

Information seminar on the structure and functioning of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

15-19 June 2020

Virtual session, with a focus on IPU and parliamentary operations during the pandemic

PROGRAMME

DAY ONE

Monday, 15 June 2020

Session 1

10.00–10.45

- Welcome of participants
- Overview of the IPU: Strategy and priority areas of work
Strengthening multilateralism and inter-parliamentary cooperation
Business continuity during the pandemic
Q&A with the IPU Secretary General

Martin Chungong, Secretary General

Anda Filip, Director, Division for Member Parliaments and External Relations

10.45–11.00: virtual break

Session 2

11.00–11.45

- Membership (current membership, rights and obligations – including the reporting exercise, suspension of rights)
- Cooperation with regional and other parliamentary organizations

11.45–12.00: virtual break

12.00–13.00:

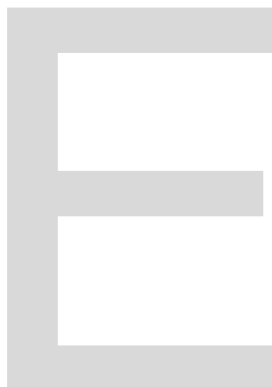
- Statutory bodies, including work of the Standing Committees
- IPU Assemblies

Anda Filip, Director, Division for Member Parliaments and External Relations

Sally-Anne Sader, Conference Services Officer

Akiyo Afouda, Programme Officer, Human Rights, Secretary of the Governing Council

Laurence Marzal, Programme Officer, Technical Assistance, Secretary of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security



DAY TWO
Tuesday, 16 June 2020

Session 1

10.00–10.20: IPU work to strengthen parliaments
Overview of programme work and Q&A

Kareen Jabre, Director, Division of Programmes

10.20–11.00: Research and standard setting

Andy Richardson, Programme Manager, Parliamentary Standards Setting and Knowledge Generation

11.00–11.30: Building capacity and provision of technical assistance

- Presentation of overall work
- Thematic interactive session on one of the following themes to be chosen in advance by participants through polling:
 1. The IPU is finalizing a paper on the governance of parliamentary administration which will be available in your documents' package. What are the areas of work of parliamentary administration that would be worthwhile to consider for further research?
 2. Presentation of the Capstone project on role of opposition/majority
 3. Cooperation with regional and other parliamentary organizations in the design and implementation of capacity-building programmes

Norah Babic, Manager, Technical Cooperation
Laurence Marzal, Programme Officer, Technical Cooperation
Jonathan Lang, Project Officer, Technical Cooperation

11.30–11.45: virtual break

Session 2

11.45–12.45: Parliaments in a time of pandemic

- How have parliaments managed to function?
- What are some of the key challenges and lessons learned for enhanced preparedness?
- Interactive exchange with and between participants

Thomas Fitzsimons, Director, Communications Division
Andy Richardson, Programme Manager, Parliamentary Standards Setting and Knowledge Generation

DAY THREE
Wednesday, 17 June 2020

Session 1

10.00–11.15: IPU work in the area of peace and security

Anda Filip, Director, Division for Member Parliaments and External Relations
Kareen Jabre, Director, Division of Programmes (on IPU work to promote respect for international humanitarian law)
Laurence Marzal, Secretary of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security (on IPU disarmament work)
Carmen Castillo, Senior Consultant (on countering terrorism and violent extremism)

11.15–11.30: virtual break

Session 2

11.30–12.15: Protecting MPs at risk: The work of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians

Presentation and interaction, including group exercise

12.15–12.20: virtual break

12.20–13.00: Helping parliaments to promote and protect human rights

Presentation and interaction, including group exercise

Human Rights Programme team

DAY FOUR

Thursday, 18 June 2020

Session 1

10.00–11.15

IPU work to promote gender equality and youth participation

Short presentations of both programmes and a Q&A session with the participants

Zeina Hilal, Programme Manager, Gender Partnership and Youth Participation

Mariana Duarte Mützenber, Programme Officer, Gender Partnership

Jonathan Lang, Project Officer, Youth Participation

11.15–11.30: virtual break

Session 2

11.30–12.45

Overview of IPU work to promote the parliamentary dimension of international cooperation

Promoting parliamentary support for international development goals

Anda Filip, Director, Division for Member Parliaments and External Relations

Isabel Obadiaru, Project Officer, Sustainable Development Goals

Miriam Sangiorgio, Project Officer, Health

DAY FIVE

Friday, 19 June 2020

Session 1

10.00–11.00: IPU Communications

Thomas Fitzsimons, Director, Communications Division

Suroor Alikhan, Web and Social Media Editor

11.00–11.15: virtual break

Session 2

11.15–12.15: IPU funding and staff

- Presentation of the IPU's budget
- Members' contributions and matters relating to IPU staff

Andrée Lorber-Willis, Director, Division of Support Services

Ed Cooper, Senior Finance Officer, Division of Support Services

12.15–12.30: virtual break

12.30–13.00

Closing session: Assessment of the Seminar: Views and suggestions from participants

Anda Filip, Director, Division for Member Parliaments and External Relations

Sally-Anne Sader, Conference Services Officer