

138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

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Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules

COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE IPU BY THE PRESIDENT OF THE SWISS INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP

Bern, 14 February 2018

<u>Subject</u>: Amendments to the Statutes and Rules of the IPU proposed by the IPU President, Ms. Cuevas and the Vice-President of the IPU Executive Committee, Mr. Kosachev

Dear Madam President,

On behalf of the Swiss Inter-Parliamentary Group, allow me to congratulate you once again on your election. The Swiss Group welcomes your wish to bring about change in the IPU with a view to making the Organization even more relevant and effective.

However, on studying the amendments to the Statutes and Rules put forward by Mr. Kosachev and yourself, it appears that some of the proposals would have far-reaching effects on the Organization. Consequently, the Swiss Group supports the approach suggested by the other Inter-Parliamentary Groups, namely that the next spring Assembly should allow the bodies of the IPU, and above all the geopolitical groups, the opportunity to debate these proposals. Moreover, the Swiss Group suggests that the Executive Committee might consider creating an ad hoc sub-committee composed of representatives from all geopolitical groups, tasked with analysing the feasibility of the proposals as well as the likely institutional and financial consequences they would have on the Organization. The sub-committee would present its report at the autumn Assembly.

Given the major impact of these important and far-reaching amendments on the future of the IPU, we feel that the Organization would best be served if the proposals were to be adopted with the support of all IPU Members after having been given careful consideration without undue haste. Finally, I would like to add that the Swiss Group will support the proposed amendments on the participation of young parliamentarians.

I look forward to seeing you again soon in Geneva.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Andrea Caroni President of the Swiss Inter-Parliamentary Group