



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

Governing Council
Item 14
Assembly
Item 8

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12 February 2018

Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules

COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE IPU BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE OF CAMEROON

Yaoundé, 9 February 2018

Subject: Amendments to the Statutes and Rules of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Dear Madam President,

The Upper Chamber of the Parliament of Cameroon has received your proposed amendments to the Statutes and Rules of the Inter-Parliamentary Union as well as those submitted by the Russian Parliament.

I wish to thank you for the initiative which, undoubtedly, aims to maintain the tradition of efficiency and of keeping in step with modernity that has prevailed to this day and has reinforced the specificity of our Organization for inter-parliamentary cooperation.

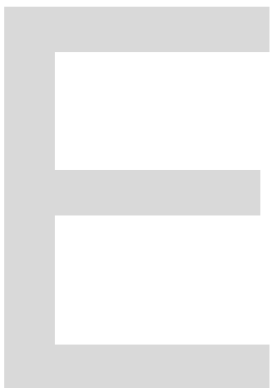
Thanks to these fundamental values, the Inter-Parliamentary Union has been able to contribute to and assist in dealing with important issues of the day of concern to all national parliaments, namely the consolidation of democracy, the safeguarding of peace, the promotion of inclusive economic and social development and, more recently, the mobilization around climate change.

Our common Organization has been able to meet these challenges, on the one hand, thanks to the will of the Members to keep continuously adapting the Organization to the times and, on the other hand, their determination to give it stability based on a balanced distribution of responsibilities and harmonious collaboration between the IPU Presidency, Executive Committee and Secretariat.

In this regard, it is the tradition and practice in international organizations that the presidency, a political figure, does not have executive responsibility and is not intended to have any as this function is attributed exclusively to the Secretary General, Executive Secretary or Director General who ensures the daily administrative and financial management of an organization under the control of the political bodies.

Our Organization has inscribed itself in following changes to which our Members have always devoted and privileged time for reflection and sought consensus.

It has to be concluded that some of the proposed amendments tend to call into question the balance of the distribution of responsibilities as practised to date among the main IPU bodies.



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In the absence of a documented analysis of the identified issues and objectives underlying the proposed solutions, it is difficult to grasp the reasoning for the new distribution of functions as proposed in the amendments.

On a different matter, I have also noted that some of the amendments you put forward have financial repercussions to an amount that we cannot assess as it has not been communicated to us.

It seems to me that these additional, not yet known, costs impinge on the budgetary policies of many countries, African in particular, that have to contain public spending, including their contributions to various partner organizations, to be able to cope with their current economic difficulties.

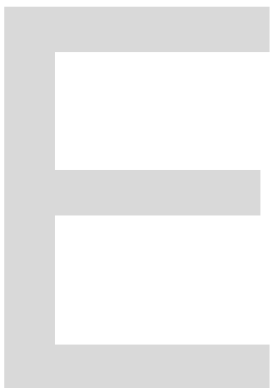
For all the above reasons, I have the honour to inform you that the Senate of Cameroon considers that it is necessary to allow for time to reflect and consult on the sub-amendments to be submitted to you so that consensual decisions on the functioning of our common Organization may be reached.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Marcel Niat Njifenji
President of the Senate of Cameroon

Copy: Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the IPU

A large, bold, grey letter 'E' logo, which is the symbol of the International Parliament of Universities (IPU).

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