



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
120th Assembly and related meetings
Addis Ababa (Ethiopia), 5 - 10 April 2009



Assembly
Item 2

A/120/2-P.4
25 March 2009

**CONSIDERATION OF POSSIBLE 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 120th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegation of Mexico**

On 24 March 2009, the Secretary General received from the delegation of Mexico, a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 120th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"The global fight against organized crime based on cooperation
and joint and shared responsibility".

Delegates to the 120th 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 120th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Mexico, on behalf of the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union on Monday, 6 April 2009.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the Union 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 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 major event of international concern on which it appears necessary for the IPU to express its opinion. 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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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.

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL
BY THE LEADER OF THE DELEGATION OF MEXICO**

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

The delegation of Mexico would like to request the inclusion of the following emergency item in the agenda of the 120th Assembly:

"The global fight against organized crime based on cooperation
and joint and shared responsibilities".

Please find attached an explanatory memorandum and draft resolution on the proposed emergency item.

Please accept, Mr. Secretary General, the assurances of my highest consideration.

(signed)

Yours sincerely,

Rosario GREEN (Ms.)
Leader of the Mexican delegation

**THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME BASED ON COOPERATION
AND JOINT AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES**

***Explanatory memorandum submitted by
the delegation of Mexico***

Transnational organized crime has become a phenomenon that threatens the political, economic and social structures of States and jeopardizes the democratic order of nations and international security.

Over the past years, offences that fall under transnational organized crime have risen drastically in tandem with the proceeds which organized crime groups have managed to obtain by committing crimes beyond borders.

Organized crime has permeated some States from the municipal level to the federal level through the funding of political campaigns and the election of their members as parliamentarians. In some cases, they have supplanted the State in terms of providing protection, jobs and social services to the community.

No government can ignore the presence of organized crime groups that work together with some governments and members of the police service, fostering corruption that facilitates illicit activities and renders difficult effective law enforcement.

The effects of transnational organized crime in terms of security, health and the environment affect above all the most vulnerable sectors of society, such as women, children and the youngest members of society, who are exposed to crimes that are part of transnational organized crime such as drug trafficking, human trafficking, the smuggling of migrants, terrorism, money laundering and arms trafficking.

Scientific and technological advancements have allowed the networks of transnational criminal organizations to expand their presence throughout the world, as reflected by the media and means of transport they use, as well as their arsenals.

For that reason, it is urgent and necessary for parliamentarians to promote and undertake appropriate measures to combat as best as possible transnational organized crime and its constituent crimes.

In order to effectively combat transnational organized crime, international cooperation is of the utmost importance, as are appropriate measures that governments should take at the national level to tackle this problem.

**THE GLOBAL FIGHT AGAINST ORGANIZED CRIME BASED ON COOPERATION
AND JOINT AND SHARED RESPONSIBILITIES**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of MEXICO

The 120th Inter-Parliamentary Assembly,

- (1) *Recognizing* that organized crime is already a global problem that overwhelms nations due to the presence of complex cross-border criminal organizations,
- (2) *Considering* that it is extremely urgent to combat drug trafficking, arms trafficking, human trafficking and money laundering with global cooperation,
- (3) *Taking into account* drug trafficking and human trafficking have become scourges of humanity that affect peace and governance,
- (4) *Convinced* that world insecurity requires urgent global actions because there is no nation in the world that can avoid the impact on governance processes of drug and arms trafficking, human trafficking and money laundering,
- (5) *Bearing in mind* that organized crime produces an annual profit of approximately US\$ 500 billion,
- (6) *Underscoring* that human trafficking is a lucrative business, and that it affects four million people a year; mainly women and children,
- (7) *Recognizing* that money laundering affects the global financial system, and finances the illicit activities carried out by organized crime groups,
- (8) *Considering* that it is urgent for the international community to fight organized crime because of its effects on the civilian population, especially its youth,
- (9) *Recalling* the United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances that promotes cooperation between and among States in the fight against drug trafficking,
- (10) *Mindful of* the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, whose main objective is to promote cooperation in order to effectively prevent and fight organized crime,
- (11) *Recalling* the three Protocols to supplement the Transnational Organized Crime Convention, namely the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children; the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air, and the Protocol against the Illegal Manufacturing of and Trafficking in Firearms, their Parts and Components and Ammunition, which define measures for States to fight specific aspects of transnational organized crime,

(12) *Subscribing to the United Nations Convention against Corruption; the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and the Inter-American Convention against Corruption,*

(13) *Aware that corruption facilitates illegal activities and hinders the intervention of law enforcement agencies,*

(14) *Concerned that governance is affected by the magnitude of trafficking in drugs and arms that infiltrate democratic governments to protect their interests and increase their power,*

(15) *Considering that these phenomena influence corruption levels that have regrettably risen, especially among security agencies,*

1. *Calls on governments to fully comply with their international commitments on security issues;*
2. *Urges countries, through their parliaments, to cooperate with international and regional bodies to debate issues on the security agenda, such as drug trafficking and the smuggling of illegal migrants, terrorism, money laundering and arms smuggling;*
3. *Encourages cooperation between parliaments and the United Nations to promote security measures from the perspective of the fight against transnational organized crime;*
4. *Calls on the parliaments of each country to legislate on fighting transnational organized crime, especially drug trafficking, arms smuggling and human trafficking;*
5. *Appeals to the parliamentarians attending IPU meetings to share the concerns of countries that have already been affected by drug trafficking, which endangers their democratic institutions, their economy and society;*
6. *Urges parliamentarians to legislate on the control of weapons sales, because, drug traffickers have more sophisticated and larger amounts of weapons than security agencies;*
7. *Calls on parliamentarians to legislate on the control of certain substances, such as the precursors that are used to manufacture narcotics;*
8. *Invites parliamentarians to establish an efficient legal framework to combat money laundering;*
9. *Encourages parliamentarians to strive to strike a balance between national security and respect for human rights;*
10. *Urges parliaments to legislate on fighting corruption issues, especially in those countries where there is a lack of internal rules and regulations pursuant to corresponding conventions.*