

## 139<sup>th</sup> IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 14-18.10.2018

## Presidential statement on recent developments on the Korean Peninsula

Endorsed by the IPU Governing Council at its 203<sup>rd</sup> session (Geneva, 18 October 2018)

The IPU welcomes the recent positive developments on the Korean Peninsula, notably the Inter-Korean summit in April leading to the Panmunjom Declaration for Peace, Prosperity and Unification of the Korean Peninsula; the U.S.-DPRK summit in Singapore in June, and President Moon Jae-in's visit to Pyongyang in September.

These historic events are building blocks of peace and the IPU applauds the efforts by both sides to work towards rapprochement and mutual understanding.

The IPU has been building and will continue to build bridges between the delegations of the Democratic People's Republic of Korea (DPRK) and the Republic of Korea (ROK) and is pleased to facilitate contacts during IPU Assemblies. These Assemblies serve as platforms for dialogue and bilateral exchanges and are a clear demonstration of parliamentary diplomacy in action.

At the 139<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, the delegations of the DPRK and ROK stated their commitment to working together, including within the IPU, in order to contribute actively to the substantial progress made on the normalization of relations between both sides.

The IPU was founded on the principle of political dialogue to resolve differences and conflicts and is at the service of its Members to facilitate contacts, mediate conflicts and offer its good offices in the interest of a more peaceful world. As a neutral and impartial broker, the IPU remains an oasis of hope.

