



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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139th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 14-18.10.2018

Assembly
Item 2

A/139/2-P.3
9 October 2018

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

Request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 139th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Burkina Faso

On 8 October 2018, the Secretary General received from the President of the National Assembly of Burkina Faso a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 139th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Restoring peace and security in the Sahel: The role of parliaments".

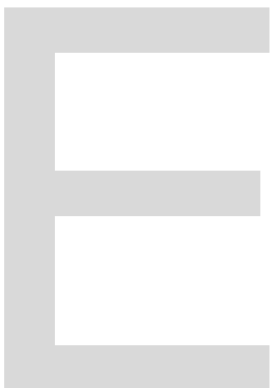
Delegates to the 139th Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 139th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Burkina Faso on Monday, 15 October 2018.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The IPU Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted.
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted.
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject.
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.



#IPU139

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY
THE PRESIDENT OF THE NATIONAL ASSEMBLY OF BURKINA FASO**

Ouagadougou, 8 October 2018
2018-490 AN/PRES/CAB

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I have the honour to inform you that, in accordance with the relevant Rules of the Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (Rules 11.1 and 11.2), the Burkina Faso Inter-Parliamentary Group of the IPU, submits for inclusion in the agenda of the 139th IPU Assembly an emergency item entitled:

"Restoring peace and security in the Sahel: The role of parliaments".

Please find attached an explanatory memorandum stressing the importance of the topic, as well as a draft resolution in support of this request.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Alassane Bala SAKANDE
President
National Assembly of Burkina Faso

RESTORING PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE SAHEL: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Burkina Faso

The Sahel is presently facing an unprecedented security crisis, the gravity of which is evident from its scale, the immoral character of the armed groups fueling it, its direct impact on the region's development, and the real threat it poses to the neighbouring regions.

This is no longer merely a security threat in the region, but an existing insecurity affecting several thousands of people, including women and children.

The enormity and development of the crisis are a threat not only to the existence of the States in the region, but also to the stability and development of neighbouring regions.

In addition to attacking state symbols, the defence and security forces, the terrorists target civilians, students and teachers.

By attacking schools, the armed terrorist groups target the educational system which is a genuine antidote to the spreading of their ideas and macabre ideology.

By way of an example, in 2018 in Burkina Faso, more than 520 schools have been closed because of the terrorist threat thus depriving about 56,000 students of the right to education.

Faced with this new security challenge, the Sahel States joined efforts and undertook a number of initiatives such as setting up the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel) which comprises Chad, Mali, Mauritania, Niger and Burkina Faso, and is defined as "a framework for coordination of regional cooperation in development policies and security matters" (16 February 2014, Nouakchott).

This joint force was confirmed by United Nations Security Council resolution 2359 adopted on 21 June 2017, but its mandate does not entail direct funding by the United Nations which limits its efficiency.

Meanwhile, insecurity is spreading and the macabre price the population is paying is heavier with each day. This reinforces the threat of widespread insecurity. Therefore, it is urgent to act.

Consequently, the Burkina Faso Interparliamentary Group requests that the IPU include this emergency item in the agenda of its 139th Assembly.

RESTORING PEACE AND SECURITY IN THE SAHEL: THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of BURKINA FASO

The 139th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Concerned* with the situation in the Sahel States that are confronted with unprecedented security threats and repeated attacks perpetrated by armed terrorist groups,
- (2) *Alarmed* by the scope, scale and transnational character of these attacks which undermine all peace and development initiatives in the region,
- (3) *Deeply concerned* by the dangerous spread of these attacks to new regions of the Sahel States and the risk that they destabilize the entire West African subregion,
- (4) *Reaffirming* the need to fight with all means, in keeping with the United Nations Charter, the threat to international peace and security posed by these acts of terrorism,
- (5) *Recalling* the provisions of United Nations Security Council resolutions 2320 (2016) on *Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and subregional organizations in maintaining peace and security* and 2378 (2017) on United Nations peacekeeping operations,
- (6) *Convinced* that peace, security and development are closely linked;
 1. *Invites* the international community to support with concrete actions the efforts already employed on the ground by the Group of Five for the Sahel (G5 Sahel) and their international partners;
 2. *Calls* for strengthening international solidarity with the G5 Sahel States and the Sahel Alliance;
 3. *Urges* States to implement United Nations Security Council resolution 2370 (2017) that aims to prevent terrorists from acquiring weapons;
 4. *Calls on* the international community to support the common response initiatives of the governments of the G5 Sahel: Permanent Secretariat of the G5 Sahel, G5 Sahel Joint Force, and the Defence College;
 5. *Invites* the UN Security Council to place the G5 Sahel Joint Force under the mandate of Chapter VII of the United Nations Charter to ensure its long-term multilateral financing.