency of the great powers to make hasty strategic decisions, often unilaterally, had paved the way for regional actors, such as BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organization, to bypass multilateral power, whose regulatory function was perceived as bothersome. Although the multilateral system struggled to adequately rise to all challenges and some rules needed to be reassessed, its current ineffectiveness should not lead to its dismissal as redundant; multilateralism in relations between States was a necessity and its future would depend on the ability to adapt to a more multipolar world. A new approach was needed to guarantee peace by addressing the root causes of conflict, such as poverty, inequality, injustice and environmental degradation.

Mr. N. Ștefănuță (European Parliament) said that activist Georgina Magesa had made it clear when she had addressed the Assembly that climate change, and the future, had already arrived. Many saw Europe as a place of privilege, yet others considered it too focused on rights, freedoms and the rule of law. The European Union, however, was a project of peace and living proof that peace could be achieved through cooperation. As conflicts and wars proliferated, it could seem like war was the new reality. Parliamentarians could not fall victim to such thinking, however, as they had a role to play in hope, peace and justice.

Parliamentarians should not channel people's fears, they should inspire and show that there was another solution, with war always a last resort. He urged every parliamentarian in the room to be a leader for their electorate and to keep hope alive. Hope and love were more powerful than fear and hatred. Europe had experienced the devastation of two world wars and had learned that, if you cooperated and brought economic interests together, it would not happen again. Justice was more than the right answer, it was women occupying their rightful place in society and girls able to study and go all the way to the top. It also meant that no continent felt inferior or superior to another. He urged parliamentarians not to give way to desperation but to lead in hope, justice and unity.

Mr. S. Ghobash (United Arab Emirates), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that his delegation was not responding spontaneously to events but to the heart of the political philosophy of the Iranian Revolution and the Iranian Constitution, which involved an ideological project to extend that Revolution beyond its borders. That was not a vision that respected the modern international order, which had been established following successive wars and conflicts to secure equality between peoples and respect for national sovereignty. Rather that make statements, it was important to look at the logic of that worldwide plan and ensure respect for all peoples, including the Iranian people, so that they could build their future without being held prisoner by that philosophy. He recalled the fate of Mahsa Amini, who had simply wished to take off her head scarf and who had died in prison as a result. He wished to ask the Iranian delegate whether the decision to make the hijab mandatory only applied to others, rather the daughters of Iranian leaders who lived in the United States of America and elsewhere.

Mr. S.S. Hosseini (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the United States of America and Israel had engaged in brutal aggression, with some of the most severe attacks against residential areas, scientific centres and civilian infrastructure. More than 4,000 innocent persons had been killed, including women and children. Yet, talk focused on human rights and lies about support for the people of the Islamic Republic of Iran. While the delegate from the United Arab Emirates, as a representative of a Muslim country, should talk instead about the 168 schoolgirls who had been killed and the crimes of Israel in Gaza, not nonsense about violations of human rights. The world and the region was at a critical juncture and he called for the United Arab Emirates to have the courage to ascend on the right side of history so that it was not reprimanded in the future. He called for the United Arab Emirates to close its bases for enemies of the region, stop working at the disposal of the United States and not allow those who attacked the Islamic Republic of Iran to use its airspace.

Dr. T. Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), the President of the IPU, took the Chair.

The President said that the IPU was deeply saddened by the tragic shooting at a secondary school in Kahramanmaraş, which was the second such incident that week. She expressed the IPU's deepest sympathy with the victims and their families, the affected communities and the Turkish people.

At the request of the President, a minute of silence for the victims was observed.

Item 2 of the agenda

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda
(A/152/2-Inf.1-rev.6, A/152/2-P.1-rev, P.2-rev.4 and P.3)

The President said that three emergency item proposals had been submitted: (1) *Condemnation of the attacks by the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Gulf Cooperation Council States and Jordan* submitted by the delegations of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates; (2) *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions* submitted by the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) and the African Group; (3) *Condemnation of military aggression and acts of terrorism against the Islamic Republic of Iran by the United States of America and Israel, including those involving the use of foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf countries* submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

A video was screened on the voting procedure for the consideration of requests for the inclusion of emergency items in the Assembly agenda.

The President said that, according to the Rules of the Assembly, only one emergency item, with a two-thirds majority vote, could typically be added to the Assembly agenda. She reminded colleagues of the need to avoid the use of abusive language in IPU meetings. The right to freedom of opinion and expression was a fundamental right that contributed to the observation of all other rights and a critical foundation of democracy. The exercise of that right, however, should not violate any of the rights and freedoms of others, including the right to equality and non-discrimination. In the event that disturbances threatened to obstruct the business of the meeting, as the presiding officer, she would have to suspend the sitting to restore order. If she was unable to make herself heard, she would vacate the Chair, which would have the effect of suspending the sitting. In serious cases of disorder or the use of expressions that clearly incited hatred, she would suspend the sitting. The presiding officer could order the deletion from the record of those parts of a speech that contained defamatory, intolerant, racist or xenophobic language or expressions that clearly incited hatred.

Mr. A. Almusalam (Bahrain), presenting the emergency item proposal entitled *Condemnation of the attacks by the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Gulf Cooperation Council States and Jordan*, said that the proposal was in line with the general discussion and the emergency situation that was having an impact on many parliamentarians. The Strait of Hormuz was closed, which had an impact on food security and the supply of fuels and medicines. The issue had been addressed in UN Human Rights Council resolution 61/38, which had been adopted on 25 March 2026 and had been endorsed by 115 States. The Iranian regime had issued threats of attack to multiple parliamentarians before the Assembly; indeed, Bahrain was being attacked on an ongoing basis. He called for delegates to support the proposal in order to reinforce national legitimacy and respect for international law.

The President said that no delegation wished to speak against the proposal.

Mr. M. Dick (Australia), presenting the emergency item proposal entitled *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*, said that the proposal came at a critical and delicate international moment as armed conflicts accelerated and their humanitarian consequences became unbearable. Suffering had become a daily reality for civilians and families, and women and children paid the price in their security, stability and future. That threatened international peace and security, and undermined prospects for stability across the world. Australia would always bring people together and remained committed to the foundational values of the IPU; its democratic principles must be respected. Australia encouraged respectful parliamentary dialogue to assist the process of peace in the Middle East and across the world. He pledged his support for peace and invited delegates to join him.

Ms. H.B.H Al-Sulaiti (Qatar), also presenting the emergency item proposal entitled *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*, said that it was not sufficient to voice opposition to conflicts around the world and in the Middle East. Parliamentary action should recognize its humanitarian responsibilities and coordinate efforts and activate the tools of parliamentary diplomacy to put an end to conflict and

support the peace process. The situation was urgent. Negotiations were needed to secure genuine peace and bolster international law. The proposal was a practical step that was aimed at strengthening parliamentary efforts to preserve the ceasefire, protect citizens, safeguard infrastructure and provide humanitarian assistance. She asked for delegations' support. Parliaments should demonstrate that they were for peace because humanity could not suffer any longer.

The President said that no delegation wished to speak against the proposal.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran), presenting the emergency item proposal entitled *Condemnation of military aggression and acts of terrorism against the Islamic Republic of Iran by the United States of America and Israel, including those involving the use of foreign military bases in the Persian Gulf countries*, said that the only thing his delegation was seeking was to condemn aggression. Two wars had been imposed on his country in the previous 10 months and condemnation of such crimes was not too much to ask. He thanked Türkiye for their efforts on the issue, together with many other countries. In the interests of consensus and cooperation, and to demonstrate the approach of the Iranian nation, he wished to support the proposal submitted by Qatar, Türkiye and many other countries.

The President took it that the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran wished to withdraw its own proposal for an emergency item.

It was so agreed.

Mr. M. Chungong (IPU Secretary General), accompanying his remarks with a digital slide presentation, said that the Assembly would proceed to a vote by roll call on the two remaining proposals. That process was governed by Article 16.1 of the Statutes, which stated that the Assembly should vote by roll call, except when the decision before the Assembly met with no opposition. The number of votes allocated to each delegation was contained in document A/152/Inf.2. Delegations in arrears for more than two years of contributions were not entitled to vote, under the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes, and did not appear in that list. Article 15 of the Statutes stipulated that all delegates physically present at the plenary at the moment of the vote could take part and that no single delegate could cast more than 10 votes. In order to cast their full entitlement of votes, delegations entitled to between 11 and 20 votes must ensure the presence of at least two parliamentarians, while those entitled to more than 21 votes must ensure the presence of at least three parliamentarians. A delegation could choose to split its votes to reflect a diversity of views. It was the practice of the Assembly to combine all votes in one round.

A vote by roll call was taken.

With 203 votes in favour, 415 against and 752 abstentions, the proposal submitted by the delegations of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates failed to obtain the required two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

With 1,316 votes in favour, 3 against and 51 abstentions, the proposal submitted by the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, GRULAC and the African Group, obtained the required two-thirds majority of the votes cast.

Having obtained the required two-thirds majority and the largest number of positive votes cast, the proposal submitted by the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, GRULAC and the African Group, was added to the agenda of the Assembly.

A delegate from Iraq said that he had been afraid that the proposal would fail to obtain the required majority, since the IPU had not managed to speak out against the massacre in Gaza. The adoption of the proposal was a partial success but a logical one and he wished to thank and bless everyone who had supported the proposal. In addition, he proposed that the IPU should have an electronic voting system, so that it was possible to see the votes on screen.

The President took note of the proposal, observing that the IPU Strategy for 2027–2031 mentioned the use of technology.

The sitting rose at 18:45.

Final Agenda

1. Election of the President of the 152nd Assembly
2. Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda
3. General Debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
4. Special accountability segment on the implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions
5. *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*
   (Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)
6. *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance*
   (Standing Committee on Sustainable Development)
7. Reports of the Standing Committees
8. Approval of the subject items for the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and for the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development for the 154th Assembly and appointment of the co-Rapporteurs
9. Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules
10. *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*

Sitting of Saturday, 18 April 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:10 with Mr. P.D.S. Osman (Brunei Darussalam) in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/153/3-Inf.1)

FIRST SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS (continued)

Ms. H. Sverrisdóttir (Iceland) said that the promises made in the Charter of the United Nations were being tested as never before. Democratic institutions were under strain and trust in governance was declining. While the multilateral system did not always deliver as it should, abandoning it was not the answer; rather, it must be strengthened through accountability, realism and renewed political will. The decisions made by legislators today would shape the world inherited by future generations. That responsibility demanded clarity, courage and long-term thinking. Peace could not be sustained without strong institutions, justice could not be secured without respect for the rule of law, and hope could not flourish without economic opportunity.

Defending democracy meant protecting free institutions, ensuring transparency and respecting limits on power. Open markets, responsible governance and innovation remained the most effective tools for promoting economic resilience and opportunity. It was also important to address the growing impact of new technologies, particularly artificial intelligence, by developing frameworks that protected human dignity, ensured accountability and prevented misuse, especially in conflict situations. International cooperation based on trust remained essential, and parliaments needed to work together to restore confidence that a more secure, just and peaceful world was possible.

Ms. C. Faria Dos Santos (Timor-Leste) said that, as one of the world's youngest nations, having gained independence after decades of struggle, Timor-Leste brought a message of hope. Peace and justice were not inherited, but were a daily achievement that must be cultivated for future generations. The Government of Timor-Leste prioritized laws and policies that supported intergenerational stability in line with the national Strategic Development Plan 2011–2030, including in relation to environmental protection and sustainable resource management. It had also launched social protection programmes, invested in free education and healthcare, and established a gender quota system that had successfully increased women's representation in parliament to 38%.

Parliamentary diplomacy had been an active instrument of peace: Timor-Leste had shared its experience of post-conflict peacebuilding at the United Nations (UN) and within the G7+, and promoted dialogue as a method of conflict resolution at the Community of Portuguese-speaking Countries and in partnership with the European Union. Its accession to the Association of Southeast Asian Nations and the World Trade Organization were historic milestones that reinforced its sovereignty and active participation in mechanisms for inter-parliamentary dialogue and cooperation, and demonstrated that small nations could build bridges of peace and justice.

Mr. A. Koponen (Finland) said that the General Debate theme highlighted the shared responsibility of all Member Parliaments to take action for the benefit of future generations. History had shown how valuable peace was and how easily it could be lost. Global cooperation was under pressure and it was important to strengthen the systems that supported it, such as the UN. Trust was at the heart of stable societies, and rebuilding trust globally would require a commitment to openness and fairness. The Finnish people's trust in public institutions was built on open discussions that made responsibilities clear and involved citizens. The Finnish Parliament played a key role in that regard: when people were included and informed, democracy worked better.

It was also essential to strengthen long-term thinking and to make sure that politics looked beyond short political cycles. In Finland, the Committee for the Future helped to inform long-term policymaking by considering the impact of major changes and new technologies, such as AI. Finland promoted an approach to AI that respected human rights and democratic values. It encouraged Member Parliaments to take responsibility for establishing clear rules on the use of AI. It also aimed to address the causes of instability through policies that supported sustainability, development, social fairness and economic stability. His delegation wished to highlight the importance of inclusive decision-making, which meant giving young people real opportunities to participate and striving for gender equality.

Lastly, Finland wished to underline that it would not forget Ukraine; it would continue to support Ukraine for as long as was needed.

Ms. C. Roth (Germany) said that the task of the IPU Member Parliaments was to defend the rules-based international order and international law, which were under attack. International law must apply at all times, especially in war. In countries such as Ukraine, Lebanon and Sudan, the world was witnessing devastation, hunger, displacement, unthinkable violence, lives destroyed, families torn apart and futures stolen. She wondered whether Member Parliaments were ready to uphold and strengthen the one place where those rules found their common home: the global house of the UN. The UN must be strengthened and protected, not weakened and undermined, because without it there was no common ground, no shared voice and no global responsibility.

After the Second World War, the world had made a promise, which began with a powerful sentence: human dignity was inviolable. And yet, human dignity was currently being violated, civilians targeted and suffering ignored or even tolerated. The challenges were immense: war, conflict, a growing divide between the rich and the poor, deepening inequality and multiple crises. The climate crisis was no longer a distant threat for many communities. It had already led to the displacement of about 49 million people worldwide, fuelling conflict and deepening injustice.

To nurture hope, secure peace and ensure justice for future generations, it was crucial to act together to strengthen international law, defend human rights and take responsibility for people and the planet. Parliaments must protect civil freedoms and the spaces that enabled people to come together as equal human beings, where empathy and solidarity could grow.

Mr. R.T. Parmessar (Suriname) said that Suriname was a nation defined by its deep respect for nature. Over 92% of its land remained covered by forest, and its people were determined to keep it that way for future generations. On that basis, he wished to convey the following message of leadership: there can be no peace without justice, and no sustainable future without both. Across the world, conflict persisted, inequality deepened and the gap between those with power and those without continued to widen, particularly for Small Island Developing States, which were too often present in name but absent in influence and paid the highest price for the climate crisis.

He called on the IPU Member Parliaments to lead together, and to move from promises to partnerships, from dialogue to delivery and from awareness to accountability. He wondered whether they would choose to lead with courage or delay with comfort. The people of Small Island Developing States were not asking for sympathy, but demanding fairness and expecting leadership. It was time for action over hesitation, justice over convenience, and a future where peace was built on fairness and shared responsibility. True leadership was not about protecting national interests alone, but about advancing collective survival.

Ms. Z. Majerová (Czechia) said that the General Debate theme was not merely a diplomatic slogan, but a direct appeal to the Member Parliaments: the lawmakers who represented billions of people for whom peace was the fundamental condition of existence. Parliamentarians held tools more powerful than weapons: the law, diplomacy and dialogue. Czechia had experienced the tragic consequences of the sacrifice of peace and the collapse of international law. Maintaining peace required courage to identify threats and stand up for the territorial integrity of all States. Parliamentary diplomacy was the key to de-escalating tension.

Czechia was actively involved in stabilizing regions because it knew that building peace did not end with the signing of an agreement; it began with daily work on security and mutual trust. Peace was not the goal, it was the path. Peace must be built on law because, without respect for borders and enforceable rules, peace would always remain a fragile illusion. Peace must also be built on dialogue: in an era of polarization, it was important to never stop talking to one another. Diplomacy must continue even where opinions differed. Lastly, peace must be built on stability. Conflicts often stemmed from uncertainty and unpredictability.

Peace was not a passive state that occurred on its own, but an active discipline that parliamentarians must practise every day through their political decisions. They must work together to ensure that peace was not an unreachable dream for future generations, but a lasting reality.

Mr. H.F. Mahalmadane (Mali) said that the General Debate theme was highly relevant for the people of Mali and the sub-Saharan region, who aspired to a world of hope, peace and justice. The creation of the Alliance of Sahel States aimed to promote cooperation, integration and prosperity, marking a significant step for security, peace and development in the Sahel. The adoption in December 2025 of the Additional Protocol to the Treaty establishing the Alliance of Sahel States had strengthened cooperation in the parliamentary sphere.

The Assembly was taking place amid persistent global tensions across Africa, the Middle East and beyond. Mali reaffirmed its commitment to peace, justice and respect for international law. Compassion, empathy and respect for diversity were essential foundations for lasting peace. It was crucial to implement global flagship programmes that promoted a culture of peace and non-violence, grounded in social, cultural and human resources.

Mali was a country with strong ancestral traditions that placed great importance on living together and had always pursued peace and justice. Despite differences in skin colour, ethnicity, language and religion, its people had lived in harmony since the Charter of Kurukan Fuga in 1236. In Mali, 2026–2027 had been declared the “Year of Education and Culture”. Parliamentarians must ensure that legislation contributed to the consolidation of peace and guaranteed the fair administration of justice. That responsibility extended to governments in the formulation of public policies.

Mr. I. Malenica (Croatia) said that the international community stood at a crossroads in time, between a past that had shaped it and a future that depended on its choices. Therefore, the General Debate theme did not refer to merely an idea, but a necessity. Hope was the foundation of change, but it did not arise on its own; it was built through support, understanding and unity. To nurture hope was to lay the foundation for a stable and prosperous society. Yet hope could not survive without peace, which was not only the absence of conflict, but a state in which people lived without fear, and where differences were not seen as threats, but as a source of richness.

Justice, in turn, was the pillar upon which every healthy society stood. Justice meant ensuring that every individual had equal rights and opportunities, and that all nations were accountable for their actions and systems. It was essential to create a world where the law applied equally to all and where injustice was not ignored but addressed. When hope, peace and justice were united, that unity created a vision of a sustainable and dignified future. However, that future would not build itself. It would be created through parliaments’ decisions, words and actions. The world the current generation left behind was not only its legacy, but the foundation upon which future generations would build their lives.

Mr. Z. Mojskerc (Slovenia) said that the UN played an irreplaceable role as the central forum for seeking joint solutions, preventing conflicts and maintaining international peace and security. In light of the complex geopolitical situation, it was imperative that the international community did not accept paralysis, but remained committed to fostering dialogue, searching for common ground and adhering to the fundamental principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Lasting peace rested on the principle that every individual and every nation, regardless of size or power, enjoyed equal rights and freedoms. In a world marked by disinformation, manipulation and narrow self-interests, ensuring justice meant defending the truth.

Slovenia would continue to seek ways to make progress on the most challenging international issues and to promote mediation as a key tool for preventing conflicts and supporting peacebuilding. Parliaments were a pillar of democratic legitimacy, political accountability and public trust. They had a responsibility to strengthen people’s confidence in democracy, to uphold respect for international law and to help shape solutions based on dialogue, inclusion and shared responsibility. No country could effectively deal with the many challenges and threats to international peace and security alone: a collective, coordinated and timely response was needed.

Ms. H. Sverrisdóttir (Iceland) took the Chair.

Mr. E. Đerlek (Serbia) said that he wished to approach the General Debate theme in the spirit of the words of Frédéric Passy, one of the founders of the IPU: “The world is made of achieved utopias. Today’s utopia is tomorrow’s reality.” The Member Parliaments were not there to describe the world as it was, but as it should be. People were suffering from conflict and poverty, disease and inequality, natural and human-made disasters, and from decisions left unmade.

Peace was not the absence of war but the presence of responsibility, and it was built or broken every single day. Parliaments played a key role in bridging differences and replacing silence with dialogue. Only by choosing cooperation over fear and trust over isolation could the international community ensure that future generations inherited solutions, rather than a crisis. Achieving peace should not be tomorrow's utopia, but an obligation for all.

Ms. M. Valente (Angola) said that, in a context of persistent conflict and deepening inequalities, parliamentarians must ask themselves what kind of world they were building for future generations, who would inherit the consequences of their decisions. Parliaments were inherently visionary institutions that assumed responsibility for anticipating and shaping the future. In Angola, the National Assembly had asserted itself through the credibility of its institutions, its closeness to citizens and its ability to generate concrete results that transformed lives. Angola had also been working to foster a more inclusive form of governance that valued the participation of women and young people in public life.

In an increasingly fragmented and polarized world, parliamentary diplomacy took on greater relevance as an active instrument for bringing people together, preventing conflict and building consensus. Angola therefore reaffirmed its commitment to international cooperation and respect for international law as pillars of a fairer, more predictable and stable global order. That commitment was especially relevant in the face of the intensification of the climate crisis and the rapid development of artificial intelligence. The current generation would either be remembered as the generation that had postponed solutions or the one with the courage to build the future.

Ms. R. Miliute (Lithuania) said that peace and justice were the only way to foster hope and secure a future for coming generations. Lithuania was fully committed to a multilateral system based on international law, and to the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations. Progress towards the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development had been hampered by the accelerating climate crisis and ongoing conflict, such as the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine. Lithuania condemned the actions taken by the Russian Federation to destabilize the architecture designed to maintain international peace and security.

The international community must do everything in its power to prevent an uncontrolled escalation of the conflict in the Middle East. Lithuania called for restraint and a return to diplomacy to prevent any further regional escalation. Parliaments must consider the kind of future they wanted to create for the next generations, and take responsibility not only for the decisions they made, but also for those they failed to make.

Mr. I. Plakiotakis (Greece) said that the theme of nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations was not an abstract aspiration, but a call to action. Peace could only exist on the basis of credibility, justice and a steadfast commitment to democracy, human rights and the rule of law. The core role of parliamentarians was to safeguard the principles that gave legitimacy to the systems of governance. Democratic institutions must be resilient, inclusive and accountable.

The challenges faced in the Eastern Mediterranean reflected broader global trends: shifting alliances, huge migration flows, tensions over maritime zones and differing interpretations of international law. However, respect for international law, and in particular the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea, was not optional. It was essential for safeguarding peace and stability in the region. Environmental cooperation must become a central pillar in regional and global efforts to manage natural resources and build climate resilience. Parliamentary diplomacy played a vital role in maintaining dialogue, building bridges across States and nations, and shaping a more just and peaceful world.

Ms. M. Tender (Portugal) said that, in a context of instability, growing fragmentation and mistrust, the General Debate theme called on all parliamentarians to assume the responsibility of cultivating hope, consolidating peace and ensuring justice for future generations. Lasting peace depended on the ability of institutions to protect human dignity, uphold international law and promote dialogue and cooperation. It was also important to consider intergenerational justice, as decisions taken by parliamentarians would impact the ability of future generations to live in freedom, security and dignity.

Governing responsibly required a long-term vision and the ability to think beyond political election cycles. Parliaments' responsibility extended to ethical, human-centred digital governance, in particular with regard to artificial intelligence. In an international system under pressure, parliamentary diplomacy and inter-parliamentary cooperation were indispensable for preserving spaces for dialogue, supporting solutions based on international law and contributing to a fairer, more credible international order.

Mr. A. Almodóbar Barceló (Spain) said that, in a world marked by persistent conflicts, growing geopolitical tensions, humanitarian crises and deepening inequalities, speaking of hope was not naïve, but essential. Hope was cultivated through courageous decisions, strong institutions and responsible, effective politics. Parliamentarians, as the voice of those who had elected them, had a duty to translate citizens' concerns into real solutions. Lasting peace could only be built on justice – justice that protected the most vulnerable and considered both present and future generations.

The IPU had extraordinary value as the largest space for global parliamentary dialogue, where representatives of different realities shared their experiences and built trust. It was an essential instrument of parliamentary diplomacy, capable of building bridges where traditional channels were blocked. The IPU also served to remind parliamentarians that their work began and ended with their citizens, who must be included in major debates and decision-making processes. Spain offered an example of how dialogue, coexistence and respect for pluralism could consolidate open, democratic and cohesive societies. It actively participated in the main international forums, promoting understanding, stability and the defence of human rights, based on the conviction that lasting peace could only be built on shared rules, honoured commitments and clear positions.

Mr. Park Sang Hyuk (Republic of Korea) said that complex challenges such as the climate crisis, social inequality and international conflict were critical to both the current generation and the generations to come. Hope must underpin policies for future generations. Parliaments need to enact forward-looking and sustainable laws, such as the law enacted by the National Assembly of the Republic of Korea on carbon neutrality and green growth.

Peace referred to a stable international order based on mutual respect and cooperation, which was essential for a sustainable future. As representatives of the people, parliaments had a key role to play in promoting diplomatic dialogue. In the Republic of Korea, the National Assembly had established parliamentary friendship groups with various countries and actively engaged in parliamentary diplomacy to strengthen communication and collaboration with the international community.

To advance intergenerational justice and fairness, the National Assembly had enacted legislation to ensure fiscal soundness and the systematic management of national debt, so as to avoid passing excessive burdens on to future generations. Hope, peace and justice were inseparable values, and the international community had a responsibility to uphold them in order to build a better world for future generations.

Mr. S. Schubert (Chile) said that, in the current context of profound changes and persistent global tensions, parliaments bore a central responsibility, as they were the expression of the democratic will of their nations and the forum in which social concerns should be translated into forward-thinking laws, guarantees and public policies.

Peace remained a central condition for any just society. True peace required justice, dialogue, respect for the rule of law, protection of human rights and the institutional capacity to resolve conflicts peacefully. Where conflict became normalized, trust in politics weakened. In response to polarization, resentment and misinformation, it was important to promote firm but respectful politics, and to aspire to build more inclusive and just societies that recognized the dignity of every person.

It was also essential to consider how artificial intelligence would be governed to ensure that it did not deepen injustices and undermine fundamental rights. To benefit from technological change, nations must promote continuous education, workforce retraining, social protection and regulatory frameworks that guaranteed transparency, human oversight and respect for rights. Future generations would depend on the decisions taken by the current generation.

Ms. J. Simanovska (Latvia) said that the philosopher Thomas Hobbes had put forward the idea of the social contract, whereby people chose to surrender part of their freedom to a common authority to enforce rules that protected everyone. Hobbes had also observed that in the "state of nature", without rules or systems, life could be "solitary, poor and nasty", leaving everyone equally vulnerable. The challenges currently facing the world were all interconnected and tested the capacity of States to govern together.

While many countries had largely achieved a rules-based system, some States had chosen to return to a state of nature. Having seen the weaknesses of the international system, they had concluded that power decided, as most notably illustrated by the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine. Yet the answer to a weak system was not to abandon it, but to make it fairer, more consistent and more capable of delivering justice. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to name violations and support accountability, as Latvia had done in collaboration with partner parliaments and the IPU in relation to the Russian aggression.

It was crucial that international norms were not upheld selectively. Requiring accountability from adversaries while excusing partners undermined the rules-based order. Consistency was the foundation of trust. Parliamentarians were responsible for building systems that worked effectively and for defending them.

Ms. A. Lakrafi (Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie (APF)) said that in 2024, seven resolutions had been vetoed in the Security Council – the highest number since 1986. Since 2022, 17 resolutions had been blocked, representing more than one quarter of all vetoes in the 20th century, in only three years. Behind those figures were civilians who faced ongoing violence, destruction and death in conflicts around the world. She was sometimes left feeling powerless and frustrated by parliamentary diplomacy, which did not save lives unless it was accompanied by a binding mechanism.

Since 2015, Mexico and France had supported an initiative to limit the use of the veto in the Security Council in cases of genocide, crimes against humanity and large-scale war crimes. The initiative asked for a voluntary and collective commitment by the four other permanent members of the Security Council in such cases. A total of 107 countries had already declared their support, and she would call on France and the other members of the APF to add their signatures. Consideration should be given to the question of what the IPU Assembly could do to make sure that the voices of parliamentarians were heard when diplomacy fell quiet.

Mr. K. Gallardo (Ecuador) said that nurturing hope implied strengthening democratic legitimacy, ensuring the effective enforcement of human rights and consolidating the rule of law. Hope meant genuine access to human rights, reducing social inequalities and closing the gap between what was and what ought to be.

As Immanuel Kant maintained, perpetual peace should be a global endeavour and the responsibility of the entire international community. Peace for all peoples required strict respect for international law and for the principles of self-determination, non-intervention, the prohibition of the use of force, the peaceful settlement of disputes and international cooperation. The international system faced increasingly complex challenges, including the expansion of transnational organized crime, non-international armed conflict and forced displacement. Ecuador reaffirmed its commitment to multilateralism, to the fulfilment in good faith of its international obligations and to the strengthening of the international order.

Mr. S.A. Maazat (Indonesia) said that nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations was a duty incumbent on everyone. It was important to remember that the suffering continued in Gaza. Since the announcement of the ceasefire, over 700 people had been killed in the Gaza Strip, and attacks continued in Jordan and elsewhere. Indonesia condemned the attacks on Palestinians by Israeli settlers; the law recently adopted by the Knesset, which imposed the death penalty on Palestinian prisoners; and the attacks on UN peacekeeping forces. Such serious violations of international law undermined efforts to promote peace and security around the world.

Indonesia also wished to issue a warning about the concept of Greater Israel, which envisaged Israel targeting neighbouring countries to enlarge its territory by force. Parliamentarians had a crucial role to play in protecting the international rules-based order. They must adopt the relevant laws, defend human values, uphold justice and support the most vulnerable. Indonesia had adopted a very clear position, namely that it promoted peace and international law.

Ms. N. Siham (Mauritania) said that Mauritania was promoting social justice by implementing key reforms and public policies that addressed citizens' needs. Having experienced terrible violence and overcome internal conflicts, it was making significant efforts to promote peace in the Sahel region. While a strict security policy was in place, Mauritania had also hosted more than half a million refugees. It had made great strides towards consolidating its democracy in dialogue with civil society, and had taken steps to encourage young people and women to participate actively in politics. Mauritania had also honoured its environmental commitments by cutting its greenhouse gas emissions and increasing its production of clean energy.

The atrocities being committed in Palestine, Lebanon and other countries around the world were unacceptable. The international community must remain united against the war taking place in the Middle East, which was leading to the violation of many international rules. It was important to nurture hope in the face of tyranny. More than ever, parliamentary diplomacy had a vital role to play in securing peace.

Ms. G. Morawska-Stanecka (Poland) said that contemporary conflicts, such as the ongoing war in Ukraine and the current situation in the Middle East, illustrated how wars were never confined to their immediate geography. Their consequences were felt across the world, through disrupted food supply chains, rising energy prices and heightened economic uncertainty. Global military spending continued to reach record highs, placing an increasing burden on State budgets. Rising global temperatures, collapsing ecosystems and increasingly frequent extreme weather events were threatening food production and access to water. The growing number of migrants and displaced persons would pose new challenges for migration policy and social welfare systems.

Young people were conscious and engaged citizens, but they often felt that they lacked representation and had limited influence over law-making. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to listen to young people and involve them as active partners in decision-making processes at all levels. The international community was currently failing in its most basic duty: to protect the young and the vulnerable. She wondered what kind of generation would be shaped from children living in constant fear. The situation required decisive action that was firm in its principles, consistent in its application and unyielding in the face of aggression and injustice.

Mr. J.M. Sama Lukonde Kyenge (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that immediate action was needed to shape a fairer, more peaceful and sustainable world for future generations. His Parliament was committed to participating in peace processes, such as the recent signing of a peace treaty between the Democratic Republic of the Congo and Rwanda, aimed at ending the chronic instability in the eastern part of his country.

His delegation had been surprised by the claim made in the previous day's sitting that the conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo was an internal affair, despite the resolutions and agreements that acknowledged the involvement of Rwanda in the security situation and the numerous bodies that had condemned its actions. His delegation called on Rwanda to respect its commitments.

His delegation had welcomed the outcome of the vote on the emergency item on the need to make concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding. All IPU Member Parliaments needed to play a role in implementing that decision. The IPU was a place for parliaments to come together to raise their voices in favour of peace, justice and parliamentary diplomacy, which was a tool for transforming hope into tangible solutions.

Mr. O. Korniienko (Ukraine) said that hope, peace and justice were not abstract ideas for Ukraine, but a daily fight. Since 2022, Ukraine had been resisting a full-scale, unprovoked invasion by the Russian Federation, which had brought immense suffering and destruction. It was a war against the principles everybody claimed to defend – sovereignty, territorial integrity and international law. The multilateral system was failing to stop wars, which had caused a loss of trust. Conflicts did not stay local: the Russian Federation's war against Ukraine had been strengthened by Iranian weapons, and several Gulf States had become targets of attack despite having done nothing to provoke conflict.

Yet Ukraine continued to nurture hope. It was resisting, adapting and innovating to ensure that it not only survived, but continued to move forward. Peace was its goal, but peace could not mean surrender. A just and lasting peace must be based on full respect for Ukrainian sovereignty and territorial integrity. Anything less would only be a pause before the next war. Peace without justice was impossible. Without accountability, there would be no lasting peace.

Parliamentarians had a responsibility not only to speak, but to act. It was crucial to strengthen unity, support those who defended international law and ensure that aggression was not rewarded. Ukraine continued to fight for its people, for its freedom and for a world where international law truly mattered. It invited the IPU Member Parliaments to stand with it.

Mr. A.O. Abshir (Somalia) said that, amid the immense challenges posed by ongoing conflict, forced displacement, the erosion of trust and the climate crisis, the General Debate theme was a call to embrace a vision of hope, peace and justice for present and future generations. Hope was an active commitment: to nurture hope meant restoring faith in multilateralism, strengthening the institutions that safeguarded cooperation and empowering young people who looked to parliamentarians for leadership. After decades of conflict, the establishment of the Federal Government of Somalia in 2012 offered a vivid example of rekindling hope that institutions could be rebuilt and trust restored.

To secure peace, it was necessary to address the root causes of instability: poverty, exclusion and environmental degradation. In Somalia, peace was not only advanced by governments, but also sustained by communities, such as through the work of civil society organizations to build trust and strengthen resilience. Somalia had also committed to reforming its justice sector: in June 2023,

government, civil society and regional stakeholders had engaged in a three-day consultation on designing the Somalia Justice Strategy 2025–2030. Their aim was to harmonize diverse traditions into a coherent system that reflected the values of all Somali citizens.

Such examples showed that progress was possible even in fragile contexts. They illustrated that hope could be rekindled, peace could be nurtured and justice could be built in partnership with communities, governments and the international community.

Mr. H.T. Tahir (Chad) said that nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations must be recognized as a moral responsibility, a political imperative and a historic opportunity. Each State had to believe in its own ability to transform itself and look to the future with confidence. In Chad, young people were supported by policies focused on the structural transformation of the economy, enabling them to find employment and fulfil their potential. Chad also recognized the need for equality of opportunity for women, the recognition of their rights and their full participation in public life.

Securing peace required trust, dialogue, inclusion and mutual respect. Chad had learned from its own experience of political transition that lasting peace could not be imposed, but must be built patiently, with a sense of responsibility and collective commitment. Ensuring justice for future generations required a robust, credible and firm commitment to the rule of law. Inter-parliamentary cooperation was a key tool for responding to current challenges, including conflict prevention, post-conflict management and the consolidation of democracy.

Chad wished to thank the IPU Secretary General for his efforts in improving dialogue between nations, promoting democratic values, supporting the development of parliamentary institutions, particularly in Africa, and strengthening cooperation between the IPU and the Parliament of Chad.

Ms. Z.M. Aung (Myanmar) said that the General Debate theme resonated profoundly with the ongoing struggle of the people of Myanmar, who were suffering under military oppression. She represented the voices of 3.6 million internally displaced persons, 16.2 million people in need of humanitarian assistance, over 15,000 political prisoners and thousands of civilians killed since the military coup. Sustainable peace could not be achieved through force; rather, it must be built on dialogue, inclusion and respect for the democratic will of the people. Accountability was equally essential, both to address current suffering and to prevent the recurrence of such injustices for future generations.

Her delegation called upon the Assembly to reject the legitimacy of the military regime and its proxy parliament, reaffirm its recognition of the Committee Representing Pyidaungsu Hluttaw as the legitimate parliamentary representative of Myanmar, and take decisive, coordinated action to end the ongoing violence against civilians. She urged Member Parliaments to work together to ensure that hope was restored, peace was secured and justice was delivered for both Myanmar and for future generations.

Ms. M. Lorenzo (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)) said that it was a time of profound uncertainty across the Middle East and for the system designed to uphold peace, rights and human dignity. For over 75 years, UNRWA had helped Palestinian refugees build better lives, guided by UN values. During the conflict, it had provided healthcare, water, sanitation and other critical services, and supported nearly 290,000 children to sit examinations through online education.

Yet that work, and decades of progress, was at risk. In Gaza, people were going hungry and lives were being lost. In the occupied West Bank, annexation and violence were accelerating. Operational constraints and funding gaps were making it harder for UNRWA to reach people in need across the region. Its services were foundational to recovery and to protecting Palestinians' human development. She urged legislators to use their oversight role to keep aid flowing and protect humanitarian access, ensure predictable, adequate funding, and protect the core services provided by UNRWA.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that he would like to remind the Ukrainian delegate that the Islamic Republic of Iran had attacked the United States military bases in the Gulf countries as an act of self-defence, since the United States had launched a full-scale war against the country. More than 4,000 people had been killed so far, including women, children and the supreme leader of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

Emergency item entitled *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*

Item 2 of the agenda

Debate on the emergency item submitted by the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean and the African Group, on the theme *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*
(A/152/2-P.2-rev.4)

Mr. F. Jitoko (Fiji) took the Chair.

Mr. G. Genuis (Canada) said that Canada supported the proposed draft resolution, which deplored the trauma and tragedy of war and sought peace and justice for all. Although the conflict in Sudan was mentioned in the explanatory memorandum of the draft resolution, he believed it deserved greater attention. The gains of the revolution in Sudan had been lost, and the country was currently engaged in a brutal civil war that had resulted in at least 50,000 deaths. Addressing and ending the conflict in Sudan, as well as conflicts throughout Africa and around the world, would require a principled and heroic response from the international community. The IPU might consider developing further mechanisms to address the crisis in Sudan and including the situation in Sudan as a specific example in the resolution. His delegation firmly believed that States existed for the common good. Peace was not just about States getting along; it was about establishing peaceful and just arrangements that served the people of every nation.

Mr. M. Dick (Australia) said that, in the face of armed conflicts and grave violence around the world, it was more important than ever for parliamentarians to work together to secure peace. Australia had always played a strategic role in bringing people together and saw collaboration and cooperation as the key to partnership in the Pacific. Recent developments in the Middle East had further underscored the urgent need for parliamentary diplomacy. According to reports, 2024 had seen a historic peak in ongoing conflicts worldwide. It was important to remember the people involved in such conflicts and the innocent lives lost, such as in the cases of the illegal invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation and the attacks launched by the Islamic Republic of Iran against its neighbours. Two brave women who had fled the Iranian regime had been granted asylum in Australia during the recent Women's Asian Cup. They had found safety in Australia and were in the process of rebuilding their lives. He wished to bring their case to the attention of the IPU as a reminder of the many voices that went unheard.

Ms. L. Vasylenko (Ukraine) said that the war in the Middle East had profoundly shocked Ukraine. Just like in Ukraine, civilians were paying the highest price and international law was being repeatedly broken. The destruction of Ukrainian power plants and electricity systems by the Russian Federation had left civilians in Kyiv freezing in their apartments over the winter, with temperatures as low as minus 20 degrees Celsius. The same weapons used to terrorize Ukraine, including Iranian Shahed drones, were now being used to terrorize others. Such crises were linked in an interconnected world, and the international community's response must be linked too. Ukraine stood ready to provide practical support to its partners in Bahrain, Jordan, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, the Syrian Arab Republic and Türkiye.

The current conflicts had not emerged in isolation. They had become possible because aggression had not been stopped early enough and impunity had been tolerated. The emergency item needed to reflect the full reality of the situation: it must address the aggression in the Gulf and recall that it had begun in 2014 in Crimea and in 2022 with the full-scale invasion of Ukraine. Ukraine supported all efforts that condemned unprovoked aggression, protected civilians and upheld international law. It was crucial to protect critical infrastructure in order to keep people alive and the country stable. The targeting of such infrastructure was an attack on dignity and democracy. The Russian Federation had recently carried out one of its deadliest attacks of 2026, with at least 17 people killed and more than 100 injured. While the present Assembly was speaking of peace, the people of Ukraine were under attack. She called for the adoption of an emergency item that empowered Member Parliaments to stand firmly against all aggressors.

Mr. P. Govender (South Africa) said that the international community was currently facing intensified threats to world peace, including threats to the effective functioning of global economic systems. The theme of the emergency item signalled that parliaments from across regions and political traditions agreed that the situation in the Middle East – and the wider patterns of escalating conflicts globally – demanded immediate attention and a clear response. South Africa affirmed its long-standing and consistent position that international humanitarian law must be respected and that humanitarian access must be unhindered. It also believed that dialogue and multilateral engagement remained one of the most effective tools for resolving conflict. Its support for the draft resolution was informed by historical experience: sustainable peace could not be imposed by force, but must be built through inclusive political processes, mutual recognition and a commitment to justice and human dignity.

By endorsing the draft resolution, Member Parliaments were sending a unified message that ceasefires were not gestures, but necessary instruments to restore calm, and that peacebuilding must take precedence over military escalation. The emergency item also made it clear that parliaments would not accept a world where prolonged conflict became the norm, or where humanitarian catastrophe was met with indifference. Parliaments were custodians of global peace and stability, which should be actively advanced through multilateralism and parliamentary diplomacy.

Mr. D.L. Keorapetse (Botswana) said that ceasefires were not merely pauses in violence, but fragile lifelines – the first step towards reconciliation. Without sustained, concerted parliamentary action, those lifelines risked being severed, plunging communities back into cycles of destruction. Parliaments, as the voice of the people, bore a unique responsibility. They were entrusted with exercising oversight and ensuring that governments honoured their commitments to peace. They had the power to allocate resources for humanitarian relief, reconstruction and reconciliation. Through parliamentary diplomacy, they could extend bridges across divides and foster dialogue where official channels might falter.

The Parliament of Botswana actively promoted peace by strengthening democratic institutions and holding them accountable, upholding constitutional principles and human rights, and engaging in both national and international peacebuilding initiatives. Aspiration Four of Agenda 2063 of the African Union focused on achieving a peaceful and secure Africa. The Parliament of Botswana was striving to ensure the achievement of Agenda 2063 by passing progressive, transformational laws and policies that guarded against the proliferation of violence. All Member Parliaments must work in solidarity with one another to amplify calls for peace and to hold accountable those who undermined it. If parliaments failed to rise to that challenge, they risked allowing fragile ceasefires to collapse, thus condemning generations to renewed suffering. Parliamentary voices must resound with clarity and conviction in the defence of peace.

Mr. M.A.O. Ba Sarra (Yemen) said that Yemen had voted in favour of the emergency item on the need for concerted parliamentary action to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding. Yemen had been suffering for over 21 years at the hands of the Houthi movement, supported by the Islamic Republic of Iran, and was in dire need of peace. The attacks targeted women, children, older people and humanitarian workers and destroyed key infrastructure. Many children had been recruited to fight in the conflict. Graves were being dug every day and entire neighbourhoods had been turned into graveyards. The international community must recognize the Houthi movement as a terrorist group. The people of Yemen needed help. Oil and gas companies needed encouragement to invest in Yemen to revitalize its economy. Yemen was an active Member of the IPU and therefore expected all Member Parliaments to stand alongside it to stop the suffering.

Mr. V. Chizhov (Russian Federation) said that his delegation had abstained from voting on the emergency item because it had anticipated that the discussion would become highly politicized and shift away from the situation in the Middle East. Unfortunately, those concerns had proven correct. In response to the statement made by the delegate from Ukraine, he wished to clarify that the Russian Federation did not use Iranian drones or other Iranian armaments. The attempts made by Ukraine to procure drones from at least 19 other countries had contributed to the escalation of the conflict. While temperatures of minus 20 degrees Celsius might sound shocking to some, they should be compared with the temperatures of plus 40 degrees Celsius experienced in Gaza and Lebanon. Russian regions bordering Ukraine suffered from the same low temperatures and were subjected to waves of Ukrainian drone attacks. The fact that some of those drones flew over countries supporting the Kyiv regime raised questions about those countries' complicity in the war crimes committed by the Ukrainian leadership. He called for the discussion to remain focused on the situation in the Middle East.

Ms. H.B.H. Al-Sulaiti (Qatar) said that parliamentary diplomacy and the strengthening of international peace must serve as the framework for interaction among geopolitical groupings and States, so that the people they represented could enjoy stable and prosperous lives. In the post-war phase, it was crucial to provide social rehabilitation and psychological support for the many adults and children affected by conflict. Her delegation also wished to underline the importance of committing to international instruments, namely the resolutions adopted by the UN, and the need to bolster the role of the IPU in supporting international peace and security. Member Parliaments needed to work together to achieve the goals of the IPU and serve the interests of the people they represented.

Mr. M. Mottaki (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that Australia had abducted the Iranian athletes as part of a pre-planned programme with the United States and had pressured them to seek asylum. The Islamic Republic of Iran had filed a complaint against Australia regarding the two athletes who remained in Australia.

He also wished to remind the Assembly of the 168 innocent Iranian children who had been martyred by the bombings launched by the United States. He called on the Assembly to reflect on the Iranian nation mourning those children and requested that reference to their deaths be included in the draft resolution.

Special segment on the 50th anniversary of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

Dr. T. Ackson, President of the IPU, took the Chair.

The President said that it was a great pleasure to welcome everyone to the special segment marking the 50th anniversary of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians. Over the past 50 years, the Committee had played a unique and vital role in the international system, standing firmly in defence of members of parliament whose rights had been threatened, violated or denied. It had helped to safeguard not only individuals but the very foundations of democratic life and the rule of law. The Committee served as a voice for individuals who might otherwise go unheard, including parliamentarians facing intimidation, arbitrary detention or political persecution. Its work was a reminder that representative mandates must be protected if democracy itself was to endure.

The upcoming discussion offered an opportunity to reflect on the Committee's important legacy and to look to the future. Four distinguished panellists would share their first-hand perspectives on why protecting members of parliament mattered, how parliamentary solidarity worked in practice and what more could be done to strengthen support for the Committee's essential mandate.

Ms. N. Odsuren (President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians) said that the Committee had been created 50 years ago with the simple but powerful idea that no parliamentarian should ever stand alone in the face of injustice. The Committee's mandate was, above all, a human one. It existed to support parliamentary colleagues who, for speaking out, voting freely or representing their constituents, had been threatened, silenced or detained. While the Committee handled many challenging cases, she would like to take the opportunity to share a few positive examples that told a story of impact, persistence and, importantly, hope.

In Iraq, in April 2025, former Member of Parliament Mr. Ahmed Al-Alwani had finally been released from prison, having spent over 10 years in detention. His release had resulted from the Committee's persistent efforts to monitor his case, sustain dialogue and seek opportunities to engage with national authorities. In Senegal, in March 2024, Mr. Ousmane Sonko had been released from detention, with all charges dropped and his political rights restored. He had since become the Prime Minister of his country. In Thailand, following major political changes, including the dissolution of their political party, 116 parliamentarians had been supported to continue their mandates freely under a new formation, and their cases had been closed in 2025. Lastly, in Zimbabwe, Mr. Job Sikhala had been released after nearly two years in detention. The Committee had followed his case and maintained dialogue with national authorities until his release.

Over the past 50 years, there had been many similar stories, where solidarity had made a difference and persistence had paid off, and where parliamentarians across the world had known that they had not been forgotten. She invited the Assembly to watch a short video that brought five powerful stories to life and offered a chance to reflect on five decades of commitment.

A short film illustrating five cases supported by the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians was shown.

Ms. N. Odsuren (President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians) added that when parliamentarians were attacked, democracy was attacked too. When parliamentarians stood together and supported one another, they protected not just individuals, but the very essence of democratic life. She called on the IPU Member Parliaments to continue working together with determination, solidarity and the conviction that they could make a difference.

Mr. M.R. Onanga Ndiaye (Gabon) said that he would like to thank the Committee for its outstanding work over the past 50 years. In Gabon, former Minister Mr. Justin Ndoundangoye had been detained in 2019 in connection with a public funds embezzlement case. In 2021, he had been sentenced to five years' imprisonment and fined 10 million CFA francs. The case had raised not only concerns regarding the human rights of a parliamentarian, but also broader questions relating to respect for democracy.

Members of the National Assembly had undertaken investigations into the case and had called for transparent judicial proceedings. They had conducted visits to the place of detention, despite difficulties caused by the COVID-19 pandemic. Following the change in authorities in 2023, the National Transition Assembly of Gabon had initiated further investigations into the case. Cooperation between the Gabonese authorities and the Secretariat of the IPU had continued, including a visit by the IPU Secretary General, who had provided advice and recommendations. Communication between the Committee and the national authorities had been maintained throughout that period.

In October 2023, a plea issued by the National Transition Assembly had led to Mr. Ndoundangoye's provisional release. In 2025, he had been elected as a Senator and was serving as the president of his party's parliamentary group in the Senate. He wished to pay tribute to the discreet and constructive diplomacy of the IPU Secretary General and welcomed the cooperation between Gabon and the Committee, which had contributed to those outcomes.

Ms. K. Fey (Germany) said that human rights were under threat globally, with wars taking place on almost every continent, including in democratic societies. A strong commitment to human rights and their meticulous implementation into national and regional policymaking was needed. Clear legal and political mechanisms were needed in order to follow up on national and international human rights violations.

The Bundestag programme "Parliamentarians Protect Parliamentarians" (PSP) had existed since 2003. Through the programme, German members of parliament assumed sponsorship for threatened parliamentarians and human rights defenders worldwide. It enabled them to use their international network to exert diplomatic pressure, conduct public relations work, initiate petitions or advocate for fair trials, and visit detainees or seek information about their situation. While the PSP programme was not a universal solution, it was an effective instrument of parliamentary human rights policy. She encouraged the creation of similar programmes in all parliaments globally.

Ms. M.G.A. Odhiambo (Kenya) said that members of parliament often exercised their responsibilities in representation, legislation and oversight for the public, but rarely did so for themselves. In those situations where the defender became the victim, the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) played a crucial role. PGA was a membership organization of individual members of parliament working for human rights.

As a former President and current member of the Committee, and a current board member of PGA, she was uniquely positioned to speak on the urgent challenges facing members of parliament globally. She had witnessed first-hand the essential role of the Committee in defending colleagues at risk. However, the challenges facing parliamentarians were intensifying, both in scale and complexity, demanding complementary mechanisms and collective parliamentary action. While the Committee leveraged institutional authority through inter-parliamentary delegations, PGA mobilized a network of individual members of parliament acting in solidarity, enabling rapid, peer-driven responses alongside ongoing institutional advocacy.

The latest figures from the IPU showed that, as of 2025, over 1,027 members of parliament across 58 countries had experienced human rights violations, with women disproportionately affected. The IPU and PGA had dealt with a wide range of violations, including an ongoing case affecting members of parliament in Bangladesh. She called on all Member Parliaments to work together in solidarity across systems and institutions. She also called for coordinated action and a strategic vision among the IPU, PGA and individual Member Parliaments to ensure the safety of all members of parliament.

Mr. M.N. Zamir (Bangladesh), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the IPU mandate rested on defending the rights of democratically elected parliamentarians. In 2014, all major political parties in Bangladesh had boycotted the election, leaving over 150 seats uncontested. In 2018, elections had been marked by systematic, documented rigging. In 2024, all major parties had once again boycotted the election. In none of those elections had voter participation meaningfully reflected the will of the people, and voter turnout had been very low in each case. As a result, individuals claiming the protection of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians were not parliamentarians in any meaningful democratic sense. In 2024, the people of Bangladesh had put an end to the authoritarian regime through a mass democratic uprising. The Government of Bangladesh was therefore not persecuting parliamentarians, but conducting accountability proceedings under due process of law against individuals who had been instruments of that regime. He urged the Committee not to allow the language of human rights to become a shield for those who had spent 15 years dismantling them.

The President said that the IPU would continue to monitor the cases of those recognized as members of parliament under the previous Government of Bangladesh. The question of whether they had been democratically elected would be addressed through a different channel.

Mr. S.A.A. Ndiaye (Senegal) said that his delegation extended its sincere congratulations to the IPU on 50 years of commitment to supporting parliamentarians who had suffered violations of their fundamental rights. Mr. Ousmane Sonko had benefited from the support of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians following his imprisonment. In 2024, he had become the Prime Minister of Senegal and continued to serve his people in an effort to rebuild the rule of law and achieve social justice. His case demonstrated that the Committee defended not only individuals, but also the future of nations.

Mr. M. Mutlag (Iraq) said that his delegation wished to thank the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians for its handling of the case of the former member of parliament who had recently been released in Anbar Province. The Committee played a crucial role in providing oversight and defending the life and dignity of parliamentarians.

Mr. M. Anakoka (Zambia) said that the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians had recently supported Zambia in a case involving a member of parliament who, while already undergoing legal proceedings, had faced additional charges following an altercation with a member of the press. He was pleased to report that the member of parliament had eventually been acquitted by the courts and had not faced any political sanctions. He wished to thank the Committee for its intervention and its work to ensure that the rights of parliamentarians were taken seriously.

The President said that she wished to thank the panellists for their valuable contributions and Member Parliaments for their active participation and engagement. She called on the Assembly to reaffirm its collective commitment to protecting parliamentarians everywhere. The work of the Committee remained as vital as it had been 50 years earlier, and its strength depended on continued support, solidarity and resolve.

The sitting rose at 13:05.

Sitting of Saturday, 18 April 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 14:30 with Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/152/3-Inf.1)

FIRST SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS (continued)

Mr. A. Alsaloom (Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA)), said that parliaments had a moral and legal commitment to future generations. Peace and stability required confidence in the international community and multilateralism, especially the principles of peaceful dispute settlement, international law and cooperation on an equal footing. Parliamentary diplomacy was necessary to foster understanding and de-escalate tensions, which had reached an alarming state in his region, thus exposing the vulnerability of the international order and testing its capacity to impose international law. The situation had impacted maritime navigation and movement within countries, fuelling uncertainty and undermining peace and sustainable development.

A multilateral approach was needed to adopt texts that protected the interests of future generations, bridged economic and social gaps, guaranteed sustainability and the responsible use of technology and prevented the further escalation of conflicts. Increased inter-parliamentary cooperation was needed to support multilateralism, implement international resolutions on the basis of joint responsibility and achieve sustainable development. All parties should participate in building a more just and equitable world.

Mr. Chem Widhya (ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA)) expressed gratitude to the IPU for advancing parliamentary diplomacy and multilateral cooperation. The Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) had been built on peace, as evidenced through the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia, which was celebrating its 50th anniversary that year and was grounded in mutual respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference, peaceful dispute settlement, the renunciation of the threat or use of force, and effective cooperation. Parliaments were indispensable to upholding those principles. AIPA's people-centred agenda generated hope and called on institutions to be responsive to people's needs, especially vulnerable groups. Long-term peace and security required accountability from parliaments and an unwavering sense of duty for social justice. Political ethics should govern economies in the digital age, especially given the growing use of artificial intelligence (AI). Securing employment was crucial for younger generations. AIPA was committed to working with the IPU to advance a more peaceful, predictable, equitable, harmonious and cooperative international order.

Mr. P.-F. Ngayap (African Parliamentary Union (APU)) said that the APU, which was celebrating its 50th anniversary, remained an essential forum for dialogue, solidarity, cooperation, sharing of experiences and crafting a common vision for the region. The APU's parliamentary cooperation had been key in consolidating young democracies, providing a political and diplomatic platform for African countries to be heard and respected internationally. It regularly adopted decisions on crisis resolution, taking into account parliamentarians' input. Hope was an act of resistance in the face of uncertainty, and peace should be strengthened through dialogue, while respecting people's differences and rights. Lasting peace required justice, particularly through addressing inequalities and ensuring that rights were not violated with impunity. Parliaments should prioritize peace, justice and unity.

Mr. L. Suryantoro (World Health Organization (WHO)) said that, as conflicts, inequalities and health emergencies intensified, the theme of the General Debate was in line with WHO's mandate. The WHO Constitution affirmed that health was fundamental to peace and security. Healthcare was an investment in development and provided a platform for shared solutions. It was a foundation for peace, justice and human dignity, as evidenced in the WHO Pandemic Agreement, the adoption of which demonstrated that multilateralism still maintained a crucial role. For successful implementation, the Pathogen Access and Benefit-Sharing Annex to the Pandemic Agreement should be adopted to strengthen equity, preparedness and capacity for future pandemics.

Parliaments were crucial in translating global commitments into national action with impact for communities, safeguarding health investments and supporting long-term predictable financing so that health remained a priority for future generations. He thanked the IPU and all parliamentarians for their steadfast support to health and the WHO. He invited delegates to attend the Global Parliamentary Forum scheduled to take place on 20 May 2026, during the 79th World Health Assembly in Geneva.

Ms. H. Hagrass (UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) said that legislators should ensure that the rights and dignity of all, especially those at risk, were protected before, during and after a humanitarian crisis, as stipulated in the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Parliamentarians should make disability inclusion mandatory across all emergency planning and response, including by embedding accessibility standards into disaster legislation, requiring humanitarian actors to consult with organizations for people living with disabilities, mandating disaggregated data and allocating the necessary resources. Regarding accountability, parliamentary committees should examine whether emergency responses reached people living with disabilities, demand transparency from ministries and partners, and ensure that national budgets reflected the needs of all. As people living with disabilities faced heightened risks during crisis, laws prioritizing protection were necessary. In October 2026, she would be presenting to the UN General Assembly a report on the need to ensure equity and disability inclusion in the current humanitarian reform, thus building a rights-based system and resilient, just and effective governance.

Ms. S. Nyirahabimana (Rwanda) said that, following the genocide in her country 32 years prior, Rwanda had rebuilt unity, peace, and justice by ensuring accountability, strong institutions, inclusive governance, the rule of law and democratic practices focused on citizen participation. The country's unique challenges had been addressed through homegrown solutions, including strong investments in political and practical solutions for stability. Young people were being empowered through The Education for All Coalition and leadership positions in decision-making organs. Gender equality was becoming the norm. The Parliament played a critical role through its legislative and oversight functions. Parliamentarians should ensure that government policies advanced peace, justice, inclusiveness and hope.

In response to the statement made by the delegate from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, she wished to reiterate that peace talks were ongoing to address the internal conflict in the Democratic Republic of the Congo between that country's Government and the AFC/M23 movement.
The Washington Peace Agreement had recognized that the Democratic Republic of the Congo had supported the Democratic Forces for the Liberation of Rwanda (FDLR), an armed group responsible for the genocide in Rwanda. The Democratic Republic of the Congo must dismantle the FDLR and implement the Washington Peace Agreement instead of taking the Assembly's time to discuss the issue.

Ms. M. Jashi (UNITE Parliamentarians Network for Global Health), said that it was necessary to ensure sustainable national and global health financing. Health challenges knew no borders. Gains in public health were being jeopardized by the current global crisis. MPs needed to prioritize healthcare in national budgets and, in high-income countries, promote stronger investments in international development assistance for health, which was at a historic low. An agenda centred on women should be promoted in parliaments and global health to strengthen democracy. It was necessary to address women's low level of participation in parliaments, financial barriers and need for permission to access healthcare. Parliaments were encouraged to learn how one another's health policies saved lives and increased economic gains. They were further urged to promote artificial intelligence in health regulations and support national assemblies in the ratification of the WHO Pandemic Agreement.
In closing, she issued a call for MPs to become a member of the Network and to attend the UNITE Global Summit on 3 and 4 August 2026 in the Philippines.

Item 4 of the agenda

Special accountability segment on the implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions
(A/152/4-Inf.1)

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) introduced the eighth accountability segment, held at consecutive Assemblies. Members had a duty to implement the decisions taken at the IPU, translating them into national realities. The segment would focus on accountability in the areas of human rights –

the IPU priority theme for 2026 – youth participation in parliaments and climate action to live in harmony with nature. She invited the Secretary General to present the annual Members reporting exercise.

Mr. M. Chungong (IPU Secretary General), accompanying his remarks with digital slides, said that the accountability segment was one of the highlights of the Assembly because it helped the IPU to assess Members' implementation of IPU decisions, which required Members to share the relevant details, as provided for in the Statutes and Rules and the Organization's Strategy. Each year, parliaments from each geopolitical group were designated to report on accountability and complete a questionnaire prepared by the Secretariat. Members not designated might report voluntarily. The Secretariat compiled the responses and drafted a report to be presented at the Assembly held every October. The 2025 accountability report had been comprehensive. He congratulated the Members that had been designated to report in the 2025 reporting exercise, remarking that, for the third consecutive year, the level of participation had remained high, reaching 76%. One geopolitical group had achieved a 100% response rate, while the others had ranged from 60% to 90%. Examples of good practices identified in the 2025 reporting exercise included action taken to address sustainability by Spain's Parliament, freedom of religion by Uzbekistan's Parliament, gender equality by Chad's Parliament, the human rights of parliamentarians by the Parliament of the Islamic Republic of Iran, youth empowerment by Uruguay's Parliament and health by Viet Nam's Parliament. It was his hope that the Members scheduled to report in the 2026 reporting exercise would provide concrete examples of their follow-up to IPU decisions. He reiterated that contributions from Members not scheduled to report would be welcome.

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) said that the Assembly would discuss parliaments' implementation of the IPU resolution *Youth participation in the democratic process*. One of the key tools used to monitor progress in that regard was the report *Youth participation in national parliaments*, the 2025 edition of which had been launched the previous week. She invited the Secretary General to shed more light on the matter.

Mr. M. Chungong (IPU Secretary General) said that the youth movement in the IPU had begun 15 years prior, at a time when young people globally had been expressing frustration about their underrepresentation. Member Parliaments had had a common sense of urgency to address the exclusion of youth, who had shared a vision of a future where they contributed meaningfully to decision-making. In 2010, the IPU resolution *Youth participation in the democratic process* had been adopted in Bangkok, Thailand, the birthplace of the IPU's youth movement. The Secretary General had been the Secretary of the Committee drafting the resolution. The resolution had allowed Members to clearly reaffirm their commitment to enhancing youth participation, leading to many successful initiatives, including the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. The fact that Ms. N. Abu Ghosh, a young parliamentarian, was seated on the podium with the Organization's leadership demonstrated the progress made. He expressed appreciation for her efforts to ensure that the Forum allowed the IPU to be the global authority on youth empowerment in parliaments.

The data collected by the IPU on young MPs over the previous 16 years had been used by the parliamentary community, the UN and many other stakeholders in youth empowerment and had led to the creation of an accountability instrument to help parliaments measure progress in implementing the commitments made in the 2010 resolution. The data were compiled in reports, such as the recently launched sixth edition of the *Youth participation in national parliaments* report.

After years of gradual growth in the numbers of MPs aged 40 and under, progress had stalled in recent years. Only 2.8% of MPs globally were 30 years old and under, unchanged since 2023. Only 19% of MPs were 40 and under, a 0.2 percentage point increase since 2023. Those figures should be of concern to all. The *Youth participation in national parliaments: 2025* report was based on insights taken directly from young MPs to better understand those trends.

Mr. D. Joshi (IPU Consultant on Youth Representation) said that youth participation had stagnated over the previous two years. Almost two-thirds of the world's population was under 40, but only 19% of MPs in national parliaments were aged 40 and younger, while people aged 30 and under accounted for half of the world's population but less than 3% of MPs in national parliaments. There was much work to be done. Over 60 young parliamentarians had been interviewed regarding youth participation good practices and improvement measures. They had recommended lowering the age of eligibility for election to Parliament or aligning it with the age of eligibility for voting; imposing term

limits on MPs; strengthening youth quotas; increasing youth participation in the membership and leadership of political parties; eliminating violence, discrimination and harassment against young MPs and candidates, especially young women; implementing multi-member district-proportional representation in elections; and adopting laws to facilitate the entry into parliament of independent candidates and the formation of new political parties, which in recent years had had more young candidates. Members were encouraged to continue contributing to accountability and youth representation. He looked forward to interviewing young MPs from all Member Parliaments.

Ms. N. Abu Ghosh (Jordan), President of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians, said that the report *Youth participation in national parliaments: 2025* included a focus on the situation of young women. It had been reported that, of all MPs globally, 1.2% were women under 30, a 0.2 percentage point decrease since 2023, and 6.9% were women under 40, a decrease of 1 percentage point since 2023. It was the first decrease in those figures since the IPU had begun collecting such data. The young MPs interviewed had explained that young women MPs in particular faced growing violence and intimidation, especially online; social norms challenged women's place in and capacity for politics; and many parliaments were not suitable workplaces for young parents, especially young mothers. Members were responsible for delivering on their commitments made in the 2010 resolution on youth participation, including through the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign and by using political parties to provide opportunities for young candidates, reforming campaign finance rules to increase access and strengthening political education in schools.

Mr. A. Ojeda (Uruguay) said that even strong democracies had to confront the contradictions they presented. Despite Uruguay's strong democratic tradition, institutional strength and commitment to rights and freedom, the proportion of young parliamentarians had declined in recent years. While experience was important, the political culture often confused seniority with legitimacy, and economic and political barriers hindered young people's participation. Efforts were under way in his country to strengthen political training for young people, foster cross-party youth engagement and open new channels for participation beyond elections. The country's young people were also encouraged by other young people actively engaged in politics. Parliaments needed to facilitate access for youth that was not merely symbolic, including by reforming party structures, expanding mentorship and ensuring that youth participation was measurable.

Mr. B. Tjaveondja (Namibia) said that his country had created a space for young people in decision-making, including young parliamentarians who had risen to leadership positions. The leader of the Namibian delegation at the current Assembly was a young parliamentarian. The Namibian Parliament championed inclusivity and youth participation through initiatives such as the Children's Parliament and the Junior National Council, which prepared younger generations to take issues affecting youth to the national level. The country's engagement with the IPU's young parliamentarians programme had strengthened the skills of Namibian young MPs. In March 2026, his country had worked with the IPU to hold a training course on leadership, mentorship and communication for young parliamentarians to enhance their policymaking skills and youth representation. It was his hope that the training course would bridge the gap in parliamentary decision-making. Despite that achievement, challenges remained. Parliamentarians in the country continued to call for reform regarding support, mentorship and institutional resources, particularly so that the issues raised by young parliamentarians in rural areas could be addressed on the national agenda. Parliamentarians in Namibia proposed strengthening the country's youth caucus and urged deeper cooperation among the Organization's youth caucuses.

Mr. G. Almeland (Norway) said that, for democracies to be representative, diverse voices must be included in decision-making. It was important to foster a culture of youth participation, including by introducing legislative requirements, such as quotas. Norway had consistently maintained a high proportion of young parliamentarians because of its strong culture of youth politics, which included organized and unorganized political activity among young people aged 13-25. All political parties in the country had an affiliated youth party, which served for recruitment and training but was fully independent in terms of its statutes, priorities and the positions held by members. Youth parties received independent funding. Youth politics in Norway allowed young people to learn about politics in an environment that left more room for error than traditional politics would and offered the opportunity to make a real impact, as youth organizations could put forward candidates for election, influence policy in parent parties and were represented in parent party committees. Ahead of elections, televised debates were held between youth party leaders. As a result of those efforts, in 2025, Norway had elected its youngest MP in history, at 19 years old.

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) encouraged Members to read the report, fulfil the promises made at the beginning of the youth movement in 2010, restore the sense of urgency and reject the notion that young people's participation was premature.

The discussion turned to the issue of parliamentary action to safeguard human rights. The IPU priority theme for 2026, human rights formed the bedrock of democratic societies. The Organization's work in that area focused on fostering strong parliamentary input in and follow-up to UN human rights mechanisms processes and recommendations, encouraging parliaments to ratify and implement specific UN human rights treaties, monitoring the work of parliamentary human rights committees, carrying out capacity-building activities and providing countries with an international platform to discuss experiences and challenges. Parliaments played a key role in protecting and promoting human rights. She invited selected Members to share relevant parliamentary measures undertaken in line with IPU resolutions and UN mechanisms, especially the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) of the UN Human Rights Council and the UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies.

Mr. H.T Tahir (Chad) said that his Parliament's efforts to promote and protect human rights were reflected in its representative role and Government oversight initiatives, including the establishment of internal agencies dedicated to human rights and freedoms. Laws had been adopted in connection with political freedoms, fundamental rights, elections, justice and civic rights. All IPU human rights declarations and resolutions had been transmitted to all MPs, underscoring the need to respect international humanitarian law, humanitarian action and human rights. The Parliament had hosted a workshop in 2025 on its role in promoting and protecting human rights. It worked with the country's National Human Rights Commission, an independent human rights organization that had been institutionalized, which sought to promote human rights in accordance with the Constitution.

During the fourth cycle of the UPR of Chad by the UN Human Rights Council in 2025, it had been reported that more than 234 recommendations had been adopted. Chad had significantly improved its protection of human rights through institutional and legislative progress, including the adoption of the Criminal Procedure Code and specific laws addressing human trafficking, asylum, child marriage and violence against women, and the abolition of the death penalty. A gender quota had been introduced, requiring a minimum of 30% of women in legislative and appointed positions within the framework of the IPU campaign *Achieving gender equality, action by action*. Regarding youth participation, Chadians 25 years and over could run for office. Despite certain challenges, Chad was undertaking further reforms by advancing IPU resolutions to consolidate the rule of law, access to justice and dignity for all citizens.

Ms. N.A. Gyekye (Ghana) said that, in its 2022 UPR, her country had been commended for its efforts on gender equality, child protection and legislative reform. Ghana had enacted a code of conduct for public officers, passed affirmative action laws, strengthened universal and free birth registration, passed a social protection law to safeguard the rights of vulnerable persons, initiated legislation to criminalize witchcraft accusations against women and abolished the death penalty. The Parliament had also abolished cultural practices subjecting girls to gender-based violence and exploitation, prohibited child and forced marriage, created a committee on human rights, established a parliamentary human rights unit and institutionalized stakeholder consultation. With support from the IPU and various partner organizations, Ghana had hosted its first human and children's rights conference in June 2025. She expressed her country's appreciation for the IPU's continued partnership and support.

Ms. D. Bronzetti (San Marino) said that human rights issues had taken a more central role in her country in recent years to align with practice internationally and in the European Union (EU). Acting on the recommendations provided in its 2019 UPR, San Marino had advanced human rights promotion and protection by ratifying international instruments and adopting legislative measures based on good practices, including on civil unions and abortion. The country had appointed a National Human Rights Guarantor and adopted laws to address sexual harassment and cancer survivors' right to be forgotten. San Marino had ratified the UN Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) in 2023 and its Optional Protocol in 2025. A questionnaire had been created for all relevant MPs and civil society organizations to propose measures to implement the Convention. A committee overseeing the Convention's implementation had submitted further recommendations to the Parliament to ensure awareness raising and incorporate the necessary changes into the legal system. The process required constant oversight and follow-up because the forms of discrimination against women were never entirely eradicated and were constantly evolving, further complicated by women's underrepresentation in high-level Government positions.

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President), thanking the delegates for their contributions, said that the discussion would now turn to the question of climate action to live in harmony with nature. The IPU had partnered with the World Future Council to present its World Future Policy Award (WFPA). The award aimed to raise awareness of exemplary policies for present and future generations to accelerate policy action towards a sustainable and just future. The WFPA 2025 had recognized policies on harmony and future generations. She invited delegations to share award-winning policies and encouraged Members to use the examples to shape national laws.

Mr. U. Tshering (Bhutan) said that his country's Biodiversity Act 2022 reaffirmed its commitment to biodiversity, conservation and sustainable development. Though a small country, Bhutan was carbon-negative, with over 70% forest cover; more than half of the country's land was under protection. Guided by a philosophy of gross national happiness, Bhutan placed environmental conservation at the heart of development. The Biodiversity Act 2022 provided a strong framework for conservation, sustainability and equitable benefit sharing, while recognizing community rights, gender mainstreaming and traditional knowledge. Bhutan remained committed to sharing its experiences and working collectively towards a sustainable future.

A video was shown on the Biodiversity Act of Bhutan 2022.

Mr. P. Govender (South Africa) said that the National Environment Management Biodiversity Act protected the country's natural heritage and biodiversity. Grounded in the constitutional right to a healthy environment, the Act ensured intergenerational equity through a science-based governance system and introduced key institutional and regulatory mechanisms alongside national frameworks, bio-regional planning and biodiversity management plans. The Act aligned national action with international commitments, including the Convention on Biological Diversity and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora. The IPU was encouraged to take note of his country's rights-based model of biodiversity governance and help develop and oversee the implementation of similar forward-looking legislation.

A video was shown on the National Environment Management Biodiversity Act of South Africa.

Ms. A. Martínez Zaragoza (Spain) said that her country had made significant progress in environmental protection, including the adoption in 2021 of a law on climate change and energy transition, which sought to eliminate greenhouse gas emissions, prohibit the production of new hydrocarbons and promote renewable energies. Having been awarded the WFPA 2025, Law 19/2022 had recognized a lagoon housing a fragile ecosystem as a legal person. The country was pursuing more robust protection for the lagoon. Intergenerational justice was necessary. Such laws must therefore not only be adopted but also implemented.

A video was shown on Law 19/2022 of Spain.

Mr. A. Boji (Democratic Republic of the Congo) took the Chair.

Mr. M. Karakaya (Türkiye) said that the accountability segments were very meaningful. It was necessary to address climate change, especially through effective implementation. Within the framework of the Paris Agreement, Türkiye supported its 2053 target of net-zero emissions by implementing a climate law that comprehensively addressed the reduction of emissions, adaptation and green financing. The country was prioritizing nature-based solutions and expanding forest assets. Parliaments were the driving force behind such efforts and must ensure real transformation. Accountability required responsibility. The country would pursue efforts to accelerate its transition from fossil fuels and increase investments in renewable energy. The 31st Conference of the Parties (COP31), which would be held in Antalya later that year, would focus on the implementation of concrete action and strong partnership. Climate change concerned society's shared future.

Mr. F. Tolmie (Canada) said that parliaments should not underestimate young people's ability to effect meaningful change and protect democracy, and should ensure that parliamentary committee studies included youth voices. Canada's parliamentary Page Program provided young people with an immersive parliamentary experience. The country also offered nonpartisan internship programmes with MPs, whereby young people were given a master's degree scholarship and interned with a Government and opposition MP. The Parliament provided resources to teachers seeking to advance their own knowledge on the matter or students' civic engagement, and senators visited schools through the SENgage programme. He looked forward to learning about other parliamentary approaches to youth engagement to improve his Parliament's efforts.

Mr. R. Khumnurak (Thailand) said that the Thai Parliament aligned its climate actions with the IPU's strategic priorities. Parliaments could transform global commitments into robust policies and results. Leading by example, the Parliament had promoted its 2032 target for net-zero emissions by launching the Green Parliament Project, which implemented green office standards to improve energy, waste and resource management. The executive branch was pursuing a green economy to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050, with a focus on agriculture, renewable energy – including in the private sector – transport, green standards – such as carbon markets, green finance and systematic management laws – and the protection and restoration of green and blue areas. Thailand was strengthening climate resilience, disaster prevention, early warning systems and water management.

Mr. K. Khelifati (Algeria) said that the implementation of the IPU recommendations and decisions was a procedural obligation under the country's national vision. The Parliament was raising awareness of those recommendations and decisions among public institutions to align national policies with IPU priorities. Women's and youth empowerment was essential to revitalizing political life and guaranteeing sustainable political institutions. The country had established a youth parliamentary network, which operated based on political participation, information, awareness raising and parliamentary diplomacy, with a view to enhancing the participation of young people, especially young women, in decision-making initiatives. A children's parliament had been established to emphasize the importance of citizen participation. The Algerian Parliament mandated that 50% of candidates for elections be under 40. It had ratified the Political Parties Law to promote young people's political rights and participation in all national and local institutions. Regarding human rights, the country was continuing to strengthen its efforts in line with international obligations, including the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. In April 2026, the Parliament had ratified a law on the criminalization of colonialism in its commitment to defending people's freedoms and upholding its historical responsibility. Concerning climate change, a parliamentary network had been established.

Mr. C. Pereira (Portugal) said that his country's youth parliamentary programme was an educational initiative that brought together the Parliament and young people and demonstrated that representative democracy was not limited to periodic voting, but built through participation, debate, listening and learning. Receiving participation from over 2.5 million students since 1995, the programme had been consolidated over time and involved different rounds of elections and levels of participation, including schools, districts and the National Assembly. MPs were called on to participate in the process to ensure a good relationship between Parliament and young people.

Ms. O. Rudenko (Ukraine) said that, at a time when fundamental human rights were being systematically violated by the Russian Federation, an aggressor State waging terror against civilians and infrastructure, Ukraine's Parliament stood as a pillar of protection, accountability and dignity for its people, ensuring strong oversight through the Parliament's Commissioner for Human Rights and aligning national laws with international standards. The country gave special protection to Indigenous communities, specifically the Crimean Tatars, who had been expelled by the Russian Federation from their native land for rejecting the Russian Federation's illegal occupation. Her country helped Ukrainian children deported by the Russian Federation to return to their families and reformative childcare facilities. Ukraine had ratified the Statute of the International Criminal Court and was creating a special tribunal to address the Russian Federation's aggression and a Claims Commission to compensate those whose homes had been destroyed. The Government had already started compensating victims through State programmes and would claim back those funds from the Russian Federation. Survivors of sexual violence received assistance in line with the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women. Following the attacks by the Russian Federation on Ukraine's energy systems, which had deprived millions of heating and water over the previous winter, the Parliament had visited communities to provide the necessary, with support from businesses and donors. Regardless of the actions of the Russian Federation, Ukraine would stand with its people, affirming its ironclad commitment to human rights.

Ms. S. Boussandel (Tunisia) said that her country remained committed to supporting parliamentary action to address climate change in line with its constitutional obligation to environmental protection. The Tunisian Parliament was actively engaged in international forums on climate change, biodiversity and other environmental concerns and was supporting parliamentary diplomacy on the matter. The Parliament continued to exercise oversight, advance initiatives to address pollution, and adopt climate adaptation strategies and waste management laws, including by encouraging environmental projects and green businesses in line with the Paris Agreement. It was important to ratify and revisit environmental laws to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and guarantee the right of future generations to a healthy environment.

Ms. T. Bergman (World Future Council) said that the Council had worked with decision makers to embed future-just policies at all levels of governance. The Council had worked with the International Union for Conservation of Nature and the IPU on the WFPA 2025, which focused on living in harmony with nature and future generations. The awards had celebrated laws promoting biodiversity, regenerating ecosystems and recognizing nature's intrinsic value. She welcomed the incorporation in the accountability segment of the presentations of the award-winning policies by Bhutan, South Africa and Spain, and commended the awardees that had not presented their policies: Panama's Law 287 of 2022 on the Rights of Nature and Related State Obligations, Uganda's National Environment Act 2019, New Zealand's Te Awa Tupua Act 2017 and the BBNJ Agreement under the United Nations Convention on the Law of the Sea. The World Future Council stood ready to support parliaments in the design, replication and implementation of such solutions. Parliamentary work should take into consideration the necessity of nature to society and the need to safeguard future generations.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/153/3-Inf.1)

FIRST SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS (continued)

Mr. C. Kalila (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)) expressed thanks to the IPU President and Secretary General for their continued leadership in strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and multilateral cooperation. Highlighting the long-standing relationship and common purpose shared by the IPU and CPA, he stressed that their mission to uphold the rule of law and ensure that parliaments remained central to governance and accountability was crucially important in the light of the increasingly complex global landscape. It was parliamentarians' collective responsibility to ensure that institutions were resilient, inclusive and responsive to people's needs.

Responsibility was a pillar of the CPA's Strategic Plan 2026–2029, which focused on strengthening parliaments to build more effective, inclusive and independent institutions, investing in parliamentary professional development and promoting commonwealth values, such as human rights, sustainable development, peace, and stronger global engagement and partnerships. The CPA's cooperation with the IPU was essential to those efforts and allowed for greater impact. The partnership between the two organizations could be further strengthened by promoting inclusive parliaments that ensured the full representation and meaningful participation in parliamentary life of women, young people and people living with disabilities, supporting democratic resilience through peer learning, dialogue and technical assistance, and raising awareness of parliamentary perspectives on global issues and ensuring their incorporation in decision-making. Strong government institutions required transparency, accountability and service to citizens. The CPA and IPU could continue to champion those values to support parliaments. In closing, he commended the Secretary General for his excellence, collaboration and collegiality and wished him well in his future endeavours.

Ms. T. Bergman (World Future Council) said that the equal and inalienable rights of current and future generations were not temporally limited and needed to be urgently protected by the global parliamentary community. Parliamentarians should pursue intergenerational justice. Fostering hope required long-term holistic and equitable governance based on inclusive dialogue, with a focus on perspectives from young people, women, minorities and Indigenous peoples. The disproportionate impacts of climate change and depletion of resources violated international law and constituted intergenerational discrimination. Parliamentarians should avoid burdening future generations with the consequences of armed conflict, as exorbitant military spending and nuclear expansion undermined trust and lasting peace. In accordance with the Pact for the Future, parliamentarians were urged to prioritize institutionally enshrined, legally mandated and independent mechanisms to embed effective future-proofing across political structures. The IPU should institutionalize the rights of future generations through a resolution and establish an appropriate representative body.

SECOND SPEAKERS FROM DELEGATIONS

Mr. T. Kivimägi (Estonia) said that, in times of war, everyone lost and all people everywhere were affected, which was the current state of affairs. Parliamentarians should ensure that future generations did not have to deal with stagflation. The rules-based world order had been replaced by military and economic power. Joint efforts were needed to reverse that dangerous trend through

cooperation and negotiation because anyone could become a victim. An essential prerequisite, however, was to punish war crimes, such as by holding the Russian Federation accountable for its war crimes in Ukraine to prevent future acts of aggression. He called for peace across the world.

Mr. A.W.U. Chishti (Pakistan) said that, amid the painful losses in Gaza, Lebanon and across the Persian Gulf, which had led to deep concern and global uncertainty, his country had acted responsibly, actively pursuing peace through diplomatic efforts, such as peace talks in Islamabad. The Pakistani Government sought to re-engage both sides of the conflict for a second round of dialogue. Parliaments worldwide were urged to take tangible action to support Pakistan in its belief that a democratic, peaceful world order was impossible as long as India continued to deny Kashmiris their birth right of self-determination and Israel continued ignoring all forms of human dignity and respect for international law. Democracies should work together to resolve issues.

Ms. M.-N. Battistel (France) said that the current global situation called for urgent parliamentary action to promote peace. In particular, it was important to protect the rights of women and girls, which required constant vigilance so as not to undo the progress made. In February 2026, she had submitted to the French Parliament a report on the need for feminist diplomacy, given that reactionary and conservative movements were attempting to undermine progress on the rights of women and minorities. It was crucial to strengthen such a diplomatic approach, which put gender equality and fundamental rights at the centre of foreign policy, including by addressing sexual and reproductive rights, gender-based violence and women's political and economic participation. It was up to parliamentarians to take all the relevant steps through legislation, oversight and budget allocation and to speak up for citizens.

Ms. A. Erdoğan (Türkiye) said that the theme of the General Debate required urgent attention. Shifts in global power structures and longstanding norms had led to a growing disconnect between power and legitimacy, weakening the international order and testing its ability to prevent and respond to crises. In recent years, humanitarian crises in the Middle East had evolved into a test of international legitimacy. The international community's lack of unity and determination pointed to a crisis of conscience. The nature of conflict was changing: attacks were more frequent, civilian life was deliberately targeted, and consequences expanded beyond areas of conflict owing to interconnected geopolitical tensions. Parliamentarians should address those issues with responsibility, strategic awareness and political will. The most vulnerable bore the heaviest burden in times of conflict.

Establishing hope, peace and justice required determination, consistent and collective efforts and immediate action. The world was experiencing not just unprecedented technological progress but also widespread poverty, inequality and hunger. Zero hunger was far from being achieved, highlighting a global justice crisis. Parliaments must speak up against injustice. Türkiye had addressed the Syrian displacement crisis with humanitarian responsibility, including through educational integration.
Her country would continue to advocate for a just, inclusive and balanced international order.
The rights of all should be protected. The world did not revolve around global superpowers. There was a need to reform the global system to reflect current realities.

Mr. M. Pramanik (Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)), highlighting that humanitarian crises were compounded by economic and climate issues, said that while women, children and adolescents were key to society's future, their rights, including their right to health, was the first to be compromised but often the last to be restored. The theme of the Assembly was a call to action for equity. Maternal mortality was highest in conflict zones. Global financial constraints rendered countries unable to invest adequately in health systems. Reductions in official development assistance made it difficult for countries to absorb shocks. PMNCH therefore urged parliamentarians to protect vulnerable groups through legislation, budgeting, oversight and representation. It called for continued healthcare services and accountability in that regard for women, children and adolescents, including during conflicts, and adequate representation of those groups in decision-making. He commended the IPU for its efforts to increase women's leadership and youth participation in decision-making processes.

PMNCH had launched several initiatives for parliamentarians to promote the health and wellbeing of women, children and adolescents, including the Global Leaders Network, the Parliamentary Network of Champions for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, and the Collaborative Advocacy Action Plan Initiative. Safeguarding the wellbeing of future generations required joint efforts grounded in consensus, dialogue and multi-constituency efforts.

Mr. A.A. Paredes Gonzalez (Peru) said that hope could not be nurtured in a society based on double standards, where hypocritical leaders went to church every day but murdered women and children. Such leaders had no right to end people's lives. It was unjust that certain children had a right to a fulfilling life yet those in Gaza and elsewhere did not. Peace was not the silence of parents burying their children murdered by genocidal leaders. Enough was enough. The UN must intervene for the sake of humanity. There needed to be empathy. There would be no peace as long as there continued to be bloodshed, hunger and indifference to the death of innocent people. Since the previous Assembly, an immense crisis had emerged in the Islamic Republic of Iran and Lebanon. He wondered what new genocide would be discussed at the following Assembly. Justice could not be ensured for future generations as long as those destroying civilian infrastructure remained unpunished and murderers and perpetrators of genocide did not rot in prison. Justice required action to defend humanity.

Mr. Kada Hiroyuki (Japan) said that creative reconstruction, a build-back-better concept advocated by his country during its recovery following an earthquake in 1995, had become the global standard for disaster recovery. Through Japan's creative reconstruction approach, a relief fund created by citizens had been implemented to support children orphaned by the earthquake and training had been provided for disaster prevention and mitigation. His country had been deeply saddened by the destruction caused by recent disasters and wars. The IPU needed to undertake diplomatic efforts to swiftly end ongoing conflicts. Japan had prepared proposals on the application of creative reconstruction in Ukraine, including through reconstruction funding, community participation and the transfer of lessons learned. It had also developed a culture of disaster storytelling, whereby disaster survivors passed on their experiences to prevent and mitigate future disasters. It was his country's hope that disaster storytelling could be used to prevent wars.

Ms. D. O'Neill (Australia) said that her country had actively participated in the UN for 80 years and had continued to uphold, strengthen and promote agreed international rules, transparency and diplomatic dialogue and to invest in partnerships. It remained committed to enhancing the UN peacekeeping architecture, focusing on conflict prevention, inclusion and social cohesion and addressing the root causes of conflict and instability. The countries of the Asia-Pacific Group were carrying out regional efforts to build hope, peace and justice for future generations.

Ms. M. Salinas (Paraguay) said that after a war, peace had been rebuilt in her country owing to her country's resilience and the efforts of women, creating a legacy that would be passed on to future generations. The future of society was at risk, especially for women and children. Bold parliamentary action was necessary. Expressing firm support for the IPU resolution *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*, Paraguay proposed the immediate establishment of a joint commission for reconciliation, disarmament and the economic reintegration of victims and ex-combatants. It was also necessary to launch accountability programmes in strict compliance with international law and fight all forms of terrorism. Paraguay also welcomed the IPU resolution *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance*. Such unfair practices suffocated developing countries. It was important to harmonize regional tax evasion rules, address unfair tariffs, ensure full transparency and reinvest resources in education, women's and children's inclusion, and swift climate justice.

Her country maintained solid strategic ties with Israel and the United States of America as well as a shared commitment to democracy and regional security in line with international law. It stood ready to lead those efforts with courage and solidarity, repudiating any requests for Israel's expulsion from the IPU. The Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC) was promoting sincere and open dialogue as the only possible path towards lasting peace. It was time for decisive action and cooperation.

Mr. X. Iacovelli (France) took the Chair.

Mr. G. Stojović (Montenegro) said that hope, peace and justice for future generations were a daily responsibility and a challenge for small countries. While small countries did not possess great political and military power, they were committed to dialogue, cooperation and solidarity. Multilateralism was a necessity for such countries, as a weak international system affected those countries first and most acutely. It was therefore necessary to strengthen trust among countries and uphold international law. In the current complex environment, parliaments had a crucial role to play,

including by connecting citizens, governments and countries. As sustainable peace could not be achieved without inclusion, there must be enhanced participation of young people and women in decision-making. Failure in that regard would risk losing the trust of future generations.

Regarding emerging challenges related to climate change and artificial intelligence, small countries lacked the resources to tackle them, thereby underscoring the need for international cooperation. Technology should serve humanity rather than worsen inequalities and insecurity. Hope was built through responsible policies, meaningful dialogue and solidarity. No country was too small to contribute to peace or large enough to solve global challenges on its own. He urged parliaments to take a long-term approach.

Ms. V. Persaud (Guyana) said that the theme of the Assembly was a moral imperative and a reminder that law-making was equivalent to building hope. Her country set store by unity and dialogue. In Guyana, 37% of parliamentarians were women and 44% were young MPs. The Parliament promoted sustainable growth – through its Low Carbon Development Strategy 2030 – forest protection, renewable energy, poverty reduction, food security and digital governance. Democratic governance was consolidated through constitutional reform and the strengthening of statutory commissions, ensuring they were robustly resourced and operationally independent. Guyana's active inter-parliamentary cooperation fostered the exchange of good practices in democratic governance and conflict resolution. The Parliament had supported initiatives promoting human rights, electoral integrity and anti-corruption measures, mediated regional disputes, endorsed multilateral agreements on collective security and the SDGs and enacted legislation ensuring fiscal responsibility and social progress. National laws were aligned with the principles of the Pact for the Future, affirming the country's commitment to a peaceful and equitable world. Justice in the 21st century required accessible governance. Guyana was developing an AskGov platform as part of its digital transformation, and its Data Protection Act 2023 ensured that digital democracy was built on trust.

Ms. D. Olko (Poland) said that UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) had recognized that women's full and meaningful participation was essential to peace and security. Yet, progress remained slow. Lasting peace required rebuilding trust, stability and social cohesion, a process in which women were often at the forefront as community leaders. Women parliamentarians could bring perspectives often missing from formal peace processes. Parliaments diverse in gender, age and background could bridge the gap between formal negotiations and societal needs, including in post-conflict settings. Peace could be sustained only when it belonged to all.

Mr. R. Bolaños Azocar (Mexico) said that, amid global uncertainty, parliamentarians had a responsibility to defend principles, rights and freedoms. Against the backdrop of wars, the advance of populism by authoritarian regimes, polarization, violence and growing mistrust in institutions, the world was at its most fragile. Parliamentarians needed to establish a clear course of action. Mexico had adopted a humanist and democratic approach, remaining committed to safeguarding people's dignity. Justice could not be guaranteed if institutions were weak and parliamentarians did not defend democracy. Peace called for the protection of rights and the respect of differences and could never be imposed. Hope must be built. Peace, hope and justice were interdependent. Human dignity must be at the centre of political efforts.

Mr. H. Carneiro (Portugal) said that impacts of global challenges were growing, with conflicts having a ripple effect beyond their borders. Ignoring that reality would only aggravate the consequences. Military spending diverted funding from education, healthcare and development, thus leaving future generations without prospects. Efforts must be undertaken to put a definitive end to all wars, which required political courage and commitment. Parliaments' role was to improve people's lives by ensuring stability, security and opportunities. Development called for peace and fairness. Inequality and exclusion led to conflicts. Abandoning the rules-based international order caused a drift to improvization, the law of the strongest and abuse of power. The international community could not allow it. There was a need for action, stronger institutions and cooperation.

Mr. A. Gajadien (Suriname) said that the world's escalating conflicts were interconnected, having consequences far beyond security. The World Bank had warned of growing structural challenges. The global economy was not creating enough decent and sustainable jobs for young people, leading to greater vulnerability, social instability and declining trust in institutions.
The Assembly outcomes should explicitly demonstrate the connection between conflicts, economic disruptions and youth unemployment, emphasize that decent work was a foundation for sustainable peace, and call for stronger international cooperation to expand opportunities for future generations.

Ms. K.Á. Baldursdóttir (Iceland) said that millions of children lived in poverty, with the largest concentration in sub-Saharan Africa, though child poverty was not limited to low-income countries. Poverty took many forms, from extreme deprivation to relative poverty. Iceland was one of the world's richest countries, but too many families faced housing insecurity and lacked the means to support children's wellbeing. Child poverty often led to poor health, learning difficulties, social isolation and, subsequently, unstable employment and intergenerational poverty, putting a strain on government systems. It was important to ensure strong social protection systems, family-friendly policies, such as paid parental leave, and universal access to quality health and education. Addressing child poverty was a moral imperative and a smart investment in a more just, stable and prosperous future.

Ms. M.C. Acuña (Ecuador), welcoming the sitting featuring Ms. Georgina Magesa and the Assembly's focus on women's and youth participation in politics, said that while her Parliament had a strong representation of women and young parliamentarians, politics in the country had a negative connotation because of the manner in which political campaigns were carried out. To achieve greater diversity and inclusiveness in parliaments, politics should be accessible to all and be based on people's ideas instead of their economic background. Ms. Georgina Magesa had told the Assembly that she did not wish to become a politician. Parliamentarians therefore had much work to do.

Mr. I. Krulko (Ukraine) said that law must prevail over force. For over four years, the full-scale invasion of Ukraine by the Russian Federation had tested that principle, leading to devastating consequences in Ukraine and, more dangerously, to the erosion of international law. If aggression was tolerated, others would repeat it elsewhere. Sovereignty and territorial integrity were not optional, but the foundation of international peace. Just peace did not consist of compromising with aggressors but called for the full restoration of international law. Despite the war, Ukraine continued to contribute to global food security to ensure stability in other regions. However, stability and aggression could not co-exist. The international community was asked to stand in solidarity with Ukraine.

YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS

Mr. G. Almeland (Norway) said that the global state of affairs had a significant impact on future generations. The focus on war instead of peace was diverting attention from important issues, such as sustainable development and the defunding of initiatives to strengthen social development, access to education and sexual and reproductive rights. The world was lagging behind on combating climate change, which was an existential threat to young people. Conflicts displaced the communities most vulnerable to environmental collapse. Peace and climate action should not be treated as separate agendas.

Mr. I. Kazadi Kankonde (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that the theme of the General Debate was a tangible reality for Congolese youth, as they continued to promote peace, rule of law and institutional reform and governance that was responsive to people's needs, especially young people and women. Peace was built through dialogue and respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, while putting an end to hostilities. Parliamentary diplomacy had a major role to play in that respect. Trust in institutions was central to legitimacy and was strengthened through transparency, responsibility and continued commitment to public interest. Intergenerational justice called for forward-looking laws addressing education, employment, the environment, the digital world and the protection of natural resources. The Congolese youth remained committed and hopeful despite the challenges in the east of the country resulting from the aggression perpetrated by Rwanda.

Mr. B. Abdo (Australia) said that parliaments had an obligation to shape change. Under the current structural economic shift, production was moving from manufacturing to technology-intensive sectors. Without deliberate policy, the technological shift would continue to widen inequalities. Labour markets were no longer stable or predictable. The model of front-loaded education followed by lifelong employment was fraying. Economies required continuous skill systems where reskilling and upskilling were accessible and responsive to change. It was incumbent upon parliaments to build effective and forward-looking institutions and recognize young people as co-creators of policy to ensure that it reflected lived economic realities. Economic resilience would depend on young people's ability to navigate future change. The transition should be shaped with equity and a clear understanding of social and economic realities.

Ms. R. Maachaoui (Tunisia) said that hope could not be strengthened in a world dominated by disenchantment and frustration, nor could peace be fostered when, in Lebanon and Gaza, women were being bombed and civilian infrastructure destroyed. Places of worship were being destroyed in several Arab countries, even at the peak of the pilgrimage season. It was impossible to leave a better world to future generations if children were currently living in poverty and dispossession. Hope could not be built on double standards. Some people were speaking of respecting human rights and international instruments but they themselves remained silent when those rights were violated for the world to see. The international community should consider whether it wished to tell future generations that justice served certain interests and that international law could be misconstrued to protect the strongest. She wondered why the international order had been built in the wake of World War II and questioned the purpose of the UN amid such a grim global reality. There was no peace without protecting women, and no future without protecting children. Women in conflict zones were not merely victims but peacemakers if given the opportunity. A common practice in Arab countries, bombing schools, particularly where girls attended, hindered peace. Hope, peace and justice required active commitment.

Mr. E. Sánchez Rodríguez (Mexico) said that the situation in his country was complicated. There had been thousands of disappearances, the majority of whom were young people. Following the recent reform of the judiciary, which had weakened independence and eliminated all possibilities of justice, the current regime was not addressing social issues, thus polarizing the country as a political strategy. For him to denounce that reality as a member of the opposition required courage. He was part of a generation that believed that democracy could change any autocratic regime because all young people should enjoy all the rights and freedoms needed for a prosperous future, which parliamentarians should guarantee through policy. He called for unity to build the common good.

Mr. P. Murphy (Ireland) said that the years-long trend of immigration challenges and brain drain in his country had been reversed in recent decades, leading to unprecedented economic and population growth. However, the country had not planned for the effects of its economic success, resulting in, for example, a lack of housing for young people. Ireland should be used as a case study to help small countries prepare for economic success, with a focus on the impact to young people.

Mr. R. Khumnurak (Thailand), highlighting that many young people felt hopeless amid global uncertainty, said that youth empowerment was necessary and was one of the IPU's strengths. Thailand was increasingly driven by young leaders across all sectors. Countries must work together, undertaking concrete action to achieve real results, including by equipping young people with skills needed in the future, expanding economic and political opportunities and promoting sustainable development.

Ms. H. Hakobyan (Armenia) said that, since the signing in 2025 of a joint declaration with Azerbaijan representing a commitment to mutual sovereignty grounded in the 1991 Alma-Ata declaration, there had been no victims along the Armenia-Azerbaijan border for two years. Hope lasted when it delivered real benefits. The Trump Route for International Peace and Prosperity was transforming the South Caucasus into a hub of connectivity. In November 2025, a cargo train had transited from Azerbaijan to Armenia via Georgia for the first time since 1991. Armenia stood ready to facilitate transit between Azerbaijan and Türkiye, as interdependence was the best antidote to animosity. Her country's diplomatic efforts had secured the return of its citizens from captivity. In light of its parliamentary election in June 2026, Armenia sought to make peace and democracy irreversible. People's destinies were interconnected; everyone should therefore strive to safeguard peace.

Ms. S. Khasayeva (Azerbaijan) said that young people were one of the driving forces shaping the future. The current global crisis consisted of interconnected challenges. Weakened trust in international law, gaps in implementation and growing inequalities threatened international peace and stability. Parliaments should ensure national implementation of international law, including through increased oversight. Azerbaijan's primary objective was lasting regional peace and stability. Parliaments' link between citizens and governments was effective only when decision-making was inclusive, particularly through the meaningful participation of young people and women. Azerbaijan offered several opportunities for young people to realize their potential. In light of the opportunities and risks presented by emerging technologies, parliaments should regulate technological development with a focus on human rights, public safety and adaptation to innovations. International cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy remained essential. Parliamentarians' main responsibility was to leave future generation a just, secure and hopeful world.

Mr. D. Salzgeber (Liechtenstein) said that his country had achieved a new record of young MPs in 2025. Hope grew when young people felt included and required intergenerational cooperation. Participation was the foundation of trust. Securing peace required investments in institutions and people long before conflicts arose, through education and mutual understanding. Long-term solutions were needed to ensure justice for future generations. Young people were engaged, informed and ready to contribute to democracy.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that mindset was the most powerful force driving change. Failure to change mindsets would result in rebuilding unjust systems that simply worked more effectively. Highlighting the Canadian Prime Minister's acknowledgement in 2017 of systematic harm against 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals, he emphasized that change called for truth and action. Inequality was often systemic, built on priorities and biases. To achieve new outcomes, systems should be redesigned with intention, incorporating new voices into decision-making, thus requiring courage. Parliamentarians were urged to address barriers faced by youth, women, people with disabilities, immigrants and 2SLGBTQIA+ individuals.

Ms. S. Rafiei (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, in the 2500 years of Iranian civilization, her country had never initiated a war. It had drafted and implemented the first true charter of human rights thousands of years prior. However, in recent weeks, it had been under military attack by the Israeli regime and the United States of America, resulting in the massacre of many. She saluted those who had not fled the country but chose to stand in solidarity in defence of their homeland. The bombing of schools in her country was an attempt to target education, a child's basic right. Israel and the United States of America had cooperated with their servants in the Middle East to drop bombs, ostensibly as part of a democratic process, on sport and healthcare facilities, essential civilian infrastructure and cultural and historical monuments. The State-sponsored terror machinery of Israel and the United States of America had killed well-known Iranian figures, most notably the country's highest political and religious leader and his four-month-old grandchild.

Mr. W. Soto Palacios (Peru) said that ensuring peace required impartial justice and the upholding of human rights. Only then could the global social order be maintained in the world. Given that current wars threatened stability, peaceful resolution was necessary. Peace and justice could not be achieved if millions of innocent people continued to die. The IPU should issue a declaration calling on global leaders with opposing views to set aside their belligerent attitudes and initiate a process of measured, responsible dialogue. Future generations deserved a world where peace, hope and justice prevailed.

Ms. L. Vasylenko (Ukraine) said that justice was a precondition for long-term peace and had been absent in Ukraine since 2014, when the Russian Federation had begun its unprovoked aggression against her country by annexing Crimea. The international community had failed to act, hoping that the aggressor would stop if appeased. However, if unpunished, aggression increased, as evidenced by the current rise in civilian casualties globally. Too many people, including children, were familiar with the conditions of war. Parliamentarians could not fail future generations. Wars ended only when deliberate action was taken to end them. Experience had taught Ukraine to prioritize defence and accountability. Members were urged to support the Special Tribunal for the Crime of Aggression against Ukraine and the International Claims Commission for Ukraine.

Ms. D. Bergamini (Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM)) said that fostering hope for future generations required urgent political action. Parliamentarians should prioritize decision-making processes aimed at long-term stability and cross-generational liability. There was a disregard for international law fuelled by the systemic failure to implement accountability.
In conflict-affected regions, rebuilding confidence was crucial to overcoming grievances and building hope, particularly through the active participation of younger generations in political decision-making, leadership and intergenerational dialogue. In that spirit, the PAM Youth Initiative had been established, an open platform connecting youth forums, political leaders and parliamentarians in the Euro-Mediterranean and Gulf regions. PAM advocated parliamentary diplomacy that prioritized long-term regional resilience. Lamenting the consequences of conflicts in the region, PAM supported the ceasefires between the Islamic Republic of Iran and the United States of America and between Israel and Lebanon.

The sitting rose at 18:20.

Hearing with candidates for the position of IPU Secretary General

SITTING OF SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026

(Afternoon)

The event was called to order at 16:30 with Dr. T. Ackson (United Republic of Tanzania), President of the IPU, as Moderator.

The President of the IPU, setting out the format for the hearing, said that the candidates for the position of IPU Secretary General would now have the chance to address the IPU membership and answer questions.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, introduced herself as a Greek parliamentarian and academic specializing in public international law, noting her origins in Athens, the "cradle of democracy", which had inspired her commitment to the core values of the IPU, notably democracy, peace, parliamentary cooperation and dialogue. She was motivated to assist the IPU to become a more effective, impactful and visible organization, making its work even more relevant to national and regional agendas, thereby directly benefitting the people.

She paid tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General for his inspirational leadership, including his efforts to foster an environment conducive to parliamentary exchange and cooperation. If elected, she pledged to uphold the highest standards of governance and administrative excellence, drawing on her academic expertise and professional experience in international organizations, including the European Union, the United Nations, the Global Water Partnership and the International Chamber of Commerce. Her background would enable her to contribute knowledge, lessons learned and networks, making the IPU more influential.

Given her longstanding engagement within the IPU itself, including as the first President of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs and as Vice-President and member of the Executive Committee, she possessed strong institutional memory and was well-placed to bring both change and continuity to the role of IPU Secretary General, thereby guaranteeing stability and the good functioning of the Organization. Having served as an elected parliamentarian for four terms, she held the trust of her people and understood the needs of parliaments. Her extensive experience in humanitarian, environmental and climate-related work across Africa, Asia, Oceania, the Americas and Europe was also an asset.

Turning to her vision for the Organization, she called for a stronger, more elevated IPU that promoted multilateralism and reinforced its role alongside the UN. She highlighted key global challenges requiring collective action, such as the climate crisis, armed conflicts, forced displacement and migration, misinformation and disinformation, the digital gap, economic uncertainty, rising inequality, food and energy insecurity, water scarcity, public health threats and weakening multilateralism. In that context, the IPU must play a key role in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and the post-2030 agenda, while contributing to shared prosperity.

She advocated for the use of innovative digital technologies, including artificial intelligence, to modernize the IPU and improve its effectiveness. She also proposed strengthening the role of the IPU in conflict prevention and in peacekeeping and peacebuilding initiatives while positioning itself as a leading platform in parliamentary and preventive diplomacy. Improving implementation of IPU resolutions was also important, as was the need to increase capacity-building support for parliaments. Lastly, the IPU must continue to advance gender equality, youth participation and inclusion of vulnerable and underrepresented groups, and support parliaments in developing and least developed countries, including the Small Island Developing States.

She expressed her commitment to working respectfully with Member Parliaments and requested their support for her candidacy.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that the IPU Secretary General should be a non-partisan steward with a realistic vision, a strong understanding of the pressures facing parliaments, deep institutional knowledge and the skills to build consensus across regions and political divides. Having served in the role of Permanent Observer of the IPU to the UN, Director for Member Parliaments and External Relations, and Secretary of several IPU Assemblies, she was well-placed to fill the role, having already delivered good results with neutrality and institutional acumen, even in very complex and sensitive situations.

Her vision was for an IPU that was as good as it could be and fully relevant at a time when multilateralism was under strain, serving as a catalyst that shaped norms and helped parliaments translate principles into action. She pledged to hold the Organization to that standard and outlined three main priorities to do so: (1) strengthening the role of parliaments and parliamentarians as peacebuilders by placing greater attention on prevention and early warning; (2) increasing the measurable impact of the IPU on global challenges through practical guidance and peer learning, thus helping to rebuild trust in democratic institutions; and (3) cultivating more inclusive societies by advancing gender parity, combating violence against women, increasing youth participation, and ensuring the safety and freedom of parliamentarians.

Acknowledging that the credibility of the IPU depended on the effective implementation of its rules and action plans, she pledged to strengthen delivery with the active participation of Members. Delivery required partnerships that were fit for purpose. If elected, she would deepen IPU partnerships with other parliamentary organizations, the UN, civil society, academia and other relevant actors, strengthen interaction with the geopolitical groups beyond Assemblies, which would enhance connection to Members and anchor the work more firmly in regional realities, and work more closely with the Small Island Developing States to ensure they had a stronger voice. Equally, she emphasized the need to focus on areas where parliaments could best deliver, including promoting greener, stronger and more gender-responsive parliaments, advancing education and parliamentary diplomacy, and accelerating modernization through digital innovation and the work of the Centre for Innovation in Parliament to enhance effectiveness, inclusion and reach.

In conclusion, she expressed her readiness to serve, calling for steady and accountable leadership focused on delivery, respectful of the Organization's mandate and rules, and deeply attentive to Members' needs. It was vital to defend the foundational values of the IPU and to build a global order founded on the rule of law using a people-centred approach. The current period of crisis could become an opportunity if seized effectively.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that the IPU must be the catalyst for stronger, more inclusive and more resilient democracies by promoting parliaments that were more proactive, interconnected and accountable, and by advancing action in favour of peace, security, human rights and sustainable development. She called for a bolder IPU, closer to the citizens and more determined to make the voices of the most vulnerable heard. The IPU must not merely observe crises but work to prevent them by revitalizing parliamentary diplomacy, economic interconnectivity and multilateralism. It must not remain silent in the face of injustice but combat it with courage and integrity.

With 30 years of experience at the UN, working in the fields of peace and security, human rights and gender equality, she had led multicultural teams through very complex crises, negotiated solutions when dialogue seemed impossible and built strong and effective partnerships. The challenges of the modern world would not be resolved through war or power struggles but through dialogue and collaboration using innovative and deeply humane approaches that ensured no one was left behind. Inclusivity must extend beyond gender and youth to include marginalized groups, persons with disabilities and linguistic diversity, among other things.

Her hope was to lead the Organization in a way that bridged divides, restored confidence and delivered concrete results, ensuring that every parliament, voice and individual was heard. If elected, she would work to transform the IPU into an organization that sought to listen, act and protect; one that anticipated crises before they erupted, made parliaments key actors in conflict prevention, practised inclusiveness rather than merely talking about it, and embraced digital transformation while upholding ethics and fundamental rights.

She pledged to serve as the operational arm of the IPU membership, ensuring efficiency, accountability, responsiveness and strategic priority as well as neutrality, transparency and trust. The IPU must be more than a bridge between political decision-making and administrative execution, serving as the backbone of the collective mission of the international parliamentary community and supporting all parliaments fairly and without bias. In that way, it would be possible to restore trust, strengthen the credibility of the IPU and ensure it remained a beacon of impartiality in an increasingly polarized world.

As Secretary General, she would seek to answer key questions: how to ensure all parliaments were heard, how to strengthen multilateralism so that it not only survived but thrived, how to turn the promise of democracy into dignity for all, and how to strengthen the link between global dialogue and national impact. By working together, the legacy of the IPU could go beyond endurance to deliver relevance, impact and transformation as well as trust and effectiveness.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, presented herself as a seasoned parliamentarian with over 30 years of experience and eight elections to her name, emphasizing her long-standing commitment to public service, voter engagement and trust-building. Although she had stepped back from party politics three years previously, she had continued to serve in non-political institutional roles.

As IPU Secretary General, she would, first and foremost, seek to build trust: the foundation of effective parliamentary work. Reflecting on the IPU's 137-year history, she acknowledged its reputation and strong networks but questioned whether it was sufficiently modern and equipped to provide meaningful solutions to the challenges facing parliamentarians today. The unique value of the IPU lay in relationship-building, dialogue, negotiation and mediation between parliaments, and she called for that role to be strengthened to better support parliaments and to build the trust that was so essential to their work.

With democracy in decline, the IPU, and parliamentarians as representatives of the people, must play a stronger part in addressing future global challenges and supporting multilateralism. Parliaments provided continuity, remaining in place while governments changed, and were therefore well-placed to act. Referencing the IPU legacy of eight Nobel Peace Prizes, she suggested that efforts should continue towards further contributions to peacebuilding, potentially towards a ninth Nobel Peace Prize. Building trust was the way forward in that regard which required the IPU to create more platforms for solving problems.

Drawing on her experience in parliamentary diplomacy and leadership, she described herself as a champion of democracy and multilateral cooperation, grounded in institutional integrity, international credibility, diplomatic experience, administrative competence and strategic governance. Her country, Sweden, had been a long-standing, reliable partner in international cooperation, which was the foundation on which she was standing. Her approach would be one of service, focused on listening to Members and drawing on their input, while ensuring that future solutions went beyond past approaches. She also referred to her continued engagement with the IPU, both during and after her time in parliament, having served as Chair of the Sub-Committee on Finance, where she had taken the initiative to ensure long-term stable financing at the IPU, and led the first Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness, helping to strengthen institutional integrity and trust. Through her work, she had shown that she delivered not just in words but in action.

Mr. M. Aqel (Jordan), drawing attention to the ongoing conflict in the Middle East and the genocide in Palestine, asked how the candidates would use parliamentary diplomacy to contribute to stability in the region, including through the establishment of a Palestinian State.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, acknowledging concerns regarding the limited effectiveness of the IPU in responding to geopolitical crises, particularly in the Middle East, said that, as an international lawyer, she would ensure that the IPU remained firmly guided by public international law and would not tolerate breaches of it. Emphasizing that the IPU Secretary General must perform their role with neutrality, she pledged to invigorate the role of Member Parliaments in peacebuilding and peacekeeping efforts, empower parliamentarians as agents of peace and strengthen the Committee on Middle East Questions.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, recalled that, under Article 1 of the IPU Statutes, the IPU was primarily a platform for political dialogue rather than a body with binding resolutions or peacekeeping operations, as was the case with the UN Security Council. The strength of the IPU lay in parliamentary diplomacy, in its existing mechanisms and in the political will of its Members.

She highlighted key IPU structures relevant to the Middle East, including the Committee on Middle East Questions, which was one of the few places where Israel and Palestine sat together at the negotiating table, and the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law. She also noted several important outcome documents, including the 2025 Geneva Declaration entitled *Upholding humanitarian norms and supporting humanitarian action in times of crisis* as well as the resolution entitled *The role of parliaments in advancing a two-State solution in Palestine* adopted in Tashkent in 2025 in the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security after an emergency item on Gaza had not passed. It was clear from the above that the IPU had the mechanisms, commitments and avenues for political dialogue. The next step was to pursue further dialogue in a way that would facilitate progress towards a two-State solution.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, emphasized that war was not the solution and that dialogue, which was the core purpose of the IPU, was essential for addressing the Middle East conflict. The parliaments of the world must play a vital role in multilateralism, particularly in conflict prevention and management.

Though the IPU had passed resolutions on the situation in the Middle East, what mattered most was their effective national implementation. Indeed, implementation and national ownership were critical, as the IPU could not act alone. The IPU must facilitate closer cooperation with countries in the Middle East to support mutual understanding while advancing a two-State solution.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, highlighted her three decades of experience in parliamentary diplomacy, which would be invaluable in advancing the work of the IPU on peace and security. Equally, it was important to leverage the existing expertise of IPU parliamentarians, who were some of the world's most skilled negotiators and mediators. In a context of global fragility, she underlined the continuity of parliaments compared to governments, stressing that parliamentarians must therefore be present at the negotiating table.

Ms. K. Daugaard (Denmark) invited the candidates to reflect on what the IPU currently needed most, whether new energy, change, know-how, stability or something else.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, highlighted the resilience and agility of the IPU, recalling that, despite its large membership, it operated with a small Secretariat, which enabled it to adapt quickly. The Organization's rapid shift to virtual formats during the COVID-19 pandemic was an example of its capacity for responsiveness.

Noting that the IPU was continuously evolving, she outlined proposals to further strengthen it. Those included establishing an advisory board of scientific and business leaders to support political decision-making, as well as developing partnerships with leading business schools to deliver leadership programmes for parliamentarians worldwide.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that, as an "outsider", she believed the IPU should move from doing business as usual to doing business differently. Her practical experience in peace and security, gained through her work in conflict-affected countries as well as through political engagement with governments and populations, would be an asset to the IPU, contributing to strengthening preventive diplomacy. Indeed, with her support, the Organization would be able to better anticipate and analyse complex crises so that parliamentarians could act before conflicts broke out.

Strengthening inclusion, by ensuring populations were considered more fully, was also important. While acknowledging the work of the IPU in the area, she highlighted the need to further advance the inclusion of minorities and other marginalized groups, such as people with disabilities.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that the rapidly changing global context required the IPU to remain relevant and attractive to its Members amid increasing competition from other multilateral networks. To that end, the IPU must operate with greater transparency, openness and accountability, and support parliamentarians to translate their participation in IPU activities into tangible benefits for their constituencies.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that the IPU needed both stability and change. Stability was important to preserve its positive role as a platform for parliamentary dialogue and inclusiveness. However, given global challenges and the retreat of multilateralism, the IPU must also become more impactful, more modern and more visible on the global stage. In particular, she called for better implementation of resolutions, innovative agenda items and stronger support for younger generations.

Mr. S.A.A. Ndiaye (Senegal), noting that several of the candidates had considerable experience within the IPU, questioned why some of the changes now being proposed had not already been achieved and asked whether the IPU might instead benefit from leadership from outside the Organization, bringing a fresh perspective, new management approaches and innovative ways of responding to a rapidly changing world.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that what mattered most was effective leadership, competence and working methods. If elected, she would work both within and beyond the IPU to strengthen its visibility and credibility. The Secretary General's role was one of service, including to the President, the committees and the governing bodies of the Organization, while fostering cohesion, transparency, equality and fairness. A key priority for her would be the effective implementation of all IPU decisions.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, reiterated that, although she had spent three decades in parliamentary diplomacy, she had left party politics three years earlier and now served in a non-political capacity. That said, parliamentary experience was essential in a parliamentary organization such as the IPU, where the Secretariat existed to serve Member Parliaments. She also stressed the enduring value of parliamentary diplomacy, reiterating that while governments came and went, parliaments remained, making it all the more important to strengthen the IPU.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that her decision to run for IPU Secretary General had been informed by the experience she had gained in both public and private international organizations, including at the World Economic Forum, a highly visible and impactful platform. Indeed, she could bring valuable expertise from such organizations, which the IPU could draw upon to strengthen its effectiveness and visibility. Equally, it was important to introduce new and innovative agenda items to drive organizational renewal, which was not possible without being exposed to other settings. She cited her role in coordinating the 9th Our Ocean Conference in Athens, for which she had managed to gather commitments worth USD 11.3 billion within 6 months, as evidence of her ability to deliver tangible results in an administrative capacity.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, acknowledged the need for improvements within the IPU, which would require strong management, effective leadership and the political will of Members, as well as greater accountability and implementations of decisions. Throughout her time at the IPU, she had seen how the Organization had evolved, particularly in its relationship with the UN system, where initial reluctance to open the space to parliamentarians had given way to significantly greater visibility and relevance. At times, the IPU had even served as an example for the UN, as would hopefully be the case when it elected its first female Secretary General. She also expressed her intention to introduce a programme of reverse mentorship, enabling senior officials and parliamentarians to learn from younger generations.

Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico) asked whether, in a global context marked by increasing violations of international law, extreme violence and weakening democracy, the IPU should evolve from a forum for dialogue into an actor taking clearer and firmer stances. If so, the candidates should clarify what concrete actions they would take at the beginning of their mandate to make such a shift a reality.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that any shift in the role or decision-making powers of the IPU, including moving beyond recommendations to more decisive action, would require a change to the IPU Statutes, and approval by the governing bodies and membership, rather than unilateral action by the Secretary General. If requested to do so, she would facilitate the necessary dialogue in that regard, including through the Executive Committee.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that she had consistently advocated for an IPU that was more active in addressing global challenges, including proposing field visits to regions in crisis, during her time on the Executive Committee. Parliamentary initiative in supporting diplomatic engagement was very important. She pointed to a key opportunity for strengthening the effectiveness of the IPU through closer engagement with ongoing UN reform processes.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, said that, while IPU Assemblies produced strong debates, outcomes and accountability mechanisms, a gap in activity remained in the six-month intervals separating meetings. As such, she stressed the importance of sustained engagement throughout the year, including through the geopolitical groups and external

partnerships. Emphasis should be placed on working more closely with academic institutions and centres of excellence worldwide and creating a roster of eminent experts to support implementation of decisions. It was her hope that the outgoing IPU Secretary General would continue to share his knowledge and experience, beyond his mandate, to help translate words into concrete action and results.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal), candidate for the position of IPU Secretary General, called for a more courageous IPU that did not remain silent in the face of injustice but responded with courage and integrity. To remain relevant, the IPU must take a clear stance on today's global challenges, ensuring that its voice was heard in major international forums, including at the UN through its observer status. There was also a need for stronger cooperation and coordination between parliaments, given the impact of global issues on populations.

The President of the IPU said that, with the candidates having made their presentations and answered questions, the IPU membership was now set to elect the next Secretary General. She wished the four candidates all the best and thanked the outgoing Secretary General for his service and commitment to the IPU.

The sitting rose at 17:50.

Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

SITTING OF THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:35 with Ms. F. Belhirch, Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the agenda
(C-I/152/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 151st IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2025)

The summary record was approved.

The Chair said that the IPU was marking the 50th anniversary of its Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians with the 2026 priority theme of human rights; a special video had been produced and a special segment would be held as part of the 152nd Assembly. A campaign, *Bringing human rights into focus*, would be launched to mobilize parliamentarians, strengthen institutional reforms and support members of parliament at risk. In addition, nominations were open for the 2026 Cremer-Passy Prize to recognize parliamentarians who had made outstanding contributions to advancing human rights.

A video was shown highlighting some of the activities of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians.

The Chair drew attention to the report *When the public turns hostile: Political violence against parliamentarians* and encouraged participants to complete a short survey to further understanding of intimidation against parliamentarians. She also drew attention to the *Common Principles for Support to Parliaments*, which had been endorsed by 82% of national parliaments worldwide, and encouraged parliaments and partners that had not done so to endorse them. She further drew attention to side events during the Assembly on the topics of cybercrime, the two-State solution for Israel and Palestine, and multistakeholder approaches to peace and reconciliation.

The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace

(a) Presentation of the draft resolution and the explanatory memorandum prepared by the co-Rapporteurs

The Chair invited the co-Rapporteurs to present the draft resolution *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*, which would be followed by a debate and a drafting session on the proposed amendments.

Mr. A. Al-Zu'bi (Jordan), co-Rapporteur, said that the draft resolution presented a practical framework that was feasible, collective and non-selective and was aimed at a just and lasting peace. It was based on a collective social vision that took into consideration the needs of all categories while insisting on the responsibility of governments and national authorities, and the need for inclusivity, to advance. Parliaments were responsible for turning political commitments into legislation, budgets, mechanisms and follow-up to guarantee continuity across political cycles.

The first pillar of the draft resolution was national ownership of post-conflict recovery, with external support that was focused on enhancing national institutions and democratic legitimacy without replacing it, and was adapted to local needs, constitutional frameworks and international human rights commitments. It was a modern sovereignty exercised through accountable national institutions and parliaments that exercised oversight. The second pillar was a holistic framework centred on five

complementary dimensions and the creation of permanent parliamentary mechanisms to review progress and ensure inclusivity. International and national budgets should be reviewed in favour of peacebuilding, conflict prevention, reconciliation and diplomacy, and to allocate financing for livelihoods, basic services, infrastructure and the reintegration of displaced persons and former fighters. Transparency, integrity and combating corruption should be guaranteed when managing funds for reconstruction, in keeping with the conclusions of the World Bank on the importance to stability of legitimate institutions, combating corruption and establishing justice and job opportunities. The third pillar was parliamentary oversight and accountability within the rule of law. The draft resolution called for national frameworks for transitional justice to enable truth-seeking and reparation focused on victims, and collaboration with national and international accountability mechanisms. The priority was a national jurisdiction with international collaboration, yet without politicization.

Amendments must be feasible, and should not politicize the draft resolution. Any amendment that ran counter to national ownership, constitutional framework and human rights commitments would weaken it. In terms of accountability, the aim was not to have a mandatory requirement but to ensure the rule of law, transitional justice and collaboration based on due process. The introduction of ambiguity should be avoided, since the draft text addressed operational commitments, legislation, follow-up mechanisms, budgets, inclusivity, integrity, mediation and dialogue. It provided parliaments with an inclusive and comprehensive roadmap with accountability and financing that put humans at the core of recovery. He called on colleagues to adopt a balanced text that would offer a practical message and preserve the unity of parliaments as partners to prevent violence and build peace.

Mr. B.O. Kalu (Nigeria), co-Rapporteur, said that, although ceasefire was frequently mistaken for a finished war, without the structural anchor of the law, peace agreements remained fragile and inevitably collapsed. The draft resolution was built on the premise that strong post-conflict mechanisms were the only safeguard against recurring violence. Every challenge identified in the preamble was addressed by an actionable solution in the operative text through a framework of five interlocking pillars, each defining a distinct domain that required binding legislative action. Those dimensions must be advanced together to transform peace from a fragile pause to a permanent system.

The first dimension – strengthened and resilient institutions – was the bedrock of the recovery effort. History had shown that, in order to last, peace must be institutionalized, including through transitional justice that prioritized truth-seeking, reparations and amnesty procedures. The second dimension was equitable economic recovery, in which the draft resolution acknowledged that funding was meaningless if diverted through corruption. The third was focused on social reconciliation and dialogue to rebuild trust and institutionalize healing processes for a cohesive nation. The fourth covered inclusive political life to establish inclusion as a rigid structural requirement. It recognized that the exclusion of demographic groups risked future conflict, and made the political system a shock absorber that encouraged the resolution of grievances through law rather than violence. The fifth dimension was sustained international support, in recognition that domestic peace was a global asset. International diplomatic commitments should be backed by tangible security guarantees and technical assistance, with domestic recovery linked to continuous international partnership.

Parliaments were responsible for legislating recovery in an equitable, inclusive and sustainable way. The draft resolution was really an architecture for lasting peace in the world. It was designed to address the gaps in post-conflict activities and translate principles into mechanisms and safeguards. It insisted that parliament must be the structural anchor of recovery. He urged colleagues to approach the debate not as a concession of national interests but as the most effective strategy to secure them. Global stability was the greatest national asset.

(b) Debate

Mr. Wakamiya Kenji (Japan) said that the draft resolution rightly noted the need for national ownership by the parties to conflict and for sustained support from the international community. Japan had contributed to post-conflict management and peacebuilding worldwide, including through UN peacekeeping operations and an emphasis on building local capacities and inclusive participation. Parliaments were responsible for supporting such efforts and ensuring their proper implementation. His personal experience in foreign affairs had given rise to a strong belief in Japan’s contribution to mediation and conflict resolution. He called on colleagues to share their insights at the IPU and other international forums and to give their all to achieve lasting peace.

Mr. O. Spasovski (North Macedonia) said that his country's experience proved that peace agreements were only the first step and that robust institutions, legal frameworks, accountability and inclusivity were needed for peace to last. In 2001, his country's Parliament had played a decisive role in choosing dialogue over the escalation of internal armed conflict. The resulting Ohrid Framework Agreement was more than a peace agreement and had addressed the underlying causes of conflict. It had not been an easy process and had required sustained political will, but it had worked and North Macedonia had become a functioning multi-ethnic democracy, member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and European Union candidate country. His Government supported the adoption of the draft resolution and committed to contributing to its implementation domestically and through parliamentary diplomacy in his region.

Mr. Z. Mojskerc (Slovenia) said that peace was no longer perceived as the absence of conflict but as an ongoing process, aimed at preventing the resurgence of violence. Lasting peace required reinforced social cohesion, efforts to address marginalization and the full, equal and meaningful participation of women and engagement of young people. The UN peacebuilding fund was indispensable in supporting those objectives and Slovenia strongly supported its work, including through regular voluntary contributions and participation in the review of the peacebuilding architecture. Lasting peace required a long-term approach that promoted inclusive government and resilient communities. His Government had sought to act as a bridge-builder and to contribute to the effective functioning of the UN Security Council; the cornerstones of its position and actions were respect for the Charter of the United Nations, international law and Security Council resolutions. His Government remained committed to dialogue with all to build a just and lasting peace.

Ms. S. Mette (France), introducing her Parliament's amendments to the draft resolution, said that, with regard to the preamble, parliaments could contribute to the implementation and sustaining of peace agreements by representing different parts of society and establishing frameworks, principles and institutional mechanisms to manage transition processes. The absence of parliamentary oversight or the reproduction of conflict dynamics could constitute major obstacles to the success of peace processes. France's strategy of feminist diplomacy recognized that a feminist rights-based approach was essential to peace and security, and her Group's amendments called for consideration of the most vulnerable groups – women, children, minority groups and persons with disabilities – who had not been mentioned in the draft resolution. The Group also proposed including reference to Sustainable Development Goal 16, which highlighted the interdependence of security, peace, justice, transparent and accountable institutions and sustainable development.

Mr. O. Merezhko (Ukraine) said that he agreed with the need to focus on human rights. Overnight, the Russian Federation had used missiles and drones to kill civilians in Ukraine, including a child. Millions of Ukrainians had survived a harsh winter without heating, electricity or water in their apartments due to Russian attacks against critical infrastructure. The only serious road to just and lasting peace was accountability, and that should be included in the draft resolution. A resolution was not enough, however: actions were needed to bring just and lasting peace to Ukraine. Russian war criminals should be brought to justice and Ukraine should be provided with the necessary support to prevent Russian attacks against the civilian population. The majority of Member Parliaments were also parties to the International Criminal Court – which had issued arrest warrants in connection with crimes committed in Ukraine, and should arrest any individuals subject to such warrants. He appealed to colleagues to support the Ukrainian amendments to the draft resolution.

Mr. V. Chizhov (Russian Federation) said that, although he had his counterarguments to the offensive statement by the delegate of Ukraine he did not wish to engage in polemics. Post-conflict management was no less important than conflict resolution and prevention. He noted the efforts of the co-Rapporteurs on the draft resolution, which, in order to be balanced, inclusive and constructive, should be checked against international law. Arbitrary interpretations of provisions and politicization should be avoided, and the tradition of non-interference in the internal affairs of States should be observed. The phrase "human security", mentioned in the draft resolution, was used by certain States to interfere in the internal affairs of other States, including through armed intervention. The draft text also referred to the International Criminal Court, which did not use consensus in its decision-making; the Pact for the Future, on which there was not international consensus; and to the use of "frozen assets", which was not appropriate either.

Ms. M. Lorenzo (United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)) said that, once the guns fell silent, the real test began. In Gaza, stabilization meant returning children to education, running essential services, reducing safety risks and restoring livelihoods. It also meant safeguarding the foundations for Palestinian-led governance and recovery, and reconstruction that respected the needs and rights of the affected community. That would require institutions that could deliver. UNRWA was the backbone of stabilization, with around 11,000 staff members in Gaza and the reach to keep services running. However, operational restrictions linked to Israeli legislation, political attacks and disinformation that targeted the UN, along with funding cuts, were undermining the humanitarian sector. The world was seeing the cost of putting political and security benchmarks ahead of humanitarian imperatives; she called for collective action to protect the Charter of the United Nations, the humanitarian system and UNRWA's mandate, and to implement and monitor peace commitments. Essential services should be funded through predictable, multi-year support to prevent a humanitarian vacuum. Lasting peace required that people must come first.

Mr. A. Golrou (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that his Parliament promoted global peace and security through legislation, diplomacy, foreign policy oversight, counter-terrorism activities and human rights protection, and resolved disputes through multilateralism and negotiation. The Secretary of the Supreme National Security Council of the Islamic Republic of Iran had been assassinated by the American and Israeli regimes, and the Supreme Leader had been martyred. Following 40 days of war in his country, negotiations were being led by the Speaker of Parliament and a meeting had been held with the IPU President and Secretary General on de-escalating tensions in the region. On the first day of aggression, a school had been deliberately targeted by an American missile, alongside a gym and dozens of residential areas, which had resulted in civilian deaths and destruction.

Mr. C. Supphaiboonlerd (Thailand) said that, immediately after a peace agreement had been reached, parliamentarians must turn the humanitarian-development-peace nexus into a practical human-rights oriented framework and prioritize legislative oversight. An independent evaluation platform was needed to monitor implementation of the holistic peace framework and the transparent use of recovery budgets. The protection of civilian infrastructure was critical; connectivity was a lifeline for internally displaced persons, and satellite and telecommunications infrastructure should be considered essential humanitarian services. Learning was a fundamental right that should not be interrupted by the destruction of physical schools. Safe and unhindered humanitarian access must be provided for needs assessments; data-driven aid would ensure that post-conflict reconstruction was equitable and reached the most vulnerable first. He called on colleagues to commit to a budget and legislative agenda that bridged the gap between emergency relief and long-term resilience.

Ms. Cho Eun Hee (Republic of Korea) said that she welcomed the draft resolution. The post-conflict recovery process was the true start of lasting peace, and the speed and fairness with which national institutions and governance were rebuilt played a decisive role in determining the sustainability and cohesion of society. Parliaments must play a central role in post-conflict reconstruction through legislation and budgetary discussions, oversight of policy implementation, and by reflecting diverse voices. Just peace was achieved only when post-conflict recovery, institutional stability and the protection of human rights were realized together. Following accession of her country to the OECD in 2010, her Government had established a framework act on international development cooperation, thereby contributing to post-conflict recovery and sustainable peace. Institutional mechanisms prevented the recurrence of conflict; a fair judicial system, transparent administration and trusted public institutions were pillars of social stability. The discussion should be reflected in the draft resolution.

Ms. R.C. Syiffadia (Indonesia) said that peace must be followed by serious post-conflict management, to avoid renewed conflict. Her country's experience showed that peace must be nationally owned, supported by the law and built through inclusive political processes. Legal and institutional frameworks for conflict management, recovery and the protection of affected communities were crucial. Each country must pursue accountability in line with its own legal systems, constitutional framework and national context. The human side of post-conflict recovery must be remembered; victims needed more recognition, rehabilitation, social and economic support, and the assurance that peace would improve their lives. Women and young people must be part of peacebuilding efforts, since peace was stronger when it was inclusive. International support should strengthen national ownership, and durable peace must be rooted in local realities. Indonesia supported the draft resolution, subject to changes to strengthen it.

Mr. A. Negra (Arab Parliament) said that he welcomed the confirmation in the draft resolution of the role of parliamentary institutions in managing the post-conflict period and the support for international justice mechanisms. The Arab Parliament was dealing with the situation in Gaza and Palestine, which incarnated the urgent need to enhance respect for international law and international humanitarian law, and the principles of post-conflict justice. He suggested that the Committee should form an international parliamentary committee to monitor respect for international law and international humanitarian law in the Gaza Strip. That could provide a practical example of how to implement the draft resolution's mechanisms. The human rights system was a universal system that must be fully respected, and he confirmed the right of self-determination of peoples and the right of peoples to exploit their own resources. The value of decisions was measured by the ability to turn them into reality.

Ms. D.E. Mpapane (South Africa) said that lasting peace required rebuilding governance, restoring justice, reintegrating communities and addressing the root causes of violence. Parliaments were central to those deeply political, social and human processes and the draft resolution offered a coherent, actionable framework for post-conflict governance and national ownership of recovery. It reaffirmed parliaments' responsibility to enact sound legislation, exercise effective oversight and ensure that post-conflict policies reflected people's needs, and emphasized accountability, justice and inclusive participation; sustainable peace could not be built on impunity or exclusion. Parliaments must champion transitional justice, protect human rights and ensure that women, young people and marginalized communities had a voice in shaping post-conflict futures. South Africa supported the adoption of the draft resolution and urged all Member Parliaments to implement its recommendations.

Ms. E. Misola Richard (International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC)) said that the draft resolution must translate international obligations into parliamentary action. It should require parliaments to adopt or update their national penal codes to make serious violations of international humanitarian law offences under domestic law. Amnesty and other measures must not hamper the investigation of such violations. She welcomed the proposed paragraphs on sexual violence and urged delegations to support their inclusion. She encouraged the adoption of the proposed paragraph on anti-personnel land mines and cluster munitions, and called for a sub-amendment to strengthen its humanitarian impact by including reference to explosive remnants of war. She urged the inclusion in the draft resolution of the amendments proposed by several delegations to reflect the environmental impact of armed conflict.

Ms. S. Boussandel (Tunisia) said that, since parliaments represented the will of the people, they had a role in enacting legislation to guarantee transitional justice, oversight of government efforts and enhancing human rights. The post-conflict period should involve the building of transparent institutions to restore trust while balancing political stability and economic and social development. She called for an international system that was more balanced. The Palestinian cause was the essence of striving towards just and lasting peace. Joint parliamentary work was the main way to enhance international peace; more solidarity was needed between parliaments to face common challenges.

Mr. M.I. Ravalia (Canada) said that the draft resolution presented a strong and balanced text and a bold statement for action. It reflected the concern that too many post-conflict efforts had fallen short, had identified several underlying reasons for those failures and had highlighted the critical gap in the participation of women, young people and displaced persons in the recovery process. Its framework was actionable and appropriately scoped. It was grounded in established international frameworks and reflected the key principles of national ownership, accountability, inclusivity and a continuous approach to peacebuilding. The emphasis on human security was noteworthy, since that remained a foundational concept in Canada's multilateral engagement. He wished to know how the request in operative paragraph 16 for the IPU to provide targeted technical assistance to parliaments was aligned with the assessment that the draft resolution had no programme or budgetary implications, and with the IPU Strategy for 2027–2031 that was due to be adopted.

Mr. A. Özkaya (Türkiye) said that conflicts could only end through the brokering of fair and sustainable peace, which required an understanding of the root causes of conflicts and strong and resilient mechanisms. Faced with the genocide committed by Israel against Palestine, the UN and the international community could not function or provide a solution. Türkiye had been instrumental in related mediation efforts for that and other conflicts, and had experience of working through its Grand

National Assembly to get the Kurdistan Workers' Party (PKK) terrorist organization to lay down its arms and cease to exist. That had been achieved through the participation of 11 out of 12 political parties in a special ad hoc committee and showed that permanent peace was only possible through institutionalized and inclusive processes. Everyone had the same aim: a world free from conflicts where stability prevailed.

Mr. J. Bartošek (Czechia) said that he wished to express his personal support for Ukraine and the Ukrainian people. He thanked the co-Rapporteurs for their work to prepare the draft resolution, which was in line with the long-term priorities of his country to promote international peace and security, and strengthen institutions, the rule of law and accountability for violence, international law, and inclusive peacebuilding and post-conflict recovery processes.

Mr. C. Ngy (Cambodia) said that he welcomed the work on the draft resolution, which would serve as a global roadmap to empower parliaments to translate fragile peace agreements into national legislation. His country's national experience had shown that peace was not simply the absence of violence but required justice, reconciliation, inclusive institutions and sustainable development. Violence in the Middle East showed the need for peaceful dialogue and respect for international law to prevent further suffering, while tensions between States highlighted the importance of diplomacy and peaceful dispute resolution through dialogue, negotiation and international legal mechanisms. Parliaments played an indispensable role through legislation, oversight and parliamentary diplomacy to strengthen democratic institutional support for reconciliation and ensure that peacebuilding commitments were effective.

Mr. F. Belekanyama (Malawi) said that he supported the draft resolution. At the heart of every conflict lay a fundamental issue of justice, so to achieve lasting peace, justice must be placed at the centre of peacebuilding efforts. Parliaments must establish clear legal frameworks to support post-conflict recovery, with laws to validate peace agreements and mechanisms for transitional justice. Malawi had committed to peace, justice and democratic governance through its Constitution, the enactment of laws to strengthen justice and accountability and the establishment of a human rights commission and ombudsman. It resolved political tensions peacefully, with strong institutions and parliamentary oversight to maintain stability. Peace must not be imposed externally; it should be locally owned, inclusive and legitimate. Lasting peace required strong institutions, inclusive governance, justice and accountability with sustained engagement with the people parliamentarians represented.

Mr. S. Rachkov (Belarus) said that the President of Belarus had noted the prevention of armed conflicts and wars as a problem to be solved by people of goodwill in all countries. As the global security architecture faced unprecedented challenges, the role of lawmakers in peacekeeping was a top priority, since parliamentary diplomacy was a key instrument to reduce international tensions and build confidence. The Belarusian approach to strengthening international cooperation for just and lasting peace was based on three principles: the promotion of a unifying peace agenda; the rule of international law and commitment to the Charter of the United Nations; and the development of people's diplomacy and dialogue. Parliaments should be active participants in that process and use all the tools of parliamentary diplomacy to achieve lasting peace. He wished to invite participants to the fourth Minsk International Conference on Eurasian Security, which would take place in the second half of 2026.

Mr. L. Wehrli (Switzerland), member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, took the Chair.

Mr. Pham Phu Binh (Viet Nam) said that, among complex political, security and economic shifts, the multilateral system and international law were being eroded as power politics and the use of force became more prevalent, which made the maintenance of global peace more fragile. As a nation that had experienced wars, Viet Nam understood the value of peace and reiterated the principles of respect for independence, sovereignty, territorial integrity and non-interference in internal affairs, and respect for international law and the Charter of the United Nations as fundamental elements in building and negotiating lasting peace. Post-conflict international support should be based on the needs of the host country, without imposing political conditions or using economic coercion or unilateral sanctions that hindered reconstruction or the economy. He drew attention to his delegation's proposed amendments and thanked the co-Rapporteurs for their efforts on the draft resolution.

Mr. A. El-Aaleme (Morocco) said that, although his country had not witnessed armed conflict on its territory, it was a pioneer in reconciliation. Reparations were connected to institutional reform, which provided a reference for countries to establish social cohesion. He welcomed the draft resolution and agreed with the contents of the explanatory memorandum. Legislation on truth and reparations were particularly effective when connected with reform to guarantee that there would be no return to the past. The Moroccan experience had proven that true social reconciliation, as mentioned in operative paragraph 9 of the draft resolution, could not be achieved without development programmes that targeted the most damaged regions. Social cohesion required true reconciliation among all people.

Ms. F. Belhirch, Vice-President of the Standing Committee, resumed the Chair.

Ms. S.S. Faruqui (Pakistan) said that the draft resolution offered a timely and balanced framework for sustainable peacebuilding and rightly underscored that sustainable peace must be inclusive. She valued the emphasis on addressing the root causes of conflict; unresolved disputes continued to impact civilian populations in occupied Jammu and Kashmir, where the realization of the right of self-determination remained essential to achieving a just and lasting peace. The draft resolution maintained a balance between accountability and respect for sovereignty, with appropriate references to international mechanisms with the consent of the State concerned. Parliament had a central role in translating peace commitments into action through legislation, oversight and inclusive representation, particularly of women and young people, and the strengthening of legal frameworks to protect children. The call for predictable and sustained financing was critical to fulfilling commitments. The draft text reflected a shared understanding that peace could not be imposed, it must be built, sustained and owned.

Ms. R. Maachaoui (Tunisia), speaking as a member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that the Forum of Women Parliamentarians had underscored that women and girls disproportionately suffered the consequences of conflict through violence, forced displacement, loss of income and livelihood, interrupted education and the fragilization of their safety. They were not just victims, however, but actors of peace, reconciliation and relief. The full, equal and effective participation of women in the peace process was not symbolic but a condition of legitimacy, efficiency, and the sustainability of agreements. Parliaments should guarantee access in post-conflict contexts to essential services, including health, education, justice and economic empowerment. International commitments – especially the Women, Peace and Security agenda – should be translated into specific laws with budgets and parliamentary oversight mechanisms. Gender equality should be at the heart of all post-conflict strategies because there was no just and lasting peace without the inclusion of women.

Mr. H.T. Tahir (Chad) said that peace was not just a word but an action. Chad had participated in maintaining peace and stability in a number of places, including Cameroon, Mali and Niger. Thanks to its experience, Chad supported the draft resolution. The Chadian Parliament was involved in peace through the law for amnesty and the mediation of parliamentarians to resolve conflicts. Parliamentary mechanisms were needed to prevent and anticipate conflicts. Given its location in a region of recurrent conflicts, Chad had received more than 2 million refugees; he requested support for the tireless efforts made to welcome and resettle displaced persons.

Mr. B.G. Tunkara (Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)) said that he supported the draft resolution, noting that the first principle in terms of the management of conflict was stabilization and security to ensure that there was no reoccurrence of conflict. Parliaments should allocate budgets to ensure adequate funding for reconstruction and recovery, and legislate for a truth commission to make sure that the truth was known and heard. Political will was needed for inclusion, with leadership engaging all relevant stakeholders in the peacebuilding process. Social healing, such as through the Gacaca system of restorative justice in Rwanda, allowed reconciliation and forgiveness to address the trauma of war.

Mr. J.G.N. Yoh (South Sudan) said that for eight years his country had been trying to implement a ceasefire and peace agreement. Problems arose due to the peace framework, the implementation mechanisms, the lack of trust among parties to the agreement, and the role of the people in its implementation. The specific requirements for post-conflict recovery and the features of post-conflict peacebuilding and architecture tended to be addressed generally in peace agreements.

Implementation was difficult without inclusive negotiations and ownership by the people; it was difficult to build resilient institutions without agreement on how to deal with people, to link the implementation of the peace agreement to an equitable economic architecture – particularly for the most vulnerable in society – and to engage in social reconciliation and dialogue without a clear role for the population of the country. Inclusion in that context referred to women and young people. The draft resolution was important and comprehensive and South Sudan supported it.

Mr. M. Ilabaca (Chile) said that peace could not be a mere diplomatic exercise, and was not only the absence of violence but also the provision of reparations. The draft resolution had merit and understood that parliaments should not only bring an end to conflict but bring about lasting peace through legislation and democratic representation. Despite the strong ethics of the draft text, however, it could become another declaration of good intentions if not accompanied by political oversight. Context must be considered in discussions of sustainable peace; the civilian population of Gaza was under attack and Israel was bombing Lebanon and other nearby countries. The protection of civilians was an obligation under international humanitarian law. It was inadequate to discuss future reconciliation while tolerating present crimes; accountability was needed, as were collective sanctions against those who attacked civilians. There could be no peace where there was impunity, the bombing of civilians and the systematic violation of international law.

Ms. A.M.C. De Andrade Sarmento (Timor-Leste) said that she supported the draft resolution. The concepts of national ownership and transitional justice were pillars of democracy in Timor-Leste, which had been converted to a reality that set an example for others. Peace in her country was built on the institutionalization of a truth and reconciliation commission, and its recommendations formed a national roadmap to recognize the harms of the past and build sustainable peace. As founders of the Group of Seven Plus, Timor-Leste declared that peace must come from and be for the people; national institutions should be reinforced, not substituted. Peace was also consolidated through building diplomatic bridges. Parliament aimed to ensure that peace reached citizens, including by providing scholarships to the children of victims, in order to break the cycle of violence through education and historical memory. She called on other parliaments to introduce laws that provided hope for future generations.

Ms. M.A. Maeea (Lesotho) said that parliaments were crucial to fostering sustainable peace through the establishment of effective conflict management mechanisms and strategies, and had a responsibility to exercise oversight and allocate budgets for the implementation of peace. Lesotho had faced political instability in 2012, which had led to a coalition agreement for stability and reform to restore national peace, strengthen democracy and governance, and promote human rights, transparency and accountability. The related roadmap had emphasized the need for a constitutional review with public engagement, and in 2026, Parliament had enacted the tenth amendment to the Constitution to advance reforms and establish a mechanism to oversee and facilitate implementation of the Constitution. An eleventh amendment was being prepared. That experience underscored the critical role of parliaments to advance reform, strengthen governance, promote stability and lay the foundation for just and lasting peace.

Ms. A. Bangura (Sierra Leone) said that, in her country, Parliament had enacted an independent commission for peace and national cohesion, and had signed a memorandum of understanding with the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance.
The constitutional review process remained unfinished after a decade, however, and the truth and reconciliation committee report had explicitly linked the civil war to centralized power and governance failures. The failure to complete reforms to decentralize authority and entrench human rights protections risked the entire peace architecture. Parliament's contribution to peace could be seen, however, from high-level peacekeeping missions to local community prevention, and it had been a central pillar in post-conflict transition that had helped to set the nation on a course towards just and lasting peace.

Mr. A.A. Paredes Gonzales (Peru) said that it had become routine to lie and betray. Speaking as a teacher who had returned to the classroom following his time at the IPU, he noted that the teachings of religious education in his country that thou shalt not kill was not reflected in society. Adults, through their silence, often became accomplices and hypocrites. The paragraph of the draft resolution concerning education should be strengthened from a preventive point of view. People were being dehumanized through indifference. It was not in anyone's interest for children in Gaza and many parts of the world to die; he called on participants not to be accomplices to injustice. Peace was the most basic starting point for the progress of humanity.

Mr. H.E. Hasan (Bahrain), speaking as a member of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians, said that peace was only real when trust was built, justice was restored and institutions regained the confidence of the people they served. Parliamentarians had a decisive role as legislators and institutions of accountability, inclusion and national reconciliation. Post-conflict recovery was a deeply human and political process. Conflict affected young people in profound ways; it interrupted education, limited opportunity and left long-term psychological scars. Yet young people were not only victims but essential partners in rebuilding peace that brought legitimacy, energy, creativity and a long-term stake in stability. Youth participation in peacebuilding must be institutionalized and UN Security Council resolution 2250 implemented as a framework to ensure meaningful, structured and sustained youth participation.

Parliaments must exercise strong oversight over post-conflict reconstruction and peacebuilding resources, since recovery efforts could only succeed if they were transparent, accountable and responsive to the needs of affected communities. Public trust could not be rebuilt where corruption, exclusion or weak delivery persisted. Youth-led monitoring and open reporting mechanisms could reinforce confidence and strengthen democratic ownership of recovery. Healing was needed through education that promoted human rights and coexistence, economic opportunities for young people, vocational reintegration and access to mental health and trauma-informed care. Technology should be used responsibly as a tool for dialogue, prevention and inclusion, not division. Peace could not be sustainable if it excluded the generation that must carry it forward. Given the impact of war on young people in the Middle East, the Bahraini delegation had submitted an emergency item and asked for the support of all youth delegates.

(c) Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary

The Chair announced that the Committee would proceed to discuss the proposed amendments in plenary.

The discussion continued from 12:00 to 13:00. The sitting then rose.

SITTING OF SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026
(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 14:25 with Ms. F. Belhirch (Netherlands), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace
(continued)

(c) Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary
(continued)

The Chair said that the draft resolution before the Committee included all wording that had been voted on during the drafting session. The Secretariat had produced a clean text for adoption. In the operative section of the draft resolution, substantial structural work had been required on new operative paragraph 15 – original operative paragraph 7 – to ensure readability and consistency with the remainder of the text. In addition, several paragraphs had been split into lists in the interest of clarity and readability. Given that, in light of discussions of the draft resolution, adoption by unanimity was unlikely, she took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution by consensus.

Mr. V. Chizhov (Russian Federation) said that he was against the adoption of the draft resolution by consensus.

The Chair invited the Committee to vote on whether to adopt the draft resolution, as amended.

Following a vote, the resolution, as amended, was adopted.

Mr. V. Chizhov (Russian Federation) said that the resolution could have been a vivid, substantive and forward-looking document, but the Twelve Plus Group and Ukraine had infused the text with politically tainted provisions that often went beyond the resolution's substance and scope. The co-Rapporteurs had made a meaningful contribution to the drafting of the resolution, had

mentioned the importance of preserving consensus on the text and had stressed that a narrow regional approach would be unacceptable in terms of achieving and preserving peace. They had insisted that the provisions of the resolution should be universal and bias should be avoided in reference to regional conflicts. The Twelve Plus Group and Ukraine had ignored those suggestions.

The inclusion in the preambular and operative part of the resolution of elements that contained false allegations against the Russian Federation regarding so-called forced displacement of Ukrainian citizens, including children, was an example of politicization, and the reference to an IPU resolution that condemned the so-called invasion of Ukraine, at the proposal of the Ukrainian delegation, made the text even more biased. Reference had also been made in the operative part to the International Criminal Court, which had been politically biased in its approach to delivering justice. Other unacceptable provisions included language on the inability of the international community to establish justice mechanisms, which went far beyond the IPU's competence, and the reference to the use of frozen assets in post-conflict recovery, which was a dangerous and illegitimate invention. The Russian Federation was left with no choice other than to disassociate from the document as a whole and place on record its opposition to the entire text of the resolution in its current wording.

Mr. Yi Zhang (China) said that all parties had reached extensive consensus on the original draft of the resolution, and the co-Rapporteurs had drafted a balanced and objective resolution that met the common expectations of all parties. The final consultations on the draft text, however, had been deeply disappointing and inappropriate and unjust language had been included that deviated from the balanced tone of the original text. Parliamentarians would struggle to comfortably present the original and final texts to their constituents. His delegation had always strictly abided by the rules of procedure of the IPU, whose core purpose was full democracy for all; it was regrettable that the consultations had descended into a circus, in which certain countries had rallied their cliques for private gains and agendas. He did not agree that the unbalanced and unjust resolution was the message to be conveyed to the international community. His delegation's specific concerns about the text of the resolution would be communicated to the Secretariat.

Mr. A. Golrou (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that he agreed with the delegate from the Russian Federation and categorically rejected the resolution.

Mr. I. Krulko (Ukraine) said that he appreciated those who had stood firmly for the principles of international law and had helped to strengthen the text of the resolution by including provisions on accountability for violations of international law; reparation, including through the lawful use of frozen assets of States responsible for aggression; the condemnation of attacks on civilians and critical infrastructure; the return of deported civilians, including children; and the prevention of renewed aggression. For Ukraine, the discussion was not theoretical; his country was fighting every day to stop the terror inflicted by the Russian Federation. Ukraine's experience reflected a broader pattern in modern conflicts of the violation of international law and humanitarian norms. Ukraine was defending universal principles, the UN Charter, the Geneva Conventions of 12 August 1949 for the Protection of War Victims, and international law. It was deeply troubling that the Russian Federation, as a permanent member of the UN Security Council that was entrusted with maintaining international peace and security, was itself violating those principles. The ICC had issued arrest warrants for the leadership of the Russian Federation in connection with war crimes. It was about the credibility of the international system, since without justice there would be no lasting peace. He thanked the Committee for adopting the resolution as amended.

Mr. A. Al-Zu'bi (Jordan), co-Rapporteur, said that the resolution had been intended as a general and balanced resolution, not one that would shed light on a single conflict or war. The world knew many conflicts and any people impacted by war had the right to be heard and seen; that was the general direction of the resolution through a focus on the frameworks around institutions, reconciliation and the reparation of civilian life. The choice had been made not to side with one party or another, since that would not be in the interest of diplomatic credibility, which must be objective and deal with the suffering of human beings, regardless of where they were.

The number of proposed amendments – more than 150 from 21 parties – reflected a desire to push the text of the resolution in a certain direction. A focus on one conflict at the expense of other conflicts had been seen before, and the co-Rapporteurs had chosen to avoid that. There was a responsibility to deal not only with conflicts in one's immediate geographic area, but to take a general approach, since peace, humanity and international stability were not linked to one continent or one group in particular. He expressed the hope that the Committee would remain global and comprehensive and take that into consideration in its future work.

The Chair said that she took it that the Committee wished to note the explanatory memorandum on the draft resolution that had been prepared by the co-Rapporteurs.

It was so decided.

(d) Appointment of a Rapporteur to the 152nd Assembly

The Chair invited the Committee to appoint a Rapporteur to present the draft resolution to the 152nd Assembly.

Mr. L. Wehrli (Switzerland) said that there was nobody more competent than Ms. Belhirch for the role of Rapporteur for the draft resolution, and proposed her nomination for the post.

The nomination was approved.

Preparations for future Assemblies

(a) Proposals for a subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee

The Chair said that the Bureau had considered the proposals for the subject item, which were, *The role of parliaments in securing peace in the age of military artificial intelligence*, submitted by Czechia, *Shaping peaceful futures: Strengthening parliamentary diplomacy for mediation, dialogue and sustainable peace*, submitted by Pakistan, *Securing freedom of navigation, countering shadow fleets, and protecting submarine communications infrastructure*, submitted by Ukraine, and *Strengthening maritime security and protecting critical infrastructure in times of conflict: The role of parliaments in safeguarding international navigation and global economic stability*, submitted by the United Arab Emirates. Following discussion, the Bureau had agreed to recommend that the topic, *Shaping peaceful futures: Strengthening parliamentary diplomacy for mediation, dialogue and sustainable peace* was the most suitable and addressed issues that were prominent in the new 2027–2031 Strategy. She took it that the Committee agreed with that recommendation.

Mr. M. Almheiri (United Arab Emirates) said that he did not agree with the recommendation of the Bureau and requested clarification of the process to further discuss the subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee.

The Secretary read out Rule 19 of the Rules of the Standing Committee, which stated that:

1. A Standing Committee shall decide on the subject item to be proposed for discussions at the next Assembly after hearing the recommendation of its Bureau.
2. When a Committee is called upon to take a decision on the subject item to be proposed for discussion at the next Assembly, the only proposals in order, other than those included in the recommendation of its Bureau, shall be earlier proposals submitted within the statutory deadlines but not accepted by the Bureau.
3. If a Standing Committee receives a request from a Member Parliament or Associate Member to consider a proposal that was not accepted by the Bureau, the Standing Committee shall first decide whether to consider such a request.

In practice, that meant that the Committee would be asked, firstly, whether it wished to consider the other proposals, and if so, would vote on its preferred proposal.

The Chair invited the Committee to vote on whether it wished to consider all four proposed themes for the subject item.

Following a vote, the Committee decided to consider all four proposals.

Mr. J. Bartošek (Czechia) said that there were many examples of the military use of artificial intelligence (AI) in conflicts. The proposed theme addressed the issue of regulations or limits on the use of AI and whether there was human control over systems used to kill people or destroy buildings, particularly since experts warned that AI was unpredictable. Parliaments could set up guidance and regulations for how military AI was trained, developed and deployed to ensure the protection of civilians abroad and at home. The theme was ethical and technical, and it was surely the role of parliaments to determine limits for the technology.

Ms. S.S. Faruqui (Pakistan) said that her delegation's proposal was policy-driven and much needed in the volatile global situation. There were several wars across the world and the only solution that worked was parliamentary diplomacy and mediation across borders. Parliaments had been undermined; on many occasions decisions had been discussed only briefly and parliamentarians not given due respect. A focus on parliamentary diplomacy, from the platform of the IPU, would help to return to parliaments the authority that they deserved.

Mr. I. Krulko (Ukraine) said that his delegation's proposal was similar to that proposed by the United Arab Emirates. He therefore stood ready to merge his proposal with that submitted by the United Arab Emirates.

The Chair said that is was not possible to merge the proposals.

Mr. M. Almheiri (United Arab Emirates) said that he wished to thank the delegation of Ukraine for their support. His delegation's proposal was on a topic that affected everyone in the room. All were affected by the blocking of free navigation in natural straits and attacks on critical infrastructure, energy infrastructure, the economy, livelihoods, medical and agricultural supplies, and lifestyles. If that situation was not resolved, it would set a precedent that could be repeated in different places around the world. In the interests of parliamentary diplomacy and respect for parliamentarians, a stand should be taken on such critical matters. The topic merited a draft resolution, rather than a panel discussion.

Mr. A. Alharbi (Saudi Arabia), speaking on a point of order, said that the Committee had been invited to vote on four proposals without any related documents. He requested that the four proposals be displayed on the screen in the room.

The Chair said that the four proposals would be displayed on the screen.

Mr. V. Chizhov (Russian Federation) said that he agreed that the Committee needed to see the proposals on-screen. Although he understood the sensitivity of the maritime security situation in the Middle East, the situation was evolving too rapidly to predict its status in six months' time.
He suggested the Committee should opt for a more balanced subject item, such as the proposal by Pakistan.

Mr. I. Krulko (Ukraine) said that he wished to withdraw his delegation's proposal, in order to support the proposal submitted by the United Arab Emirates. He encouraged any delegation who wished to vote for the Ukrainian proposal to instead vote for the proposal by the United Arab Emirates.

The Chair confirmed that the proposal submitted by Ukraine had been withdrawn from the vote.

Following a vote, the theme of Strengthening maritime security and protecting critical infrastructure in times of conflict: The role of parliaments in safeguarding international navigation and global economic stability was adopted.

The Chair explained that the theme *The role of parliaments in securing peace in the age of military artificial intelligence* had received 3 votes, and the theme *Shaping peaceful futures: Strengthening parliamentary diplomacy for mediation, dialogue and sustainable peace* had received 14 votes, while the theme *Strengthening maritime security and protecting critical infrastructure in times of conflict: The role of parliaments in safeguarding international navigation and global economic stability* had received 24 votes.

(b) Proposals for the choice of co-Rapporteurs

The Chair said that nominations had been received for two co-Rapporteurs, a third co-Rapporteur could be nominated if desired. The nominations were Mr. M. Almheiri (United Arab Emirates) and Ms. L. Zaburanna (Ukraine).

The nominations were approved.

(c) Proposals for other items for the Committee's agenda

The Chair said that the Bureau had also suggested that two of the proposed themes should be the subject of panel debates at the 153rd Assembly. Since the topic of maritime security had been selected as the theme, the panel debates would be held on the remaining two topics of military artificial intelligence, and mediation and diplomacy. She took it that the Committee agreed to that proposal.

It was so decided.

Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

The Chair said that the Committee was requested to fill five vacancies. The candidates nominated were: for the African Group; Mr. F. Belekanyama (Malawi), for the Eurasia Group, Mr. N. Mahmoudzoda (Tajikistan); and for the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, Ms. F. Weisse (Chile). Two seats would remain unfilled until the following Assembly.

The nominations were approved.

Other business

The Chair said that, in the absence of any other business, she would bring the meeting to a close.

The sitting rose at 15:20.

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development

SITTING OF THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 9:20 with Ms. M.S. Al Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates), President of the Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the agenda
(C-II/152/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 151st IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2025)

The summary record was approved.

The President drew attention to two sustainable development workshops to be held during the Assembly: *New global methane rules: Implications for trade and national economies* and *Oceans and climate change: Parliamentary leadership in protecting our blue planet*, and encouraged Committee members to attend.

Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance

(a) Presentation of the draft resolution and the explanatory memorandum prepared by the co-Rapporteurs

The President said that 138 amendments had been submitted by 22 parliaments, the Forum of Young Parliamentarians, and the Forum of Women Parliamentarians. The four amendments submitted by the Forum of Women Parliamentarians had been reviewed by the co-Rapporteurs, Ms. D. O'Neill (Australia), Mr. J.M.R. Edwards (Chile) and Ms. J. Sabao (Zambia), who had found them to be positive contributions and recommended that the Committee incorporate them.

The co-Rapporteurs were invited to present the draft resolution, *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance,* which would be followed by a debate and a drafting session on the proposed amendments.

Ms. D. O'Neill (Australia), co-Rapporteur, said that the Sustainable Development Goals were aspirational and as such would remain unachieved without adequate financing, which had been the starting point for the draft resolution. The co-Rapporteurs had incorporated nearly 80% of the proposed amendments into the draft resolution through a collaborative, inclusive process taking into account perspectives from across geopolitical groups. She expressed the hope that the draft resolution would serve as a platform to unite against disruptors of free and fair trade and multinational corporations that played countries against one another.

Mr. J.M.R. Edwards (Chile), co-Rapporteur, said that he and his fellow co-Rapporteurs had discussed each line of the document and had made an effort to incorporate nearly all the proposed amendments, except when doing so would be repetitive. The draft resolution addressed two main issues: fair taxation of multinational corporations in accordance with the law, and international trade. The trade component had been added in response to the significant disruptions to international trade that had prompted an emergency item proposal at the 150th IPU Assembly, and which remained a pressing concern. Both issues were central to economic development and to the wellbeing of people worldwide, and he hoped that delegates would take pride in their work and the work of the IPU on that matter.

(b) Debate

Mr. B. Kjoku (North Macedonia) commended the draft resolution's clear and actionable framework. Against the current backdrop of economic uncertainty, the rules-based international trading system, which had been a driver of poverty reduction, was under strain from unilateral barriers and tariff disputes. For small- and mid-sized economies like North Macedonia, whose prosperity depended on the openness and predictability of the trade environment, these pressures had direct consequences for businesses, workers and households. North Macedonia's membership in the Central European Free Trade Agreement (CEFTA) as well as its ongoing accession process to the European Union (EU) had reinforced its commitment to open markets, fair competition and the removal of trade barriers, all of which had yielded tangible gains in economic activity, employment and living standards. The resurgence of protectionism was therefore of deep concern. North Macedonia strongly supported the draft resolution and called for its adoption.

Mr. Kushida Seiichi (Japan) said that with the spectre of protectionism once again looming large, international cooperation was critical to building a sustainable global economy, and multilateralism could only be maintained by recommitting to the spirit of the World Trade Organization (WTO). Multinational corporations should not be allowed to avoid taxation, and Japan had instituted the global minimum tax to prevent multinationals from unfairly reducing their tax burden by shifting profits to low-tax jurisdictions. Achieving a fair and sustainable global economy also required building stable societies by tackling growing inequality, environmental threats and the challenges of immigration. Redistributing wealth, investing in human resources and building an inclusive society alongside a rules-based, free and open global economy, were the keys to putting the world back on the right path. He looked forward to working with fellow parliamentarians toward that goal.

Mr. L.-J. de Nicolay (France) said that a decades-long trend toward tariff reduction was being undermined by protectionist measures and unilateral tariff hikes, notably those decided by the President of the United States of America, creating trade tensions with negative consequences for the global economy. His delegation had proposed two amendments to address those issues: one condemning the transactional use of tariff increases, and another explicitly referencing the WTO as the pillar of the multilateral trade system.

Tax avoidance resulted in an annual loss of billions of euros in France, undermined public finances, perpetuated inequality and was compounded by fiscal dumping and unhealthy competition among States, necessitating greater international cooperation. The 15% global minimum tax, developed through the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and G20 Inclusive Framework, had been in force in European Union countries since 2024, but its reach had been curtailed after the United States secured an exemption for its companies, making progress at the global level all the more important. Ongoing negotiations towards the establishment of a United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation were a positive development, and the French delegation had proposed an amendment to ensure the Framework's articulation with other, existing international instruments, as well as an amendment to promote the equitable distribution of taxation rights between States.

Mr. F. Tolmie (Canada) said that parliamentarians had a key role to play in addressing international tax avoidance, including scrutinizing legislation on trade agreements and corporate tax avoidance, and examining protectionism, tariffs and corporate tax avoidance in parliamentary committees before making recommendations to the government. As an example, the Canadian House of Commons Standing Committee on Finance had recently launched a study on the use of offshore tax havens, involving Government departments, academics and stakeholders. Committee studies of that kind could require governments to provide written responses, thereby holding them to account.

His delegation supported the draft resolution's emphasis on open, predictable and rules-based trade, but felt that its framing of protectionist measures as primarily harmful would benefit from a recognition of legitimate protectionist policy tools, such as WTO-consistent trade remedies.
The Canadian delegation had therefore proposed amendments to include language recognizing the right of States to adopt legitimate trade-restrictive, protectionist measures and policy objectives. Amendments highlighting the importance of addressing forced labour had also been proposed.

Ms. L. Vasylenko (Ukraine) said that Ukraine was deeply committed to free and fair trade, which was a lifeline for development, stability and peace. Ukraine's Black Sea ports played a critical role in global supply chains, and the country remained a key exporter of agricultural products,

accounting for about 10% of global grain exports and 15% of global corn exports. The uninterrupted functioning of those trade routes was essential for Ukraine's economy and for global food security, particularly for countries in Africa and Asia that depended on stable and affordable food supplies.

Free trade was, however, under serious threat on two fronts: the WTO was weakened and struggling to enforce its rules, and the Russian Federation continued to target Ukrainian ports with missiles and drones, striking infrastructure linked to grain exports in an effort to disrupt global food flows and undermine the principles of open trade. A similar pattern of disruption had been observed in key maritime routes such as the Strait of Hormuz. Ukraine strongly supported the draft resolution and hoped that it would strengthen the commitment to rules-based free trade among States.

Mr. R. Khumnurak (Thailand) said that for trade-dependent economies such as Thailand, an open, predictable and rules-based trading system led by the WTO was essential for economic growth, poverty reduction and inclusive development. Parliaments should therefore avoid protectionism, support gradual tariff reduction and ensure that access to essential goods was protected. Openness went hand in hand with fair taxation, which lay at the core of the social contract between the State and its people. When multinational companies artificially shifted profits to avoid taxes, they undermined both government revenue and public trust. Thailand supported stronger international cooperation on the issue and called on parliaments to ensure that trade, tariff and tax policies were consistent, transparent and aligned with sustainable development objectives. Thailand stood ready to work with fellow Member Parliaments toward an open, fair and sustainable global economy.

Mr. A. Kokhoev (Russian Federation) said that the global economy was being shaped by a crisis in international financial institutions and by the fragmentation of international trade and competition over strategic resources, with unfair methods, including tariffs, sanctions and direct prohibitions being applied against individual countries, the Russian Federation in particular. Against that backdrop, building a sustainable and fair global economy based on transparent principles was more necessary than ever.

The IPU's participation in global economic development was welcome, and the Russian Federation would continue to focus on deepening cooperation with friendly countries, the development of BRICS and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation, and broadening parliamentary cooperation within the G20.

With regard to the draft resolution, a transparent, non-discriminatory, multilateral trading system grounded in international law was essential for open trade relations and for progress toward the Sustainable Development Goals. All countries should adhere to WTO rules, and unilateral restrictions and sanctions that created uncertainty in the global economy should not be permitted.

Mr. Z. Miklós (Romania) said that an open, rules-based global economy was essential for economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction. Growing protectionism was compounding existing problems by driving up prices, with particularly negative consequences for vulnerable groups. In addition, the artificial shifting of profits to low-tax jurisdictions deprived States of resources that would otherwise fund public services. As an EU Member State and OECD accession candidate, Romania had implemented the 15% global minimum tax, supported the Action Plan on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting (BEPS) and participated in UN discussions on tax cooperation. The goal was simple: companies must pay fair taxes where they operated. Romania supported the draft resolution, which provided a sound framework for a fairer and more transparent global economy, and would contribute actively to the application of its principles.

Mr. H. Choumais (Morocco) said that his country had measures in place on tariff reduction and tax avoidance, and was concerned by the protectionist measures adopted by some States and their negative effects on global trade and on countries' economic stability. A 2025 Moroccan law had reduced tariffs on a range of products, including smartphones, medical equipment and medicines, with a view to lowering prices and easing the burden on citizens. With regard to combating tax avoidance, the same legislation had strengthened enforcement measures, including the digitalization of tracking systems for petroleum products in cooperation with the Ministry of Energy, reform of income tax and VAT to benefit the middle class, and parliamentary ratification of tax cooperation agreements with Chad, Burundi and Ghana. Those measures were aimed at advancing free trade across the African continent while improving the purchasing power of citizens.

Mr. R. Zare (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the threat or use of force against a State's sovereignty constituted not only a violation of international law, but also a source of economic instability at regional and global levels. The recent war imposed on the Islamic Republic of Iran,

beyond causing extensive damage to its economic and industrial infrastructure, had generated wider transnational consequences, including disruption to energy markets, supply chain fragmentation, heightened risks to global trade and increased international uncertainty, demonstrating that conflicts deepened economic crises and undermined the global economic system. Underscoring that unilateral and coercive measures were incompatible with fundamental principles of international law, including respect for State sovereignty, he expressed support for the draft resolution.

Ms. A. Shakya (Nepal) said that it was unfair that multinationals earned large profits but exploited loopholes to pay little or no tax, thereby denying States the revenue needed for schools, hospitals and the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. Such practices persisted in Nepal and required a united international response through bodies such as the IPU. Greater recognition of the specific geographic and climate vulnerabilities facing countries with fragile ecosystems was also needed, particularly in mountainous countries like Nepal, where infrastructure was being damaged and trade connectivity disrupted. The draft resolution should be strengthened to reflect the need for extra support and flexibility for developing countries, including access to climate adaptation funds and WTO special and differential treatment.

Mr. K.H. Kachali (Malawi) said that corporate tax avoidance undermined the ability of countries to mobilize domestic resources for development, and that parliaments had a key role to play by ensuring that revenue was available to invest in sustainable development. To improve the ability to detect and prevent tax avoidance, parliaments could allocate funds for capacity-building for tax authorities, invest in data analytics to identify and track tax avoidance, and adopt international standards on tax transparency and automatic exchange of information. The Parliament of Malawi had reformed its tax act in 2025 to close loopholes, introduced transfer pricing regulations to prevent profit-shifting by multinational corporations, and used its committees to provide continuous oversight of tax policy implementation and of the Malawi Revenue Authority.

Ms. H. Mohsin (Arab Parliament) said that open trade based on fair rules was a driver of economic development, generating jobs and reducing poverty, especially in developing countries, but the exacerbation of conflicts and the growing use of tax evasion by multinational companies were threatening those gains. Parliamentarians should pursue three complementary objectives, which should be included in the draft resolution: closing domestic legal loopholes exploited by multinationals for tax avoidance, ensuring taxes were paid where profits were generated; dismantling unjustified tariffs that hindered international trade; and improving infrastructure and logistics in developing countries to enable them to benefit from economic growth. The Arab Parliament remained committed to working with international organizations and parliaments towards a fairer, more transparent international order where resources were distributed equally.

Mr. M.G. Mahlaule (South Africa) said that the draft resolution correctly identified Parliament as a central actor in responding to the challenges of global economic integration. Through their legislative oversight and budgetary functions, parliamentarians were uniquely positioned to promote transparent, fair and equitable taxation, to scrutinize trade and tax-related agreements and to ensure that national policies on trade, tariffs and taxation were coherent and aligned with Sustainable Development Objectives. Protectionism, unchecked corporate power and tax evasion did not only distort markets, they deepened inequality, undermined public trust and denied governments the resources needed to deliver on their obligations to citizens. Parliaments must close the legislative gaps that enabled abuse, demand accountability from both governments and corporations, and champion multilateral cooperation on tax justice and fair trade. For countries like South Africa, this was not a distant or theoretical concern: it was a matter of fiscal sovereignty and the ability to build a just, equitable society. His delegation strongly supported the draft resolution and called on all Member Parliaments to translate its principles into concrete legislative and oversight action.

Mr. M.T. Mahmood (Pakistan) said that recent unilateral tariff measures announced by a major economy were indicative of a broader trend towards protectionism, which posed challenges for developing countries such as Pakistan that depended heavily on trade as a driver of employment, investment and poverty reduction. Rising protectionist barriers resulted in immediate export disruptions, higher production costs, and strain on key sectors such as textiles, agriculture, and small-scale manufacturing. Notwithstanding those headwinds, Pakistan had its first surplus in fourteen years in 2025, underpinned by strong export growth, increased remittances and an expanding IT services sector. Parliamentarians had a central role to play in shaping a fair and sustainable global

economic order, and economic policies must be aligned with social equity, the Sustainable Development Goals and climate resilience. The path forward was in partnership, not polarization, and required renewed trust in multilateralism and a commitment to ensuring that globalization delivered for all.

Ms. F. Mahamat Seïd (Chad) said that trade liberalization for countries such as Chad should not be abrupt, brutal or uniform: indiscriminate tariff reductions risked weakening nascent agri-food, textile and manufacturing industries, which were the building blocks of economic sovereignty. A gradual, differentiated and equitable approach was therefore advocated, with market opening accompanied by legitimate protection mechanisms enabling developing and structurally vulnerable economies to strengthen their productive base and create sustainable employment.

Calling for strengthened transfer pricing transparency, international cooperation against tax havens and the establishment of fair and equitable frameworks for international taxation, she proposed the establishment of international compensation mechanisms to offset customs revenue losses incurred by the least developed countries as a result of trade liberalization. A fair global economy could not simply be decreed in a text, but should be built through listening, solidarity and shared responsibility, taking into account the realities of Chad, the Sahel and Africa.

Ms. C. Roth (Germany) commended the efforts of the co-Rapporteurs in building consensus on global challenges affecting all countries, stressing that responsibility was shared by all. Fair trade based on universal, inclusive, open, non-discriminatory, transparent and predictable rules was critically needed and was fundamental to sustainable development, the protection of universal human rights and efforts to combat the climate crisis. The importance of supporting the least developed countries should not be forgotten.

Mr. D. Sam (Cambodia) said that the Government of Cambodia had established a strategy and action plan to promote economic development focused on growth, employment, equity, efficiency and sustainability. Cambodia actively participated in forums such as the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and the WTO. Parliament had ratified international and regional trade agreements, including the ASEAN Free Trade Area (AFTA), the Regional Comprehensive Economic Partnership (RCEP) and WTO commitments, with a view to promoting open markets and dismantling non-tariff barriers. It had also adopted the necessary implementing legislation, including tariff reform and a customs modernization law that simplified procedures, enhanced transparency and reduced trade costs, in line with the WTO Trade Facilitation Agreement. Constructive dialog, solidarity and shared responsibility were key to fostering an economy that was resilient, equitable and sustainable.

Mr. M.A. Bouchouit (Algeria) said that the establishment of a fair and balanced international trading system benefiting all people required recognition of the crises and conflicts affecting many parts of the world, which undermined stability and economic development. Stability was essential to paving the way for a more equitable global economy and trade system. Parliamentarians should work to combat tax avoidance and the parallel economy, which weakened national economies, and intensify their efforts at the national level and through international fora such as IPU Assemblies and UN General Assemblies.

Mr. M.Z. Maher (Tunisia) said that free and sustainable trade required clear and transparent rules to prevent the economy from becoming a means of imposing hegemony or generating unjust inequalities in wealth. Tunisia remained committed to trade openness, building sustainable trust with its partners and supporting measures to ensure fair market access. Obstacles to supply chains should be avoided, as they could harm the opportunities and economic stability of developing countries. Support was expressed for the draft resolution, particularly its provisions on multinational corporations, which should reinvest profits in the countries in which they operated through investment and partnerships. Tax revenues should not be used in ways that would weaken developing countries, and stronger economic integration and partnerships were needed in order to avoid economic instability.

Ms. E. Rizvanoğlu (Türkiye) welcomed the draft resolution and supported its emphasis on open, rules-based trade, fair taxation and reduced protectionism as pillars of a fair and sustainable global economy. Her delegation supported the objective of preserving an open and predictable multilateral trading system, but underscored that trade liberalization should go hand in hand with stronger production, job creation and fair distribution in order to ensure inclusive growth. Stronger

international cooperation to combat corporate tax avoidance was also critical. When the burden fell mainly on workers and consumers, inequality increased; a fair system should ensure that everyone paid their fair share. A fair and sustainable global economy should not be based on market efficiency alone; it must also be based on social justice and shared responsibility. Her delegation looked forward to contributing to the draft resolution's development.

Ms. S. Claydon (Australia), Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that the discussions held in the Forum of Women Parliamentarians had highlighted that trade, economic and taxation policies were never gender neutral, meaning that they did not affect all people in the same way. Women, particularly those working in informal and low-paid sectors, were disproportionately affected by policies such as tax avoidance, which diverted resources from essential public services, including healthcare, education and childcare, all of which underpinned women's economic participation. Unfair trade and taxation policies also had a disproportionate impact on women and on social cohesion. Women, as consumers, workers, business owners and entrepreneurs, must receive the dividends of global trade. The Forum of Women Parliamentarians had proposed several amendments, and hoped that the draft resolution would spur a move from commitments to enforcement of those commitments, and from good intentions to action and delivery.

Ms. Oh Sae Hee (Republic of Korea) said that the National Assembly had enacted legislation aimed at stabilizing supply chains and strengthening economic security. Legislation was also in place to support industries and businesses affected by rapid changes in the trade environment, while ensuring consistency with the rules-based trading system established under the WTO. The importance of international cooperation to address corporate tax avoidance was also emphasized, including through ongoing OECD initiatives on base erosion and profit shifting and the global minimum tax. Such challenges could not be addressed by individual countries alone, and stronger inter-parliamentary cooperation based on mutual trust was necessary to promote supply chain stability, fair competition and rules-based tax cooperation.

Mr. V. Munzar (Czechia) said that the draft resolution was in line with Czechia's foreign policy priorities, noting that it placed a strong emphasis on the relationship between international trade and sustainable development and expressed strong support for a rules-based multilateral trading system. He also welcomed the draft resolution's recognition of the role of the OECD in international tax cooperation. Free international trade, supported by transparent conditions and free from artificial barriers, remained essential to global prosperity and development.

Mr. S. Aleinik (Belarus) said that although the global economy continued to fragment, regional economic integration was strengthening, with Belarus actively participating in the Commonwealth of Independent States, the Eurasian Economic Union and the Shanghai Cooperation Organisation. Within the Eurasian Economic Union, efforts were under way to create common markets, remove barriers and facilitate the free movement of goods, services, capital and labour. The parliaments of Eurasian Economic Union Member States were working to harmonize national legislation in taxation, customs and labour, including through the development of model laws. Such measures made it possible to create real, not just declarative, conditions for fair economic integration. Parliaments should resist attempts to weaponize the economy and parliamentary diplomacy should be used for resolving conflicts, such as those involving illegal sanctions. Strengthening the global economy would require the coordination of regional processes, with parliaments as the architects.

Mr. R. Airlangga (Indonesia), noting that billions in revenue were lost each year to corporate tax avoidance, said that growth in international trade should translate into concrete development outcomes through effective taxation mechanisms. He urged parliaments to strengthen their fiscal capacity and transparency to prevent the facilitation of tax avoidance, illicit economic activities and unjust tax-base erosion. The forthcoming United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation should complement the achievements of the OECD/G20 Inclusive Framework by focusing on challenges such as the digital economy and the regulatory uncertainty surrounding cross-border digital transactions following the expiry of the WTO moratorium on customs duties on electronic transmissions in 2026. A just and effective tax system was essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mr. Y. Al-Khater (Qatar) said that the achievement of fair global trade required a multilateral trading system based on respect for WTO rules and the objectives of international organizations and States. Qatar had played an active role in promoting trade openness and economic stability and had

pursued economic diversification as part of its national development vision and strategy for sustainable growth. Imposing unjustified tariffs weakened growth opportunities and harmed less developed countries, and parliamentarians should review and revise national laws and regulations to work towards greater economic integration. Multilateral cooperation and fair tariff rules were key, and Qatar supported parliamentary initiatives aimed at strengthening fair trade.

Ms. L. Fehlmann Rielle (Switzerland) said that her country supported the draft resolution's commitment to an open, rules-based global trading system, and that Switzerland was committed to ensuring that all companies, including multinationals, paid their taxes in the countries where they carried out their economic activities. Switzerland had implemented international standards and transparency commitments and had also adopted the OECD/G20 Pillar Two to combat artificial or abusive tax arrangements and guarantee that large multinational companies paid a minimum level of tax on income generated in each of the jurisdictions in which they operated. Achieving the broadest possible consensus was essential to finding balanced, effective solutions that could be implemented at scale, and Switzerland was an active participant in the negotiations on the forthcoming United Nations Framework Convention on International Tax Cooperation.

(c) Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary

The President said that the Committee would proceed to discuss the proposed amendments. She invited the co-rapporteurs to present to the Committee their proposal on how to handle the amendments, which they had already reviewed in detail and assessed with a view to determining whether and how they should be incorporated.

The sitting rose at 12:50.

SITTING OF SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 16:35 with Ms. M.S. Al Suwaidi (United Arab Emirates), President of the Committee, in the Chair.

Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance
(continued)

(c) Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary
(continued)

The President said that the consolidated draft resolution was complete and available in both English and French. The following day, it would be presented to the Assembly for adoption. She took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution in its entirety.

It was so decided.

(d) Appointment of a Rapporteur to the 152nd Assembly

The President nominated Ms. A. Shakya (Nepal), a Committee member, to present the resolution to the Assembly in the event that the President herself was unable to do so due to travel obligations.

It was so agreed.

Preparations for future Assemblies

(a) Proposals for a subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee

The President said that the Committee was expected to submit to the final plenary of the Assembly a proposal for the theme of its next resolution. Following its meeting earlier that morning to consider themes, the Bureau proposed a theme that blended several different proposals together, entitled *Parliamentary leadership to protect mountain and ocean ecosystems and achieve the 30% conservation goal by 2030*.

It was so decided.

(b) Proposals for the choice of co-Rapporteurs

The President said that the proposed co-Rapporteurs were Ms. C. Roth (Germany), Mr. D. Kyere-Duah (Ghana), and Ms. A. Shakya (Nepal).

It was so agreed.

(c) Proposals for other items for the Committee's agenda

The President proposed that, at the 153rd IPU Assembly, the Committee allocate one sitting to a debate on the theme of the next resolution. She also proposed that the Committee organize a panel debate on the impact of artificial intelligence on jobs and the future of work, and that it host a preparatory segment for the 31st Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP31) due to be held in Türkiye.

It was so agreed.

Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

The President said that the Bureau was composed of three representatives from each geopolitical group. A vacancy remained for the Eurasia Group, and no candidatures had been received.

The sitting rose at 16:40.

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

SITTING OF FRIDAY, 17 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:20 with Ms. F. Ilimi Haddouche (Algeria), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the agenda
(C-III/152/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 151st IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2025)

The summary records were approved.

Preparatory debate on the next resolution of the Standing Committee: *Inclusive social development for all: Parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities*
(C-III/152/3-Inf.1)

The Chair invited two experts to open the debate: Ms. Heba Hagrass, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities, and a former member of the Egyptian Parliament; and Mr. Nawaf Kabbara, President of the International Disability Alliance, an organization representing persons with disabilities and promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities.

The floor would then be given to the three co-Rapporteurs, Ms. F. Öncü (Türkiye), Mr. C. Lohr (Switzerland) and Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya), who had been appointed at the 151st Assembly in October 2025.

Ms. H. Hagrass (United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities), said that parliamentarians were uniquely positioned to transform the commitments of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into realities, in particular in two areas where they could be powerful drivers of change: law-making and oversight, including the gender dimension of family care; and political representation, including the participation of women with disabilities.

With regard to the first area, legislation in many countries still reflected outdated paternalistic approaches that treated persons with disabilities as objects of care rather than subjects with rights. Moreover, the burden of care for persons with disabilities fell overwhelmingly to women, who often sacrificed their education and employment to fill gaps in public services. Such a dynamic enforced gender inequality while simultaneously limiting the autonomy of persons with disabilities. MPs could change that trajectory by enacting legislation to: transition from institutional and family-dependent care to community-based support systems, including personal assistance and accessible services; recognize and redistribute unpaid care work so that families, especially women, were not forced into poverty or isolation; strengthen independent living frameworks, giving persons with disabilities the choice of where and with whom they live; and allocate budgets to match the scale of those commitments. In addition, oversight was critical to ensuring that rights were not only declared, but also enforced. Parliamentarians and parliamentary committees should monitor the implementation of disability laws, scrutinize budget allocations and ensure that ministries delivered on their obligations.

The second area – the political participation and representation of persons with disabilities – was the focus of her January 2026 report to the United Nations Human Rights Council. Persons with disabilities remained dramatically underrepresented in parliaments worldwide. Persistent barriers included inaccessible voting procedures, discriminatory candidacy requirements, lack of reasonable accommodations in parliamentary work, and persistent stigma. Those barriers were greater for women with disabilities who faced a triple bind: gender bias, disability-based discrimination, and often socio-economic exclusion. She called upon parliaments to lead by example and to repeal discriminatory laws restricting the right to vote; ensure accessibility throughout the electoral cycle, from

campaigning materials to polling stations and parliamentary chambers; provide reasonable accommodations for elected officials with disabilities, including accessible documents, sign language interpretation, assistive technologies and flexible procedures; adopt temporary special measures such as quotas or targeted support programs to increase the representation of women with disabilities; and promote a culture of inclusion.

MPs with disabilities, especially women, made parliaments more representative, responsive and resilient. Their presence enriched debates, strengthened accountability and ensured that politics reflected the lived experience of all citizens.

Mr. N. Kabbara (President of the International Disability Alliance), speaking via video link, called attention to the vital role of MPs in advocating for parliamentary budgets that ensured respect for the rights of persons with disabilities. Budgets were statements of political intent that revealed whose rights mattered, whose participation was valued and whose exclusion was tolerated. As an estimated 1.3 billion people or about 16% of the world's population lived with disabilities, and as health inequities resulted in premature death for many of them, disability inclusion was a matter of life or death. Although 193 State Parties had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, more needed to be done to ensure that those commitments were implemented. Article 4 of the Convention required States Parties to adopt legislative, administrative and other measures to integrate disability rights across all policies and programmes, and to use the maximum of their available resources for economic, social and cultural rights. In addition, Article 4.3 stipulated that persons with disabilities must be closely consulted and actively involved in legislation and decision-making through their representative organizations. However, despite some progress noted by the United Nations Committee on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), meaningful consultations with organizations of persons with disabilities (OPDs) remained limited, and decisions were often taken without their participation.

Parliaments should review and amend laws that permitted discrimination, segregation, guardianship regimes, inaccessible services and exclusion from public life. Accessibility, reasonable accommodation, inclusive education, employment, social protection, access to justice and community-based support must be firmly anchored in legislation. Adopting a general disability rights law was a step in the right direction, but it must be accompanied by repealing contradictory provisions in other legislation to prevent legal uncertainty and misuse of outdated norms against disability rights.

Parliamentarians should also require all ministries to demonstrate how disability rights were integrated into their policies and programmes. A government's budget for disability inclusion should not be limited to its welfare department; it should be a part of the transport, housing, digital transformation, education, health, employment, climate adaptation and justice budgets. Parliamentarians should raise the question of funding for accessibility, reasonable accommodation, inclusive services, assistive technology, sign language interpretation, disability, disaggregated data and community-based support, as well as predictable funding for OPDs to enable them to participate in, monitor and shape public policy. Consultations with persons with disabilities should guide both allocation and programme design. Oversight was critical in determining what was spent, who had benefited, what had changed and whether underserved groups had been reached, including women and indigenous persons with disabilities, persons with psychological disabilities and those in rural areas. It was also important to determine whether funding had driven systematic change or had dissipated into fragmented, low-impact projects.

He urged the Standing Committee to be ambitious: to ensure that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was implemented through legislation, budgeting and oversight, and that OPDs were funded and engaged as partners in government. He called for visibility and for people with disabilities to be involved in politics, run for election, and sit in parliament. Recalling the slogan for the disability rights movement, "nothing about us, without us", he underscored that there were no rights without resources and engagement in politics.

Ms. F. Öncü (Türkiye), co-Rapporteur, said that the rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities was more than a social policy; it was a matter of human rights, equal citizenship, democratic legitimacy and fair representation. When caregivers and family members were taken into account, disability affected half the world's population, yet persons with disabilities lacked visibility and had been ostracized and excluded from decision-making processes.

Disability should not be a barrier to participation, representation or election to office, and persons with disabilities should be at the centre of life, present in parliaments, universities and public life. The Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities provided an important normative framework, but legal texts alone were insufficient without political will, oversight, budgeting and representation, and most importantly, ownership in parliament.

Underscoring that persons with disabilities were not a group to be protected but key actors in decision-making processes, she called for stronger mechanisms to ensure their effective participation and visibility, including in parliamentary institutions. Representation was not a favour, but a fundamental condition of democracy, and she expressed the hope that the work of the Committee would lead to concrete outcomes, including inclusive parliaments, accountable budgets, and measures to prevent discrimination, resulting in a fairer political order in which no one was left behind.

Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya), co-Rapporteur, said that Kenya had played an active role in drafting the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, which it had ratified in 2008. The Constitution of Kenya, which had entered into force in 2010, incorporated protections for persons with disabilities through a human rights focus that recognized the need to have persons with disabilities in Parliament. Progress in political representation in Kenya had continued through affirmative action provisions: in 2022, two persons with disabilities were nominated to the Senate and two to the National Assembly. Parliament had also established the Kenya Disability Parliamentary Association (KEDIPA) to advance disability representation and advocacy.

In 2025, the Kenyan parliament had passed the Persons with Disabilities Act, ensuring that the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities was properly provided for in domestic legislation. Kenya offered a compelling example of how the inclusion of persons with disabilities in parliament could drive meaningful change: whereas the earlier 2003 Persons with Disabilities Act provided for rights in broad, aspirational terms, the 2025 Act created concrete obligations.

The Act's key features included providing for reasonable accommodation in workplaces and learning institutions, and requiring employees and educators to actively support individuals with disabilities. The Act set quotas to ensure the inclusion of persons with disabilities in public and private workplaces, and included a provision for income tax exemptions for parents and guardians of persons with severe disabilities. It also established universal and enforceable health rights for persons with disabilities, including free medical care, disability assessments and sign language interpretation in health facilities. It prohibited non-consensual medical procedures leading to infertility and introduced steep penalties for violations. Protections for women, children, youth and older persons with disabilities were also strengthened, and the Act promoted digital and financial inclusion by requiring telecommunications companies and financial institutions to ensure that their services and platforms were accessible to persons with disabilities.

The 2025 Act also institutionalized Kenyan Sign Language across multiple sectors, including education, media, healthcare and the courts, with penalties for non-compliance. It established mandatory accessibility and inclusion standards in housing, public buildings and market spaces. Effective implementation would require adequate budgetary allocations and continued cooperation with the executive branch.

Mr. C. Lohr (Switzerland), co-Rapporteur, said that it was important to ensure that the resolution under discussion would not just remain a piece of paper, but would bring about real change. Drawing on his experience as a person living with a disability, he underscored the importance of not only family support, but also support from government, parliament and society as a whole. It was important to raise public awareness about living with a disability and to challenge the perception that disabilities limited individual potential. Access to education, work opportunities and public life was crucial. Persons with disabilities should not be limited to participating in politics; they should also be elected leaders. As a parliamentarian who had spent a third of his life in politics, his focus was on building awareness of persons living with disabilities among the wider public and fighting for the effective implementation of laws. He underscored that the Committee's discussion should not only involve laws or rules, but should focus on measures that could genuinely be implemented, which would require time, financial resources and a sustained collective effort.

The Chair invited delegates to join the debate.

Ms. P. Cox (United Kingdom) said that her Parliament had recently begun to focus on enforcing existing disability rights and on closing the gap between legal protections and lived experiences. She outlined four areas of work shaped by the United Kingdom's UN disability rights obligations: workplace and social protections; gaps in transport, health and employment access; increasing the participation of persons with disabilities in Parliament; and education reform for children with disabilities and additional needs, including promoting their inclusion in mainstream schooling. Workplace and social protections in the United Kingdom involved a multi-layered approach, including non-means-tested benefits, income replacement benefits, housing cost assistance, practical help to

remain in or enter employment, and support for carers, who were often women. There was an ongoing debate regarding the cost of such measures, but in her view they were necessary and represented significant progress from earlier approaches in the country that had confined persons with disabilities to institutions, where they often experienced stigma and shame. She looked forward to learning from colleagues and to the full resolution at the next Assembly.

Ms. Yamamoto Kanae (Japan) said that Japan was advancing efforts to develop policies alongside persons with disabilities, including the institutionalization of reasonable accommodation and the expansion of community-based living support and employment assistance. Challenges remained, including further participation and inclusion of persons with disabilities at every stage in policy-making. Mechanisms to guarantee the protection of rights in education, employment and healthcare must be strengthened. Moreover, it was essential to advance inter-parliamentary collaboration in sharing best practices, improving accessibility through digital technology and developing statistical data.

Inclusive disaster preparedness deserved special emphasis: the 15th anniversary of the Great East Japan Earthquake was a reminder that persons with disabilities had died in that disaster at approximately twice the rate of the general population. In consultation with persons with disabilities, Japan had since developed individualized evacuation plans and disability-specific information, and was working to establish a dedicated disaster management agency to coordinate preparedness.

At a time when many civilians, including those with disabilities, were being killed and wounded in armed conflicts around the globe, national parliaments needed to take the lead through concrete actions to translate international humanitarian law from principle into practice.

Ms. Han Zee A (Republic of Korea) said that disability could affect anyone at any stage of life, and that the rights of people with disabilities should therefore be seen as the rights of all. Parliaments must move beyond rhetoric to design tangible systems enabling the meaningful participation of all members of society.

Artificial intelligence (AI) represented a turning point with the potential to reduce disparities and expand opportunities, but it was essential to ensure that such technology was used inclusively. Societies must guarantee AI accessibility and equity, and parliamentarians should continuously review legislation and budgets to advance inclusive AI that upheld democratic values and empowered persons with disabilities. The Republic of Korea's National Assembly had steadily strengthened its legal framework on AI, technology and disability rights and would continue to stand with the IPU in its work to advance the rights of persons with disabilities, as the road to democracy for all.

Mr. N. Micevski (North Macedonia) said that people with disabilities continued to face barriers in accessing education, employment, healthcare and public life, and that parliaments had a special duty to close that gap through legislation and inclusive dialogue. In 2003, his country had established an inter-party parliamentary group on the rights of persons with disabilities, which in its current mandate brought together 50 members from all political parties, reflecting the conviction that disability rights should not be subject to political conflict. The group, which he had the honour of chairing, served as a link between the legislature, disability organizations, civil society and international partners. The group's notable achievements included a 2019 parliamentary declaration on the political participation of citizens with disabilities and a 2025 law setting accessibility standards for all public sector websites and mobile applications.

Drawing on his country's experience, he put forward four suggestions for the resolution. First, the resolution should recognize cross-party parliamentary groups as a mechanism for sustainable, non-partisan dialogue on disability rights. Second, it should emphasize the need for laws that directly addressed digital accessibility as digital inclusion, given the close link between digital and social inclusion. Third, the resolution should encourage parliaments to support the development of standardized national systems for disability assessment and registration. Fourth, it should highlight the importance of ongoing dialogue between parliaments and organizations led by and representing people with disabilities, in keeping with the principle of "nothing about us, without us". He looked forward to a resolution that was ambitious, practical and rooted in the realities of those it aimed to assist.

Mr. Zhang Yi (China) said that the National People's Congress had strengthened the rights of persons with disabilities through nearly 40 laws and decisions, including a 2023 law on accessibility. China's approach was one of social inclusion, in line with the "nothing about us, without us" principle and the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. Robust oversight mechanisms were in place, including law enforcement inspections, special inquiries, dedicated reports, and requests to the

Government to fulfil its responsibilities toward persons with disabilities. Recent oversight efforts had focused on accessibility upgrades, education, social allowances, legal protection and the prevention of domestic violence, with the aim of translating legal rights into reality. In addition, the National People's Congress included MPs with disabilities and provided accessibility accommodations such as documents in braille and sign language interpretation. The National People's Congress would continue to strengthen China's legal system to ensure lifelong protection, accessibility and equal participation for persons with disabilities.

Mr. W. Mc Coy (Guyana) said that Guyana's Persons with Disabilities Act 2010 reflected a rights-based, whole-of-government approach, grounded in dignity, autonomy and equality of opportunity. As one of the fastest growing economies globally, Guyana was deliberately aligning its economic expansion with social inclusion, transitioning from a welfare-based paradigm to one centred on empowerment and participation. That included targeted investments in skills development, expanded access to entrepreneurial financing, and deliberate efforts to remove structural barriers to employment. A national target had been established to create at least 5,000 jobs for persons with disabilities over the next five years. Guyana's Centre for Equity, Opportunity and Innovation would support that shift, providing employment and training opportunities for persons with disabilities, while advancing plans for business centres across all administrative regions.

In parallel, targeted interventions were being advanced across key sectors such as housing and education, through prioritized access to house lots and homes and expanded inclusive education programmes. The country was also embedding accessibility as a core principle of national development: a policy directive mandated the integration of accessibility features in all new public infrastructure. Persons with disabilities were being integrated into emerging economic sectors, including agriculture, through targeted training and initiatives such as a model farm to be managed by persons with disabilities. Such initiatives fostered self-reliance, income generation and community participation. Guyana continued to strengthen its social protection systems, with persons with permanent disabilities benefiting from lifelong public assistance.

Persons with disabilities should also be meaningfully represented in decision-making processes at all levels. Parliaments had a critical leadership role to play, beyond legislative action, including ensuring effective oversight, securing adequate financing, strengthening accountability, and practicing evidence-based policy making.

Ms. I. Svyatenko (Russian Federation) said that inclusive social development in Russia took many forms, from legislation and the rollout of inclusive education to social support measures for persons with disabilities, including children. MPs had an important role to play in building a system in which persons with disabilities could be active participants in all spheres of life, from healthcare and employment to cultural and educational initiatives. Through the country's Accessible Environment programme, measures had been introduced to ensure unimpeded access for persons with disabilities to priority facilities and services. Employment opportunities had been expanded through mentoring systems, specially equipped workplaces and State subsidies and benefits for employers hiring persons with disabilities. Measures had also been taken to promote participation in sports and the Paralympic movement.

In addition, a foundation had been established to support children with severe and chronic illnesses, and measures were being implemented to develop inclusive education systems for children with disabilities. Particular attention was being paid to inclusive leisure activities as a means of supporting social adaptation. She expressed confidence that international cooperation, together with improvements to national legislation, would help optimize existing legal protection mechanisms for people with disabilities and develop new methods of social support.

Mr. R. Kanyama (Malawi) highlighted a number of challenges faced by persons with disabilities, including limited access to education due to inaccessible infrastructure, and shortages of specialized teachers and learning materials. Other challenges included inadequate healthcare services, the misconception that persons with disabilities could not perform the same jobs as persons without disabilities, high levels of poverty and low involvement in decision-making.

The Government of Malawi had taken a number of steps to address those challenges, including the adoption of the Persons with Disabilities Act 2024 and the establishment of the Malawi Council for Disability Affairs. Inclusive education policies such as mainstreaming were supported by specialized teachers and learning materials like braille. In addition, Malawi had a social cash transfer programme for families headed by persons living with disabilities, and efforts were being made to include persons with disabilities in decision-making processes at all levels. He called on parliamentarians to take a holistic approach to ensure the inclusion, rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Mr. A. Papathanasis (Greece) said that parliaments must move beyond declarations of support towards concrete legislative action by adopting laws to prohibit discrimination and ensure equal access. Oversight of public policies should be strengthened, and adequate funding ensured for accessible infrastructure, inclusive education and support services that promoted independent living and equal participation. Inclusion should be understood not only as protection, but also as the empowerment of persons with disabilities.

Persons with disabilities must participate meaningfully in decision-making processes that affected their lives: nothing about them should be decided without them. Today, inclusive development must also include digital accessibility, equal access to innovation and modern labor market opportunities. In order to have resilient democracies, societies must allow every citizen to contribute fully and equally.

Ms. A. Notopoulou (Greece) said that parliamentarians had both a political and a moral duty to work towards inclusive social development. Moreover, it was not enough for the resolution to be well-worded; it must also be binding. The role of the IPU and of institutions more broadly in policymaking was therefore critical, particularly given that even in regions such as Europe, where human rights frameworks were well established, persons with disabilities still faced significant barriers to participation, autonomy, employment, education, justice and political life.

Speaking not only as a politician but also from personal experience with disability, she emphasized that parliaments must lead by example and that such leadership required political will, adequate funding, respect for the rule of law and progressive policies. She called on the IPU to establish binding goals concerning persons with disabilities across all sectors, including health, education, employment, social protection and justice, and to bring into public life those who had for too long remained unheard.

Mr. Hoang Minh Hieu (Viet Nam) said that approximately 7.2% of his country's population were persons living with disabilities, emphasizing that their equal participation was both a human rights obligation and essential to building a fair and sustainable future. Viet Nam's policies had shifted from a charity-based to a rights-based approach, and its 2025 employment law had strengthened access and financial support for persons with disabilities. He outlined four key priorities, the first of which was to continue to refine the legal framework on persons with disabilities, shifting towards a social interaction approach, and strengthening prevention and community engagement. Second, parliamentary oversight should be enhanced to ensure effective policy implementation and adequate resource allocation. Third, it was important to promote inclusive education and digital transformation, including technologies for persons with disabilities. Fourth, it was key to raise public awareness and ensure the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in policy-making processes, and Viet Nam stood ready to work with the IPU in that regard.

Mr. T. Karikoga (Zimbabwe) said that his country had recently enacted the Persons with Disabilities Act (2025), marking a shift from a charity-based to a human rights-based approach which recognized that inclusive development could not be achieved when persons with disabilities remained excluded from economic opportunities, public services and decision-making processes. However, legislation alone was insufficient to guarantee the rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities: the real test lay in effective implementation and sustained parliamentary action.

He highlighted three key strategies parliaments could use to promote the rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities. First, parliaments should enact and continuously review laws guaranteeing equality, non-discrimination and accessibility for persons with disabilities. Second, parliaments should exercise effective oversight to ensure the implementation of disability laws and policies, including through scrutiny of resource allocation for disability grants, assistive devices and inclusive social protection programmes. Third, parliamentarians should strengthen representation and advocacy by ensuring that the concerns of persons with disabilities were reflected in national policies and development programmes. Parliaments should ensure that persons with disabilities were fully empowered to participate in and benefit from development.

Mr. S. El Saadi (Arab Parliament) evoked the challenges people with disabilities continued to face, including a lack of health services, limited education and employment opportunities and obstacles that impeded them from participating in economic and political life. In 2015, the Arab Parliament had issued the unified Arab law for the protection of people with disabilities.

Several recommendations were proposed for inclusion in the draft resolution. First, parliamentarians should strengthen their national frameworks by ensuring that their laws were in line with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities. They should adopt and allocate

adequate budgetary resources to guarantee access for persons with disabilities to healthcare and education services. Measures to promote the employment of persons with disabilities were needed, including the introduction of employment quotas and incentives for institutions and the development of inclusive education systems that would ensure equal opportunities at all levels. The inclusion of persons with disabilities was not only an ethical obligation, but also a strategic investment in human capital and a prerequisite for inclusive social development.

Mr. E. Rezaei (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that parliaments had a pivotal role to play in safeguarding the rights of persons with disabilities, including through the removal of digital barriers, budget allocations for employment and strengthened parliamentary oversight of obligations related to persons with disabilities. In that regard, his country had enacted legislation and introduced inclusive programmes in recent years.

Recent military actions by the United States and Israel against his country constituted violations of human rights, humanitarian law and the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, and had severely affected civilians, including persons with disabilities. Attacks on infrastructure, schools, hospitals and emergency centres had hindered access to vital services and demonstrated disregard for human dignity. Continuing impunity and double standards in the international response were concerning, and such practices weakened international law and risked increasing global instability. He called on the IPU and the international community to condemn acts of aggression against the sovereignty and territorial integrity of States, strengthen international mechanisms to prevent such attacks and promote solidarity in defence of persons with disabilities and future generations.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that his country had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and had submitted its second and third periodic reports in 2022. Parliamentarians could advance the rights of persons with disabilities through private members' bills, participation in debates on government legislation and scrutiny of legislation in committee, including through consultations with persons with disabilities and organizations representing them. Such consultations helped identify gaps in proposed legislation and possible amendments to improve inclusion.

Canada had adopted the Accessible Canada Act in 2019 with the aim of identifying, removing and preventing barriers to inclusion, including barriers related to employment. The Act required a number of institutions, including Parliament, to develop accessibility plans. The Senate and the House of Commons had recently released the second version of their accessibility plans in consultation with parliamentarians and staff members with disabilities. In conclusion, it was essential to translate commitments into daily practice in all countries and pay particular attention to women and LGBTQ persons with disabilities.

Ms. A. Attalides (Cyprus) said that the full participation of persons with disabilities was essential to achieving the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and ensuring that no one was left behind. In Cyprus, a 2000 law on persons with disabilities had laid the foundation for combating discrimination and safeguarding equal rights, and had established the Council of Persons with Disabilities as an advisory body on national policy. Legislation governing recruitment in the wider public sector also addressed discrimination in employment. Cyprus had further strengthened its legal framework by ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and aligning national legislation with international standards.

Her Parliament had recently unanimously adopted a law on the social participation, inclusion and independent living of persons with disabilities, establishing for the first time a unified framework regulating services and benefits, promoting independent living and broadening access to State support. The law also recognized the real cost of disability and decoupled benefits from income criteria. In addition, Parliament had unanimously adopted an amendment in March 2026 to combat racism and xenophobia, explicitly including disability and age among the grounds on which violence and hate speech were criminalized. Parliamentarians had a responsibility not only to legislate, but also to ensure the effective implementation and monitoring of the laws adopted.

Ms. M. Alshehhi (United Arab Emirates) said that inclusive development could not be achieved without the integration and effective participation of persons with disabilities, particularly in the current context of growing crises and conflicts. Three key priorities included: strengthening legislative frameworks to combat discrimination and ensure accessibility in infrastructure and public services, particularly digital services; enhancing cooperation among national parliaments through the exchange of legislative experiences and best practices and through collaboration with international

organizations, including the United Nations; and adopting legislative and policy frameworks guaranteeing non-discrimination, accessibility and the integration of disability issues into development policies, climate action and social protection systems.

The United Arab Emirates remained committed to supporting and empowering persons with disabilities, as reflected in its National Policy for Empowering People of Determination, adopted in 2017, which had established a rights-based framework covering education, healthcare and community participation. In 2023, the country had also adopted a digital accessibility policy aimed at ensuring access to digital platforms and government services for persons with disabilities and at promoting their autonomy and equal participation in public life.

Mr. G. Almeland (Norway) affirmed his country's commitment to advancing the rights of persons with disabilities and highlighted the recent incorporation of the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities into Norwegian law through the Human Rights Act. The Convention's provisions would now take precedence in legal proceedings, thereby strengthening the realization of the rights of persons with disabilities.

He requested that the co-Rapporteurs pay particular attention to the importance of access to legal aid and effective remedies in ensuring that the rights of persons with disabilities could be exercised. In addition, Norway's rights-based system of user-controlled personal assistance was an important mechanism for promoting independent living and autonomy. Lastly, the participation and representation of persons with disabilities in democratic institutions was essential, and challenges still remained, particularly at the local level.

Mr. S. Schubert (Chile) cautioned against approaching disability rights primarily through a gender lens, as persons with disabilities, whether women or men, faced similar challenges. It should, however, be acknowledged that caregivers were often women and that their situation deserved particular attention. With regard to support programmes for persons with disabilities, a balance between State assistance and the role of the family should be sought. While it was important to recognize the need to support families caring for persons with disabilities, the growing tendency to replace the family – the centre of society – with greater government intervention was concerning. In addition, governments, particularly in poorer countries, could not finance infinite social costs and had to strike a balance between fulfilling their international commitments to persons with disabilities and managing limited budgets across other pressing needs.

Ms. M.T. Da Silva Gusmão (Timor-Leste) said that her country had taken a number of steps to advance the rights of persons with disabilities, including ratifying the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, adopting a parliamentary resolution on inclusive education, vocational training, healthcare, justice and accessible infrastructure, and providing a monthly pension to support the autonomy and social inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Challenges still remained, including under-registration of disability, stigma, discrimination, budgetary constraints, and accessibility barriers, particularly in rural areas. Full inclusion was an essential condition for sustainable development, and parliaments should therefore adopt and monitor inclusive legislation in line with the Convention, promote awareness campaigns with organizations of persons with disabilities, ensure dedicated budgets and guarantee the effective participation of persons with disabilities in decision-making processes.

The future IPU resolution should encourage parliaments to establish oversight mechanisms for implementation of the Convention and its Optional Protocol, adopt disability-sensitive budgets, strengthen cooperation with civil society and promote the exchange of good practices, particularly among developing countries. The combination of parliamentary resolutions, national policies and multi-annual action plans supported by dedicated budgets had proven effective in Timor-Leste.

Mr. C. Ngy (Cambodia) said that given the significant proportion of the global population living with some form of disability, and in line with commitments to Sustainable Development Goals 10 and 11, parliaments bore a shared responsibility to advance the rights of persons with disabilities through legislation, oversight and representation.

Peace and stability in Cambodia had allowed steady progress in social protection, including a law on the rights of persons with disabilities to help ensure their inclusion and wellbeing. A national strategy had expanded access to education, healthcare, vocational training and employment opportunities, and efforts had been made to promote accessibility and inclusion within urban development. However, barriers related to accessibility, stigma and resource constraints continued to limit the full participation of persons with disabilities. The National Assembly of Cambodia played a

constructive role by strengthening legislation, enhancing oversight and engaging stakeholders to ensure that policies were responsive and inclusive. The true measure of progress was in how societies included their most vulnerable members and empowered persons with disabilities to thrive.

Mr. S. Ouedraogo (Burkina Faso), introducing himself as a parliamentarian with a visual disability, said that Burkina Faso took pride in being at the forefront of the promotion of the rights of persons with disabilities, a commitment dating back to 1987, with two persons with disabilities currently seated in the People's Legislative Assembly.

In line with international agreements, including the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in Africa, and the Marrakesh Treaty, Burkina Faso had adopted binding legislative measures and disability-sensitive budgeting. In addition, a national law on the rights of persons with disabilities established employment quotas, free healthcare and education, access to public buildings and social protection, and reserved seats for persons with disabilities in decision-making bodies. Parliament had also established a network to advocate for the implementation of disability rights and regularly conducted oversight of government action in line with its national strategy. Inclusion had to be built, not declared, and he looked to the resolution as a shared instrument to drive forward that work.

Ms. S.M. Mokoena (South Africa) said that despite persons with disabilities constituting a significant share of the population, they continued to face formidable barriers in education, employment and healthcare, driven not by lack of commitment but by inadequate enforcement and inconsistent implementation. While South Africa had advanced comprehensive disability legislation and elevated South African Sign Language to an official language, a debate in the National Assembly in 2025 had exposed significant implementation gaps, including disability employment in the public sector falling below targets, children with disabilities unable to attend school due to inadequate transport and infrastructure, and assistive healthcare programmes reaching only a fraction of identified needs. Parliament had responded by mandating all departments to submit annual disability budget statements, demonstrating how allocations advanced measurable inclusion outcomes, not merely aspirational commitments.

Based on that experience, four recommendations for parliaments were put forth: first, to enact comprehensive, enforceable disability legislation aligned with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, with independent oversight and legal remedies; second, to institutionalize disability-responsive budgeting across all government sectors with transparent public reporting; third, to make parliaments models of inclusion by providing accessible platforms and sign language interpretation, and by recruiting persons with disabilities as parliamentarians, staff and advisors; and fourth, to legislate enforceable standards for inclusive education and disability-competent healthcare.

Mr. M. Al Showaikh (Bahrain) said that persons with disabilities were not a group requiring care, but rights-holders entitled to full participation in education and decision-making. Parliamentarians were responsible for removing legislative, institutional and other obstacles standing in the way of that participation. Three strategies were proposed to achieve this objective. First, constant revision of legislation was key, including guaranteed budget lines and the provision of assistive technologies. Second, representation and participation were essential, including planning with the involvement of persons with disabilities. In that regard, the Bahraini Parliament had held hearings with disability organizations, including a session where persons with disabilities sat in the seats of MPs in the presence of ministers, allowing their priorities on education, employment and decision-making to be heard. Third, international alignment was needed: Bahrain had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and had enacted legislation on the rehabilitation and employment of persons with disabilities, including a 2% employment quota in major companies. A parliamentary committee had been established to follow up on the implementation of those laws, and a national action plan on education and vocational training had been developed to support the full social inclusion of persons with disabilities.

Ms. D. O'Neill (Australia) echoed the view that inclusion had to be built, not decreed, and underscored that the implementation of disability rights could not advance without adequate funding. Welcoming the contributions of several participants who had evoked the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals in relation to disability rights, she noted that dedicated funding mechanisms were also critical to reaching these aims. Australia had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2008 and had a Disability Discrimination Act in place since 1992. In 2019, a Royal

Commission had examined the reality of disability rights in Australia and issued over 200 recommendations, some of which were currently being explored, including modernized understandings of disability and discrimination, employment inclusion, access to justice and fair work legislation.

It was now publicly recognized in Australia that employing persons with disabilities yielded productivity gains, that such employees demonstrated strong workplace loyalty, and that fewer than 20% required workplace accommodations. The Government's Access and Inclusion Action Plan could be a practical resource for other parliaments, and ongoing efforts in Australia included disability internship programmes and accountability measures for parliament on implementation. She also looked forward to exchanging with other delegates on Australia's National Disability Insurance Scheme and its challenges.

Mr. A. Touizi (Morocco) said that inclusive development required the inclusion of all groups in society, and that while international conventions provided for fundamental rights for persons with disabilities in areas such as health, education, employment and access to public services, ratification alone was insufficient. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to allocate budgets for the implementation of those commitments and to exercise oversight over governments to ensure that treaties and conventions were effectively translated into public policy.

Morocco had made the rights of persons with disabilities a national priority, and since the 1990s the Moroccan Parliament had established a legal framework guaranteeing public policies on education and social inclusion across successive governments. An oversight committee was in place to monitor access to education for children with disabilities and to submit annual reports. Every person with a disability in Morocco held a special card entitling them to benefits in the areas of transportation, healthcare and financial support. However, more remained to be done to ensure the participation of persons with disabilities in political life and their representation in parliaments and governments. He also called for greater attention to persons with disabilities in rural areas, who needed equal access to government services and activities.

Mr. C. Lutundula Apala Pen'Apala (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that in a concrete step forward for disability rights, a woman with a disability had been appointed as his country's first minister for persons with disabilities. In terms of legislation, article 49 of the Constitution guaranteed the rights of persons with disabilities, and the country had ratified the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities in 2015. Concrete measures taken by the government included: a decree granting tax and administrative benefits to private organizations promoting the rights of persons with disabilities; the establishment of a national body to support the rights and empowerment of persons with disabilities; a decree waiving university fees for students with disabilities; a decree establishing a committee to ensure an inclusive education policy; employment quotas of 5% in the public sector and 3% in the private sector; and the establishment of agencies dedicated to serving persons with disabilities at the local level, including in villages.

Noting that armed conflicts were themselves a major cause of disability, he urged the Committee to include in its resolution a call on the international community to end ongoing wars, including those in the Middle East, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of the Congo. No discussion of disability could be complete without addressing the issue of armed conflict, and the Committee should add its voice to calls for peace.

Mr. L.S. Phohleli (Lesotho) said that his Parliament had enacted the Persons with Disability Equity Act 2021, which domesticated the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, ratified by Lesotho in 2008. The Act established the Persons with Disability Advisory Council, whose mandate was to promote and protect the rights of persons with disabilities by advising government and public institutions, influencing policy development and ensuring alignment with international disability rights standards, in particular the Convention.

For the 2026-2027 financial year, Parliament had approved an increased budget for disability grants, expanding the number of beneficiaries from 2,000 to 4,900, with payments to be made monthly rather than quarterly. A constitutional amendment had also placed an obligation on the Government to ensure that official communications were made available in sign language or braille. Parliament was additionally taking steps to make its own buildings accessible to persons with disabilities.

Ms. R.C. Syiffadia (Indonesia) said that with over one billion persons with disabilities worldwide, inclusion was central to development, yet barriers in education, employment and public services persisted, compounded by gaps in data and policy coverage, which made it difficult to design

targeted programmes. Indonesia had enacted legislation affirming equal rights and promoting accessibility, non-discrimination and participation, and had taken practical steps including employment quotas for persons with disabilities, and expanded social protection programmes and improvements to inclusive education and public accessibility. However, adopting legislation was only the first step: effective implementation remained the principal challenge.

Drawing on her country's experience, she outlined five priorities for parliaments: first, supporting strong implementation, not only legislation; second, strengthening oversight and improving data systems to enhance targeting and accountability; third, ensuring dedicated and inclusive budgeting for accessible infrastructure, assistive technologies, inclusive education and employment support; fourth, promoting economic empowerment through decent work, enforcement of employment quotas and support for entrepreneurship; and fifth, ensuring the meaningful participation of persons with disabilities in all relevant processes. Inclusive social development was not only about protection but also about empowerment, and the inclusion of persons with disabilities made societies fairer, more productive and more resilient.

Ms. S. Al Sheibani (Oman) said that Oman had enacted legislation on the rights of persons with disabilities, marking a shift from a care-based to rights-based approach. Integrated education had been introduced, with qualified teachers available to support persons with disabilities. A new social protection system offered direct financial support to promote stability, and public utilities and digital services had been made more accessible, with sign language interpreters available in some institutions. Efforts were also under way to integrate persons with disabilities into the labour market in collaboration with the private sector. Parliament's role extended beyond law-making to include oversight of implementation, ensuring accountability and equal rights for all.

Ms. P. Laohapongchana (Thailand) said that Thailand's constitution guaranteed equal rights for all and prohibited discrimination on grounds of ethnicity, religion or disability. The 2007 Persons with Disabilities Empowerment Act served as the main legal framework, and dedicated government departments and parliamentary committees were responsible for overseeing and protecting those rights. Thailand was in the process of updating its disability legislation, with cabinet approval expected in 2026. The revised law would align with the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, explicitly prohibit discrimination, including the denial of reasonable accommodation, and ensure that women with disabilities had a voice in policy-making. Improvements were also being made to dispute resolution mechanisms and access to justice. The definition of disability had been broadened to cover more health conditions and to recognize everyday barriers to services. Thailand remained committed to improving employment accessibility and local support to ensure that no one was left behind.

The Chair thanked participants for their contributions and drew attention to the Algerian law guaranteeing the rights of persons with disabilities, including equality and non-discrimination in education, employment and social participation, allowing for their full integration into society. She commended Parliament's efforts and commitment to defending the rights of people with disabilities and looked forward to continuing work to achieve their full participation in all realms of life.

The sitting rose at 12:15.

SITTING OF SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:35 with Ms. F. Ilimi Haddouche (Algeria), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Debate on recent developments in artificial intelligence

(C-III/152/4-Inf.1)

The Chair said that the sitting would be devoted to monitoring implementation of the resolution adopted by the Committee in October 2024, *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*. Whether AI served the public interest would depend on the ability of parliaments to act, and the Committee was at the forefront of that work: the resolution adopted in 2024 had given the IPU a clear mandate to support parliamentary action on AI, which had since been expanded.

The session would be divided into five parts focusing on: the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *Parliaments and responsible AI*, and updates on activities on AI; an exchange on recent parliamentary action on AI; a discussion on combating AI-generated non-consensual intimate imagery (NCII); a presentation of the IPU's 2026 programme of work on AI; and a draft motion to continue action and engagement on AI.

Ms. M. Rempel Garner, one of the rapporteurs for the 2024 resolution, was invited to provide an update on the state of AI since then.

Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada) said that AI technology had advanced substantially since the adoption of the resolution in Geneva in 2024. At the time of that debate, large language models had functioned essentially as fast auto-complete engines, but now frontier models could self-correct, plan over long horizons and operate as semi-autonomous agents capable of completing complex multi-step tasks with minimal human guidance.

The benefits to humanity were real, including major advances in scientific discovery, medical tools, productivity and education. However, the risks to human rights were equally significant, and included the use of AI in kinetic warfare, cybersecurity threats to critical financial infrastructure, and severe disruption to entry-level employment, exacerbating youth job crises globally. Of particular concern was the growing threat of AI-generated non-consensual intimate imagery (NCII), including deepfakes depicting sexual violence, which also posed risks to electoral integrity. Further issues included the uneven distribution of access to computing power, raising the question of whether access to AI should be treated as a public good, like access to the internet or electricity, and the emerging ethical, moral and religious questions surrounding artificial general intelligence, which many experts believed had already or was about to cross the threshold of independent reasoning.

Regulatory discussions remained heavily concentrated in the hands of industry, and there were serious questions about whether parliaments could keep pace with the technology's rapid evolution, both domestically and in a global context, making the IPU's work vital. The central challenge was how to build on the work already done and how the IPU, working across party and geopolitical lines, could best support parliaments in continuing to engage with the issue.

The Chair invited Ms. M. Cederfelt (Sweden), Chairperson of the IPU Working Group on Science and Technology, to present the Kuala Lumpur Declaration.

Ms. M. Cederfelt (Sweden), speaking in her capacity as Chairperson of the Working Group on Science and Technology and as the IPU's representative at the conference on *The Role of Parliament in Shaping the Future of Responsible AI*, held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in November 2025, said that the Working Group had been engaged in very similar discussions, focusing on the ethics of AI and how parliamentarians could work with the technology, and had identified human rights as a key area of concern. More than 200 parliamentarians and parliamentary staff from 65 countries had attended the first international parliamentary conference dedicated to AI, convened jointly by the Parliament of Malaysia, the IPU, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP). The Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *Parliaments and responsible AI*, building on the October 2024 IPU resolution, recognized that AI was advancing faster than parliaments and institutions could keep pace, and brought real opportunities but also significant risks, in particular to privacy, equality, the integrity of elections and the livelihoods of workers. The lack of transparency around the basis on which AI systems made decisions and sourced their information was concerning, and the world risked becoming a consumer of AI systems over whose design and rules it had little say. It was the responsibility of parliaments to consult with experts, make laws and ensure that the voices of the people were heard.

The Declaration set out 13 recommendations for parliamentary action, which she encouraged all those present to consider in the context of work in their own parliaments. Several recommendations addressed how parliaments could organize themselves to engage with AI, including assessing their readiness, prioritizing capacity-building and creating or empowering parliamentary bodies with a mandate to scrutinize AI. Others addressed law-making and oversight, and called for the assessment of existing legislative frameworks in areas foundational to AI, such as data protection and cybersecurity, and evidence-based inquiries into bias and diversity in AI systems. The Declaration also established a follow-up mechanism, calling on all parliaments to submit a progress update by 1 June 2026, which the IPU, UNDP and CPA would compile into a status report to be published in August 2026, as the first comprehensive global picture of where parliaments stood on AI governance. She encouraged all parliaments to share information proactively and to report on their work, so that the parliamentary voice would be heard in the international processes where the rules of the AI era were being written. AI was a human rights issue and every MP had a responsibility to act.

The Chair invited Ms. S. Kiladze, former member of the Parliament of Georgia and current Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, to present the Joint Statement on Artificial Intelligence and the Rights of the Child, adopted in January 2026.

Ms. S. Kiladze, Chair of the United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child, said that while AI opened up unprecedented opportunities for children in healthcare, education and creative self-expression, children were also its most vulnerable participants. Troubling trends, such as excessive screen use, rising mental health challenges, cyberbullying, online sexual exploitation and abuse, and the emergence of synthetic content misusing children's images, were skyrocketing and demanded urgent action. In response, the international community had developed the Joint Statement on Artificial Intelligence and the Rights of the Child, co-led by the UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and UNICEF, and co-signed by 14 international organizations including the IPU.

It was the first instrument of its kind to offer clear guidance to governments, international organizations, businesses, academia and civil society on harnessing the opportunities of AI for children while protecting them from harm. The initiative was not about slowing innovation but about ensuring that technological progress and child protection advanced together, and the Joint Statement recognized the essential role of parliaments in that effort. Technology was moving faster than governance, and it was in the gap between what was needed and what had been done that children were most exposed to harm. The responsibilities of parliamentarians extended beyond law-making to oversight, budgeting and advocacy, including raising public awareness of both the risks and the opportunities AI presented for children. How AI was shaped for children would define not only their future but the future of societies as a whole.

The Chair invited Mr. R. Goñi, President of the House of Representatives of Uruguay, to report on the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) 2026 Parliamentary Track, held in Uruguay in March 2026, which had brought together parliamentarians from the Americas to discuss digital governance and AI.

Mr. R. Goñi (Uruguay) said that, until recently, forums such as the Internet Governance Forum (IGF) had treated digital governance as a primarily technical matter in which parliaments played a marginal role. The good news was that parliaments now occupied a central place in those forums, thanks in part to the work of the IPU. The Kuala Lumpur Declaration had served as the foundation for discussions at the Forum in Uruguay. It was no longer possible to speak of democracy and human rights without centrally considering the impact of new technologies across all sectors, including education, health, work and the rights of children. Participants at the Forum, from all the countries of Latin America, had agreed that permanent follow-up action was essential, and that regulatory solutions must be kept under continuous revision and evolution.

Attitudes were also shifting: whereas banning social media platforms for adolescents would have attracted almost no support a year ago, growing scientific evidence was leading more and more countries to introduce such restrictions, and parliaments should not be afraid to put rules in place when the rights of children and adolescents were at stake. At the same time, parliaments must focus on the enabling conditions that would allow all citizens to benefit from AI, so as to avoid deepening inequality and exclusion. He called upon parliaments to engage in global platforms where the IPU was already playing a leading role, and to embrace anticipatory governance – regulating on the basis of emerging signals in an evolutionary and collaborative way – as a matter of necessity rather than choice.

The Chair, thanking the panellists, underscored that parliamentarians must approach AI cautiously and responsibly, striking a balance between harnessing its benefits and protecting society from its risks through equitable legislation. She invited the Committee to turn to the second part of the debate, on measures adopted by national parliaments on AI.

Mr. M. Alshowaikh (Bahrain) said that AI was not an issue of the future but a reality already affecting health, education, security and the economy. Parliaments were responsible not only for enacting legislation but for developing national policies that accompanied technological development, protected societies from its risks and enabled citizens to benefit from its opportunities. While AI and data analysis offered significant potential for improving the effectiveness of public institutions and enhancing transparency, they also entailed serious risks including algorithmic bias, privacy violations, the manipulation of information and illegal interference in electoral processes. The IPU's October 2024 resolution had provided a framework of reference, and the conclusions of the Kuala Lumpur conference in November 2025 had confirmed that good AI governance could not be left to the technical sector alone, but required parliamentary action in legislation, oversight and dialogue.

In Bahrain, Parliament had been developing legislation on data protection, cybersecurity and electronic transactions, and was following international dialogues on AI regulation. Parliament had also taken practical steps to integrate AI across its own operations, including building infrastructure for data collection and analysis, centralizing data protection, improving public access to government platforms and launching a platform for journalists.

Ms. Yamada Miki (Japan) said that it was essential to manage the risks of AI, including the infringement of individual rights, discrimination and bias, while maintaining a human-centred approach grounded in the fundamental principles of human rights, the rule of law and democracy. With a view to ensuring responsible AI governance, Japan had launched the Hiroshima AI Process in 2023 to promote discussions on international rules for advanced AI systems, including generative AI. The process had produced international guiding principles and a code of conduct for AI. The Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group, established in May 2024 with like-minded partners, had since expanded to 66 countries and regions, including several in the Global South, and continued to deepen discussions on responsible AI governance and implementation. Advancing AI governance required a balanced approach that minimized risks without hindering innovation. Parliamentarians had a vital role to play by exchanging good practices through the IPU and other parliamentary diplomacy forums, and by engaging in dialogue with domestic stakeholders, with the shared goal of realizing safe, secure and trustworthy AI.

Mr. R. Zare (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that AI had fundamentally changed the technological landscape, presenting multi-layered opportunities and challenges, and that parliaments bore a responsibility to steer AI in the public interest. His Parliament had recently taken a number of steps to advance AI governance, including establishing a committee on AI and approving a national AI plan. There were serious concerns about the exploitation of advanced technologies like AI in conflicts and military confrontations, including the use of such technologies by the United States of America and Israel in targeting civilians and vital infrastructure. The future of AI was less a purely technological question than an ethical one, centred on the equitable distribution of its benefits. A responsible, ethical and just approach was needed to harness AI's capacities in the service of peace, justice and development.

A delegate from Jordan said that while the Committee was discussing the responsible use of AI, it was essential not to overlook what was happening in Gaza, where AI was being used for violence in flagrant violation of international human rights law. Algorithms were being used to select targets without discrimination between civilians and combatants, and without transparency or accountability, which amounted to war crimes. He called for international action to impose clear regulations on the use of AI in armed conflict, including in Gaza and the West Bank, to prevent the technology from being used to violate human rights. On the domestic front, Jordan had implemented legislation on AI and had a clear infrastructure in place.

Mr. W. McCoy (Guyana) said that his country's approach to AI emphasized infrastructure, inclusion and access as prerequisites for responsible AI governance. Over the past five years, the country had significantly expanded its digital infrastructure and internet connectivity, including in previously unserved and hard-to-reach areas. Approximately 70 public services were now available online, including citizen registration, tax administration and public benefits, supported by high-speed connectivity across schools, healthcare facilities and government service centres. Guyana was also advancing cybersecurity and rolling out national digital literacy and information and communications technology training programmes. For small and developing States, strengthening legislative frameworks, enhancing oversight mechanisms and building capacity on AI policy also meant ensuring that global governance frameworks were inclusive and responsive to their needs. Parliaments must act decisively to shape AI governance while the window to do so remained open.

Ms. N.M. Mhlongo (South Africa) said that her country had built a robust legal foundation for AI governance, rooted primarily in the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), which governed how personal information was collected, used and safeguarded in AI systems, protecting constitutional rights to privacy, dignity and equality. The Cybercrimes Act complemented POPIA by criminalizing unlawful data access, cybersecurity breaches and digital fraud. The 2025 amendments to the POPIA regulations further strengthened individual rights by clarifying consent procedures for automated direct marketing and making it easier for citizens to exercise their data rights – protections that were becoming increasingly essential as AI expanded automated decision-making.

Beyond legislation, South Africa's 2024 draft national AI policy framework articulated a human-centred, risk-based approach built on four pillars: ethical innovation, national skills development, cybersecurity resilience and international standards alignment. It proposed a national AI office to coordinate government-wide AI initiatives. In high-risk sectors such as healthcare, POPIA worked alongside the National Health Act to regulate sensitive health information. Ongoing challenges included the need for AI-specific legislation beyond data protection, capacity constraints in enforcement, the digital divide and the pace of technological change. South Africa was committed to multilateral cooperation on AI governance, engaging actively with the African Union's AI strategy and international forums to ensure that African perspectives shaped global AI norms.

A delegate from the Republic of Korea said that his country had pursued phased and proactive legislation to address the misuse of AI in the creation of non-consensual intimate imagery (NCII). In 2020, a legal framework had been established to sanction the distribution of non-consensually recorded and sexually exploitative material through social media platforms and chat rooms. Prevention and technological transparency were essential, and a key principle of the Republic of Korea's approach was ensuring that users could clearly recognize AI-generated content.

He proposed three directions for international cooperation, as AI threats did not respect national borders and could not be resolved by the efforts of a single country alone. First, joint responses to cross-border content dissemination were urgently needed, and cross-border investigative frameworks, rapid digital evidence-sharing and common response standards for global platforms were essential. Second, global accountability standards for platform companies must be established, moving beyond reactive post-report removal systems to require AI-generated content detection technologies, automatic blocking of repeated dissemination and rapid response obligations for victim reports. Third, victim-centred support systems needed to be strengthened: although the Republic of Korea provided video removal support, and legal and psychological counselling, victims still bore a disproportionate burden in pursuing deletion themselves, and a shift toward proactive, State-led and automated removal mechanisms was necessary.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that, as Canada advanced its Protecting Victims Act to address the harms of AI-generated deepfakes, it was clear that criminalization alone was not enough. The impact of the technology was immediate, borderless and disproportionately harmful to women, youth and LGBTQI+ individuals. Canada urged all parliamentarians to ensure that laws provided for quick and enforceable content removal, and accessible trauma-informed support for victims, as well as strengthened coordination across jurisdictions, in the shared interest of protecting dignity, safety and trust in the digital age.

Ms. D. O'Neill (Australia) drew attention to a critical piece of legislation in Australia: a 2024 amendment to the Criminal Code creating a new offence regarding deepfake sexual material, making it a crime to use a carriage service to transmit sexual material depicting a real person aged 18 or over without their consent or with recklessness as to consent. She also voiced concern about gender bias in AI systems, noting research from the Berkeley Haas Center for Equity, Gender and Leadership showing that 44% of AI systems exhibited gender bias and 25% exhibited both gender and racial bias. Specific concerns included hiring algorithms that downgraded CVs associated with women and feminine-coded language, facial recognition systems with significantly lower accuracy for women, in particular Black women, healthcare algorithms with reduced diagnostic accuracy for women when trained primarily on male-dominated datasets, and chatbots and virtual assistants designed with female personas that reinforced gender stereotypes of subordination of women. She had not yet heard suggestions about how those gender-based challenges were being addressed in legislation, and would be interested in hearing more about it and learning from effective examples of implementation.

The Chair drew attention to the IPU's *Parliamentary actions on AI policy* tracker, noting that parliamentary actions in AI had been observed in over 60 countries, with information updated monthly on the IPU website. She invited Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada) to respond to questions and comments from the floor.

Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada) said that the IPU Secretariat was developing data and tools to support continued parliamentary work on AI, and highlighted a non-partisan initiative in Canada: a multi-party Parliamentary Caucus for Emerging Technologies, which brought together stakeholders and subject matter experts from across the technological and end-use spectrum to build a common knowledge base among parliamentarians before legislative or partisan debate on regulation. Participants were encouraged to establish similar cross-party, cross-chamber conversations in their own parliaments to build the expertise needed to engage effectively when regulatory debates arose.

Ms. S. Al Sheibani (Oman) said that artificial intelligence (AI) was not a threat in itself but a direct reflection of the strength of legislation and the willingness of governments to protect human beings. Oman had adopted a balanced approach, combining technological advancement with the protection of rights. Legislative measures included a data protection law enshrining the right to privacy, an electronic transactions law promoting cybersecurity, and a law setting controls on the misuse of technology. Beyond legislation, Oman had established a national policy for the ethical use of AI, affirming the importance of non-bias, human rights and dignity.

AI could become harmful in the absence of governance, through privacy violations, biased decision-making or adverse effects on employment. The real question was not whether AI was positive or negative but whether it could be managed fairly and responsibly. Oman's experience demonstrated that technological advancement and human values were not incompatible. AI remained a powerful tool that could either empower or marginalize people, and good governance and legislation were essential to ensuring the former.

The Chair introduced the third part of the session, on how parliamentarians could lead the fight against AI-generated non-consensual intimate imagery (NCII). AI was increasingly being used to create and distribute realistic deepfake sexual imagery of real people without their consent, with women, including female MPs, disproportionately targeted. Several parliaments had taken steps to address the issue, and the IPU had developed a draft Issue Brief on AI-generated NCII consolidating evidence from parliaments that had acted effectively. She invited Ms. M. Disoski (Austria) and Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico) to share their experiences before opening the floor for discussion.

Ms. M. Disoski (Austria) said that AI-generated NCII was not an abstract or future threat but a reality. She spoke from personal experience, having received deepfake pornographic images and videos of herself after speaking publicly on violence against women. More than 80% of deepfakes targeted women, could be created in minutes and spread globally within hours. This was not accidental but intentional abuse, and in the vast majority of cases the perpetrators were men. Austria had taken early and concrete steps, introducing in 2020 one of the first comprehensive legal packages in Europe to combat online and AI-fuelled hate, and had subsequently criminalized the sending of unsolicited explicit images. Work was now under way to criminalize both the creation and distribution of AI-generated non-consensual deepfakes, although even those basic protections were opposed by the far right in her Parliament, illustrating that the challenge was not only legal but political.
The framing of NCII as a free speech issue was not only misleading but dangerous: non-consensual intimate imagery was not speech, it was violence.

She called on parliamentarians to act, stressing that platforms and tools that enabled abuse at scale bore legal responsibility for the harm they facilitated and profited from. What was needed was clear criminalization of non-consensual deepfakes, fast and enforceable removal mechanisms, bans on tools designed purely for abuse, platform accountability and real support for victims, all of which had to be enforced, since without enforcement, rights remained promises.

Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico) said that digital violence was one of the most sophisticated and silent forms of violence against women, and that that reality had given rise in Mexico to a crucial reform in digital rights: the Olimpia Law, named after a victim of digital violence whose case had prompted parliamentary action in 2021. The Olimpia Law was not a single law but a set of reforms to various criminal codes and to the General Law on Women’s Access to a Life Free of Violence.
It recognized digital violence as a crime, penalized the distribution of intimate content without consent, and protected dignity, privacy and sexual freedom in digital environments, with a focus on victim protection and reparation of harm. The law was important for two reasons: it made visible a form of violence that had long been normalized and for which victims had been blamed, and it established that digital harm was real harm, with devastating psychological, social, professional and even fatal consequences, particularly among adolescents. Sanctions included prison sentences of three to six years, significant financial fines, and aggravating circumstances in cases involving relationships of trust, intent to profit or mass distribution. Platforms were subject to strict and urgent deadlines for content removal, and perpetrators were required to publicly apologize to victims in addition to facing criminal penalties.

The law had been reformed the previous year to explicitly cover AI-generated content, including sexual deepfakes, establishing the key principle that it was the harm to dignity that the law sanctioned, regardless of whether the content was real or fabricated. If parliaments did not legislate on artificial intelligence now, technology would advance faster than human rights. The Olimpia Law had demonstrated that dignity did not end in the physical world but must extend to the digital world, and she called on all countries to take the necessary action to end violence against women.

Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada) took the Chair.

The Chair invited participants to respond to the presentations and opened the discussion by briefly recounting her own experience: in late 2022 she had been one of the first legislators to raise the issue of NCII in the Canadian Parliament, following an incident in which girls at a high school had been victims of this type of crime, but police had been uncertain how to prosecute it. While Canada had existing laws prohibiting the non-consensual distribution of intimate images created by conventional means, a loophole remained for AI-generated content. She had drafted legislation to close that gap, but three years later it had not yet passed.

She invited participants to reflect on whether they were facing similar challenges, whether their countries had any laws addressing NCII at all, and what best practices they had developed to overcome obstacles and ensure that women's issues received adequate political priority.

Ms. W. Hobhouse (United Kingdom) said that she had brought the issue of non-consensual filming to the attention of her Parliament after the BBC had reported on women being filmed without their consent on nights out, with the footage subsequently posted online alongside disparaging and misogynistic comments. She had previously succeeded in introducing the upskirting legislation, which made the non-consensual filming of intimate parts of the body a specific criminal offence, and had been working to extend similar protections further. However, she had encountered legislative gaps: filming a woman on a night out did not fall within the voyeurism act, which covered intimate parts of the body, nor within harassment laws, which required targeting of a specific individual rather than a group. She was keen to learn how other countries addressed such gaps in their legal frameworks, and stressed that the practice was abhorrent, created victims and caused women to change their behaviour out of fear.

Ms. C. Akça Cupolo (Türkiye) said that her Parliament had recently established a commission to examine what regulations were needed on AI, though its report had not yet resulted in legislation. She shared a personal experience from the previous month in which fabricated images placing her in a politically compromising situation had been circulated online. When users had consulted the AI platform Grok to verify the authenticity of the images, it had repeatedly confirmed them as genuine, with the result that the false information now appeared in every interaction she had online, despite being entirely fabricated. She and her lawyer were pursuing a court case to seek redress, but the damage had already been done. She asked what international standards could be established to ensure that such cases could serve as pioneering precedents for addressing this type of harm in the future.

Ms. N.M. Mhlongo (South Africa) said that, following the introduction of the Protection of Personal Information Act (POPIA), the Electoral Commission of South Africa had been required to publish voter rolls using only the first six digits of citizens' identification numbers to protect personal data. A challenge had arisen in relation to the publication of a sexual offenders list, which Parliament had agreed should be publicly accessible to enable employers to screen prospective employees. However, the list was unable to be published in full because it would need to include complete identification numbers, which were protected under POPIA. The Government was working to resolve this tension between public protection and privacy rights. In the healthcare sector, POPIA similarly prohibited the sharing of any personal health information without the explicit consent of the individual concerned. POPIA could serve as a model that other countries could draw on to protect citizens from the unauthorized sharing of personal information that could endanger them.

Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico), responding to points raised, said that, while no single binding international treaty on AI-generated digital violence existed yet, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW) and other international instruments provided recommendations that countries could draw on to shape their own legislation. Each country must nevertheless enact its own laws and reform its criminal codes to close legal gaps, ensure specific consequences for perpetrators, and impose sanctions on platforms that published such content. The focus must remain on the dignity of persons, reparation of harm to victims and the protection of women's human rights, whether in the physical or digital world.

Ms. M. Aljaghoub (Jordan) expressed her sympathy to Ms. Disoski, who had been a victim of NCII, and said that digital violence against children was especially devastating and was increasing massively worldwide, including cases of sextortion in which children were threatened with the

publication of intimate material unless they paid money. She asked whether the laws that had been evoked by participants specifically addressed the particular vulnerabilities of children and minors, noting that crimes against minors typically carried aggravated circumstances under criminal law.

Ms. M. Disoski (Austria) said that the laws in her country addressed the vulnerabilities of children, who faced particular threats. On the question of where parliaments should begin, she said that her first priority would be the clear criminalization of AI-generated deepfakes, since without a clear legal definition, everything else was difficult.

The Chair thanked participants and invited Mr. A. Richardson to introduce the fourth topic: the IPU's 2026 programme of work on AI policy.

Mr. A. Richardson (IPU Secretariat) said that, since the Committee had adopted the 2024 resolution *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*, the IPU had been carrying out an active programme to support parliaments in taking up the challenge of AI. A range of activities was being organized to provide parliamentarians with a platform for ongoing exchange and sharing of experiences, and he invited his colleague Mr. A. Read to present the details of the programme of work.

Mr. A. Read (IPU Secretariat) outlined the IPU's programme of work on AI policy, designed to provide parliaments with the knowledge, connections and practical tools they needed. The programme had three objectives: to strengthen parliamentary capacity to engage on AI, expand parliamentary engagement across the substantive policy areas where AI was having an impact, and support the active involvement of parliaments in international AI governance processes. Crucially, AI policy cut across multiple IPU thematic programmes, including gender-based violence, sustainable development, peace and security, and the ethics of science and technology.

The programme was organized around five work streams: tracking implementation of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration and compiling a global status report to be published in August 2026; peer exchange and networking to connect parliaments addressing similar issues; the production of knowledge products including issue briefs on NCII and child rights, accompanied by a webinar series; international engagement to ensure parliamentary voices were present in multilateral AI governance processes; and thought leadership to make parliamentary perspectives visible in the broader AI governance conversation. Upcoming webinars would focus on parliamentary oversight of AI and AI-generated NCII. A significant number of international AI governance events would be held in Geneva in early July 2026, including the inaugural UN Global Dialogue on AI Governance, and parliamentarians planning to attend could receive support from the IPU. Delegations were encouraged to respond to requests for updates on their AI work and complete a short survey through which they could suggest topics, share experiences and connect with other parliaments.

The Chair thanked the Secretariat for rapidly operationalizing the 2024 resolution and encouraged delegates to make use of the IPU's support and upcoming events. She introduced the motion entitled *Advancing parliamentary action on artificial intelligence*, prepared by the Bureau with input from the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. Building on the 2024 IPU resolution and the Kuala Lumpur Declaration, the motion noted that more than 60 parliaments had already begun legislating, creating committees or holding public consultations on AI, and urged all parliaments to implement the Kuala Lumpur recommendations, designate parliamentarians and staff for inter-parliamentary exchanges, participate in global forums, build internal capacity and encourage the responsible use of AI within their own institutions.

The motion was adopted by acclamation.

Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

The Chair said that the Eurasia Group had nominated Mr. S. Ghanizoda (Tajikistan) to fill a vacancy on the Bureau of the Committee. The other vacancy on the Bureau remained unfilled. The position of President of the Committee also remained vacant.

The Committee approved the nomination.

The meeting rose at 11:35.

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

SITTING OF FRIDAY, 17 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 11:30 with Mr. F. Al-Nouiri (Libya), Vice-President of the Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the agenda
(C-IV/152/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 151st IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2025)

The summary records were approved.

The UN field presence in Türkiye: A test case of greater UN engagement with parliaments

The Chair said that the United Nations was present in all developing countries through regional offices and country teams, which helped implement national development plans. Stronger relations were needed between UN country teams and host countries to improve support for development work. The following discussion would address role of the UN Country Team and Resident Coordinator in Türkiye.

Mr. B. Ahonsi (UN Resident Coordinator in Türkiye), moderator, said that there was growing recognition that achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) required stronger alignment between international commitments and national legislative frameworks. Parliaments sat at the heart of that effort by translating global norms into national laws, approving budgets, ensuring resource allocation, and exercising oversight and accountability. At the same time, the UN system, particularly through its field presence and country teams, was becoming more integrated, responsive and country-focused in line with ongoing UN reforms. Türkiye was a relevant example of that work given the long-standing partnership between its Parliament and UN Country Team on development, humanitarian and resilience priorities. The present discussion aimed to explore how UN field presence and parliaments could work together more strategically to accelerate SDG implementation and strengthen accountability.

Cooperation between the UN and the Parliament of Türkiye had evolved from ad hoc engagement to more structured and institutional collaboration, involving several parliamentary commissions, including on gender equality, human rights, and planning and budget matters. Cooperation was both strategic and technical, aiming to strengthen oversight functions in areas such as human rights, gender equality, migration and child protection, with different UN entities contributing specialized expertise to support national ownership, accountability and sustainable development outcomes. He acknowledged, however, that the partnership was still a work in progress with untapped potential for further institutionalization and capacity-building.

The panel for the discussion included representatives from UN Women, the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) in Türkiye, who would share practical examples of their cooperation with the Parliament of Türkiye. Questions to be addressed included: (1) how the different UN agencies engaged with Parliament to ensure alignment in their work; (2) how they collaborated on legislative and policy outcomes; (3) what were the lessons learned as well as the challenges and opportunities for scaling up collaboration; and (4) how the IPU could support stronger UN-parliament collaboration at country level.

Ms. D. Cicchella (UNHCR Türkiye) said that parliamentarians were community leaders, decision-makers and policy-makers who could influence the protection environment for refugees and stateless persons through legislation, oversight, budgetary decisions and public leadership. UNHCR engagement with parliaments was therefore essential.

UNHCR's cooperation with the Parliament of Türkiye took several forms, including technical engagement with parliamentary committees, where it provided briefings, trend analysis and statistics on migration and refugee issues, thus supporting evidence-based parliamentary discussions informed

by international law and operational realities. In addition, it worked closely with the Turkish IPU group, including by supporting the publication of important documents, such as the Turkish edition of the UNHCR-IPU Handbook for Parliamentarians, *Refugee Protection: A Guide to International Refugee Law*. Recognizing the important role played by parliaments in fostering balanced discussions on coexistence and social cohesion, UNHCR maintained direct dialogue with parliamentarians on refugee issues, which was particularly important in Türkiye given that it hosted the world's largest refugee population.

She highlighted the importance of Türkiye's Law on Foreigners and International Protection, describing it as an inclusive legal framework aligned with the SDGs and international refugee protection standards, including the 1951 Refugee Convention. The law supported parliamentarians in their oversight functions, ensuring the debate on refugee protection remained aligned with the rule of law, while upholding accountability and respect for fundamental rights.

Stronger engagement between the UN and parliaments was becoming increasingly more important because it enhanced national ownership of international commitments, strengthened accountability and helped maintain balanced public discourse on issues such as displacement. It was for that reason that UNHCR and the IPU had recently renewed their Memorandum of Understanding (MoU). The MoU would enhance parliamentary engagement on refugee protection and statelessness, promote peer learning among parliamentarians, support capacity-building and advance the sharing of good practices.

Noting that 2026 marked the 75th anniversary of the 1951 Refugee Convention and the 65th anniversary of the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness, she emphasized the importance of renewing commitment to fundamental humanitarian principles. Parliaments were among the best placed to support that objective.

Ms. M. Guimond (Country Director, UN Women Türkiye), reflecting on the long-standing partnership between UN Women and the IPU, built on trust, commitment and a shared vision for change, said that working with parliaments was both an opportunity and a responsibility, as it meant engaging with the heart of democracy, where laws were made, national priorities were debated, and the direction of the country was decided.

UN Women's cooperation with the Parliament of Türkiye had begun in 2011 and had since deepened through collaboration with the Committee on Equal Opportunity for Women and Men, meaningful exchanges with parliamentarians, and joint efforts with the IPU. There were three main areas of focus: (1) strengthening parliamentary systems through gender analysis of legislation, gender impact checklists and gender-responsive budgeting; (2) creating new cross-party spaces for women parliamentarians to foster dialogue, exchange experiences and work on common priorities from within; and (3) using evidence, including gender analysis of elections, reviews of legislation and studies on violence against women in politics, to inform parliamentary discussion, advocacy and action.

Tangible results from the above efforts could be observed, including increased women's representation in Parliament, which had reached nearly 20%, the inclusion of temporary special measures in the national development plan, and the growing integration of gender equality into discussions on issues such as governance and the economy, made possible in part through collaboration with women civil society organizations and academia.

At the same time, she warned of emerging challenges, such as violence against women in politics, including in digital spaces, which continued to hinder women's political participation. IPU findings had shown that women parliamentarians faced higher levels of intimidation than men, both on and offline. Efforts by UN Women in that area in Türkiye included building awareness, strengthening digital safety capacities and opening discussions on legal and policy responses.

Given that the proportion of women in political office reflected a country's dedication to women's rights and gender equality, it was worrying that global trends showed slow progress in women's political representation, with the number of women holding parliamentary seats worldwide increasing by only 0.3% since 2025. Equally, women were losing ground in parliamentary leadership, representing only 20% of Speakers of Parliament globally – a 4% decline from the previous year. Excluding women from political leadership weakened societies' ability to address key challenges. Without deliberate action, gains could easily stall or reverse.

Despite those setbacks, one of the clearest global gains had been the growing presence of women in parliaments, which reflected deliberate political choices often driven through parliamentary action. Though progress had slowed, structural change could occur if representation was viewed as essential to democracy rather than an exception. It was for that reason that partnerships with parliaments were increasingly important. Indeed, parliaments played a key role in translating international commitments into national law, holding governments accountable and advancing gains.

Drawing on Türkiye's experience, she said that effective engagement with parliaments required patience, sustained commitment and ownership that extended beyond individual committees, with the most meaningful change occurring when parliamentarians themselves led the agenda. Partnerships with the IPU helped bring global standards and credibility to the work. Türkiye's experience showed that UN engagement with parliaments could deliver real institutional change in law-making, budgeting and representation, and that sustained, trust-based collaboration produced tangible results even at a time when the multilateral system itself was being tested. UN Women remained committed to continuing its partnership with parliaments and the IPU.

Ms. M. Gandhi (Deputy Representative, UNICEF Türkiye) said that UNICEF's engagement with the Parliament of Türkiye, which had developed over the past two decades, focused on working with parliament as an ecosystem, moving beyond passing individual laws to strengthening both institutional structures and legislative processes. Indeed, UNICEF had helped establish institutional structures within the Parliament, such as a child rights monitoring committee. Those structures helped to ensure sustained dialogue that put child rights at the forefront of legislative work.

Equally, UNICEF had worked to ensure that legislative processes in Türkiye were informed by evidence, data, research and international best practices, including through cooperation with parliamentary research commissions. For example, it had collaborated with the Ministry of Justice and other national institutions to gather evidence and experiences from other countries on the issue of children in conflict with the law, which had contributed to the adoption of rehabilitation-focused approaches, such as restorative justice and diversion programmes, rather than harsher punitive measures. Those efforts had in turn contributed to the establishment of a dedicated research commission on the issue in Parliament.

UNICEF also encouraged structured participation from children themselves, including through initiatives such the National Children's Forum in Türkiye, where children were able to share their perspectives and contribute solutions. One such example was the forum on children's rights in the digital environment held in 2025.

The above examples illustrated the role of the UN in supporting legislative review processes while respecting national decision-making authority. In that context, the IPU should encourage peer-to-peer learning between parliaments, support countries to adapt good practices to their own national contexts, inform legislative review processes with evidence, advance stronger oversight mechanisms sensitive to child rights, and translate international norms into practical guidance for parliamentarians. The shared objective of those efforts was to ensure that global commitments were not seen as external obligations but as an essential part of democratic governance.

Mr. B. Ahonsi (UN Resident Coordinator in Türkiye), moderator, summarizing, said that the UN system was working with the Parliament of Türkiye in a systematic way through research, knowledge exchange and technical assistance. Engagement with parliamentary mechanisms helped to advance common priorities with the aim of improving lives and protecting vulnerable groups, including children, women and refugees.

Mr. S.S Hosseini (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the actions by the United States of America and Israel against his country constituted State terrorism, military aggression and a violation of the UN Charter. Parliamentary engagement with the UN was necessary to expose inefficiencies and ensure oversight over UN activity. The UN should remain focused on its core peacekeeping mandate.

Mr. C. Supphaiboonlerd (Thailand) said that parliaments should be seen as essential accountability partners in UN development work, not mere observers, due to their role in approving budgets, scrutinizing policies, representing citizens and implementing international commitments. Drawing on Thailand's experience as host to several regional UN bodies, including the regional offices of the UN Economic and Social Council, UN Women, UNHCR and UNICEF, he highlighted that meaningful parliamentary engagement strengthened public ownership of development outcomes and therefore the democratic legitimacy of the UN development agenda. The UN80 Initiative to reform the UN, which reoriented the emphasis towards the regional and country levels, should include a genuine and formalized commitment to enhancing parliamentary engagement.

Mr. B. Akburak (Türkiye) noting that global challenges could not be addressed by individual countries alone, said that the role of the UN, as the core of the multilateral system, must be strengthened. UN presence in Türkiye was a good example of effective cooperation between parliaments and the UN. The partnership had supported Istanbul's vision of becoming a global hub

while demonstrating its value in times of crisis, including during the 2020 earthquakes and Syrian refugee emergency. Türkiye supported all efforts to make the UN more effective, inclusive and results-oriented, noting that a stronger UN led to stronger international solidarity.

Mr. M. Aqel (Jordan) said that promoting dialogue between UN country offices and parliaments was an investment in sustainability. Parliaments, as the bridge between international commitments and national legislation, responsible for approving budgets, ratifying conventions and overseeing implementation of development goals, were essential to ensuring UN work reached its full potential.

He shared Jordan's experience as a host country for refugees from Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic and other nationalities, noting close cooperation with UN agencies to provide relief and ensure dignified living conditions. Effective parliamentary-UN cooperation rested on three pillars: (1) transparency through regular updates on UN programmes and budgets; (2) complementarity through aligned objectives; and (3) capacity-building to strengthen parliamentary oversight, particularly in areas such as human rights, health and the environment.

He proposed using the Turkish model as a starting point for other partnerships, which should be built around annual consultations between UN country offices and parliaments, shared oversight mechanisms to assess the impact of UN programmes, and expansion of collaboration to other countries facing development challenges. While UN programmes should respect national sovereignty, stronger parliamentary oversight and engagement would improve alignment between UN and parliamentary work. The UN should better reflect the voices of the people by listening more closely to them.

Mr. D.M. Chikwanje (Malawi) said that his country's evolving relationship with the UN reflected a broader shift from UN engagement focused mainly on the executive branch to one that more actively included parliaments, in line with the UN80 Initiative. The UN Resident Coordinator now played a stronger role in coordinating development work rather than acting solely as a diplomatic link, while the work of the UN Country Team, which included agencies such as the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), UNICEF and the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO), was increasingly managed not only through the executive branch but in closer cooperation with the Parliament.

Cooperation between the UN and the Parliament was taking place in three main ways: first, through legislative support, where UN agencies provided technical input, data and analysis to parliamentary committees to support evidence-based law-making, including in areas such as climate resilience and open government planning; and second, through structured partnership dialogues that enabled open discussion of development challenges such as resource constraints.

The UN80 Initiative presented an opportunity to further strengthen engagement, moving towards more structured, transparent and results-based collaboration between the UN system and parliament.

Mr. K. Alkharji (United Arab Emirates) highlighted the importance of transforming UN field presence into a more systematic and effective partnership with national parliaments, noting three key areas for consideration. First, a structured mechanism for regular communication between UN country teams and parliaments should be established to better align UN programmes with national priorities. Second, parliamentarians should have a stronger role in monitoring UN programmes at country level to enhance transparency and the effective use of resources. Third, there was a need to improve national ownership of UN programmes by ensuring that parliaments were fully engaged in their legislative and oversight functions rather than acting only as a follow-up mechanism. Stronger institutional relations between the UN and parliaments were essential for improving UN effectiveness at country level and expanding programme impact.

Mr. M.H. Fadlulloh (Indonesia) said that the UN could not realize its full potential through engagement with governments alone, adding that the active involvement of parliaments, as institutions with a direct mandate from the people, was essential. UN programmes should support and align with national priorities, including Indonesia's goals of achieving energy independence and strengthening human resources. He encouraged the UN to move beyond technical coordination with the executive branch towards strategic dialogue with parliaments to reinforce national ownership.

Türkiye's experience in disaster management demonstrated the importance of integrating UN agencies with legislative mechanisms to facilitate emergency responses and aid mobilization. Against that backdrop, he urged the UN to strengthen the role of parliaments in building national disaster resilience and addressing urgent humanitarian issues.

Mr. B. Ahonsi (UN Resident Coordinator in Türkiye), moderator, said that there was a clear expectation that the UN should deepen its engagement with parliaments in a more inclusive and systematic manner to enhance the impact of it programmes on the ground. While the partnership between the UN and the Parliament of Türkiye was already strong, it remained an evolving partnership, with efforts under way to establish more systematic mechanisms of collaboration. The UN took careful note of calls to ensure that its programmes responded to national needs and priorities and were developed with the meaningful participation of parliamentarians.

Ms. M. Guimond (Country Director, UN Women Türkiye) said that the UN operated in countries at the request of Member States, with global commitments ultimately made by those States, and the UN primarily reflecting and supporting their decisions on the ground. In Türkiye, the UN worked closely with the Parliament through joint planning and continuous exchanges, contributing technical and policy expertise, to ensure national ownership. She highlighted the importance of sharing good practices between countries, pointing, in particular, to the UN-supported networks of women parliamentarians set up in the Arab States, which should be showcased more widely. Parliaments played a key role in advancing and implementing the global commitments agreed by Member States.

Ms. M. Gandhi (Deputy Representative, UNICEF Türkiye) said that UN cooperation was already grounded in strong national ownership, with all work done from the outset in collaboration with the host country's government and in alignment with national development plans. More structured and regular dialogue with parliaments remained an ongoing area for improvement. In that regard, she pointed to existing institutional mechanisms in Türkiye such as review and research commissions and the National Children's Forum, which enabled structured participation from children. There was also scope for broader thematic dialogue with parliaments, which would serve two purposes: to reaffirm national ownership in a co-created process, and to focus on specific country-relevant themes, using evidence, data, best practices and peer learning to support practical tools tailored to national contexts. The role of the UN was to help translate international commitments into actionable approaches that could be applied domestically.

Ms. D. Cicchella (UNHCR Türkiye) expressed appreciation for the feedback from parliamentarians, noting its importance for the UN system. Their feedback mattered given the key role they played in upholding fundamental principles endorsed by UN Member States.

On displacement, she reiterated ongoing cooperation between UNHCR and the IPU, including the MoU aimed at supporting the sharing of good practices. There may also be opportunities to share experiences and ideas across UN agencies. UNHCR remained available to continue deepening collaboration with parliaments, including through the exchange of experiences.

The sitting rose at 12:40.

SITTING OF SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 09:00 with Mr. F. Al-Nouiri (Libya), Vice-President of the Committee, in the Chair.

Towards a more effective and representative United Nations: The need for a Charter review

The Chair said that as the United Nations approached its 80th anniversary, it faced growing pressure to reform its systems to respond more effectively to global challenges. Under Article 109 of the UN Charter, it had been originally envisaged that a general conference to review and update the Charter would be held within ten years of the organization's establishment in 1945, but such a conference had never taken place. The current sitting would involve a discussion with representatives of the Article 109 Coalition looking at the role of parliaments in the review process.

Ms. R. French (Director of Policy and Diplomatic Engagement, Article 109 Coalition), accompanying her remarks with a digital slide presentation, said that while the UN had achieved significant successes since its creation more than 80 years ago, including contributing to international peace and security and helping to prevent a third world war, it was now facing profound challenges that called into question its ability to fulfil its core purpose. Particular concern had been directed at the

Security Council, which was increasingly paralysed. Although the Council had held a record 305 meetings in the past year, it had adopted only 46 resolutions, the lowest number since 1991. Equally, the use of the veto had further constrained action, including by blocking ceasefires, in direct opposition to the UN Charter's principles. More broadly, multilateralism itself was also under strain.

It was clear that the UN Charter no longer reflected contemporary realities, having been drafted in a very different historical context, in which modern challenges, such as climate change and artificial intelligence, had not been contemplated. Only 50 countries had participated in its adoption in 1945, with much of Africa, the Caribbean and Asia remaining under colonial rule at the time and having no voice in shaping it. Today, the UN comprised 193 independent Member States, suggesting that a review of the Charter was necessary and justified.

Citing statements from former UN officials, advisors and political leaders, she said that questions around the relevance and effectiveness of the UN were becoming increasingly more widespread. The growing demand for reform was evident at the most recent session of the UN General Assembly, where UN reform featured prominently in national statements, being referenced in 78% of speeches, while 188 Member States had specifically called for reform of the UN Security Council. Political leaders from a wide range of countries had argued that institutions designed 80 years ago were no longer fit for purpose and required fundamental renewal to address contemporary realities.

While acknowledging ongoing reform efforts, including the UN80 Initiative, she argued that most current proposals focused on one of four aspects: (1) structure, such as mergers of UN agencies; (2) procedures, including streamlining of UN mandates; (3) costs, particularly savings and efficiency; and (4) institutional culture. Such measures, while important, addressed symptoms rather than the underlying causes of dysfunction. The deeper problems lay in the foundational architecture of the UN, which was rooted in the geopolitical realities of 1945, including the continued existence of the veto.

Article 109 of the UN Charter provided a mechanism for a more ambitious reform agenda, enabling a Charter review conference to be convened at an agreed date and place, subject to the approval of a two-thirds majority of the UN General Assembly and nine out of fifteen Members of the UN Security Council, without any possibility of a veto. Should such a conference be convened, any resulting amendments would also require ratification by a two-thirds majority of Member States.

The Charter, as drafted in 1945, had always been envisaged to be reviewed over time, with Article 109 specifically calling for a review conference to take place within 10 years of the UN's creation. The clause had been introduced, as a concession, in part due to concerns about the allocation of veto power to permanent Members of the UN Security Council. Although a review had been considered in 1955 and received broad support, it had been deferred on the grounds of waiting for more auspicious conditions and allowing newer Member States more experience within the UN system. Those justifications were no longer valid more than 80 years later, as all Member States now had sufficient experience of the system to contribute meaningfully to a review of the Charter.

She called for a full, inclusive review process that would allow all Member States to assess what was working and what was not. Such a process would act as a counterweight to the growing disorder in the world and ensure that any emerging global order was shaped through inclusive multilateralism rather than by a limited number of powerful States.

Support for convening a review conference under Article 109 had been steadily growing, including among academics, Nobel laureates, world leaders and within UN-led discussions, reflecting increasing momentum for Charter reform. In September 2024, President Lula of Brazil had been the first Head of State to formally call for a comprehensive Charter review conference under Article 109, arguing that ad hoc adjustments were important but insufficient. His position had been supported shortly thereafter by Prime Minister Modi of India, President Ramaphosa of South Africa and by many other world leaders, including from Honduras, Kazakhstan, the Gambia, North Macedonia and New Zealand.

It was clear therefore that the matter was increasingly becoming part of mainstream policy discussions rather than just a peripheral idea. What had initially been dismissed by some as overly ambitious was increasingly being recognized as necessary. Indeed, inaction was not a viable option given the urgency of global challenges and the narrowing window of opportunity for change.

Turning to her own organization, she explained that the Article 109 Coalition was a civil society organization established the previous year to support UN reform. Its vision was simple: to strengthen the ability of the UN to deliver on its core purpose of maintaining peace and security while addressing emerging global challenges, such as climate change and artificial intelligence. It also sought to promote a more equitable distribution of power amongst UN Member States, thereby enhancing representation in UN decision-making and governance, as well as to reinforce respect for international law and human rights while ensuring the meaningful participation of non-State actors.

Although the Coalition was not advocating for any specific reforms, it had put forward some ideas, such as the introduction of broader regional representation within the UN Security Council and the possible creation of a climate council to address global environmental challenges. Regardless of the outcome, the process of review itself was valuable as a means of rebuilding trust in multilateralism and enabling inclusive dialogue, with particular emphasis on ensuring that all voices were heard and respected.

She outlined the Coalition's three-phase approach: (1) engaging and mobilizing Member States on UN reform, noting that over 40% of the UN membership had already been briefed and that interest was growing; (2) building a wider civil society movement, which now included more than 100 organizations; and (3) shaping the policy discourse through engagement at major international events.

Presenting an indicative timeline for advancing the Coalition's Article 109 initiative, she said that 2026 would focus on developing a shared vision for the UN in the 21st century and identifying high-level champions to support the process. In 2027, the aim would be to build a group of Member States, potentially through a formal "group of friends," to drive the initiative forward. In 2028, the focus would be to table a UN General Assembly resolution calling for a Charter review conference. Significant preparatory work would be required ahead of any such review conference, including extensive consultations and discussions, and she emphasized the importance of engaging parliamentarians and other stakeholders in shaping proposals. The review conference was envisaged to take place after the conclusion of the Sustainable Development Goals (SGDs).

On the role of parliaments, she emphasized that any amendments to the UN Charter would ultimately require ratification by national parliaments. Parliamentarians must therefore be involved from the outset rather than only at the final stage of ratification, as had traditionally been the case. Given their important role in bridging the gap between global commitments and local implementation as well as in upholding democratic accountability, deeper involvement by parliamentarians would boost legitimacy and national ownership of the reform process.

The IPU, as the world's oldest forum for international political negotiation, was encouraged to contribute its experience and expertise to the discussions on UN Charter reform. In that context, the Standing Committee on UN Affairs should consider passing a motion encouraging debates on the matter in national legislatures. Stronger parliamentary engagement in knowledge-sharing was also needed. The Coalition stood ready to assist parliamentarians in those efforts. She concluded by urging bold ambition in pursuing reform, emphasizing the importance of striving beyond minimal change.

Mr. M. Sabayleh (Jordan) said that, while the UN had been established to prevent and resolve conflicts, its effectiveness had been undermined by double standards, institutional paralysis and the frequent use of the veto, which weakened its ability to deliver justice and uphold international order. Genuine political will was needed to reform the UN and strengthen its decision-making mechanisms. Decisions on international peace and security must be applied consistently and without selectivity, with the Palestinian cause cited as an example of uneven application. He concluded that the international community faced a choice between allowing the UN to become increasingly marginalized or revitalizing it as an effective champion of diplomacy and justice, including through reform under Article 109.

Mr. S.S. Hosseini (Islamic Republic of Iran) called for comprehensive reform of the UN under Article 109, including of the Security Council and the Charter itself, urging that the issue be placed firmly on the international agenda. Referring to the recent use of force by Israel and the United States of America against another UN Member State, namely the Islamic Republic of Iran, he condemned the attacks as a crime that had resulted in civilian casualties and damage to civilian infrastructure.

Mr. K. Alkharji (United Arab Emirates), noting that national positions on UN reform must be informed by objective and technical analysis, encouraged parliaments to organize structured briefings and committee discussions on the matter. It was important to strengthen parliamentary oversight tools to enhance transparency and accountability in the reform process as well as to better assess the impact of the existing international rules-based system. Broader engagement with civil society, academic institutions and young people was also needed to rebuild public trust in multilateral institutions. Overall, parliaments were essential to the UN reform process, helping to bridge international discussions with national legitimacy and translate global commitments into practical implementation.

Mr. A. Hatem (Egypt) said that global governance mechanisms, particularly the UN, as the primary platform responsible for international peace and security, must be strengthened to address ongoing developments in the international order across economic, social and security dimensions. Article 109 was a legitimate instrument for reviewing the UN Charter and should be activated to ensure the UN, including the Security Council, remained fit for the 21st century. Reaffirming Egypt's longstanding commitment to multilateralism, respect for international law and opposition to double standards, he underscored that UN reform should strengthen sovereignty, promote international peace and security, and ensure a more equitable future for the coming generations without discrimination.

Ms. S. Ataullahjan (Canada) said that the UN Charter was increasingly outdated and obsolete, arguing that a system designed in 1945 was no longer suited to contemporary challenges, such as modern conflicts, cybercrime and climate change. The UN needed to adapt to remain relevant and maintain the support of Member States. She intended to raise those issues in her national parliament, including through the foreign affairs committee where a study on UN reform would likely be conducted.

Mr. C. Supphaiboonlerd (Thailand) said that the UN Charter of 1945 remained the foundation of the international order, but the world of 2026 had changed significantly, facing new challenges, such as climate change, digital disruption, new forms of conflict and strains on multilateralism. He supported inclusive, Member State-driven discussions on whether the UN institutional framework remained fit for purpose, and noted the work of the Article 109 Coalition with interest. Any Charter review, however, must be undertaken with care so as not to belittle the voices of least developed countries, Small Island Developing States or landlocked developing countries. Indeed, reform should reflect the equality and dignity of all peoples. While the UN must remain Member State-driven, civil society should have a stronger consultative role. The key question was not whether the UN should be reformed but whether there was sufficient collective courage to pursue that reform.

Mr. O. Zhmerenetskyi (Ukraine) said that the ongoing war in Ukraine exposed the inability of the UN to respond effectively, particularly in situations where a permanent member of the Security Council, such as the Russian Federation, was itself involved in violations of the UN Charter. Indeed, those situations led to institutional paralysis where that member could block any meaningful action against itself.

He proposed three reforms: (1) empowering the International Court of Justice to issue advisory determinations on Charter violations involving permanent members, triggering procedural consequences, including constraints on veto use; (2) enhancing the role of the UN General Assembly, which, acting by qualified majority, should have the ability to suspend or override vetoes in cases of aggression or mass violations of international law; and (3) strengthening the "Uniting for Peace" mechanism to enable the UN General Assembly to act automatically when the UN Security Council was blocked.

Ukraine had adopted a parliamentary resolution on UN reform in December 2022 and expressed its readiness to work with other parliaments to develop similar initiatives.

Dr. J.D. Laouhingamaye (Chad) said that the challenges facing the UN had already been extensively debated and diagnosed over many years. The key question was no longer whether reform was needed but what concrete action parliamentarians could take to advance the reform process. A mechanism should be put in place to enable parliaments to participate meaningfully in efforts to revive the UN Charter both nationally and within the Coalition. There had been enough talk and it was now time for action.

Ms. S. Kheng (Cambodia) said that, while the UN had made significant contributions to preventing conflict, advancing human rights and supporting people in need, the world had changed profoundly since its establishment in 1945, with new emerging challenges. In that context, it was important to reflect on the UN Charter and consider how it might be strengthened. Like any living framework, the Charter must adapt to remain relevant. It was not about changing its cores values of peace, security, cooperation and mutual respect but about making the UN more relevant, inclusive, responsive and effective in addressing the realities of the modern world.

Mr. I.Y. Roba Putri (Indonesia) said that the UN was a shared asset of humanity that must not be allowed to become obsolete. However, its effectiveness could only be guaranteed if the organization had the courage to self-correct through a review of the UN Charter. For Indonesia, UN

reform was not merely a procedural matter but an imperative for humanity. He called for a UN that was: (1) more just, by avoiding favouritism towards any particular power and protecting the vulnerable; (2) more relevant, by building its capacity to address modern challenges such as food security and the climate crisis; and (3) more democratic, by giving developing countries a greater voice in shaping global governance.

He called for concrete follow-up action, including building national consensus on UN reform within parliaments, eliminating double standards in diplomacy and placing people at the centre of multilateralism. Recognizing that the future of the international order should not be determined by a small number of powerful States alone, parliamentarians had a responsibility to ensure that all voices were represented in the new UN Charter.

Mr. B. Albinmohamed (Bahrain) said that the need for a revised UN Charter was evident and had been clearly articulated in earlier interventions. However, meaningful reform faced resistance from actors benefiting from the status quo, making change difficult to achieve. He therefore raised the question of how such reform could be effectively enforced. Any amended Charter must ensure inclusivity and fair representation while also remaining effective and functional.

Mr. M. Reddad (Morocco) emphasized the importance of inclusive participation in shaping a reformed UN Charter that reflected contemporary global realities. Parliamentarians, as a bridge between legal frameworks and practical implementation, had a key role to play in the reform process. A new Charter should strengthen the ability of the UN to anticipate crises and safeguard international peace and security. Overall, investing in UN reform represented an investment in a more democratic, representative and effective multilateral system that responded to the needs of all nations.

Ms. L. Nyelele (Zimbabwe) said that the UN Charter was in urgent need of comprehensive review, as the current institutional design, particularly the Security Council veto, often paralyzed collective action and undermined the credibility of the UN in maintaining peace and security. Furthermore, the Charter did not adequately address contemporary challenges such as climate change, while many regions, including Africa and Latin America, remained underrepresented. Financial constraints risked further weakening the ability of the UN to respond effectively to crises.

Reforms should make the organization more representative, transparent and responsible. Examples of reforms might include expanding UN Security Council membership, encouraging restraint in veto use in cases of mass atrocities, and strengthening the coordination of humanitarian and peacekeeping operations. An inclusive discussion on a Charter review was an important step towards creating a more effective and representative multilateral system.

Ms. R. French (Director of Policy and Diplomatic Engagement, Article 109 Coalition), responding to interventions, welcomed the strong support expressed for UN Charter renewal and emphasized that the Charter's opening words, "We, the Peoples", required a system that genuinely reflected the voices of the world population, which was not currently the case today. At the very least, the lack of representation on the UN Security Council must be corrected. The UN must be equipped to address contemporary challenges rather than being constrained by structures designed in 1945, so that it could reclaim centre stage in maintaining international peace and security rather than being marginalized. In a shifting global order, any future UN Secretary-General would have to make the case for why the UN mattered, not only through words but through action.

She encouraged parliamentarians to initiate discussions within their national parliaments, both on the need for a Charter review and on the reforms they wished to see introduced, noting their important role in rebuilding public trust in multilateral institutions and ensuring that citizens' concerns were reflected in global governance. As national agenda-setters, parliamentarians must be part of the reform process from the beginning. While political leaders often operated within short-term agendas, UN reform required a broader and more ambitious perspective. It therefore called for a cross-party approach in which differences could be set aside in pursuit of a shared, long-term objective.

Proposals aimed at strengthening accountability within the UN system, including through a greater role for the International Court of Justice, the UN General Assembly and other bodies, were welcomed. Acknowledging that reform would face resistance from those who benefited from the status quo, a Charter review would nevertheless provide all 193 UN Member States with an opportunity to participate in shaping the Organization's future, helping to balance the distribution of power more fairly. Charter reviews should be conducted periodically, as would be expected of any major institution. Although not all reform proposals would ultimately be adopted, Member States should pursue bold ambitions.

The IPU was encouraged to consider adopting a motion in support of a UN Charter review, thereby empowering parliamentarians to advance national discussions. It was important to have a structured, inclusive and forward-looking debate on the future of the UN from an external, parliamentary perspective.

The Chair moved onto the issue of UN financing, which formed part of broader UN reform efforts.

Mr. S. Prokhorov (Programme Manager, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation), presenting an in-depth analysis of the UN funding landscape, highlighted the striking contrast between the modest financial base of the UN compared to other global financial revenues. Indeed, in 2023, total UN funding had stood at US$ 67.6 billion – a figure far exceeded by Google's revenue (US$ 310 billion), global military expenditure (US$ 2.5 trillion), average daily foreign exchange trading (US$ 7.5 trillion) and the combined wealth of the world's 500 richest individuals (US$ 10 trillion).

He also highlighted a broader decline in Official Development Assistance (ODA), noting that, according to the OECD, global ODA had fallen sharply in recent years, with a 23% decrease in 2025 alone – the largest annual contraction on record. The humanitarian consequences of that trend were potentially severe, with research published in *The Lancet* estimating that, if current reductions continued, an additional 9.4 million deaths could occur by 2030, including 2.5 million children under the age of five. Under a more severe defunding scenario, the number of additional deaths could rise to 22.6 million, including 5.4 million young children. Those projections underscored the critical importance of both the availability and quality of UN funding.

The UN relied on five principal funding mechanisms: assessed contributions (mandatory unearmarked payments by Member States), voluntary core contributions (flexible and unearmarked funding), soft-earmarked contributions (thematic funding with some limited conditions), pooled funds (joint funding mechanisms supporting coordinated interagency UN action), and hard-earmarked contributions (highly restricted funding tied to specific activities or geographical areas). Assessed and core contributions were the most flexible and strategic forms of funding, while hard-earmarked contributions provided the least flexibility for responding to emerging needs. In 2023, 61% of total UN funding had consisted of earmarked contributions while assessed and voluntary core contributions each represented only a fraction of overall resources at around 8-9%.

Statistics for 2023 also revealed that the five largest contributors accounted for 54% of UN humanitarian assistance, creating significant dependence on a small number of contributors and heightening vulnerability to reductions in their support. Most of those contributions were earmarked, while pooled funds and soft-earmarked contributions represented only a small proportion. The picture was somewhat more positive with respect to development and humanitarian assistance funding from top non-OECD Member States, including China, Brazil, India, Türkiye and Mexico, which provided large amounts of core funding; pooled and soft-earmarked funds also remained limited there.

He drew attention to the UN Funding Compact, which was a mutual commitment between Member States and the UN development system aimed at improving both the quality of funding and the effectiveness of UN operations. Under the compact, Member States had committed to increasing core contributions, expanding pooled and thematic funding, and providing more multi-year financing, while the UN had committed to improving coordination, transparency, visibility and reporting as well as overall efficiency and effectiveness. However, progress had been slower than anticipated, and it was unlikely that the Compact's targets would be fully achieved before its conclusion in 2027.

To assess progress, the Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation had conducted field research on the implementation of the UN Funding Compact at the country level. Key recommendations to Member States included increasing voluntary core funding; ensuring assessed contributions were paid in full and on time; shifting single-agency funding towards core or soft-earmarked formats; and prioritizing global pooled funds such as the Peacebuilding Fund and the Joint SDG Fund. At country level, it was important to prioritize pooled funding and joint programmes, stronger coordination between headquarters and country teams as well as a shift from a donor-driven model to a genuine partnership approach. More proactive engagement by host Member States in development and humanitarian processes was also important, as it encouraged donors to provide better quality funding.

The discussion on UN funding should be situated within the broader context of UN reform efforts, particularly the UN80 Initiative. Indeed, funding reform featured prominently in Workstream 3, which focused on improving funding mechanisms through measures such as strengthening pooled funds, enhancing the attractiveness of core funding and reviewing implementation of the Funding Compact.

Lastly, he presented preliminary findings from a joint IPU-Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation survey for parliamentarians. Early results suggested strong belief in the continued relevance of the UN in their country and globally (91%), majority support for increased UN funding (53%), and significant demand for better information on UN financing (60%). There was also strong backing for the introduction of stricter penalties for non-payment of assessed contributions (64%), support for greater parliamentary influence over national contributions to the UN budget (77%), and interest in innovative financing mechanisms, such as financial transaction taxes (52%) and air travel levies (20%). A majority (72%) supported consolidation of the UN system to improve efficiency. Noting that the above dataset was based on only 120 responses, he encouraged broader participation in the survey to ensure more comprehensive representation of the global parliamentary community.

Ms. M. Lorenzo (Director, United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA)) highlighted the severe impact of chronic underfunding on UNRWA's ability to deliver essential services to Palestinian refugees, noting that operations continued on a budget comparable to 2012 despite rising needs. In that context, further funding cuts were untenable.

Around 90% of UNRWA's funding came from voluntary contributions, leaving it highly vulnerable to political and economic shocks, as well as to increasingly tightly earmarked funding streams. The lack of predictable funding undermined the delivery of essential education and health services to millions of refugees across Gaza, the West Bank, Lebanon, Syria and Jordan. Some of the practical implications of recurring cash-flow crises and financial uncertainty included the closing down of schools and difficulties paying the salaries of staff, who continued to provide services even under difficult conditions. It would be unacceptable in any country to cut funding for education and health by as much as 20%, for instance, and yet that was the reality for Palestinian refugees.

She called for stronger support for multilateralism, payment of assessed contributions in full and on time, and more predictable, multi-year and flexible funding arrangements. Member States were urged to resist further funding reductions for agencies such as UNRWA with unique mandates, while ensuring that UN mandates were matched with adequate resources and remained accountable under ongoing UN reform efforts.

The Chair proposed that a motion on Article 109 be discussed at the 153rd IPU Assembly in the United Republic of Tanzania.

It was so decided.

Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

The Chair said the following nominations to the Bureau had been received: Ms. C.L. Ouédraogo (Burkina Faso) for the African Group, Ms. M. Aldhain (Bahrain) for the Arab Group, Mr. K. Shamsherzoda (Tajikistan) for the Eurasia Group and Mr. M. Salinas (Paraguay) for the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC).

Ms. P. Torsney (IPU Secretariat), Secretary of the Committee, noted that the vacancy for the Eurasia Group had arisen following the decision of the previous member from Armenia not to seek re-election, while a seat for the Asia-Pacific Group remained open.

The Chair took it that the Committee wished to approve the nominations.

It was so decided.

Other business

Mr. O. Zhmerenetskyi (Ukraine) proposed that a motion be discussed at the next sitting of the Committee inspired by the UN Pact for the Future, including its emphasis on intergenerational equality and future literacy. He suggested promoting the use of foresight tools, strategic planning and intergenerational policy within parliaments and the IPU, building capacities in the area and creating networks to share best practices among parliamentarians and parliamentary staff. Several countries, including Ukraine, were already developing approaches related to the Pact. Ukraine had established a dedicated unit on the matter and was developing plans to establish a parliamentary committee for the future. He had prepared a detailed proposal, which would be sent to the Secretariat, and offered to share the experience of Ukraine with other Members.

The sitting rose at 10:50.

Forum of Women Parliamentarians

SITTING OF WEDNESDAY, 15 APRIL 2026

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 10:30 with Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico), President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, in the Chair.

Opening ceremony

The President welcomed participants to the 41st Session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians. She thanked all delegates present, including the men, emphasizing that gender equality could not be achieved without the support of men and women. She expressed special appreciation for the President of the 152nd IPU Assembly, Mr. N. Kurtulmuş, the third woman President of the IPU, Dr. T. Ackson, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Ms. F. Aksal, Vice-President of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians, Ms. F. Öncü, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, Ms. Erdoğan, who had supported the preparations for the 152nd IPU Assembly, and the IPU Secretary General and Chairperson of the International Gender Champions, Mr. M. Chungong.

As recommended by the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, Ms. F. Aksal, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, was, by acclamation, elected President of the 41st session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians.

Ms. F. Aksal (Türkiye), President of the 41st session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians, took the Chair.

The President expressed her thanks for the leadership of the President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and for the contribution of the IPU Secretary General to raising the voices of women and girls and strengthening the Forum of Women Parliamentarians. As the world faced political tensions and humanitarian crises, the work of parliaments – the conscience of societies – was crucial to the protection of sustainable peace, justice, human dignity and international law. Democracy was strengthened through inclusive representation; the representation of women in politics and their effective engagement in decision-making processes was not just a matter of equality but a determinant of the quality of democratic systems, and could lead to more inclusive, balanced and sustainable policies, the building of peace and strengthening of social consensus. During her term in the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, and in particular her tenure as Chairperson of the Committee on Equal Opportunity for Women and Men, she had seen that equal opportunity was not just a discourse but a tool. It was therefore vital that the IPU supported women parliamentarians and incentivized durable policies. For a fairer, more peaceful and more inclusive world, women must be included in decision-making processes.

Mr. N. Kurtulmuş (Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye), President of the Assembly), welcoming participants to Istanbul, said that the Forum of Women Parliamentarians would discuss the role of women in decision-making processes, rebuilding societies after conflict and establishing a more equitable international system. In a context in which the multilateral system had less impact, the law was implemented selectively, the reputation of international institutions was being eroded and global decision-making processes lacked justice, conflicts were a cause of deep concern and had led to the narrowing of diplomatic channels and suffering for women and children, who paid the heaviest price in conflict zones. In his region, the women and children of Gaza were paying the price of genocide, while around the world, women were among those worst affected by displacement, migration and poverty.

Women remained inadequately represented in democracy, which delayed the socialization of peace and undermined stability. Women's empowerment was linked to quality democracy, inclusive administration and sustainable development; neither equity nor lasting peace could be achieved without women's participation in decision-making mechanisms. Parliaments had a special responsibility to determine future directions and women's participation in their processes was vital. Multidimensional crises were deepening existing inequalities while economic contraction, displacement, social insecurity and deteriorating access to education affected women's lives.

Economic justice and social peace could not be considered separately. Violence against women was one of the most severe dimensions of that issue, the response to which was a legal, humanitarian, moral and political duty, and a key indicator of societies' level of civilization. In Türkiye, the empowerment of women was considered a strategic area for the protection of the family, strengthening of the social fabric, enhancement of productive capacity and the improvement of public life. Trust in daily life was needed to ensure that girls remained in education and human dignity was safeguarded in all circumstances. He wished the Forum every success.

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) said that the presence of so many women and men in the room was an indication of progress. She paid particular tribute to the men who had decided to attend the Forum, since men and women parliamentarians had to work together to advance gender equality. For more than four decades, the Forum had brought women parliamentarians together and had helped them to recognize that individual obstacles were often part of a wider structural reality. The Forum had long affirmed that women's rights, representation and leadership were matters of democracy itself. The Forum's space for dialogue, solidarity and shared purpose had made the IPU a leader on gender equality, a topic that would remain at the heart of the Organization's mission through the IPU Strategy for 2027–2031, due to be adopted during the 152nd Assembly.

As the IPU Secretary General, Mr. M. Chungong, came to the end of his tenure, she highlighted his prioritization of gender equality as a standard and a shared responsibility. The start of Mr. Chungong's tenure had coincided with her parliamentary journey and it had been inspiring to see the IPU address the challenges faced by women in leadership. Women's representation in parliaments globally had increased and work continued through combating persistent barriers, such as violence against women in politics, negative social norms and the exclusion of marginalized women. The legacy of the Secretary General's leadership was also seen in closer cooperation with the United Nations (UN) and work to advance international commitments on gender equality and women's rights. The IPU was a loud voice that countered pushbacks against women's and girls' rights and freedoms, and an Organization that listened and responded. The Forum would continue to fulfil its role of bringing a strong gender perspective to the work of the IPU and of parliaments. The fact that the Organization had four women candidates for the position of Secretary General was an historic indicator of progress.

Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico), President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that the Forum was not only a platform within the IPU but a space of trust, courage and political sisterhood. Its sustained focus on women, peace and security remained deeply relevant as conflict continued to bring suffering, in the region and beyond. She expressed the Forum's heartfelt solidarity with all women and girls who endured violence, displacement and fear, and whose futures were hampered by war, and paid tribute to those women who had died in war; the Forum would raise its voice for those women and so that no more women would die.

The global average percentage of women in parliament was 27.5%. The Americas had the highest percentage, with 35%, followed by Europe and sub-Saharan Africa. The number of countries that had achieved gender parity had increased from six to seven, and increases in women's representation in parliament had been seen in particular in Kyrgyzstan and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines. There were 28 women Heads of State or Government worldwide, with the highest percentage in Europe, and she congratulated the historic first women Presidents in Mexico, Namibia and North Macedonia. Overall, 22% of ministers were women.

Thanking the outgoing Secretary General for his legacy and friendship, and for his help to hold the first Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians, in Mexico, she introduced a short video to express the thanks of the Forum for his work and support.

A video paying tribute to the Secretary General was screened.

Mr. M. Chungong (IPU Secretary General), thanking speakers for their kind words, said that he had made it a point of duty to be present whenever gender equality was discussed within the Organization. Success was never solitary, however, and success on gender equality was the outcome of the determination of the Organization, including the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians. He was proud to have been a man at the forefront of promoting gender equality in the IPU, since gender equality should be part of society and institutions. Democracy was not legitimate if men and women were not equally at the table or there was no prioritization of gender equality or gender justice. The Forum had made the IPU more gender sensitive and had driven progress on the development of gender-sensitive parliamentary diplomacy. The IPU had steadfastly promoted the policies identified by the Forum and the participation of women in delegations to the IPU. As Chair of the International Gender Champions Global Board, he was proud that 37% of IPU delegates at assemblies were women and expressed the hope that efforts would continue to achieve parity in delegations.

He thanked the President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians for her work spearheading the first Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians, held in Mexico, in 2025, and the resulting plan of action for parity. The norm of parity had been embedded in the legislative framework of the Organization. As outgoing Secretary General, he called on all participants to commit to perpetuating the achievements of the previous 12 years, given the pushback against gender equality globally. The anti-rights movement was powerful and well resourced, and only organizations such as the IPU had the legitimacy of the people to counter it. He called on all not to relent in their efforts for the gender equality agenda; those who fought against rights and legitimacy must not prevail. Finally, he called for more men at the table; gender equality was not a women's issue but a societal issue. Men and women needed to work together as allies to promote justice. He remained available to offer support or advice wherever possible.

Adoption of the agenda
(FEM/41/A.1-rev.2)

The agenda was adopted.

Activities to advance gender equality

Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada), briefing the Forum on the recent work of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that, in Geneva, the Bureau had debated the situation of women and girls in conflict, had expressed solidarity with those whose lives were shaped by war, displacement and insecurity, and had reaffirmed the importance of women's full involvement and leadership in peace efforts. The discussion had guided the choice of topic for the Forum's panel discussion.

The Bureau would take note of progress on the fourth IPU regional study on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments to focus on the Americas and the Caribbean. That work had been carried out jointly with ParlAmericas and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, and would result in a publication in November 2026. She encouraged colleagues from that region to participate through confidential interviews. The Bureau would continue its reflection on technology-facilitated violence against women in politics and would hold a debate later during the Assembly on disinformation, misinformation and online violence. While in Istanbul, the Bureau would undertake a field visit to a violence prevention and monitoring centre, and a panel discussion would take place on promoting diversity in parliaments.

Ms. S. Mikayilova (Azerbaijan), reporting to the Forum in her capacity as Chair of the Gender Partnership Group, said that the Group had welcomed two new members at its first sitting in Istanbul – Ms. N. Mutti from Zambia and Mr. A. Gryffroy from Belgium – and had elected her as Chair. It was expected that the current Assembly would have high participation, with the highest ever number of women parliamentarians. It was expected that all-male delegations of at least two members would constitute less than 7% of delegations, while 44 of the 140 national delegations announced had achieved a gender balance of at least 40% men or 40% women, which was more than at the previous Assembly. Parliamentarians must do better, however, and she encouraged them to spread the word within the geopolitical groups to hit a new record in gender-balanced delegations at the following Assembly.

The Group had welcomed efforts to make the IPU Policy to prevent and address harassment, including sexual harassment at IPU assemblies and other IPU events, better known. Incidents were increasingly reported and the Group would continue to monitor the situation. She invited participants to make the IPU a safe and respectful space for all and to take action at home. The Group had heard with concern about the slowdown in progress of women's participation in national parliaments; parliamentarians must remain vigilant and promote progress nationally. The Group would hold dialogues with delegations that had fewer than 10% women in their parliaments.

Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico), President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, reporting on the annual Parliamentary Meeting held on the occasion of the 70th session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women, which had taken place in New York on 11 March 2026 in partnership with UN Women, said that the discussion had focused on the role of parliaments in achieving parity in decision-making and ensuring gender-responsive access to justice for women and girls. The meeting had concluded that gender-sensitive, gender-equal parliaments were required for laws and policies that responded to the needs of women and girls, and justice systems that were fair and accessible to all. Three priority actions had been identified: guarantee gender parity and ensure decision-making

took place in institutions free from violence, harassment and discrimination; adopt laws and policies that promoted equal access to justice for women and girls, including by repealing discriminatory laws in areas such as inheritance, nationality, property ownership, employment and access to finance; and build alliances with civil society and ensure that men supported gender equality. She urged parliamentarians to advance those priorities in their countries. In her country, the Mexican President had recently approved a law on equal work for equal pay, since many women worked the same hours as men but earned 30% less.

Ms. S. Gafarova (Azerbaijan) drew attention to the newly released report of the 15th Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament, which had taken place on 28 July 2025. In a time of heated conflict, tensions, uncertainties and growing inequalities that impacted women and girls, parliaments must be part of the solution by fostering peace through dialogue and inclusion. The Summit had adopted a declaration to commit to rally parliaments and lead action for peace and inclusion. Women speakers had expressed deep concern about the state of the world and their solidarity with all women and girls living in areas of conflict and war. She invited the Forum to express that same solidarity. Women speakers had called for the full respect of international humanitarian and human rights law and for peaceful negotiated settlements of conflicts. They had called for gender-sensitive diplomacy, inclusive peace processes and greater women's leadership in diplomacy and foreign affairs; gender equality and the elimination of discrimination and violence against women and girls should be placed at the heart of building and sustaining peace. She urged the Forum to take ownership of those calls and incorporate the recommendations by the Summit in their deliberations.

Ms. I. Stamatović (Serbia), Member of the IPU Bureau of Young Parliamentarians, invited delegates to attend the next Global Conference of Women Parliamentarianism which would take place from 2 to 4 June 2026 in Belgrade, Serbia. The theme of the Global Conference would be *Advancing parity: Breaking the barriers of gender stereotypes and negative social norms*.

A video on the Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians was screened.

Contribution to the work of the 152nd Assembly from a gender perspective

The President said that the Assembly would be considering two draft resolutions: one entitled *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*, put forward by the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, and the other entitled *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: the role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs, and preventing corporate tax avoidance*, put forward by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development. As decided by the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, participants would divide into two groups to examine the resolutions from a gender perspective and propose amendments to make them more inclusive and responsive to women's needs. The Bureau had nominated Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico) and Ms. R. Maachaoui (Tunisia) to act as Chair and Rapporteur respectively for the discussion of the first resolution, and Ms. R. Abunayan (Saudi Arabia) and Ms. S. Claydon (Australia) to act as Chair and Rapporteur respectively for the discussion on the second.

The nominations were approved.

Ms. F. Belhirch (Netherlands), co-Rapporteur of the resolution entitled, *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*, said that the draft resolution addressed the critical and recurring challenge of transforming peace agreements into just and sustainable peace. The draft resolution provided a framework for parliaments to strengthen post-conflict governance, ensure accountability and justice, promote inclusive recovery and mobilize sustained international support. It recognized that conflict did not affect all equally and that women were among those most impacted, yet were often underrepresented in decision-making processes for post-conflict recovery. It affirmed women as actors of peace, in line with UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and called on parliaments to move from recognition to action by institutionalizing the full, equal and meaningful participation of women across all stages of peace processes.

The draft resolution encouraged women's involvement in legislative processes, transitional justice mechanisms and oversight structures; highlighted the importance of directing resources to those most affected by conflict, including women, and of inclusive and equitable reconstruction efforts;

emphasized the need to support trauma-informed approaches and community dialogue for social reconciliation; and promoted legal and institutional measures to remove barriers to women's participation in national dialogue as a matter not only of equity but of effectiveness. Peace processes that included women were more likely to be sustainable, legitimate and resilient since women often broadened the agenda beyond immediate power-sharing arrangements to include the root causes of conflict, social priorities and communities' daily realities. The draft resolution sent the message that to be serious about building just and lasting peace, women must be recognized, included and empowered at every stage of the process.

Ms. J. Sabao (Zambia), co-Rapporteur of the resolution entitled, *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: the role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs, and preventing corporate tax avoidance*, said that the evidence consistently showed that women faced disproportionate barriers to economic participation, were overrepresented in informal and low-paid sectors and often lacked social protection. They were therefore more vulnerable to economic shocks, disruption in global trade and the consequences of fiscal austerity. Parliaments must promote gender-responsive fiscal and trade policies, including the institutionalization of gender budgeting practices and integration of gender provisions into trade agreements; champion good practices that shielded women from the impact of economic disruptions and strengthened the collection and use of sex-disaggregated data to inform policy; and strengthen social protection systems and legal frameworks to mitigate the vulnerabilities faced by women in informal employment.

Multinational corporations were responsible for an estimated one third of global economic output and almost one quarter of global employment. However, an estimated $1.42 trillion of corporate profits were shifted into tax havens each year. That led to the loss of tax revenue, undermined State sovereignty, eroded the social contract, increased inequality and made it hard for domestic operators to compete. Globalization made it difficult to trace taxable profits and enabled corporations to change their location and legal residence – a practice that was facilitated by multinational accounting, assurance and tax advice services. Parliaments could promote transparent, fair and equitable taxation, scrutinize trade and tax-related agreements and ensure that national policies on trade, tariffs and taxation were coherent and aligned with sustainable development objectives. Methods included the conduct of independent inquiries into trade and tax treaties, and multilateral cooperation with the UN, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and other regional forums.

The Forum split into two working groups.

The sitting was adjourned at 13:35 and resumed at 14:40 with Ms. F. Aksal (Türkiye) in the Chair.

Panel discussion on *Conflicts on the rise, women's and girls' rights on the decline*

The President opened the panel discussion, the topic of which had been chosen in view of the grave impact of conflict on women and girls and the urgent need to protect their rights, combat gender-based violence and ensure their full participation in peacebuilding and recovery.
She introduced the panellists.

Ms. M. Göka (Türkiye), Chair of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties Women's Wing, panellist, said that the Forum was meeting at a time of heightened uncertainty and overlapping crises as wars and conflicts threatened peace, intensified rivalries and placed multilateralism under strain. Conflicts were increasingly frequent and more complex, and the rules-based international order was falling short. Those developments were deepening vulnerabilities, particularly for women and girls. Despite strong global frameworks, such as the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda initiated by UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), on the ground, international law, rights and protection mechanisms were out of reach for displaced women and girls and those who faced violence. The approach of Türkiye was built around three core priorities: protection, through access to essential services and violence prevention; empowerment, through recognition of women as participants in economic and social life; and participation, through women's involvement in peace processes and decision-making. For nearly 15 years her country had been a leading host of refugees – with close to 4 million – largely financed through national resources. Her Government supported the voluntary, safe and dignified return of Syrians, in cooperation with the Office of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees, but that effort required genuine international burden sharing – host countries must not carry the responsibility alone.

The contradiction between the effect of conflict on women and their underrepresentation in peace processes could not persist if the international community was serious about achieving sustainable peace. Parliaments must ensure that laws were practical and enforceable, resources were allocated to genuinely respond to the needs of women and girls, and that policies made a difference on the ground. Efforts should be guided by the translation of commitments into measurable action, the meaningful participation of women in decision-making and the strengthening of preventive policies before crises escalated. Double standards were most visible in Gaza, which was not merely a tragedy but a profound legal and moral collapse. From Lebanon to the Islamic Republic of Iran, tensions and instability were escalating, and women and girls were once again the most affected. Selective exemptions and identity-based applications of international law were eroding its credibility. Palestinians were being dehumanized and women and children were enduring conditions that challenged human dignity. From a gender perspective, the issue was not only the scale of suffering but the inconsistency of the response. If women's rights were defended as universal values, they must be defended everywhere, without distinction. In a world where the rights of women and girls were weakened, no progress could truly be sustained.

Ms. P. Bayr, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, panellist, said that the international community was facing systematic failure with increasing conflicts and the deliberate undermining of women's and girls' rights. In too many contexts sexual violence was used as a weapon of war, access to healthcare and education was reduced and women were pushed out of public life, and those who resisted were targeted, criminalized, or forced into silence or exile. There was a strategy and a war against women and girls, from Afghanistan, to conflict zones across Europe, the Middle East and beyond. Control of women's bodies, voices and rights was being used as a tool of power, yet, women remained excluded from peace negotiations. She had authored reports on women's rights in 2023, 2024 and 2025, and it was clear that the political choice to exclude women made peace processes and agreements less sustainable and societies more fragile. Women did not need more evidence, they needed different decisions.

Parliamentarians must ensure that legal frameworks were not neutral but protective, with full implementation of the Council of Europe Convention on Preventing and Combating Violence against Women and Domestic Violence (Istanbul Convention) as a gold standard, effective criminalization of conflict-related sexual violence and the repeal of laws that restricted the work of human rights defenders. Power must be held to account, since oversight was leverage. Parliamentarians must demand the implementation of human rights and security commitments, accountability for attacks against women human rights defenders and the universal application of international human rights obligations. They must allocate resources to address the visible gap between rhetoric and reality, since women paid the price for underfunded services and organizations. Gender budgeting was crucial since budgets must reflect women's realities and needs.

Women's inclusion led to longer-lasting peace and support for women human rights defenders made societies more resilient. The preservation of access to healthcare, justice and education, even in conflict, made recovery faster and more sustainable. The problem was not a lack of solutions but a lack of scale and consistency. The strategic priorities should be to implement existing commitments; protect human rights defenders; ensure the mandatory inclusion of women in peace processes; and resist the coordinated backlash against gender equality. Women were often portrayed as victims in conflicts but, in reality, they were negotiators, mediators, first responders and community leaders. Women held societies together. When institutions collapsed, the real question was whether political elites were ready to share power. If the international community was serious about peace, security and democracy, women's rights were not a separate issue but a litmus test of a sustainable global future and a society that truly left no one behind.

Ms. B. Sanz Luque (Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, UN Women), panellist, highlighted that the gap between existing international frameworks and the daily reality of millions of women and girls needed to be addressed seriously. The data spoke for itself, with over 170 armed conflicts in 2023 that had affected 600 million women and girls, and a 50% increase in sexual violence in 2023 alone. The situation was worsening as humanity was unable to stop wars and conflicts. In Ukraine, 90% of the 7 million displaced persons were women and children, while data on the Middle East crisis indicated a dire situation across the region for women and girls. Greater protection and safe access to services was needed but the most important preventive action was to forestall conflicts and war. She called for every effort to prevent escalation and find peaceful solutions. There was a clear backlash against gender equality.

Parliaments should place women and girls at the centre of conflict prevention and peacebuilding and recovery efforts. The protection and accountability of the mechanisms put in place should be strengthened and the implementation gap between commitments and action must be addressed. Policy choices were key; the $4 trillion gap in funding to realize the Sustainable Development Goals identified in the *Financing for Sustainable Development Report 2026* was proportional to a significant increase in military expenditure between 2020 and 2024, at the same time as women's organizations had faced shrinking resources. Conflicts, including in the Middle East, were placing additional pressure on women's organizations and public budgets, and undermining predictable financing for gender equality. She called on parliamentarians to: ensure the inclusion of commitments on women, peace and security in national legislation and of gender equality in security and defence sector oversight; strengthen gender-responsive budgeting and ensure legislative decisions were accompanied by adequate resources; increase women's representation and leadership in their countries and at the IPU; exercise robust oversight to ensure adequate public financing for gender equality and women's rights; and ensure the continuous gathering of robust evidence of gender-based violence in conflict.

The scale and urgency of the current crisis called for clarity of vision and collective action. The future could be an inclusive, rights-based and sustainable peace, or one driven by militarization and short-term vision. She expressed the hope that the choices made would be the right ones for women's protection and leadership. The Women, Peace and Security agenda provided a clear pathway to a human-centred, inclusive and rights-based peace. When women were included and their rights protected and leadership recognized, peace became stronger, more just and more enduring for all.

Ms. E. Misola Richard (Legal Adviser, ICRC), panellist, noted that armed conflict magnified inequalities and its impact on women's and girls' lives reverberated across generations. Women possessed fewer financial resources to cope with the impact of war, and faced barriers to accessing healthcare and endemic sexual violence. Greater inequality meant greater instability; gender equality was a marker of peace and security. Peace became achievable when everyone was respected equally and was free from harm and able to access economic opportunities.

International humanitarian law was embedded in all 10 UN Security Council resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda. Those resolutions called on States to respect and implement international humanitarian law that protected women and girls, to prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence – as derived from obligations under international humanitarian law – and emphasized States' responsibility to prosecute war crimes, which included sexual violence. International humanitarian law also featured in national action plans on the Women, Peace and Security agenda. Too often, women were absent or a minority among the decision-makers that conducted war and gender was relegated to an afterthought; women must be empowered to represent their communities.

Effective implementation of international humanitarian law required resources, expertise and political will. The Global Initiative to Galvanize Political Commitment to International Humanitarian Law was intended to close the gap between commitments and realities, and would issue recommendations by the end of the year. Consultations had highlighted the need for inclusive mediation approaches to address the protection needs of women, minorities and other groups that faced specific risks. States had reaffirmed the critical role of women in shaping inclusive, sustainable peace and of women's full, equal and meaningful participation in mediation processes from the outset. International humanitarian law was a flexible framework that could enable women's participation in peace processes through its non-discrimination norms, specific protections for women and prohibitions on sexual violence. The draft model clause on women's participation called for the engagement of women's networks in post-conflict activities and their monitoring and implementation. Parliaments could ensure that those provisions were standard in national frameworks and peace negotiations. National action plans for women, peace and security should include measures to apply international humanitarian law with a gender perspective, appoint gender advisors in positions of influence within the armed forces, train gender and legal advisors, update military manuals to enshrine non-discrimination, and ensure that domestic laws reflected obligations on sexual violence and required the investigation and prosecution of alleged war crimes. International humanitarian law was the bridge between conflict and peace, but that bridge would only hold if its protection applied equally to women and men, girls and boys. The upholding of international humanitarian law meant upholding dignity without distinction.

Ms. S. Nyirahabimana (Rwanda) said that, with political will, the gender-specific challenges faced by women and girls in conflicts could be managed by prioritizing inclusion and ensuring that women played a central role in recovery and lasting peace. Rwanda had a history of cyclical violence

that had culminated in the 1994 genocide against the Tutsi, which had particularly affected women and girls since sexual violence had been used as a weapon of war. A conducive environment had been established for women to play a critical role in post-genocide reconstruction, including as judges in community-based transitional justice mechanisms. Rwanda was a core contributor of women to UN peacekeeping missions. Parliamentarians must shape laws that restored dignity, equality and justice, and ensure their implementation.

Ms. N. Boulhan Houssein (Djibouti) said that sustainable peace was built by bearing in mind vulnerability. Contemporary conflicts had a greater impact on women and girls. Increased violence against women, poor access to essential care and interrupted schooling jeopardized the future of societies. An immediate and structured response was needed. The protection of women and girls should be prioritized through the creation of a regional emergency fund to support access to sexual and reproductive health services, psychosocial support and justice. Women's participation in peace processes should be guaranteed, including through quotas that were supported by the international community. Girls' futures should be protected through the urgent reinstatement of schooling and prevention of early marriage. The protection of women and girls was a condition of sustainable peace.

Ms. G. Fanga Wangaa (Chad) said that her country found itself at a turning point: although the silence of weapons was a victory, the invisible scars borne by women were a challenge to sustainable peace as they faced socioeconomic fragility and in certain rural areas were deprived of access to land and credit. Women bore society's burden without adequate social protection and needed strengthened medical and psychological support, and an end to impunity to restore the dignity of survivors. Post-conflict recovery should be transformed into an opportunity for women's inclusion in decision-making.

Ms. S.S. Faruqui (Pakistan) noted that women and girls were not only disproportionately affected by the intensification in conflicts but were excluded from protection, participation and opportunity due to a lack of implementation and accountability. International humanitarian law must be enforced consistently, without selectivity. Parliaments must legislate for gender-responsive humanitarian systems with women's and girls' needs fully embedded in funding, design and delivery, women's participation in peace processes must be guaranteed, and conflict-related sexual violence must be explicitly criminalized, with perpetrators prosecuted, not protected. While steps had been taken in Pakistan to strengthen protections against sexual and domestic violence, the focus was on implementation of the law. Access to education and essential services for girls must be protected, even in the most fragile contexts. Investment was needed in real-time data and monitoring systems to record violations and respond to them. Alongside conflicts, there was a pushback against gender equality. Investment was needed for women's economic empowerment and to protect livelihoods and ensure access to financial systems, since without economic agency, rights remained theoretical. The framework and commitments existed; what was required was political will, consistency and delivery.

Ms. Zhao Haiying (China) said that peace was the foundation for women and girls to enjoy basic rights and should be promoted. The rule of law guaranteed the defence of women's rights and all countries should therefore, based on their national circumstances, improve their legislative systems for protecting women's rights and interests. Since economic development and prosperity provided the environment for women's welfare and women's rights to education, healthcare and finance were at the core of women's empowerment, her Government's proposed Global Development Initiative, Global Security Initiative, Global Civilization Initiative and Global Governance Initiative would help to make women's rights a reality.

Ms. I Svyatenko (Russian Federation) noted that a record number of women were living within 50 kilometres of combat zones and that the shocking strike against a school in the Islamic Republic of Iran had killed more than 170 people – schoolgirls and teachers. The destruction of social infrastructure deprived women and girls of education, healthcare, food and ordinary lives. More than 100 countries had adopted national action plans on women, peace and security, and the UN had called for women's participation in peace talks and their professional development and training. In her country, the commissioners for human rights and for the rights of children were working to find and help Russian and Ukrainian children in difficult situations. The Eurasian Women's Forum had been meeting since 2015, and at its previous meeting participants from 126 countries had reaffirmed their commitment to the interconnectedness of all people everywhere and had proclaimed that no single State could assert its security at the expense of the security of other States. She invited participants to attend the following such forum in 2027.

Mr. Nguyen Dac Vinh (Viet Nam) said that the increasing number and complexity of armed conflicts was a cause of deep concern and placed women's and girls' rights at risk. Sustainable peace could not be achieved when women's and girls' rights were neglected and gender equality was a pillar of inclusive growth. Her Government had adopted a national action plan on women, peace and security in 2024, was implementing a revised law on domestic violence prevention and control, expanding protection for women workers, particularly in informal and migrant sectors, and prioritizing girls' education, especially in remote and disadvantaged areas. She proposed four priorities for parliaments: strengthening of legal frameworks, including by integrating international labour and human rights standards; promotion of green jobs and inclusive digital transformation; investment in women's vocational training and skills development; and greater regional parliamentary cooperation to share best practice on gender-responsive development.

Ms. A.M.C. De Andrade Sarmento (Timor-Leste) said that her country's experience demonstrated that the voice of women was indispensable to sustainable peace. In difficult times, women protected families and communities, and showed inspirational resilience. Timor-Leste remained committed to UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and, in 2024, had launched its second national action plan on women, peace and security, which responded to new risks such as climate change and trafficking in persons. Her country had one of the highest rates of female political representation in South-East Asia – 38% of parliamentarians were women – and the speaker of parliament was a woman, as were 13 municipal mayors. Despite budget constraints, her country was determined to transform the lessons of the past into inclusive and long-lasting policies for the protection and empowerment of women and girls.

Ms. D. Saidi (Tajikistan) said that her country's experience of post-conflict recovery showed that lasting stability could not be achieved when half of the population's potential was not considered. The Tajik Constitution established gender equality and protected the rights of women and families. The transition period had provided an opportunity to promote inclusivity; following the signing of the peace agreement, women had been involved in all consultations and had become drivers of recovery and development. Her country's gender policy was achieved through gender-oriented budgeting and close cooperation with international partners. Legal guarantees and measures to address gender-based violence were being strengthened and a gender-sensitive justice system was being developed. Women's economic empowerment supported stability and reduced poverty. Progress could only be achieved through partnership at every level. Effective implementation mechanisms were crucial.

Ms. M. Mokitimi (Lesotho) said that women and girls did not start wars but were always their first-hand victims. They were robbed of their economic and social rights, their lives and bodies were used as a battlefield and they faced displacement, starvation and exploitation. Disruption in healthcare and housing led to early and unplanned pregnancies, HIV infections and infant and maternal mortality. She called for the allocation of budgets specifically for women and girls to rebuild their lives following conflict and war. Her country had enacted laws to safeguard women and girls by giving them access to previously prohibited resources and by introducing harsh punishments for perpetrators of violence against women.

Ms. V. Persaud (Guyana) recognizing that access to justice was fundamental to the achievement of gender equality, said that, in her country, resources had been allocated to an integrated, accessible ecosystem of empowerment, the dismantling of structural barriers and the creation of progressive legislative and policy frameworks to improve access to support services and the reporting of violence. Legislative changes included an expanded definition of violence and the introduction of a sex offenders register and specialized courts for sexual offences. Digital technology provided 24-hour access to reporting and services, while one-stop centres provided survivors of violence with access to reporting, medical care, legal and psychological support, advocacy services and shelter. In total, 60% of government-distributed housing lands were owned by women and there had been significant investment in women's free education, economic empowerment and integration into the formal economy. The harassment and violence faced by women on social media remained a challenge; technology companies must partner with governments to ensure safe spaces for users and justice for victims. It was unacceptable that women remained locked out of most peace processes.

Ms. **D. Bühler-Nigsch** (Liechtenstein) said that, when institutions failed, women and girls were the first to lose their rights, safety and voice. The experience of stable States, such as hers, made it clear that investment in gender equality, education, the rule of law and strong institutions were core

elements of peace. Prevention was not only more effective, it was also less costly than repair. Political commitments were not enough; parliaments should anchor equality structurally, through legislation, budgetary decisions and effective oversight. In her country, a unit for equal opportunities had been established to act as a coordinating body and work with women's organizations and civil society. Service agreements with the Ministry of Social Affairs ensured that prevention, protection and awareness-raising efforts were secured in a sustainable way. A national gender equality strategy was being developed to ensure accountability and address equality across all policy areas. Political pressure from parliamentarians was needed for the Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Ms. J.S. Mananiso (South Africa) said that no mineral, resources, strategic interest or economic gain was worth the life of a woman or child and any model of development or security built on their suffering was illegitimate. International humanitarian and human rights law explicitly prohibited torture, sexual violence and attacks on civilians, yet consistent enforcement, accountability and political will were lacking. South Africa, with an approach informed by its history and constitutional values, would continue to support the conflict prevention and peacekeeping efforts of the UN, the African Union and the Southern African Development Community. Freedom was indivisible and no one could consider themselves free while people in Palestine, the Sudan and other conflict-affected contexts endured occupation, oppression and war. Parliamentarians had a duty to ensure that national laws, budgets and oversight mechanisms prioritized the protection of civilians, particularly women, children and persons with disabilities, by demanding accountability for torture and sexual violence, strengthening survivor-centred support, and ensuring that economic pursuits – including in the extractive sector – did not fuel conflict or reinforce systems of domination.

Ms. H. Fayez (Bahrain) said that modern conflicts had shown that violence against women and girls took many forms, including economic and psychological violence that was exacerbated in an environment of impunity and weak institutions. Conflict deepened inequality and led to the exclusion of women from decision-making processes, despite their role in preventing conflict, building peace and driving reconstruction and recovery efforts. The Women, Peace and Security agenda was not limited to protecting women in conflict, but strove to empower women as partners in decision-making. The real challenge was to move from political commitment to implementation; parliaments had a responsibility to promulgate laws that protected against violence, adopt policies to support women in decision-making processes and allocate resources to implement the related national action plans.

Ms. M. Del Socorro Nuñez Monreal (Mexico) said that lasting peace required not only the absence of violence but the presence of justice, equality and wellbeing. Parliamentarians must aim to establish a positive culture of peace with the participation of women. Parity in electoral representation allowed her country to address the structural causes of violence and reinforce justice, promote social cohesion and work towards a decent life for all, particularly women and children. The public demanded agreements that transcended immediate interests in order to work towards women's empowerment at every level of society, starting with economic self-sufficiency. The world must focus on a legislative agenda that prioritized peace and women. Amid the crisis of violence in Mexico, coordination between civil society and political actors had made clear that it was possible to build broad consensus by taking into account the structural causes of violence.

Ms. T. Narbaeva (Uzbekistan) said that a society in which women had no voice, had no stability, development or future. Reforms in her country had focused on women's education, economic independence and participation in decision-making processes, and laws had been adopted to tackle all forms of violence and inequality. The share of women in parliament was 38% and the World Bank report on Women, Business and the Law had ranked Uzbekistan 48th out of 190 countries. Globally, women's rights remained under threat in many regions and the risk of gender-based violence, trafficking in persons and forced marriage had increased. That situation was a cause for concern and posed a systemic challenge to the international community. The protection of women's rights during conflicts was a national and international priority. Parliaments must adopt laws to eliminate all forms of violence, ensure women's access to education and healthcare, even in crisis situations, support women's economic independence and strengthen parliamentary oversight of the fulfilment of international human rights obligations. Those measures were insufficient, however, without effective cooperation and her Government stood ready to find solutions and exchange experiences. Women's rights were not only a matter of justice but of global stability and security; societies were stronger when women's rights were protected. She invited all to participate in the second Asian Women's Forum, which would take place on 14 and 15 May 2026, in Bukhara, Uzbekistan.

Mr. M. Dick (Australia) said that, as a man, he was proud to support so many strong women at the IPU who represented women across the world. Two years previously, a female aid worker from Australia, Zomi Frankcom, had been killed, together with six of her colleagues, while delivering aid and care to children in Gaza. He raised his voice on behalf of all women who were providing humanitarian aid and care in conflict. Australia was proud to have led the year-long diplomatic effort that had led to the Declaration for the Protection of Humanitarian Personnel, which had been endorsed by more than 100 countries. The measures adopted included a commitment to facilitate humanitarian access, protect female humanitarian personnel and introduce new joint training for military personnel and aid workers.

Ms. L. Vasylenko (Ukraine) said that, in war, the most vulnerable suffered first and social infrastructure was essential to protect women's rights. It was deplorable that, despite repeated condemnation, including in IPU resolutions, the Russian Federation had destroyed more than 3,000 schools and 1,500 medical institutions, and continued to target daily life. Around 6 million Ukrainian women lived in areas affected by war, while 7 million Ukrainians were refugees – 90% of them women and children. More than 20,000 Ukrainian children had been abducted by the Russian Federation, while more than 75,000 women served in the Ukrainian armed forces. Women were rewriting the rules of life in a conflict zone as they fought the war, raised their children and kept the economy running.

Ms. J. Ovekova (Turkmenistan) said that Turkmenistan was recognized as a neutral country and had an effective gender policy with appropriate legislation. Her country had proposed the first ever Dialogue of Women of Central Asia in the interests of the Women, Peace and Security agenda and a related national action plan had been developed. Turkmenistan was the second country in the world to have eradicated statelessness and had been the first member of the Commonwealth of Independent States to join the Global Alliance to End Statelessness. Her Government had supported the resolution on the International Year of Peace and Trust, in 2025, and the role of the UN Regional Centre for Preventive Diplomacy for Central Asia, and had helped to initiate the resolution on the International Year of Legal Literacy.

Ms. A.-S. Gorghiu (Romania) said that, in her country's experience of the war in Ukraine, protection for women and girls must be provided from day one. In her country, that included the provision of Ukrainian-speaking staff, assistance for victims of gender-based violence and safe spaces that were adapted to women's needs. She proposed the establishment, in partnership with the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the European Union, Ukraine and the Republic of Moldova, of a centre for women, peace and security in Bucharest that was dedicated to training and cooperation. Romania was a pillar of stability in the Black Sea region. The optional nature of women's presence in decision-making would not change without clear rules and political will. As Chair of the Romania Without Domestic Violence parliamentary commission, she was proud to announce legislative changes that had introduced a definition of femicide and removed procedural barriers to investigating rape. Women's participation should be treated as a condition for better policies, real security and lasting peace.

Ms. P. Laohapongchana (Thailand) said that women and children living by the Southern border in her country faced daily threats and stress, and children suffered family separations and interrupted schooling. In response, parliament had supported legal frameworks to prevent violence and build lasting peace, guided by the first national action plan on women, peace and security. Local disaster care centres provided counselling, legal help and social support and the women's empowerment centre provided community programmes on human rights and conflict management. Peace could not be achieved by one country alone but required strong international collaboration. Women parliamentarians had a collective responsibility to ensure that all women and girls could live in safety.

Ms. M.-N. Battistel (France) said that, in 2019, her Government had placed feminist diplomacy at the heart of its foreign policy. The international context had deteriorated, however, with conflicts on the rise, authoritarian regimes gaining ground and democratic space shrinking; women and gender equality had become a major fracture line in international relations. Sexual and reproductive rights were in retreat around the world, including in certain democracies, while anti-rights movements were organizing internationally to weaken human rights standards. That backlash was part of a broader challenge to the rule of law and the universality of rights and multilateralism. Efforts to control people's bodies and freedoms were indicative of authoritarianism, and the rise of masculinist ideologies,

cyberviolence and antifeminist discourse was undermining democracies. In that context, feminist diplomacy was a strategic tool to protect lives, support human rights and promote women's participation in peace processes.

Ms. M. Alshehhi (United Arab Emirates) said that crises deepened the injustices and inequalities between the two genders, and those challenges required comprehensive approaches. Women's empowerment was a pillar of just and sustainable peace. Parliaments should take a gender-based approach to the protection of displaced women and girls, and enshrine women's participation in reconstruction and peacebuilding through involvement in mediation and investment in women's leadership. Her Government had been the first in the Gulf to adopt a national action plan to implement UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000).

Ms. S. Kheng (Cambodia) said that her country engaged annually in the global 16 days of activism against gender-based violence. Violence was not confined to the home, however, as women faced online harassment, bullying, cyberstalking and the sharing of private images without consent. That created fear and stopped them from participating fully in society. Her Government was responding by strengthening awareness of the real harm of online violence, strengthening support for survivors and the accountability of perpetrators and strengthening cooperation between government, civil society and the private sector. Ending violence against women was essential to lasting peace.

Ms. F. Black (Ireland) said that her country's experience showed that women did not just support peace but built it; in 1996, women's groups had formed a coalition to secure seats at the negotiating table as honest brokers trusted by both communities. Those women had maintained communication at critical moments and had brought victims' rights, education and mixed housing into the peace agreement – elements that proved essential to lasting peace. Although women remained underrepresented in Northern Irish politics, the lesson of its experience was clear: when women were excluded from peace it did not last, and where women's rights declined, conflict rose.

Ms. A. Shakya (Nepal) said that, despite women's gifts, they were met with challenges rather than opportunities. In terms of lasting peace, she highlighted that artificial intelligence created problems for women in addition to the print media, audio and video, such as through the creation of fake videos of girls and women. Cyberbullying was increasing and every country needed a social media act.

Ms. S. Al Sheibani (Oman) said that women had made progress globally. In her country they participated in the legislative authorities and 10% of members of the Oman Council were women. The protection of women was a priority for international peace and security since women were the basis of recovery and peace.

Ms. F. Rembo (United Republic of Tanzania) expressed concern that women remained underrepresented in peace negotiations and decision-making processes. Women and girls must be protected at all stages of conflict and post-conflict recovery through strengthened legal frameworks, access to justice and the prevention of conflict-related violence. Sustainable peace could not be achieved without the full, equal and meaningful participation of women in negotiations, mediation efforts and reconstruction processes. Parliaments were responsible for oversight and gender-responsive budgeting to ensure that commitments and the Women, Peace and Security agenda were fully implemented.

Ms. A. Allafi (Arab Parliament) said that the most dangerous impact of contemporary crises was on women and girls. The real challenge was to reformulate initiatives so that they were comprehensive. Women and children should be supported through healthcare and psychosocial support as basic services, national gender-based initiatives should be established with parliamentary oversight, and women and girls should be included in education systems, which bore the brunt of conflicts. Women and girls were crucial to lasting peace.

Ms. M.C. Fanny (Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)) said that hope was not declared, it was built. The deeper a crisis, the more women carried but the less they decided. Peace could not be built without those who sustained it. The ECOWAS Female Parliamentarians Association had established a partnership to create an African observatory of women's inclusion in the institutions of State. Empowered women became decision-makers – inclusion was not a favour but a condition for stability and any step backwards in women's rights was a step backwards for democracy. There was no credible future or sustainable peace without women's leadership.

Ms. F. Landry (Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie) said that the topic of discussion was an urgent reality as conflict proliferated, and with it the use of sexual violence as a weapon of war and strategies of domination and terror. Women were excluded from peace processes even though they were on the front lines of crisis and reconstruction. The network of women parliamentarians in the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie was addressing the Women, Peace and Security agenda through seminars for parliamentarians and a workshop held under the auspices of UN Women. Women parliamentarians must cooperate and address key priorities and strengthen legislative frameworks.

Ms. H. Hagras (UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities) said that women with disabilities were among the most marginalized groups of women, faced multiple layers of discrimination and were less likely to receive political party nominations and campaign funding. They suffered greater exposure to violence, economic insecurity and stereotypes that questioned their competence and right to speak publicly. Yet, when women with disabilities entered politics they brought transformative perspectives on care and support systems, social protection, accessibility and equality, and rendered parliaments more representative.

Ms. M. Göka (Türkiye), Chair of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties Women's Wing, panellist, thanked participants for their insights and contributions to a timely discussion. At a time of heightened uncertainties and overlapping crises and wars, women and girls were the most affected and it was up to parliamentarians to take action.

Ms. P. Bayr, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, panellist, said that she was grateful to those who had mentioned the need for greater sensitivity to women's issues from institutions through training but also the inclusion of more women in all institutions. She also welcomed the reference to attacks on sexual and reproductive rights, which was led by a wealthy movement that must be fought with a clear vision of gender equality and the conviction that the Forum's shared ideas were stronger. With reference to the example of Rwanda, she highlighted that the Council of Europe was keeping a register of damages in the illegal war on Ukraine, which also recorded rape and sexual violence and could be used for court cases in the future.

Ms. B. Sanz Luque (Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia, UN Women), panellist, thanked parliamentarians for demonstrating their commitment to the centrality of women's rights, protection and leadership. It was to be hoped that such commitment would be transformed into implementation and action. She invited all parliaments to consider their role in the implementation of the commitments to advance gender justice adopted at the Commission on the Status of Women the previous month, and encouraged the IPU to continue to advance that critical agenda.

Ms. E. Misola Richard (Legal Adviser, ICRC), panellist, welcoming the rich contributions made by participants, emphasized that international humanitarian law had a lasting impact for women and girls after the guns were silenced. She urged parliamentarians to use their legislative, budgetary and oversight powers to make compliance with international humanitarian law a reality and encourage their governments to join the Global International Humanitarian Law Initiative.

Hearing of the candidates for the position of IPU Secretary General

The President welcomed the four women candidates for the position of IPU Secretary General and invited them to present themselves. The candidates would then be asked questions by the Forum.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece) said that the IPU would soon have its first female Secretary General and could celebrate double female leadership, alongside the celebration of all women parliamentarians. She had submitted her candidacy for the position of Secretary General to make the IPU more impactful and instrumental. As an experienced parliamentarian and the first women in her country to have been elected to chair the Environment Committee, she was also a capable administrator with experience of working at international organizations. She wished to bring her experience, network and capacities to the IPU to optimize and modernize it, and make its work more impactful and visible, including the work of women parliamentarians.

If elected, the IPU would provide capacity-building for all women parliamentarians and would work more closely with other international organizations, including UN Women. A dedicated fund would be established to help women parliamentarians promote their work and projects at home and globally, and participate in IPU meetings. Women parliamentarians from developing countries would receive assistance and she would launch a campaign for equal pay for equal work. Women's financial

empowerment was also a focus, to ensure that women had the funds to undertake electoral campaigns. The IPU would stand side by side with every woman parliamentarian because women needed to support each other. Only 27% of members of parliaments were women, even fewer were speakers or ministers, and most women ministers were entrusted only with soft portfolios. Women were 50% of the world, which deserved to rise by using its full potential. She asked participants for their support.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania) said that the position of IPU Secretary General required a non-partisan and realistic steward who understood the challenges faced by the Organization, had deep institutional knowledge and could deliver in complex environments. With a track record of building consensus, working with the IPU's political leadership and delivering results, her strengths included diplomacy, mediation, tact and neutrality. Her vision was for the IPU to be influential at a time of severe strain for multilateralism and international law; a catalyst for political dialogue and exchange; and a forum that shaped good parliamentary practice and worked to translate shared commitments into action. A focus on better prioritization, fit-for-purpose partnerships and accelerated modernization would support her three core priorities: parliaments and parliamentarians as peacebuilders; global impact; and respectful and inclusive societies.

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians had taken gender parity to the next level and had shaped the IPU's agenda and amended its rules and statutes, which had made it a model for gender-sensitive institutions. She would be a strong gender champion that made sure women parliamentarians' voices were heard at the UN and other institutions of global governance. She would advance work on women, peace and security, combat the scourge of violence against women through legislation and political action, include men in work on the gender partnership and further intergenerational exchanges to help young women break the glass ceiling. She stood ready to serve the IPU to make it the best it could be and turn a period of crisis into an opportunity for the Organization.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal) said that, as an African and a woman of conviction, with a background as a peace and security practitioner, human rights specialist and gender advocate, she believed in meaningful participation by all for a fairer and more equitable world. She would apply a human-rights based, gender-sensitive and youth-responsive approach to implement the IPU's commitment to democracy through international tools such as the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the Women, Peace and Security agenda. With nearly 30 years' experience at the UN, she had led multicultural teams, managed complex crises and promoted a culture of peace and tolerance. Women's issues were cross-cutting issues.

She would foster genuine partnerships and ground her actions in integrity, inclusivity, impartiality, respect for diversity, transparency and accountability to define the IPU's objectives and strategic priorities for institutional and operational effectiveness and to enhance its role in multilateralism. She sought to position the IPU as the global catalyst for responsive, inclusive, interconnected and accountable parliaments to drive action on peace, security, human and labour development, gender equality and intergenerational equity. Every voice should count in shaping the collective future. She would also foster national ownership and leadership. Her vision for the IPU was based on parliamentary diplomacy to prevent crises from escalating; making inclusivity a reality so that everyone could live free of fear and want; and digital democracy through ensuring that technology contributed to democracy rather than undermining it. She asked for participants' support.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden) said that she had been a parliamentarian for more than 30 years and had stood in 8 elections. She wished to add the dimension of parliamentarianism to the Secretariat of the IPU as a parliamentary organization. She had more than 30 years' experience of building trust, which was important to making the IPU a modern, attractive and indispensable global platform, in a context in which multilateralism was being questioned. The IPU was unique in that it built the relationships essential to understanding, negotiating, mediating and delivering solutions, but it needed to attract more parliamentarians to engage with those solutions.

Parliamentarians were the essence of the IPU and should use the full potential of the Organization. It was time to build trust in national parliaments by giving parliamentarians more back from their time at the IPU, and therefore build a stronger IPU for tomorrow. She had built trust over the years by listening and understanding. Even though she had left parliament three years previously, she had returned to the IPU: as Vice-President of the IPU and Chair of the Sub-Committee on Finance she had stabilized the Organization's finances and had chaired the first working group on transparency, openness and accountability. Her actions demonstrated that she shared the IPU's values. It was time to take the next step for the IPU; women parliamentarians were needed more than ever in a time of turmoil and the IPU should be making strides towards the awarding of its ninth Nobel Peace Prize.

The President thanked the candidates for their presentations and opened the floor for the first round of questions.

Ms. T. Ts'ita Mosena (Lesotho) said that she wished to know how the candidates, against a background of increasing pushback against women in leadership, and women politicians in particular, would assist Member Parliaments to increase the number of women members of parliament.

Ms. K. Slassi (Morocco) said that it was clear that all four of the excellent candidates were in agreement that women played a crucial role in rebuilding the world after conflict. Ms. Filip had been the first person that she had encountered at the IPU – the Organization needed such competence.

Ms. J.S. Mananiso (South Africa) asked the candidates whether they had reviewed the Gender-Responsive Assemblies Toolkit launched in 2025, and if so, which parts of it could be executed if they were successful in their candidacy for IPU Secretary General. The unsuccessful candidates' skills and experience could be used elsewhere within the IPU.

Ms. R. Maachaoui (Tunisia) asked the candidates how they planned to ensure that the IPU became a lever for action to influence States' decisions; whether they were prepared to adopt a clear stance in response to violations of international human rights law, even it that entailed opposing major powers; what concrete and immediate measures they would take to ensure the protection of women affected by armed conflict and to guarantee accountability; and what main action they would take during the first 100 days in the role to demonstrate a commitment to real change.

Ms. C. López Castro (Mexico), President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians, said that she wished the candidates luck and asked whether they planned to continue to hold the Conference of Women Parliamentarians, and what other ideas they had for the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and to promote women parliamentarians around the world.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece) said that she was committed to supporting the Conference of Women Parliamentarians and in the first 100 days would establish a fund to support women parliamentarians and showcase their work globally and at home. Capacity-building was needed for all women parliamentarians; empowerment of women was a duty. More women in power would increase respect for human rights, peace and democracy, and a women IPU Secretary General would empower the Organization and the world.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania) said that women parliamentarians should speak up more and redouble efforts against the pushback on gender equality. She welcomed the tools, criteria and mechanisms that had been developed to advance women's political empowerment, noting that each woman parliamentarian could lead by example in showing the impact of her work. The IPU Assembly was ahead of the curve in that it had a greater percentage of women in attendance than the average parliament. She would prioritize efforts to better measure and reflect the impact of the IPU's work, which would enhance the Organization's credibility. As a community of values, the IPU should speak up courageously when fundamental norms were not respected, irrespective of the perpetrator. In the first 100 days she would focus on the IPU Strategy for 2027–2031 that was due to be adopted at the 152nd Assembly.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal) said that legislation could address pushback and tackle inclusive leadership and education, and barriers for women by ensuring protection and respect for women's and girls' human rights. Women's political representation should be ensured through compulsory gender quotas in elections and quota or reserve seats in political parties. The role of the Secretary General was to ensure implementation, including of global commitments concerning women.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden) said that many of the questions raised were really for the governing bodies of the IPU, rather than the Secretary General. It was vital to the future of the IPU that parliamentarians were more engaged in the Organization's processes. Since the inclusion of women in processes lead to lasting deals and peace, women should be at the table in every crisis. She had brought a bucket with her to collect parliamentarians' proposals for the future of the IPU and encouraged all to submit their proposals to make sure that the Secretary General was working for them.

The President invited a second round of questions to be put to the candidates.

Ms. F. Cham (Gambia) said that she wished to thank the outgoing Secretary General for his outstanding work. She asked how the candidates would mainstream the issues of youth unemployment, gender-based violence and migration – her country's top issues – into IPU debates and actions. She wished to know how they would strengthen links between the IPU and regional bodies like the parliament of the Economic Community of West African States. What would the incoming Secretary General do to ensure that female genital mutilation/cutting was banned in affected countries?

Ms. L. Carvajal (Chile) noted that women leaders were rising and there were also women candidates for the position of Secretary-General of the UN. She asked the candidates to comment on digital violence against women.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden) said that the IPU was older than the UN and could serve as a role model through its election for the IPU Secretary General. She would ensure that parliamentarians were more engaged in future planning for the IPU and in organizing around all kinds of issues, including the climate, gender-based violence and digital discrimination. The IPU should develop action plans for the issues raised and offer parliamentarians actions that they could take back to their national parliaments and constituencies.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal) said that, on violence against women, parliamentarians had a responsibility to ensure that obligations were translated into domestic law. It was also important to raise awareness of the protection of women from violence and to provide capacity-building for women to better know their rights.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania) said that one of her first jobs would be to develop a proposal on the implementation of the forthcoming IPU Strategy for 2027–2031, for the consideration of the governing bodies in October 2026. The Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians should be continued. Gender parity should be mainstreamed throughout IPU processes and activities, and work with Member Parliaments should encourage this in national parliaments as well. She expressed appreciation to the outgoing Secretary General.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece) said that she also wished to acknowledge the outgoing Secretary General's contribution to the IPU, and expressed support for female candidates for the position of UN Secretary-General. A dynamic campaign was needed to tackle female genital mutilation, including by using social media and digital communications to raise awareness. Her proposed fund to support female parliamentarians would help them to use digital media and promote their work. As an environmental lawyer, she understood the issues around environmental emergencies and wished to better mainstream the protection of women and of the climate in the IPU's work.

Election to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

The President said that the Forum was invited to elect two representatives to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians: one for the African Group, to replace Ms. M. Coulibaly Dao (Côte d'Ivoire), who was no longer a Member of Parliament, and one for the Asia-Pacific Group, to replace Ms. V. Techateerawat (Thailand), who was no longer a Member of Parliament.

Ms. Z. Hilal (Secretary of the Forum) said that the African Group had nominated Ms. Y.A. Asseke (Côte d'Ivoire) to fill the former vacancy, and the Asia-Pacific Group had nominated Ms. D. Wangmo (Bhutan) to fill the latter vacancy.

The nominations were approved.

Report of the discussion group rapporteurs

Ms. R. Maachaoui (Tunisia), reporting on the discussion held in group one, said that 28 speakers – 27 women and 1 man – from 27 countries had taken the floor during the discussion of the resolution, *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*, put forward by the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security. The group had highlighted that women and girls experienced discrimination, violence and marginalization long before conflict broke out. Gender equality was a precondition for peace and laws must be adopted to invest in stability. Women and girls disproportionately suffered the

consequences of armed conflict but were not solely victims, they were key actors in consolidating peace, in reconciliation and reconstruction, and in ensuring sustainable peace agreements. Other concerns raised included displaced women and girls, trafficking in persons and survivors of sexual violence linked to armed conflict. Access to support medical, psychological, legal and economic services was key to dignity and social reintegration, and the rehabilitation of survivors was essential.

The group had reaffirmed the importance of UN Security Council resolution 1325 (2000) and the additional resolutions on the Women, Peace and Security agenda, and had emphasized the need to incorporate into legislation the four pillars of participation, protection, prevention, and relief and recovery. A strong consensus had emerged on women's incorporation in decision-making, with their full, equal and effective participation as a precondition for the legitimacy of peace processes. Organizations led by women and human rights defenders were agents of peace that merited protection and recognition. Several delegations had highlighted the need to guarantee women and girls' access to health services. Reconstruction budgets must include resources for gender equality and to support survivors of sexual violence and empower women, and gender equality must be at the centre of reconstruction strategies. Those points would be turned into amendments to the draft resolution.

The report was adopted.

Ms. S. Claydon (Australia), reporting on the discussion held in group two, said that 15 delegates had taken the floor in the discussion of the draft resolution, *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: the role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs, and preventing corporate tax avoidance*, put forward by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development. The discussion had highlighted that trade, economic and taxation policies were not gender neutral and did not benefit or affect everyone the same way. Women more often than men occupied low-paid jobs and tax avoidance harmed women the most since it diverted resources from healthcare, education, childcare and other services that underpinned women's economic participation. As consumers, workers, business owners and entrepreneurs, women must receive the dividends of global trade.

The 2024 WTO statement on promoting inclusive and sustainable trade through gender equality provided a good basis for work, but commitment must be turned into action. International trade agreements, credit and public procurement policies should have gender targets and have their gender impact assessed; equality should be ensured in national legislation by domesticating the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women; and gender-response budgeting, taxation regimes and social protection schemes should be mandated. Existing programmes should be made accessible and effective, and women's leadership should be promoted across the board; data showed that women's inclusion on corporate boards led to less tax avoidance. Sex-disaggregated data was needed to equip parliaments with the mandate, resources and expertise to monitor and enforce gender-related commitments through trade agreements and taxation regimes. Work would commence on proposed amendments to the draft resolution to ensure that the main points were integrated in the text.

The report was adopted.

Venue and date of the 42nd session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians

The President said that the 42nd session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians would take place during the 153rd IPU Assembly in Arusha, the United Republic of Tanzania, in October 2026.

Ms. P. Chana (United Republic of Tanzania) said that it would be a privilege to host the 153rd IPU Assembly in the United Republic of Tanzania and invited all participants to enjoy the Swahili spirit of hospitality. Arusha was the seat of the African Court on Human and People's Rights and the East African Community, and a place where diplomacy met culture and dialogue was turned into action.

The sitting rose at 18:25.

Forum of Young Parliamentarians

SITTING OF THURSDAY, 16 APRIL 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 14:40 with Ms. N. Abu Ghosh (Jordan), President of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians, in the Chair.

The Chair drew attention to the IPU *Policy to prevent and address harassment, including sexual harassment, at IPU Assemblies and other IPU events*, which was intended to ensure an inclusive, respectful and safe working environment for all.

Adoption of the agenda
(FYP/152/A.1-rev)

The agenda was adopted.

Opening remarks

The Chair thanked the Forum for its commitment to empowering young people. The theme of the General Debate directly addressed the world being inherited by younger generations: one of conflict and democratic deficits for youth. Young people bore the heaviest burden of conflict. Parliamentarians had the responsibility to ensure people's right to peace and security. Young MPs were best placed to defend young people and foster intergenerational cooperation to restore hope. Those present were encouraged to engage fully in the Forum and apply the lessons learned in their countries.

Updates on youth participation

The Chair provided an overview of activities since the 151st Assembly. Two sessions of the Empowerment Series for young MPs had been held: *Social media self-defence training for young women MPs and their staff* in November 2025 and *Strengthening women's and youth political participation through mentorship* in March 2026. National activities to promote youth participation and empower young MPs had also been held, including a training course in Namibia on leadership, mentorship and communication.

Efforts to promote and implement the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign had continued, with over 2,600 pledges received as of April 2026, including pledges from more than 96 Speakers and 1,126 MPs from close to 160 countries. She encouraged further engagement with the campaign during the Assembly and urged Member Parliaments to sign up and pledge, as well as to promote the initiative among colleagues.

Ms. Z. Hilal (Secretary of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians), accompanying her remarks with a digital slide presentation, said that the IPU had recently published a report entitled *Youth participation in national parliaments: 2025*, with the aim of shaping policymaking solutions to address youth underrepresentation. The IPU advocated for youth participation to promote justice, efficiency and democratic rejuvenation. It was important for young people to be included in decision-making processes to better respond to the needs and interests of younger generations.

Young people continued to be vastly underrepresented in parliaments with new data showing that youth participation had not advanced since 2023, which was worrying considering that progress had been slow but steady over the previous decade. The Forum was urged to adopt more robust measures to boost youth participation. MPs aged 40 and under accounted for 19% of MPs worldwide, which was only a slight increase compared to two years prior. Although gender parity had almost been achieved among the youngest MPs in each parliament, the participation of women 30 and under had decreased compared to 2023. The percentage of countries preventing young people who were old enough to vote from running for office had stagnated at 70%. Only 42% of chambers of parliament had a committee dedicated to youth affairs, while 16% had a youth caucus. The IPU was ready to support parliaments to launch youth caucuses. Globally, 10 Speakers were aged 40 and under, compared to 15 in 2023. Quotas for young parliamentarians had been introduced for 16 parliaments, a slight increase from 2023. More progress was needed in that area. There needed to be renewed commitment to take specific action, especially through the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign, which included key actions identified by young MPs to address youth underrepresentation.

Mr. D. Joshi (Expert on Youth Participation), accompanying his remarks with a digital slide presentation, said that *Youth participation in national parliaments: 2025*, included a repository of information gathered from interviews with young MPs. This included their views on factors promoting and hindering youth participation, the ways in which young MPs had begun their parliamentary career, the experiences of young women MPs, issues of diversity in parliaments, digital parliamentary work and means of improving youth participation. Only 2.8% of parliamentarians globally were aged 30 and under, while that figure stood at 3.25% in single and lower houses of parliament. The Americas, Europe and sub-Saharan Africa had the highest percentage of MPs in their 20s. The countries with the highest percentage of parliamentarians aged 30 and under were Armenia (16.8%), Ecuador (13.9%) and Turkmenistan (13.7%). The top countries where MPs aged 40 or younger were in the majority in parliament were Armenia, Turkmenistan and Ethiopia.

With regard to targets set by the Forum of Young Parliamentarians in 2018, only the Armenian Parliament had achieved the minimum of 15% of MPs aged 30 and under, while 18 lower chambers had reached the target of 35% of MPs aged 40 and under. Results had shown that parliaments imposing term limits had higher percentages of young MPs. More countries had introduced quotas for young parliamentarians, and quotas had become more ambitious. The age of eligibility for election to lower and upper chambers needed to be aligned with the voting age to boost youth participation. The interviews with MPs had highlighted new recommendations, including the need to encourage political parties to increase youth membership, to provide training for young people and to include more youth in their leadership. It had also been recommended to eliminate violence and discrimination against young MPs, hold multimember elections so that parties put forward younger and older candidates for the same electoral district, and to adopt laws facilitating the formation of new political parties, thus paving the way for younger candidates.

Ms. T. Narbaeva (Uzbekistan), Chairperson of the Senate of Uzbekistan, invited young parliamentarians to the 12th IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians, which would take place from 4 to 6 September 2026, in Samarkand, Uzbekistan. She said that, since young MPs' political will and sense of responsibility were critical to building a just, safe and sustainable world and that young people made up more than half of Uzbekistan's population, youth support was a key priority of the Government's policy. To that end, a comprehensive system had been created to promote youth engagement in public administration and parliamentary activities. Young people were strategically important to development, and young parliamentarians should drive change. As global political tensions and international economic ties worsened, in recent years, the countries of Central Asia had fostered neighbourliness, mutual trust and regional cooperation.

Challenges to building a fair and sustainable global economy included protectionism, supply chain disruptions and economic polarization, which affected developing countries and young people in particular. Uzbekistan was pursuing a policy of openness, reform and economic integration, which had led to steady economic growth. At the same time, tax avoidance by multinational corporations undermined the Government's financial sustainability, requiring global parliamentary coordination, unified tax standards and State transparency. Resources should be redirected towards education, healthcare and youth development. Young people were urged to put forward new ideas and long-term solutions to promote peace.

A video was shown promoting the 12th IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians.

Ms. Z. Yildiz (Türkiye) welcomed the young MPs to Türkiye, a cultural crossroads that fostered unity. While there was a significant number of young MPs in her country, it was disproportionate to the number of young people in Türkiye, with MPs aged 30 and under accounting for only 3% of the country's MPs. Türkiye's decision-making therefore would benefit from greater youth perspectives. While many countries were implementing systems to boost youth participation, young people were sometimes marginalized in decision-making. Their representation in politics should allow them to make an impact and shoulder responsibilities. Youth participation required courage and should be monitored.

It was regrettable that legal principles built on lessons learned from World War II were being demolished in the genocide that Israel was perpetrating in Gaza. Young people were called on to ensure equal rights for all, address digital monopolies, focus on sustainable environmental policy, mitigate the digital world's intensification of isolation and undermining of families and thus society's welfare, create a just world for all and make their voices heard. In closing, she underscored the IPU's critical role and thanked it for organizing the Assembly.

Mr. K. Gallardo (Ecuador) said that his country ranked second globally in terms of youth participation and that the current President was the country's youngest ever. Ecuador's Constitution had set the age of eligibility for parliamentary office at 18, thus opening up the democratic system. His country had placed youth at the forefront of its massive social transformation. It was parliamentarians' responsibility to foster youth participation and democratization. He welcomed the Forum's insights on what steps his Parliament could take to become the world's youngest parliament.

Mr. R. Khumnurak (Thailand) said that, following a general election in his country in February 2026, MPs under 40 now accounted for 32.4% of Thailand's Parliament, well above the global average of 19%. There was also an increase in young leaders in Thailand's executive branch. The country's younger leaders were fostering an inclusive, green and digital economy. The Thai Parliament had established a caucus for young parliamentarians in 2020, allowing MPs to collaborate on youth agendas and emerging challenges to take concrete parliamentary action, including youth initiatives, while expanding national and international engagement. The youth of Thailand were adapting to and leading change. Within the IPU framework, young Thai MPs' active engagement in the Empowerment Series briefings, the Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians and the recent online training session had strengthened their capacity to take on greater leadership roles in Parliament.

Ms. I. Stamatović (Serbia) said that she wished to invite both men and women young MPs to the IPU Global Conference of Women Parliamentarians, scheduled to take place from 2 to 4 June 2026 in Belgrade, Serbia. The main theme would be fighting negative social norms and gender stereotypes.

Mr. G. Almeland (Norway) updated the Forum on recent election results in his country which showed further advancement in the proportion of young MPs since the data used in the IPU's report had been gathered. Following its 2025 election, Norway now has a historically young Parliament, including its youngest ever MP, aged 19. Underscoring that young people were able to support one another more when young MPs were in parliament, he highlighted the formation by his Parliament of an informal caucus for young parliamentarians, which ensured that young MPs learned from one another and not simply older party colleagues.

Mr. K. Khelifati (Algeria) said that youth empowerment was no longer a political choice but a precondition to build a country's future. Algeria's national strategy was youth-centred, given that young people were key to the creation of proposals and the decision-making process. Real participation meant real responsibility. Therefore, a Minister of Youth had been introduced, thus promoting youth leadership in public policy implementation. Acknowledging that youth empowerment could not be complete without economic empowerment, the Government had built a comprehensive development mechanism that drew on young people's innovation and had promoted the transformation of university thesis studies into real projects, thus making youth partners in development. Quotas had been introduced requiring 30% representation for women and 50% for MPs under 40. Young Algerians engaged actively in international forums, including the African Union's 1 Million Next Level Initiative, which had been launched in Algeria, and had held dialogue with the Chinese Communist Party.

Mr. S. Al Saadi (Arab Parliament) said that youth empowerment was necessary to build a robust future. The Arab countries bore a significant responsibility, as young people represented almost half of their populations. The Arab Parliament set great store by youth empowerment, believing that young people were the most sustainable investment and the best means of achieving security and sustainable development.

The Forum might wish to consider whether its approach in discussing the same topics in both the Forum and the Assembly was redundant. Given the limited time allotted to the meetings of the Forum, it would be useful to focus on one topic of importance to all young people globally, thus allowing deeper discussions and more valuable recommendations. Such an approach would increase the Forum's visibility.

Mr. D. Joshi (Expert on Youth Participation) thanked the Forum for its contributions and looked forward to exchanging more ideas. He encouraged the young MPs to read the *Youth participation in national parliaments: 2025* report.

Contribution to the work of the 152nd Assembly from a youth perspective

The Chair said that the discussion would focus on providing a youth perspective on the General Debate theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*.

Mr. Y. Cai (Singapore) said that youth, the poor and the powerless were bearing the brunt of the unravelling of the global world order. The failure of the multilateral system needed to be addressed through institutional reform and the creation of open and practical coalitions of like-minded nations to gradually build a more resilient global architecture. Multilateralism was not failing because it had been a bad idea, but because powerful actors had put it under strain.

Mr. G.-C. Bochileanu (Romania) said that, since younger generations would inherit the consequences of current decisions, it was a moral obligation and political priority to consolidate hope, peace and justice. Romania supported that vision by pursuing peace and security, strengthening the rule of law and advancing digital transformation, including the responsible use of artificial intelligence. Youth participation was necessary to carry out those efforts and achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Having been elected to the Senate by Romanians living outside Romania, he sought to give a voice to those often unheard. The Romanian diaspora's fresh perspectives, innovative solutions and strong connection to global realities would improve governance and needed to be reflected in the country's policymaking. He expressed his support for the international agenda being shaped by parliamentary initiatives that encouraged youth. Parliaments should build trust and foster mutual understanding through dialogue, mediation and cooperation. The Romanian Parliament actively contributed to such efforts through its participation in international forums.

Ms. G. Elbadawy (Egypt) said that, in light of the current conflicts, it was important for young MPs to foster hope. Egypt had undertaken efforts to launch projects promoting youth participation in public life and a culture of democracy. To secure a sustainable future, the country was empowering youth to participate in parliament, including through the establishment of a youth parliamentary forum, and was training young people in decision-making, public life and leadership. Egypt built young parliamentarians' capacity to combat extremism and advocated their participation in community and development initiatives.

Mr. S. Özboyaci (Türkiye), said that, at a time when human dignity was being steadily undermined and fundamental rights systematically violated, it was everyone's responsibility to foster hope. The current situation was not due solely to ongoing conflicts. The real threat lay in lawlessness, impunity and double standards. The existing international architecture had become a passive observer of injustice, as was the case in Gaza. Israel's actions had moved the situation beyond a humanitarian crisis to a systematic suspension of international law. Similarly, in other countries, the practice of targeting civilian areas had transformed warfare into a form of destruction. It was alarming that Israel, under the guise of legal execution, had proposed to eliminate Palestinian detainees, already imprisoned in severe conditions. The law was manipulated by the powerful.

Ms. R.C. Syiffadia (Indonesia) said that the matter at hand was whether young people could trust that peace was possible, institutions were fair and the future would offer dignity and opportunity. The Forum played an important role in bringing that perspective into the Assembly's work. Globally, youth participation remained low, leading to a lack of youth perspective on decisive matters. To foster hope among young people, peace must be credible, rooted in respect for international law and strengthened by accountability; justice should be tangible, reflected in fair access to quality education, decent work, reliable public services and meaningful avenues for political expression; and participation should be genuine, recognizing young people as partners in shaping policy, from consultation to implementation. Parliamentarians therefore needed to invest more seriously in youth inclusion through legislation, oversight and representation, including by establishing mentorship youth caucuses and structured consultation within youth organizations. Digital tools should be leveraged, while protecting young people from disinformation, hate speech and online harassment.

Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad) said that while quotas were being introduced globally to promote women's representation, more efforts were needed to address the underrepresentation of young women. In an effort to inspire hope among youth, his country had appointed a young MP under 30 as the head of its delegation for the 152nd Assembly. It was important to encourage parliaments that were advocating for youth participation, even if they did not rank among the top achievers in that regard.

The Chair, encouraging the members of the Forum to participate in the General Debate, said that the discussion would now shift to the draft resolution entitled *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that young people were essential to reconciliation, social cohesion and community building. Key youth issues, such as education and employment, were directly linked to long-term stabilization. Post-conflict processes had an impact on young people, especially in contexts involving child soldiers and increased vulnerability to radicalization. Young people's meaningful engagement was crucial to ensuring that peace agreements and governance frameworks were sustainable and reflected future societal needs. He welcomed the draft resolution on post-conflict management mechanisms, particularly its dual acknowledgement of young people's vulnerability and agency across multiple dimensions of post-conflict recovery. He encouraged the Forum to consistently put the youth perspectives on post-conflict management into practice.

Mr. A.A. Bagherzadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that what had happened in January 2026 in his country had not been a military operation, but a direct attack. A great deal of civilian infrastructure had been deliberately targeted to directly undermine scientific research capacities, social cohesion, education, international law and human rights, healthcare capacities and culture.
The Iranian people were being openly threatened and reserved the right to defend themselves.
The mentality behind the attacks targeted not only infrastructure but Iranians for generations to come.
In the face of the war launched by Israel and the United States of America, the Islamic Republic of Iran was seeking peaceful and diplomatic solutions.

Ms. N.M. Mhlongo (South Africa) said that 60% of Africa's population was under 25, making it the youngest continent. Those young people were not a problem to be managed, but defenders of peace. The African Union encouraged young people's efforts to foster peace and security in Africa, often without State support. Political, economic and governance failures compelled African youth to act. However, governments still viewed young people as suspects or victims, but never partners, which was strategically self-defeating because it deepened mistrust and spurred violence.

She therefore called for the inclusion in the draft resolution of a requirement imposed on governments to adequately resource youth-led peace and security initiatives and sign, ratify, domesticate and provide annual progress reports for youth policies. The draft resolution should also require parliaments to encourage governments to establish trust-building mechanisms between young people and law enforcement.

Mr. C. Supphaiboonlerd (Thailand) expressed support for the draft resolution on robust post-conflict management, as it recognized parliamentarians' role in the peace process through legislation, budget allocation, oversight and representation. The draft resolution could be strengthened by according greater importance to the meaningful participation of women and youth in security decision-making and peace negotiations, including support for national plans or peace and security issues related to youth and women. It should highlight the need to prevent and eliminate gender-based violence through effective law enforcement, survivor-centred protection, and strong monitoring and accountability mechanisms. The draft resolution should also provide for the integration of gender perspectives and a child-sensitive approach into security policies and budgetary processes, and develop relevant data systems and training programmes to support those efforts. Protection measures should be included to address physical and digital threats. The draft resolution should secure dedicated funding for digital continuity, ensuring that satellites and telecommunications infrastructure were treated as essential humanitarian services, and treating access to teaching materials and online learning as a fundamental right that should be retained even during disruptions of physical school during conflicts. Lastly, the draft resolution should mention ensuring access to quality education at all levels, guaranteeing that it be tailored to local contexts and supported by lifelong learning opportunities. Such an approach was fundamental to peacebuilding and human development. Furthermore, special attention should be paid to vulnerable children, including those outside the educational system or at risk of dropout.

Ms. F. Rembo (United Republic of Tanzania) said that the restoration of a just and lasting peace required strong institutions, inclusive governance, accountability and hope. Key to the establishment of robust post-conflict management mechanisms, parliaments had the responsibility of legislating for peace, overseeing the implementation of peace agreements and ensuring that reconstruction efforts were guided by justice, inclusion and the rule of law. Parliaments must strengthen frameworks for

national reconciliation, social cohesion and transitional justice, while ensuring that the voices of women and young people were fully integrated into peacebuilding processes. Young parliamentarians played an active role in conflict prevention, reconciliation and long-term stability. Parliaments were urged to establish stronger oversight mechanisms, support community-based peacebuilding initiatives and invest in youth-led approaches to reconciliation and recovery.

Mr. H.E. Hasan (Bahrain) said that Bahraini youth opposed any attacks from the Islamic Republic of Iran against Bahrain. Their land gave them identity and dignity. Although the country had always been peaceful, its youth, essential infrastructure and residential areas were being targeted by missiles. Iranian missiles had claimed the lives of eight people in Bahrain. Given that the war was between the Islamic Republic of Iran, Israel and the United States of America, he questioned how Bahrain had become involved. The situation was unacceptable. He expressed the hope that the emergency item proposal submitted by his delegation would be supported by all.

Mr. F. Metaza (MERCOSUR Parliament (PARLASUR)) said that, in order to manage post-war contexts and pursue lasting peace, it was important to name the guilty parties responsible for starting the war, specifically Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and President Donald Trump. Punishment needed to be meted out to make an example of political leaders that had started conflict.

The Chair invited the Forum to speak on the draft resolution entitled *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance*.

Mr. W. Soto Palacios (Peru) said that young people played a fundamental role in the global economy, especially in terms of innovation, consumption and social development and sustainable progress. Countries should prioritize a circular economy that focused on social inclusion and environmental protection. Unemployment, unfair wages and discrimination were some economic factors undermining young people's holistic development. Young parliamentarians were key to efforts to assess international trade and to combat youth-specific challenges. For that reason, with support from Mr. Koko Abdelgader, he had submitted an amendment to operative paragraph 10 of the draft resolution, on a fair and sustainable global economy. He would welcome support for the amendment, as part of young people's pursuit for the welfare of all and for comprehensive and balanced global development.

Mr. F. Belekanyama (Malawi) said that with the global economic system at a crossroads, it was up to young parliamentarians to determine its inclusiveness, which was a political and moral decision. The current global economic situation was a lived reality for young people, who were agents of change. If young MPs chose to act boldly, they would build a fair and inclusive global economic system, which was necessary for sustainable development, peace and shared prosperity. Corporate tax avoidance, profit shifting and weak enforcement of global tax standards quietly drained national budgets and weakened governments' ability to invest in key areas. Younger and future generations and the poor would benefit from an equal global economy, yet continued to pay the price.

Mr. B.B. Nodada (South Africa) said that global trade was a pillar of inclusive and sustainable development. Despite being central to economic growth, young people faced the highest unemployment rates. Over the following decade, one billion young people would enter the job market, but the systems to absorb them were not ready. High youth unemployment carried long-term economic consequences, including reduced productivity, shrinking tax bases and scarring effects on career trajectories and lifetime earnings. Economically empowering young people boosted innovation. Investments in education, technology and entrepreneurship were necessary, as were mentorship and visibility, especially in developing countries. The draft resolution should therefore explicitly recognize youth as economic actors, call on governments to align national trade strategies with youth unemployment targets and implement measurable benchmarks and annual reporting, and encourage parliaments to offer youth-led enterprises preferential access to trade, financing and procurement opportunities in regional markets. It was crucial to develop a global trade agenda that left no one behind.

Preparation of the contribution to the 153rd Assembly from a youth perspective

The Chair, based on the proposal made by the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians, proposed that Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad) be nominated as Rapporteur of the youth overview report on the draft resolution to be considered at the upcoming IPU Assembly by the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights, entitled *Inclusive social development for all: Parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities.*

The nomination was confirmed by the Forum.

The Chair said that an amendment to the IPU Statutes had been passed to allow the Forum to submit amendments to resolutions to incorporate a youth perspective. Therefore, at each of the Forum's meetings, a discussion would be held on the resolutions being discussed at the following Assembly and views taken into account by the Rapporteur of the youth overview report. She invited Ms. F. Öncü (Türkiye), co-Rapporteur of the draft resolution *Inclusive social development for all: Parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities*, to introduce the topic.

Ms. F. Öncü (Türkiye), co-Rapporteur, said that defending the rights of and empowering people with disabilities were key to upholding democracy and rule of law. Taking into account that there were 1.3 billion people living with disabilities, together with the people in their lives, the issue at hand had a direct impact on half of the global population. Yet people living with disabilities were becoming increasingly invisible and were not actively participating in decision-making mechanisms. The barriers imposed upon them should be removed. People living with disabilities should play a central role in all aspects of the international arena. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights clearly stipulated the importance of equal treatment for all. However, legal texts alone were not sufficient. There needed to be effective political oversight and representation and, most importantly, active parliamentary involvement, including through guidance. Parliamentarians should consider the development of a common structure to promote equal participation of people living with disabilities. Parliaments should develop national and international mechanisms to institutionalize increased parliamentary representation of people living with disabilities, thereby laying the groundwork for more accountable budgets, reasonable adaptation measures and non-discriminatory mechanisms. Democratic life was successful only when no one was left behind.

The Chair thanked Ms. Öncü and invited the young MPs to share their views on the draft resolution.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that his country had ratified the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and had submitted several reports thereunder. Underscoring the importance of data to effective evidence-based decision-making, he highlighted that a survey on disabilities was conducted every five years in Canada. The most recent survey had shown that young people, especially young women, had presented the largest increase in disabilities and were most commonly affected by mental health-related disabilities. One third of people in Canada living with severe disabilities were not in school or employed. Young parliamentarians were urged to draft legislation using the relevant data to include the perspective of youth living with disabilities and to invite those youth to parliamentary committees to discuss the proposed legislation. Young MPs could propose that studies be carried out on the issues impacting people, including young people, living with disabilities. Reliable data were needed to address the barriers faced by young people living with disabilities.

Ms. M.C. Acuña (Ecuador) said that Ecuador's Amazon region had much progress to make with regard to its young people, who had much fewer opportunities than other young people, especially in terms of education. Parliaments were called on to step up efforts to improve the lives of Indigenous young people.

Ms. N.M. Mhlongo (South Africa) said that people's potential was diminished not by disabilities but by a system that had never been designed to include everyone. Despite policies aimed at inclusive education, implementation remained weak, leaving young people living with disabilities outside the school system, thus hindering their economic participation. In the labour market, the lack of reasonable accommodation, persistent altitudinal barriers and outright discrimination continued to drive exclusion from meaningful employment. People living with disabilities who did work were often self-employed or worked in the informal sector, where they faced limited access to financial and institutional support. The situation represented a systematic failure that demanded a parliamentary response.

South Africa's Constitution guaranteed equality and dignity for all, and the country had strengthened disability inclusion through employment equity measures, inclusive education policies and the recognition of South African sign language as an official language. The country acknowledged, however, that implementation gaps remained, particularly in education, public service and employment. It therefore called for the draft resolution to provide for enactment and implementation of legislation protecting the rights of people living with disabilities; facilitate equitable access to productive resources and assets for employment and enterprise; resource and build the capacity of State and non-State actors to sustainably implement economic empowerment strategies for young people living with disabilities; and make the voices of those young people central to the design, monitoring and review of all relevant policies and programmes.

Mr. A.A. Bagherzadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran), highlighting that his country was party to the UN Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, said that laws had been changed in his country to improve the services provided to people living with disabilities, including housing. Parliaments had a role to play in that regard. Countries should strengthen efforts to share their experiences in promoting human rights. The Islamic Republic of Iran was facing instability owing to regional conflicts. The actions of the United States of America against his country, including through severe infrastructural damage, had led to heightened consequences for people living with disabilities, whose increased vulnerabilities limited their ability to access safety and have a decent life. The perpetrators must take responsibility. International law prohibited those actions to avoid such situations.

The Chair said that law could not be fair without including people living with disabilities in the process, as they knew their needs best. The draft resolution should be clear and highlight the challenges faced by young people living with disabilities, especially regarding education, employment and politics. She invited Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad), Rapporteur of the youth overview report on the draft resolution, to provide the Forum with a guiding question to develop the report.

Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad) said that he would welcome good practices based on other countries' promotion of the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities, which would subsequently be adapted to suit a youth perspective.

Ms. I. Stamatović (Serbia) said that her Government had implemented changes to ensure that all public institutions were accessible to people living with disabilities. A Government department for gender equality was developing programmes for and funding NGOs and other local institutions aiming to improve the lives of people living with disabilities. Parliamentarians in her country were invited to participate in those programmes in their local municipalities and were encouraged to advocate for the programmes. The programmes had given visibility to people living with disabilities, the issues affecting them and ways to address those issues.

Ms. L.M. Gumnior (Germany) said that it was important to adopt a forward-thinking approach by ensuring that parliaments were inclusive, in terms of structure and working hours, given that most disabilities developed over time. Consideration should also be given to the possibility of people with chronic illnesses taking part in parliamentary life.

Mr. M. Pramanik (Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH)) said that many disabilities were invisible. Policies should be future-oriented, as the current global turmoil was creating disabilities that would manifest at a later date. Later that year, PMNCH would launch an online course on adolescent health and wellbeing, aimed at helping participants develop multi-sectoral policies to address that issue through a holistic approach. The Forum was invited to participate in a high-level symposium on parliamentary support for future generations hosted by PMNCH the following day. In that regard, he would welcome young MPs' perspectives on the challenges young people faced and the support they needed.

Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad), thanking the Forum for its feedback, invited the young MPs to share the experience of their parliaments' monitoring and implementation of programmes aimed at promoting the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities. They were also asked whether their parliaments had performed research to measure the impact of such programmes.

The Chair said that young people always brought a new perspective. Sharing previously repeated sentiments would not help parliaments to craft new solutions. Justice pertained not only to war but also to all aspects of everyday life.

Ms. Z. Hilal (Secretary of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians) said that the IPU's online Empowerment Series briefings for young MPs had addressed various policy areas since 2023. As the IPU would be focusing on human rights in 2026, young MPs were invited to propose topics of interest related to human rights. She reminded the Forum that the Empowerment Series served to share policymaking insights with young parliamentarians and as a platform for young MPs to share approaches taken by their parliaments through a youth perspective.

Mr. S. Naidu (Seychelles) said that his country's Youth Parliament had recently promoted democratic values in schools to combat voter apathy, as education was a pillar for advancing youth participation. It was necessary to take concrete action to ensure that the Forum had meaningful impact. It was pointless to travel far to deliver statements on important issues that simply sounded good. Far too often, meeting participants shied away from their countries' vulnerabilities to discuss advances. Frank discussions should be held to share good practices and inform laws.

The Chair said that the views shared by Mr. Naidu would be submitted to the Secretariat.

Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad) thanked the young MPs for contributing to the youth overview report on the draft resolution to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities.

Tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General

The Chair said that the 152nd Assembly was the Secretary General's last IPU Assembly after more than 30 years of service to the IPU. She expressed deep gratitude and appreciation to him on behalf of the Forum and its previous Presidents. There had been no Forum of Young Parliamentarians prior to the Secretary General's tenure. He had helped to bring youth participation to the forefront, including in Assembly debates, and had paved the way for youth priorities to shape the Organization's decisions and outcomes. Having supported the youth cause from the beginning, he left a strong legacy that would forever be remembered and appreciated by the Forum. She thanked him for his guidance and kindness. The young MPs promised to continue upholding the values of dialogue, inclusion and integrity that had been championed by the Secretary General.

A video was played in tribute to the Secretary General.

Dr. T. Ackson (IPU President) said that the Forum met at a moment that called for honesty. With democracy under strain and conflicts multiplying globally, years of progress were being undone. The Assembly was an opportunity to unite, reverse those effects and rebuild hope. Young people were often the first to feel the impact of global events, yet too often the last to be heard. For much of the IPU's history, the voice of the youth had not been very present. Since the adoption in 2010 of the IPU resolution *Youth participation in the democratic process* and the establishment of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians, meaningful progress had been made, placing the IPU at the vanguard of the global youth movement.

The year 2014 had marked many milestones. The IPU had started collecting age-related data on MPs, noting that only 1.4% of MPs worldwide were aged 30 and under. That figure had doubled to 2.8% in 2026, which, though still not very impressive, was a sign of progress. More work was needed to achieve equitable representation. The Forum had been created in 2014 and had strengthened over the years, transforming the IPU and beyond. Young MPs had a seat in all IPU bodies, including the Executive Committee, delegations had become younger, and young parliamentarians were shaping Assembly decisions and outcomes more than ever before. In 2014, the IPU had launched a dedicated programme on youth participation and the first Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians. Lastly, the Secretary General had taken office in 2014, marking a historic year not just for him, but also for young parliamentarians, which had been no coincidence, as he had been a chief architect for the increased importance placed on youth participation in the Organization.

The Secretary General's connection to the work of young MPs was among the factors defining his tenure. He had demonstrated through action that youth participation must be meaningful, undertaking efforts to boost the Forum's visibility and influence. Leadership could be measured by the space created for others to grow. Through the Secretary General's stewardship, many young parliamentarians had developed confidence, networks and skills that they had carried back to their countries, creating lasting ripple effects.

Mr. M. Chungong (IPU Secretary General) said that, although the busyness of his job had sometimes hindered him from seeing the impact of his contributions, he was grateful for the unanimous positive feedback on his leadership. With regard to the video tribute shown at the Forum, he was especially moved by the testimony of the young MPs that had pioneered the youth movement at its inception in 2010. He stressed that the journey had been collective and that he had simply been the tip of the iceberg. He was comforted by people's passion to promote that cause in the Organization.

There had been tangible results in the Organization: young MPs were present in deliberations, assumed leadership roles and met regularly to inform the IPU's decisions from a youth perspective. The Forum was shedding light on youth participation in public institutions, producing relevant data and helping parliaments become younger and adopt youth-friendly policies. It had given meaning to the IPU's inclusive approach to democracy and governance. He was pleased that the members of the Forum were all champions of rejuvenating democracy.

He expressed his gratitude for the support of the Forum, without which there would not have been a youth movement in the IPU or progress in rejuvenating the Organization's processes. It was reassuring that the Forum would continue that collective legacy. The most significant gift he could receive would be the Forum's commitment to consolidating the progress, albeit fragile, in youth empowerment. It had been a wise decision to incorporate young people into processes of democracy and governance, enhancing the legitimacy of outcomes and the impact and effectiveness of the work of governing institutions, especially parliaments. He expressed heartfelt gratitude to the Forum, commending the young MPs for having learned so quickly and wishing them the best in their future endeavours.

Hearing with candidates for IPU Secretary General

The Chair invited the candidates to share their opening remarks.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece) expressed congratulations to the young MPs on their achievements at such an early stage in life and to the Secretary General, under whose tenure the IPU had made considerable progress regarding youth participation. It was important to support the Forum and youth initiatives, such as the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign, which had taken on a global dimension through social media. She had supported the proposal to lower the age limit for young parliamentarians from 45 to 40 when it had been discussed by the Executive Committee.

While half of the global population was under 40 years old, the percentage of young parliamentarians worldwide remained very low. That democratic deficit needed to be addressed, not only for democracy but also because people's wellbeing could be improved when young MPs were given the opportunity to leverage their innovation to create effective legislation that was relevant to current issues and fostered unity, their natural sense of belonging to the global village to promote cooperation, their sustainable practices, and their digital prowess, without which the Organization could not be modernized. It was therefore the duty of the incoming Secretary General and society on the whole to boost youth participation in decision-making.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania) said that she had been working at the IPU for over 20 years, helping the Organization to increase its membership, relevance and impact. The incoming Secretary General should be a non-partisan steward with a realistic vision for the future, an understanding of the daily challenges faced by the IPU and parliaments and deep institutional knowledge and diplomatic skills to operate in politically sensitive environments.

Her vision was for the IPU to be the best it could at a time when multilateralism and international law were under severe strain. At its best, the IPU was a unique catalyst for inter-parliamentary dialogue and exchange, shaped parliamentary norms and worked with parliaments to translate shared commitments into specific action. To achieve her vision, priority must be placed on ensuring that parliaments pursued peace through strengthened conflict prevention and parliamentary diplomacy, making a visible and measurable contribution to address global challenges through political guidelines and initiatives to help parliaments assess progress and identify good practices, and creating inclusive societies by promoting human rights, gender equality, youth participation and interfaith dialogue.

The participation and empowerment of young MPs had already contributed significantly to the modernization of the Organization. She was closely associated with the World Future Council, which sought to promote just policies that supported the wellbeing of future generations. Senior officials had much to learn from young people; both groups should work together to ensure that technology, including artificial intelligence, fostered inclusion efficiently.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal) said that, as a peace and security practitioner, a human rights specialist, a gender advocate and a result-oriented person, meaningful participation by all was necessary for a fairer and more equitable world. People mattered most. The current global turmoil called for a shift towards durable peace and security. With almost 30 years of experience at the UN, she had a vision to position the IPU as the global catalyst for shaping responsive, inclusive, interconnected and accountable parliaments, while ensuring gender equality and intergenerational equity and that no one was left behind in the development of a collective future. Among other values, her work was grounded in integrity, impartiality, diversity and transparency.

She sought to achieve her vision through parliamentary diplomacy that prevented crises before escalation, genuine inclusivity and ethical and responsible digital democracy. Young people had a critical role to play in those efforts, including through the effective implementation of UN Security Council resolutions 2250, 2419 and 2535, as well as the UN Pact for the Future. She would ensure that youth were recognized as credible agents of peace, call for their meaningful participation, particularly in negotiating and implementing peace agreements, advocate stronger multilateral engagement that prioritized youth-led oversight of the SDGs, and reinforce the role of youth oversight and human rights to hold governments accountable for the implementation of UN Security Council resolution 2250. She would serve with excellence, pride and humility. She asked the Forum for its confidence so that her vision could be transformed into impactful, actionable outcomes to promote democracy, social justice and the visibility, credibility and relevance of the IPU.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden) said that the young MPs, having been elected, had earned people's trust, which was not easy. Future generations needed young parliamentarians' efforts and perspective. The current global turmoil had a considerable impact on young people and called for inspiration, especially in national parliaments. It was more difficult to be re-elected than elected, as it required trust to be built further. Having been a parliamentarian for 32 years, she had several decades' experience of building trust, which was necessary to strengthen the IPU, making it more relevant, modern and able to craft solutions. The Organization needed to step up efforts to enhance its engagement with young MPs to boost their relevance to their constituencies and national parliaments, including through the IPU's unique way of strengthening relations and allowing stakeholders to learn from one another's experiences. The Organization should improve discussions of matters of importance to young people. Given that peace and security were a pillar of the Organization, the members of the Forum were encouraged to keep them central to future efforts and work towards winning a Nobel Peace Prize. In closing, she urged the young MPs to consider ideas to improve engagement and to keep listening, which had been key to her own re-elections.

The Chair invited the Forum to provide the candidates with questions for consideration.

Ms. K.H. Mayeye (United Republic of Tanzania) asked the candidates how they would ensure that the Forum of Young Parliamentarians moved beyond high-level meetings to provide direct technical support to inspire younger democratic leaders, especially in East Africa. She also asked them how they would ensure protection from sexual harassment for young women parliamentarians.

Ms. D.-T. Avgerinopoulou (Greece) said that, upon becoming a member of the Greek Parliament, she had faced harassment in Parliament, especially from older men parliamentarians. She had had to let them know that she had deserved respect because she had been elected. Women parliamentarians and young parliamentarians needed to support one another in that regard. The IPU *Policy to prevent and address harassment, including sexual harassment at IPU Assemblies and other IPU events* was a sign of the Organization's innovation on the matter and the example it set for other parliaments. The IPU fostered respect, especially for female and young parliamentarians, which was central to the Policy. Turning to the matter of helping young parliamentarians to thrive, she said that the IPU could work with other initiatives that promoted youth development.

Ms. A. Filip (Romania) said that much work was being done in the Forum and more generally in the IPU to advance the youth perspective to shape outcomes. However, more could be done to improve those efforts, such as by actively engaging in the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign and better communicating the Forum's successes so that parliamentary and political party leaders could champion youth participation and overcome the current stagnation in that area. With regard to the sexual harassment of young women parliamentarians, that scourge needed to be eradicated. IPU studies had shown that violence, sexual or otherwise, against women in politics was occurring across the world. It was necessary to invest more in the Gender Partnership Group, making sure that there

were male parliamentary leaders serving as gender champions in the IPU, the UN and every parliament. Relevant policies should be developed and accountability improved through regular monitoring of the impact and results of collective efforts.

Ms. F. Dieng Thiam (Senegal) said that, with reference to the matter of inspiring young people, if elected Secretary General, she would lead by example, by forging trustworthy partnerships among young people, building trust and transforming words into action. While the IPU had enforced a policy on sexual harassment, national steps needed to be undertaken to remove all discriminatory laws. The IPU could enhance prevention through capacity-building for women and political leaders and could introduce a system to assess benchmarks for the implementation of relevant international obligations. Those efforts should not be limited to mitigating sexual harassment but focus on the protection of women in general.

Ms. C. Widegren (Sweden) said that it was important for women to inspire other women. Young MPs should not underestimate the impact of their being a role model to other young people, including by taking lessons learned at the IPU back to national parliaments. Regarding sexual harassment, open discussions were crucial. While progress had been made, older parliamentarians, including the candidates for Secretary General, should provide the Forum with examples to replicate in their countries.

The Chair thanked the candidates for their contributions.

Mr. A.A. Bagherzadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that, with reference to the sentiments shared by the delegate from Bahrain, he wished to underscore that the Middle East had always pursued peace and stability. The Islamic Republic of Iran had been in negotiations with the United States of America, but Israel and the United States of America had attacked his country. Bahrain was among the countries used to facilitate the attacks against the Islamic Republic of Iran. Such action had been banned by UN resolutions. The neighbouring countries of the Islamic Republic of Iran were aggressive.

Ms. F. Rembo ((United Republic of Tanzania) said that she wished to invite the Forum to the 153rd IPU Assembly to be held from 5 to 9 October 2026 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania. The country stood ready to welcome the global parliamentary community with hospitality, peace and unity. She assured the Forum of the country's stability and security. The safety and comfort of all participants would remain the highest priority. Comprehensive arrangements were already under way to ensure a successful, secure and memorable Assembly.

Mr. A. Koko Abdelgader (Chad) took the Chair as the youngest member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians present.

The Chair thanked members for their active participation and looked forward to their continued determination and commitment.

The sitting rose at 18:15.

Open Session of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

Parliamentary action to end statelessness

SATURDAY, 18 APRIL 2026
(Morning)

The session was called to order at 11:05 with Mr. A. Farrugia (Malta), President of the Committee, in the Chair.

The President said that he wished to begin by reflecting on how, in a world where every aspect of life was tracked and recorded, millions of people could remain without a legal identity and individuals could exist without belonging to any State. According to the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), in 2025, 4.4 million stateless persons and persons of undetermined nationality had been reported across 101 countries. The actual figure was doubtless higher as many stateless persons lived on the fringes of society and a considerable number of countries had no data available.

The 1954 Convention relating to the Status of Stateless Persons defined a stateless person as someone who was not considered a national by any State. Statelessness often denied access to basic rights, such as education, healthcare, employment and even the right to bury the dead. The root causes of statelessness ranged from a lack of legal safeguards to grant nationality, to inadequate birth registration, discrimination in nationality laws and arbitrary deprivation of statelessness. Most stateless persons were stateless from birth and children represented 44% of recorded cases. In 24 countries, women were denied the right to confer their nationality upon their children on an equal basis with men.

The ending of statelessness was an achievable goal, with law reform the number one solution. Since 2014, more than 600,000 stateless persons had acquired citizenship, 20 States had acceded to the 1954 Convention and 27 States had acceded to the 1961 Convention on the Reduction of Statelessness. Other initiatives included the Global Alliance to End Statelessness, of which the IPU was a member. Yet, millions continued to live without nationality. Renewed political will and parliamentary leadership were paramount.

He invited the panel to share their perspectives on statelessness and introduced the first panellist, Ms. C. Chitengu, Co-Lead of the Global Movement against Statelessness, who would describe her own experience of statelessness and the key measures she believed should be taken to prevent statelessness at birth.

Ms. C. Chitengu (Co-Lead, Global Movement against Statelessness), speaking via video link, said that she had been born and raised in South Africa but had been denied a nationality from birth and had had to wait until the age of 18 to apply for citizenship. The State had knowingly allowed her to grow up stateless. As a child, she had learned to live cautiously; when a child was not registered at birth or registration was later questioned or blocked, every other right became unstable and access to education, healthcare, mobility and family life depended on administrative discretion. The process to apply for citizenship at 18 years of age, under the South Africa Citizenship Act, had been slow and opaque. Although a number of court rulings had called for regulations to guide the process, there were still none. Her own statelessness had been resolved through court action against the Government, after years of uncertainty and harm.

Ending statelessness on paper did not always end vulnerability in practice, however. Digital identity systems relied on historical records and incomplete, inconsistent or incorrectly linked records could lead, again, to exclusion from services and public systems. She was unable to change her surname due to the lack of past records. Digital exclusion was often harder to reverse than exclusion from analogue systems. In her case, her mother had been able to negotiate access to education, despite her lack of a birth certificate, but digitalization often removed the space for such conversations. Lived experience mattered because it offered parliamentarians an insight not only into past injustices but into where systems would fail.

Parliamentarians could prevent statelessness at birth and ensure it was not reproduced through digital governance. Access to universal, accessible and non-discriminatory birth registration was needed, regardless of parental nationality or migration status. Birth registration was the foundation of

legal identity – it should not be a tool for migration. Safeguards against childhood statelessness should operate early and automatically; laws that delayed access to nationality normalized statelessness. Nationality safeguards should be rights-based rather than discretionary and protection should be afforded from digital exclusion. Robust parliamentary oversight of digital identity systems was needed. Persons with lived experience of statelessness should be included in parliamentary committees, advisory boards and law reform processes to ensure that laws offered protection in practice. The Global Movement against Statelessness was driving action to ensure that those with lived experience could lead advocacy and a similar model could be adapted to parliamentary systems. Parliamentarians had the power to address statelessness. It was a question not only of justice but of responsible governance.

The President invited the second panellist, Ms. N. Gurung, co-founder of the Citizenship Affected People's Network, to share her experience of statelessness and the action that should be taken to address gender discrimination in nationality law and as a root cause of statelessness.

Ms. N. Gurung (Co-founder of the Citizenship Affected People's Network), speaking via video link, said that, until the age of 22, she did not legally exist, despite having been born and raised in her home country of Nepal. She had been denied a legal identity because her mother was a single parent and the law had deemed her incapable of passing on her nationality. Without certificates of birth and citizenship, her and her sister's dreams had been crushed, since citizenship was needed to access higher education. Her family had been subjected to humiliating advice and judgement. Yet, her mother had refused to surrender and had filed a case with the Supreme Court and had launched an online campaign to obtain citizenship for her children. While the public comments on the webpage for the campaign had been filled with backlash, the private messaging system had been flooded with people in the same situation. By weaponizing a mother's moral character, society questioned children's legitimacy, leaving them confused and ashamed.

She had joined her mother's campaign and had decided to study law. Together, they had met many families like them, whose lives had been disrupted by a lack of citizenship. They had won the Supreme Court case and she had become a lawyer and continued to run a national non-profit organization that supported affected individuals. The years of lost opportunities could not be undone by a piece of paper. Although she had turned discrimination into strength and solidarity, she would not wish her situation on anyone – not the children or the mothers, nor the State. The denial of citizenship to children was a self-defeating policy that stunted national development and caused young persons and women of working age to waste their most productive years fighting for a basic document that was a requirement of the State. Statelessness bred vulnerability and increased the risk of human trafficking, unemployment and poverty, and undermined any commitment to gender equality because true equality began with equal legal recognition. Legal reform was not just a human rights imperative; it was essential to achieving sustainable development.

Nepal was one of the 24 countries where women were denied equal rights to confer citizenship. No country should be on such a list; talk of gender equality could not go together with the endorsement of unequal citizenship rights. Parliament should exercise oversight of how laws were implemented by including the persons affected. States often used national security to justify discriminatory nationality laws but that was merely a shield for outdated patriarchy. In reality, such laws sabotaged economic development and betrayed promises of equality. More than 70 countries had gender equal nationality laws and 18 countries had reformed their laws since the 2000s. Reform was achievable; what was needed was the political will to build a future in which every child had a right to his or her mother's identity.

The President invited Ms. M. Sandvik, Senior Statelessness Coordinator for UNHCR, to explain the role of parliamentarians and parliaments in preventing and reducing statelessness, and how parliaments could contribute to global processes and frameworks to address statelessness.

Ms. M. Sandvik (Senior Statelessness Coordinator, UNCHR) said that parliamentarians were indispensable in collective efforts to eradicate statelessness. Stateless persons lived in every corner of the world, in stable democracies and in more fragile contexts, but were united by exclusion. Parliamentarians could ensure strong nationality laws that were aligned with international standards. Concerning the international legal framework, the 1954 Convention established the definition of statelessness, while the 1961 Convention set out protections for stateless persons and solutions to statelessness. Safeguards included the granting of nationality to children born on the territory who would otherwise be stateless, to children born to a national abroad if they would otherwise be

stateless, and to children found abandoned in the State's territory – the so-called foundling provision which many countries lacked. UNHCR was undertaking research on the implementation of those safeguards, which, as Ms. Chitengu had mentioned, were not always accompanied by the required regulations.

Concerning the 24 countries where women could not confer nationality on their children on an equal basis with men, as Ms. Gurung had highlighted, that did not benefit anybody. UNHCR issued a report each year on those countries. It was to be hoped that Malaysia would soon be removed from the list due to parliamentary progress on law reform. The 1961 Convention also included safeguards in the event of the loss of nationality, while the 1954 Convention referred to facilitated naturalization, which involved providing an accelerated route to naturalization for stateless persons, such as a reduced required duration for residency. Over the previous decade, more than 600,000 people had been granted nationality or had their nationality confirmed and some countries, such as Kyrgyzstan and Turkmenistan, had addressed all known cases of statelessness in their territory. North Macedonia had resolved statelessness that stemmed from the dissolution of Yugoslavia and Kenya had solved the issue for specific groups. Significant progress had also been made in Thailand. Laws were not enough, however; administrative barriers such as high fees and rigid documentation requirements also needed to be addressed.

The data on statelessness was incomplete and it was known that there were millions more stateless persons than the recorded 4.4 million persons. An international recommendation on statelessness statistics had been agreed by the UN Statistical Commission to help statisticians include statelessness in the census and administrative data systems. She encouraged parliamentarians to exercise oversight in that regard. She urged parliamentarians to support international efforts on statelessness, including by advocating ratification of the 1954 and 1961 Conventions. She called on African States to ratify the Protocol to the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights Relating to the Specific Aspects of the Right to a Nationality and the Eradication of Statelessness in Africa, since it had not yet received any ratifications and required 15 to enter into force. Parliamentarians must also remain vigilant to the risk of exclusion due to digital identification systems. In that regard, the World Bank had released a tool on statelessness-sensitive identification systems. Concerning statelessness in the context of climate change, new international recommendations would be released as part of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Statelessness was preventable and solvable with the right laws, effective implementation and sustained political will, and UNHCR looked forward to working with governments on the issue.

The President invited the final speaker, Ms. C.M. Mumma from Kenya, to discuss the efforts made in her country to resolve statelessness for minority groups and to eliminate gender discrimination in nationality law, and the role of parliament in those efforts, and to describe the main challenges and lessons learned during those processes.

Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya) said that it should be acknowledged that civil society movements had been at the forefront of getting governments and parliaments to do the right thing on statelessness, as in the cases of Ms. Chitengu and Ms. Gurung. Stateless persons suffered from possibly the highest level of human rights violations because they lacked legal existence, which meant that no State had an obligation to ensure that they could access food, education and healthcare or to protect them. Members of parliament must take the matter seriously and consider whether, as a collective, they truly represented everyone in their countries.

There were several stateless groups in Kenya, including groups that had been brought in during colonial times. On independence, British nationality had only been granted to the Indian community and not to communities from Africa, a number of which had lived in Kenya as stateless persons for decades and who had been unable to confer nationality or citizenship on their children. Statelessness also existed among persons who were double registered, and the child of a refugee and a Kenyan could not gain citizenship under the law. Kenyans born in rural areas and not in a hospital were without birth certificates and also faced administrative issues when trying to obtain identification.

The 2010 Constitution contained strong gender equality provisions that prohibited gender-based discrimination and had introduced gender equality in the conferment of citizenship, so that Kenyan women were able to confer citizenship on a child the same as Kenyan men. In addition, article 14 of the Constitution presumed citizenship by birth for any child in Kenya. Although her country had not ratified the 1954 and 1961 Conventions, clauses from the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child could be used to protect the rights of stateless children in Kenya. Six cases of public interest litigation had cited the provisions of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and had managed to confer citizenship on specific groups.

The biggest remaining problem was administrative resistance to implementing the law on citizenship and on gender equality. Even the Kenyan parliament was not compliant with the gender equality requirements of the Constitution; the Supreme Court had threatened its dissolution if it did not meet the requirement for no more than two-thirds of seats to be held by either gender. The solution was to enact a law to top up the ratio if that was not achieved through elections but the parliament was full of men who would not pass that law. The same thing happened with administrators, who could make it difficult to register as a citizen because they did not want to confer citizenship on refugees. In a similar way, there were Kenyans who had been made stateless by the administration, sometimes for political purposes, since votes were mobilized by ethnicity and identification was needed to register to vote. It may be politically convenient to engage in such activities but it was a severe violation of the rights of those made stateless. The focus in Kenya should be on oversight of the implementation of the law. The National Assembly was considering two amendments to the law to fast-track the registration of stateless persons and tighter regulations were needed to ensure that administrative officers did what they were supposed to. Recognition of the Nubian as the 43rd tribe of Kenya had acted as a fast track for that community to get their citizenship.

The President asked participants, before opening the floor, to indicate by raising their hands whether they had already engaged on issues of statelessness in their parliament and whether they had personally met any stateless persons. *(Half the participants raised their hands).* He then opened up the discussion for questions and comments from the floor.

Ms. D. Alzayed (Bahrain) said that she agreed that statelessness affected the ability to access rights, obligations and freedoms. Parliamentarians needed to develop regulations to facilitate procedures to obtain citizenship. Parliaments should coordinate more with bodies such as UNHCR and hold hearings with representatives of affected communities. Noting the problems relating to statistics on statelessness, she called for parliaments to share best practices. Stateless persons were rare in Bahrain, in particular because any person born on Bahraini territory to unknown parents was considered a citizen.

Mr. A.A. Bagherzadeh (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that statelessness was one of the most severe ways in which persons were deprived of their rights to access services and education. Despite the 1954 and 1961 Conventions and clear legal frameworks, there was a large gap between international commitments and national implementation that parliaments could tackle. Efforts to address statelessness in his country included improved legislation that provided nationality for children born in the territory, without bias as to ethnicity or religion; ratification of the 1954 and 1961 Conventions; oversight of the implementation of the law; allocation of financial resources for nationality procedures and plans for stateless persons; support for vulnerable stateless persons, such as women, children and minority groups; and improved international cooperation. Statelessness was a cross-boundary issue and parliaments could cooperate with organizations such as the IPU and UNHCR and exchange experiences. Ending statelessness was an achievable objective, provided there was the necessary political will.

Ms. L. Carvajal (Chile) said that there were approximately 3,000 immigrant children in her country. The basic rights of all children were recognized by the Constitution, regardless of their nationality status, and appeals relating to nationality could be made under various legal instruments. Her country had ratified the 1954 and 1961 Conventions. In addition, it had established a programme to regularize persons born in Chile in an irregular migratory situation or who were registered as the children of foreigners. Another programme provided temporary visas to children and adolescents which meant that they could access education and enjoy their other legal rights. All births in her country should be recognized so that parents and guardians could exercise the rights of the children in their care. Her country had also cooperated with UNHCR on the “I Belong” campaign to end statelessness.

Mr. E. Zammit Lewis (Malta) said that statelessness created second-class persons when the emphasis should be on reinforcing human rights and access to health and education for all. The 1954 and 1961 Conventions had been ratified by roughly half of the worlds’ sovereign States, which was not a good number. Despite recognition of stateless persons, there was a lack of effective mechanisms to integrate them into the legal order and society. Malta had experienced challenges relating to statelessness with persons who had arrived as economic migrants from African countries but did not have any documentation to show their nationality. He called for: greater international cooperation and coordination on rules, given the international nature of the issue; greater political

momentum at the national level; more pressure on parliaments for clear legislation with effective mechanisms and strict rules; and efforts to address administrative resistance. The human rights failure of statelessness was unacceptable 78 years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and 76 years after the European Convention for the Protection of Human Rights and Fundamental Freedoms. The issue could be resolved with the political will to act swiftly and effectively.

Ms. G. Morawska-Stanecka (Poland) said that new challenges that could lead to statelessness included surrogacy and the acquisition of citizenship for children born to same-sex relationships, and climate-induced migration or climate displacement. Whatever the reasons for statelessness, stateless persons were condemned to live on the margins of society, with limitations on their fundamental rights, and were exposed to exploitation and abuse. Statelessness also brought fear of detention and the risk of expulsion from the country of residence, particularly since they could not access consular assistance.

It was assumed that statelessness was not a major phenomenon in Poland, although the exact number of stateless persons was unknown due to the lack of reliable data. Her country had not ratified the 1954 and 1961 Conventions and domestic law offered no formal definition of a stateless person. There was a lack of tools to identify stateless persons and provide them with basic protection, and a lack of safeguards to prevent statelessness among children born in Poland to parents who were unable to pass on their citizenship. A problem had been identified of stateless persons who sought refuge in connection with the war in Ukraine but lacked documents and were unable to access support or regularize their stay in Poland. Solutions to statelessness were needed in the general interest and for humanitarian reasons but despite increased awareness of the issue, the steps taken had been insufficient. The phenomenon would not be eliminated while citizenship was treated solely as a domestic matter, rather than an area for regulation through international norms.

Mr. M. Abdou (Niger) said that his country had signed the 1954 and 1961 Conventions. It had not experienced much statelessness in the past but in recent times, migration and insecurity in the Sahel and the Lake Chad Basin had led to an inflow of refugees and stateless persons. The legislation on statelessness was being revised to protect stateless persons and give them the opportunity to obtain Nigerien nationality.

Mr. W. Chang (Canada) said that his country was a proud signatory of the 1961 Convention and remained committed to ensuring that every person had a nationality. The Citizenship Act and humanitarian and compassionate provisions were important tools to prevent and reduce statelessness, particularly for children. Canada urged all parliamentarians to strengthen national frameworks, close remaining legal gaps and work across jurisdictions to ensure that statelessness was prevented, reduced and ultimately eliminated. No person should be without a nationality and no child should grow up without the recognition, protection and dignity that citizenship provided.

Ms. N. Siham (Mauritania) said that, in the past in her country, dual citizenship had been prohibited due to tensions in the area and to preserve the right of refugees to return to their countries. Citizenship law remained a problem in rural and frontier areas and efforts were being made to align legislation with international law. Progress had been made on equality by giving women the right to confer citizenship on their children. In 2020, parliament had amended the law to allow Mauritanians, including women, to hold dual citizenship.

Mr. A. Mahamat Mouhsine (Chad) said that his country had ratified the 1954 and 1961 Conventions, and relevant regional documents. His country hosted more than 2 million persons who fell under the purview of UNHCR, including refugees, asylum seekers, internally displaced persons and returnees at risk of statelessness. He asked Ms. Sandvik to suggest how the Government could ensure that persons at risk of statelessness in his country were recognized as Chadian nationals.

Ms. C. Chitengu (Co-Lead, Global Movement against Statelessness), speaking via video link and responding to comments, said that she welcomed the information about different contexts and the efforts being made to resolve statelessness. She appreciated the awareness in the room that statelessness arose in various contexts.

Mr. M.A. Edwin (Sierra Leone), said that his country had experienced an influx of refugees during civil war in Liberia, most of whom had not been registered at the border. Children born to those refugees had not been registered either and had therefore been denied access to basic services like

education and healthcare. That problem of statelessness had been addressed by the Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment Act of 2022, by ensuring that women could not be discriminated against, including in terms of citizenship. The same Act and the Child Rights Act of 2025 addressed the prohibition on citizenship for persons not of Negro-African descent. New provisions provided for every child born in Sierra Leone to be registered and become a citizen, and civil registration was being made available in rural areas.

Ms. N. Gurung (Co-founder of the Citizenship Affected People's Network), speaking via video link and responding to comments, said that it was inspiring to hear from countries that had reformed their laws, since they provided a strong example to others. At heart, statelessness was discrimination. Parliaments could bridge the legal gap by legislating and ensuring that the law was implemented by the administration. She called on parliamentarians to remind other countries of their obligations on statelessness and expressed her willingness to discuss the issue further.

Ms. M. Sandvik (Senior Statelessness Coordinator, UNCHR), responding to comments, said that she welcomed the updates on the situation in speakers' countries. With reference to the situation in Chad, the link between statelessness, refugees and the migratory context highlighted the importance of universal birth registration as a key tool to prove a link to a State – either the State of birth or the State of the parent's nationality – and to establish refugees' link to their country of origin, which could support return when possible. UNHCR looked forward to working on the issues of surrogacy and climate change, as referred to by Ms. Morawska-Stanecka, and agreed that international cooperation was key to addressing statelessness. Chile had been a champion in that regard, through the Cartagena+40 process.

Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya), responding to comments, said that she wished to pay tribute to and encourage Ms. Chitengu and Ms. Gurung in their efforts for stateless persons. She called on UNHCR to adopt a human-rights-based approach when dealing with refugee matters in Kenya, given the problems of double registration, when Kenyans had registered as refugees during a famine in order to access food. The Government had then stripped those persons of citizenship, which had rendered them stateless. The State and UNHCR were both to blame for the situation.

Parliament needed to better represent stateless persons and find ways of recognizing them. In Kenya, she would encourage three key parliamentary committees to focus on the rights of stateless persons. Responding to the comments by Ms. Morawska-Stanecka, she said that, together with her colleague, Ms. Odhiambo, she was working to pass a bill on surrogacy and reproductive health that would confer legal rights on children born of surrogacy.

Ms. Z.N. Mashaba (Eswatini) said that her country also faced statelessness. While the Constitution allowed Eswatini fathers to pass their citizenship onto their children automatically, women were not given the same opportunity. Reforms were under way to address statelessness.

Ms. M. Sandvik (Senior Statelessness Coordinator, UNCHR), responding to comments by Ms. Mumma, thanked her for highlighting the issue of double registration in Kenya. Registration of refugees was the joint responsibility of UNHCR and the Government, and she welcomed civil society efforts and strategic litigation on the issue.

The President said that it had been a fruitful and informative discussion, and it was clear that parliaments needed to do more to address statelessness. Highlighting that ending statelessness was an achievable goal, he called on participants to take action on their return home. Firstly, by checking whether their country had ratified the 1954 and 1961 Conventions on Statelessness and if not, asking why, and if it had done so, checking that the relevant legal framework was in place. Second, by finding out whether there were stateless persons or persons at risk of statelessness in their country, and meeting with them in order to understand their reality. He called for strengthened efforts to ensure that every individual had the right to exist and to belong.

The session rose at 12:45.

Adoption of resolutions, final documents and reports

SITTING OF SUNDAY, 19 APRIL 2026

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 17:25 with Mr. N. Kurtulmuş, *Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye and President of the 152nd IPU Assembly, in the Chair.*

The President of the Assembly said that the Assembly had held fruitful, productive and robust deliberations over the previous four days on a range of highly relevant issues. In particular, the General Debate had been especially rich, featuring some 165 interventions from 115 national parliaments and 19 partner organizations.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General Debate on the theme *Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations*
(A/152/3-Inf.1 and DR)

Mr. F. Jitoko (Fiji) and **Ms. B. Nghifikwa** (Namibia), presenting the Assembly's outcome document, the Istanbul Declaration, said that the Declaration reaffirmed the shared commitment of parliamentarians to ensuring peace and dignity for all in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations. It recognized that parliaments were operating in an increasingly complex and uncertain global environment marked by armed conflict, geopolitical tensions, violations of international law, and terrorism and extremism, as well as pushback on inclusive societies, including against women's rights. Equally, it highlighted the impact of rapid technological advances, such as artificial intelligence, and growing polarization and distrust in democratic institutions alongside inequalities, poverty, food insecurity, forced displacement and climate change, all of which were exacerbating instability and disproportionately affecting vulnerable populations and future generations. Those interconnected challenges were fuelling anxiety, especially among young people, emphasizing the importance of meaningful youth participation.

In addition, the Declaration expressed concern over the decline in dialogue and diplomacy, widespread impunity and the diversion of resources away from sustainable development towards military spending. Democratic governance, human rights, the rule of law and multilateral cooperation anchored in international law and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights were deemed essential for peace, justice and stability across generations. The importance of diversity and inclusion, including of persons with disabilities and vulnerable groups, was also stressed. There was also a recognition that the decisions made today impacted the conditions inherited by future generations.

Through the Declaration, parliamentarians committed themselves to strengthening democratic, inclusive and representative governance; enhancing transparency, accountability and public trust; promoting inclusive decision-making, including through increased youth representation in political institutions; and advancing gender parity in parliaments by addressing structural barriers and gender-based violence. They also pledged to promote long-term and intergenerational governance through stronger parliamentary monitoring and evaluation, evidence-based policymaking, strategic foresight, inclusive dialogue and the establishment of institutional mechanisms capable of embedding long-term perspectives beyond electoral cycles.

The Declaration further committed parliamentarians to addressing the root causes of instability, including poverty, inequality, exclusion, polarization and radicalization, while promoting sustainable development, food security and climate resilience. It emphasized the need for responsible governance of emerging technologies through effective parliamentary oversight, ethical frameworks and shared global standards. Parliamentarians also pledged to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy and international cooperation to build trust, prevent conflict and support the peaceful resolution of disputes.

Concluding, the Declaration affirmed the responsibility of parliamentarians to nurture hope, secure peace and uphold justice for all, calling on Members to translate the text into concrete action for the wellbeing of future generations.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to endorse the Istanbul Declaration.

It was so decided.

Item 5 of the agenda

The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace
(Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)
(A/152/5-DR)

Ms. F. Belhirch (Netherlands), Vice-President of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, said that her Committee had been tasked with examining and preparing a draft resolution on the theme, *The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace*. The co-Rapporteurs had approached the drafting process with the aim of developing a practical, multidimensional and inclusive tool to assist parliaments in navigating post-conflict situations and promoting the common good.

The Committee had held a substantive debate, in which 34 speakers had taken the floor, expressing strong and deeply held views that reflected the complexity of conflict and post-conflict realities. It had then examined 159 proposed amendments submitted by delegations. While negotiations had at times been emotional and adversarial, there had remained a genuine willingness to engage in dialogue. Several amendments had helped enrich the text by broadening its scope, reinforcing its inclusiveness and ensuring it reflected diverse perspectives and experiences, including of different regions.

Fundamentally, the resulting resolution provided a framework for parliamentary action on post-conflict recovery, emphasizing the role of parliaments in translating peace agreements into law, ensuring oversight and accountability, and mobilizing resources for reconstruction. It promoted a holistic approach centred on resilient institutions, economic recovery, social reconciliation, inclusive political participation and sustained international support. Furthermore, the resolution recognized environmental degradation as both a trigger and consequence of conflict, requiring recovery efforts to address ecological damage alongside institutional and social reconstruction, while also identifying justice, human security and inclusion of women, young people and affected communities as essential in building lasting peace. It was, however, important to recall that, in a world where more than 120 conflicts were ongoing, no single resolution could fully reflect the extent of human suffering and the complexity of post-conflict challenges.

Following deliberations, the Committee had adopted the draft resolution. The delegations of the Islamic Republic of Iran and the Russian Federation had opposed the resolution, while China had entered a reservation on the resolution as a whole. The process had demonstrated the value of parliamentary diplomacy and the unique role of the IPU as a forum for dialogue in overcoming differences, even on difficult and sensitive issues.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution.

It was so decided.

Item 6 of the agenda

Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance
(Standing Committee on Sustainable Development)
(A/152/6-DR)

Ms. A. Shakya (Nepal), member of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, said that her Committee had been assigned the responsibility of discussing and drafting a resolution on the theme, *Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance*. The co-Rapporteurs had prepared a draft resolution and explanatory note, which the Committee had then considered alongside 140 amendments submitted by 22 Member Parliaments as well as contributions from the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. Following a constructive and collaborative process, the amended resolution had been adopted.

The resolution underscored the vital role of international trade as a driver of economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction, while calling for a rules-based multilateral trading system that respected national sovereignty. It expressed concern over rising protectionism, trade conflicts and the damaging impact of aggressive tax avoidance by multinational corporations, which undermined public revenues, governance and development efforts. It also emphasized the need for greater international cooperation, transparency and fair taxation, while supporting ongoing global tax reform efforts. Governments and parliaments were urged to reduce trade barriers, modernize institutions, close legal loopholes and ensure that trade and tax policies promoted inclusive growth, gender equality, sustainable development and equitable access to essential goods.

Lastly, the Committee had approved its workplan for the next Assembly, which would include a debate on the next resolution topic, a panel debate on the impact of artificial intelligence on jobs and the future of work, and a segment to prepare for the parliamentary meeting at the thirty-first session of the Conference of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP31) in Türkiye.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution.

It was so decided.

Item 7 of the agenda

Reports of the Standing Committees

Ms. F. Ilimi Haddouche (Algeria), Vice-President of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights, said that her Committee had held two discussions focusing on the rights of persons with disabilities and on artificial intelligence.

On persons with disabilities, the Committee had advanced work on a forthcoming resolution, *Inclusive social development for all: Parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities*. Discussions had drawn on contributions from the three co-Rapporteurs, 30 delegations, as well as experts from the Office of the UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities and the International Disability Alliance. Participants had underscored a shared view that persons with disabilities must be empowered as rights-holders, rather than simply recipients of care, with parliaments playing a key role through legislation and oversight. Inclusion of persons with disabilities in education, work and public life was not only a human rights imperative but a driver of broader social and economic benefits, while their exclusion undermined productivity and societal resilience. The co-Rapporteurs would now draft the resolution, which would be finalized at the 153rd Assembly in October 2026.

The discussion on artificial intelligence had built on the 2024 IPU resolution, *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*, with a focus on combatting non-consensual intimate imagery generated by artificial intelligence and its impact, particularly on women and girls. Parliamentarians had shared their national experiences in tackling the phenomenon, which was described as a new form of gender-based violence. The Committee had subsequently adopted a motion entitled *Advancing parliamentary action on artificial intelligence*, calling on parliaments to implement the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on Parliaments and Responsible Artificial Intelligence, strengthen inter-parliamentary and multilateral cooperation, particularly within UN frameworks, and enhance parliamentary capacity on artificial intelligence issues. The motion was submitted to the Assembly for information, under Rule 6.6 of the Standing Committees.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to take note of the report and the motion.

It was so decided.

Mr. F. Al-Nouiri (Libya), Vice-President of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs, said that, in addition to a field visit to a refugee centre, his Committee had held two sittings. The first sitting had focused on the role of the UN Resident Coordinator and Country Team in Türkiye, and their engagement with the country's Government and Parliament, with discussions highlighting the importance of closer cooperation between UN country teams and national parliaments to make the work of the UN more tangible at country level. The UN Country Team in Türkiye had shared their good practices, including efforts to strengthen parliamentary institutional capacities and support parliamentarians in translating international commitments into national action.

The second sitting had focused on proposals concerning the future of the UN, including the possibility of reviewing the Charter of the United Nations under its Article 109, with delegates considering ways to better involve parliaments in that process. Discussions had also addressed the impact of recent reductions in the UN budget, as well as the need to raise parliamentary awareness and engagement in that regard. The Committee had agreed that its next session at the 153rd Assembly in the United Republic of Tanzania in October 2026 would consider proposals to institutionalize parliamentary involvement in the above matters and provide guidance on practical preparatory measures.

He conveyed the Committee's condolences following the passing of one of its members from Namibia and announced the election of three new Committee members, from Bahrain, Burkina Faso and Tajikistan, as well as the renewal of the mandate of the member from Paraguay.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to take note of the report.

It was so decided.

Item 8 of the agenda

Approval of the subject items for the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and for the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development for the 154th Assembly and appointment of the co-Rapporteurs
(A/152/8-R.1)

The President of the Assembly said that the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security had proposed as its subject item for the next one-year cycle the following theme: *Strengthening maritime security and protecting critical infrastructure in times of conflict: The role of parliaments in safeguarding international navigation and global economic stability*. Mr. Almheiri (United Arab Emirates) and Ms. Zaburanna (Ukraine) had been designated as co-Rapporteurs. He took it that the Assembly wished to approve the subject item.

It was so decided.

The President of the Assembly said that the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development had proposed as its subject item for the next one-year cycle the following theme: *Parliamentary leadership to protect mountain and ocean ecosystems and achieve the one-third conservation goal by 2030*. Ms. Roth (Germany), Mr. Kyere-Duah (Ghana) and Ms. Shakya (Nepal) had been designated as co-Rapporteurs. He took it that the Assembly wished to approve the subject item.

It was so decided.

Item 9 of the agenda

Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules
(A/152/9-P.1-rev and Am)

The President of the Assembly said that, at its 298th session held in Doha, Qatar, in January 2026, the Executive Committee had considered ways to improve the emergency item process. It had made three recommendations, one of which was to formalize a 48-hour deadline for the submission of emergency item proposals, ensuring that all proposals would be made public two days prior to the vote and thus allowing Member Parliaments sufficient time to consult and merge similar proposals. A proposed amendment to the Rules of the Assembly to that effect had been circulated to Member Parliaments on 5 February 2026 for their consideration. In accordance with the relevant procedures, Member Parliaments had been invited to submit sub-amendments by 14 March 2026. One Member Parliament, namely, the Russian Federation, had submitted feedback and proposed sub-amendments, which had been accepted by the Executive Committee at its sitting on 14 April 2026. The final proposed amendments were contained in document A/152/9-P.1-rev. He took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the final proposed amendments to the Rules of the Assembly.

The amendments were adopted.

Item 10 of the agenda
(continued)

Adoption of a draft resolution on the Emergency item: *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions*
(A/151/10-DR)

The President of the Assembly recalled the Assembly's decision to prepare an emergency item resolution on the theme, *The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions* – a proposal submitted by the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean and the African Group. A plenary discussion had been held on the topic, following which a drafting committee, composed of representatives from all geopolitical groups, had met to finalize the text.

Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico), co-Rapporteur, said that the drafting committee on the emergency item had met on 18 April 2026 to consider the text of the resolution. The committee, chaired by Ms. Rempel Garner (Canada), included delegates from Algeria, Australia, Canada, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Mexico, the Russian Federation, Ukraine and Uruguay. Discussions had reflected the deep concern shared by parliamentarians over the unprecedented scale of conflict in the Middle East and other regions. The resulting resolution called on parliaments to strengthen parliamentary diplomacy, coordinate their efforts in support of peacebuilding, and reaffirm the importance of respecting international humanitarian law in all conflicts. She recommended the resolution for adoption by the Assembly.

The President of the Assembly took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the emergency item resolution.

The resolution was adopted.

153rd IPU Assembly
(5–9 October 2026 in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania)

Mr. D. Sillo (Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Tanzania) invited delegates to the 153rd IPU Assembly to be held in Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania – a city known as the "Geneva of Africa". Since gaining independence in 1961, Tanzania had enjoyed uninterrupted peace and tranquillity and stood as an example of diversity and coexistence, with more than 120 ethnic groups living together harmoniously and united by the Swahili language. Arusha was not only peaceful but also well connected, and the Arusha International Conference Centre was fully equipped to host a successful international gathering. Delegates were encouraged to explore the United Republic of Tanzania's cultural and natural heritage during their stay.

A video welcoming delegates to the 153rd IPU Assembly in the United Republic of Tanzania was played.

Special segment: Tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General

The President of the IPU announced a special segment dedicated to paying tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Martin Chungong, whose term was coming to an end. Mr. Chungong had served at the IPU for 34 years, including 12 years as Secretary General, having first been elected in March 2014 and subsequently re-elected twice. His final term would conclude on 30 June 2026, coinciding with the 137th anniversary of the IPU and the International Day of Parliamentarism.

A video paying tribute to Mr. Martin Chungong was played.

The President of the IPU paid tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, describing him as a leader, mentor and member of the IPU family who had transformed the Organization into more than an assembly of parliaments, fostering instead a strong sense of unity and belonging among Members. Over the past 12 years, his leadership had carried the Organization through storms, including a global pandemic and numerous international conflicts, always combining strategy with humanity, integrity and a calm demeanour that had served as an anchor during periods of turbulence.

Under Mr. Chungong, the IPU had learned and embraced a simple truth: that no country was too small to matter. He had defended that principle every day, supporting parliaments in transition, defending parliamentarians in danger and promoting dialogue in times of conflict. Even in the darkest moments, he had brought transparency, humility and humour, giving Members strength to keep going.

On a personal note, she wished to convey her appreciation for his mentorship, noting that he had not only pointed out the path but walked it alongside her, generously offering his time, experience and belief in others – support that had benefited not only her but so many others. She expressed deep gratitude for all he had done, acknowledging that the IPU was stronger because of his leadership.

Mr. Chungong and his wife were presented with a gift.

Mr. A.S.K Bagbin (Ghana), speaking on behalf of the African Group, reaffirmed the importance of dialogue, multilateral cooperation and parliamentary diplomacy as essential tools for addressing global challenges and fostering common action. Therein lay the strength, relevance and unique position of the IPU as a global platform of parliamentary multilateralism, democratic innovation and exchange of experiences and best practices. From the perspective of the African Group, one of the major achievements of the 2022–2026 strategic period had been the support provided to parliaments under threat, in transition or facing conflict or violence, and the efforts made to facilitate greater engagement from the parliamentary community in that regard.

Congratulations were extended to the newly elected Secretary General, Ms. Anda Filip, with assurances of the African Group's support as the IPU entered a new era. Tribute was also paid to the outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, whose leadership over 12 years had strengthened the IPU's global stature, expanded its membership and scope of work, and reinforced its role as a platform for inclusive dialogue, guided by a pragmatic agenda covering conflict resolution, gender equality, sustainable development and accountability, amongst other things. Particular pride was expressed in his historic role as the first African and first non-European Secretary General of the Organization. He was thanked for his pioneering leadership, dedication, vision and foresight, which had transformed the IPU into one of the most resilient and respected international organizations in the world.

The 152nd IPU Assembly had demonstrated that, despite differences, Members shared a common vision of a fairer, more sustainable and peaceful future. In that spirit, the African Group had laid the foundations for stronger cooperation with the Arab Group through a planned memorandum of understanding. Lastly, gratitude was expressed to the Government and Parliament of Türkiye for hosting one of the largest and most successful IPU Assemblies in recent history.

Ms. M.d.C. Alva Prieto (Peru), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC), thanked Mr. Chungong for his support of GRULAC, in particular his commitment to providing English interpretation during GRULAC meetings and translating IPU documentation into Spanish, which had helped ensure greater inclusion and participation of both English- and Spanish-speaking parliamentarians respectively. She also congratulated the incoming Secretary General, Ms. Filip, the first woman to hold the position, and pledged GRULAC's full support to her. Lastly, she thanked the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for its hospitality and looked forward to further collaboration in the United Republic of Tanzania.

Mr. M.A. Bouchouit (Algeria), speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, emphasized the importance of strengthening joint parliamentary action during a period of global challenges. Reflecting on the theme of the General Debate, he stressed the need to turn those ideals into practical policies that responded to the aspirations of the people. Gratitude was expressed to all geopolitical groups for their support of the emergency item resolution whose adoption reflected solidarity between regions and a shared commitment to peacebuilding.

He congratulated the incoming IPU Secretary General, Ms. Filip, and pledged the full cooperation of the Arab Group in her work. He also paid tribute to outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, praising his role in enhancing the IPU's visibility, in strengthening cooperation among geopolitical groups and in building bridges of partnership.

Thanking Türkiye and the IPU Secretariat for their efforts in organizing the Assembly, the Arab Group reaffirmed its commitment to working with the IPU to advance peace, stability and security for future generations.

Mr. L. Dorji (Bhutan), speaking on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group, paid tribute to outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, highlighting his extensive experience in international relations and multilateral diplomacy as well as his role as a principled negotiator, thought leader and bridge-builder. During his 12-year tenure, Mr. Chungong had strengthened the IPU's core mission by advancing parliamentary diplomacy, promoting democratic governance and amplifying the voice of the people through their elected representatives. He had overseen a period of steady institutional reform and global engagement, expanding IPU membership and deepening cooperation with the United Nations, particularly on the Sustainable Development Goals. Equally, he had reinforced the role of the IPU as a trusted platform for dialogue, even in the most challenging circumstances, and advanced cooperation in key global priorities such as sustainable development, peace and human rights. Under Mr. Chungong's leadership, the IPU had become more responsive to emerging global challenges, including conflict and democratic backsliding, while consistently championing inclusivity and the participation of women, young people and other underrepresented groups. There had been tangible impact of those initiatives nationally, including in Bhutan, where an IPU gender partnership programme had supported workshops to enhance women's political participation and promote gender-responsive parliamentary practices. Most importantly, however, Mr. Chungong would be remembered for his integrity, humility and commitment to dialogue and mutual respect, leaving behind a stronger, more inclusive and more relevant IPU.

He congratulated the incoming Secretary General, Ms. Filip, while also acknowledging the other candidates for their contributions, and thanked Türkiye and the IPU Secretariat for their hospitality and organization of the Assembly.

Mr. L. Wehrli (Switzerland), speaking on behalf of the Twelve Plus Group, paid tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, highlighting his historic election in 2014 as the first African and first non-European to hold the position. He praised Mr. Chungong's humanity, institutional leadership and skill, as well as his deep understanding of the parliamentary world and unwavering commitment to dialogue, democracy, gender equality and youth participation.

The Twelve Plus Group expressed deep appreciation for Mr. Chungong's openness to listening and to advancing discussion through compromise, acknowledging, in particular, his support for the French language within the IPU. Noting his dedication to IPU values, he wished him every success in the future, with the hope that his ties with the parliamentary community would continue beyond his tenure.

Ms. Filip was congratulated on her election as the first woman Secretary General in the IPU's history, marking a historic moment for the Organization. The Twelve Plus Group welcomed the opportunity to further collaborate with her, particularly given that she hailed from one of the Group's members, and thanked the other candidates for their contributions to the election process.

The adoption of the emergency item resolution was welcomed as a testament to the capacity of geopolitical groups to work together beyond their own interests in pursuit of peace. Through the resolution, parliamentarians had shown that lives were equal everywhere and affirmed their common duty to collectively promote peace.

Lastly, he congratulated the newly elected and re-elected office holders within the IPU, thanked colleagues for their work in various committees, and highlighted a side event organized by the Ukrainian delegation on the protection of civilians in armed conflict. He expressed gratitude to Türkiye for its excellent hosting of the 152nd IPU Assembly, and reiterated the Twelve Plus Group's commitment to dialogue, multilateralism, international law and peace.

Ms. O. Koultchoumi (Cameroon) paid tribute to the outgoing IPU Secretary General, Mr. Chungong, as he concluded 12 years of service, describing his tenure as a source of pride for Cameroon. She highlighted the significance of his appointment as the first African to hold the position in the IPU's 125-year history and commended his dignified leadership, commitment to parliamentary multilateralism, dialogue and strong democratic institutions.

Mr. Chungong's tenure had been characterized by a willingness to listen to the concerns of Members and an ability to adapt to contemporary challenges. Under his leadership, the visibility of smaller States had grown, contributing to the expansion and representativeness of the Organization. She also noted his strong commitment to promoting gender equality, which had now become one of the IPU's key priorities.

Speaking on behalf of Cameroon, she expressed deep respect for Mr. Chungong's achievements and noted that his career had been widely recognized by the country's highest authorities. Cameroon conveyed its sincere gratitude to the IPU for the confidence it had placed in Mr. Chungong.

Ms. G. Magesa (Child Activist and Founder of the Georgina Foundation) recalled how Mr. Chungong had seen her as a child with potential and treated her voice with respect and belief. She credited him with giving her confidence and a sense of possibility by making space for her in international discussions, describing his support as life-changing and something that would continue to inspire her for the rest of her life. As he stepped into retirement, she expressed heartfelt gratitude for his role in shaping lives. His work would not end but instead live on in every person he had touched, in every young voice he had listened to, in every door he had opened and in every future he had helped begin.

She congratulated the incoming Secretary General, Ms. Filip, urging her to remain close to children and ensure their voices were heard, emphasizing that children were not only future leaders but part of the present and must be included in decision-making. Concluding her remarks, she called for leadership guided by compassion, hope and justice for future generations, and looked forward to welcoming delegates to the upcoming Assembly in her home country, the United Republic of Tanzania.

The Secretary General of the IPU noted how deeply moved and overwhelmed he had been by the tributes he had received. Although he had planned to outline his achievements since 2014, he had chosen not to do so because delegates had already clearly recognized his work, leaving him reassured that his election as IPU Secretary General had been the right choice. He thanked the IPU Members for their trust in appointing him and emphasized that any progress achieved during his tenure had been collective, resulting from listening and responding to Members and their needs, in accordance with the vision of the IPU's founding fathers. Under that shared effort, the IPU had become more mature, resilient, agile, transparent and relevant, with a strengthened financial base.

His relationship with the IPU had begun in 1984 when he had first attended an IPU Conference as a delegate from Cameroon, resulting in him devoting most of his career to parliamentary service both nationally and internationally. He expressed gratitude to his family – his wife, children and grandchildren – who had been his main source of strength throughout his demanding career, as well as to the staff of the IPU, whose dedication and solidarity had been crucial to the success of the Organization.

As Secretary General, he had consistently sought to promote inclusion within the IPU, particularly the involvement of young people, and cited the participation of Ms. Magesa as an example of that commitment, stressing that young people should be involved in leadership discussions even before becoming formal leaders. He also thanked his home country, Cameroon, for supporting his career and allowing him to serve internationally.

He congratulated his successor, Ms. Filip, whose election as the first woman in the role had made history yet again, following his own election as the first non-European. Her election had shown that the IPU practised what it preached in terms of gender equality and women's empowerment, continuously blazing a trail. Noting her strong mandate and experience within the Organization, he was certain she would take the Organization to even greater heights, including through the new Strategy.

Though his 12-year tenure had passed quickly amid global challenges, the Organization had always remained resilient and steadfast because of Members who believed in its relevance. He thanked the IPU President for her seamless collaboration and commended the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for hosting such a successful Assembly marked by cooperation and solidarity, before bidding the Assembly farewell.

Closure of the Assembly

The President of the IPU reflected on the success of the 152nd IPU Assembly in Istanbul, which had demonstrated the enduring potential of parliamentary diplomacy. She noted the strong participation of 113 Speakers and Deputy Speakers and more than 700 parliamentarians from 129 countries, and underscored several landmark outcomes, including the adoption of an inclusive emergency item resolution, the approval of a new IPU Strategy, and the election of the first female Secretary General in IPU history.

IPU Assemblies should never be taken for granted as they embodied a shared commitment among people and nations to live in peace and harmony. Dialogue and democracy were essential because they provided peaceful means for resolving differences, allowing diverse views to coexist without discord and helping societies balance competing interests. In a world where challenges transcended national borders, inclusion remained at the core of IPU Assemblies. Indeed, history had repeatedly shown that isolationism and narrow national interests only led to war, destruction and cycles of violence.

Parliamentarians were urged to defend multilateralism at a time when it was under threat. Recalling that humanity had overcome similar threats before – for instance, through the establishment of the League of Nations after the First World War and the United Nations after the Second – she was confident that multilateralism would once again prevail. The Assembly stood as proof that parliamentarians refused to accept the immorality of war and were committed to advancing hope, peace and justice for present and future generations. It was vital that those commitments be translated into real change.

The Istanbul Declaration was a landmark document setting out a shared horizon for action based on a clear-eyed assessment of global challenges and a renewed commitment to multilateralism, international law and inclusive, accountable governance. Through the Declaration, parliamentarians had committed to strengthening democratic representation across generations, addressing structural drivers of instability, ensuring the responsible governance of emerging technologies, and advancing parliamentary diplomacy as a tool for dialogue and conflict prevention. Above all, it was an act of intergenerational solidarity. It was not the end point, however, as parliamentarians were urged to translate those commitments into legislation, oversight and budgets, ensuring that the hope nurtured at the Assembly became concrete action.

Hope was a powerful, enduring force, sustained through intergenerational solidarity. Participants were urged to share the message that humanity's challenges could not be faced in isolation, and to show that such gatherings were driven not out of habit or obligation, but out of a conviction that dialogue was stronger than conflict and cooperation more effective than competition.

She highlighted the adoption of an emergency item resolution as another key achievement of the Assembly, noting that such resolutions had not always been successfully adopted. The resolution demonstrated the strength of parliamentary diplomacy in times of crisis, notably its ability to respond rather than withdraw in the face of global conflict, communicating a clear message in support of peace and conflict prevention, respect for international humanitarian law and accountability.

Ultimately, the 152nd IPU Assembly had shown that differences could be voiced, disagreements resolved, and common ground built through dialogue and cooperation, even if the process was imperfect and required patience. Parliamentarians were urged to choose inclusion and dialogue and to lead with responsibility towards future generations, having already embodied those values through their engagement during the Assembly. Expressing appreciation for attendees and the Secretariat, she reaffirmed the IPU as a place for dialogue, respect and solidarity.

The President of the Assembly, closing the sitting, expressed his gratitude to all those who had contributed to the success of the 152nd IPU Assembly in Istanbul, including the IPU leadership and Secretariat and the staff of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye. He also paid tribute to the outgoing Secretary General, praising his contribution, and congratulated the newly elected Secretary General, expressing confidence in her leadership and commitment to peace and solidarity.

The Assembly had taken place in a period marked by significant global turbulence, including conflicts within and between nations, proxy wars, commercial tensions, poverty, hunger, forced migration and an accelerating climate crisis. Many of those challenges were human-made rather than natural, and therefore required collective human responsibility and action. The world could no longer continue with "business as usual". He urged the creation of a new global political and economic

architecture capable of addressing the interconnected crises plaguing the world. Such an architecture must be grounded in human dignity and mutual respect with every human being recognized as equal, and international cooperation moving beyond the national interests of the powerful towards a shared vision for the wellbeing of all 8 billion people on the planet. Inter-parliamentary dialogue and international gatherings were essential platforms for shaping that transformation.

The Assembly had been an opportunity to build consensus, with several successful outcomes, notably the Istanbul Declaration and the emergency item resolution. It had been a pleasure to host the Assembly in Istanbul, the city of many civilizations. He expressed hope for a bright global future together.

The sitting rose at 20:10.

Istanbul Declaration

Nurturing hope, securing peace and ensuring justice for future generations

Endorsed by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

We, parliamentarians from around the world, gathered at the 152nd IPU Assembly in Istanbul, recall the shared commitment of the international community to prevent conflict, uphold human rights, and create the conditions for all people to live in peace and dignity, free from fear and want, in line with the founding principles of the IPU and the Charter of the United Nations.

We recognize that parliaments currently operate in a complex, turbulent and uncertain global environment, characterized by a multitude of destabilizing and often interlinked factors, including: an increase in armed conflicts and geopolitical tensions; serious violations of international law; geoeconomic competition; the persistent threat of radicalization, terrorism and violent extremism; and a series of challenges facing, and at times weakening, democratic institutions. Hard-won gains in making societies more inclusive, such as on women's rights, are facing renewed pushback.

In addition, the rapid development of emerging and disruptive technologies, including artificial intelligence, is fundamentally transforming societies, economies and the nature of global conflict. The misuse of these technologies is a particular concern, as is the rise in cybercrime and hybrid threats.

The situation is further compounded by the spread of misinformation and disinformation, which deepens social and political polarization, contributes to growing distrust in democratic institutions and undermines the rule of law. At the same time, widening socio-economic inequalities and a growing digital divide, persistent poverty and food insecurity, and unprecedented levels of forced displacement are contributing to a climate of uncertainty.

We are equally concerned about the accelerating impacts of climate change, growing environmental degradation and increasing pressures on natural resources and biodiversity, all of which constitute growing drivers of inequality, poverty, development disparities and livelihood challenges. These are contributing to instability and conflict and placing a disproportionate burden on young people and those in vulnerable situations, as well as on generations to come.

All these factors are fuelling heightened anxiety and disillusionment about the future, particularly among young people. Persistent youth underrepresentation in decision-making processes and insufficient efforts to address this gap are contributing to growing disenchantment. We particularly recognize that young people represent both present stakeholders and a vital link to future generations, and that their perspectives should be reflected in decision-making processes that shape long-term societal outcomes.

Amid the continued and rapid deterioration of peace and security, we are alarmed by the decline in dialogue and diplomacy as a means of resolving disputes, the growing tendency to frame peace as achievable by force, and widespread impunity that erodes accountability and fuels further instability. In many parts of the world, significant public resources are being invested in defence and broader military capabilities, including artificial intelligence and cyberspace technologies, as well as conventional and nuclear deterrence. These tendencies are leading to budget allocations which detract from spending on sustainable development and which, if not managed, can exacerbate military competition and undermine long-term stability.

We reaffirm the central importance of democratic institutions, representative governance and respect for human rights in sustaining peaceful and just societies. Effective, participatory, accountable and transparent governance, benefitting from the contribution of a diversity of stakeholders, is essential to ensuring stability, guaranteeing justice and safeguarding human dignity.

We reaffirm our commitment to the principles and objectives of the Charter of the United Nations, to international law and to multilateral cooperation as the essential foundations of global peace, stability, development and cooperation. These principles are enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which remains a cornerstone of the multilateral system, and encompasses the fundamental rights of both present and future generations.

Respect for the rule of law and for international norms is more important than ever for restoring peace, safeguarding the international order, and breaking cycles of violence and conflict within and between countries. We recognize that such cycles not only affect present generations but also perpetuate intergenerational trauma and risk depriving future generations of the chance to live peacefully and in dignity.

We recognize that fragile contexts are incubators of instability and conflict, and that sustainable peace is built incrementally and requires responsible and ethical governance, resilient institutions, and tailored reconciliation and post-conflict strategies to rebuild trust among and between communities and confidence in public institutions.

We also recognize the importance of protecting the diversity of our societies, including in terms of race, ethnicity, colour, culture, language, religion, beliefs and other characteristics. We pay special tribute to the wisdom and heritage of traditional and Indigenous communities, which have informed coexistence and sustainable stewardship of resources for generations. We emphasize the importance of promoting, protecting and ensuring the rights and inclusion of persons living with disabilities as well as all people in vulnerable situations.

As parliamentarians and representatives of the people, we acknowledge that the decisions we take as legislators impact the political, social, economic, technological and environmental conditions that young people and future generations will inherit. As public figures, we play an influential role in how different challenges are expressed and addressed, and we also shape public discourse and societal values.

Building on these roles and responsibilities, we commit to fostering respectful dialogue and responsible leadership, and to strengthening the contribution of parliaments to efforts to nurture hope, secure peace and ensure justice for everyone. We parliamentarians pledge to respond to these mounting global challenges with political will and concrete action, including:

Strengthening democratic, inclusive and representative governance across generations by:

- Enhancing transparency, accountability and responsiveness in our national institutions to enhance the effectiveness of decisions, as well as to deepen public trust and democratic legitimacy. We will promote inclusive governance, including open dialogue that reflects the diversity of society and meaningful participation by citizens in public decision-making, to nurture trust in national institutions and reinforce social cohesion.
- Addressing the persistent underrepresentation of youth in legislatures and political institutions, including through the introduction of youth quotas, and recognizing the importance of empowering young people to shape the societies of today and tomorrow. We will work to implement the UN's Youth, Peace and Security (YPS) agenda to promote peace and stability.
- Advancing gender parity in parliaments and promoting women's equal influence and leadership, including by adopting appropriate measures such as quotas. We will advance measures aimed at removing structural barriers to women's political engagement, including gender-based violence and other challenges affecting their full and effective participation. We will also actively promote the UN's Women, Peace and Security (WPS) agenda, recognizing the essential role of women in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and sustainable peace, as well as the importance of ensuring accountability through WPS legislation and national action plans.

Advancing long-term and intergenerational governance approaches by:

- Strengthening parliamentary practices and budget allocations for monitoring and evaluation frameworks and data collection, to support legislators in assessing the long-term implications of laws, policies and public spending.

- Reinforcing evidence-based policymaking, strategic foresight and inclusive dialogue, to ensure that public decision-making, including on budget allocations, takes into account environmental, social and economic consequences.
- Supporting the development of institutional mechanisms, such as committees for the future, that help embed long-term thinking in public governance and ensure continuity of action beyond one electoral cycle.

Addressing structural drivers of instability by:

- Supporting policies that address the root causes of poverty, inequality, social exclusion, polarization and radicalization, recognizing that these challenges are often interlinked and undermine stability, social cohesion and trust in institutions. By tackling these structural drivers of instability, such as by prioritizing access to quality education, we will strengthen the foundations of peaceful, just and resilient societies.
- Promoting people-centred and preventive responses to insecurity, guided by the human security and common security approach, including by addressing drivers of conflict and strengthening resilience at individual, community and institutional levels, recognizing that lasting peace depends on cooperation, dialogue and mutual understanding.
- Advancing sustainable development, food security and climate resilience as essential pillars of shared prosperity, environmental protection, peace and security. This particularly includes supporting the sustainable management of natural resources and strengthening environmental protections.

Promoting responsible governance of emerging technologies, including artificial intelligence, by:

- Strengthening parliamentary oversight and governance frameworks to better understand their implications, maximize their benefits, and anticipate potential destabilizing effects. This includes mitigating risks, particularly those arising from the misuse of these technologies in the military domain and through digital platforms, as well as those associated with cybercrime.
- Ensuring that technological innovation is subject to effective, ethical and responsible governance. Through legislation, oversight and public debate, we will promote transparency, accountability and meaningful human control in the development and deployment of emerging technologies, in full respect of democratic values and international law, for the wellbeing of humanity, societies and the environment.
- Promoting international cooperation and dialogue on emerging technologies. We will work to advance shared principles, foster convergence of approaches and support the development of global common standards to ensure that technological progress contributes positively to a future in which innovation serves, and does not enslave, humanity.

Strengthening parliamentary diplomacy and international cooperation by:

- Fostering dialogue, cooperation and confidence-building between parliamentarians as a means of building trust, promoting mutual understanding and supporting joint action between States, including by sharing good practices, knowledge and lessons learned. We will endeavour to ensure the full and equal participation of women and youth in such efforts.
- Strengthening inter-parliamentary action, including through the IPU, in order to contribute to conflict prevention and the peaceful resolution of disputes, to help advance a spirit of cooperation and solidarity. In this regard, we will strengthen parliamentary diplomacy and mediation as important tools for addressing disputes at the national, regional and international levels.
- Supporting the consistent and effective implementation of international commitments that promote peace, sustainable development and human rights. We will make use of our oversight functions to ensure that government action upholds international humanitarian law and prioritizes the protection of civilians in armed conflict. We will advance the implementation of the UN Pact for the Future, the Declaration on Future Generations and the Sustainable Development Goals, while supporting ongoing efforts to shape the post-2030 development agenda.

As parliamentarians, we pledge to do our utmost to nurture hope in our societies and work tirelessly to secure peace and uphold justice for all. We encourage the IPU to further integrate strategic foresight into its work, in order to support parliaments in being fit for action to meet future challenges, risks, opportunities and needs, for the benefit of future generations.

We express our gratitude to the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye for hosting this Assembly in Istanbul, allowing us to reflect collectively on the essential role of parliamentarians in shaping the choices that will influence our societies for many years into the future. We commit to strengthening parliamentary cooperation in support of peaceful, just and sustainable societies for all.

We pledge to take this Declaration back to our respective parliaments, share the outcome of our deliberations with our colleagues and national authorities, translate its commitments into concrete legislative, budgetary, oversight and representative actions, and sustain this effort for the wellbeing of generations to come.

The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace

Resolution adopted by consensus* by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

The 152nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recognizing that respect for the principles of the Charter of the United Nations, including the peaceful settlement of disputes and the obligation to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, including strict adherence to established border treaties and maps internationally recognized or deposited with the United Nations, as elaborated in UN General Assembly resolution 2625 (XXV) (1970), and the protection of civilians in armed conflict in line with UN Security Council resolution 1674 (2006), are indispensable to building a just and lasting peace, and *taking into consideration* the responsibility to protect, as articulated in the 2005 World Summit Outcome Document (UN General Assembly resolution 60/1),

Recalling UN Security Council resolution 2282 (2016) and UN General Assembly resolution 70/262 (2016) on the UN peacebuilding architecture,

Recalling also complementary UN normative frameworks, including: the Peacebuilding Commission's founding resolutions, Security Council resolution 1645 (2005) and General Assembly resolution 60/180 (2005); Security Council resolution 2558 (2020) and General Assembly resolution 75/201 (2020), adopted in the context of the 2020 review of the peacebuilding architecture; Security Council Resolution 2788 (2025) on strengthening the mechanisms for peaceful settlement of disputes; Security Council resolution 2805 (2025) and General Assembly resolution 80/11 (2025), which reaffirm the mandate of the Peacebuilding Commission, strengthen impact-focused implementation and establish enhanced coordination, reporting and support mechanisms across the UN system; and the General Assembly's resolutions on *Basic principles and guidelines on the right to a remedy and reparation for victims of gross violations of international human rights law and serious violations of international humanitarian law* (60/147, 2005), the *Right to the truth* (68/165, 2013), *Strengthening the role of mediation in the peaceful settlement of disputes, conflict prevention and resolution* (65/283, 2011), and the Pact for the Future (79/1, 2024), which collectively underscore the need for nationally led, inclusive and accountable institutions to support sustainable peace,

Reaffirming previous IPU resolutions on *Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development* (2018), on *Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace* (2022), on *Peaceful resolution of the war in Ukraine, respecting international law, the Charter of the United Nations and territorial integrity* (2022) and on *Parliamentary strategies to mitigate the long-lasting impact of conflicts, including armed conflicts, on sustainable development* (2025), and *acknowledging* the 2024 Geneva Declaration on *Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding* and the 2024 IPU toolkit for parliamentarians on *Human security and common security to build peace*, which together establish the Organization's long-standing commitment to inclusive and people-centred peacebuilding, and provide practical guidance for parliaments to strengthen prevention and dialogue and address the root causes of conflict,

Condemning acts of aggression, violations of sovereignty and territorial integrity, and other serious breaches of the Charter of the United Nations, which undermine international peace and security and create conditions incompatible with comprehensive, just and lasting peace, and *recalling* in this regard the IPU resolutions on *Non-admissibility of using mercenaries and foreign fighters as a means of undermining peace, international security and the territorial integrity of States, and violating human rights* (2019) and on *Condemnation of the invasion of Ukraine and of the subsequent annexation of territories, in defence of the territorial integrity of all States* (2022),

Expressing deep concern at the severe human, social, economic, climate and environmental consequences of conflicts in which peace agreements are inadequately implemented or monitored owing to weak enforcement mechanisms, resulting in renewed instability and violence, prolonged suffering for affected populations, and the erosion of public trust in national institutions, and *recognizing* that rebuilding public trust requires visible improvements in service delivery and institutional performance,

Concerned by deliberate or systematic attacks against civilian infrastructure, including energy, heating and water systems, which exacerbate humanitarian suffering and hinder recovery and reconstruction, and *recognizing* that efforts to restore essential services, rebuild infrastructure and strengthen resilience may need to commence even while hostilities persist, in order to protect civilian populations and sustain the functioning of affected societies,

Alarmed by the repeated inability of the international community to facilitate effective peace talks and support the enforcement of peace agreements, including through the provision of appropriate security guarantees and assistance for the establishment of justice mechanisms, and through joint monitoring and verification missions, as well as by its failure to strengthen humanitarian assistance and protection efforts and to ensure sustained backing for inclusive political dialogue and mediation processes, all of which undermines the credibility of peace processes and weakens confidence in international institutions,

Recognizing that sustainable peace cannot be achieved where territories remain under foreign occupation or unlawful control, and *reaffirming* that the restoration of the territorial integrity of States within internationally recognized borders, including territorial sea, is an essential precondition for a comprehensive, just and lasting peace,

Recognizing that sustainable peace, development and human rights are interlinked and mutually reinforcing, and that economic recovery, poverty eradication, job creation and infrastructure development are essential foundations for lasting peace in post-conflict societies,

Noting with great concern that peacebuilding, prevention and diplomacy efforts continue to receive disproportionately limited resources compared to military responses, particularly in developing countries and communities emerging from conflict, and *stressing* the need for sustained, predictable and adequate international financing for nationally led recovery and reconstruction efforts,

Recognizing the disproportionate and unique impact of conflict on women, youth and children, persons with disabilities, and vulnerable and marginalized groups, resulting in heightened risks to their safety, livelihoods, education and wellbeing, and *reaffirming* that they are not merely victims but essential actors in peacebuilding, recovery and reconciliation, in line with UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000), 1829 (2008), 1888 (2009), 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 (2013), 2122 (2013), 2242 (2015), 2250 (2015), 2467 (2019) and 2493 (2019), which call for their full, equal and meaningful participation in all phases of peace processes,

Recognizing the importance of preventing and responding to sexual violence in situations of conflict and post-conflict recovery, including the need for a survivor-centred approach, for survivors of sexual violence to receive non-discriminatory access to services such as medical and psychosocial care to the fullest extent practicable, and for accountability for those responsible for such violence, in line with UN Security Council resolution 2467 (2019),

Deeply concerned by the unlawful deportation and forcible transfer of children during armed conflicts, including the illegal international adoption and trafficking of such children, and other serious human rights abuses, all of which constitute grave violations of international humanitarian law, *recalling* in this regard the IPU resolutions on *Parliamentary impetus to local and regional development of countries with high levels of international migration and to stopping all forms, including state-sponsored, of human trafficking and human rights abuses* (2022), on *Orphanage trafficking: The role of parliaments in reducing harm* (2023) and on *Recognizing and supporting the victims of illegal international adoption and taking measures to prevent this practice* (2025), which condemned the forced displacement by the Russian Federation of Ukrainian civilians, including thousands of children, from the temporarily occupied territory of Ukraine, and *stressing* that the safe return of unlawfully deported and forcibly transferred children must form an integral part of efforts to restore a comprehensive, just and lasting peace,

Emphasizing the value of approaching post-conflict recovery through a holistic framework centred on five complementary and mutually reinforcing dimensions:

(a) strengthened and resilient institutions, including professional and accountable civil services, and, where relevant, security sector reform, as well as transparent public financial management, digital governance, the restoration of essential public services, and governance of environmental restoration and sustainability,
(b) equitable economic reconstruction, including employment generation, particularly for youth and women, support for small and medium-sized enterprises, and access to livelihoods, skills development and education,
(c) social reconciliation and dialogue, including transitional justice, accountability for violations of international law and, where appropriate, reparations for victims,
(d) inclusive political life, and
(e) sustained international support,

each of which contributes to building hopeful, resilient and lasting peace,

Reaffirming that sustainable peace must be nationally owned and led, with external support facilitating and reinforcing, rather than substituting for, domestic institutions and democratic legitimacy, in line with the sustaining peace agenda, which underscores that durable recovery depends on inclusive national leadership, accountable governance, transparent and participatory processes and the meaningful participation of all sectors of society, as well as sustained efforts to address the underlying structural drivers of conflict and fragility,

Emphasizing the central role of parliaments in translating peace agreements into national legislation, ensuring effective oversight of agreed commitments, transparent and accountable parliamentary processes, and adequate budgetary allocations for the implementation of such agreements, differentiating between ad hoc and transitory needs on the one hand and regular State structural needs on the other, and facilitating broad participation so that the voices and needs of all affected communities are meaningfully represented, thereby strengthening institutional trust, enabling inclusive recovery and supporting the long-term consolidation of peace,

Underlining the importance of human security and common security as key principles for restoring a comprehensive, just, lasting and inclusive peace, by promoting people-centred and preventive approaches that address the root causes of conflict and advance trust, dignity and resilience, in line with the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, and in particular Goal 16 on peace, justice and strong institutions,

Recognizing that environmental destruction is both a cause and a consequence of armed conflict, threatening water, food and energy security, displacing populations and undermining long-term peacebuilding, and that post-conflict recovery cannot be sustainable unless ecological damage is addressed alongside institutional and social reconstruction,

Affirming that lasting peace is achievable only through just peace grounded in full accountability for aggressors, punishment for violations of international law, and redress for victims, and that any settlement that sacrifices justice for expediency risks perpetuating cycles of violence and undermining the legitimacy of peace itself,

1. *Reaffirms* that the prohibition of aggression constitutes a peremptory norm of international law, and *underscores* the fact that a comprehensive, just and lasting peace requires the cessation of acts of aggression and the withdrawal of foreign forces unlawfully deployed on the territory of another sovereign State, in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations;

2. *Also reaffirms* that post-conflict recovery must be nationally led and owned, *encourages* parliaments to guide this work through a holistic framework built on strengthened institutions, including hybrid international and national transitory bodies if deemed necessary, as well as on accessible and equitable services such as healthcare, on equitable economic reconstruction, including access to livelihoods, skills development and education as foundations for sustainable growth, on social reconciliation and dialogue, inclusive political life and sustained international support, and on environmental

restoration and sustainability, and *underscores* the fact that reconstruction strategies, legal reforms and institutional strengthening efforts are designed, debated and approved transparently and democratically through inclusive national processes, and that all external assistance aligns with nationally defined priorities, is subject to democratic oversight and reinforces domestic governance systems, while recognizing that, in many contexts, reconstruction and recovery efforts may need to begin during ongoing hostilities in order to restore essential services, support affected communities and strengthen societal resilience;

3. *Urges* parliaments to take concrete legislative and oversight action to combat impunity for grave violations of international law and international humanitarian law, by demanding full cooperation with international accountability mechanisms, including the International Criminal Court, and ensuring that perpetrators are brought to justice, recognizing that lasting peace can only be achieved through just peace, including full accountability and punishment for aggressors and redress for victims, and that peace without justice is neither durable nor legitimate;

4. *Calls upon* parliaments to recognize the role of environmental degradation as a driver of conflict and instability, and to ensure that post-conflict recovery frameworks include environmental peacebuilding measures, legal accountability for ecosystem destruction, and the application of the "polluter pays" principle in reconstruction financing;

5. *Urges* parliaments in countries affected by or emerging from conflict to ensure strong national ownership of peace and recovery processes by leading inclusive nationwide consultations, defining priorities through democratic deliberation and legislation, and ensuring that all stages of reconstruction and any external support are anchored in transparent and accountable parliamentary processes and are adapted to local needs, constitutional frameworks and international human rights obligations, in accordance with national laws and constitutional allocation of powers;

6. *Calls upon* parliaments responsible for implementing peace agreements to give full legal effect to their provisions by incorporating them into national legislation, establishing clear and time-bound implementation requirements, and creating permanent, representative, cross-party mechanisms to regularly review progress, hold hearings with relevant actors, including women and youth groups and representatives of affected communities, and coordinate parliamentary follow-up, ensuring continuity, early identification of gaps, and the upholding of commitments across political cycles, with particular attention paid to addressing the root causes of conflict;

7. *Also calls upon* parliaments, when addressing the legacies of conflict, to ensure that transitional justice measures are informed by broad consultation with victims, and to establish national transitional justice frameworks by adopting legislation that enables:
   (a) truth-seeking processes,
   (b) accessible and impartial victim-centred reparations,
   (c) forgiveness and reconciliation,
   (d) fair and transparent vetting or amnesty procedures applied in a manner consistent with international law while ensuring that any amnesty is applied prudently and does not extend to genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes or the crime of aggression, so as not to undermine the foundations of justice and equity upon which lasting peace must be built, and
   (e) effective cooperation with national and, where appropriate and in accordance with national law, international accountability mechanisms, including through the exercise of parliamentary oversight in cooperation with other authorities,

   ensuring that justice, recognition of past harms and institutional reform, together with guarantees of non-recurrence, form an integral part of sustainable peace;

8. *Encourages* parliaments to apply the human security and common security approach in their legislative, oversight, budgetary and representation functions to strengthen prevention, address the root causes of conflict, and ensure inclusive and people-centred recovery, making use, where relevant, of available guidance and tools to support risk-mapping, dialogue and resilience-building;

9. *Emphasizes* that sustainable peacebuilding requires addressing the root causes of conflict, including, but not limited to, poverty, inequality, marginalization, unresolved disputes and foreign occupation, and that international efforts must support nationally led processes that tackle these underlying drivers rather than merely addressing symptoms of conflict;

10. *Invites* parliaments to champion multilingualism in post-conflict management processes as an enabler of peacebuilding and reconciliation;

11. *Calls upon* Member Parliaments to move from merely involving youth in the post-conflict phase to empowering them as partners in reshaping the social contract and in strengthening trust between citizens and their institutions, by involving them in long-term strategic planning processes, in evaluating recovery policies and in designing reforms of governance and public institutions, and *calls for* the enshrinement of intergenerational justice as a fundamental guiding principle of post-conflict policies, ensuring that youth are not burdened with the accumulated costs of past conflicts without being empowered to contribute to shaping the future;

12. *Urges* parliaments to rebalance national and international budgetary priorities and strengthen domestic resource mobilization in favour of peacebuilding, prevention, reconciliation and diplomacy by ensuring adequate, predictable and sustained financial resources for recovery, dialogue and violence prevention initiatives, and by exercising their budgetary oversight role to promote transparent, accountable and long-term investment in sustainable peace, including by ensuring that recovery budgets explicitly allocate dedicated resources for gender equality, women's empowerment and the specific needs of displaced women and girls;

13. *Condemns* attacks against civilians and civilian infrastructure, including energy, heating, water and other critical systems indispensable to the survival and wellbeing of the civilian population, and *stresses* that such practices not only violate international humanitarian law but also undermine recovery efforts and the conditions necessary for restoring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace;

14. *Encourages* parliaments to strengthen legal and technical mechanisms to improve their capacities, and the capacities of the judiciary, to effectively oversee their country's security actors, including, but not limited to, armed forces, the police and intelligence agencies, in order to prevent those actors from abusing their power and to hold them accountable if they do so, thereby preventing violence, improving the trust of the population in those actors and strengthening social cohesion;

15. *Calls upon* parliaments to exercise their legislative and oversight roles in prioritizing the needs of populations affected by conflicts within national reconstruction policies and recovery and assistance budgets, including by:
    (a) adopting legal frameworks and allocating the necessary financial resources,
    (b) supporting policies aimed at restoring livelihoods and reintegration,
    (c) advancing mechanisms and measures that facilitate compensation, restitution, rehabilitation and reparations for victims, and the reconstruction of affected communities, including through internationally coordinated mechanisms, registers of damage, and the lawful use of the frozen or immobilized assets of States responsible for acts of aggression, in accordance with national and international law,
    (d) rebuilding essential services and infrastructure, including the restoration and protection of energy, heating, water and other critical civilian infrastructure deliberately damaged or destroyed during armed conflicts, as well as monitoring the rebuilding of such services and infrastructure, and ensuring that reconstruction programmes reflect the needs and rights of all affected communities,
    (e) supporting comprehensive mine action programmes, including demining, the clearance of unexploded ordnance, and risk education and victim assistance, as well as environmental remediation of war-related ecological damage,

(f) providing capacity-building and strengthening the resilience of critical infrastructure against attacks,
(g) ensuring that recovery efforts integrate environmental sustainability and the restoration of conflict-damaged ecosystems,
(h) prioritizing in particular women, girls and displaced persons, including through healthcare, education, and psychosocial and economic support for women, girls and survivors of sexual violence, and putting gender equality at the centre of planning and budgetary allocations, and
(i) ensuring access to skills development, education and healthcare;

16. *Underscores* in particular the importance of parliamentary action in promoting security stabilization for more effective post-conflict management, including support for security sector reform as well as for disarmament, demobilization and reintegration of formal or informal combatants, including child soldiers;

17. *Calls upon* parliaments to support efforts aimed at facilitating the safe, voluntary and dignified return of refugees, people who remain abroad as temporarily displaced persons, internally displaced persons, and civilians unlawfully transferred during armed conflicts, including the return of unlawfully deported, forcibly transferred or displaced children, and to promote the exchange and repatriation of prisoners of war in accordance with international humanitarian law, recognizing that these humanitarian measures are essential for rebuilding trust and restoring a comprehensive, just and lasting peace;

18. *Also calls upon* parliaments to support the implementation of international commitments related to the prohibition of anti-personnel landmines and cluster munitions, as well as to strengthen national measures to ensure the implementation of applicable international humanitarian law related to the use, clearance and humanitarian consequences of all forms of explosive remnants of war, by exercising legislative oversight, adopting and updating national implementing legislation, ensuring adequate budgetary allocations for clearance, risk education, stockpile destruction and victim assistance, supporting affected communities, and promoting ratification, compliance and accountability at the national level;

19. *Encourages* parliaments involved in reconstruction processes to strengthen transparency, openness, integrity and anti-corruption safeguards in the planning, allocation and oversight of reconstruction and recovery funds, including through public access to information and through cooperation with independent oversight bodies, to ensure that resources are used effectively, to reduce inequalities and to restore public confidence in economic recovery efforts essential to sustainable peace;

20. *Calls upon* parliaments to strengthen environmental and natural resource governance in post-conflict settings by adopting laws that promote sustainable, equitable management of land and resources, exercising transparent oversight of extraction and revenue practices, and ensuring meaningful community participation, thereby reducing resource-related conflict risks and supporting long-term peace and stability;

21. *Also calls upon* parliaments to advance towards national recovery from conflict by:
(a) enacting legislation that protects fundamental rights, including laws on gender-based violence, property rights, citizenship and equality before the law,
(b) supporting national and community-level reconciliation efforts through inclusive dialogue among affected communities,
(c) facilitating recognition of past harms and of civilian and military victims, including through appropriate memorialization and peace education initiatives,
(d) supporting the integration of recovery programmes and policies that take into account the psychological and social impacts of conflicts and trauma, including psychosocial support for survivors, displaced and marginalized persons, and women, youth and children, and systematically incorporating such programmes and policies into relevant national plans and policies, and

(e) ensuring that women-led organizations and women human rights defenders are recognized as essential agents of peace and are afforded adequate protection, resources and institutional support,

so as to rebuild trust, repair social ties and advance national unity;

22. *Further calls upon* parliaments, particularly those seeking to re-establish social cohesion following conflict, to promote inclusive national and local dialogue processes that bring together communities, former adversaries, civil society and traditional and religious actors, and to support mediation, confidence-building and community reconciliation initiatives that help address historical grievances and prevent renewed tensions, and *urges* parliaments to exercise their representative, legislative and oversight functions to ensure that such processes are participatory, transparent and adequately resourced, and that they contribute meaningfully to long-term peace and social cohesion;

23. *Encourages* parliaments to safeguard an enabling environment in which civil society, human rights defenders, community leaders and journalists can carry out their vital work freely, openly and without fear of intimidation or reprisal, and to contribute meaningfully to reconciliation and the rebuilding of trust within post-conflict societies;

24. *Calls for* investment in building the leadership and institutional capacities of youth, thereby strengthening their role in preventing the occurrence and recurrence of conflicts, and making youth a pillar of sustainable social stability;

25. *Urges* parliaments, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 1325 (2000) and 2250 (2015), to institutionalize the full, equal and meaningful participation of women, youth and children across all peace, security and dialogue processes by establishing legal guarantees for their representation in national dialogues, reconciliation and truth-seeking bodies, and inclusive oversight mechanisms, and by supporting initiatives that strengthen their leadership and effective engagement at all stages of peacebuilding;

26. *Also urges* parliaments, in line with UN Security Council resolution 2469 (2019), to strengthen legislation to foster accountability for sexual violence, and *emphasizes* the critical role of States' domestic investigation and judicial systems in preventing and eliminating sexual violence in conflict and in ensuring accountability for those responsible;

27. *Calls upon* Member Parliaments to integrate a systematic and binding youth dimension into the establishment and implementation of post-conflict management mechanisms by ensuring the effective and organized participation of youth, both women and men, in all stages of peacebuilding, including in peace negotiations, national reconciliation, transitional justice, reconstruction, disarmament and reintegration, as well as in educational programmes on peace, recognizing the role of youth as essential partners in achieving a just and lasting peace;

28. *Calls upon* parliaments, particularly in contexts where societies are rebuilding cohesion after periods of instability, to strengthen inclusive political participation by ensuring that all affected communities are represented in legislative deliberations, public hearings and national dialogue processes, and by formalizing regular consultations with civil society, including women's groups, youth organizations, persons with disabilities, and displaced or marginalized populations, including religious, ethnic and sexual minorities and Indigenous groups, all of whom are disproportionately affected in times of conflict, as an integral part of parliamentary decision-making and oversight;

29. *Calls for* the enactment of national legislation and policies that ensure the representation of youth in post-conflict bodies and committees, for the provision of the necessary resources to support youth-led peace initiatives, for the promotion of opportunities for youth for education, decent work and political participation, and for the promotion of mental and social health, thereby contributing to addressing the root causes of conflict and preventing its recurrence;

30. *Stresses* the importance of parliaments exercising their oversight role to ensure that a youth perspective is integrated into peace and security policies and to monitor the implementation of relevant commitments, thereby consolidating a comprehensive approach based on intergenerational justice and on protecting societies from cycles of violence and instability;

31. *Urges* parliaments to foster constructive political dialogue and consensus-building by creating or reinforcing cross-party parliamentary platforms that promote cooperation across political divides, and by ensuring that political transitions, electoral reforms and inclusive political processes reflect the needs, rights and aspirations of historically underrepresented groups and communities affected by violence or instability;

32. *Calls upon* parliaments to work with their governments, regional organizations, the IPU and the UN to strengthen international support and funding for peace agreements by advocating for credible and enforceable security guarantees and for adequately mandated peacekeeping or monitoring missions where appropriate, including measures aimed at deterring renewed aggression, protecting civilian populations and critical infrastructure, and ensuring the security, territorial integrity and sovereignty of affected States, as well as for sustained diplomatic engagement, so that negotiated commitments are upheld, clear benchmarks are met and cycles of violence are not renewed;

33. *Encourages* parliaments to fulfil their budgetary and oversight responsibilities and to work with their governments to ensure that the UN Peacebuilding Commission and Peacebuilding Fund are adequately funded and supported in order to realize the objectives of sustainable peace;

34. *Calls for* strengthened parliamentary diplomacy and regional cooperation to exchange good practices, support mediation efforts and build institutional capacity in post-conflict governance and resilience-building;

35. *Encourages* parliaments to support recovery efforts in countries affected by conflict by considering, in line with international law and due process, mechanisms that can facilitate reparations for victims and mobilize resources for reconstruction, including, where lawful, the use of frozen or otherwise immobilized assets, as part of broader international efforts to strengthen accountability for internationally wrongful acts and assist post-conflict recovery;

36. *Requests* that the IPU engage in the provision of targeted technical assistance to parliaments engaged in post-conflict recovery and peacebuilding efforts, including through capacity-building and peer-learning opportunities, including for young parliamentarians, as well as through advisory missions, the facilitation of inter-parliamentary and South–South exchanges, youth inclusion, and assistance in the areas of mediation, negotiation and conflict prevention, as well as the compilation and dissemination of good practices, in order to strengthen institutional resilience and inclusive governance.

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*- - The **Islamic Republic of Iran** and the **Russian Federation** expressed opposition to the entire text of the resolution.
- **China** expressed a reservation on the entire text of the resolution.

Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax avoidance

Resolution adopted unanimously by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

The 152nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recognizing that predictable and rules-based international trade has been an important driver of economic growth, job creation, poverty reduction, and the generation of public revenue for financing sustainable and inclusive development and for meeting sovereign debt obligations worldwide, particularly for developing countries, by fostering specialization, industrialization, innovation, and integration into global value chains,

Recognizing also the commitment to reducing inequality within and among countries, as expressed in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, *recalling* the Doha Declaration on Financing for Development, insofar as it reaffirms the importance of strengthening domestic tax legislation, *recalling also* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, which explicitly recognizes that each country has primary responsibility for its own development and which highlights the role of domestic public resource mobilization, and *noting* the renewed engagements arising from the Sevilla Commitment, adopted at the Fourth International Conference on Financing for Development, to the global financing for development framework, insofar as they call for a focus on concrete actions such as catalysing sustainable development investment and addressing debt distress, as well as on structural measures such as reforming the global financial architecture and ensuring fair and effective taxation practices to close the financing gap for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs),

Acknowledging that good-faith tax planning that respects both the letter and spirit of democratically enacted tax legislation remains a normal and lawful aspect of economic activity,

Acknowledging also the World Trade Organization's (WTO) *Joint statement on promoting inclusive and sustainable trade through gender equality and building a gender-responsive WTO by the Co-Chairs of the Informal Working Group on Trade and Gender*, and *noting* that women are disproportionately affected by inequitable trade, economic and tax policies,

Concerned by the fact that certain multinational corporations, including digital enterprises, undertake tax avoidance practices that go beyond acceptable tax planning and intentionally bypass the spirit of domestic tax legislation in order to pay little or no tax, thereby denying States tax revenue, which is a primary, essential and sustainable source of development funding,

Emphasizing that international and regional cooperation, the exchange of information and best practice, and transparency are valuable in addressing tax avoidance practices that circumvent the spirit and purpose of the law,

Recognizing the importance of corporations adopting a law-abiding approach in fulfilment of their reciprocal obligations to the State and its citizenry, including the payment of tax and adherence to labour laws and other domestic laws, as part of their contribution to the public good in return for access to domestic markets in which to conduct business,

Noting that 148 countries and jurisdictions are working together within the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) and G20 Inclusive Framework on Base Erosion and Profit Shifting and have agreed on key elements of a package that charts a course forward for the coordinated operation of a global minimum tax rate of 15% on the profits of multinational enterprises in the context of a digitalized and globalized economy,

Noting also the ongoing negotiations towards a United Nations framework convention on international tax cooperation, which are scheduled to continue into 2027, and *recognizing* that taxation constitutes a central component of public finance systems and an important means for governments to fund public services and pursue internationally agreed development objectives, including the SDGs,

Acknowledging that all States have the sovereign right to design, implement and enforce their own trade, industrial and tax policies in accordance with democratically enacted legislation, including the appropriate use of WTO-consistent trade remedies and other legitimate national public policy measures, such as the prevention of forced labour, *affirming* that transparent and well-functioning domestic tax systems are an essential component of the citizen–State relationship and a foundation for financing public goods and services and social development, and *recognizing* that all States have a sovereign right to tax the income of multinational corporations, including digital enterprises, operating in their jurisdiction as part of a fair, equitable, progressive and transparent domestic taxation regime,

Emphasizing that the expansion of trade and global economic integration have contributed over recent decades to lifting more than one billion people out of extreme poverty, improving real incomes and living standards in many regions of the world,

Recognizing the growing role of the digital economy, innovation ecosystems, financial technology and sustainable technologies in shaping global trade, strengthening supply chains and supporting inclusive economic growth,

Noting that analysis by leading international institutions, including the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund and the WTO, demonstrates that trade openness creates the necessary environment for stronger economic growth, thereby fostering higher living standards and quality employment opportunities for millions of people,

Affirming that an open, predictable, rules-based, non-discriminatory, fair, inclusive, equitable, sustainable and transparent multilateral trading system, with the WTO at its core, together with full respect for national sovereignty and the right of each State to define its own economic, commercial, industrial and tax policies in accordance with democratically enacted legislation and with international law, constitute complementary pillars of a fair and sustainable global economy, and that such a system supports sustainable development,

Concerned by the growing resort to unilateral, coercive and retaliatory protectionist measures, including tariff and non-tariff barriers, which distort trade and competition, deepen inequalities, undermine and weaken the rules-based international trading system and multilateral cooperation, escalate tensions between States, generate uncertainty for businesses, workers and consumers, and impede sustainable development, particularly in developing countries,

Recognizing that the destruction of civilian, trade-related and other critical infrastructure, including ports, pipelines, logistics corridors and energy networks, severely disrupts international trade flows, undermines economic stability, threatens global food and supply chain security, and impedes progress towards the SDGs,

Deploring the fact that tax avoidance practices that intentionally bypass the spirit of the law limit the amount of revenue collected by States, contributing to the erosion of the rule of law, democracy and institutional capacity,

Acknowledging that free and fair trade enables countries to specialize in areas where they have a comparative and competitive advantage, thereby boosting productivity, optimizing the use of resources and allowing producers to retain more value along global value chains, while offering consumers a wider variety of goods, including food, as well as better healthcare and other services, at more affordable prices,

Recognizing women's vital role as workers, business owners and entrepreneurs, and *affirming* that trade and tax policies that promote the full participation of women at all socio-economic levels are one of the key tools for promoting gender equality and an increase in economic activity,

Alarmed by the risk that prolonged “trade wars”, the escalation of protectionist policies and rising geopolitical tensions could increase the probability of a global economic downturn, with severe consequences for growth, employment, price stability and poverty reduction efforts,

1. *Urges* parliaments to defend an open, rules-based and non-discriminatory multilateral trading system as a vital tool for prosperity, poverty reduction, value creation and sustainable development;

2. *Encourages* parliaments, in accordance with their respective constitutional mandates and national circumstances, to follow and engage with the negotiations on the OECD and UN frameworks on international tax cooperation, including through parliamentary scrutiny of government positions, dialogue with relevant ministries and experts, and other appropriate forms of parliamentary involvement, with a view to supporting informed decision-making, as well as transparency and accountability, in international cooperation on tax matters;

3. *Calls upon* national governments to combat protectionism and to facilitate global trade by progressively reducing tariffs and removing unjustified non-tariff barriers, particularly those that restrict market access for developing and least developed countries, in conformity with WTO rules;

4. *Calls for* the strengthening of international and regional cooperation, in line with existing multilateral exchange frameworks developed by the OECD and the UN, as well as with domestic legal frameworks, to limit opportunities for multinational corporations, including digital enterprises, to engage in artificial profit-shifting arrangements that deliberately seek to bypass the letter, spirit and purpose of the law to the detriment of the people of the country in which the profit is acquired;

5. *Calls upon* the parliaments of States that have not yet signed the Convention on Mutual Administrative Assistance in Tax Matters to urge their governments to do so;

6. *Encourages* parliaments to support measures that facilitate trade, including the simplification and digitalization of customs procedures, the improvement of infrastructure and logistics, and the reduction of unnecessary administrative obstacles to cross-border trade;

7. *Also encourages* parliaments to promote fair trade as an essential means of strengthening supply chain resilience and reducing vulnerabilities arising from concentrated dependencies;

8. *Requests* States to strengthen capacity, increase resources and modernize frameworks to address artificial and abusive arrangements and practices such as transfer mispricing, artificial risk transfers, abusive debt shifting through intracompany financing, and the deliberate avoidance of permanent establishment status, while reaffirming the legitimacy of lawful tax planning and investment structuring, as well as the sovereign right of each State to design its own tax system and engage in fair and transparent tax competition;

9. *Calls upon* parliaments to ensure that anti-tax-avoidance measures are supported by establishing proportionate and effective penalties that serve as credible deterrents, by reinforcing corporate accountability mechanisms, by safeguarding access to independent judicial review, and by providing strong and comprehensive protections for whistle-blowers;

10. *Also calls upon* parliaments to assess the effects of digitalization, including the use of artificial intelligence technologies and algorithms, on tax avoidance practices, to address the challenges of ensuring fair taxation of digital services and the digital economy, and to strengthen legislative and oversight arrangements to prevent abusive behaviours;

11. *Urges* States to preserve and improve access to essential goods, including food, medicines, vaccines and strategic inputs, at affordable prices, and to refrain from trade measures that disproportionately restrict availability, increase costs or exacerbate food and health insecurity, and *calls upon* parliaments to safeguard international trade routes and commercial infrastructure against disruption, obstructions or blockades;

12. *Calls upon* parliaments to identify the legislative, administrative and regulatory gaps that allow for aggressive tax avoidance practices that intentionally bypass the spirit of the law in their respective economies and to take appropriate steps to close such gaps;

13. *Calls upon* parliaments and national governments to ensure that domestic laws promote gender equality, that international trade agreements include gender-related provisions, and that national budgets as well as trade and tax policies are gender-responsive;

14. *Calls for* the provision of skills development, entrepreneurship and leadership opportunities for women in trade;

15. *Encourages* parliaments to systematically assess the impact of trade measures and tax policies on poverty, gender equality, energy security, and economic and sustainable development, on the situation of vulnerable groups, including through sex-disaggregated data, and on employment, employability and access to education for youth, and *also encourages* parliaments to promote complementary domestic policies and social protection measures to ensure that the benefits of trade lead to growth-led, inclusive outcomes for the population, especially for emerging generations;

16. *Urges* States to support WTO reform, with a fully and well-functioning dispute settlement system accessible to all members, and *reaffirms* the centrality of the development dimension of the WTO in facilitating trade and investment liberalization, particularly in the interests of developing countries;

17. *Encourages* developed countries and international financial institutions to provide, on mutually agreed terms, adequate and sustained technical assistance, capacity-building and technology transfer to support developing and least developed countries in implementing modern tax and trade rules, in strengthening enforcement mechanisms, and in building the institutional infrastructure needed to fully participate in, and benefit from, the global economic system;

18. *Invites* the Inter-Parliamentary Union and its Member Parliaments to intensify inter-parliamentary dialogue on trade, taxation and development, to share best practices and to reinforce the role of parliaments as guarantors of the balance between economic openness, national sovereignty, and tax fairness and effectiveness.

Advancing parliamentary action on artificial intelligence

Motion adopted by the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights (Istanbul, 18 April 2026)

The IPU Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights recognizes that the development and deployment of artificial intelligence (AI) is advancing rapidly, with profound implications for democracy, human rights and the rule of law. AI brings significant opportunities for nations and societies, but also poses risks that require urgent, informed and sustained parliamentary engagement across substantive policy areas in which AI is having an impact.

The Committee recalls the resolution on *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*, adopted unanimously by the 149th IPU Assembly in Geneva in October 2024, which established a comprehensive mandate for parliaments and the IPU to act across all dimensions of AI governance.

The Committee welcomes the adoption, in November 2025, of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *Parliaments and responsible AI*, which sets out 13 concrete recommendations for parliamentary action to implement the IPU resolution. It further welcomes the *Joint Statement on Artificial Intelligence and the Rights of the Child* adopted in January 2026 by more than 50 international organizations.
The Committee also recognizes that technology-facilitated gender-based violence must be treated as a core AI governance issue, and that the perspectives of all sections of society, particularly women and young people, must be included in AI governance processes.

The Committee notes with encouragement that, as of early 2026, more than 60 parliaments worldwide have taken significant action on AI, including through legislation, the establishment of specialized committees and inquiry processes, and engagement in public consultations. It equally recognizes that many parliaments face significant capacity challenges in keeping pace with technological change, and that international cooperation, peer exchange and the regular sharing of information on actions taken across different parliaments are essential to ensuring that all parliaments can fully exercise their functions in relation to AI.

Reflecting the urgency of immediate and sustained parliamentary action on AI, the Committee calls upon IPU Member Parliaments to:

1. Take steps to implement the recommendations of the Kuala Lumpur Declaration, in support of the IPU's 2024 resolution on AI, including identifying urgent areas for action in line with national priorities;

2. Identify parliamentarians and staff to actively participate in inter-parliamentary exchanges on AI policy issues, maintaining regular contact with the IPU Secretariat to support mutual learning and facilitate sharing of parliamentary experience, lessons learned and emerging good practices;

3. Engage actively in regional, international and multilateral processes on AI governance, including through the United Nations and other relevant forums, ensuring that parliamentary perspectives are represented in the development of international norms and standards on AI;

4. Strengthen the capacity of parliaments to engage on AI, including by giving members of parliament and staff access to independent expertise and continuous learning on the impact of AI across society, and to adopt and use AI tools responsibly within their institutions.

Report of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

Noted by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

The Committee held two sittings, on 17 and 18 April 2026.

Persons with disabilities

At its first sitting, held on 17 April 2026 with Vice-President Ms. F. Ilimi Haddouche (Algeria) as the Chair, the Committee held a debate on its next resolution, *Inclusive social development for all: Parliamentary strategies to promote the rights and empowerment of people living with disabilities.* The three co-Rapporteurs were present: Ms. C.M. Mumma (Kenya), Mr. C. Lohr (Switzerland) and Ms. F. Öncü (Türkiye).

In her intervention, Ms. H. Hagrass (United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities) highlighted the role of parliaments in advancing inclusive democracy and implementing the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (CRPD), emphasizing the need to move away from paternalistic approaches towards rights-based frameworks. Parliaments should promote policies that support family carers, most of whom are women, and strengthen community-based support systems. Ms. Hagrass further emphasized the importance of removing legal and practical barriers to the political representation of persons with disabilities, including women with disabilities. Measures include improving the accessibility of parliamentary venues and proceedings, providing reasonable accommodation, and introducing legislated quotas.

Mr. N. Kabbara (President, International Disability Alliance) stressed the importance of advancing disability inclusion through law-making, advocacy and budgetary processes. Budget allocations reflect political priorities and determine in practice whether persons with disabilities are able to access inclusive education, justice, independent living and other fundamental rights. Implementation of the CRPD also requires meaningful consultation with persons with disabilities and their representative organizations. Mr. Kabbara called on parliaments to strengthen oversight, ensure disability inclusion across all policy areas and promote the active participation of persons with disabilities in political life, in line with the principle of “nothing about us without us”.

The Committee heard from the co-Rapporteurs of its next resolution. Ms. F. Öncu (Türkiye) emphasized that disability rights were central to human dignity, equal citizenship and democratic legitimacy, recalling that, although there were 1.3 billion persons with disabilities globally, they remained largely underrepresented in decision-making. Ms. C. Mumma (Kenya) stressed that disability-related issues must be systematically reflected in legislation and oversight. She emphasized the importance of dedicated structures, such as disability caucuses in parliament, that could mainstream consideration of the rights of persons with disabilities in parliamentary work. Mr. C. Lohr (Switzerland) stressed that inclusion required the engagement of families, society, parliaments and governments, as well as greater awareness of what it meant to live with a disability. He called for improved access to education, employment and political participation, including opportunities to be elected.

A total of 31 delegates contributed to the debate. Participants emphasized the need to strengthen legal frameworks and ensure effective implementation of the CRPD. They also called for standardized national systems for data collection and analysis, as the basis for evidence-informed parliamentary decision-making. Key areas of focus include taking into account the needs of persons with disabilities in disaster preparedness, and the role of digital tools in enhancing disability inclusion. The session concluded with a call for strengthened political commitment, adequate budgets and collective action to ensure the full and effective inclusion of persons with disabilities in all areas of public life.

Artificial intelligence

At its second sitting, held on 18 April 2026 with Vice-President Ms. F. Ilimi Haddouche (Algeria) as the Chair, the Committee held a debate on implementation of the parliamentary mandate on artificial intelligence (AI), following the adoption of the October 2024 IPU resolution *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*.

Opening the debate, Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada), co-Rapporteur of the 2024 resolution, noted that frontier AI models could now reason, self-correct and operate as semi-autonomous agents. While these advances offer major benefits in scientific discovery, health and education, they also accelerate risks to human rights, including through military applications, cybersecurity threats to critical infrastructure, the disruption of entry-level and youth employment, AI-generated non-consensual intimate imagery, and threats to electoral integrity. She stressed that the regulatory conversation remained concentrated in the hands of industry, and that parliaments had a responsibility to keep pace, both domestically and in global processes.

Ms. M. Cederfelt (Sweden), Chairperson of the IPU Working Group on Science and Technology, presented the Kuala Lumpur Declaration on *Parliaments and responsible AI*. The text was adopted in November 2025 at the first international parliamentary conference dedicated to AI, convened jointly by the IPU, the Parliament of Malaysia, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the United Nations Development Programme. Its 13 recommendations cover parliamentary readiness, substantive law-making and oversight, and engagement in international AI governance. The declaration calls upon all parliaments to submit a progress update by 1 June 2026 ahead of a consolidated global status report in August 2026.

Ms. S. Kiladze (Chairperson, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child) presented the *Joint Statement on Artificial Intelligence and the Rights of the Child*, adopted in January 2026 and co-signed by 14 international organizations including the IPU. She highlighted the heightened risks children faced from cyberbullying, online sexual exploitation, and synthetic content that misused their images, noting that children could not be meaningfully protected in the AI era without effective legal frameworks.

Mr. R. Goñi (Uruguay) reported on the regional parliamentary dialogue on AI held in Montevideo in March 2026, noting that parliaments now occupied a central place in the Internet Governance Forum process. He underscored the importance of anticipatory governance and called for continued parliamentary follow-up on the enabling conditions for citizens, particularly children and adolescents, to benefit safely from AI.

Delegates from Australia, Bahrain, Canada, Guyana, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Japan, Jordan, Oman, Republic of Korea and South Africa provided brief updates on national legislative and oversight action. Examples included: national AI strategies and data protection frameworks; the Hiroshima AI Process Friends Group, which now covers 66 countries and regions; the Protection of Personal Information Act and the draft National AI Policy Framework in South Africa; and the Criminal Code Amendment (Deepfake Sexual Material) Act in Australia. Several delegates drew attention to the use of AI in armed conflict and the targeting of civilians. The delegate from Australia raised the matter of documented gender and racial bias in hiring, facial recognition, healthcare diagnostics and conversational AI algorithms.

The Committee then turned to AI-generated non-consensual intimate imagery as a case study of targeted parliamentary action on a rapidly evolving AI-related harm.

Ms. M. Disoski (Austria) shared her personal experience of receiving AI-generated deepfake images of herself following a public television appearance. She outlined the legislative response in Austria, including current work to criminalize the creation and distribution of non-consensual deepfakes, and stressed that a clear legal definition was the essential first step towards enforcement.
Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico) presented the Olympia Law (*Ley Olimpia*), which recognizes digital violence as a crime and was extended in 2024 to cover AI-generated deepfake sexual content, on the principle that the harm to dignity is the same whether the image is authentic or fabricated.
Ms. M. Rempel Garner (Canada) described Bill C-16, the Protecting Victims Act, which aimed to close a gap in Canadian law that had left AI-generated intimate imagery outside existing non-consensual distribution offences. She stressed that criminalization alone was insufficient without rapid content removal and trauma-informed support for victims.

Delegates from South Africa, Türkiye and the United Kingdom described the legislative gaps they were navigating, including the difficulty of addressing the non-consensual filming of women in public spaces under existing voyeurism or harassment frameworks. They also mentioned ongoing court cases involving AI-generated fabricated political imagery. Ms. S. Kiladze (UN Committee on the Rights of the Child) noted that legislative responses must pay specific attention to the vulnerability of children, among whom AI-enabled sextortion was rising sharply.

The Committee received a presentation from Mr. A. Read (IPU Secretariat) on the IPU's 2026 programme of work on AI policy. The programme is organized around three objectives: strengthening parliamentary capacity to take action on AI; expanding parliamentary engagement across the substantive policy areas where AI is having an impact; and supporting active parliamentary involvement in international AI governance.

The Committee concluded its debate by adopting, by acclamation, the motion *Advancing parliamentary action on artificial intelligence*, prepared by the Bureau with input from the representatives of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. The motion urges parliaments to implement the Kuala Lumpur Declaration's recommendations, to designate parliamentarians and staff for inter-parliamentary exchanges on AI, to engage actively in global AI governance forums, and to build internal capacity for sustained parliamentary action on AI.

Special guests

The following special guests participated in the work of the Committee:

Persons with disabilities

- Ms. Heba Hagrass, United Nations Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
- Mr. Newaf Kabbara, President, International Disability Alliance (remotely)

Artificial intelligence

- Ms. Sophie Kiladze, Chairperson, United Nations Committee on the Rights of the Child

Report of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

Noted by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

The Committee held two sittings, on 17 and 18 April 2026, with Vice-President Mr. F. Al-Nouiri (Libya) presiding as Chair. After opening the session, Mr. Al-Nouiri invited all present to adopt the agenda of the session and approve the summary record of the previous session, held at the 151st IPU Assembly in Geneva in October 2025.

The UN field presence in Türkiye: A test case of greater UN engagement with parliaments

Presenters: Mr. B.A. Ahonsi (United Nations Resident Coordinator, Türkiye), Ms. D.C. Cicchella (Deputy Representative, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), Türkiye), Ms. M. Guimond (Country Director, UN Women, Türkiye) and Ms. M. Gandhi (Deputy Representative of the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), Türkiye)

During its first sitting, which was attended by 30 delegations, the Committee held a discussion on the role of the UN Resident Coordinator and the UN Country Team (UNCT) vis-à-vis the Government and the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye, and in the context of the current UN80 reform initiative, which seeks to streamline the work of the UN, including at the country level. It was part of a series of discussions held with UN Resident Coordinators in recent years with a view to illustrating the importance of cooperation between the UN and parliaments at the country level, which is seen as key to the implementation of global commitments.

After some preliminary remarks on the role of parliaments in translating global commitments such as the Sustainable Development Goals into national action through laws, budgets and oversight, Mr. Ahonsi noted that the UN Development System field presence in Türkiye had evolved over time and was becoming more integrated, as well as more responsive to the country's needs, in line with recent UN reforms. After highlighting key areas of cooperation between the UNCT and the Government of Türkiye on matters such as human rights, gender equality, migration and child protection, Mr. Ahonsi introduced the three team members whose agencies' work he said best illustrated the impact of the UN field presence in the country.

The three presenters, from UNHCR, UN Women and UNICEF, provided several practical illustrations of active cooperation with the national parliament. They emphasized that cooperation between the UNCT and the parliament must aim at building institutional capacities that went well beyond ad hoc interventions such as support to individual MPs. They noted the need to strengthen national ownership of development processes, observing that parliamentarians were uniquely placed in this regard, as representatives of the people and as community leaders.

The overarching goals of the UNCT's work with the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye include:

- Institutionalizing evidence-based policymaking, particularly at the committee level, where the most substantive debates are held.
- Building capacities for gender-based analysis, including gender-sensitive budgets.
- Creating new spaces for dialogue between women MPs across party lines.
- Working closely with the IPU group in parliament, as a well-established conduit for technical assistance, including through joint UN–IPU publications (such as the UNHCR–IPU handbook on refugee law) as well as workshops on refugee law.
- Creating specialized research commissions to inform legislation (such as a commission on children in conflict).
- Supporting peer-to-peer learning between MPs from across the region with regard to shared policy concerns.

Overall, the lesson from the UNCT in Türkiye was that working successfully with the Parliament required time and patience, as well as institution-wide commitment. The Parliament needed to drive the agenda with the aim of making a real impact on the ground through legislative reforms and strong oversight.

The ensuing debate featured seven interventions from the floor, with speakers highlighting the following points:

- Cooperation between UNCTs and national parliaments is becoming stronger in other countries as well, although not always at the same speed or along the same lines, with the situation depending on each country's unique situation. Parliaments are no longer seen as mere observers of the UN's work in their countries, but increasingly as active participants in that work.
- The active involvement of parliament does more than merely serve the national interest: it also helps the UN advance its own global agenda. Both sides, the UN and parliament, stand to gain from closer cooperation.
- Cooperation between the UN and parliaments at the country level requires regular, transparent communication in addition to capacity-building.

Towards a more effective and representative United Nations: The need for a Charter review

Presenters: Ms. R. French (Director of Policy and Diplomatic Engagement, Article 109 Coalition) and Mr. S. Prokhorov (Programme Manager, UN Funding and Effectiveness, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation (DHF))

During its second sitting, which was attended by 28 delegations, the Committee held a discussion on a proposal to amend the Charter of the United Nations. This proposal is being promoted around the world by the Article 109 Coalition, a new coalition of civil society groups. The Committee was briefed on the coalition's call for a Charter review conference and its hope to engage parliaments in a supportive capacity. The discussion also addressed the question of how to make the UN more fit for purpose in challenging times and in light of recent cuts to the UN budget, which were severely hampering the work of the organization. The results of a joint IPU–DHF survey of MPs on the UN budget were presented.

Speaking for the Article 109 Coalition, Ms. French made the case for a Charter review conference to be held in 2031 or 2032, at the end of a years-long preparatory process. She explained the genesis of the year-old coalition, which had been born out of a deep concern that the UN risked extinction unless it was able to renew itself at its core. She explained that the recent UN80 reform initiative, which aimed to simplify procedures, consolidate work and implement cost-saving measures, was worthwhile but could only address the symptoms, and not the root causes, of the current institutional malaise.

The Committee heard that the Charter of the United Nations was outdated and not fit for the times. The Charter was originally signed by just 50 countries, the founding members of the UN, meaning that it does not necessarily reflect the expectations of today's much larger group of 193 UN Member States, including many from the Global South. Moreover, the issues that the UN was meant to address at its inception have grown much more intractable and potentially devastating. Issues such as climate change, AI and nuclear proliferation pose an almost unprecedented existential threat to the world and its people. In addition, with the Security Council and other key UN bodies struggling to uphold the Charter, global public support for the UN has fallen to an all-time low.

With these considerations in mind, leading global figures, including prominent Heads of Government such as President Lula of Brazil, President Modi of India and President Ramaphosa of South Africa, have become increasingly outspoken about the need for a Charter review conference. The 2023 report of the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Advisory Board on Effective Multilateralism provided high-level endorsement of this proposal. On the civil society side, well-known advocates of multilateralism such as the Kofi Annan Foundation and the Club de Madrid have also expressed support. As Ms. French noted, a Charter review conference was envisioned by the founders of the UN in Article 109, which called for a review conference to be held by 1955. With no such conference ever being convened, and with the UN now in deep crisis, the time has come for a new "San Francisco moment" to reconstitute the organization on a stronger footing.

For a Charter review conference to be convened, a supermajority of two thirds of the General Assembly would be needed, along with the backing of nine members of the Security Council, with no distinction between permanent and non-permanent members and with no veto allowed. Under most national constitutions, parliamentary ratification would be required for the new Charter to come into force. This is why the Article 109 Coalition is increasingly focusing on parliaments as a key constituency to be engaged alongside governments and civil society organizations. Ms. French stated that it was critically important for parliaments to engage early in this discussion, to help set the terms of the process ahead and to begin reflecting on a "wish list" of reform proposals, all of which should be on the table, with an open mind as to the final outcome of the conference.

The ensuing debate featured 13 interventions from the floor. All speakers, without exception, expressed broad support for a Charter review conference as a legitimate legal instrument to reform the UN at its core. In their interventions, they highlighted the following points:

- Parliaments need to become more aware of this proposal and must be prepared to discuss it with their respective governments at this early, momentum-building stage.
- At its next session, to the held in the United Republic of Tanzania in October 2026, the Committee should consider adopting a motion officially endorsing the call for a Charter review conference and providing guidance to parliaments on concrete actions going forward.
- While all reform proposals need to be considered, the new Charter must respect the fundamental values that were clearly embedded in the original document of 1945, all of which must remain the bedrock of multilateralism for generations to come.
- The process leading up to the Charter review conference must be most inclusive and transparent, with all UN Member States fully engaged on an equal footing.
- A key outcome of the Charter review process should be a UN that is more democratic and accountable and that can deliver effectively on peace and security, humanitarian issues, and justice.
- The new Charter should strengthen the legal obligations of countries that have waged war on others in violation of the Charter.

Providing adequate and stable funding to the UN is an indispensable part of the UN reform process, alongside the proposed Charter review conference. Building on previous Committee debates on the UN budget, Mr. S. Prokhorov discussed the current situation at the UN, where the majority of funding comes from earmarked, unstable, project- or issue-specific sources. He noted that the UN had a total budget of US$ 67 billion, emphasizing that its cost to the global community was minuscule when compared to, for instance, global military spending (US$ 2.4 trillion) or the revenue of Google's parent company (US$ 310 billion).

Mr. Prokhorov presented the findings of a recent IPU–DHF survey of MPs, in which respondents had expressed general support for increasing funding for the UN budget. More specifically, out of the 120 MPs who responded to the survey:

- 91% believed that the UN was relevant to their country as well as globally.
- 53% wanted to increase UN funding (only 14% supported budget cuts).
- 60% said they needed better access to information on UN funding.
- 64% believed stricter penalties should be enforced against countries that failed to pay their contributions.
- 77% believed parliaments should have more say on their countries' contributions to the UN budget.
- 52% supported taxing international financial transactions as an additional funding stream, with 20% calling for a tax on international air travel for the same purpose.
- 72% believed that the UN system needed to be consolidated to save money and achieve better results.

At the end of the session, a representative of the UN Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA) took the floor to draw attention to the funding crisis that was severely impacting the agency's ability to deliver essential items and services, including healthcare, education and food, to Palestinians in Gaza, the West Bank, Jordan and the Syrian Arab Republic.
The representative indicated that UNRWA had faced drastic budget cuts and was operating at 2012 budget levels, and that, to save programmes, staff had taken a 20% salary cut. Parliamentary support is urgently needed to help restore long-term, stable funding for the agency.

Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee

Elections were also held to fill vacant seats on the Bureau of the Committee.

In his report to the Assembly, the Chair noted with sadness the very recent death of Bureau member Mr. J. Uerikua (Namibia).

Other business

Under this final agenda item, a delegate from Ukraine proposed that, at its next session, the Committee session should consider a motion to encourage the establishment of Parliamentary Committees for the Future, in keeping with commitments made in the 2024 Pact for the Future. A draft text will be submitted to the Secretariat in due course.

Condemnation of the attacks by the Islamic Republic of Iran against the Gulf Cooperation Council States and Jordan

Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegations of Bahrain and the United Arab Emirates for the inclusion of an emergency item

Results

Affirmative votes..... 203
Negative votes 415
Abstentions 752

Total of affirmative and negative votes ..618
Two-thirds majority.....412

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Albania	*Absent*			Greece	6	7		Poland		15	
Algeria		16		Guyana	*Absent*			Portugal			13
Angola		15		Hungary			12	Qatar			11
Armenia			11	Iceland	5		5	Republic of Korea	*Absent*		
Australia			14	Indonesia		10		Republic of Moldova	*Absent*		
Austria			12	Iran (Islamic Republic of)		19		Romania		9	4
Azerbaijan			13	Iraq		10	6	Russian Federation			20
Bahrain	11			Ireland			12	Rwanda			13
Bangladesh	*Absent*			Italy			17	Samoa	*Absent*		
Belarus	*Absent*			Japan			20	San Marino	*Absent*		
Belgium		7	6	Jordan	4		9	Saudi Arabia	15		
Belize	*Absent*			Kazakhstan	*Absent*			Senegal	*Absent*		
Bhutan	2		8	Kenya			17	Serbia			12
Bosnia and Herzegovina	*Absent*			Kyrgyzstan	*Absent*			Seychelles			10
Botswana			11	Lao People's Dem. Republic			12	Singapore	12		
Brazil			20	Latvia		11		Slovenia			10
Brunei Darussalam			10	Lesotho			11	Somalia		13	
Burkina Faso		14		Libya		12		South Africa		18	
Cambodia			13	Liechtenstein			10	South Sudan		13	
Cameroon			14	Lithuania			11	Spain		16	
Canada	16			Luxembourg	5		5	Suriname			10
Chad			13	Malawi			14	Sweden			13
Chile		5	8	Maldives	10			Switzerland		12	
China		8	15	Mali		12		Tajikistan	*Absent*		
Côte d'Ivoire			15	Malta	*Absent*			Thailand	*Absent*		
Croatia	*Absent*			Mauritania			12	Timor-Leste			11
Cyprus			11	Mexico			20	Togo	*Absent*		
Czechia	13			Monaco	*Absent*			Tunisia			13
DR of the Congo		20		Mongolia	*Absent*			Türkiye		19	
Denmark		12		Montenegro			10	Turkmenistan	*Absent*		
Djibouti			11	Morocco	15			Uganda	*Absent*		
Dominican Rep.			13	Mozambique			15	Ukraine	15		
Ecuador			13	Namibia		11		United Arab Emirates	13		
Egypt	20			Nepal			14	United Kingdom	18		
Equatorial Guinea	*Absent*			Netherlands		13		United Republic of Tanzania			18
Estonia		11		Niger	*Absent*			Uruguay	1		10
Eswatini			11	Nigeria			22	Uzbekistan	*Absent*		
Fiji	*Absent*			North Macedonia			11	Viet Nam			20
Finland			12	Norway	12			Yemen			13
France	10		8	Oman			12	Zambia		14	
Gabon	*Absent*			Pakistan	*Absent*			Zimbabwe		13	
Gambia (The)		11		Palestine			12				
Georgia	*Absent*			Paraguay	*Absent*						
Germany		19		Peru		15					
Ghana		15									

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Articles 5.2 and 5.3 of the Statutes. Parliaments participating in the IPU in a non-voting observer capacity in accordance with the decision of the 209th session of the Governing Council in Nusa Dua do not appear on this list.

The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions

Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegations of Qatar, Australia, Türkiye, France, Brazil, Zambia, Poland, Portugal, Italy and Ireland, with the support of the Arab Group, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean and the African Group for the inclusion of an emergency item

Results

Affirmative votes	1,316	Total of affirmative and negative votes	1,319
Negative votes	3	Two-thirds majority	879
Abstentions	51		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Albania	*Absent*			Greece	13			Poland	15		
Algeria	16			Guyana	*Absent*			Portugal	13		
Angola	15			Hungary	12			Qatar	11		
Armenia	11			Iceland	10			Republic of Korea	*Absent*		
Australia	14			Indonesia	10			Republic of Moldova	*Absent*		
Austria	12			Iran (Islamic Republic of)	19			Romania	13		
Azerbaijan	13			Iraq	16			Russian Federation			20
Bahrain			11	Ireland	12			Rwanda	13		
Bangladesh	*Absent*			Italy	17			Samoa	*Absent*		
Belarus	*Absent*			Japan	20			San Marino	*Absent*		
Belgium	13			Jordan	13			Saudi Arabia	15		
Belize	*Absent*			Kazakhstan	*Absent*			Senegal	*Absent*		
Bhutan	10			Kenya	17			Serbia	12		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	*Absent*			Kyrgyzstan	*Absent*			Seychelles	10		
Botswana	11			Lao People's Dem. Republic	12			Singapore			12
Brazil	20			Latvia	11			Slovenia	10		
Brunei Darussalam	10			Lesotho	11			Somalia	13		
Burkina Faso	14			Libya	12			South Africa	18		
Cambodia	13			Liechtenstein	10			South Sudan	13		
Cameroon	14			Lithuania	11			Spain	16		
Canada	16			Luxembourg	10			Suriname	10		
Chad	13			Malawi	14			Sweden	13		
Chile	13			Maldives	10			Switzerland	12		
China	15		8	Mali	9	3		Tajikistan	*Absent*		
Côte d'Ivoire	15			Malta	*Absent*			Thailand	*Absent*		
Croatia	*Absent*			Mauritania	12			Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus	11			Mexico	20			Togo	*Absent*		
Czechia	13			Monaco	*Absent*			Tunisia	13		
DR of the Congo	20			Mongolia	*Absent*			Türkiye	19		
Denmark	12			Montenegro	10			Turkmenistan	*Absent*		
Djibouti	11			Morocco	15			Uganda	*Absent*		
Dominican Rep.	13			Mozambique	15			Ukraine	15		
Ecuador	13			Namibia	11			United Arab Emirates	13		
Egypt	20			Nepal	14			United Kingdom	18		
Equatorial Guinea	*Absent*			Netherlands	13			United Republic of Tanzania	18		
Estonia	11			Niger	*Absent*			Uruguay	11		
Eswatini	11			Nigeria	22			Uzbekistan	*Absent*		
Fiji	*Absent*			North Macedonia	11			Viet Nam	20		
Finland	12			Norway	12			Yemen	13		
France	18			Oman	12			Zambia	14		
Gabon	*Absent*			Pakistan	*Absent*			Zimbabwe	13		
Gambia (The)	11			Palestine	12						
Georgia	*Absent*			Paraguay	*Absent*						
Germany	19			Peru	15						
Ghana	15										

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Articles 5.2 and 5.3 of the Statutes. Parliaments participating in the IPU in a non-voting observer capacity in accordance with the decision of the 209th session of the Governing Council in Nusa Dua do not appear on this list.

The urgent need for concerted parliamentary efforts to preserve ceasefires and support peacebuilding in the Middle East and other regions

Resolution adopted unanimously by the 152nd IPU Assembly
(Istanbul, 19 April 2026)

The 152nd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recalling the purposes of the United Nations, as set out in the Charter of the United Nations, which include the maintenance of international peace and security and the achievement of international cooperation in addressing humanitarian issues, and *recalling also* the principles of international law, including international humanitarian law, as well as the Universal Declaration of Human Rights,

Reaffirming its firm commitment to the 1949 Geneva Conventions, which constitute the cornerstone of international humanitarian law and are binding on all parties to armed conflicts,

Emphasizing the interrelationship between international humanitarian law and international human rights law, and the necessity of respecting both under all circumstances, particularly with regard to the protection of civilians, civilian objects, vital infrastructure and essential services,

Affirming the importance of ensuring accountability and preventing and combating impunity for all violations, in accordance with international law, including international humanitarian law and international human rights law, in a manner that ensures justice for victims and reinforces the rule of law,

Bearing in mind previous IPU resolutions underscoring the vital role of parliaments in strengthening peace, security and the rule of law,

Deeply concerned about non-compliance with United Nations Security Council resolution 2286 (2016), which strongly condemns attacks on medical facilities and humanitarian personnel,

Deeply alarmed by credible reports of serious and systematic violations of international humanitarian law in ongoing conflicts in the Middle East and elsewhere, including indiscriminate attacks on civilians, the destruction of hospitals and schools, the denial of humanitarian aid and the use of starvation as a method of warfare,

Emphasizing that impunity fuels cycles of violence and undermines prospects for just and lasting peace, and that accountability is essential for genuine reconciliation,

Stressing the importance of mechanisms for effective redress and compensation for victims, in accordance with international law and through competent UN agencies,

Recognizing that national parliaments have broad legislative and oversight powers over executive authorities, including in the areas of military and foreign policy, and play a key role in translating international commitments into tangible national action,

1. *Affirms* that respect for international humanitarian law in all conflicts, particularly in the Middle East, is a matter of priority, particularly with regard to the protection of civilians, civilian objects, vital infrastructure and essential services, as well as to ensuring rapid, safe and unhindered humanitarian access, without discrimination, and *also affirms* that ensuring such respect is a fundamental part of the role of parliaments in supporting international peace and security;

2. *Urges* Member Parliaments to take urgent steps to move from condemnation to concrete action, to review the extent to which their governments' policies and military practices comply with international humanitarian law, and to use all constitutional tools at their disposal to ensure accountability for violations and to promote effective mechanisms for their documentation;

3. *Encourages* Member Parliaments to intensify parliamentary diplomacy and strengthen coordinated engagement through IPU mechanisms and geopolitical groups in order to build international consensus on de-escalation, civilian protection, infrastructure preservation and peaceful solutions, especially in the Middle East;

4. *Calls for* the immediate reconvening of talks among the parties concerned in contexts where ceasefires are in place, with the aim of achieving the permanent cessation of attacks, and *urges* such parties to engage in such talks with renewed seriousness, political will and a clear commitment to preventing any further escalation of conflict;

5. *Stresses* that any renewed diplomatic process should be sufficiently serious, sustained and inclusive to address all major issues of divergence contributing to the crisis concerned, including, where relevant, matters relating to maritime security and freedom of navigation, the situation in the region, and other related political, security and humanitarian concerns;

6. *Calls upon* all parties, during any period of ceasefire and any subsequent negotiations, to refrain from military action, unilateral measures or any other steps liable to jeopardize prospects for dialogue or provoke further regional escalation;

7. *Instructs* the IPU Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law, within its mandate: to monitor ongoing developments in the Middle East; to submit a report, at the 153rd Assembly, on parties' responses to calls for civilian protection, humanitarian access and de-escalation; and to propose immediate parliamentary measures to address any further deterioration;

8. *Requests* the President and Secretary General of the IPU, within their respective mandates, to use the IPU's good offices to support de-escalation efforts and facilitate urgent parliamentary dialogue focused on protecting civilians, preserving vital infrastructure, ensuring freedom of navigation where relevant, and creating conditions conducive to negotiated settlements between parties;

9. *Affirms* the readiness of the world's parliaments, acting through the IPU and other appropriate parliamentary channels, to support all genuine efforts aimed at reducing tensions, rebuilding confidence, and advancing peaceful and lasting resolutions of armed conflicts;

10. *Invites* national parliaments to engage actively, within their respective constitutional responsibilities, in support of diplomatic efforts, respect for international law, the protection of civilians and the prevention of any further widening of conflict, as well as in support of post-conflict recovery and reconstruction, including compensation for victims;

11. *Requests* the Secretary General of the IPU to circulate this resolution to all IPU Member Parliaments, to the Secretary-General of the UN, to the President of the UN Security Council, to the International Committee of the Red Cross and to the President of the International Criminal Court, with a view to mobilizing international support for parliamentary accountability and peacebuilding as essential pillars of just peace.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS
LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS

Dr./Dr Tulia Ackson
President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
Speaker of the National Assembly of the United Republic of Tanzania
Présidente de l'Union interparlementaire
Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale de la République-Unie de Tanzanie

Mr./M. Numan Kurtulmuş
Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Président de la Grande Assemblée nationale de Türkiye

Mr./M. Martin Chungong
Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
Secrétaire général de l'Union interparlementaire

I. MEMBERS – MEMBRES

ALBANIA

Mr. Edi PALOKA Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Parliament (C)
Mr. Gazment BARDHI	Member of the Parliament (C)
Ms. Jozefina TOPALLI	Member of the Parliament (PD)
Ms. Mesila DODA	Member of the Parliament (C)
Mr. Xhelal MZIU	Member of the Parliament (C)
Mr. Genci GJONÇAJ	Secretary General, Parliament
Mr. Everest DEDAJ	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Genci GOLI	Advisor, Parliament

C Democratic Party
PD Albanian Democratic Party

ALGERIA – ALGÉRIE

M. Brahim BOUGHALI Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe	Président de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
M. Mohamed Anouar BOUCHOUIT Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable	Vice-Président de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
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M. Ammar OULMI	Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale Membre de la Commission de l'habitat, de l'équipement, de l'hydraulique et de l'aménagement du territoire (RND)
M. Saad ARROUS	Membre du Conseil de la nation
Mme Farida ILIMI HADDOUCHE Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme Membre du Bureau des femmes parlementaires, Membre du Comité sur la santé	Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale (FLN)
M. Fateh BOUTBIG	Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale Membre de la Commission des affaires juridiques et administratives et des libertés (FM)
M. Kamel KHELIFATI Membre du Groupe de travail sur la science et la technologie	Membre du Conseil de la nation Commission des Affaires étrangères et de la coopération internationale (FLN)
M. Zakarya BEDROUNE	Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale Membre de la Commission de l'agriculture, de la pêche et de la protection de l'environnement (FLN)

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M. Salim DJALAL	Secrétaire général, Assemblée populaire nationale
Mme Idjlal NAILI	Conseillère, Assemblée populaire nationale
M. Mohamed-Amine ASSOUL	Conseiller, Assemblée populaire nationale
Mme Mouna Ahlem CHIHEB Secrétaire du Groupe	Conseillère, Assemblée populaire nationale
Mme Mounia BENZIADA Secrétaire du Groupe	Conseillère, Conseil de la nation
M. Oualid ZAHAF	Conseiller, Assemblée populaire nationale
M. Boumediene GUENNAD	Ambassadeur
Mr. Nadjah MANSRI	Corps diplomatique

RND Rassemblement National Démocratique
FLN Front de Libération Nationale
FM Front El Moustakbal

ANGOLA

Ms. Maria VALENTE Leader of the delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Finance Committee (5th Committee) (MPLA)
Ms. Arlete CHIMBINDA	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Family, Childhood and Social Action (8th Committee) (UNITA)
Ms. Albertina FELISBERTO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Economy and Finance (5th Committee) (UNITA)
Mr. Álvaro NETO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Defence and National Security (2nd Committee) (MPLA)
Mr. Kilamba VAN-DÚNEM	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Finance Committee (5th Committee) (MPLA)
Mr. Pedro DE NERI	Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Lázaro VICENTE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Nildeice BARRICA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Jones MANUEL Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly

MPLA Movimento Popular de Libertação de Angola
UNITA União Nacional para a Independência Total de Angola.

ARMENIA

Mr. Alen SIMONYAN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	President of the National Assembly (CC)
Mr. Sargis KHANDANYAN	Member of the National Assembly Chair of the Standing Committee on Foreign Relations (CC)
Ms. Tsovinar VARDANYAN Vice-President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Chair of the Standing Committee on Financial-Credit and Budgetary Affairs (CC)
Ms. Hasmik HAKOBYAN Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Foreign Relations (CC)
Mr. Davit ARAKELYAN	Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Aleksandr MKHITARYAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Anna HOVAKIMYAN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Ashkhen HAYRAPETYAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Eduard KARAPETYAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Movses HARUTYUNYAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Tigran SEIRANIAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Mamikon MARGARYAN	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Gamlet GEVORGIAN	Advisor, National Assembly

CC "Civil Contract"

AUSTRALIA

Mr. Milton DICK Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Executive Committee	Speaker of the House of Representatives Chair of Selection Committee Chair of Appropriations and Administration Committee Chair of Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings Committee (ALP)
Ms. Sharon CLAYDON Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Chair of Standing Committee on Procedure Member of Joint Statutory Committee on Intelligence and Security Member of Standing Committee on Privileges and Members' Interests (ALP)
Mr. Andrew MCLACHLAN	Member of the Senate Deputy Chair of Joint Standing Committee on the National Capital and External Territories Deputy Chair of Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation Deputy Chair of Standing Committee on Publications (LP)

Mr. Basem ABDO	Member of the House of Representatives Member of Standing Committee on Industry, Innovation and Science Member of Joint Statutory Committee on Law Enforcement (ALP)
Ms. Deborah O'NEILL Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights	Member of the Senate Chair of Parliamentary Joint Committee on Corporations and Financial Services Chair of Standing Committee for the Scrutiny of Delegated Legislation Member of Senate Economics References Committee (ALP)
Ms. Tammy TYRRELL	Member of the Senate Member of Senate Standing Committee on the Selection of Bills
Ms. Jane THOMSON Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Fattimah IMTOUAL	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Shannon THRELFALL-CLARKE	Advisor, House of Representatives

ALP Australian Labor Party
LP Liberal Party of Australia

AUSTRIA

Mr. Peter WURM Leader of the Delegation	Member of the National Council (FPÖ)
Mr. Michael HAMMER	Member of the National Council (ÖVP)
Mr. Christian OXONITSCH	Member of the National Council (SPÖ)
Mr. Nikolaus SCHERAK	Member of the National Council (NEOS)
Ms. Meri DISOSKI	Member of the National Council (GRÜNE)
Mr. Alexis WINTONIAK	Deputy Secretary General, National Council Member of the ASGP
Mr. Matthias MATUSCHEK Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Council
Ms. Ines HABERL	Advisor, National Council
Ms. Viktoria NEDWED	Advisor, National Council

FPÖ Freedom Party
SPÖ Social democrats
GRÜNE Green party
ÖVP People´s party
NEOS Liberals

AZERBAIJAN

Ms. Sahiba GAFAROVA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Milli Majlis (YAP)
Mr. Shahin ISMAYILOV Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the Milli Majlis Chairman of the Youth and Sports Committee (YAP)

Ms. Amina AGHAZADA	Member of the Milli Majlis Member of the Committee for Law Policy and State-Building
Mr. Anar MAMMADOV	Member of the Milli Majlis Member of the Youth and Sports Committee (YAP)
Mr. Kamran BAYRAMOV	Member of the Milli Majlis Member of the Committee for Law Policy and State-Building Member of the Committee for Regional Affairs (YAP)
Ms. Sabina KHASAYEVA Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Milli Majlis Member of the Committee for Family and Women's and Children's Affairs Member of the Youth and Sports Committee (YAP)
Ms. Sevil MIKAYILOVA Vice-President of the Executive Committee	Member of the Milli Majlis Member of the Human Rights Committee Member of the Committee on Foreign and Interparliamentary Relations
Mr. Farid HAJIYEV	Chief of Staff of the Milli Majlis
Mr. Firudin HAJIYEV	Chief Administrator of the Milli Majlis
Mr. Rustam MAHMUDOV	Secretary General, National Assembly Deputy Chief of Staff of the Milli Majlis
Mr. Teymur TAGHIYEV	Head of Secretariat
Mr. Elmar HUSEYNOV	Head of the International Relations Department
Mr. Ilkin MAMMADOV	Head of the Protocol Department
Ms. Aynur NURAHMADOVA	Assistant to the Speaker
Mr. Agshin HUMMATOV	Assistant to the Speaker
Mr. Elvin ALIYEV Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Milli Majlis

YAP New Azerbaijan Party

BAHRAIN

Mr. Ahmed ALMUSALAM Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Mr. Jamal FAKHRO	Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council
Mr. Abdulnabi SALMAN Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Mr. Bassam ALBINMOHAMMED	Member of the Shura Council Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and National Security

Ms. Dalal ALZAYED Member of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Member of the Shura Council Member of the Committee on Legislative and Legal Affairs
Ms. Hala FAYEZ	Member of the Shura Council Member of the Committee on Services
Mr. Hasan Ebrahim HASAN Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the Council of Representatives Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and National Security
Mr. Mahdi ALSHOWAIKH	Member of the Council of Representatives Member of the Committee on Services
Ms. Maryam ALDHAIN	Member of the Council of Representatives Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and National Security
Mr. Mohammed ALBUAINAIN Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, Council of Representatives
Ms. Kareema ALABBASI	Secretary General, Shura Council
Ms. Ameena HAQIQI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Ms. Aysha GAYYATH Secretary of the delegation, Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Ms. Hanadi ALENEZI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Mr. Mahmood ALSEDDIQI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Mohamed ALRAFAEI Secretary of the delegation, Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Mr. Mohamed ALJABERI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Mr. Saleh HAMDI Secretary of the delegation, Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Council of Representatives
Mr. Salman EBRAHIM Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of Representatives

BANGLADESH

Mr. Abdul Moyeen KHAN Leader of the Delegation	Member of Parliament (BNP)

Ms. Mst Tahsina RUSHDIR	Member of Parliament Committee on Private Members Bills and Resolution (BNP)
Mr. Muhammad Nawshad ZAMIR	Member of Parliament Business Advisory Committee Committee on Private Members Bills and Resolution Special Committee (BNP)
Mr. Muhammad Nazibur RAHMAN	Member of Parliament (BJI)
Mr. Shahidul ISLAM	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Mizanur RAHMAN	Consul General
Ms. Amreen JAHAN	Consul
Mr. Md Abdul WAZED	Diplomatic corps

BNP Bangladesh Nationalist Party
BJI Bangladesh Jamaat-e-Islami

BELARUS

Mr. Sergei ALEINIK Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Council of the Republic Standing Commission on International Affairs and National Security of the Council of the Republic of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus
Mr. Sergei RACHKOV President of the IPU Group Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson of the Standing Commission of the House of Representatives of the National Assembly of the Republic of Belarus on International Affairs
Ms. Aksana MELNIKOVICH	Advisor, Council of the Republic
Mr. Anatoly GLAZ	Ambassador
Ms. Yauheniya BARTKEVICH	Diplomatic corps

BELGIUM / BELGIQUE

M. Vincent BLONDEL Chef de la délégation Membre du Groupe de travail sur la science et la technologie	Président du Sénat Président de la Commission des Affaires institutionnelles Président du Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes (Les Engagés)
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M. Christophe LACROIX	Membre de la Chambre des représentants Vice-Président de la Commission de la Défense nationale Membre de la Commission des Relations extérieures (PS)

M. Kris VERDUYCKT	Membre du Sénat Membre de la Commission des Affaires institutionnelles (Vooruit)
M. Karl Jan C. VANLOUWE	Membre du Sénat Membre du Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes Membre de la Commission des Affaires institutionnelles (N-VA)
Mme Stephanie D'HOSE	Membre du Sénat Membre de la Commission des Affaires institutionnelles (Anders.)
M. John STEVENS	Secrétaire général adjoint, Chambre des représentants
M. Peter VERCAMMEN Secrétaire de la délégation, Secrétaire du groupe	Directeur adjoint, Sénat
Mme Sonja LANGENHAECK Secrétaire de la délégation	Première conseillère, Sénat

N-VA N-VA Nouvelle Alliance flamande
PS Parti Socialiste
Vooruit Vooruit (Parti socialiste flamand)
Anders. Anders. (parti libéral flamand)

BELIZE

Mr. Osmond MARTINEZ	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the National Security & Immigration Committee Member of the Committee of Selection Member of the Public Utilities, Transport & Communications Committee (PUP)

PUP People's United Party

BHUTAN

Mr. Lungten DORJI Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the National Assembly (PDP)
Ms. Dorji WANGMO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Human Rights and Foreign Relations Committee Member of the Women, Children and Youth Committee (BTP)
Mr. Namgay DORJI	Member of the National Assembly Deputy Chairperson, House Committee Member of the Good Governance Committee (BTP)
Mr. Namgay DORJI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Economic and Finance Committee (PDP)
Mr. Tshering WANGCHEN	Member of the National Council Deputy Chair of the Legislative Committee

Mr. Ugyen TSHERING	Member of the National Council Member of Natural Resources and Environment Committee
Mr. Rinchen DORJI	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Namgay PEM Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Sonam LHAMO Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly

PDP People's Democratic Party
BTP Bhutan Tendril Party

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

Mr. Denis ZVIZDIC Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Speaker of the House of Representatives Joint committee of administrative affairs (Peoples party)
Mr. Kemal ADEMOVIC Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the House of Peoples (NIP)
Ms. Azra KOST	Head of department for international Relations
Mr. Adnan BEŠIĆ	Advisor, Interpreter
Mr. Akir SISIC	Advisor, House of Peoples
Ms. Amila KLICIC	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Kenan HODZIC	Advisor, House of Representatives

Peoples party JUSTICE AND PEOPLE(NIP)
NIP People And Justice

BOTSWANA

Mr. Dithapelo Lefoko KEORAPETSE Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the National Assembly Chairperson of the Business Advisory Committee Chairperson of the Committee of Selection
Mr. Palelo Keitseope MOTAOSANE	Member of the National Assembly Chairperson of the Members' Rights, Interests and Privileges Member of the Committee ON Agriculture, Lands and Housing Member of the Committee ON Local Governance and Social Welfare (BDP)
Mr. Gabriel Goitsemodimo Gosiame MALEBANG Adviser, Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Tuduetso MADI	Director of the Speaker’s Office, National Assembly

Mr. Leruo Benjamin MOREMONG	Parliamentary Diplomacy Officer, National Assembly
Ms. Olebile KGOSINTWA Secretary of the delegation	IPU Desk Officer, National Assembly

BDP BOTSWANA DEMOCRATIC PARTY

BRAZIL

Mr. Ciro NOGUEIRA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the Federal Senate (PP)
Mr. Stefano AGUIAR DOS SANTOS	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (PSD)
Mr. Claudio CAJADO SAMPAIO Member of the Executive Committee	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (PP)
Mr. Misael VARELLA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (PSD)
Ms. Silvia ARAUJO Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Federal Senate

PP Progressives
PSDB Brazilian Social Democracy Party
PSD Social Democratic Party

BRUNEI DARUSSALAM

Mr. Pehin Dato Suyoi OSMAN Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Legislative Council
Ms. Chin Yee CHONG	Member of the Legislative Council
Mr. Salleh Bostaman ZAINAL ABIDIN	Member of the Legislative Council
Ms. Huraini HURAIRAH Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, Legislative Council
Mr. Mohammad Amalul Muttaqin ISMAIL Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Legislative Council

BURKINA FASO

M. Daouda DIALLO Chef de la délégation	Vice-Président de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission des finances et du budget
M. Boubacar BALBONE Président du Groupe de l'UIP	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission des affaires générales, institutionnelles et des droits humains
M. Kalifa KABRE Membre du Groupe consultatif de haut niveau de l'UIP sur la lutte contre le terrorisme et l'extrémisme violent	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission du développement durable

Mme Agueratou OUEDRAOGO	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission du développement durable
Mme Clémence Lougoulawendin OUEDRAOGO	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission des finances et du budget
M. Sibiri COULIBALY	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Membre de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et de la sécurité
M. Souleymane OUEDRAOGO	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Commission du Genre de la Santé, de l'Action Sociale et Humanitaire
M. Wendyelle Ambroise NIKIEMA	Membre de l'Assemblée législative de la transition Commission des Finances et du Budget
M. Armand PALM	Secrétaire général, Assemblée législative de la transition
M. Abdoul Aimé Roland KONATE Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée législative de la transition
M. Wendmissida Antoine Elisée ZONG-NABA	Conseiller, Assemblée législative de la transition

CAMBODIA

Mr. Borith OUCH Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Vice-President of the Senate (CPP)
Mr. Chanphal NGY	Member of the Senate (CPP)
Mr. Dara SAM	Member of the National Assembly (CPP)
Ms. Samvada KHENG	Member of the National Assembly (CPP)
Mr. Samkol LAY Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, Senate
Mr. Branith Pichitra One NGOUN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Malayvireak KOY Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Panha SOK Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Sokveng NGOUN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Veansna VA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate

Ms. Kimleang TAING Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Phany KIM	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Thy SENG Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Chea SOK	Ambassador
Mr. Buntheng KEO	Diplomatic corps

CPP Cambodia People's Party

CAMEROON - CAMEROUN

Mme Marie Armande DIN BELL	Vice-Président du Sénat Membre de la Commission de la Défense Nationale et de la Sécurité (RDPC)
M. Isaac Mbunka XI FON CHAFAH Membre du Groupe de travail sur la science et la technologie	Membre du Sénat Membre de la Commission des Lois Constitutionnelles, des Droits de l'Homme et des Libertés, de la Législation et du Règlement de l'Administration Membre de la Commission des Affaires Étrangères (RDPC)
Mme Johanna EBANGHA épouse AGBOR	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Affaires économiques, de la programmation et de l'aménagement du territoire (RDPC)
Mme Oumoul KOULTCHOUMI épouse AHIDJO	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Finances et du Budget (UNDP)
M. Vincent De Paul EMAH ETOUNDI	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des lois constitutionnelles, des droits de l'homme et des libertés, de la justice, de la législation et du règlement de l'administration (RDPC)
M. Gustave Leopold NGANE	Secrétaire général Sénat
M. Cyriaque ESSEBA Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
M. Jacques BIPELE KEMFOUEDIO Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
Mme Edwige Ursule MEDOUANE AWOLE EPSE ETOGA	Conseillère, Sénat
M. Justin NJOMATCHOUA	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
M. Manju NESTUS FRU	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale

RDPC Rassemblement Démocratique du Peuple Camerounais
UNDP Union Nationale pour la Démocratie et le Progrès

CANADA

Mr. Rob OLIPHANT Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Foreign Affairs and International Development Committee (LPC)
Ms. Salma ATAULLAHJAN Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the Senate Member of the Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee (CPC)
Mr. Wade CHANG	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Justice and Human Rights Committee (LPC)
Mr. Garnett GENUIS	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Standing Committee on Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities (CPC)
Mr. Mohamed Iqbal RAVALIA Member of the Committee on Health	Member of the Senate Member of the Fisheries and Oceans Committee Member of the Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee
Ms. Michelle REMPEL GARNER Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the House of Commons Vice Chair, Citizenship and Immigration Committee (CPC)
Ms. Krista ROSS	Member of the Senate Member of the National Finance Committee Member of the Ethics and Conflict of Interest for Senators Committee
Mr. Fraser TOLMIE	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Standing Committee on Veteran's Affairs (CPC)
Mr. Jean-Philippe BROCHU	Secretary General, House of Commons
Ms. Erica PEREIRA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Commons
Ms. Natalie MYCHAJLYSZYN	Advisor, House of Commons

LPC Liberal Party of Canada
CPC Conservative Party of Canada

CHAD - TCHAD

M. Abderahmane KOKO ABDELGADER Membre du Bureau des jeunes parlementaires	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Rapporteur de la Commission Politique Générale, institutions, Lois, Droits Fondamentaux et Libertés (MPS)
M. Adam MAHAMAT MOUHSINE	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
M. Dingaomaibe LAOUHINGAMAYE Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission Politique Générale, institutions, Lois, Droits Fondamentaux et Libertés (MPS)
Mme Fatimé MAHAMAT SEID ALI ABBAS Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Affaires Économiques et Financières (RDP)

Mme Gnomon Fanga WANGA	Membre du Sénat (MPS)
M. Hissein Tyera TAHIR	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Affaires Économiques et financières (MPS)
M. Jean Michel DJERANE	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission contrôle budget autonome (CTPD)
M. Neldita DJIMTIBAYE LAPIA	Membre du Sénat Président du groupe parlementaire MPS (MPS)
M. Yahya Kebir MAHAMAT OKI	Membre du Sénat (MPS)
M. Khamis ALGHASSIM Secrétaire de la délégation	Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale
M. Youssouf Ibrahim ADOUM	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale

MPS Mouvement patriotique du salut
RDP Rassemblement pour la démocratie et le Progrès

CHILE

Mr. Stephan SCHUBERT Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Chair of the Commission on Foreign Relations, Inter-Parliamentary Affairs, and Latin American Integration (PREP)
Ms. Flor WEISSE	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Treasury Commission (UDI)
Mr. Gonzalo WINTER	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Commission on Future Challenges, Science, Technology, Knowledge and Innovation (FA)
Ms. Loreto CARVAJAL Member of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Member of the Senate Women Affairs Committee (PPD)
Mr. Marcos ILABACA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Commission on Constitution, Legislation, Justice and Regulations (PS)
Mr. Rene Manuel GARCIA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Chair of the Commission on Public Works, Transportation and Telecommunications (RN)
Mr. Rojo EDWARDS	Member of the Senate (PL)
Mr. Miguel LANDEROS Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Damaso MONTEBRUNO	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Juan OSES Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senate

PREP Partido Republicano
UDI Unión Demócrata Independiente
FA Frente Amplio
PPD Partido por la Democracia
PS Partido Socialista
RN Renovación Nacional
PL Partido Libertad

CHINA

Mr. TIAN Xuejun Leader of the Delegation	Member of the National People's Congress Vice-Chairman of the Education, Science, Culture and Public Health Committee
Ms. ZHAO Haiying	Member of the National People's Congress Member of the Financial and Economic Affairs Committee
Mr. ZHANG Yi	Member of the National People's Congress Member of the Social Development Affairs Committee
Ms. WU Dan Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National People's Congress
Ms. WANG Yuyu	Advisor, National People's Congress
Mr. GAN Longyun	Advisor, National People's Congress
Ms. WANG Yan	Advisor, National People's Congress
Mr. JIANG Chengcheng	Advisor, National People's Congress

CÔTE D'IVOIRE

M. Patrick Jerôme ACHI Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe	Président de l'Assemblée nationale (RHDP)
Mme Kandia CAMARA NEE KAMISSOKO Cheffe de la délégation	Présidente du Sénat (RHDP)
M. Assi Abel BOTCHI	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Commission des Affaires Economiques et Financières (RHDP)
M. Ilahiri Alcide DJEDJE	Membre du Sénat
M. Koffi Kra Paulin KOUASSI Président du Groupe de l'UIP	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de l'Evaluation des Politiques Publiques (RHDP)
Mr. Ilahiri ALCIDE DJEDJE	Membre du Sénat
Mme Yaba Adele ASSEKE	Membre du Sénat (RHDP)
M. Merhy SAMY	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Affaires Economiques et Financières (RHDP)
M. Ahiba BOGUIE	Membre du Sénat (RHDP)
M. Kouakou Narcisse KOUASSI	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
Mme Marie-Pierre Félicia OULOTO NEE SIO	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Commission de la Sécurité et Défense (RHDP)
M. Souleymane SOUMAHORO	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Commission des Affaires Économiques et Financières (RHDP)

M. Ousmane Samassi TOURE Secrétaire de la délégation	Secrétaire général, Sénat
M. Alain Bonaventure Yaovi ACAKPO-ADDRA	Secrétaire general, Assemblée nationale
M. Amani Sebastien KOUASSI Secrétaire du Groupe de l'UIP, Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
M. Lancine Joel BAMBA	Conseiller, Sénat
M. Mamadou BERTE	Conseiller, Sénat
M. Rene DOSSAN	Conseiller, Sénat
Mme Tjegnougo DEMBELE	Conseillère, Sénat
M. Mathieu TOURE	Conseiller, Sénat
M. Kayafa KONE	Corps diplomatique
Mme Khadidjata TOURE	Corps diplomatique

RHDP Rassemblement des houphouëtistes pour la démocratie et la paix

CROATIA

Mr. Saša ĐUJIĆ Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the Croatian Parliament Deputy Chairperson-Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System Member-Interparliamentary Co-operation Committee (SDP)
Mr. Ivan MALENICA	Member of the Croatian Parliament Chairperson-Committee on the Constitution, Standing Orders and Political System Member-Judiciary Committee Member-Interparliamentary Co-operation Committee (HDZ)
Mr. Stjepan VUKAS Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Croatian Parliament

SDP Social Democratic Party of Croatia
HDZ Croatian Democratic Union

CYPRUS

Mr. Averof NEOFYTOU Leader of the Delegation	Member of the House of Representatives Deputy Chairperson of the House Standing Committee on Energy, Trade, Industry and Tourism Member of the House Standing Committee on Foreign and European Affairs (DISY)
Ms. Alexandra ATTALIDES	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the House Standing Committee on Development Plans and Public Expenditure Control Member of the House Standing Committee on Human Rights and on Equal Opportunities for Men and Women Member of the House Standing Committee on Institutions, Merit and the Commissioner for Administration (Ombudsman)

Ms. Avgousta CHRISTOU Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Marianna KAISIS Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives

DISY Democratic Rally

CZECHIA

Ms. Zuzana MAJEROVÁ Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-chair of the Committee on Education, Science, Youth and Sports Member of the Committee on European Affairs (SPD)
Mr. Jan BARTOŠEK	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Committee on Security Member of the Standing Commission on Oversight over the work of Military Intelligence Member of the Standing Commission on Oversight over the work of the Security Information Service (KDU - ČSL)
Ms. Miluse HORSKA	Member of the Senate Committee on Education, Science, Culture, Human Rights and Petitions Committee on Mandate and Parliamentary Privilege
Mr. Tomas KOHOUTEK	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-chair of Mandate and Immunity Committee Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee on Foreign Affairs (ANO 2011)
Mr. Vojtěch MUNZAR	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-chair of the Committee on the Budget (ODS)
Mr. Zdeněk NYTRA	Member of the Senate Committee on EU Affairs Committee on Agenda and Procedure (The caucus promotes conservative and liberal-conservative policies)
Ms. Alena TUCKOVA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies
Ms. Radka ZEMANOVA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Olga HAJFLEROVA	Consul General
Mr. Rene DANEK	Deputy Consul General

SPD	Member of Trikolora, member of political caucus of SPD
KDU – ČSL	Christian and Democratic Union – Czechoslovak People's Party
ANO 2011	ANO 2011
ODS	Civic Democratic Party
The caucus promotes conservative and liberal-conservative policies	Civic Democratic Party and TOP09 Caucus

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO – RÉPUBLIQUE DÉMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO

M. Aimé BOJI Chef de la Délégation	Président de l'Assemblée nationale (UNC)
M. Jean Michel SAMA LUKONDE KYENGE Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe de l'UIP	Président du Sénat (AB)
Mme Bijou KALUMBA APAMATO	Membre du Sénat Environnement, Développement Durable, Ressources Naturelles et Tourisme (P.R.)
M. Boris MBUKU LAKA Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Droits de l'homme (ER)
M. Christophe LUTUNDULA APALA PEN'APALA Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme	Membre du Sénat Commission des Relations Extérieures (Alliance Démocrate pour les progrès)
M. Ivan KAZADI KANKONDE	Membre du Sénat Politique Administrative, Juridique et Droits de l'Homme /Rapporteur Adjoint (UDPS/TSHISEKEDI)
M. Jean NGUVULU KHOJI	Secrétaire general, Assemblée nationale
M. Jean MUKUALA BATEKE	Secrétaire général, Sénat
M. Laurent IMOTE ETSHINDO Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
M. Joseph FUTA	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
Mme Marie Suzanne PASI VALU NDOMOLO Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseillère, Sénat

AB	AGISSONS ET BATISSONS
P.R.	Parti Réformateur
ER	Ensemble pour la République
Alliance Démocrate pour les progrès	ADEP
AUN	Alliance des fedéralistes pour un congo nouveau
UDPS/TSHISEKEDI	Union pour la Démocratie et le progrès social
MEDR	Mouvement de ecologistes pour le développement responsable

DENMARK

Ms. Katrine DAUGAARD Leader of the delegation	Member of The Danish Parliament Vice-Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee Member of the Cultural Affairs Committee Member of the Ecclesiastical Affairs Committee (LA)
Mr. Jens MEILVANG	Member of The Danish Parliament Vice-Chairman of The Transport Committee Member of the Rural Districts and Islands Committee Member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (LA)
Mr. Peter RIIS Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, The Danish Parliament

LA Liberal Alliance

DJIBOUTI

M. Dileita MOHAMED DILEITA Chef de la délégation Président du groupe	Président de l'Assemblée nationale (RPP)
M. Hassan ADEN GUEDDI Membre du Comité exécutif	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la commission de la jeunesse (UDJ)
M. Abdallah MOHAMED ROUFFA	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de la production et des échanges ((FRUD))
M. Elmi MAHABE WAISS	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des affaires étrangère (RPP)
Mme Nima BOULHAN HOUSSEIN	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de la législation (RPP)
M. Ismail GOULAL BOUDINE	Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale
Mme Kadra MOHAMOUD AHMED	Conseillère, Assemblée nationale
M. Mohamed Daoud YOUSSOUF Secrétaire du groupe, Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale

RPP Rassemblement Populaire pour le Progrès
UDJ Union pour la démocratie et la justice
(FRUD) Front pour la restauration de l'unité et de la démocratie

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC

Mr. Alfredo PACHECO Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	President of the Chamber of Deputies Comision Coordinadora (PRM)
Ms. Caty DIAZ	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Miember of the Permanent Committee on Public Administration Comision Permanente de Medio Ambiente (PRM)
Mr. Gregorio DOMINGUEZ DOMINGUEZ	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Comision Permanente de Hacienda Comision Permene de Trabajo (PRM)
Mr. Julio Cesar BELTRÉ	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (PRM)
Mr. Rafael CASTILLO	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Comision Permanente de Hacienda Comision Permanente de Seguridad Social Comision Permanente Administracion de Interior (FP)
Mr. Juan Rafael PEREZ Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies

PRM Partido revolucionario moderno
FP Partido fuerzo del pueblo

ECUADOR

Mr. Keevin GALLARDO Leader of the Delegation	Member of the National Assembly Miembro de la Comisión Especializada Permanente de Justicia y Estructura del Estado. (ADN)
Ms. María Cristina ACUÑA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the National Assembly Comisión Permamente de Regimen Económico y Tributario y su Regulación y Control (ADN)
Ms. Pamela AGUIRRE Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly
Mr. Giovanny BRAVO	Secretary General, National Assembly

ADN Acción Democrática Nacional

EGYPT

Mr. Hesham BADAWY Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the House of Representatives
Ms. Ghada ELBADAWY	Member of the Senate Secretary of the Education and Scientific Research Committee (Conservative Party)
Mr. Yasser ABDELMAKSOUD	Member of the Senate Deputy Chair of the Foreign, Arab, African Affairs Committee (Conservative Party)
Ms. Sahar ATTIA	Member of the House of Representatives Member of Tourism and Civil aviation Committee (Liberal)
Mr. Sameh SHOUKRY	Member of the House of Representatives Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee
Mr. Ashraf HATEM	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Health Committee (NFP)
Ms. Israa ELHUSSEINY	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Planning and Budget Committee (NFP)
Mr. Ahmed MANAA	Secretary General, House of Representatives
Mr. Ahmed ELGHANAM	Secretary General, Senate
Mr. Moataz HASSAN	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Mohamed ALY	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Magdy YOUSSEF	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Manal HASSANIEN	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Mohamed HUSSEIN	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Ramy GAAFAR	Advisor, House of Representatives

NFP Nation’s Future Party
Conservative Party National Front Party
Liberal Future's Nation Party

EQUATORIAL GUINEA

Mr. Salomon NGUEMA OWONO Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Economia, Hacienda y Presupuesto AA.EE Educacion, Cultura y Justicia (PDGE)
Ms. Amparo MELE COLIFA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Comisión Social (PDGE)
Mr. Jesus Evuy MONSUY NSUE	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Comision de Hacienda y Presupuesto (PDGE)
Mr. Tomas MBA MONABANG	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Comision de los Derechos Humanos (PDGE)

PDGE Partido Democrático de Guinea Ecuatorial

ESTONIA

Mr. Toomas KIVIMÄGI Leader of the Delegation	Vice-President of The Estonian Parliament (REF)
Ms. Maris LAURI President of the IPU Group	Member of The Estonian Parliament Chairman, Security Authorities Surveillance Select Committee Member of the Finance Committee (REF)
Ms. Helle-Moonika HELME	Member of The Estonian Parliament Member of the Cultural Affairs Committee (EKRE)
Ms. Helmen KÜTT	Member of The Estonian Parliament Member of the Social Affairs Committee (SOC)
Mr. Peeter TALI	Member of The Estonian Parliament Chairman, European Union Affairs Committee Member of the National Defence Committee (E200)
Mr. Toomas KIVIMÄGI	Deputy Speaker or Vice-President The Estonian Parliament (REF)
Mr. Antero HABICHT	Secretary General, The Estonian Parliament
Ms. Anna Martina HELME	Advisor, The Estonian Parliament
Ms. Enel OTSTAVEL Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, The Estonian Parliament

REF	Estonian Reform Party
EKRE	Estonian Conservative People's Party
SOC	Social Democratic Party
E200	Estonia 200

ESWATINI

Ms. Lindiwe Thulile GWEBU-DLAMINI Leader of the Delegation	President of the Senate Member of the Inter-Parliamentary Union Committee Member of the Prime Minister's Office Portfolio Committee Member of the Women Caucus Committee

Ms. Lindiwe Patricia NGWENYA President of the IPU Group Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the Senate Chairperson of the Commerce, Industry and Trade Portfolio Committee Member of the Prime Minister's Office Portfolio Committee Member of the Finance Portfolio Committee
Mr. Alec Nhlanhla LUSHABA	Member of the House of Assembly Member of the Agriculture Portfolio Committee Member of the Finance Committee Member of the Foreign Affairs and Cooperation Portfolio Committee
Mr. Mshengu Victor DLAMINI	Member of the House of Assembly IPU Committee Member of the Agriculture Portfolio Committee Member of the Housing Portfolio Committee
Ms. Zanele Nomsa MASHABA	Member of the House of Assembly Vice-Chairperson of the Home Affairs Portfolio Committee Member of the IPU Committee Member of the Education Portfolio Committee
Mr. Treasure Sabelo SHABANGU Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Lunga Vulindlela DLAMINI	Advisor, House of Assembly
Ms. Lungile SIYAYA	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Sisusa Monusukaphi DLAMINI	Advisor, Senate

FIJI

Mr. Filimone JITOKO Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of Parliament Fiji Parliament Standing Order Committee Fiji Parliament Business Committee Fiji Parliament House Committee
Mr. Inia Batikoto SERUIRATU	Member of Parliament Business Committee Special Committee on Sugar (IN)
Ms. Sashi KIRAN Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of Parliament Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians (CWP) - Fiji Group (NFP)
Ms. Jeanette EMBERSON Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Neomai Bale DOLOKOTO	Advisor, Parliament

IN Independent
NFP National Federation Party

FINLAND

Mr. Ari KOPONEN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of Parliament Vice Chair, Education and Culture Committee Alternate member, Grand Committee (PS)
Ms. Anne KALMARI	Member of Parliament Vice chair, Agriculture and Forestry Committee Member, Foreign Affairs Committee (kesk.)

Mr. Markku EESTILA	Member of Parliament Chair, Agriculture Subcommittee Member, Finance Committee (kok.)
Mr. Mikko OLLIKAINEN	Member of Parliament Member, Economic Affairs Committee Member, Committee for the Future (rkp)
Ms. Nasima RAZMYAR	Member of Parliament Alternate member, Finance Committee Member, Subcommittee for Education and Science (SD)
Mr. Mikael KOILLINEN	Acting Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Outi LEHTIMAKI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Teemu VUOSIO Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament

PS Finns Party
kesk. Centre Party
kok. National Coalition Party
rkp Swedish People's Party
SD Social Democrats

FRANCE

M. Xavier IACOVELLI Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe Membre du Comité exécutif	Vice-Président du Sénat Affaires sociales (RDPI)
M. Etienne BLANC Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires	Membre du Sénat Affaires étrangères, de la défense et des forces armées (LR)
Mme Laetitia SAINT PAUL Membre du Groupe consultatif de haut niveau sur la lutte contre le terrorisme et l'extrémisme violent	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Affaires étrangères (HOR)
M. Louis-Jean DE NICOLAY Membre du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient	Membre du Sénat Aménagement du territoire et du développement durable Affaires européennes (LR)
Mme Véronique RIOTTON Membre du Comité sur la santé	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Développement durable et de l'aménagement du territoire (EPR)
Mme Marie-Noëlle BATTISTEL	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Affaires économiques (SOC)
Mme Sophie METTE	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Finances, de l'économie générale et du contrôle budgétaire (DEM)
M. Damien CHAMUSSY	Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée et de la Présidence
M. Eric TAVERNIER	Secrétaire général, Sénat

M. Stanislas GODEFROY	Conseiller, Sénat, directeur des relations internationales
Mme Cécile LAMBRECQ Secrétaire du Groupe, Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseillère, Sénat
Mme Claire GLOAGUEN Secrétaire du Groupe, Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseillère, Assemblée nationale

RDPI Rassemblement des démocrates, progressistes et indépendants
LR Les Républicains
HOR Horizons & indépendants
SOC Socialistes et apparentés
DEM Les Démocrates
EPR Ensemble pour la République

GABON

M. Michel Régis ONANGA NDIAYE Chef de la délégation Président du groupe de l'UIP	Président de l'Assemblée nationale (UDB)
Ms. Huguette TSONO	Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Lois, des Affaires Administratives et des Droits de l'Homme Membre de la Commission des Finances, du Budget et de la Comptabilité Publique, des Affaires Economiques et de la Production (UDB)
M. Faustin Laurent BILIE BI ESSONE	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Lois, des Affaires administratives et des Droits de l'Homme Membre de la Commission des Affaires Etrangères, de la Coopération Internationale, de la Défense Nationale et de l'Intégration Régionale (RPM)
Mme Hermine Ismaëla MPIRA	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Lois, des Affaires Administratives et des Droits de l'Homme Membre de la Commission des Finances, du Budget et de la Comptabilité Publique, des Affaires Economiques et de la Production (UDB)
M. James David NKOMA LAWSON	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Lois, des Affaires Administratives et des Droits de l'Homme Membre de la Commission des Finances, du Budget et de la Comptabilité Publique, des Affaires Economiques et de la Production
M. Dalin ETOUMBI FOUARI	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
M. Ghislain Claude ESSABE	Conseiller, Assemblée nationale
Mr. Jean Bernard AVOUMA	Diplomatic corps

UDB Union des Bâtisseurs
RPM Rassemblement pour la modernité

GAMBIA (THE)

Mr. Assan TOURAY	Member of the National Assembly (UDP)
Ms. Fatou CHAM	Member of the National Assembly (UDP)
Mr. Kebba JALLOW	Member of the National Assembly (NPP)
Mr. Musa CHAM	Member of the National Assembly (PDOIS)
Mr. Kalipha MM MBYE	Clerk of the National Assembly
Mr. Gibiaru JANNEH Secretary of the delegation	Deputy Clerk, National Assembly
Mr. Sainey KONTEH Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly

NPP National Peoples Party
UDP United Democratic Party
PDOIS Peoples Democratic Organization for Independence and Socialism

GEORGIA

Mr. Shalva PAPUASHVILI Leader of the Delegation	Chairman of Parliament (GD)
Ms. Maia BITADZE	Member of Parliament Chairperson of the Environmental Protection and Natural Resources Committee Member of the Foreign Relations Committee
Mr. Nikoloz SAMKHARADZE	Member of Parliament Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee (GD)
Mr. Kakha OKROJANASHVILI	Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Nino BUJIASHVILI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Aleksandre RAMISHVILI	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. George KHELASHVILI	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Kakhaber GOGICHASHVILI	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Tinatin MGELADZE	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Sergo SARDLISHVILI	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Bela GOMURASHVILI	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Aleksandre JISHKARIANI	Diplomatic corps

GD Georgia Dream-Democratic Georgia

GERMANY

Mr. Alexander RADWAN Leader of the Delegation	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Member of the Committee on European Union Affairs (CDU/CSU)
Mr. Malte KAUFMANN	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Energy Member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) (AfD)
Mr. Stefan KEUTER	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Member of the Subcommittee on International Order, the United Nations and International Organisations (AfD)
Mr. Rolf MÜTZENICH	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Member of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly (SPD)
Ms. Lena Maria GUMNIOR	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Legal Affairs Committee Member of the Subcommittee on European Law (Green Party)
Ms. Claudia ROTH	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Member of the Committee on Economic Cooperation and Development (Green Party)
Ms. Katrin FEY	Member of the German Bundestag Member of the Committee on Human Rights and Humanitarian Aid Member of the Committee on Internal Affairs (The Left)
Ms. Silke ALBIN	Deputy Secretary General, German Bundestag
Mr. Georg KLEEMANN	Deputy Secretary General, Federal Council
Ms. Anna-Lena JAROSS Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, German Bundestag
Ms. Claudia BRAMMER	Advisor, German Bundestag
Ms. Theresa LEBERT	Advisor, German Bundestag
Ms. Regine GRIENBERGER	Consul General of the German Mission in Istanbul
Ms. Rosa Kristina SOKOLOWSKI	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Sammy DÜSDIEKER	Diplomatic corps

Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union	CDU/CSU
Alternative for Germany	AfD
Social Democratic Party	SPD
Bündnis 90/Die Grünen	Green Party
Die Linke im Bundestag	The Left

GHANA

Mr. Alban Sumana Kingsford BAGBIN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of Parliament Chairperson of the Committee of Selection Chairperson of the Open Parliament Steering Committee Chairperson of the Standing Orders Committee (NDC)
Mr. Mahama AYARIGA	Member of Parliament Chairperson of the Independent Constitutional Bodies Committee Chairperson of the Business Committee (NDC)
Mr. Alexander AFENYO-MARKIN	Member of Parliament Vice-Chairperson of the Independent Constitutional Bodies Committee Ranking Member of the Appointments Committee Ranking Member of the Business Committee (NPP)
Mr. Bernard AHIAFOR Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights	Deputy Speaker of Parliament Chairperson of the Appointments Committee Chairperson of the Privileges and Immunities Committee Chairperson of the Private Member's Bill and Private Member's Motion (NDC)
Ms. Comfort Doyoe CUDJOE-GHANSAH	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee of Selection Member of the Parliamentary Affairs Member of the Business Committee (NDC)
Mr. Habib IDDRISU	Member of Parliament Member of the Security and Intelligence Committee Member of the Committee of Selection (NPP)
Ms. Helen Adjoa NTOSO	Member of Parliament Chairperson of the Gender, Children and Social Welfare Committee Member of the Defence and Interior Committee Member of the Privileges and Immunities Committee (NDC)
Ms. Joycelyn TETTEH Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of Parliament Vice Chairperson, Sanitation and Water Resources Member of the Subsidiary Legislation Committee Member of the Foreign Affairs and Regional Integration Committee (NDC)
Mr. Dickson KYERE-DUAH	Member of Parliament Member of the Environment, Science and Technology Committee Member of the Ways and Means Committee (NDC)
Ms. Nasira Afrah GYEKYE	Advisor, Parliament

Mr. Seidu HARUNA	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Ebenezer Ahumah DJIETROR Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Akua OSEI-SOMUAH	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Jonathan Rexford MAGNUSEN	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. ABDUL NASIRU-DEEN	Diplomatic corps
Mr. ABUBAKAR ADAM	Diplomatic corps

NDC National Democratic Congress
NPP New Patriotic Party

GREECE

Mr. Ioannis PLAKIOTAKIS Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the Hellenic Parliament (ND)
Mr. Dimitrios AVRAMOPOULOS President of the IPU Group	Member of the Hellenic Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Economic Affairs Member of the Standing Committee on National Defense and Foreign Affairs Member of the Committee on European Affairs (ND)
Ms. Christina ALEXOPOULOU	Member of the Hellenic Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Cultural Affairs- Secretary Member of the Special Standing Committee on Region Standing Committee on Production and Trade (ND)
Mr. Athanasios PAPATHANASIS	Member of the Hellenic Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Social Affairs Member of the Special Permanent Committee on Greeks Abroad (ND)
Ms. Aikaterini NOTOPOULOU	Member of the Hellenic Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Cultural and Educational Affairs Member of the Special Standing Committee on Social Affairs Member of the Permanent Committee on Equality, Youth and Human Rights (SYRIZA)
Mr. Panagiotis DOUDONIS	Member of the Hellenic Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Public Administration, Public Order and Justice 1st Vice-Chairman of the Special Permanent Committee on Institutions and Transparency Member of the Special Permanent Committee on Parliamentary Ethics (PASOK)
Ms. Aikaterini KARTSAKLI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament

Ms. Margarita FLOUDA	Director General for International and Public Relations, Hellenic Parliament
Ms. Stavroula Anastasia DELIPETROU	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Mr. Panagiotis KARANASOS	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Ms. Paraskevi KARASTERGIOU	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Ms. Thaleia PAPADOPOULOU	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Ms. Anna Georgia PAPANIKOLA	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Ms. Foteini TSOUNI	Advisor, Hellenic Parliament
Mr. Konstantinos KOUTRAS	Consul General

SYRIZA Coalition of the Radical Left – Progressive Alliance
ND New Democracy
PASOK Panhellenic Socialist Movement

GUYANA

Mr. Manzoor NADIR Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the National Assembly Chairperson, Committee of Selection Chairperson, Business Sub-Committee of the Committee of Supply
Mr. Vindhya PERSAUD Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly (PPP/C)
Mr. Warren McCOY Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee of Selection (PPP/C)
Dr. Carlleta CHARLES Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly

PPP/C People's Progressive Party/Civic

HUNGARY

Ms. Márta MÁTRAI Leader of the Delegation	First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (Fidesz)
Ms. Monika BARTOS	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee for Foreign Affairs Member of the Committee for Social Justice (Fidesz)
Mr. Istvan SIMICSKO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee for National Security (KDNP)
Mr. György SUCH	Director General, National Assembly
Ms. Katalin SOMFAINE ADAM	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Judit VASVARI	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Éva CSERE	Advisor, National Assembly

Mr. Viktor MÁTIS	Ambassador
Mr. László KELLER	Diplomatic corps
Ms. Carmen CSERNELHÁZI	Diplomatic corps

KDNP Christian Democratic Peoples' Party
Fidesz Fidesz

ICELAND

Ms. Hildur SVERRISDÓTTIR Leader of the delegation	Deputy Speaker of the Althingi Member of the Economic Affairs and Trade Committee (C)
Ms. Kolbrún Áslaugar BALDURSDÓTTIR	Member of the Althingi Member, Judicial Affairs and Education Committee Member, Welfare Committee
Mr. Vidir REYNISSON	Member of the Althingi Member of the Judicial Affairs and Education Committee Chair, Foreign Affairs Committee (SP)
Mr. Sverrir JÓNSSON	Secretary General, Althingi
Ms. Arna Gerdur BANG Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Althingi
Ms. Hildur EDWALD Secretary of the delegation, Adviser	Advisor, Althingi

SP The Social Democratic Alliance
C Independence Party

INDONESIA

Mr. Syahrul Aidi MAAZAT Leader of the delegation	Member of the House of Representatives Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission V: Infrastructure and Transportation (PKS)
Ms. Irine Yusiana ROBA PUTRI	Member of the House of Representatives Vice-Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission V: Infrastructure and Transportation (PDI-P)
Mr. Ravindra AIRLANGGA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the House of Representatives Vice-Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission IX: Health, Manpower, and Social Security (Golkar)
Mr. Muhammad Husein FADLULLOH	Member of the House of Representatives Vice Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission VI: Trade, Trade Zone, Business Competition Supervision, SOEs (Gerindra)

Mr. Bramantyo SUWONDO Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the House of Representatives Vice-Chair of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission X: Education, Sports, Science and Technology (Demokrat)
Ms. Shanty Alda NATHALIA	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission XII: Energy, Environment, and Investment (PDI-P)
Mr. Robert Joppy KARDINAL	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation; Member of the Committee: Agriculture, Forestry, and Marine Affairs (Golkar)
Ms. Ruby Chairani SYIFFADIA	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission X: Education, Sports, Science and Technology (Gerindra)
Mr. Mardani ALI SERA Member of the Executive Committee	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission II: Internal Government Affairs, Land, and Empowerment of Apparatus (PKS)
Mr. Jazuli JUWAINI Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Member of the Commission I: Defense, Foreign Affairs, and Informatics (PKS)
Mr. Beny Rahbandiyosa SABRI Secretary of the delegation	Head of Division, House of Representatives
Ms. Miranti WIDIANI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Naufal Fakhri ERLANGGA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Heriyono Adi ANGGORO	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Nida Nidyarti RUBINI	Advisor, House of Representatives
H.E. Mr. Achmad Rizal PURNAMA	Ambassador
Mr. Darianto HARSONO	Consul General

PDI-P Partai Demokrasi Indonesia-Perjuangan (Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle)
Demokrat Partai Demokrat (Democratic Party)
PKS Partai Keadilan Sejahtera (Properous Justice Party)
Gerindra Partai Gerakan Indonesia Raya (Great Indonesia Movement Party)
Golkar Partai Golongan Karya (Party of Functional Group)

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF)

Mr. Manouchehr MOTTAKI Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Seyed Shamseddin HOSSEINI Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Abbas GOLROO	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Ali Asghar BAGHERZADEH	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Ebrahim REZAEI	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Rahim ZARE	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Ms. Somayeh RAFIEI	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Ali Haji MOHAMMDI	Advisor, Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Mohammad Hamed CHIZARI	Advisor, Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Naser GHAHREMANI JANGLOO	Advisor, Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Seyed Mohammad Reza RASOULI DINANI	Advisor, Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Seyed Mostafa SHARIFI	Advisor, Islamic Parliament of Iran
Mr. Mohammad Ali NOUDEH	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Mohammad Reza GHAEBI	Diplomatic corps

IRAQ

Mr. Haibet Hamad Abbas AL-HALBOOSI Leader of the delegation	Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Mr. Arshed ALLAH	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Head of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee
Mr. Mustafa MUTLAG	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Member of the Foreign Relations Committee (Progress Party)
Mr. Muthanna NADER Member of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Member of the Foreign Relations Committee (Kurdistan Islamic Union)
Ms. Siham HAMMOOD Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Deputy Chairman of the Parliamentary Health Committee (Reconstruction and Development Coalition)
Ms. Wihda FAHAD Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Vice-Chairman of the Parliamentary Human Rights Committee (Progress Party)

Mr. Alaa HUSSEIN	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq
Mr. Ammar MAHMOOD	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq
Mr. Asaad Kamil HAMZAH	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq
Mr. Mohammed RASHID	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq
Mr. Salam MOHAMMED	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq
Mr. Raed Abdulridha AJEEL	Advisor, Council of Representatives of Iraq

Progress Party
Kurdistan Islamic Union
Reconstruction and Development Coalition

Progress Party
Kurdistan Islamic Union
Reconstruction and Development Coalition

IRELAND

Ms. Bridget (Maria) BYRNE Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Chairperson of the Senate Member of Committee on Disability Matters Member of Committee on Health Leas-Chathaoirleach, Committee on Parliamentary Privileges and Oversight (Seanad Éireann) (FG)
Ms. Frances BLACK	Member of the Senate Member of Committee on the Implementation of the Good Friday Agreement Member of Seanad Public Consultation Committee
Ms. Lorraine CLIFFORD LEE Member of the Committee on Health	Member of the Senate Chair of the Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann Vice-Chair of the Committee on Climate, Environment and Energy Member of the Committee on Transport (FF)
Mr. Patrick MURPHY	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee on Housing, Local Government and Heritage Member of the Committee on Members' Interests of Seanad Éireann (FG)
Ms. Elaine GUNN	Clerk of the Dáil and Secretary General of Parliament
Mr. Paul STEPHENS Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives

FG Fine Gael
SF Sinn Fein
FF Fianna Fail

ITALY

Mr. Pier Ferdinando CASINI Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Honorary IPU President	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Defense (PD)
Ms. Deborah BERGAMINI	Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (FI)
Mr. Giangiacomo CALOVINI	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (FdI)
Ms. Lia QUARTAPELLE PROCOPIO Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (PD)
Mr. Roberto SORBELLO Secretary General of the IPU Group	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies
Ms. Susanna RADONI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies Protocol Office
Mr. Diego CIMINO	Diplomatic corps
Ms. Elena CLEMENTE	Diplomatic corps

PD Partito Democratico
FI Forza Italia
FdI Fratelli d'Italia

JAPAN

Mr. Tatsuya ITO Leader of the Delegation	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Economy, Trade and Industry (LDP)
Mr. Kenji WAKAMIYA	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on National Security (LDP)
Ms. Miki YAMADA	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Economy, Trade and Industry Member of the Committee on Budget (LDP)
Ms. Kanae YAMAMOTO	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Health, Labour and Welfare Member of the Committee on Budget (CRA)
Mr. Hiroyuki KADA	Member of the House of Councillors Committee on Economy and Industry Committee on Oversight of Administration Special Committee on Disasters Management and Reconstruction after the Great East Japan Earthquake (LDP)
Mr. Seiichi KUSHIDA	Member of the House of Councillors Committee on Environment Committee on Budget Special Committee on Consumer Affairs (JIP)
Mr. Hiromitsu FUJITA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Kanemitsu TANAKA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Representatives

Mr. Yuji OKANOYA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Akane NISHIMURA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Tomoya KONDO	Advisor, House of Councillors
Ms. Saya HONDA	Advisor, House of Councillors
Ms. Yuri ISHIHARA	Advisor, House of Councillors
Mr. Mitsuhiro TOYAMA	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Nozomu FUJIMORI	Diplomatic corps

LDP Liberal Democratic Party
CRA Centrist Reform Alliance
JIP Nippon Ishin (Japan Innovation Party)

JORDAN

Mr. Khmais ATIEH Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
Mr. Awni AL-ZU'BI Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Hayel OBEIDAT Member of the Committee on Health	Member of the Senate
Ms. Mahasen ALJAGHOUB Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions, Member of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the Senate
Ms. Huda NAFFA' Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Jammal GAMMOH	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Mohammad AQEL	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Salem OMARI	Member of the House of Representatives
Ms. Nour ABU GHOSH President of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Yousef ALRAWADIEH	Member of the House of Representatives
Ms. Wejdan SHNAIKAT Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Ahmad ALWAZZAN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Ahmad ASHA	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Anas SUWAILH Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives

Ms. Maysoon ALQUABE'H	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Nedal ALAMRO	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Mohammed KHAIR	Advisor, Senate

ALMETHQ ALMETHQ

KAZAKHSTAN

Mr. Yerlan KOSHANOV Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the House of Representatives (Amanat)
Mr. Aidarbek KHOJANAZAROV	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Agrarian Issues (RESPUBLICA)
Ms. Aigul KUSPAN Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson of the Committee on International Affairs, Defense and Security (Amanat)
Mr. Dyussenbay TURGANOV	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Ecology and Environmental Management (AMANAT)
Mr. Nurtay SABILYANOV	Member of the House of Representatives Chairman of the Committee on Economic Reform and Regional Development (AMANAT)
Mr. Serik SHAIDAROV	Member of the Senate Secretary of the Committee on Economic Policy, Innovative Development and Entrepreneurship (AMANAT)
Ms. Unzila SHAPAK	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Legislation and Judicial and Legal Reform (AMANAT)
Mr. Rustam TLEGENOV Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Talgat KASSYMBEKOV	Secretary General, House of Representatives
Ms. Elmira BASHEYEVA	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Nuriddin AMANKUL	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Onerbek SHAIKHADEN	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Yerkebulan SAPIYEV	Diplomatic corps

Amanat «AMANAT» party» public union
RESPUBLICA «Respublica» party» public union
AMANAT «AMANAT» party» public union

KENYA

Mr. Amason Jeffah KINGI Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Senate Chairperson, Senate Business Committee Chairperson, Powers and Privileges Committee (PAA)

Mr. Abdikadir Hussein MOHAMED	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Foreign relations and Intelligence Committee Member of the Departmental Committee on Blue Economy, Water and Irrigation (ODM)
Ms. Catherine Muyeka MUMMA	Member of the Senate Vice-Chairperson, Devolution and Intergovernmental Relations Member of the Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries Committee Member of the Education Committee (ODM)
Mr. George Mungai MBUGUA	Member of the Senate Member of the Trade, Industrialization and Tourism Committee Member of the County Public Investments & Special Funds Committee (UDA)
Mr. John Okwisia MAKALI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock Member of the Departmental Committee on Justice and Legal Affairs (FORD-K)
Mr. Joseph Kipkosgei TONUI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Public Investment Committee on Education and Governance Member of the Departmental Committee on Communication, Information and Innovation (UDA)
Ms. Mary Wamaua NJOROGE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Departmental Committee on Labour Member of the Constitutional Implementation Oversight Committee (UDA)
Ms. Millie Grace Akoth ODHIAMBO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the House Business Committee Member of the Committee on Appointments Member of the Departmental Committee on Defence, Foreign relations and Intelligence (ODM)
Mr. Jeremiah Makokha NYEGENYE	Clerk, Senate
Ms. Eunice Wanjiku GICHANGI	Deputy Clerk, Senate
Mr. George Kimani WANYOKO	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Innocent Mbaya MGHANGA	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Veronicah Njeri KIBATI	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Edward Tiampati RANA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Mercy Cherotich CHUMO	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Said Osman ABDILLE	Advisor, National Assembly

PAA Pamoja African Alliance
ODM Orange Democratic Movement
UDA United Democratic Alliance
FORD-K Forum for the Restoration of Democracy

KYRGYZSTAN

Mr. Marlen MAMATALIEV Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the Supreme Council
Mr. Dastanbek DZHUMABEKOV President of the IPU Group	Member of the Supreme Council
Ms. Burul AMANOVA	Member of the Supreme Council Committee on International Affairs, Defense, Security and Migration
Mr. Ulan PRIMOV	Member of the Supreme Council Committee on Finance, Budget, Entrepreneurship and Competition Development
Mr. Sardorbek ZAFAROV Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Supreme Council
Mr. Maksat ALYMBEKOV	Advisor, Supreme Council
Ms. Minura ABDYKALYKOVA	Advisor, Supreme Council
Mr. Sultanbek TOLOMURZAEV	Advisor, Supreme Council
Ms. Aida TURSUNALIEVA	Advisor, Supreme Council
Ms. Bermet ABDYKADYROVA	Advisor, Supreme Council
Mr. Ruslan KAZAKBAEV	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Chyngyz TOKTOBEKOV	Diplomatic corps

LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC

Ms. Sounthone XAYACHACK Leader of the Delegation	Vice-President of the National Assembly
Mr. Phoxay KHAYKHAMPHITHOUNE	Vice-President of the National Assembly Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Mr. Khemphone ANOTHAY Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly

LATVIA

Ms. Jana SIMANOVSKA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of Parliament Member of the Budget and Finance (Taxation) Committee Member of the Sustainable Development Committee (PRO)
Mr. Andrejs JUDINS	Member of Parliament Member of the Legal Affairs Committee Member of the Citizenship, Migration and Social Cohesion Committee (NEW UNITY)

Mr. Edmunds TEIRUMNIEKS	Member of Parliament Member of the Legal Affairs Committee Member of the Sustainable Development Committee (NA)
Ms. Lelde RĀFELDE	Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Ingrida STICENKO Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Sandra PAURA	Advisor, Parliament

PRO Progressive
NEW UNITY The New Unity
NA National Alliance parliamentary group

LESOTHO

Ms. Mamonaheng MOKITIMI	President of the Senate Member of Standing Orders Committee
Ms. Ts'epang TS'ITA MOSENA Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Business Committee (MEC)
Mr. Lebohang Simon PHOHLELI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Land Cluster Membe of the Portfolio Committee on Law and Public Safety Cluster Member of the Committee on Pandemics (RFP)
Ms. Makholu Lebohang MOSHOESHOE	Member of the Senate Chairperson on Committee on Health, Nutrition and Gender Member of Legislation Committee Member of Parliamentary Reforms Committee
Ms. Manthabiseng Angelina MAEEA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Economic and Development Cluster Member of the Public Accounts Committee Member of the Women's Caucus (DC)
Mr. Tello Lawrence KIBANE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Natural Resources, Tourism and Land Cluster (BAP)
Mr. Lebohang Fine MAEMA Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Lineo Agnes MOLELEKI	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Masenate Alice MOLAPO	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Teboho Percy SEKESE	Advisor, Senate

MEC Movement for Economic Change
RFP Revolution for Prosperity
DC Democratic Congress
BAP Basotho Action Party

LIBYA

Mr. Fouzi AL-NOUIRI President of the IPU Group Vice-President of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Vice-President of the House of Representatives
Mr. Abdulaislam NASIA	Member of the House of Representatives
Ms. Fatimah ALSUWEEE	Member of the House of Representatives
Ms. Rabeeah ABOURAS Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the House of Representatives Chairman of the National Committee for Sustainable Development
Ms. Sultna ABD ULRRAHIM	Member of the House of Representatives
Mr. Abd Ualla MUSSA	Secretary General, House of Representatives
Mr. Ahmed HASHASH Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Abdelhafiz ELWALID	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Rafia ALJAMAL	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Rafia ALI	Advisor, House of Representatives

LIECHTENSTEIN

Ms. Dagmar BÜHLER-NIGSCH Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of Parliament Presidium of the Landtag/Diet (VU)
Mr. Daniel SALZGEBER	Member of Parliament Member of the Judicial Appointments Committee (FBP)
Mr. Stefan HASSLER	Secretary General
Ms. Jessica F. BUCHER Secretary of the delegation	Advisor

VU Patriotic Union
FBP Progressive Citizens' Party

LITHUANIA

Ms. Ruta MILIUTE Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of Parliament (DUFL)
Mr. Arminas LYDEKA	Member of Parliament
Mr. Ramunas VYZINTAS	Member of Parliament Committee on Audit (Member) (LSDP)
Ms. Asta SKIRMANTIENE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament

DUFL Democratic Union 'For Lithuania'
LSDP Lithuanian Social Democratic Party

LUXEMBOURG

M. Claude WISELER Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe	Président de la Chambre des députés (CSV)
M. Mars DI BARTOLOMEO	Vice-Président de la Chambre des députés Vice-Président de la Commission de la Santé et de la Sécurité sociale Vice-Président de la Commission des Institutions (LSAP)
M. Fred KEUP	Membre de la Chambre des députés Membre de la Commission des Affaires étrangères et européennes (ADR)
Mme Diane ADEHM	Membre de la Chambre des députés Présidente de la Commission des Finances (CSV)
Mme Barbara AGOSTINO	Membre de la Chambre des députés Présidente de la Commission de l'Éducation nationale, de l'Enfance et de la Jeunesse Vice-Présidente de la Commission des Pétitions (DP)
M. Laurent SCHEECK	Secrétaire général, Chambre des députés
Mme Tania TENNINA	Directrice, Chambre des députés
M. Yann GERGES Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Chambre des députés

CSV Chrëschtlech-Sozial Vollekspartei
DP Demokratesch Partei
ADR Alternativ Demokratesch Reformpartei
LSAP Lëtzebuerger Sozialistesch Arbechterpartei

MALAWI

Mr. Sameer Gaffar SULEMAN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the National Assembly (DPP)
Ms. Catherine MZUMARA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the International Relations Committee Member of the Natural Resources, Energy and Climate Change Committee (UTM)
Mr. Daud Muhamad CHIKWANJE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the International Relations Committee Member of the Industry, Tourism and Trade (DPP)
Mr. Francis BELEKANYAMA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the International Relations Committee Member of the Health Committee (MCP)
Mr. Khumbo Hastings KACHALI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the International Relations Committee Member of the Commissions, Statutory Corporations and State Enterprises (FP)

Mr. Reuben KANYAMA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the International Relations Committee Member of the Health Committee (DPP)
Ms. Fiona KALEMBA Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Gloria KOMBO DZIDEKHA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Harvey Maneno CHIGUMULA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Kettie Catherine MUSUKWA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Longani Albert KABITCHI	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Nancy Pilirani CHIKANDIRA	Advisor, National Assembly

DPP Democratic Progressive Party
UTM United Transformation Movement
MCP Malawi Congress Party
FP Freedom Party

MALDIVES

Mr. Abdul Raheem ABDULLA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the People's Majlis (PNC)
Ms. Anara NAEEM Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the People's Majlis Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Secondary Legislation Member of the Judiciary Committee Member of the Committee on Human Rights and Gender (PNC)
Ms. Asma RASHEED Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the People's Majlis Member of the Committee on Social Affairs Member of the Committee on Human Rights and Gender Member of the Housing Committee (PNC)
Ms. Fathimath SAUDA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the People's Majlis Member of the Committee on Decentralization Chairperson, Committee on Human Rights and Gender Member of the Committee on Social Affairs (PNC)
Mr. Mauroof ZAKIR	Member of the People's Majlis Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs Member of the Judiciary Committee Member of the Budget Committee (MDP)
Mr. Mohamed SHAHID	Member of the People's Majlis Chairperson, General Purpose Committee Member of the Committee on National Security Services Member of the Judiciary Committee (PNC)

Mr. Mohamed DAWOODH	Member of the People's Majlis Member of the Committee on Secondary Legislation Vice-Chairperson, Foreign Relations Committee Member of the Housing Committee (PNC)
Mr. Mohamed ALI Member of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the People's Majlis Chairperson, Petition Committee Member of the Committee on Human Rights and Gender Member of the Committee on State Owned Enterprises (PNC)
Ms. Fathimath NIUSHA	Secretary General, People's Majlis
Ms. Zuyyina BADHREE Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, People's Majlis

PNC People's National Congress
MDP Maldivian Democratic Party

MALI

M. Hamèye Founé MAHALMADANE Chef de la délégation	Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de l'Emploi
M. Amadou MAIGA	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission des Finances
M. Amadou ALY	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de la Défense, de la Sécurité et de la Protection Civile
M. Sidy SOUMAORO	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale Membre de la Commission de l'Education

MALTA

Mr. Angelo FARRUGIA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group President of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Speaker of the House of Representatives Chairperson of the House Business Committee Chairperson of the Privileges Committee
Mr. Edward ZAMMIT LEWIS	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson of the Foreign and European Affairs Committee (PL)
Mr. Robert CUTAJAR	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the House Business Committee (PN)
Mr. Ian Paul BAJADA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Marisa FARRUGIA	Ambassador
Mr. Walter MALLIA	Diplomatic corps

PL Partit Laburista
PN Partit Nazzjonalista

MAURITANIA

M. Mohamed Lemine AMAR Leader of the Delegation	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Parti républicain)
M. Mohamed El Hassene Mohamed EL MOCTAR	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
Mme Najem SIHAM	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
M. Sid'ahmed DOUEIRY SID'AHMED	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Parti républicain)

Parti républicain INSSAF

MEXICO

Ms. Kenia LÓPEZ RABADÁN Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies (PAN)
Mr. César Augusto RENDÓN GARCÍA Vice-President of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Secretary of the Foreign Affairs Committee Member of the Finance and Public Credit Committee Member of the Science, Technology and Innovation Committee (PAN)
Ms. Cynthia Iliana LÓPEZ CASTRO President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Senate Chair of the Committee on Consumers Defence Secretary of the Committee on Education Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs North-America (MORENA)
Mr. Ernesto SÁNCHEZ RODRÍGUEZ	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Secretary of the Committee on Economy and Trade Secretary of the Committee on Southern Border Member of the Committee on Transparency and anti-corruption (PAN)
Ms. Lizeth SÁNCHEZ GARCÍA	Member of the Senate Secretaria de la Mesa Directiva del Senado Mexicano Secretaria de la Comisión de Bienestar Secretaria de la Comisión de Comunicaciones y Transportes (PT)
Mr. Luis Alfonso SILVA ROMO Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the Senate Secretary of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs Secretary of the Committee on Justice Secretary of the Committee on Energy (PVEM)
Ms. Marcela GUERRA CASTILLO President of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Chairwoman of the Immigration Affairs Committee Secretary of the Rules, Regulations and Parliamentary Practices Committee Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee (PRI)

Mr. Raymundo BOLAÑOS AZOCAR	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee on Welfare Member of the Committee on Finance and Public Credit Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Latin America (PAN)
Ms. Sandra Simey OLVERA BAUTISTA	Member of the Senate Secretary of the Bureau of the Mexican Senate Member of the Committee on Justice Member of the Committee on Labor and Social Security (MORENA)
Ms. Magdalena DEL SOCORRO NUÑEZ MONREAL	Adviser, Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Francisco Javier FARIAS BAILON	Adviser, Chamber of Deputies
Ms. Maria Elena Torres DE ALCANTARA	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Javier DÍAZ DE LEÓN	Ambassador
Mr. Alberto FIERRO GARZA	Diplomat

PAN National Action Party
MORENA Movimiento de Regeneración Nacional
PT Partido del travajo
PVEM Partido Verde Ecologista de México (Green Party)
PRI Partido Revolucionario Institucional (Institutional Revolutionary Party)

MONACO

M. Fabrice NOTARI Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe Vice-Président du Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable	Membre du Conseil national Président de la Commission Relations Extérieures Membre de la Commission des finances et de l'économie nationale Membre de la Commission Environnement et Qualité de vie
Mme Béatrice FRESKO-ROLFO	Membre du Conseil national Membre de la Commission Droits de la Famille et de l'Egalité Membre de la Commission Relations Extérieures Membre de la Commission Environnement et Qualité de vie (l'UNION)
M. Benjamin CELLARIO Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Conseil national

L'Union L'Union Nationale Monegasque

MONGOLIA

Ms. Odsuren NOMINCHIMEG President of the IPU Group President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the State Great Hural Chairwoman, Standing Committee on Petitions Member of the Standing Committee on Justice (Social democratic)
Ms. Munkhsoyol BAATARJAV	Member of the State Great Hural Member, Standing Committee on Environment, Food and Agriculture Member, Standing Committee on Budget (HUN)

Mr. Batbold MARUUSH	Advisor, State Great Hural
Mr. Odbayar Erdenebat	Advisor, State Great Hural
Mr. Bulgan Ganjambal	Diplomatic corps

Social democratic Mongolian People's party

MONTENEGRO

Mr. Gordan STOJOVIĆ Leader of the Delegation	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on International Relations and Emigrants Member of the Committee on Tourism, Agriculture, Ecology and Spatial Planning Member of the Committee on monitoring the application of the Agreement on the conditions for conducting the population and housing census, as well as monitoring the implementation of the census process (N/A)
Ms. Jevrosima PEJOVIĆ	Member of Parliament Member of the Security and Defence Committee Member of the Committee on European Integration Member of the Anti-corruption Committee
Mr. Luka PEJOVIĆ	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Marija MILOŠEVIĆ Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament

n/A For the future of Montenegro (new Serbian democracy, Democratic People's Party of Montenegro, Workers' Party)
N/A Europe now – Milojko Spajić

MOROCCO - MAROC

M. Sidi Mohamed OULD ERRACHID Chef de la délégation	Président de la Chambre des conseillers (PI)
M. Ahmed EL-AALEME	Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PI)
M. Ahmed TOUIZI	Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PAM)
M. Hassan CHOUMAIS	Membre de la Chambre des conseillers Membre de la Commission des secteurs productifs (PAM)
M. Kamal AIT MIK Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme	Membre de la Chambre des conseillers Membre de la Commission des secteurs productifs (RNI)
Mme Khaddouj SLASSI	Membre de la Chambre des représentants (USFP)
M. Mohamed Salem BEN MASSAOUD	Membre de la Chambre des conseillers Membre de la Commission de l'Enseignement, de la Culture et des Affaires sociales (PI)

M. Mustapha REDDAD	Membre de la Chambre des représentants
M. Abderrahman OIFFA	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Najib EL KHADI	Secrétaire général, Chambre des représentants
M. El Assad ZEROUALI	Secrétaire général, Chambre des conseillers
M. Abdelwahad DRIOUCHE Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Hassan AZARKAN	Conseiller, Chambre des représentants
M. Mansour LAMBARKI	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Mohamed Taib COHEN	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Mounir BEKKARI	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Oussama SOUHAIL Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Chambre des représentants
M. Saad GHAZI	Conseiller, Chambre des conseillers
M. Said SATRAOUY Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Chambre des représentants

RNI Rassemblement National des Indépendants
PI Parti Istiqlal
PAM Parti authenticité et modernité
USFP Union Socialiste des Forces Populaires

MOZAMBIQUE

Mr. Pedro COMISSARIO AFONSO Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Committee on Defence, Security and Public Order (FRELIMO)
Mr. Calisto COSSA	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Board of Administration (FRELIMO)
Mr. Carlos TEMBE	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (PODEMOS)
Mr. Dominic PHIRI	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Committee on International Relations, Cooperation and Communities (FRELIMO)
Ms. Engracia SIVELEQUE	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Committee on Constitutional Affairs, Human Rights and Legality (PODEMOS)
Ms. Ivone SOARES SELEMANE	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (RENAMO)
Ms. Laura SOUTO	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (FRELIMO)
Ms. Lucia MADEIRA	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (FRELIMO)

Mr. Antonio MAHUMANE	Secretary General, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Narcisio MANJATE Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Isaura MUNGUAMBE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Jaime MATIAS	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic

FRELIMO Front of Liberation of Mozambique
PODEMOS Optimist Party for the Development of Mozambique
RENAMO Mozambican National Resistance

NAMIBIA

Ms. Emma Tangi MUTEKA Leader of the Delegation Member of the Committee on Health	Deputy Chairperson of the National Council Chairperson, Implementation and Coordination Committee, (SWAPO)
Mr. Bethuel TJAVEONDJA	Member of the National Council Member of the Standing Committee on Education, Science, ICT and Youth Development (SWAPO)
Ms. Bertha NGHIFIKWA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Education Committee Member of the Public Accounts Committee Member of the Standing Rules and Orders Committee (IPC)
Ms. Iswarin ROOI	Member of the National Council Member of the Standing Committee on Health, Social Welfare and Labour Affairs (SWAPO)
Ms. Esther Ndapanda KAAPANDA Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Tousy Johannes NAMISEB Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, National Council

SWAPO South West African People's Organisation
IPC Independent Patriots for Change

NEPAL

Mr. Narayan Prasad DAHAL Leader of the Delegation	Chairperson of the National Assembly (NCP)
Ms. Anjan SHAKYA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee for Legislation Management
Mr. Krishna Bahadur ROKAYA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee for Legislation Management (NC)
Mr. Padma Prasad PANDEY	Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Tula Bahadur KANDEL	Secretary, National Assembly
Ms. Sapana SAPKOTA Secretary of the delegation	Section Officer, Federal Parliament Secretariat

NCP Nepali Communist Party
NC Nepali Congress (Chief Whip)

NETHERLANDS

Mr. Hendrik-Jan TALSMA Leader of the Delegation President of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Vice-President of the Senate (Christen Unie)
Ms. Andrea VAN LANGEN-VISBEEK	Member of the Senate (BBB)
Ms. Daan ROOVERS	Member of the Senate (GroenLinks-PvdA)
Ms. Fatimazhra BELHIRCH Vice-President of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the House of Representatives (D66)
Mr. Martin VAN ROOIJEN	Member of the Senate (50Plus)
Mr. Remco NEHMELMAN	Secretary General of the Senate
Mr. Sander DUIJMAER VAN TWIST	Deputy Secretary General, House of Representatives
Ms. Femmy BAKKER-DE JONG Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Monique CHRISTIAANSE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives

Christian Democrats	Christen Unie
Conservative party	BBB
Social Democrats	GroenLinks-PvdA
Social Liberals	D66
Senior Party	50Plus

NIGER

M. Mamoudou HAROUNA DJINGAREY Cher de la délégation	Président du Conseil Consultatif de la Refondation
M. Abdoulaye HASSANE	Membre du Conseil Consultatif de la Refondation
Mme Moussa FATIMATA	Membre du Conseil Consultatif de la Refondation
M. Moustapha ABDOU	Membre du Conseil Consultatif de la Refondation
M. Abdoulaye TOUDJANI IDRISSA	Secrétaire général, Conseil Consultatif de la Refondation
Mme Adama GAZIBO SALOU	Corps diplomatique

NIGERIA

Mr. Godswill Obot AKPABIO Leader of the Delegation Member of the Executive Committee	President of the Senate (APC)
Mr. Benjamin Okezie KALU	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Chair, House Committee on Constitution Review (APC)
Mr. Asuquo EKPENYONG	Member of the Senate Chairperson, Committee on Niger Delta Development Commission (APC)

Ms. Fatima Abubakar Talba IBRAHIM	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson, Committee on Women in Parliament (APC)
Mr. Fidelix Bagudu JOSEPH	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations (APC)
Mr. Ibrahim Hassan DANKWAMBO	Member of the Senate Chairperson, Committee on Drugs and Narcotics (PDP)
Ms. Ireti Heebah KINGIBE	Member of the Senate Chairperson (LP)
Ms. Kafilat Adetola OGBARA	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson, Committee on Women Affairs and Social Development (APC)
Mr. Mark Udo ESSET	Member of the House of Representatives Chair, House Committee on Inter-Parliamentary Relations (APC)
Mr. Osita Ugwu NGWU Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security	Member of the Senate (PDP)
Mr. Titus Tartenger ZAM	Member of the Senate Chairperson, Committee on North Central Development Commission (APC)
Mr. Kamoru OGUNLANA	Clerk to the National Assembly
Ms. Florence Olanike FOFAH Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Udo Ogbu UMEKWE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Mr. David Joseph AKHIGBE	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Emmanuel ODO	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Emmanuel Adewale ADEKANYE	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Emmanuel Patrick EFFIONG	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Hannah Vivian OKORIE	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Yusuf Shitu GALAMBI	Advisor, House of Representatives

APC All Progressives Congress
PDP Peoples Democratic Party
LP Labour Party

NORTH MACEDONIA

Mr. Afrim GASHI Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic (AAA)
Ms. Arbana PASHOLI	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (DUI)

Mr. Bekim KJOKU	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (VLEN)
Mr. Boban KARAPEJOVSKI	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (ZNAM)
Ms. Jovana MOJSOSKA	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (LEVICA)
Mr. Nikola MICEVSKI	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (VMRO-DPMNE)
Mr. Oliver SPASOVSKI	Member of the Assembly of the Republic (SDSM)
Ms. Marina DIMOVSKA Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Biljana OGNENOVSKA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Rexhep PREKOPUCA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Adem JASHARI	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Emanuela STOJKOSKA	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Vjollca MURTEZI	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic

AAA	Alternativa
DUI	Democratic Union for Integration
VLEN	VLEN Movement
ZNAM	ZNAM Movement
LEVICA	Levica
VMRO-DPMNE	VMRO-Democratic Party for Macedonian National Unity
SDSM	Social Democratic Union of Macedonia

NORWAY

Ms. Silje HJEMDAL Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of Parliament Third Chair of the Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs (Progress Party (FrP))
Ms. Anne Kristine LINNESTAD	Member of Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Transport and Communications (Conservative Party (H))
Mr. Grunde ALMELAND	Member of Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment (Liberal Party (V))
Mr. Hans Andreas LIMI	Member of Parliament Third Chair of the Standing Committee on Finance and Economic Affairs (Progress Party (FrP))
Ms. Linda M. MERKESDAL	Member of Parliament Member of the Standing Committee on Energy and the Environment (Labour Party (A))

Ms. Anne Gro RIMESTAD Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Thomas FRASER Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament

Progress Party (FrP)	Progress Party
Conservative Party (H)	Conservative Party
Liberal Party (V)	Liberal Party
Labour Party (A)	Labour Party

OMAN

Mr. Khalid AL MAAWALI Leader of the Delegation	Chairman of the Shura Council
Mr. Ahmed AL JAHFALI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Ahmed AL SAADI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Hamdan AL MANAI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Mohammed AL BALUSHI	Member of the Shura Council
Ms. Sana AL BALUSHI	Member of the Shura Council
Ms. Shamsa AL SHEIBANI Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the State Council
Mr. Ahmed AL NADABI Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid AL SAADI	Secretary General, State Council
Ms. Sumaiya AL AMRI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Abdullah AL HABSI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Ahmed AL HOSNI	Advisor, Shura Council
Ms. Amal AL JAHWARI	Advisor, Shura Council
Ms. Fatema AL ZAABI	Advisor, State Council
Mr. Hamdoon AL HARTHI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid AL HARTHI	Advisor, State Council
Ms. Reem BAHWAN AL MUKHAINI	Advisor, State Council

PAKISTAN

Mr. Sardar Ayaz SADIQ Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the National Assembly (PML (N))
Mr. Asad Alam NIAZI KHAN	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Defence Production Member of the Standing Committee on Commerce (PPPP)

Mr. Farhan CHISHTI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Commerce Member of the Standing Committee on Overseas Pakistanis and Human Resource Development (MQM-P)
Ms. Sharmila Sahiba FARUQUI	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Defence Member of the Standing Committee on Information and Broadcasting Member of the Standing Committee on Information Technology and Telecommunication (PPPP)
Mr. Muhammad Talha MAHMOOD	Member of the Senate Chairman Standing Committee on Defense (PPPP)
Mr. Amir Wali Waluuddin CHISHTI	Member of the Senate Chairman, Standing Committee on National Health Services, regulations and coordination (MQM)
Mr. Syed Shamoon HASHMI	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Waseem Iqbal CHAUDHRY	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Khawaja Khurram NAEEM	Consul General

PML (N) Pakistan Muslim League (N)
MQM Moutihida Qoumi Movement
PPPP Pakistan Peoples Party Parliamentarians
PML-N Pakistan Muslim League (N)
MQM-P Muttahida Qaumi Movement Pakistan

PALESTINE

Mr. Rawhi FATOOH Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Palestine National Council (FATEH)
Mr. Musa HADID President of the IPU Group	Deputy Speaker of the Palestine National Council Political affairs (FATEH)
Ms. Maysoun OBAID	Member of the Palestine National Council (FATEH)
Mr. Mazen ALHASASNEH	Member of the Palestine National Council (FATEH)
Mr. Bashar SULAIMAN	Advisor, Palestine National Council
Mr. Nasri ABUJAISH	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Moath ALATSHAN	Diplomatic corps

FATEH FATEH

PARAGUAY

Mr. Alejandro AGUILERA Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (ANR)
Ms. Bettina AGUILERA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (ANR)
Ms. Cristina VILLALBA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (ANR)
Mr. Marcelo SALINAS Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (PLRA)
Mr. Nestor CASTELLANO Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (ANR)
Ms. Rocio ABED Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights	Member of the Chamber of Deputies (ANR)
Mr. Sergio ROJAS	Member of the Senate Presidente, Comision DE Lucha Contra EL Narcotrafico - Vice-Presidente, Comision de Obras Publicas Membro, Comision de Asuntos Constitucionales (PLRA)

ANR Asociacion Nacional Republicana
PLRA Partido Liberal Radical autentico

PERU

Ms. Maria del Carmen ALVA PRIETO, Leader of the Delegation Member of the Executive Committee	Member of the Congress of the Republic (AP)
Mr. Wilson SOTO PALACIOS Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the Congress of the Republic Member of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs and Regulation Member of the Committee on Consumer Protection and Public Service Regulatory Agencies Member of the Committee on Energy and Mines (AP)
Mr. Alex Antonio PAREDES GONZALES Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the Congress of the Republic Member of the Committee on Work and Social Security (SP)
Mr. Carlos Ernesto BUSTAMANTE DONAYRE	Member of the Congress of the Republic Member of the Board of Directors of the IPU Standing Committee for UN Affairs

AP Acción Popular

POLAND

Ms. Gabriela MORAWSKA-STANECKA Vice-President of the IPU Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Executive Committee Member of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law	Member of the Senat Member of the Climate and Environment Committee Vice-President, European Union Affairs Committee (KO)

Ms. Magdalena KOCHAN	Member of the Senat Vice-President of the Climate and Environment Committee Member of the Legislation Committee (KO)
Mr. Stanisław GAWŁOWSKI	Member of the Senat President of the Climate and Environment Committee Member of the Legislation Committee (KO)
Mr. Wiktor DURLAK	Member of the Senat Member of the Commission of Territorial Self-Government and State Administration President of the Sport Committee (PiS)
Ms. Dorota OLKO	Member of the Sejm Member of the Education and Science Committee Member of the Physical Education, Sport and Tourism Committee Member of the Culture, National Heritage and Media Committee (Left)
Ms. Jolanta ZIĘBA-GZIK	Member of the Sejm Vice-Chair of the Children and Youth Committee Member of the Health Committee Member of the Public Finance Committee (PSL)
Ms. Kinga GAJEWSKA	Member of the Sejm Vice-Chair of the Education and Science Committee Member of the Legislative Committee Member of the Contacts with Poles Abroad Committee (KO)
Mr. Radosław FOGIEL	Member of the Sejm Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs (PiS)
Ms. Ewa POLKOWSKA	Secretary General, Senat
Ms. Magda ZDYRA	Deputy Secretary General, Senat
Ms. Natalia KOWALSKA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senat
Mr. Wojciech GRUBA Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Sejm
Ms. Agata WÓJCIK-PAWLICZAK	Advisor, Senat

KO Civic Coalition
PiS Law and Justice
PSL Polish People's Party

PORTUGAL

Ms. Manuela TENDER Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Assembly of the Republic President of the Committee on Education and Science Committee on Budget, Finance and Public Administration (CH)

Mr. Hugo CARNEIRO Vice-President of the Delegation	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Vice-President of the Committee on Transparency and the Statute of Members of the Assembleia da República Member of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Public Administration (SPD)
Mr. André PINOTES BATISTA	Member of the Assembly of the Republic President, Committee on Infrastructure, Mobility and Housing Member of the Committee on the Environment and Energy (PS)
Mr. Carlos PEREIRA	Member of the Assembly of the Republic Vice-President of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Public Administration Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Territorial Cohesion (SP)
Mr. Miguel SANTOS	Member of the Assembly of the Republic President Committee on Infrastructure, Mobility and Housing Member of the Committee on Economic Affairs and Territorial Cohesion (SDP)
Ms. Anabela CABRAL FERREIRA	Secretary General, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Susana MARTINS	Deputy Secretary General, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Pedro MARQUES PEREIRA	Director of IT, Assembly of the Republic
Mr. Gonçalo SOUSA PEREIRA	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic
Ms. Suzana SANTOS MONTEIRO	Advisor, Assembly of the Republic

CH CHEGA
PS Socialist Party
SP Socialist Party
SPD Social Democratic Party
SDP Socialist Democratic Party

QATAR

Mr. Hassan AL-GHANIM Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Shura Council
Ms. Hamda AL-SULAITI	Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council
Mr. Ahmad ALJEHANI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Ahmad AL-HITMI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Sultan ALDOSARI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Yousef AL-KHATER	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Nayef AL-MAHMOUD	Secretary General, Shura Council
Mr. Abdulla ALTAMIMI	Advisor, Shura Council

Mr. Abdulrahman AL-QADI	Advisor, Shura Council
Ms. Alya AL-BADER	Advisor, Shura Council
Ms. Ashwaq AL-KUBAISI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Eissa ALSOWAIDI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Hamad ALBUAINAIN	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Hamad AL-HAMADI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Hassan AL-MOHAMEDI	Advisor, Shura Council

REPUBLIC OF KOREA

Mr. Sang Hyuk PARK Leader of the Delegation	Member of the National Assembly Member of the National Policy Committee (DPK)
Ms. Eun Hee CHO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Culture, Sports, and Tourism Committee Member of the Gender Equality and Family Committee Member of the Special Committee on Budget & Accounts (PPP)
Mr. Incheul CHO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Finance, Economy, Planning and Budget Committee (DPK)
Ms. Sae Hee OH	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Trade, Industry, Resources, SMEs, and Startups Committee (DPK)
Ms. Zee A HAN	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Health and Welfare Committee Member of the Gender Equality and Family Committee (PPP)
Mr. Minki KIM	Secretary General / Clerk National Assembly
Mr. Hyeongmin PARK	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Jaehyeok SHIN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Jeongran KIM Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Kyungjoo LEE	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Myeongjun KIM	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Seolah CHOI Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Seong-Oh HONG Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Seoyoung SONG	Advisor, National Assembly

DPK Democratic Party of Korea
PPP People Power Party

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA

Mr. Alexandru VERȘININ Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of Parliament Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Policy (PPDA)
Ms. Ersilia QATRAWI	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development (PAS)
Mr. Eugeniu SINCHEVICI	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on Economy, Budget and Finances (PAS)
Ms. Cristina MALCOCI Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Parliament

PPDA Democracy at Home Political Party
PAS Party of Action and Solidarity

ROMANIA

Mr. Ioan STAN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee for the Investigation of Abuses and Fight against Corruption, and for Petitions Member of the Committee for Romanians Abroad (SDP)
Ms. Alina-Stefania GORGHIU	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Chairperson of the Special Joint Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate in the field of legislation on preventing, combating and punishing domestic violence - 'Romania without domestic violence' Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Policy Member of the Committee on Legal Matters, Discipline and Immunities (NLP)
Ms. Daniela STEFANESCU	Member of the Senate Secretary of the Committee for Legal Affairs, Nominations, Discipline, Immunities and Validations Member of the Committee for Agriculture, Food Industry and Rural Development Member of the Committee for European Affairs (AUR) Member of the Joint Special Committee of the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate on Supporting Romania's Accession Process to the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
Mr. George-Catalin BOCHILEANU	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee on Foreign Policy Member of the Committee on Human Rights, Equal Opportunities, Religions and Minorities Member of the Committee for Romanians Abroad (USR)

Mr. Ion-Marcel VELA	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Chairperson of the Joint Special Committee on Parliamentary Scrutiny on Europol Member of the Committee on European Affairs Member of the Committee on Entrepreneurship and Tourism (NPL)
Mr. Lóránd TUROS	Member of the Senate Member of the Committee on Defence, Public Order and National Security Member of the Committee on Health (DAHR) Member of the Special Parliamentary Committee for the Control of the Activity of the Foreign Intelligence Service Member of the Joint Special Committee on Parliamentary Scrutiny on Europol
Mr. Varol AMET	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Secretary of the Committee on Science and Technology Member of the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure (The parliamentary group of the national minorities)
Mr. Zoltán MIKLÓS	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Budget, Finance and Banking Member of the Committee for Romanians Abroad (DAHR)
Mr. István GÁSPÁR	Deputy Secretary General, Chamber of Deputies
Mr. Mario-Ovidiu OPREA	Secretary General, Senate
Ms. Paula-Roxana TRUINEA	Director General, Legislative Department, Senate
Ms. Cosmina MOLDOVAN Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Cristina IONESCU Secretary of the delegation	Director, Cabinet of the Secretary General, Senate
Ms. Luminita TEODOREL Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Teodora-Elena POTERASU Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Chamber of Deputies

SDP	Social Democratic Party
NLP	National Liberal Party
AUR	Alliance for the Unity of Romanians
USR	Union to Save Romania
NPL	National Liberal Party
DAHR	Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania
The parliamentary group of the national minorities	The parliamentary group of the national minorities Democratic Union of Turkish-Muslim Tartars in Romania

RUSSIAN FEDERATION

Ms. Valentina MATVIENKO Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Council of the Federation
Mr. Petr TOLSTOY Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Chairman of the State Duma (UR)
Ms. Inna SVYATENKO Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Federation member of the Federation Council Committee on Social Policy
Mr. Konstantin KOSACHEV	Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Federation member of the Federation Council Committee on Foreign Affairs
Mr. Aleksei CHEPA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights	Member of the State Duma First Deputy Chairman of the State Duma Committee on International Affairs (JR)
Mr. Artur KOKHOEV	Member of the Council of the Federation member of the Federation Council Committee on Constitutional Legislation and State Building
Mr. Leonid SLUTSKIY	Member of the State Duma Chairman of the State Duma Committee on International Affairs (LDPR)
Ms. Roza CHEMERIS Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs, Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the State Duma Member of the State Duma Committee on International Affairs (NP)
Mr. Sergei GAVRILOV Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member of the State Duma Chairman of the State Duma Committee on Property Issues, Land and Property Relations (CPRF)
Mr. Vladimir CHIZHOV	Member of the Council of the Federation First Deputy Chair of the Federation Council Committee on Defense and Security
Mr. Dmitrii STEPANOV Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, State Duma
Ms. Olga SHMACHKOVA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of the Federation
Ms. Maria ZHOLOBOVA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Council of the Federation
Mr. Andrei BORZOV	Advisor, State Duma
Mr. Aleksei GANZHA	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Aleksei PARSIN	Diplomatic corps

UR United Russia
JR Just Russia
LDPR Liberal-Democratic Party of Russia
NP New People
CPRF Communist Party of the Russian Federation

RWANDA

Ms. Soline NYIRAHABIMANA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Vice-President of the Senate (RPF-INKOTANYI)
Mr. Sosthène CYITATIRE	Member of the Senate Committee on Social Affairs, Education, Technology and Youth (RPF-INKOTANYI)
Mr. Aimable MUSAFIRI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate

RPF-INKOTANYI Rwanda Patriotic Front- INKOTANYI

SAMOA

Ms. Afamasaga Leone Mati Vaili MASAME Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Chairperson of the Standing Order, Electoral Petition and Constitutional Offices Committee.
Ms. Olive Georgina Karene ENELIKO Secretary of the delegation	Clerk, Legislative Assembly

SAN MARINO

Mr. Lorenzo BUGLI Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Great and General Council (PDCS)
Ms. Antonella MULARONI	Member of the Great and General Council Foreign Affairs (RF)
Ms. Denise BRONZETTI	Member of the Great and General Council President of the Health Committee (AR)
Mr. Matteo ROSSI	Member of the Great and General Council Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee (PSD)

PDCS Partito Democratico Cristiano Sanmarinese
DML Domani – Motus Liberi
AR Alleanza Riformista
PSD Partito dei Socialiste e Democratici

SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. Abdullah ALSHEIKH Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	President of the Shura Council
Mr. Abdulaziz ALMUHANA	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Abdullah ALMADHI	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Abdulrahman ALHARBI Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Ali ALKAHTANI	Member of the Shura Council

Ms. Raedah ABUNAYAN Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Shura Council
Ms. Rimah ALYAHYA Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Waleed ABDULSHAKOOR	Member of the Shura Council
Mr. Mohammed ALMUTAIRI	Secretary General, Shura Council
Ms. Afnan ALORAIJ Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid ALMANSOUR	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid ALALSHAYKH	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Abdullah ALGHAMDI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Bassam ALBAHAR	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Fahad ALOMER	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid ALTURKI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid ALKHARJI	Advisor, Shura Council
Mr. Khalid ALMUBARAK	Advisor, Shura Council

SENEGAL

M. Malick NDIAYE	Président de l'Assemblée nationale (PASTEF)
M. Serigne Abdoul Ahad NDIAYE Chef de la délégation	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PASTEF)
M. Banta WAGUE	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PASTEF)
M. Daouda DIA	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (APR)
M. Insa DANFA	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PASTEF) Membre de la Commission de la Santé (PASTEF)
Mme Ousmane SONKO	Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PASTEF) Membre de la Commission de l'éducation Membre de la Commission de l'aménagement Membre de la Commission santé et action sociale
M. Amadou THIMBO	Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale
Mr. Mamadou laye KA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Magatte Gaye	Diplomatic corps

PASTEF Les Patriotes africains du Sénégal pour le travail, l'éthique et la fraternité
APR Alliance pour la république

SERBIA

Mr. Edin ĐERLEK Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee Member of the Committee on the Rights of the Child (Conservative)
Ms. Dijana RADOVIĆ	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Constitutional and Legislative Issues Member of the Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management Committee (Socialist)
Ms. Ivana ROKVIĆ	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Culture and Information Committee (Conservative)
Ms. Ivana STAMATOVIĆ Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Agriculture, Forestry and Water Management Committee Member of the Committee on Administrative, Budgetary, Mandate and Immunity Issues Member of the Committee on the Economy, Member of the Regional Development, Trade, Tourism and Energy (Conservative)
Mr. Mladen GRUJIĆ Member, Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Human and Minority Member of the Committee on Rights and Gender Equality (Conservative)
Mr. Dario KUKOLJ	Deputy Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Vladimir FILIPOVIĆ Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Aleksandra POPOVIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Branko BURA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Jasminka UROŠEVIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Jovana JEREMIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Milan IVANIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Sanja BOJANIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Slađana VASIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Vesna DUJMOVIĆ ROSIĆ	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Aleksandar MARJANOVIĆ	Diplomatic corps
Ms. Kristina RADOVIĆ	Diplomatic corps

Conservative Serbian Progressive Party (SNS)
Socialist Socialist Party of Serbia (SPS)

SEYCHELLES

Ms. Azarel ERNESTA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the National Assembly Chairperson, House Committee Chairperson, Standing Orders Member of the Women's Parliamentary Caucus
Ms. Claudette LOUISE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Government Assurances Member of the Women's Parliamentary Caucus (US)
Mr. Sathyanarayanan NAIDU	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Media, Youth, Sports and Culture Committee Member of the Scrutiny of Bills Committee (LDS)
Ms. Emma DIDON Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Nickey ANTAT	Advisor, National Assembly

US United Seychelles
LDS Linyon Demokratik Seselwa

SIERRA LEONE

Ms. Adama BANGURA Leader of the Delegation	Member of Parliament (SLPP)
Mr. Moses Andrew EDWIN	Member of Parliament (SLPP)
Ms. Beatrice KANGBAI	Member of Parliament (SLPP)
Mr. Abdulia Hakeem MANSARY	Advisor, Parliament

SLPP Sierra Leone's People's Party (SLPP)

SINGAPORE

Ms. Hany SOH Leader of the Delegation	Member of Parliament Member of the Standing Orders Committee (PAP)
Mr. Hon Weng YIP	Member of Parliament Member of the Public Accounts Committee (PAP)
Mr. Yinzhou CAI	Member of Parliament (PAP)
Ms. Cui Yu MOK Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Xiaolin CHEN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament

PAP People's Action Party

SLOVENIA

Mr. Zoran MOJSKERC Leader of the Delegation Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on EU Affairs Member of the Committee on Justice Member of the Commission for the Rules of Procedure. (Conservative)
Ms. Tatjana PANDEV Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, National Assembly

Conservative Democratic Party

SOMALIA

Mr. Abdullahi Omar ABSHIR Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the House of the People
Mr. Ismail Eid MOHAMED	Member of the House of the People Member of the Justice and Judicial Committee
Mr. Farah Moalim BISHAR	Member of the House of the People
Mr. Mohamud Ahmed MOHAMED	Member of the House of People
Ms. Zamzam Dahir MOHAMUD	Member of the Upper House Secretary of the National Resource Committee Member of the Women's Caucus of the Upper House
Mr. Abdo Fouad ADEN	Deputy Secretary General, House of the People
Mr. Abdullahi Haji Gedi MUMIN	Deputy Secretary General, Upper House
Mr. Abdulkadir Abshir OMAR	Advisor, House of the People

SOUTH AFRICA

Ms. Angela Thokozile DIDIZA Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the National Assembly (ANC)
Mr. Baxolile Babongile NODADA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Joint Committee on Ethics and Members Interest Member of the Parliamentary Group on International Relations Member of the Committee on the Presidency (DA)
Mr. Mikateko Golden MAHLAULE	Member of the National Assembly Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Mineral and Petroleum Resources (ANC)
Ms. Nqobile Matilda MHLONGO	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation (EFF)
Ms. Dorries Eunice MPAPANE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Joint Standing Committee on Finance Management of the National Assembly Member of the Joint Standing Committee on Intelligence Chairperson of the Committee on Presidency (ANC)

Ms. Jane Seboletswe MANANISO	Member of the National Council of Provinces Chairperson of the Select Committee on Security and Justice Member of the Select Committee on Public Petitions and Executive Undertaking Member of the Select Committee on Economic Development and Trade (ANC)
Mr. Nhlanhla Mzungezwa HADEBE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Finance Member of the Portfolio Committee on Trade, Industry and Competition Member of the Joint Standing Committee on the Finance Management of the National Assembly (IFP)
Mr. Poobalan GOVENDER	Member of the National Council of Provinces Member of the Programme Committee of the National Council of Provinces Member of the Rules Committee of the National Council of Provinces Member of the Select Committee on Education, Sciences and Creative Industries (IFP)
Ms. Seeng Mmabatho MOKOENA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on International Relations and Cooperation Member of the Portfolio Committee on Communications and Digital Technologies Member of the Portfolio Committee on Electricity and Energy (MKP)
Mr. Masibulele XASO	Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Xolile Christopher GEORGE	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Daisy Sindisiwe MTHEMBU	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Dumisani Job SITHOLE	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Malentsoe Nolizwi MAGWAGWA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Maurus Madoda Sizwe KHUMALO	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Noluthando SHABALALA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Phandulwazi JIKELO	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Reginald Khethukuthula NGCOBO	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Roseline Mpho MONNAKGOTLA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Sebolelo Constance MVULANE	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Sifiso Mboneni NTOMBELA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Sthembiso Thelizolo TEMBE	Advisor, National Assembly

ANC African National Congress
DA Democratic Alliance
IFP Inkatha Freedom Party
EFF Economic Freedom Fighters

SOUTH SUDAN

Mr. Joseph Ngere Paciko TAGODO Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (SPLM)
Mr. John Gai Nyuot YOH	Member of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly (SPLM)
Mr. Samuel Buhori Lotti THEOPHILUS	Member of the Transitional National Legislative Assembly Deputy Chairperson Committee on National Security and Public order (SSOA)
Mr. Emmanuel BOL Secretary of the IPU Group	Deputy Clerk, Council of States

SPLM Sudan People's Liberation Movement
SSOA South Sudan Opposition Alliance

SPAIN

Mr. Agustín ALMODÓBAR BARCELÓ Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Senate (PP)
Ms. Ana MARTÍNEZ ZARAGOZA	Member of the Senate (PSOE)
Mr. Javier Ignacio MAROTO ARANZABAL	Member of the Senate (PP)
Mr. Joaquín CABEZAS CAYUELAS	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Ruth SÁNCHEZ MOLINERO Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Congress of Deputies

PP Popular Party
PSOE Socialist Party

SURINAME

Mr. Rabindre Tewari PARMESSAR Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Standing Committee on Finance and Budgetary Affairs Member of the Standing Committee for Natural Resources Member of the Standing Committee for Finance and Planning (NDP)
Mr. Asiskumar GAJADIEN Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Finance Member of the Committee on Oil, Gas and the Environment Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (VHP)
Ms. Ines Yuquinda PANÉ	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Natural Resources (ABOP)
Ms. Agatha RAMDASS Secretary of the delegation	Deputy Secretary General, National Assembly
Mr. Dino Marlon OEDIT	Deputy Secretary General, National Assembly

NDP National Democratic Party
VHP Progressive Reform Party
ABOP General Liberation and Development Party

SWEDEN

Ms. Margareta CEDERFELT Leader of the Delegation Chairperson of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (C)
Ms. Boriana ÅBERG	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Taxation (C)
Ms. Janine ALM ERICSON	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Finance (Environmental)
Mr. Mattias KARLSSON Member of the High-level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (C)
Mr. Stefan OLSSON	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (C)
Ms. Yasmine ERIKSSON	Member of the Riksdag Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs (C)
Mr. Ingvar MATTSON	Secretary General, Riksdagen
Mr. Björn SONDÉN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Riksdagen
Mr. Ralph HERMANSSON Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Riksdagen

C	Sweden Democrats
Environmental	The Green Party
SP	Social Democratic Party

SWITZERLAND - SUISSE

M. Christian LOHR Chef de la délégation Président du Groupe Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme, Membre du comité sur la santé	Membre du Conseil national Membre de la Commission de la sécurité sociale et de la santé publique (M/C)
M. Daniel JOSITSCH Vice-Président du Groupe	Membre du Conseil des États Membre de la Commission de politique extérieure Membre de la Commission des affaires juridiques (SP/PS)
Mme Laurence FEHLMANN RIELLE Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires, Membre du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient	Membre du Conseil national Membre de la Commission de politique extérieure Membre de la Commission des finances (SP/PS)
M. Franz GRÜTER	Membre du Conseil national Membre de la Commission de politique extérieure Membre de la Commission de l'immunité (SVP/UDC)

M. Thomas HURTER	Membre du Conseil national Président, Commission des transports et des télécommunications Membre de la Commission de la politique de sécurité (SVP/UDC)
M. Laurent WEHRLI Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale, Membre du Groupe de facilitateurs concernant Chypre Président du groupe géopolitique des 12 Plus	Membre du Conseil national Membre de la Commission de politique extérieure Membre de la Commission de gestion (FDP/PLR)
M. Philippe SCHWAB	Secrétaire général, Assemblée Fédérale
M. Jérémie EQUEY Secrétaire du Groupe, Secrétaire de la délégation	Relations internationales
Mme Anna-Lea GNÄGI Secrétaire adjointe du Groupe, Secrétariat de la délégation	Relations internationales
Mme Sarah PALMA	Relations internationales

M/C Die Mitte/Le Centre
SP/PS Parti Socialiste
SVP/UDC Union Démocratique du Centre
FDP/PLR Les Libéraux / Les Libéraux-Radicaux

TAJIKISTAN

Mr. Faizali IDIZODA Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the House of Representatives (NDPT)
Ms. Dilafruz SAIDI	Member of the House of Representatives (NDPT)
Mr. Ghairat AZIZZODA	Member of the House of Representatives (NDPT)
Mr. Zafar FAIZULLOZODA	Secretary General, House of Representatives
Mr. Dalerjon SANGAKOV	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Khasan ZARIFOV	Diplomatic corps

NDPT National Democratic Party of Tajikistan

THAILAND

Mr. Mongkol SURASAJJA Leader of the Delegation	President of the Senate
Mr. Chonlathan SUPPHAIBOONLERD	Member of the House of Representatives (-)
Mr. Nophadol IN-NA Vice-President of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the Senate Fourth Vice-Chairperson, Standing Committee on the Independent Organs under the Constitution, Anti-Corruption and Misconduct, and Strengthening Good Governance, Senate Chief Advisory, Standing Committee on Commerce and Industry, Senate

Ms. Pitcharat LAOHAPONGCHANA	Member of the House of Representatives (-)
Mr. Romtham KHUMNURAK	Member of the House of Representatives (-)
Mr. Veerapun SUVANNAMAI	Member of the Senate First Vice-Chairperson, Standing Committee on Public Health, Senate Spokesperson, Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs, Senate
Ms. Steejit TAIPIBOONSUK	Deputy Secretary General, House of Representatives
Ms. Nawanan NETITHANAKUL	Deputy Secretary General, Senate
Mr. Issara SEREEWATTHANAWUT	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Kitti SAEREEPRAYOON Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Koson UDOMSIN	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Nisaporn WIBOONCHAN	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Panitee CHATAKANONDA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Ms. Pimpa CHAIHAN	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Saritpon SATAWEDIN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, House of Representatives
Mr. Sopon CHARTABUTJARU	Advisor, House of Representatives

- Bhumjaithai Party

TIMOR-LESTE

Ms. Cedelizia FARIA DOS SANTOS Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the National Parliament
Ms. Angela Maria Corvelo DE ANDRADE SARMENTO	Member of the National Parliament
Mr. Marcos XAVIER	Member of the National Parliament
Ms. Maria Ana Bela SAVIO	Member of the National Parliament
Ms. Maria Teresa DA SILVA GUSMÃO	Member of the National Parliament
Mr. Edgar SEQUEIRA MARTINS Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General, National Parliament
Ms. Izilda Da Silva PEREIRA	Advisor, National Parliament
Ms. Melisa I. Deliana E. Silva CALDAS	Advisor, National Parliament
Mr. Eric BRACILIAN DE JESUS VIEGAS	Advisor, National Parliament

TOGO

M. Gbalgueboa KANGBENI Chef de la délégation	Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (UNIR)

UNIR UNION POUR LA RÉPUBLIQUE

TUNISIA - TUNISIE

M. Maher Boubaker HADHRI Chef de la délégation	Membre de l'Assemblée des représentants du peuple
M. Mohamed Zied MAHER Membre du Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable	Membre de l'Assemblée des représentants du peuple Membre de la commission des finances et du budget
Mme Rim MAACHAOUI Membre du Bureau des femmes parlementaires	Membre de l'Assemblée des représentants du peuple Membre de la commission de planification stratégique, du développement, des transports, de l'infrastructure et de l'aménagement urbain
Mme Sirine BOUSSANDEL	Membre de l'Assemblée des représentants du peuple Rapporteur de la commission de l'agriculture, de la sécurité alimentaire et hydrique
M. Nader MNIF Secrétaire de la délégation	Conseiller, Assemblée des représentants du peuple
M. Saber BRAKCHI	Corps diplomatique
M. Ahmed BEN SGHAIER	Corps diplomatique

TÜRKIYE

Ms. Asuman ERDOĞAN Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (AK Party)
Ms. Fatma ÖNCÜ Vice-President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (AK Party)
Ms. Fatma AKSAL	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (AK Party)
Mr. Ali ÖZKAYA	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (AK Party)
Mr. Burak AKBURAK Member of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (İYİ Party)

Ms. Ceylan AKÇA CUPOLO	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (DEM Party)
Ms. Evrim RIZVANOĞLU	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (CHP)
Mr. Mevlüt KARAKAYA	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (MHP)
Ms. Nurhayat ALTACA KAYIŞOĞLU	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (RPP)
Mr. Selman ÖZBOYACI	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye (AK Party)
Mr. Hüseyin Kürşat KIRBIYIK	Secretary General, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Ahmet BOZKURT	Deputy Secretary General, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Ms. Kübra TEYMUR	Deputy Secretary General, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Naim ÇOBAN	Deputy Secretary General, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Ahmet Semih PUR Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Bilal KESER Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Ercan DURDULAR Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Ms. Handan KARAKAS DEMIR Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Ms. Hande DENERİ Secretary of the IPU Group	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Ms. Tuğçe MÜFTÜOĞLU Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Hakan ERDOĞAN	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Mr. Ahmet İŞÇEN	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye
Ms. Tuğçe MÜFTÜOĞLU	Advisor, Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

AK PARTY	Justice and Development Party
İYİ PARTY	İYİ Party
DEM Party	DEM Party
CHP	CHP

TURKMENISTAN

Ms. Dunyagozel GULMANOVA Leader of the Delegation	Chairwoman of the Assembly (DPT)
Ms. Bayramgozel MYRADOVA	Member of the Assembly Chairperson of the Committee for science, education, culture and youth policy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan (PIET)

Ms. Jennet OVEKOVA	Member of the Assembly Member of the committee on legislation and its norms (DPT)
Mr. Maksat KULYYEV	Member of the Assembly Chairman of the Committee for International and Inter-parliamentary communications
Mr. Nepes ROZYYEV	Member of the Assembly Member of the Committee on science, education, culture and youth policy of the Mejlis of Turkmenistan (DPT)
Ms. Leyli NURMYRADOVA	Secretary General, Assembly
Mr. Chary CHARYYEV	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Handurdy TURAYEV	Diplomatic corps

DPT Democratic Party of Turkmenistan
PIET Party of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs

UGANDA

Ms. Anita Annet AMONG Leader of the Delegation	Speaker of the Parliament Chairperson, Appointments Committee Chairperson, Business Committee (NRM)
Mr. Amos Kibwika KANKUNDA	Member of the Parliament Chairperson, Committee on Finance Member of the Committee on National Economy (NRM)
Mr. Hassan KIRUMIRA	Member of the Parliament Member of the Committee on Trade Member of the Committee on National Economy (NUP)
Mr. Moses Muwanika WALYOMU	Member of the Parliament Member of the Committee on Budget Member of the Committee on Education and Sports
Ms. Nancy Odonga ACORA Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the Parliament Member of the Committee on Public Accounts-Central Member of the Committee on Local Government and Public Service
Mr. Adolf Kasaija MWESIGE	Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Jane Rose Semakula IKIROR	Deputy Secretary General, Parliament
Ms. Sitnah Chemisto CHEROTICH	Deputy Secretary General, Parliament
Mr. Meshach NUWABIINE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Mohammed Rukidi MPUGA	Advisor, Parliament
Mr. Police Fred BUSINGE	Advisor, Parliament

Mr. Rajab Semalulu KAAYA	Advisor, Parliament
Ms. Nusura TIPERU	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Richard NSAMBA	Diplomatic corps

NRM National Resistance Movement
NUP National Unity Platform

UKRAINE

Mr. Oleksandr KORNIIENKO Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Chairman of the Verkhovna Rada (Servant of the people)
Mr. Ivan KRULKO	Member of the Verkhovna Rada First Deputy Chairman of the Budget Committee of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Batkivshchyna)
Ms. Lesia VASYLENKO Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights	Member of the Verkhovna Rada Chairman of the Subcommittee on Climate Change and Air Protection of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Member of the Committee on Environmental Policy and Nature Management (Holos)
Mr. Oleksandr MEREZHKO	Member of the Verkhovna Rada Member of the Foreign Affairs and Interparliamentary Ties (Servant of the People)
Mr. Oleksandr SANCHENKO Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the Verkhovna Rada Chairman of the Subcommittee on the Music Industry of the Committee on Humanitarian and Information Policy of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Servant of the people)
Mr. Oleksii ZHMERENETSKYI Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs	Member of the Verkhovna Rada Chairman of the Subcommittee on Adaptation of Ukrainian Legislation to the Provisions of the European Union Law (EU Acquis) Member of the Fulfillment of Ukraine's International Legal Obligations in the Field of European Integration of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine Committee on Anti-Corruption Policy (Servant of the people)
Ms. Olga RUDENKO Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the Verkhovna Rada Chairman of the Subcommittee on Ensuring Foreign Economic Relations and Effective Use of International Assistance of the Committee on Foreign Policy and Interparliamentary Cooperation of the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine (Servant of the people)
Mr. Viacheslav SHTUCHNYI	Secretary General, Member of the Verkhovna Rada
Mr. Andrii KANIUKA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Verkhovna Rada
Ms. Antonina FEDOSOVA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Verkhovna Rada

Mr. Erik KUCHERENKO	Advisor, Verkhovna Rada
Ms. Olha RYBAK	Advisor, Verkhovna Rada
Mr. Serhii ROMENSKYI	Advisor, Verkhovna Rada
Mr. Pavlo MAZUR	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Roman NEDILSKYI	Diplomatic corps

Servant of the People
European Solidaruty
Batkivshchyna
Holos
Parliamentary Group “Platform for Life and Peace”

UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

Mr. Saqr GHOBASH Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the Federal National Council
Mr. Ali ALNUAIMI President of the IPU Group	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Defence, Internal Affairs and Foreign Affairs
Mr. Khaled ALKHARJI	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Financial, Economic and Industrial Affairs
Mr. Marwan ALMHEIRI	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Financial, Economic and Industrial Affairs
Ms. Moza ALSHEHHI	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Education, Culture, Youth, Sports and Media
Ms. Meera ALSUWAIDI President of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Financial, Economic and Industrial Affairs
Ms. Sara FALAKNAZ Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Defence, Internal Affairs and Foreign Affairs
Mr. Ahmed HASHIM KHOORI Member of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member the Federal National Council Member of the Committee on Defence, Internal Affairs and Foreign Affairs
Mr. Omar ALNUAIMI Secretary of the IPU Group	Secretary General, Federal National Council
Ms. Afra ALBASTI	Deputy Secretary General, Federal National Council
Mr. Tareq ALMARZOOQI	Deputy Secretary General, Federal National Council
Ms. Roudha ALSHIHHE Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Federal National Council

Mr. Abdulrahman ALHAMMADI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Ahmad ALAQILI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Ahmed ALSHEHHI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Belal ALALI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Fahad ALSHEHHI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Juma ALMHEIRI	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Malek ALTHUWAYNEE	Advisor, Federal National Council
Mr. Omar ALNUAIMI	Secretary General, Federal National Council
Mr. Saeed Abdulwahid KHAMIS SAQER	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Saeed Thani HAREB ALDHAHERI	Diplomatic corps

UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. Dan CARDEN Leader of the Delegation Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Foreign Affairs Committee (L)
Ms. Jess MORDEN	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Liaison Committee (L)
Ms. Pam COX	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Justice Committee (L)
Ms. Karen BRADLEY Member of the Executive Committee, Member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians	Member of the House of Commons Chair, Home Affairs Committee Member of the Liaison Committee (C)
Mr. Gagan MOHINDRA	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Housing, Communities, and Local Government Committee (C)
Ms. Wera HOBHOUSE	Member of the House of Commons Member of the Energy, Security and Net Zero Committee (LD)
Mr. Chris LAW	Member of the House of Commons (SNP)
Baroness Christine BLOWER	Member of the House of Lords Member of the International Agreements Committee Member of the Social Mobility Policy Committee (L)
Mr. Rick NIMMO Secretary of the IPU Group	Director, BGIPU
Ms. Dominique REES	Deputy Director, BGIPU
Ms. Rhiannon EDWARDS	Multilateral Programme Manager, BGIPU
Ms. Chiara DE VITA	International Project Manager, BGIPU

Ms. Chloe MAWSON	Clerk, House of Lords
Ms. Sarah DAVIES	Deputy Clerk, House of Commons
Mr. Rory DICKSON	Advisor, Foreign Office

L Labour
SNP Scottish National Party
C Conservative
LD Liberal Domocrats

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA

Mr. Daniel SILLO Leader of the delegation	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly (CCM)
Ms. Asha Juma FERUZI	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Mr. Elibariki KINGU	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Ms. Fatma REMBO	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Ms. Kiza Hussein MAYEYE	Member of the National Assembly (ACT)
Ms. Pindi CHANA	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Mr. Rashid SHANGAZI	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Ms. Zeyana Abdallah HAMID	Member of the National Assembly (CCM)
Ms. Katherine KAIHULA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Eliufoo UKHOTYA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Yona KIRUMBI	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Omary MAGWINZA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Ahmed SEGULLE	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Gerald NGOI	Diplomatic corps

CCM Chama Cha Mapinduzi
ACT Alliance for change and transparency - Wazalendo

URUGUAY

Mr. Rodrigo GOÑI REYES	President of the House of Representatives (PN)
Mr. Daniel CAGGIANI Leader of the Delegation	Member of the Senate President, International Affairs Committee Member of the Budget Committee Member of the Transportation and Public Works Committee (FA)
Mr. Andrés OJEDA	Second Vice-President of the Senate Member of the International Affairs Committee Member of the Committee on Science, Innovation, and Technology Committee (PC) Member of the Budget Committee (PC)
Mr. Carlos CAMY	Member of the Senate Member of the Environment Committee Member of the Budget Committee Member of the Public Health Committee (PN)

Mr. José Pedro MONTERO	Secretary General, Senate
Ms. Carina GALVALISI Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Federico CARREÑO	Diplomatic corps
Mr. Hugo CAYRÚS	Diplomatic corps

FA Frente Amplio
PC Partido Colorado
PN Partido Nacional

UZBEKISTAN

Ms. Tanzila NARBAEVA Leader of the Delegation	Chairperson of the Senate
Mr. Abdulkhakim ESHMURATOV	Member of the Senate Committee on Judicial and Legal Issues and Combating Corruption
Ms. Guljan KHALMURATOVA	Member of the Senate Innovative Development and Information Technologies
Mr. Bekzod KHOLMURATOV	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Jamshid GAPPAROV	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Ulugbek AKBAROV	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Eldiyor Toshmatov	Ambassador
Mr. Odiljon GAFFAROV	Diplomatic corps

UzLiDeP The Uzbekistan Liberal Democratic Party

VIET NAM

Mr. Thanh Man TRAN Leader of the Delegation	President of the National Assembly (CPV)
Mr. Quang Manh LE	Secretary General, Chairman of the Office of the National Assembly
Mr. Quang Phuong TRAN	Vice-President of the National Assembly (CPV)
Mr. Van Man LAM	Member of the National Assembly Council of Ethnic Affairs (CPV)
Mr. Dac Vinh NGUYEN	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Cultural and Social Affairs (CPV)
Mr. Hai Ha VU	Member of the National Assembly Committee on National Defence, Security and Foreign Affairs (CPV)
Mr. Phu Binh PHAM	Member of the National Assembly Committee on National Defence, Security and Foreign Affairs (CPV)

Mr. Minh Hieu HOANG	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Law and Justice (CPV)
Ms. Thi Hong Yen PHAM	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Economic and Budgetary Matters (CPV)
Ms. Thi Mai Thoa NGUYEN	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Culture and Social Affairs

CPV Communist Party of Viet Nam

YEMEN

Mr. Mohsen Ali Omar BA SARRA Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives Presidium of the Council (YIP)
Mr. Abdulkarem Sharaf Mohsen SHAIBAN	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee (YIP)
Mr. Ibrahim Ahmed Saghir AL-MUZLEM	Member of the House of Representatives Services Committee (NR)
Mr. Mohamed Abdulmalik Ahmed BAN-MALIK	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Development, Oil and Mineral Resources Committee (GPC)
Mr. Shawki Abdulsalam Abdo SHAMSAN	Member of the House of Representatives Member of the Trade and Industry Committee (BOC)
Mr. Yasser Hamid Shaher AL-SHAIBANI	Adviser, House of Representatives
Mr. Mohammed Gamal Ahmed BA SARRA	Adviser, House of Representatives

YIP Yemeni Islah Party
NR National Resistance (Politburo)
GPC General People's Congress
BOC Bloc of Change

ZAMBIA

Ms. Nelly MUTTI Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group Member of the Executive Committee	Speaker of the National Assembly
Mr. Harry Kazimete KAMBONI Vice-President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Local Government Accounts Member of the Committee on National Guidance and Gender Matters (UPND)
Mr. Imanga WAMUNYIMA Member of the Bureau of Young Parliamentarians	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Privileges and Absences (PNUP)
Ms. Jaqueline SABAO	Member of the National Assembly Public Accounts Committee Member of the Committee on National Guidance and Gender Matters (UPND)

Mr. Mubita ANAKOKA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Committee on Parastatal Bodies (UPND)
Mr. Nicholas MUKUMBI	Member of the National Assembly Member -Public Accounts Committee (UPND)
Mr. Oliver AMUTIKE Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Cabinet Affairs Committee Member of the Media, Information and Communication Technologies Committee (UPND)
Ms. Loveness MAAMBO Secretary of the IPU Group	Clerk, National Assembly
Mr. McDonald MWIINGA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Alexander KAFWATA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Dominic MWINAMO	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Maluba KAINDU	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Sharon NYIRONGO	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Deborah DAKA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Joseph LUNGU	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Mutelo NDIWA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Nomai IMENDA	Chargé d'Affaires
Mr. Brighton MUSESA	Diplomatic corps

UPND United Party for National Development
PNUP Party of National Unity and Progress

ZIMBABWE

Mr. Jacob Francis Nzwidamilimo MUDENDA Leader of the Delegation President of the IPU Group	Speaker of the National Assembly Chairperson of the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders (ZANU PF)
Ms. Mabel Memory CHINOMONA Leader of the Delegation	President of the Senate Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Standing Rules and Orders Patron of the Zimbabwe Women Parliamentarians Caucus (ZANU PF)
Mr. Jona NYEVERA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Mines and Mining Development (ZANU PF)
Ms. Lusyomo NYELELE	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Mines and Mining Development Member of the Portfolio Committee on Sport, Recreation, Arts and Culture Member of the Portfolio Committee on Youth Empowerment, Development and Vocational Training (ZANU PF)

Ms. Maureen KADEMAUNGA Member of the Working Group on Science and Technology	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Public Accounts Committee Member of the Portfolio Committee on Budget, Finance AND Investment Promotion (CCC)
Mr. Mtshane Lucas KHUMALO	Member of the Senate Member of the Thematic Committee on Sustainable Development Goals
Mr. Sengezo TSHABANGU	Member of the Senate Member Committee on Standing Rules and Orders Member of the Thematic Committee on Peace and Security Member of the Thematic Committee on Climate Change (CCC) Member of the Committee on Health
Mr. Tawanda KARIKOGA	Member of the National Assembly Member of the Portfolio Committee on Foreign Affairs and International Trade Chairperson of the Portfolio Committee on Transport and Infrastructural Development (ZANU PF)
Ms. Tsitsi Veronica MUZENDA	Member of the Senate Member of the Thematic Committee on Human Rights Member of the Thematic Committee on Sustainable Development Goals (ZANU PF)
Mr. Kennedy Mugove CHOKUDA Secretary of the IPU Group	Clerk of Parliament
Ms. Rumbidzai Pamela CHISANGO Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Asha JENJE	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Califinos Kudakwashe GUVI	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Chiguta Jessie MAPOKOTERA	Advisor, Senate
Mr. Farai Nicholas MAKUBAZA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Frank Mike NYAMAHOWA	Advisor, National Assembly
Mr. Kumbirai Dzidziso MAKAMURE	Advisor, Senate
Ms. Martha MUSHANDINGA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Caroline Takudzwa MUYAMBO	Advisor or Secretary
Mr. Alfred MUTIWAZUKA	Diplomatic corps
Mr. L Eden MATUMBA	Diplomatic corps

ZANU PF Zimbabwe African National Union Patriotic Front
CCC Citizens Coalition for Change

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II. DELEGATIONS PARTICIPATING IN AN OBSERVER CAPACITY – *DÉLÉGATIONS PARTICIPANT EN QUALITÉ D'OBSERVATEURS*

AFGHANISTAN

Mr. Mir Rahman Rahmani QALANDER KHAN Leader of the Delegation	President of the House of the People
Ms. Simin BAREKZAI	Member of the House of the People
Mr. Mohammad Akbar STANIKZAI	Second Vice-Chairman of the House of Elders
Mr. Abdul Qader ARYUBI	Secretary General of the House of the People
Mr. Hamza HAMIDI	Adviser, House of Elders

MYANMAR

Ms. Zin Mar AUNG Leader of the delegation	Member of the Committee Representing Pyidangsu Hluttaw
Mr. Phone KYAW	Member of the Committee Representing Pyidangsu Hluttaw
Mr. Thet KO KO	NUG representative to the United Kingdom
Mr. Wunna HTAY	National Advisor, Committee Representing Pyidangsu Hluttaw

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III. ADVISERS AND OTHER PERSONS TAKING PART IN THE WORK OF THE 152nd ASSEMBLY – *CONSEILLERS ET AUTRES PERSONNES PARTICIPANT AUX TRAVAUX DE LA 152e ASSEMBLÉE*

BULGARIA

Ms. Stefana KARASLAVOVA-VODENICHARSKA	Secretary General, National Assembly
Ms. Ekaterina GEORGIEVA	Director of Property Management Directorate, National Assembly
Ms. Sacha NIKOLOVA	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Stefka ALEXANDROVA Secretary of the IPU Group, Secretary of the delegation	Advisor, National Assembly
Ms. Teodora ANGELOVA	Advisor, National Assembly

SLOVAKIA

Mr. Daniel GUSPAN	Secretary General, National Council
Mr. Marek LISANSKY	Advisor, National Council

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IV. PARLIAMENTS PARTICIPATING AS OBSERVERS WITH A VIEW TO A POSSIBLE AFFILIATION/REAFFILIATION
PARLEMENTS PARTICIPANT EN QUALITE D'OBSERVATEURS EN VUE D'UNE AFFILIATION/REAFFILIATION EVENTUELLE

SAINT KITTS AND NEVIS

Mr. Eric EVELYN	Member of the National Assembly

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V. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS – *MEMBERS ASSOCIÉS*

ANDEAN PARLIAMENT

Ms. Ambinitsoa July Diana FANDRO Secretary of the delegation	Secretary General

ARAB PARLIAMENT

Mr. Mohamed ALYAMMAHI Leader of the Delegation	Speaker Member of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Political Affairs and National Security Chair of the Palestine Committee
Mr. Said AL SAADI	Deputy Speaker Member of the Committee on Legislative and Legal Affairs and Human Rights
Ms. Ahlaam ALLAFI	Member of Parliament Chair of the Committee on Social, Educational, Cultural, Women's and Youth Affairs
Mr. Aymen NEGRA	Member of Parliament Chair of the Committee on Foreign, Political Affairs and National Security
Ms. Hanan MOHSIN	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on Social, Educational, Cultural, Women's and Youth Affairs
Mr. Kamel SHARWY	Secretary-General of the Arab Parliament
Mr. Ahmed HASSABALLA	Protocol Coordinator
Mr. Ehab ABDELHAMED	Protocol Coordinator
Mr. Ashraf ELSEIDY	Advisor

EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)

Mr. Joseph NTAKIRUTIMANA Leader of the Delegation	Speaker Chairperson, EALA Commission
Ms. Caroline RWIVANGA KAYONGA	Member of Parliament

	Member of the Committee on agriculture, tourism and natural resources Member of the Committee on general purpose
Ms. Gladness LADISLAUS SALEMA	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on accounts Member of the Committee on communications, trade and investments
Ms. Priscilla AMODING Secretary of the delegation	Advisor

EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT (EP)

Mr. Nicolae ȘTEFĂNUȚĂ Leader of the Delegation	Vice-President
Ms. Adriana BUCHIU Secretary of the delegation	Advisor
Ms. Iarina Aurora BADEA Secretary of the delegation	Advisor
Ms. Sanna LEPOLA	Advisor

INTERPARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF MEMBER NATIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (IPA CIS)

Mr. Daniiar TOLONOV Leader of the Delegation	Member of Parliament Member of the Committee on Finance, Budget, Entrepreneurship and Competition Development
Mr. Alexey DOLZHIKOV	Deputy Head of the IPA CIS Council Secretariat
Mr. Denis ZHUK Secretary of the delegation	Advisor
Mr. Dmitriy KOBITSKIY	Secretary General

INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC AND MONETARY UNION (WAEMU)

Mr. Abdoul Magid AG MOHAMED AHMED Leader of the Delegation	Deputy Speaker
Mr. Richard Kocouvi Adjihouho ALLOSSOHOUN	Deputy Speaker
Ms. Yobate KOLANI/BAKALI	Deputy Speaker

LATIN AMERICAN AND CARIBBEAN PARLIAMENT (PARLATINO)

Mr. Rolando GONZALEZ PATRICIO Leader of the Delegation	President
Mr. Carlos NUÑEZ SALINAS	Vice-President
Ms. Norma CALERO FERNANDEZ Secretary of the delegation	Advisor
Mr. Elias CASTILLO	Advisor

PARLIAMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)

Ms. Memounatou IBRAHIMA Leader of the Delegation	President
Ms. Adjaratou COULIBALY NEE TRAORE	Vice-President
Mr. Billay G. TUNKARA	Vice-President Member of the Committee of Selection Member of the Standing Committee of privileges and ethics
Mr. Guy Marius SAGNA	Member of Parliament
Ms. Moussokoura Chantal FANNY	Member of Parliament
Mr. Mohammed Kabeer GARBA	Deputy Secretary General
Mr. Kouao N'Dessonn Yves N'GUESSAN Secretary of the delegation	Advisor
Mr. Toba TANAMA	Advisor

ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA FRANCOPHONIE (APF)

Mme. Amelia LAKRAFI Cheffe de la délégation	Déléguée générale de l'APF
Mme Francine LANDRY	Présidente de l'Assemblée législative du Nouveau-Brunswick
M. Jean-Baptiste LECLERE	Secrétaire général
M. Florian GIACOBINO	Conseiller

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE (PACE)

Ms. Petra BAYR Leader of the Delegation	President
Ms. Valentina GRIPPO	Member of Parliament Vice-President of the Culture, Sport and Education Committee Member of the Legislative Committee

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION (PABSEC)

Mr. ASAF HAJIYEV	Secretary General
Mr. Borys KOLISNYCHENKO	Secretary General
Ms. Valentina COBZAREANU	Secretary General

PARLIAMENT OF MERCOSUR (PARLASUR)

Mr. Rodrigo GAMARRA Leader of the Delegation	President
Mr. Nicolas VIERA DIAZ	Vice-President
Mr. Franco METAZA	Member of Parliament
Mr. Paulo Fernando DOS SANTOS	Member of Parliament

Ms. Dolores GANDULFO Secretary of the Delegation	Secretary, International relations and integration of the PARLASUR
Mr. Arturo SILVERA	Secretary to the President

****

V. OBSERVERS – *OBSERVATEURS*

UNITED NATIONS

Mr. Glen PRICHARD	Chief of Cybercrime and Technology Section, UNODC
Mr. Harry CHENG	UNODC Terrorism Prevention Branch Representative
Ms. Heba HAGRAS	UN Special Rapporteur on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities
Ms. Marta LORENZO	Director, UNRWA Office in Jordan
Mr. Mehmet KÖSE	Donor Relations Consultant, UNWRA
Mr. Sergi CUADRA	Advocacy & Outreach Associate, UNWRA

OFFICE OF THE HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)

Mr. Barham SALIH	High Commissioner
Ms. Alev ÖRSEL	Senior External Relations Officer
Ms. Angela LI ROSI	Representative in Türkiye
Mr. Amr MAREI	Head of Istanbul Office
Ms. Daniela Carmela CICCHELLA	Deputy Resident Representative in Türkiye

PARTNERSHIP FOR MATERNAL, NEWBORN, AND CHILD HEALTH (PMNCH)

Ms. Flavia BUSTREO	Member
Mr. Mohit PRAMANIK	Technical Officer

UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)

Ms. Malti GANDHI	Deputy Representative for Türkiye
Mr. Paolo MARCHI	Resident Representative in Turkiye
Ms. Yuko OSAWA	Chief, Child Protection

UNITED NATIONS ENTITY FOR GENDER EQUALITY AND THE EMPOWERMENT OF WOMEN (UN WOMEN)

Ms. Duygu ARIG	Programme Specialist
Ms. Maryse GUIMOND	Country Director

Ms. Belen SANZ LUQUE	Regional Director for Europe and Central Asia

WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)

Ms. Elisa SCOLARO	External Relations Officer, Parliamentary Affairs
Mr. Ludy Prapancha SURYANTORO	Head of Unit Multisectoral Engagement for Health Security Preparedness

PREPARATORY COMMISSION FOR THE COMPREHENSIVE NUCLEAR-TEST-BAN TREATY ORGANIZATION (CTBTO)

Mr. Ahmed Tareq Ibrahim MAATY	Senior External Relations Officer
Ms. Rajaa GACEM	Associate External Relations Officer
Mr. Robert FLOYD	Executive Secretary

AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION – UNION PARLEMENTAIRE AFRICAIN

M. Pierre-Flambeau NGAYAP	Sénateur
Ms. Hamida KIBWANA	Sénateur
M. Boubacar IDI GADO	Secrétaire Général
M. José Tomás RAIMUNDO	Directeur

ARAB INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Mr. Ahmed Alawi Hafeedh BA ABOOD	Secretary-General
Ms. Aya ZEAITER	Director of the Office of the Secretary-General
Mr. Hussam El Dine HALWAJI AMMAR	Follow-up Specialist

ASEAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Mr. Widhya CHEM	Secretary-General
Mr. Sandi NURSAHAMDANI	Director of Committees
Mr. Ian Karunia Krishnanda SETIAJI	Parliamentary Relations Officer

ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY

Mr. Ahmed ALSALOOM	Representative

ASSOCIATION OF SENATES SHOORA AND EQUIVALENT COUNCILS IN AFRICA AND THE ARAB WORLD (ASSECAA)

Mr. Abdulwasie Yusuf ALI	Secretary General
Mr. Nkemjika EGWIM	Assistant Secretary General in charge of administration

COLLECTIVE SECURITY TREATY ORGANIZATION PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (CSTO-PA)

Mr. Sergei POSPELOV	Executive Secretary
Mr. Gleb BOKHANOVICH	Secretary

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION (CPA)

Mr. Christopher KALILA	Chairperson of the International Executive Committee
Mr. Jarvis MATIYA	Deputy Secretary General

INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENT ON TOLERANCE AND PEACE (IPTP)

Mr. H.E. Ahmed ALJARWAN	President
Mr. Zoran ILIEVSKI	Associate Professor of Political Science and Head of the Center for Policy Research and Analysis of the Faculty of Law at Ss. Cyril and Methodius University of Skopje

INTERPARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY ON ORTHODOXY (IAO)

Mr. Ioan VULPESCU	President of the General Assembly of IAO
Mr. Konstantinos MYGDALIS	Advisor
Mr. Evangelos PARRAS	Secretary

MAGHREB CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL

Mr. Said MOKADEM	Secretary General

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN (PAM)

Mr. Karim DARWISH	PAM President Emeritus
Ms. Deborah BERGAMINI	Representative from Italy

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN (PA-UFM)

Mr. Mohamed ABOUELENEEN	President of the PA-UfM
Ms. Heba SHABANA	Assistant to the President

PARLIAMENTARY CONFEDERATION OF THE AMERICAS (COPA)

Mr. Jose Luis DALMAU SANTIAGO	President
Ms. Camila TOSCANO	President of Womens Network

PARLIAMENTARY UNION OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES (PUIC)

Mr. Mouhamed Khouraichi NIASS	Secretary General
Mr. Ali Asghar MOHAMMADI SIJANI	Deputy Secretary General

SOUTHERN AFRICAN DEVELOPMENT COMMUNITY PARLIAMENTARY FORUM (SADC-PF)

Ms. Boemo SEKGOMA	Secretary General
Mr. Sheuneni KURASHA	Director of Parliamentary Business and Programmes

UNITE PARLIAMENTARIANS NETWORK FOR GLOBAL HEALTH

Ms. Mariam JASHI	Global Board Member, Eastern Europe and Central Asia (EECA) Chapter Chair

LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL (LI)

Ms. Astrid THORS	Deputy President
Mr. William TOWNSEND	Secretary General
Mr. Noah WILENIUS	Staff Intern

SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL

Ms. Selin SAYEK BÖKE	Vice-President, Socialist International Women
Mr. Carlos WALLHEAD	Head of the Secretariat and International Projects

INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)

Ms. Emily MISOLA RICHARD	Legal Adviser

WORLD FUTURE COUNCIL

Ms. Teresa BERGMAN	Senior Researcher & Policy Analyst
Mr. Ali GÜLCEGÜN	Project Manager

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VI. SPECIAL GUESTS TAKING PART IN ACTIVITIES FORESEEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 152nd ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
INVITES SPECIAUX PRENANT PART A DES ACTIVITES PREVUES A L'OCCASION DE LA 152e ASSEMBLEE DE L'UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE

General Debate – Débat général
Mr. Barham SALIH, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
Dr. Robert FLOYD, Executive Secretary, Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty Organization
Ms. Sophie KILADZE, Chairperson, UN Committee on the Rights of the Child
Ms. Heba HAGRASS, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities
Ms. Georgina MAGESA, Youth activist

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development / Commission permanente du développement durable
Ms. Sebnem SAHIN, UNDP Chief Economist

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme
Dr. Heba HAGRAS, UN Special Rapporteur on the rights of persons with disabilities

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs / Commission permanente des Affaires des Nations Unies
Ms. Rita FRENCH, Director of Policy and Diplomatic Engagement, Article 109 Coalition
Mr. Sergiy PROKHOROV, Programme Manager, Dag Hammarskjöld Foundation

Mr. Babatunde AHONSI, UN Resident Coordinator in Türkiye
Ms. Malti GANDHI, UNICEF Resident Representative in Türkiye
Ms. Maryse GUIMOND, UNICEF Resident Representative in Türkiye
Mr. Bülent AÇIKGÖZ, Resident Coordinator's office
Ms. Duygu ARIG, UN Women
Ms. Alev ÖRSEL, UNHCR
Ms. Pelin OZCAN, UNHCR
Mr. Yuko OSAWA, UNICEF

Forum of Women Parliamentarians / Forum des femmes parlementaires
Ms. Bénite DIBATEZA, Gender Lead, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA UK)
Ms. Carmen GEHA, WYDE training consultant on social norms
Mr. Calixte BLOQUET, WYDE consultant on diversity in representation
Ms. Petra BAYR, President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe
Ms. Meryem GÖKA, Chair of the International Conference of Asian Political Parties Women's Wing

Forum of Young Parliamentarians / Forum des jeunes parlementaires
Mr. Devin JOSHI, Associate Professor of Political Science, Singapore Management University
Ms. Zeynep YILDIZ, member of the Turkish Grand National Assembly

High-Level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism / Groupe consultatif de haut niveau de l'UIP sur la lutte contre le terrorisme et l'extrémisme violent
Dr. Christina SCHORI LIANG, Head of Counterterrorism and PVE, Research and Policy Advice Department
Dr. Nicolas STOCKHAMMER, Director Research Cluster "Counter-Terrorism, CVE and Intelligence", Danube University Krems

Committee on Middle East Questions / Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient
Ms. Öykü IRMAKKESEN, Legal Advisor, International Humanitarian Law Centre (Diakonia)
Mr. Tarek EL KHOULY, Egyptian Politician & International Relations Researcher

Committee on Health / Comité sur la santé
Mr. Lothar WIELER, Commissioner, Lancet Commission on 21st Century Global Threats to Health

Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law / Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du droit international humanitaire
Ms. Emily MOSILA RICHARD, Legal Adviser, ICRC
Ms. Safak PAVEY, Senior Adviser, UNHCR

Workshop on *Multistakeholder approaches to peace and reconciliation : Legislative and faith-based perspectives* / Atelier sur le thème *Approches multipartites de la paix et de la réconciliation : perspectives législatives et confessionnelles*
Mr. Fadi DAOU, Executive Director, Globethics
Mr. Ahmed SHAHEED, Professor of International Human Rights Law, University of Essex
Mr. Emmanuel ADAMAKIS, Ecumenical Patriarchate of Constantinople
Mr. Ahmed NAGI, Senior analyst for Yemen, International Crisis Group

Workshop on *The UN Convention against Cybercrime: Parliamentary perspectives on ratification and implementation* / Atelier sur le thème *La Convention des Nations Unies contre la cybercriminalité : perspectives parlementaires en matière de ratification et de mise en œuvre*
Mr. Glen PRICHARD, Chief of Cybercrime and Technology Section, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
Mr. Darrin JONES, Executive Director, Partnership and Planning, INTERPOL

Open Session of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law / Session ouverte du Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du droit international humanitaire
Ms. Monika SANDVIK, Senior Statelessness Coordinator and Head of Section at the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)
Ms. Christy CHITENGU, Co-Lead, Global Movement Against Statelessness