



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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138th IPU ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 24 – 28.03.2018

Governing Council
Item 14
Assembly
Item 8

CL/202/14-P.2.Am.1
A/138/8-P.2.Am.1
5 February 2018

Amendments to the IPU Statutes and Rules

*Sub-amendments submitted by the delegation of the Russian Federation
within the statutory deadlines*

Modify the original amendments as follows¹:

ARTICLE 19 bis (Statutes)

2. In the absence of the President and the Vice-President of the Executive Committee, the Executive Committee shall decide to whom these functions shall be conferred among the six Vice-Presidents representing each of the geopolitical groups.

Comment:

This sub-amendment aligns proposed Article 19 bis with Rule 5 (Executive Committee), where a Vice-President of the Executive Committee shall exercise the functions of the President of the IPU in the latter's absence.

ARTICLE 2 (Statutes)

2. The official languages of the Organization are English, and French, Arabic, Spanish and Portuguese. The working languages of the Organization are Arabic, Chinese, Russian, and Spanish.

Comment:

The IPU currently has two **official** languages: English and French, the languages of its founders. It now has two additional **working** languages: Arabic and Spanish, into and from which simultaneous interpretation is provided at statutory IPU Assemblies as provided for in its Statutes and Rules. This sub-amendment aligns the IPU Statutes with the UN Charter, where six languages of the UN are stipulated in alphabetical order.

The IPU has fairly recent experience in translating important documents into the six official UN languages. In 2015, the IPU collaborated with the Language Services at the United Nations Office at Geneva and at the UN Headquarters in New York on the translation into Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish of the Outcome Declaration of the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament.

¹ The text highlighted in grey represents the proposed sub-amendments.

RULE 37 (Rules of the Assembly)

The IPU Secretariat shall receive all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them, together with the summary records of the sittings **in English and French and in English and French**. It shall ensure the simultaneous interpretation of the debates in ~~these two languages, as well as in Arabic and Spanish~~ **these two languages, as well as in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish all the official languages of the Organization referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes.**

RULE 43 (Governing Council)

1. The IPU Secretariat shall receive all documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them **in English and French and in English and French**. It shall ensure the simultaneous interpretation of the debates in ~~these two languages, as well as in Arabic and Spanish~~ **in these two languages, as well as in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish all the official languages referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes.**

RULE 15 (Executive Committee)

1. The IPU Secretariat shall receive or prepare all documents necessary for the deliberations of the Committee and shall distribute them to its members ~~in English and French~~. It shall **in English and French and** ensure the simultaneous interpretation of the debates in ~~these languages, as well as in Arabic and Spanish~~ **these two languages, as well as in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish all the official languages referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes.**

RULE 7 (Terms of Reference of the Sub-Committee on Finance)

1. The Sub-Committee shall be provided with administrative and secretarial support from the IPU Secretariat as and when required. The IPU Secretariat shall ensure simultaneous interpretation in ~~English and French as well as Arabic and Spanish if so requested~~ **English and French as well as in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish if so requested. all the official languages referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes.**

RULE 42 (Rules of Standing Committees)

1. The IPU Secretariat shall receive the documents, reports and draft resolutions and distribute them **in English and French and in English and French**. It shall ensure the simultaneous interpretation of the debates in ~~these two languages, as well as in Arabic and Spanish~~, **in these two languages, as well as in Arabic, Chinese, Russian and Spanish all the official languages referred to in Article 2.2 of the Statutes.**

RULE 15 (Rules of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians)

2. It shall ensure simultaneous interpretation in these two languages, as well as in Arabic, **Chinese, Russian** and Spanish.