



# 141<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly

Belgrade (Serbia)  
13-17 October 2019



Governing Council  
Item 12

CL/205/12-R.1  
29 August 2019

## Reporting by Members on IPU-related activities

### Annual reporting exercise by Members

#### Reporting by IPU Members on action taken to follow up on IPU resolutions, Assemblies and other initiatives

*According to the IPU Statutes, all Members and Associate Members of the IPU are required to send an annual report of action taken to follow up on IPU resolutions and decisions (Article 6).*

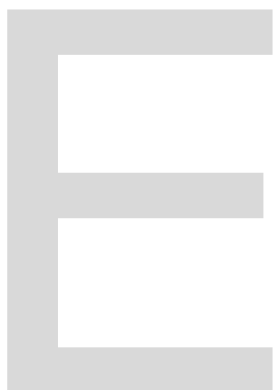
*It is also the duty of the Members of the IPU to submit the resolutions of the IPU within their respective Parliament, in the most appropriate form; to communicate them to the Government; to stimulate their implementation and to inform the IPU Secretariat, as often and fully as possible, particularly in its annual reports, of the steps taken and the results obtained (cf. Assembly, Rule 39.2). To this end, all heads of delegations to IPU Assemblies should submit in accordance with national laws a report to their national parliaments with a copy to the IPU Secretary General as soon as possible following the closure of the Assembly (Article 7).*

*Since 2017, the Governing Council has decided to pursue a new approach based on a predictable rotational cycle. A number of parliaments from each geopolitical group are designated to report each year, with each Member expected to submit a report every four years. This is intended to allow sufficient time to prepare a submission and reduce the burden of annual reporting.*

For the 2019 edition of the periodic reporting exercise, 45 IPU Members were asked to complete a questionnaire on parliamentary action related to IPU resolutions and other decisions. All IPU Members were also invited to participate voluntarily.

As with 2018, this year's questionnaire aimed to collect comparative data and concrete examples of parliamentary follow-up on one or more resolutions or decisions that the IPU had recently adopted. Most questions in the two-page survey were multiple choice with a blank space to include examples.

Of the 45 selected parliaments, the IPU Secretariat received 31 responses, which is a 69 per cent response rate. Although this is a slight improvement on 2018 (67 per cent), it still remains well below the expected outcome. Responses were received from all geopolitical groups.



The following parliaments were called to present their reports in 2019 (those that responded are in bold):

African Group

Burundi, **Djibouti**, **Equatorial Guinea**, Ethiopia, **Gabon**, the Gambia, Ghana, **Guinea**, Guinea-Bissau, **Kenya**, **Lesotho**.

Arab Group

**Lebanon**, Libya, Mauritania, **Morocco**, **Oman**.

Asia-Pacific Group

**Fiji**, **India**, **Indonesia**, Iran (Islamic Republic of), **Japan**, Lao People's Democratic Republic, **Malaysia**, **Maldives**, Marshall Islands.

Eurasia Group

**Kazakhstan**, **Kyrgyzstan**.

Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)

**Cuba**, **El Salvador**, **Guatemala**, **Guyana**, **Haiti**, Honduras.

Twelve Plus Group

**Finland**, Georgia, **Germany**, **Greece**, **Hungary**, **Iceland**, Ireland, **Israel**, Italy, **Latvia**, **Liechtenstein**, **Lithuania**.

In addition, one Observer (the **Maghreb Consultative Council**) and 17 Members sent voluntary responses (two more than in 2018):

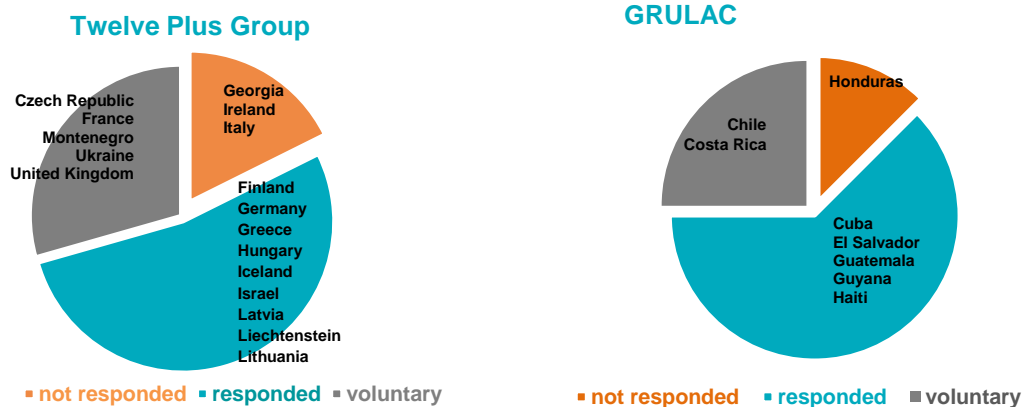
African Group: **Senegal**, **Seychelles**, **Zimbabwe**.

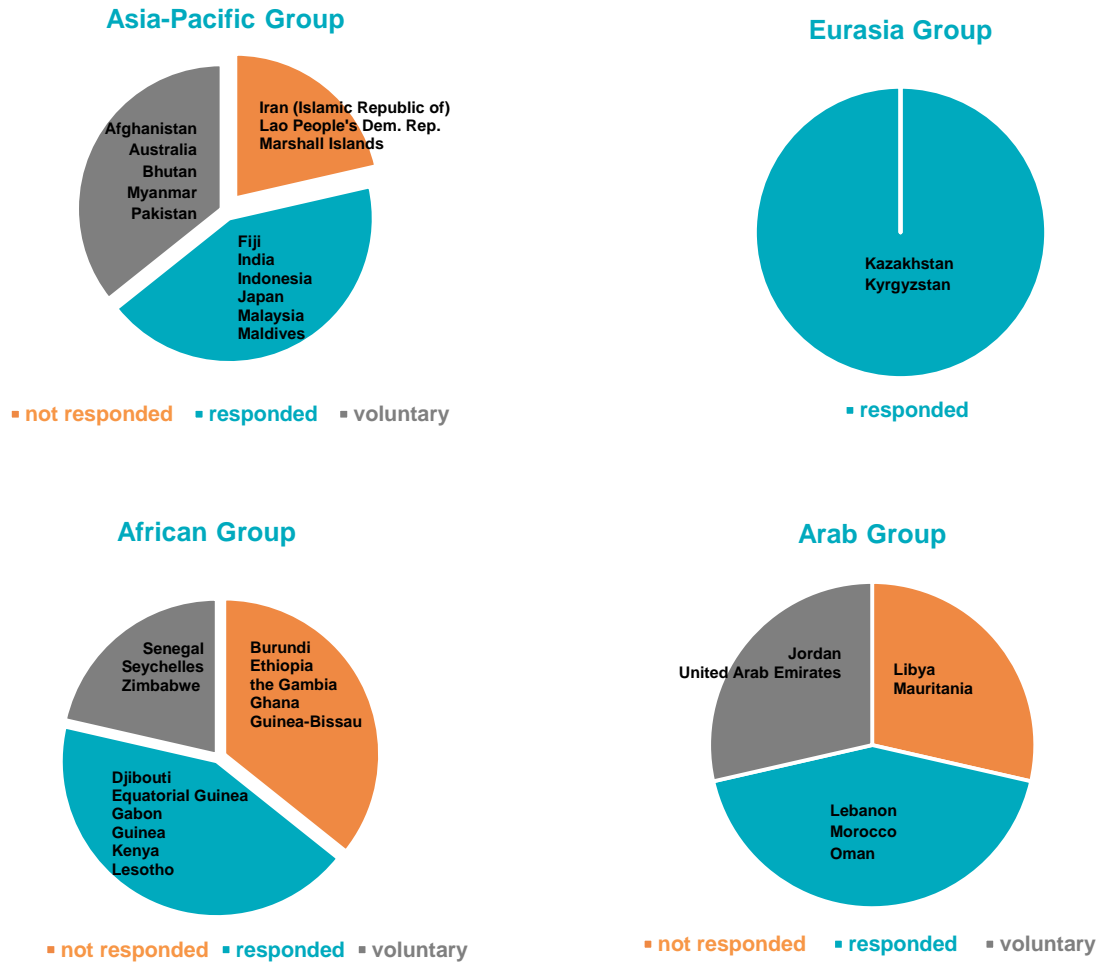
Arab Group: **Jordan**, **United Arab Emirates**.

Asia-Pacific: **Afghanistan**, **Australia**, **Bhutan**, **Myanmar**, **Pakistan**.

GRULAC: **Chile**, **Costa Rica**.

Twelve Plus Group: **Czech Republic**, **France**, **Montenegro**, **Ukraine**, **United Kingdom**.





Special thanks are due to **Myanmar** for contributing to the exercise on a voluntary basis for the third consecutive year, and to **Australia, the United Arab Emirates, the United Kingdom and Zimbabwe** for having sent two voluntary reports in the last three years. The secretariats of the African Group and the GRULAC Group should also be commended for actively encouraging their respective Members to participate.

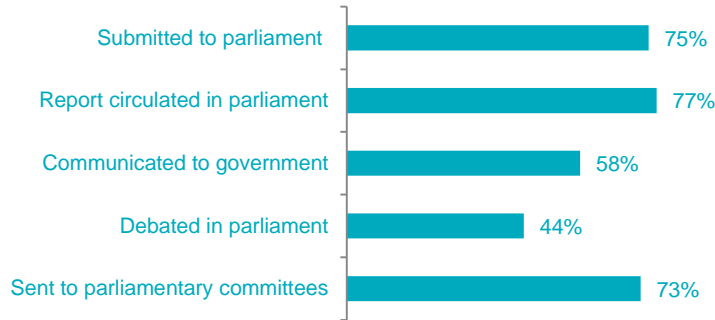
### Survey findings

The responses provide qualitative and quantitative information about how national parliaments follow up on IPU resolutions and other IPU decisions and initiatives.

In line with the last two years, this year's responses indicate that, in general, parliaments are informed of the outcomes of IPU meetings through annual or post-Assembly reports. The majority of the respondents shared IPU resolutions with parliamentary committees.

With regard to the outcomes of the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018), 75 per cent of the respondents indicated they had submitted the resolutions and other outcomes to their parliaments; 73 per cent had informed the relevant parliamentary committees of the resolutions; more than half (58 per cent) had communicated them to their governments; and 77 per cent had submitted a report to parliament about their delegation's participation in the Assembly. Nevertheless, as in previous years, only a few parliaments (44 per cent) reported that they had debated the outcomes of the Assembly.

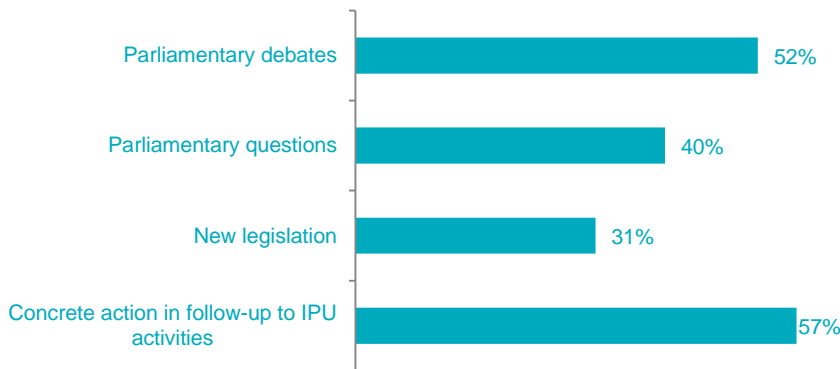
### Outcomes of the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly



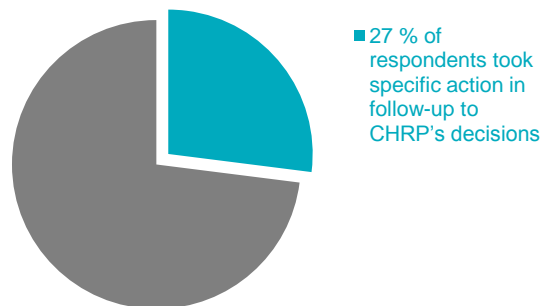
Regarding IPU influence on parliamentary work, more than half of the parliaments concerned had held at least one debate in the past two years on their participation in IPU work. Forty per cent had submitted parliamentary questions as a result of participation in IPU activities. In addition to attending the Statutory Assemblies, 77 per cent of respondents had attended at least one other IPU activity (seminar, workshop, hearing etc.). Of those respondents, 57 per cent had taken specific actions to follow up decisions and recommendations resulting from such activities.

The results of the survey also show that IPU resolutions and other decisions have inspired concrete action in parliaments, including initiatives to draft or amend legislation. In this regard, 31 per cent of the respondent parliaments acknowledged that new legislation and parliamentary decisions had been influenced by the IPU's work in the past two years.

### Parliamentary action influenced by the IPU in the past two years



In addition, 27 per cent of the respondent parliaments reported that they had taken specific action to follow up on decisions of the IPU's Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (CHRP).

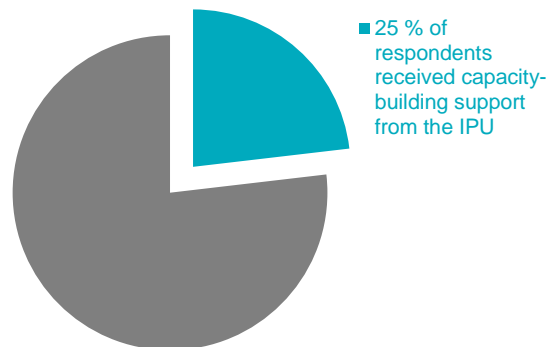


One significant example of good parliamentary practice concerning CHRP work is that, after each Assembly, the head of the French delegation informs relevant parliamentary friendship groups about the human rights decisions adopted by the Governing Council relating to the parliaments that the friendship groups work with. The groups can therefore include in their agendas recommendations relating to IPU work on the human rights of parliamentarians, ensure follow-up and invite their colleagues from the countries concerned to support MPs whose human rights have allegedly been violated.

### Impact of capacity-building support provided by the IPU in the past two years

Twenty-five per cent of the respondent parliaments confirmed that they received capacity-building support from the IPU. One example of direct outcomes of such support is the following:

- The Parliament of Fiji built on the findings of an IPU-supported self-assessment to evaluate the gender sensitivity of parliament by establishing a Gender Focus Parliamentary Group and developing a national gender toolkit. As a direct result of a self-assessment exercise on parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Parliament of Fiji also developed a national action plan and a guidance note on integrating the SDGs into the work of its parliamentary committees. The IPU and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) supported the SDG self-assessment.

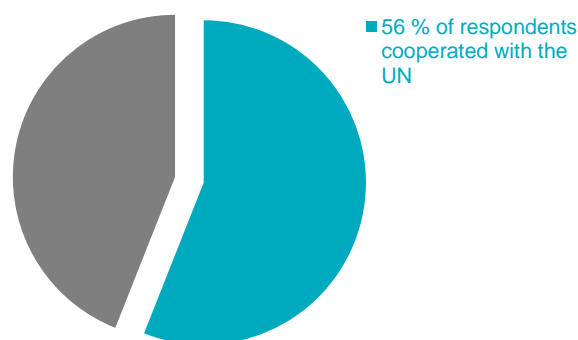


More information and examples of recent capacity-building activities and their results can be found in the interim report of the IPU Secretary General on the activities of the IPU since the 204<sup>th</sup> session of the Governing Council.

There has been a steady increase in the number of parliaments (148 to date) that have endorsed the *Common Principles for Support to Parliaments*. This high level of engagement shows that parliaments acknowledge the importance of examining all the factors to be considered in designing and managing effective parliamentary support. It also confirms that parliaments share the IPU’s vision: they must be in the driving seat for capacity-building activities.

### Parliamentary cooperation with the United Nations in the past two years

More than half of respondents (56 per cent) indicated that they had cooperated with the United Nations and worked jointly with the UN Country Teams. This section should be read in conjunction with the results of the recent IPU survey on the engagement of parliaments with the United Nations (CL/205/11-R.2). The response rate for this survey, conducted between 1 March and 30 June 2019, was very low (27.9 per cent). Among other things, its results exposed many gaps in the way parliaments engage nationally and globally with the United Nations. There were some signs of vitality in the relationships but also many signs of parliaments not using the full potential of their oversight of the United Nations or of their input into UN processes. A majority of parliaments remain unfamiliar with key UN negotiations and reform processes, and the relationship between parliaments and the UN system in the field is generally weak.



Some of the good practices reported by Members include the following:

- In Bhutan, UNDP supported the Parliament to integrate the SDGs into the country's 12<sup>th</sup> Five-Year Plan, which aims to ensure well-being and happiness for the people of Bhutan.
- In close collaboration with the UN Country Team, and particularly with UNDP, the Parliament of Kyrgyzstan is implementing a project: *Strong and inclusive parliamentary democracy*.
- In Kenya, the parliamentary caucus on SDGs, in conjunction with the UN Country Team and other partners, hosted an open day in parliament on 20 June 2019. The meeting was officially opened by the Speaker of the Senate and aimed to make MPs aware of the SDGs as well as to distribute reading material about them.

Other examples of parliamentary cooperation with the United Nations are available in a dedicated report.

## Conclusion

The new reporting structure seems to help Members fulfil their statutory obligations to implement IPU decisions and report back on action taken and results obtained. This is due to the structure's predictability (Members know in advance when they will be called to report) and user-friendly survey. However, for the third consecutive year, while the response rate is gently rising and more parliaments report on a voluntary basis, the response rate remains below expectations. Except for a few cases, parliaments do not provide concrete examples of action taken at the national level.

Further reflection is needed to find ways to improve this exercise and to help IPU Members understand its value, while also allowing them to showcase more effectively national efforts to follow up on IPU work. Concrete recommendations from parliaments would help the Secretariat to support them better in this important endeavour.

Individual MPs can also actively contribute to implementing IPU resolutions and decisions after attending an IPU Assembly. For example, they can make sure that their parliaments comply with the reporting obligations.

## What can you do?

- ✓ Make sure that your delegation acts effectively to submit a report to parliament after Assemblies. Take the initiative to contribute to the drafting of the report or provide substantive input into it.
- ✓ Share copies of the resolutions adopted during the Assembly with your fellow parliamentarians.
- ✓ Make sure that your government and relevant State agencies receive copies of IPU resolutions and invite them to take action when required.
- ✓ Put questions to your government on topics discussed and resolutions adopted at IPU Assemblies.
- ✓ Promote plenary or committee debates on the topics discussed at IPU Assemblies.
- ✓ Submit draft legislation or amendments to draft legislation in line with IPU resolutions and recommendations.
- ✓ Quote IPU resolutions in your media outreach activities, including press conferences, social media messages and interviews.
- ✓ Send copies of IPU resolutions and relevant web links to the relevant unit of your parliament so that these can be translated, if need be, and posted on your parliament's website.
- ✓ Use your parliamentary powers, including your budgetary and oversight authority, to ensure that IPU recommendations are effectively implemented.
- ✓ Make use of IPU [publications](#) that include checklists for parliamentarians with concrete examples of how to follow up on IPU recommendations.
- ✓ Make sure that your parliament responds to the reporting exercise when invited to and that it sends voluntary reports about how it has followed up on IPU work. Encourage your fellow parliamentarians to do the same.
- ✓ Inform yourself about existing good parliamentary practices in follow-up to IPU resolutions and decisions. A compilation of examples is attached to this report (see [Annex](#)) and also available [online](#).

Examples of how Parliaments have followed up on IPU work in the past two years

Member	IPU resolution/decision/publication/activity	Follow-up by Parliament
Australia	<p><i>Empowering parliaments to empower women; making the economy work for women</i></p> <p>IPU-UN Women event at the 61<sup>st</sup> Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (New York City, March 2017)</p>	<p>A report on the event was tabled at the Senate and presented by the senator who had participated. He provided data and called for action at the national level.</p> <p><a href="http://parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id:%22chamber/hansards/400f55e1-096e-458f-b2cf-844d38b7a7b0/0128%22">parlinfo.aph.gov.au/parlInfo/search/display/display.w3p;query=Id:%22chamber/hansards/400f55e1-096e-458f-b2cf-844d38b7a7b0/0128%22</a></p>
	<p>Outcomes of IPU Assemblies</p> <p>Parliamentary diplomacy</p>	<p>The Australian delegation to the IPU systematically reports to the Senate on the outcomes of the IPU Assemblies and on the delegation's participation. The IPU has been described as "a forum in which parliamentarians discuss and debate issues that affect us all within our sovereign nations and, most importantly, the issues that affect us in the form of global challenges". For further information, see <a href="https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au">https://parlinfo.aph.gov.au</a>.</p> <p>The Australian group took the opportunity of the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly "to discuss matters of mutual interest with delegations from the United Kingdom, Canada, the Arab Parliament, Israel and a group of Pacific Island nations including Fiji, Tonga, Samoa, Timor-Leste and the Federated States of Micronesia". At the 138<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, Australian MPs had bilateral meetings with their counterparts from Ukraine, Canada, the United Kingdom, New Zealand and Israel. Moreover, it was noted that "it has become customary for the Australian and New Zealand delegations to host a gathering of parliamentarians from Pacific Island nations".</p>
	<p>IPU Strategy 2017–2021, Objective 8: <i>Bridge the democracy gap in international relations</i></p>	<p>After gaining awareness at the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, the Chair of the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Legislation Committee of the Senate questioned the Australian Human Rights Commission about its interaction with the United Nations Human Rights Council.</p> <p>During a meeting of the Joint Standing Committee on Treaties that focused on the Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership (TPP-11), a senator declared that Australian MPs had met with their counterparts from all the TPP-11 countries within the context of the IPU.</p>
Chile	Centre for Innovation in Parliament	Chile has been playing a leadership role in hosting the Latin America Regional Hub of the Centre for Innovation in Parliament and has been working towards finalizing the hub's online exchange platform.

Colombia	IPU overall work	The governing body of Congress established an ad hoc committee in charge of IPU relations (Resolution no. 003, 20 February 2019).
	<i>Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments</i> Adopted unanimously by the 127 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Quebec City, 2012)	With the support of the IPU and UN Women, the National Congress launched the "Congreso en Igualdad" initiative to implement the IPU Plan of Action for Gender-Sensitive Parliaments.
Costa Rica	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The resolutions adopted at the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly have been communicated to three ministries: Science and Technology, Foreign Affairs and the Environment. IPU resolutions and recommendations are systematically distributed to the heads of relevant committees.
	<i>The Fifth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians. Promoting sustainability, protecting the interests of future generations</i> (Baku, December 2018)	A Costa Rican young MP who participated in the Fifth Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians presented a mission report stressing the importance of the IPU as a platform for enabling international exchange, comparing experiences and gaining valuable knowledge about implementing new laws.
Croatia	<i>International Humanitarian Law – Handbook for Parliamentarians</i>  IPU-ICRC publication (2016, updated in 2018)	The Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation of the Croatian Parliament organized the event "International Humanitarian Law: 70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Geneva Conventions and presentation of the IHL Handbook for Parliamentarians". It took place on 25 September 2019 at the Croatian Parliament in Zagreb. At the event, the IPU-ICRC publication <i>International Humanitarian Law - Handbook for Parliamentarians</i> was presented. The ICRC in Sarajevo also translated the Handbook into Croatian and had it printed. Members of other committees and representatives of several ministries attended the event.
Czech Republic	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)  Outcome document of the General Debate, <i>Parliamentary leadership in promoting peace and development in the age of innovation and technological change</i>	Reports have been circulated in Parliament, and IPU resolutions have led to specific activities and initiatives to create and amend legislation. Parliamentary questions were submitted about the IPU's work in 2019.  The Chamber of Deputies has started to use modern information and communications technologies. It has been improving online information access, going paperless and increasing the efficiency of its digital workflows. Work is continuing to introduce e-legislation and an e-collection of laws to achieve greater clarity while reducing the number of errors in the legislative process. The Chamber of Deputies and the Senate have made video-streamed parliamentary sessions available on their websites.  Relevant committees are considering the draft Act on the Right to Digital Services, also known as the Digital Constitution. If adopted by Parliament, the Act will guarantee to natural and legal persons the possibility of communicating purely electronically with State authorities.



<p><b>Djibouti</b></p>	<p><i>Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation on migration and migration governance in view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</i></p> <p>Resolution adopted by the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly.</p>	<p>Adoption of Act No. 40/AN/19/8<sup>th</sup> on the conditions of entry and residence of foreigners in the Republic of Djibouti (21/01/2019). <a href="http://www.presidence.dj/texte.php?ID=40&amp;ID2=2019-01-21&amp;ID3=Loi&amp;ID4=2&amp;ID5=2019-01-31&amp;ID6=n">www.presidence.dj/texte.php?ID=40&amp;ID2=2019-01-21&amp;ID3=Loi&amp;ID4=2&amp;ID5=2019-01-31&amp;ID6=n</a></p>
<p><b>Fiji</b></p>	<p><i>Evaluating the gender sensitivity of parliaments, a self-assessment toolkit.</i></p> <p>IPU publication (2016)</p> <p><i>Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals – A self-assessment toolkit</i></p> <p>IPU publication (2016) (IPU-UNDP self-assessment toolkit on the SDGs)</p>	<p>Building on the findings of the self-assessment conducted in 2016 to evaluate its gender sensitivity, the Parliament of Fiji has established a Gender Focus Parliamentary Group and developed a national gender toolkit.</p> <p>After conducting a self-assessment exercise, Parliament prepared a report with the support of the IPU and UNDP. The report was shared with all members of parliament in March 2018. It included the main findings of the self-assessment exercise, recommendations and an action plan. The report is available at: <a href="http://www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SDGs-Self-Assessment-Report-Draft_FINAL.pdf">www.parliament.gov.fj/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/SDGs-Self-Assessment-Report-Draft_FINAL.pdf</a></p> <p>In May 2019, the Parliament of Fiji launched a guidance note on integrating the SDGs into the work of all its parliamentary committees. The note was supported by the IPU and UNDP. More information is available at: <a href="http://www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/library/eg/guidance-note-fiji-parliament-standing-committee.html">www.pacific.undp.org/content/pacific/en/home/library/eg/guidance-note-fiji-parliament-standing-committee.html</a></p>
<p><b>France</b></p>	<p>Outcomes of the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	<p>A detailed report on the positions that members of the French group took during the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly has been published on both the Senate and the National Assembly websites. <a href="http://www.senat.fr/fileadmin/Fichiers/Images/relations_internationales/UIP/Doha_139e_Assemblee_CR_photo.pdf">www.senat.fr/fileadmin/Fichiers/Images/relations_internationales/UIP/Doha_139e_Assemblee_CR_photo.pdf</a> <a href="http://www2.assemblee-nationale.fr/europe-et-international/activites-parlementaires-internationales/les-assemblees-parlementaires-internationales/union-interparlementaire/activites-recentes/139e-assemblee-de-l-uip-geneve-14-18-octobre-2018">www2.assemblee-nationale.fr/europe-et-international/activites-parlementaires-internationales/les-assemblees-parlementaires-internationales/union-interparlementaire/activites-recentes/139e-assemblee-de-l-uip-geneve-14-18-octobre-2018</a></p>
<p><b>Guatemala</b></p>	<p>Outcomes of the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	<p>Under internal parliamentary rules, members of the Guatemalan group presented a report on the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly to the governing body of the Congress of the Republic. As a result, bills relating to the SDGs have been prioritized.</p>

Guinea	IPU Assemblies and IPU work	After each IPU Assembly attended by the national delegation of Guinea, a mission report is made available to Parliament. Every year, Parliament sets aside a day to discuss in plenary the missions to the IPU. Parliament also celebrates the International Day of Parliamentarism each year and organizes a twice-yearly programme on parliamentary radio to introduce listeners to IPU Assemblies and the Organization's work.
	<i>IPU Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments</i> 127 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Quebec City, October 2012) IPU work on gender equality issues	On 2 May, a law on parity was unanimously adopted. Article 2 of the law stipulates that: "Parity applies to any list of candidates for national and local elections, as well as for the holding of elective offices in public institutions." <a href="http://www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/5/news-guinea-adopts-law-on-parity">www.unwomen.org/en/news/stories/2019/5/news-guinea-adopts-law-on-parity</a>
Hungary	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The emergency item resolution, <i>Climate change – Let us not cross the line</i> has been translated into Hungarian. A report of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly along with its resolutions and the Hungarian version of the emergency item resolution have been sent to the high-level leadership of the Hungarian National Assembly, to two ministries (Foreign Affairs and Trade; and Innovation and Technology) and to the Directorate for Environmental Sustainability of the Office of the President (established by the Head of State). The Chair of the Parliamentary Committee for Sustainable Development reported on the emergency item resolution in committee and in plenary.
	<i>Parliamentary action plan on climate change</i> IPU publication (2016)	In 2017, the Hungarian National Assembly published a Hungarian edition of the <i>Parliamentary action plan on climate change</i> . It has been distributed to all MPs.
Iceland	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The Chair of the Icelandic delegation to the IPU has presented and discussed in plenary session the 2018 annual report of the Icelandic delegation. The report has been published on the parliamentary website and presents the outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly and its resolutions. The Foreign Affairs Committee has specifically been informed of the outcomes of the Assembly.
	<i>Sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe</i> IPU-PACE regional study (2018)	The IPU-PACE regional study, <i>Sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliaments in Europe</i> , contributed to the Icelandic Parliament's decision to organize a seminar on the Me Too movement (18 March 2019, Iceland). The IPU Secretary General was invited to present the regional study.
India	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	A report on participation in the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, along with its outcomes, was tabled in both houses of parliament and made available on the website of the Lok Sabha (House of the People). The outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly were shared with the Government, with a request to implement the resolutions. IPU resolutions and recommendations are often reflected in parliamentary questions in both houses of parliament.

Indonesia	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	In 2018, the SDGs Task Force of the Indonesian Parliament adopted a recommendation underlining the need to fully harness technology for development and peace through education that emphasizes sustainability and innovation. In 2019, the Task Force focused on inequality.
	Decisions of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	The Committee for inter-parliamentary cooperation sent inquiries to relevant ministries, the criminal investigation department of the Police ( <i>Bareskrim</i> ) and the National Commission on Human Rights in order to follow up on decisions of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians in Indonesian cases.
Japan	IPU data on women in politics IPU work on gender equality issues	Influenced by the comparative data of <i>Women in Politics</i> that was compiled by the IPU, a parliamentary group to promote women's participation and empowerment in politics was created in 2015. It played a central role in introducing the Act for the Promotion of Gender Parity in Politics that was finally enacted in 2018. The Act obliges each political party to make efforts to balance the number of its male and female candidates. The Committee on Cabinet of the House of Councillors has passed an additional resolution to this law that urges the government to take appropriate measures such as conducting substantial research, and collecting and providing data on women's political participation.
Jordan	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The relevant parliamentary committees and the Government (Ministry of Foreign Affairs and Ministry of Political and Parliamentary Affairs) were informed of the outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly. A special meeting was convened to discuss the document <i>Declaration: 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i> .
	IPU work on the SDGs	A follow-up parliamentary committee on the SDGs was set up.
	IPU work on youth participation in politics	The Speaker of the House of Representatives chaired a plenary session to discuss the involvement of young people in politics and political parties.
Kenya	2018 Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations  (New York City, February 2018)	A report on the 2018 Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations was tabled in the Senate on 16 May 2018. The Senate debated and passed the report on 7 June 2018. Subsequently, the Senate resolution on the report was conveyed to the relevant government body (Ministry of Foreign Affairs) for implementation and to the relevant Standing Committee (on National Security, Defence and Foreign Relations) to follow up on implementation, in line with normal practice. Reports on the outcomes of IPU Assemblies are also regularly tabled in the Senate and conveyed to the relevant ministries.
	<i>International Humanitarian Law – Handbook for Parliamentarians</i> IPU-ICRC Publication (2016, updated in 2018)	The handbook for parliamentarians on international humanitarian law was presented and discussed in the Senate on 16 February 2017.

	<p><i>Advancing Gender Equality in Kenya</i></p> <p>IPU-Parliament of Kenya seminar (November 2018)</p> <p>IPU work on gender equality issues</p>	<p>The National Assembly and the IPU jointly organized a national seminar on advancing gender equality in Kenya. Gaps in Kenyan law were identified and several legislative proposals have been made to address them, including the Employment Act (Amendment) Bill and the Reproductive Health Care Bill. The first Bill would provide for adoptive mothers and mothers who suffer miscarriages to be entitled to paid maternity leave. The second Bill would provide for the right to reproductive health care by setting standards of reproductive health and ensuring the right to make decisions regarding reproductive health.</p>
<p>Latvia</p>	<p>Outcomes of IPU Assemblies</p>	<p>MPs of the Latvian IPU group are involved in the national annual foreign policy debate with the Minister for Foreign Affairs. The debate is addressed by the Speaker of Parliament and the heads of the Latvian delegations to inter-parliamentary organizations. The thematic organization of parliamentary committee work reflects IPU priorities.</p>
	<p>IPU work on youth issues</p>	<p>In March 2019, the Parliament of Latvia formed a new thematic group of MPs under the age of 40. The Parliament organizes an annual Youth Parliament. Young people are given the opportunity to express and defend their ideas, and to get to know the everyday life of MPs. The one hundred young people whose ideas are the most popular in an electronic vote are elected to the Youth Parliament. In June 2019, the parliamentary committee on Education, Culture and Science hosted a workshop <i>Youth Policy – where we are and where we are going</i>. Achievements in the field were evaluated and young people were listened to in order to identify the normative changes needed to further enhance their well-being.</p>
	<p><i>Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation on migration and migration governance in view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</i></p> <p>Resolution adopted by the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	<p>In 2019, the Latvian Parliament amended the Immigration Act. The minimum requirements for migrants founding start-ups were eased so that they qualified for a residence permit extension. On 1 November 2018, Parliament adopted the Diaspora Act. It improves the policy of State support to the Latvian diaspora by promoting remigration and ties to Latvian culture, language, economics and science. A Diaspora Advisory Council was also created under the Act. The parliamentary Citizenship, Migration and Social Cohesion Committee monitors the work of migration-focused government authorities. It has recently been discussing diaspora issues and rights every month, and regularly meets representatives of diaspora organizations. On 19 February 2019, the Committee on Human Rights organized a meeting to discuss a report by the Ministry of the Interior on the 2018 results of efforts to prevent people trafficking in Latvia.</p>

	IPU work on the SDGs	<p>To successfully implement the SDGs, Parliament created partnerships between government, the private sector and civil society. On 10 June 2019, it organized the 12<sup>th</sup> annual NGO Forum, which focused on sustainable solutions for the country's development. IPU resolutions are taken into account when choosing the annual forum's topics.</p> <p>In May 2018, the parliamentary Sustainable Development Committee hosted an international seminar on the impact of climate change in Latvia. High-level experts from the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change attended. Discussions included possible solutions and Latvia's climate policy to reduce emissions and build climate resilience.</p>
<b>Lebanon</b>	<p><i>Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation on migration and migration governance in view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</i></p> <p>Resolution adopted by the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	The parliamentary Foreign Affairs Committee discussed the resolution on several occasions.
<b>Lesotho</b>	IPU work on the SDGs	A parliamentary committee on the SDGs has been established.
<b>Liechtenstein</b>	IPU Assemblies, Governing Councils and Twelve Plus Group meetings	<p>The delegation of Liechtenstein prepared a 2018 annual report on the IPU that was presented to parliament.</p> <p><a href="http://www.landtag.li/files/attachments/2018_IPU_Jahresbericht_inkl_Beilagen.pdf">www.landtag.li/files/attachments/2018_IPU_Jahresbericht_inkl_Beilagen.pdf</a></p> <p><a href="http://www.landtag.li/files/attachments/Einladung_April-LT_19.pdf">www.landtag.li/files/attachments/Einladung_April-LT_19.pdf</a></p>
<b>Mongolia</b>	<p><i>Parliaments and the Sustainable Development Goals – A self-assessment toolkit</i></p> <p>IPU publication (2016)</p>	The Mongolian Parliament launched a local translation of the IPU-UNDP self-assessment toolkit for the SDGs. This was part of the preparations for the <i>Second Regional Seminar for the Asia-Pacific Region Parliaments on Achieving the SDGs</i> . The seminar was jointly organized by the IPU and the State Great Hural of Mongolia (Ulaanbaatar, 27 and 28 May 2019).
<b>Morocco</b>	<p>Outcome document of the General Debate, <i>Parliamentary leadership in promoting peace and development in the age of innovation and technological change</i></p> <p>139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	The Parliament organized a meeting, <i>Youth in the Euro-Mediterranean region: The problem of societal commitment and interactions in the virtual sphere</i> (1 February 2019, Chamber of Representatives). It was inspired by the conclusions and recommendations of the Outcome Document. As a result, a recommendation that reflects and approves the IPU position on this topic was adopted.

	<p><i>Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation on migration and migration governance in view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</i></p> <p>139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p> <p>Declaration: <i>70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i></p>	<p>The Moroccan Parliament is working on a parliamentary action plan for migration. It is to be launched by the end of 2019 to implement the IPU resolution. In October 2018, the parliament hosted an international seminar, <i>The Role of Economic and Social Councils, Similar Institutions and African Parliaments in Tackling New Migration Challenges</i>. <a href="http://www.chambrede representatives.ma/en/news/opening-remarks-mr-habib-el-malki-speaker-house-representatives-international-symposium-role?sref=item1165-64601">www.chambrede representatives.ma/en/news/opening-remarks-mr-habib-el-malki-speaker-house-representatives-international-symposium-role?sref=item1165-64601</a></p> <p>For the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, a study day about the rights of association and assembly was organized in partnership with the Moroccan National Human Rights Council at the parliament building (15 November 2018, Rabat).</p>
	<p><i>Parliamentary action plan on climate change</i></p> <p>IPU publication (2016)</p>	<p>The Kingdom of Morocco emits a low level of CO<sub>2</sub>. It has been undertaking a series of legal reforms to protect the environment and minimize greenhouse gas emissions. The reforms have included making sustainable development a constitutional right. Morocco has also been trialling alternative and clean energies, as well as encouraging the green economy and energy efficiency strategies. Two months after the COP 22 meeting, the Moroccan Parliament organized a parliamentary conference <i>Harmonizing National Laws with the Paris Agreement</i>. <a href="http://www.maroc.ma/fr/actualites/tenue-rabat-dune-conference-parlementaire-sur-lharmonisation-des-legislations-nationales">www.maroc.ma/fr/actualites/tenue-rabat-dune-conference-parlementaire-sur-lharmonisation-des-legislations-nationales</a></p>
	<p>IPU work</p>	<p>Parliamentarians from different groups (majority and opposition) have put oral questions to the government with the aim of implementing the resolutions adopted by the IPU.</p>
<p><b>Myanmar</b></p>	<p><i>Strengthening inter-parliamentary cooperation on migration and migration governance in view of the adoption of the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration</i></p> <p>Resolution adopted by consensus by the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)</p>	<p>To implement this resolution, the Myanmar Government has been undertaking a repatriation process, issuing National Verification Cards, building temporary houses, and delivering medical aid and food, irrespective of race or religion.</p>
<p><b>Netherlands</b></p>	<p>Emergency item resolution, <i>Call for urgent international action to support Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe hit by Cyclone Idai</i></p> <p>Resolution adopted by consensus by the 140<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Doha, April 2019)</p>	<p>The delegation of the Netherlands to the IPU informed the Minister of Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation that the resolution had been adopted. The resolution was referred to in a parliamentary debate in May 2019. The Dutch Government provided substantial financial support for aid relief, both indirectly through the United Nations Central Emergency Relief Fund and <i>Education Cannot Wait</i>, and directly via the Dutch Relief Alliance and Red Cross. Eight Dutch experts have been sent to the region via the EU civil protection mechanism, UN Disaster Assessment and Coordination, and Dutch Surge Support (DSS Water).</p>

	<i>Parliamentary action plan on climate change</i> IPU publication (2016)	In May 2019, the Senate adopted a Climate Act for the Netherlands that had been initiated by the House of Representatives. The Act commits the country to a 49 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2030 and 95 per cent by 2050.
<b>New Zealand</b>	IPU Secretary General and 2014 Nobel Peace Prize Laureate, Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, invite Members to join the <i>100 Million</i> campaign	In November 2018, the Parliament of New Zealand joined the <i>100 Million</i> campaign for children’s rights and marked the event by screening the documentary <i>The Price of Free</i> .
<b>Oman</b>	Parliamentary diplomacy	The national delegation holds bilateral meetings with IPU Member Parliaments during Assemblies.
<b>Pakistan</b>	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The IPU Declaration, <i>70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights</i> , was endorsed by the Senate Committee on Human Rights and forwarded to the relevant Ministry. The emergency item resolution, <i>Climate change – Let us not cross the line</i> , was sent to the Senate Committee on Climate Change for onward transmission to the Ministry. The Outcome Document of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly was included in the agenda for discussion by parliament.
	IPU work on youth issues	Internship programmes are run by the Senate of Pakistan.
	IPU work on building strong and effective parliaments	The Senate of Pakistan has created a Legislative Drafting Unit in light of IPU recommendations on the matter.
<b>Paraguay</b>	<i>World e-Parliament Report 2018</i>	The Open Parliament Action Plan 2018–2020 sets out new mechanisms to improve legislative monitoring, including supporting the achievement of the SDGs, improving transparency, ethics and citizen participation in the legislative process, gender equality and guaranteeing wider access to public information (more information is available at: <a href="http://silpy.congreso.gov.py">silpy.congreso.gov.py</a> and <a href="http://parlamentoabierto.senado.gov.py">parlamentoabierto.senado.gov.py</a> )
<b>Seychelles</b>	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	A report on the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly was submitted to Parliament by the Seychelles delegation in October 2018. The report was also submitted to the International Affairs Committee for further discussion of the recommendations.
	Emergency item resolution, <i>Climate change – Let us not cross the line</i>	On 26 October 2018, the Speaker of Parliament had a courtesy call with the President of the Republic to discuss the resolutions adopted at the Assembly, especially the emergency item resolution <i>Climate change – Let us not cross the line</i> . Building on the recommendations of this resolution, the Seychelles Parliament has undertaken several environmental sustainability projects relating to, among others, water harvesting, banning plastic bottles, using photovoltaic systems and waste composting.

	IPU work on the SDGs	In 2018, the Seychelles Parliament co-organized with UNDP a one-day workshop for parliamentarians on the SDGs and the role of parliament in line with the activities of the IPU Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade.
<b>Thailand</b>	Emergency item resolution, <i>Call for urgent international action to support Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe hit by Cyclone Idai</i> Resolution adopted by consensus by the 140 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Doha, April 2019)	The Parliament of Thailand reported a government donation of US\$ 100,000 and 1,000 tonnes of rice to Mozambique.
<b>Timor-Leste</b>	Universal Declaration on Democracy (Cairo, September 1997)	On 2 October 2018, a resolution was approved by the plenary session of the National Parliament of Timor-Leste to reaffirm the principles and values enshrined in the Universal Declaration on Democracy. <a href="http://tinyurl.com/y5suhhae">tinyurl.com/y5suhhae</a>
<b>Ukraine</b>	IPU work on the SDGs	On 25 February 2019, the Parliament of Ukraine hosted a roundtable in cooperation with UNDP entitled <i>The Role of Parliaments in Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. What mechanisms can the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine use to achieve the goals of sustainable development?</i>
<b>United Arab Emirates</b>	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	Reports on IPU Assemblies are regularly circulated to both parliament (relevant committees) and government agencies of the United Arab Emirates. In follow-up to the Outcome Document of the General Debate of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, the Parliament of the UAE has established a Future Committee. It aims to explore the future of State policies, strategies and plans, and to enhance the legislative and oversight role of parliament in light of the country's vision, UAE Centennial 2071.
<b>United Kingdom</b>	Outcomes of the 139 <sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, October 2018)	The emergency item resolution on climate change has been reported to the relevant UK minister and communicated to the relevant committees in the House of Commons. The resolution on migration has been brought to the attention of the relevant committees in the House of Commons and the House of Lords. The Chair of the All-Party Parliamentary Human Rights Group has played an active role in marking the 70 <sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights in the UK.
	Parliamentary diplomacy	References to bilateral meetings held at IPU Assemblies have been made in Prime Ministers' Questions.
	Decisions of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians	Parliamentary questions have been asked about the plight of Venezuelan counterparts, referencing the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians.



	IPU work on gender-sensitive parliaments	A landmark audit of the UK Parliament's gender-sensitivity was published in December 2018. <a href="http://www.parliament.uk/documents/lords-information-office/UK%20Parliament%20Gender%20Sensitive%20Parliament%20Audit%20Report%20DIGITAL.pdf">www.parliament.uk/documents/lords-information-office/UK%20Parliament %20Gender%20Sensitive%20Parliament%20Audit Report DIGI TAL.pdf</a>
<b>Zambia</b>	<i>Evaluating parliament: A self-assessment toolkit for parliaments</i> IPU publication (2008), and a draft toolkit to assess the Parliament's oversight performance	In light of a self-assessment exercise (20–25 February 2019) facilitated by the IPU and based on two of its toolkits, the Parliament of Zambia has created its own digital tools for self-assessment. It has also changed the standing orders to allow parliament to table, and discuss in plenary, parliamentary reports after each IPU Assembly.
<b>Zimbabwe</b>	IPU work on the SDGs	The Parliament of Zimbabwe has established an expanded SDGs committee, which comprises all chairpersons of portfolio and thematic committees. The 2019–2023 Institutional Strategic Plan for Parliament captures the SDGs as a priority, and capacity-building workshops on the SDGs have been convened.  Parliament's Portfolio Committee on Agriculture, Lands, Water, Climate and Rural Resettlement has analysed the Kigali Montreal Protocol and sent it to Parliament for approval. The Committee has also been promoting the adoption of a Climate Change Bill.