



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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# 138<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

Assembly

A/138/Inf.1.rev  
8 March 2018

## Vacancies to be filled during the 138<sup>th</sup> Assembly

### Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

The 27<sup>th</sup> session of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians will be called upon to renew half of the membership of its Bureau.

**Two regional representatives** are to be elected from each geopolitical group, for a four-year term, to replace those regional representatives whose term expires in March 2018.

According to the Rules of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians, a retiring member of the Bureau shall not be eligible for re-election for two years.

The Forum of Women Parliamentarians will hold elections to the Bureau on Tuesday, 27 March 2018 from 12 noon to 1 p.m. and from 3.30 to 4 p.m.

For the Eurasia Group, in addition to the vacancies to be filled to replace the regional representatives whose term expires in March 2018, it is called upon to replace Ms. K. Atshemyan (Armenia). The Eurasia Group has 3 seats to be filled on the Bureau.

*Geopolitical groups are requested to submit candidatures in writing by Monday, 26 March, 12 noon to the Submission and Control of documents office (office no. 224/225, second floor of the CICG). Candidatures should be accompanied by a signed cover letter from the geopolitical group and a brief curriculum vitae (3 paragraphs maximum) in English or French, for distribution to participants.*

### Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

On 28 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **one member** to replace Mr. A.B.M. Fazle Karim Chowdhury (Bangladesh) whose term of office expires in April 2018.

*Taking into consideration the specific criteria for membership of this Committee, candidates are requested to complete the form available on the IPU website (<http://www.ipu.org/hr-e/miscel/form-ehrp.pdf>). Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter, a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum) and the completed form, may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 27 March 2018.*

### Committee on Middle East Questions

On 28 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect **two members** to replace Ms. D. Pascal Allende (Chile) whose term of office expires at the end of the 202<sup>nd</sup> session, and fill the vacancy left open since the 201<sup>st</sup> session of the Governing Council.

#IPU138

According to the Rules, the Committee shall comprise a total of 14 members, of whom two are ex officio (Israel and Palestine). Rule 2.2 states that: "No more than seven of the members shall be of the same sex and as many of the geopolitical groups as possible shall be represented on the Committee". At present, the African, Latin American and Eurasia Groups are under-represented on this Committee. The membership of the Committee without the outgoing members includes 7 men and 5 women.

*Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 27 March 2018.*

**Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law**

On 28 March, the Governing Council will be required to elect:

- **One member (male)** from the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean for the vacancy that was not filled at the 201<sup>st</sup> session of the Governing Council.

*Candidatures, accompanied by a signed covering letter and a brief curriculum vitae (one page maximum), may be submitted up to 9 a.m. on Tuesday, 27 March 2018.*

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**Standing Committee Bureaux**

Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

There are **ten vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Arab Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a woman
- Eurasia Group** : Three vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man
- Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man
- Twelve Plus Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man.

***In addition, the Bureau members from Jordan, Mexico and Uganda are completing their first two-year term and are eligible for re-election for a second term.***

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

There are **five vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Arab Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Asia-Pacific Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a woman
- Twelve Plus Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man.

***In addition, the Bureau members from the Republic of Moldova, the Russian Federation, Sudan, Sweden and Zimbabwe are completing their first two-year term and are eligible for re-election for a second term.***

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

There are **seven vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

- African Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a man or a woman
- Arab Group** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man
- Asia-Pacific Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a woman
- GRULAC** : Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man
- Twelve Plus Group** : One vacancy to be filled by a woman.

***In addition, the Bureau members from Armenia, Bhutan, Botswana, India, Kazakhstan, Portugal and the Russian Federation are completing their first two-year term and are eligible for re-election for a second term.***

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

There are **seven vacancies** to be filled by the following Groups:

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|--------------------------|---|--|
| <b>Arab Group</b>        | : | Three vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a woman |
| <b>Eurasia Group</b>     | : | One vacancy to be filled by a woman                              |
| <b>GRULAC</b>            | : | Two vacancies, of which at least one must be filled by a man     |
| <b>Twelve Plus Group</b> | : | One vacancy to be filled by a man or woman.                      |

Due to the specificities of this Bureau's work, it is recommended that candidates have a working knowledge of one of the two official IPU languages, English or French, and are able to travel for activities in the field and at UN Headquarters in New York.

*Candidatures from the respective geopolitical groups, which may be submitted up until the time of the elections, should be accompanied by a brief curriculum vitae (maximum one page), specifying Committee membership in parliament and familiarity with the issues covered by the Committee, as well as the candidate's full contact details. The CV should also be accompanied by a commitment from the candidate's parliament that s/he will be supported in their work and included in future delegations to Assemblies.*

The election of the new Bureau members will take place at the first sitting of each Standing Committee.

Election for the Presidents and Vice-Presidents of the Standing Committees

In keeping with the IPU reforms of 2003, the Presidency and Vice-Presidency of all the Standing Committees changes every two years, on the basis of regional rotation.

The IPU President and Secretary General will meet with the Chairs of the Geopolitical Groups on 24 March, with a view to examining the current situation and deciding on the redistribution of the Standing Committee Presidencies among the Geopolitical Groups.

The Geopolitical Groups concerned will then designate their respective candidate for the position of Standing Committee President, choosing from among the sitting Bureau members (making sure that their term expires no earlier than March 2020) OR, in the case of vacancies, identifying a new Bureau member with the competencies required to carry out this important function (the election of the new Bureau members will take place at the first sitting of the Standing Committee).

Candidates for the positions of Standing Committee President and Vice-President are expected to be MPs with attested experience, a deep commitment to the issues falling under the purview of the respective Committee, the willingness to devote time and energy to the exercise of this function, as well as the support of his/her parliament. Working knowledge of one of the official languages of the IPU and a certain prominence at the national and international level would also be important assets. Once the Geopolitical Groups have agreed on the distribution of the positions of the Standing Committee Presidents, the respective Bureau shall propose Vice-Presidents for the Standing Committees.

The formal election of the President and Vice-President shall take place at the last sitting of the Standing Committee.