



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



Assembly  
Item 2

A/120/2-P.7  
2 April 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 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union  
submitted by the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran**

On 2 April 2009, the Secretary General received from the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Parliamentary action to ensure the free supply of humanitarian aid to Gaza  
and the prosecution of perpetrators of war crimes in Gaza".

Delegates to the 120<sup>th</sup> 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 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran, 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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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  
PRESIDENT OF THE IRANIAN INTER-PARLIAMENTARY GROUP**

Tehran, 30 March 2009

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

On behalf of the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the Islamic Republic of Iran, I would like to request the inclusion of the following emergency item in the agenda of the 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly:

"Parliamentary action to ensure the free supply of humanitarian aid to Gaza  
and the prosecution of perpetrators of war crimes in Gaza".

Attached please find an explanatory memorandum and draft resolution on the proposed item for circulation among Member Parliaments.

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

H. FALAHATPISHEH  
President of the  
Iranian Inter-Parliamentary Group

**PARLIAMENTARY ACTION TO ENSURE THE FREE SUPPLY OF HUMANITARIAN AID  
TO GAZA AND THE PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS OF WAR CRIMES IN GAZA**

*Explanatory memorandum submitted by the Iranian Inter-Parliamentary Group*

More than 1.5 million Palestinians in Gaza who have survived the recent brutal attacks of the occupying forces are still suffering from the lack of food, medicine, electricity and other essential materials and services.

The atrocities of recent months in Palestine, particularly in Gaza, have crossed all known boundaries of human rights, human dignity and respect for international law. Hundreds of innocent and defenceless people, mostly women and children, have fallen victim to Israeli State terrorism. Excessive use of force against civilians, aggravated by a blockade of humanitarian aid to the besieged people of Gaza, constitutes a crime against humanity.

Despite the pledges made at various international conferences for humanitarian assistance to meet the basic needs of people in Gaza and to reconstruct the houses and facilities demolished in the recent brutal attacks, people in Gaza are still living in absolute poverty.

Urgent action is needed to stimulate, unify and streamline efforts to mobilize all relief programmes aimed at channelling essential humanitarian aid to Palestinians in the Gaza Strip.

As the world organization of parliaments representing the will of people worldwide, the Inter-Parliamentary Union is expected to play a crucial role in mobilizing the international community in support of Palestine. The 120<sup>th</sup> Assembly is expected to join the call for the provision of humanitarian assistance to Palestinians living in Gaza, including all the materials needed for the speedy reconstruction of the houses and facilities devastated in the recent war.

The Assembly is also called on to designate a mission to inquire into the recent crimes perpetrated by the occupying forces in Gaza, in order to bring to justice all the perpetrators of war crimes in Gaza.

**PARLIAMENTARY ACTION TO ENSURE THE FREE SUPPLY OF HUMANITARIAN AID  
TO GAZA AND THE PROSECUTION OF PERPETRATORS OF WAR CRIMES IN GAZA**

***Draft resolution submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Group of the  
ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN***

The 120<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Assembly,

- (1) *Expressing deep concern* at the repressive policies and assassination of Palestinian citizens in the occupied Palestinian territories, the unjust siege of the Gaza Strip and the disruption of the supply of food, fuel and medication intended for the population,
- (2) *Appreciating* the efforts made so far to mobilize humanitarian assistance for the people in Gaza,
- (3) *Expressing concern* at the incessant violation of human rights and deteriorating economic situation in Palestine,
- (4) *Recalling* that it is prohibited under international law to impose policies of repression and to disrupt humanitarian supplies to civilians,
- (5) *Recognizing* the need to investigate the recent crimes committed by the occupying forces in Gaza,
- (6) *Firmly convinced* of the need for effective action to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinian people in Gaza,
  1. *Condemns*, in the strongest possible terms, the crimes and atrocities committed by the occupying forces in Palestine, in particular the recent war waged for 22 days against civilians, mostly women and children;
  2. *Demands* that the occupying forces respect the principles of international law in their treatment of the defenceless people of Palestine, in particular by immediately removing all restrictions against the Palestinian people;
  3. *Reminds* the forces occupying Palestine that they must fulfil their international obligations under the 1949 Geneva Conventions and guarantee the free supply of food, medicine, fuel and water and such essential services as electricity and sanitation to the Gaza Strip by immediately lifting the blockade;
  4. *Urges* the international community to bring pressure to bear on the occupying power so that it immediately allows the flow of basic supplies and international humanitarian aid for the people in Gaza;

5. *Urges* all parliaments to take steps to alleviate the suffering of the Palestinians and to demand that their respective governments exert pressure on the power occupying Palestine to put an end to its acts of terror in Palestine, in particular in the Gaza Strip;
6. *Calls upon* all States, parliaments and relevant international bodies to fulfil their international legal commitment to put an end to the culture of impunity in the world, and *demands* that they take all necessary measures to investigate the recent crimes committed by the occupying forces in order to bring to justice all perpetrators involved directly or indirectly in the war crimes in Gaza.