



CL/186/C.1 21 December 2009

CONVOCATION 186th SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION Bangkok, 28 March and 1st April 2010

Dear Madam, Dear Sir,

We have pleasure in informing you that the Governing Council of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will hold its 186th session at the Centara Bangkok Convention Centre (CBCC), in Bangkok.

The Governing Council will hold a first sitting from 9 a.m. to 10 a.m. on Sunday 28 March. Its second sitting will take place from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday 1^{st} April.

1. PARTICIPATION

The Governing Council is composed of three members from each parliament represented in the IPU^{*}. The Members are asked to confirm the names of their representatives to the Governing Council by <u>28 March 2010 at the latest</u>, so that the Secretariat can update the list of Council members.

In accordance with Governing Council Rule 2, "a member of the Governing Council who is unable to attend may be replaced by another representative of the Union Member in question duly authorized for that purpose". The IPU Secretariat should be notified accordingly.

^{*} Each parliament's representation on the Governing Council must include both men and women. Single gender delegations will be limited to two members (Rule 1.2 of the Rules of the Governing Council).

2. PROVISIONAL AGENDA

The provisional agenda for the session prepared by the Executive Committee at its 255th (October 2009) session is as follows:

1. Adoption of the agenda

The Governing Council will adopt its agenda at the beginning of its proceedings.

2. Approval of the summary records of the 185th session of the Governing Council Members requesting corrections to the summary records of the 185th session (CL/185/SR.1) are asked to notify the Union's Secretariat in writing before the opening of the 186th session.

3. Proposals for the election of the President of the 122nd Assembly

4. Questions relating to IPU membership

- (a) Requests for affiliation and reaffiliation to the IPU
- (b) Situation of certain Members
- (c) Observer status

The Governing Council will decide on any requests for affiliation and reaffiliation and review the situation of certain Members on the basis of the report of the Executive Committee. It will also examine any requests for observer status.

5. **Report of the President**

- (a) On his activities since the 185th session of the Governing Council
- (b) On the activities of the Executive Committee

6. Annual Report by the Secretary General on the activities of the IPU for 2009

- 7. Reports on recent IPU specialized conferences and meetings
- 8. Cooperation with the United Nations System
- 9. Consolidation of the reform of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

10. Financial results for 2009

The Governing Council will have before it the report of the Auditors on the Union's accounts for 2009.

11. Action by the IPU to strengthen democracy and parliamentary institutions

12. Activities of committees and other bodies

The Governing Council will examine the reports of the following bodies and committees and will hold elections to fill any vacant seats:

- (a) Meeting of Women Parliamentarians
- (b) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians
- (c) Committee on Middle East Questions
- (d) Group of Facilitators for Cyprus
- (e) Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law
- (f) Gender Partnership Group
- (g) Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS

13. Preparations for the 3rd World Conference of Speakers of Parliament

The Governing Council will receive a report on the second meeting of the Preparatory Committee.

14. 123rd IPU Assembly (Geneva, 4-6 October 2010)

15. Future Inter-Parliamentary meetings

- (a) Statutory meetings
- (b) Specialized meetings and other events

16. Amendments to the Statutes and Rules

3. SUPPLEMENTARY ITEMS

In conformity with Governing Council Rule 13, members of the Council may request the inclusion of supplementary items in the agenda. Such items must fall within the competence of the Council which, according to Article 20.1 of the Statutes, determines and guides the activities of the Union and controls their implementation.

Any requests for the inclusion of supplementary items will be immediately transmitted by the Secretariat to all Council members. After hearing the opinion of the Executive Committee, the Council shall decide on such a request by a majority of votes cast if the request is received by the Secretariat at least 15 days before the opening of the session; otherwise by a two-thirds majority.

4. DOCUMENTS

To the extent possible, working documents regarding various items of the provisional agenda will be sent out to Members and posted on the IPU website in advance.

Yours sincerely,

Anders B. JOHNSSON Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

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Theo-Ben Gurirab President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union