



# 142<sup>nd</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 16–20 April 2020

Standing Committee on  
United Nations Affairs

C-IV/142/A.1  
14 December 2019

## Draft agenda

1. **Adoption of the agenda**
2. **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held at the 141<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in Belgrade (October 2019)**
3. **Briefing: Preparation for the 2020 Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs)**

Voluntary National Reviews (VNRs) constitute the backbone of the ministerial session of the UN High-level Political Forum (HLPF) that meets each July in New York, providing a global accountability mechanism for the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Each year, an average of 40 governments volunteer to perform a national progress review through which all relevant stakeholders, including parliaments, are expected to contribute input to a national report that is presented to the HLPF session. To encourage parliaments' engagement in this important process, the IPU administers a survey to the parliaments concerned and presents its results to the HLPF.

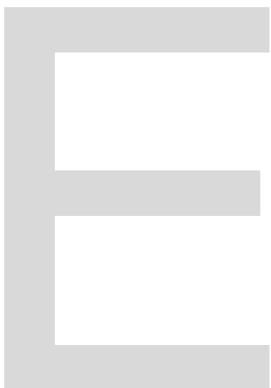
This part of the Committee session will feature the results of the IPU survey over the past few years and introduce a new survey for the 2020 HLPF session. Participants will be invited to discuss the practical ways in which parliaments can be more effectively involved in the VNRs as an opportunity for parliaments to take stock of national progress and suggest necessary course corrections.

4. **Special presentation: High-level meeting to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations**

Governments at the UN have decided to convene a special meeting, on 21 September 2020, in New York, to mark the 75<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations. The main theme of the anniversary year, *The Future We Want, the United Nations We Need: Reaffirming Our Collective Commitment to Multilateralism*, highlights the need for all nations to work more closely together with the support of a more empowered United Nations in the face of global challenges that no country can tackle alone.

Parliamentarians and other stakeholders are invited to contribute to the anniversary year by holding debates, engaging actively with their respective governments, and participating in a global survey open to all citizens. Parliaments' input in this process will help inform the outcome of the September 2020 meeting.

A high-level official of the United Nations will present the main elements of the UN75 campaign and respond to questions from participants.



**5. Panel discussion on the main theme of the 2020 HLPF: *Accelerated action and transformative pathways: realizing the decade of action and delivery for sustainable development***

Despite some progress along the way, five years since their introduction the SDGs appear to be off track. Taking stock of this, the UN SDG Summit in September 2019 concluded with a Declaration, which, among other things, outlines 10 cross-cutting actions to accelerate progress toward the SDGs.

This panel discussion will reflect on the Declaration's recommended actions, namely:

- Leaving no one behind
- Mobilizing adequate and well-directed financing
- Enhancing national implementation
- Strengthening institutions for more integrated solutions
- Bolstering local action
- Reducing disaster risk and building resilience
- Solving challenges through international cooperation
- Harnessing science, technology and innovation
- Investing in data and statistics
- Strengthening the HLPF

**6. Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

**7. Any other business**