

# IPU High-Level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism

## Terms of Reference

*Endorsed by the IPU Governing Council at its 203<sup>rd</sup> session  
(Geneva, 18 October 2018)*

### Mandate

The IPU High-Level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism (HLAG-CTVE) shall serve, under the authority of the Executive Committee and the Governing Council, as the global parliamentary focal point for counter-terrorism related parliamentary activities.

Building on the resolutions adopted by IPU Assemblies and Members' wish to see enhanced cooperation with the United Nations in this field, the IPU has devised a Member-driven plan of action for parliaments to address terrorism.

### Purpose

The role of the Group shall be to guide the Member-driven plan of action for parliaments to address terrorism and prevent violent extremism, as well as to bridge the significant gaps in the implementation of relevant IPU and UN resolutions.

The plan of action will also draw on relevant UN instruments such as the 2006 UN Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy and the 2016 Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy Review, which includes countering the spread of violent extremism conducive to terrorism.

The Group shall focus on supporting parliamentary measures and legislative work necessary to implement existing IPU and UN resolutions and strategies relating to terrorism and the prevention of violent extremism.

The main expected outputs are: organization of regional and global inter-parliamentary conferences; the establishment of a Global Parliamentary Network to foster cooperation among national parliamentary security committees related to counter-terrorism; the organization of capacity-building programmes for parliaments on counter-terrorism; the production of an annual parliamentary report on implementation of relevant IPU and UN resolutions; the elaboration of best practices and guidelines for parliamentarians; and the mapping and consolidation of existing IPU activities in the field of prevention of violent extremism.

The work of the Group is expected to facilitate the coordination and implementation of the IPU's counter-terrorism efforts by supporting the parliamentary processes to translate international commitments into national laws, and ensuring implementation at the national level.

An IPU support team will coordinate the proposed activities, with technical support from the UNODC.

### Membership

The Group shall be composed of 21 members of national parliaments, nominated by their respective geopolitical groups on the basis of expertise and on the formula used for the composition of the Preparatory Committee of the Fifth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament (Executive Committee geopolitical group quota plus one per group).<sup>1</sup> The composition of the Group shall be gender balanced in accordance with the provisions of Art. 21(f) of the IPU Statutes. In addition, the President of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians and the President of Board of Young Parliamentarians shall be ex officio members.

International organizations, in addition to UNODC, with relevant expertise will be associated to the Group.

High-Level Advisory Group members shall serve for a single four-year term.

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<sup>1</sup> African Group: 5 members ; Arab Group: 2 members ; Asia-Pacific Group: 4 members ; Eurasia Group: 2 members; GRULAC: 3 members; and Twelve Plus Group : 5 members.

The mandates of members or their representatives who fail to participate in three consecutive meetings of the High-Level Advisory Group shall be automatically terminated. One international organization active in the area of counter-terrorism, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) shall be part of the joint support team servicing the Group.

### **Chairperson**

The Group shall elect its Chairperson for a period of one year. He/she shall be eligible for re-election for one further one-year term.

The Advisory Group may also elect a Vice-Chairperson for one year following the same procedure as for election of the Chairperson.

### **Sessions**

The Group shall normally meet twice a year in regular session, on the occasion of IPU Assemblies. Its sessions shall be held *in camera*. The Group shall set the dates for its sessions based on the proposals made by the Secretary General. Additional meetings may be held if the Group so decides outside IPU Assemblies.

### **Agenda**

The provisional agenda of the Group shall be drawn up by the Group Chairperson in consultation with the Secretary General.

### **Decisions**

As a general rule, the Group's decisions shall be taken by consensus.. In other cases, the main recommendations, as well as diverging opinions, shall be conveyed to the Council.

### **Missions**

The Group may decide to carry out field visits, principally to examine the role played by a given national parliament in addressing the issues that fall within the Group's mandate. Such missions shall be conducted in accordance with agreed rules and principles.

### **Reporting**

The Group shall report twice a year in regular session on its work to the Governing Council, of which it shall be a subsidiary body.