DRAFT UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY RESOLUTION

Endorsed by the IPU Governing Council at its 187th session (Geneva, 6 October 2010)

Sixty-fifth Session General Assembly

Agenda Item 124 (m): Cooperation between the United Nations and regional and other organizations: Cooperation between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Namibia

Cooperation between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General of 2010,¹ which attests to the broad and substantive cooperation between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) over the past two years,

Taking note of the resolutions adopted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and circulated in the General Assembly and the many activities undertaken by the organization in support of the United Nations,

Taking note of the outcome of the Third World Conference of Speakers of Parliament and its Declaration on Securing Global Democratic Accountability for the Common Good, which reaffirms the commitment of national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to support the work of the United Nations and continue efforts to bridge the democracy gap in international relations,²

Taking note also of the findings and recommendations of the Report of the Inter-Parliamentary Union on how parliaments organize their work with the United Nations,³

Welcoming the annual parliamentary hearings at the United Nations as joint UN-IPU events during the General Assembly, as well as other specialized parliamentary meetings organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union in cooperation with the United Nations in the context of major United Nations conferences and events,

Taking into consideration the Cooperation Agreement between the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union of 1996,⁴ which laid the foundation for cooperation between the two organizations,

 3 A/65/289, annex.

A/65/382 - S/2010/490.

² A/65/289.

⁴ A/51/402, annex.

Recalling the United Nations Millennium Declaration, as well as the 2005 World Summit Outcome, in which heads of State and Government resolved to strengthen further cooperation between the United Nations and national parliaments through their world organization, the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in all fields of the work of the United Nations, including the effective implementation of United Nations reform,

Also recalling its resolution 57/32 of 19 November 2002, in which the Inter-Parliamentary Union was invited to participate in the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer, as well as resolutions 57/47 of 21 November 2002, 59/19 of 8 November 2004, 61/6 of 20 October 2006 and 63/24 of 18 November 2008,

Welcoming the close cooperation between the IPU and the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission in fostering political dialogue and building national capacities for good governance,

Welcoming the contribution of the IPU in shaping the agenda and work of the new Development Cooperation Forum (DCF) of ECOSOC,

Recognizing the importance of continued parliamentary support to the work of United Nations Human Rights Council,

Recognizing also the work of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in the areas of gender equality, political empowerment of women and combating violence against women, as well as the close and systematic cooperation between the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the relevant United Nations bodies, including the Commission on the Status of Women and the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW),

Acknowledging the role and responsibility of national parliaments in the elaboration of national plans and strategies, as well as in ensuring greater transparency and accountability at the national and international levels,

- 1. Welcomes the efforts made by the Inter-Parliamentary Union to provide for a greater parliamentary contribution and enhanced support to the United Nations;
- 2. Encourages the United Nations and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to continue to cooperate closely in various fields, in particular peace and security, economic and social development, international law, human rights, and democracy and gender issues, bearing in mind the significant benefits of cooperation between the two organizations, to which the report of the Secretary-General attests;
- 3. Encourages the IPU to strengthen further its contribution to the work of the United Nations General Assembly, including its revitalization, and in relation to the process of United Nations reform and system-wide coherence;
- 4. *Invites* the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission to continue to work closely with the IPU in engaging national parliaments in the countries under consideration by the Commission in efforts to promote democratic governance, national dialogue and reconciliation;
- 5. Encourages the IPU to continue to work closely with the United Nations Development Cooperation Forum and bring a robust parliamentary contribution to the DCF process and the broader development cooperation agenda, including in the context of the current ECOSOC reform process;
- 6. Encourages the IPU to continue its efforts in mobilizing parliamentary support and action towards the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the target date of 2015;

- 7. Further *encourages* the IPU to strengthen its contribution to the United Nations human rights treaty body system and to the Human Rights Council, particularly as it relates to the Universal Periodic Review of the fulfilment of human rights obligations and commitments by UN member States;
- 8. *Invites* the new United Nations Entity for Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women (UN Women) to work closely with the Inter-Parliamentary Union in areas that include the political empowerment of women, institutional gender mainstreaming, support to parliaments in promoting gender sensitive legislation, combating violence against women, and the implementation of relevant United Nations resolutions;
- 9. Encourages the IPU to further assist in developing closer cooperation between the United Nations and parliaments at the national level, including in terms of strengthening parliamentary capacities and helping to align national legislation with international commitments;
- 10. Welcomes the growing practice of including legislators as members of national delegations to major United Nations meetings and events, as appropriate, and invites member States to continue this practice in a more regular and systematic manner;
- 11. Calls for the further development of the Annual Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations as a joint UN-IPU event and for the circulation of the Hearing summary report as an official UN General Assembly document;
- 12. Decides to more systematically engage with the Inter-Parliamentary Union in organizing and integrating a parliamentary component and contribution to major United Nations review and deliberative processes;
- 13. Welcomes the proposal for a regular annual exchange between the Chief Executives Board for Coordination and the senior leadership of the IPU, with a view to building greater coherence in the work of the two organizations, maximizing parliamentary support for the United Nations, and helping to forge a strategic partnership between the two organizations;
- 14. *Decides*, in recognition of the unique role of national parliaments in support of the work of the United Nations, to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-sixth session a standalone item entitled "Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union".