



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

Governing Council
Item 14
Assembly
Item 8

CL/202/14-P.2.Am.7
A/138/8-P.2.Am.7
12 February 2018

Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules

*Sub-amendments submitted by the delegation of India
within the statutory deadlines*

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#IPU138

Sl. No.	Subject	Suggestion/Amendment Proposed by India Group to the Proposals
1.	<p>Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules</p> <p>(a) <u>Statutes</u></p> <p>Article 10.2, <u>add</u> at the end of the paragraph: <i>"A Member Parliament may register one additional delegate if at least one young parliamentarian is part of the delegation, on condition that the delegation is composed of both sexes and the Member is not in arrears in the payment of its assessed contributions"</i>.</p> <p>(b) <u>Rules of the Assembly</u></p> <p>Rule 22.1, <u>amend</u> as follows: "No more than Two representatives of each delegation may speak during the General Debate. For this Debate, every delegation shall be entitled to eight minutes' speaking time unless the Steering Committee decides otherwise. When two speakers from the same delegation are registered for this Debate. They shall share the speaking time as they deem fit in the most appropriate way. An additional MP from each delegation may address the General Debate, provided he/she is a young parliamentarian² ."</p>	<p>The Amendment is accepted.</p> <p>The Amendment is accepted.</p> <p><u>Comments</u> The topic of the General Debate may be circulated well in advance after taking concurrence of the Member Parliaments.</p>
	<p><u>Delete Rule 22.2</u></p> <p>2. With a view to ensuring the normal running of the debates, the Steering Committee may adjust the above mentioned speaking time to suit the circumstances.</p> <p><u>Explanatory note</u></p> <p>The 8-minute speaking time referenced in the Rules has not been applicable for several years now. In 2014, the format of IPU Assemblies changed from a five-day event to four days, with the consequent reduction of time allocated to the General Debate (as compared to the 18 hours devoted to the Debate prior to 2014, only 13-14 hours were available in 2017). Moreover, IPU membership has grown considerably (from 108 Members in 1987 to 178 Members now), which has also led to the reduction in speaking time.</p> <p>As part of the modalities to enhance youth participation at IPU Assemblies, the Governing Council agreed that a list of speakers shall be opened and reserved exclusively for young MPs. Therefore, it is suggested that an additional two minutes be given to delegations registering a young MP as a third speaker in the General Debate, on condition that the additional time is used by a young MP.</p>	<p>The Amendment is accepted.</p> <p><u>Comments</u> List of invitees who are going to participate as keynote speakers may be circulated in advance along with the subject items. No special preference may be given to them <i>w.r.t</i> speaking time.</p>

	<p>Consequently, it is proposed that the speaking time in the General Debate be modified as follows:</p> <p>List A High-level segment (Presiding Officers) 7 minutes</p> <p>List B First speakers from delegations 6 minutes</p> <p>List C Young parliamentarians 2 minutes</p> <p>List D Second speakers from delegations Time remaining (up to a total of 7 minutes for two speakers)</p> <p>In case of need and depending on the number of speakers, the Assembly Steering Committee may decide to further reduce the speaking time. As usual, Members and Associate Members have the right to divide their speaking time between two speakers from the same delegation (majority-opposition, male-female, etc.). Observer delegations will have three minutes' speaking time and will normally speak at end of List B. Heads of Organizations will be included in the usual drawing of lots for the order of speakers.</p>	
<p>2.</p>	<p><u>Draft amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules submitted by Mr. K. Kosachev (Russian Federation), Vice-President of the IPU Executive Committee, on 22 December 2017:</u></p> <p><u>ARTICLE 19</u></p> <p>1. The Governing Council shall elect the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union for a period of three years (cf. Governing Council, Rules 6, 7 and 8). The President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union is the political head of the Organization and shall be ex officio President of the Governing Council. The President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union represents the Organization and establishes and promotes relations between the Inter-Parliamentary Union and international organizations.</p> <p>2. In case of the absence of the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and upon authorization of the President, his/her representation functions shall be exercised by the Vice-President of the Executive Committee, or the Vice-Presidents representing the geopolitical groups, or the Secretary General.</p>	<p>The Amendment may be read in the light of the sub-amendments suggested by the President of the IPU at page 4 of this document.</p> <p>The Amendment may be read in the light of the sub-amendment suggested by the President of the IPU at page 4 of this document.</p>

<p>3.</p>	<p><u>Draft amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules submitted by Ms. G. Cuevas (Mexico), IPU President, on 22 December 2017:</u></p> <p><u>ARTICLE 1</u></p> <p>4. The IPU has international legal personality and is authorized to enter into international agreements, including cooperation agreements with national parliaments and regional inter-parliamentary organizations, as well as with international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 19</u></p> <p>3. The election shall take place during the second Assembly of the year. If, for exceptional reasons, the Assembly cannot be convened, the Governing Council may nevertheless hold the election. The President shall be elected by absolute majority and shall take office the day after his/her election.</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 19 bis</u></p> <p>1. As the political head of the IPU, the President shall:</p> <p>(a) Be the principal spokesperson for the Organization with authority to express its political views;</p> <p>(b) Lead the IPU's efforts to develop its relationship with national parliaments, regional inter-parliamentary organizations, as well as with international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations;</p> <p>(c) Be the principal representative of the Organization at major political events and at other meetings of international inter-governmental and parliamentary organizations and assemblies; and</p> <p>(d) Represent the IPU at major debates of the United Nations General Assembly and special United Nations summits and meetings of major international significance.</p> <p>2. In the absence of the President, the Executive Committee shall decide to whom these functions shall be conferred among the six Vice-Presidents representing each of the geopolitical groups.</p>	<p>The words "has international legal personality and" may be deleted.</p> <p>The Amendment is accepted.</p> <p>The Amendment is accepted. <u>Comment:</u> This sub-clause may appear before sub-clause 3 of Article 19 mentioned above and word "bis" may be done away with.</p>
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<p><u>ARTICLE 26 (EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE)</u></p> <p>(e) During the Assembly following the election of the President, propose for approval of the Governing Council the Triennial Strategy of the IPU;</p> <p>(e)(f) Assess the progress made on the annual work programme and, during the second Assembly of the year, propose to for approval of the Governing Council the annual work programme and budget of the IPU for the following year, aligned with the objectives established in the Triennial Strategy (cf. Financial Regs., Rule 3.4);</p> <p>(g) Examine and submit for the approval of the Governing Council all agreements to be signed by the IPU. Prior to submission to the Governing Council, the Executive Committee shall specify, depending on the nature of the agreements, the officeholder authorized to sign them on behalf of the Organization;</p> <p>(f)(h) Inform the Governing Council at its sessions about the activities of the Executive Committee through a report by the President;</p> <p>(i) Approve every three years the Organization's policies on transparency and accountability aligned with the Triennial Strategy of the IPU. The Executive Committee shall submit an annual report to the Governing Council on this subject with specific recommendations for action;</p> <p>(j) Examine and submit for approval of the Governing Council a triennial communications strategy of the IPU, which must underline the parliamentary nature of the Organization and ensure the inclusion of all Member Parliaments and parliamentarians;</p> <p>(g)(k) Oversee the administration of the IPU Secretariat as well as its activities in the execution of the decisions taken by the Assembly or by the Governing Council and receive, for this purpose, all reports and necessary information;</p> <p>(h)(l) Examine candidatures for the post of Secretary General with the aim of submitting a proposal to the Governing Council and establish the terms of office of the Secretary General appointed by the Governing Council;</p> <p>(i)(m) Request the Governing Council to grant supplementary appropriations should the budget appropriations approved by the Governing Council appear to be insufficient to cover the expenditure required for the execution of the programme and the administration of the IPU; in urgent cases, grant these appropriations provided that it shall inform the Governing Council of such action at the latter's next session;</p>	<p>The word "triennial" may be replaced with the word "five year" all through the proposed amendment and consequential amendments to the proposal may be carried out. Further the words "<u>following the election of the President</u>" wherever appearing in the proposal may be deleted.</p> <p>The Amendment is accepted. However, prior to giving a go-ahead to the amendment it is felt that the scope of a transparency and accountability report may be defined.</p>
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	<p>(j)(n) Designate an External Auditor entrusted with auditing the accounts of the IPU (cf. Financial Regs., Rule 13.1);</p> <p>(k)(o) Determine the scales of the salaries and allowances of staff members of the IPU Secretariat (cf. Staff Regs., Section IV);</p> <p>(l)(p) Adopt its own Rules;</p> <p>(m)(q) Carry out all the functions which the Governing Council delegates to it in accordance with the Statutes and Rules.</p>	
	<p><u>ARTICLE 28 (SECRETARIAT)</u></p> <p>2. The Secretariat shall perform the following functions:</p> <p>(f) Prepare drafts of the Triennial Strategy, the annual work programme and budget for the consideration of the Executive Committee (cf. Financial Regs., Rule 3.2, 3.3 and 3.7);</p> <p>(g) Prepare and submit for consideration of the Executive Committee the annual report on transparency and accountability to be approved by the Governing Council;</p> <p>(h) Prepare and submit for consideration of the Executive Committee the triennial communications strategy to be approved by the Governing Council;</p> <p>(i) Prepare proposals of the Organization's policies on transparency, accountability and communications aligned with the Triennial Strategy of the IPU for the approval of the Executive Committee;</p> <p>(g)(j) Collect and disseminate information concerning the structure and functioning of representative institutions;</p> <p>(h)(k) Under the direction of the President, follow up on the Maintain relations between the IPU and other international organizations and, in general, its representation at international conferences;</p> <p>(i)(l) Maintain the archives of the Inter-Parliamentary Union.</p>	

	<p><u>ARTICLE 21 (GOVERNING COUNCIL)</u></p> <p>(h) Adopt the Triennial Strategy of the IPU during the Assembly following the election of the President;</p> <p>(h)(i) Adopt annually the work programme and budget of the IPU and establish the scale of contributions (cf. Financial Regs., Rules 3.1 and 5.2);</p> <p>(j) Approve all agreements to be signed by the IPU (cf. Art. 26.2(g) of the Statutes;</p> <p>(j)(k) Approve, each year, the accounts for the preceding fiscal year on the recommendation of two Auditors, whom it shall appoint from among its members (cf. Governing Council, Rule 41; Financial Regs., Rule 13.3; Secretariat, Rule 12);</p> <p>(l) Approve the triennial communications strategy submitted by the Executive Committee (cf. Art. 26.2(j));</p> <p>(m) Approve the annual report on transparency and accountability submitted by the Executive Committee (cf. Art. 26.2(i)) and instruct the Secretary General to implement the recommendations contained therein;</p> <p>(m)(n) Authorize the acceptance of donations and legacies (cf. Financial Regs., Rule 7.1);</p> <p>(n)(o) Elect the members of the Executive Committee (cf. Governing Council, Rules 37, 38 and 39) and appoint the Secretary General of the IPU (cf. Art. 28.1; Secretariat, Rule 3.1);</p> <p>(o)(p) Adopt its own Rules and express its opinion on proposals to amend the Statutes (cf. Governing Council, Rule 45.1)</p> <p><u>ARTICLE 2</u></p> <p>2. The official languages of the Organization are English, French, Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese.</p>	<p>The Amendment is accepted.</p>
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