



123rd ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION AND RELATED MEETINGS

Geneva, 4 - 6.10.2010

A/123/C.1
4 June 2010

CONVOCATION OF THE 123rd ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Madam President,
Mr. President,

It is our pleasure to inform you that the 123rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and related meetings will be held at the *Centre international de Conférences de Genève (CICG)*, Geneva (Switzerland) from Monday, 4 to Wednesday, 6 October 2010.

1. AGENDA

1. Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the 123rd Assembly
2. Consideration of possible requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda
3. Panel discussions on:
 - (a) Preventing electoral violence and ensuring the smooth transition of power
(First Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)
 - (b) Management of natural resources, agricultural production and demographic change
(Second Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade)
 - (c) Transparency and accountability in political party funding
(Third Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights)
4. Report of the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs
5. Amendments to the Statutes and Rules of the IPU

2. PANEL DISCUSSIONS

On Tuesday, 5 October, three panel discussions will take place on the subject items of the Standing Committees that have been included in the agenda of the 124th Assembly.

The format and conduct of these panel discussions will be largely informal, with focus on debate and interaction. They will be moderated by two or more experts. The co-Rapporteurs will also make very brief (maximum five minutes) introductions of their draft report.

The aim of these panel discussions is to raise awareness of IPU Members of the subjects included in the agenda of the 124th Assembly. There will be no negotiations as such and all prepared speeches setting out formal positions are highly discouraged.

The panel discussions also offer the participants an opportunity to provide comments and suggestions on the preliminary draft reports that have been prepared by the co-Rapporteurs. This will provide the co-Rapporteurs with an intermediary checkpoint halfway through the drafting process and help them to enrich their reports and recommendations.

Also on Tuesday, 5 October, there will be a special event on *Migration and Development*. The event will take the form of an informal panel discussion and will serve several purposes.

It will provide an opportunity for Members to share information on action they have taken to follow up the resolutions they adopted in 2005 and 2008.

Participants will also be informed of major developments related to migration, including preparations for the *Fourth Global Forum on Migration and Development*, new aspects of migration and proposals on migration governance.

3. TIMETABLE *

The timetable of the Assembly is set out in [Annex I](#). The closing sitting of the 123rd Assembly will take place on Wednesday, 6 October, from **4 p.m. to 5.30 p.m.** During this sitting, the report on the possible emergency item included in the Assembly agenda will be presented and the draft resolution submitted for adoption. Delegations are kindly requested to bear this in mind when making their travel arrangements.

4. EMERGENCY ITEM

According to Assembly Rule 11 and Article 14.2 of the Statutes, any Member of the Union may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. If the Assembly decides to include an emergency item in its agenda, this will be debated by the Assembly on Monday, 4 October 2010. Provision has also been made on the following day for a possible meeting of a drafting committee to prepare a draft resolution.

5. PARTICIPATION

Each IPU Member may appoint a maximum of five delegates to the second annual session of the Assembly, or seven for parliaments of countries with a population of 100 million inhabitants or more. Any delegation that, for three consecutive sessions of the Assembly, is composed exclusively of parliamentarians of the same sex, shall, however, automatically be reduced by one person.

* See detailed General Timetable of the Assembly and related meetings in [Annex I](#).

Please note that the number of additional MPs accompanying delegations as Advisers must not exceed two.

IPU Members whose arrears equal or exceed the amount of the contributions due from them for the preceding two full years may not be represented by more than two delegates at meetings of the Union (Article 5.2 of the Statutes).

Associate Members may participate in the Assembly and its Standing Committees with the same rights as Members, save for the right to vote and to present candidates for elective office.

International organizations and other bodies invited by the Governing Council to be represented at the Assembly as observers are entitled to send a maximum of two delegates.

6. STEERING COMMITTEE

The Steering Committee of the Assembly shall be composed of the President of the Assembly, the President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Vice-President of the Executive Committee. The Presidents of the Standing Committees may take part in its work in an advisory capacity.

The Steering Committee, assisted by the IPU Secretary General, is mandated to take all appropriate measures to ensure the effective organization and normal functioning of the Assembly proceedings.

7. TABLE SHOWING THE ALLOCATION OF VOTES

A provisional table showing the votes allocated to delegations at the 123rd Assembly is contained in [Annex II](#).

Members are kindly requested to check the figures concerning them and, if necessary, inform in writing the IPU Secretariat in Geneva of any modifications required, preferably in advance.

The final table showing the allocation of votes at the Assembly will be distributed at the opening of the session.

8. LANGUAGES

The Secretariat of the Inter-Parliamentary Union will provide simultaneous interpretation into and from the two official languages of the Union: English and French, as well as Arabic and Spanish, at the meetings of all statutory bodies.

Three other interpretation channels have been reserved for Chinese, Japanese and Russian at sittings of the Assembly, the Governing Council, and for the Panel discussions.

Delegates may, exceptionally, use another language provided that they arrange for their speech to be interpreted into one of the IPU's official languages, and that copies of the speech be given to the Chief Interpreter (Ms. F. Steinig-Huang) well in advance and no later than two hours before it is to be delivered.

9. MEETINGS OF OTHER BODIES

Other bodies will hold meetings during the Assembly; their members will be convened by way of a separate letter. They include:

- The Governing Council (4 and 6 October, public sittings);
- The Executive Committee (1st, 2 and 5 October, *in camera*);
- The Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians (3 October, *in camera*);

- The Gender Partnership Group (2 October, *in camera*);
- The Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (2, 3, 4 and 5 October, *in camera*);
- The Committee on Middle East Questions (3 October, *in camera*);
- The IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs (4 and 6 October, public sittings)

The Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) will also meet at the CICC during the Assembly. It will be convened by its President.

POST-ASSEMBLY MEETINGS – 7 OCTOBER 2010

- IPU and ASGP Conference on Strengthening links between parliaments and citizens
- Parliamentary Seminar on the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women
- Parliamentary Seminar on the United Nations Human Rights Treaty Bodies

More detailed information on the above meetings will be sent out shortly to all Members.

10. ADDITIONAL INFORMATION ON THE SESSION

Further information concerning the session will be provided in the Assembly Guidebook and in the "Additional information" document, which will be distributed to delegations upon registration.

Journal

Every day during the Assembly, participants will find in all meeting rooms and at the Registration and Information desk the *Journal*, which provides the latest updates on the programme of meetings and other important information designed to facilitate their participation in the proceedings of the session.

11. RESULTS OF THE ASSEMBLY

All delegations will receive two printed copies of the *Results* of the 123rd Assembly. In addition, the document becomes accessible on the IPU website (<http://www.ipu.org>) two weeks after the close of the Assembly, when a complete electronic version of the "Results" can be downloaded from the IPU website in PDF format.

12. REGISTRATION OF DELEGATES

All participants must respect the registration deadline of 3 September 2010. Please return the registration form for delegations annexed to this Convocation to the IPU Secretariat by that date. The address is as follows:

- | | | |
|-----------------------------|-----------|--|
| ▶ Inter-Parliamentary Union | Telephone | : +41 22 919 41 50 |
| 5, chemin du Pommier | Fax | : +41 22 919 41 60 |
| case postale 330 | e-mail | : registration@mail.ipu.org |
| 1218 Grand-Saconnex, Geneva | | |
| Switzerland | | |

The Registration and Information Service, available on the premises of the CICC, will be open as follows:

- 12 noon to 6 p.m. on Saturday, 2 October;
- 8 a.m. to 7 p.m. from Sunday, 3 October to Tuesday, 5 October; and
- 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Wednesday, 6 October.

Delegates are also informed that this Service will only hand over identity badges and documentation to representatives from their Permanent Missions in Geneva if a signed letter of authorization has been received from the Member Parliament to this effect.

Important:

Particular attention is drawn to the fact that, even if identity badges have been collected by delegations' Permanent Missions; upon their arrival at the CICC, delegations are kindly requested to check-in immediately at the Registration and Information Service to ensure that the information in the List of Participants concerning their delegation is accurate.

13. HOTEL ACCOMODATION

Delegations from countries with a Permanent Mission in Geneva are kindly requested to make their hotel reservations through their respective Mission. The Permanent Missions in Geneva are all informed of the holding of the 123rd Assembly and are accustomed to receiving national delegations to United Nations meetings and to handling hotel reservations for them. Many of them have signed agreements and obtained preferential rates with hotels close to the Palais des Nations area and the CICC.

Delegations from countries that do not have a diplomatic representation in Geneva may wish to reserve their rooms through the Geneva Tourist Office:

Fax : +41 22 909 70 21
e-mail : reservation@geneve-tourisme.ch

It is also possible to make reservations on-line via the Tourist Office's website:

http://www.geneve-tourisme.ch/?rubrique=0000000253&lang=_eng

In keeping with the practice of all hotels in Geneva, only reservations made with details of a credit card as a guarantee will be confirmed. Since October is a very busy period for Geneva hotels, it is highly recommended that hotel reservations be made as soon as possible.

14. VISAS

Switzerland is an associate member of the Schengen Agreement and is part of the Schengen area. For those persons who require a visa, the Swiss authorities can issue a visa for a maximum stay of three months, which is generally valid for the entire Schengen area.

For further information, please refer to the Informative Note on the implementation of Schengen-Dublin available on the website of the Swiss Federal Department of Foreign Affairs:

<http://www.eda.admin.ch/eda/en/home/topics/intorg/un/unge/gepri/manvis/manvi2.html>

Schengen regulations impose longer deadlines for the issuance of a visa. That is why delegations are requested to submit their applications **before 27 August 2010**.

The Swiss authorities will endeavour to process applications as soon as possible but cannot guarantee that visas will be issued in cases of late applications. Your kind attention is drawn to the fact that following the entrance of Switzerland into the Schengen area, visas are no longer delivered upon arrival at Geneva international airport. Any delegations in need of assistance must therefore send their requests as soon as possible, and provide the following details: full name, date and place of birth, nationality, type of national passport and number (date of issue and expiry), date of arrival and flight number.

Please also note that Geneva Airport is located on the Swiss-French border and also has a French entry point. Some flights arriving from Paris or other French airports to Geneva are therefore considered as domestic flights. Delegates travelling via France must therefore also check with the competent French authorities to ascertain whether a French or Schengen visa is required for travel through a French airport en route to Geneva.

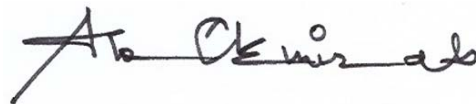
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We hope that your Parliament will be represented at the 123rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and that the delegation, under your leadership, will take an active part in the proceedings.

Yours sincerely,



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



Theo-Ben GURIRAB
President
of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

GENERAL TIMETABLE OF THE ASSEMBLY AND RELATED MEETINGS

(Geneva, 4 to 6 October 2010)

Date		Plenary sittings	Committees	<i>In camera</i> sittings	Other events
Friday, 1 October 2010	MORNING			10.00 - 13.00 Executive Committee <i>Main meeting room, IPU Headquarters</i>	
	AFTERNOON			15.00 - 18.00 Executive Committee <i>Main meeting room, IPU Headquarters</i>	
Saturday, 2 October 2010	MORNING			09.00 - 13.00 Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i>	
		10.00 - 13.00 Executive Committee <i>Main meeting room, IPU Headquarters</i>			
	AFTERNOON			14.30 - 18.00 Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i>	
		15.00 - 17.00 Executive Committee <i>Main meeting room, IPU Headquarters</i>			
		17.00 - 18.00 Gender Partnership Group <i>Main meeting room, IPU Headquarters</i>			

Date		Plenary sittings	Committees	<i>In camera</i> sittings	Other events
Sunday, 3 October 2010	MORNING			<p>09.00 - 13.00 Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Room A, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p> <p>Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p>	
	AFTERNOON			<p>14.30 - 18.00 Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p> <p>Committee on Middle East Questions <i>Room A, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p>	<p>14.00 – 18.00 ASGP Executive Committee <i>Room 20, level 3, CICC</i></p> <p>14.15 – 14.45 Meeting of Advisers and Secretaries to delegations <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>
Monday, 4 October 2010	MORNING	<p>09.00 – 11.30 Governing Council: membership; reports; finance; presentation of 2011 budget <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p> <p>11.30 - 13.00 Assembly: Opening; Adoption of an emergency item <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>	<p>09.00 - 13.00 IPU Committee on UN Affairs <i>Room 2, level 0, CICC</i></p>	<p>08.00 - 08.45 Assembly Steering Committee <i>IPU President's Office, level 3, CICC</i></p> <p>09.00 - 13.00 Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p>	<p>10.00 - 13.00 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>
	AFTERNOON	<p>14.30 - 18.30 Assembly Debate on the emergency item <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>	<p>14.30 - 18.00 IPU Committee on UN Affairs <i>Room 2, level 0, CICC</i></p>		<p>14.30 - 17.30 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>

Date		Plenary sittings	Committees	<i>In camera</i> sittings	Other events
Tuesday, 5 October 2010	MORNING	<p>09.00 – 12.30 Panel discussion on <i>Preventing electoral violence and ensuring the smooth transition of power</i> (subject to be discussed by the First Standing Committee during the 124th Assembly in April 2011) <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>	<p>09.00 – 11.00 Special event on <i>Migration and Development</i> <i>Room 3, level 0, CICC</i></p>	<p>09.00 - 13.00 Drafting committee on emergency item <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p> <p>11.30 – 13.00 Advisory Group of the IPU Committee on UN Affairs <i>Room A, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p>	<p>09.00 - 10.00 ASGP Executive Committee <i>Room 20, level 3, CICC</i></p> <p>10.00 - 13.00 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>
	AFTERNOON	<p>14.00 – 17.30 Panel discussion on <i>Transparency and accountability in political party funding</i> (subject to be discussed by the Third Standing Committee during the 124th Assembly in April 2011) <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>	<p>14.00 – 17.30 Panel discussion on <i>Management of natural resources, agricultural production and demographic change</i> (subject to be discussed by the Second Standing Committee during the 124th Assembly in April 2011) <i>Room 2, level 0, CICC</i></p>	<p>15.00 - 18.00 Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Room B, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p> <p>17.30 – 19.00 Executive Committee <i>Room A, CCV Annexe Building, CICC</i></p>	<p>14.30 - 17.30 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>
Wednesday, 6 October 2010	MORNING	<p>09.00 - 13.00 Governing Council: debate and adoption of the 2011 budget; IPU reform <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>	<p>09.00 – 13.00 IPU Committee on UN Affairs: finalization and adoption of outcome document <i>Room 2, level 0, CICC</i></p>		<p>09.00 - 10.00 ASGP Executive Committee <i>Room 20, level 3, CICC</i></p> <p>10.00 - 13.00 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>
	AFTERNOON	<p>14.30 - 16.00 Governing Council <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p> <p>16.00 - 17.30 Assembly: adoption of resolution and closing session <i>Room 1, level 1, CICC</i></p>			<p>14.30 - 17.30 ASGP Meeting <i>Rooms 5 & 6, level 3, CICC</i></p>

PROVISIONAL TABLE SHOWING THE ALLOCATION OF VOTES AT THE 123rd ASSEMBLY
(According to Article 15.2 of the Statutes)

MEMBERS		Votes under (a)	Population in millions	Votes under (b)	Total number of votes
1.	Afghanistan	10	24.1	4	14
2.	Albania	10	3.0	1	11
3.	Algeria	10	33.2	5	15
4.	Andorra	10	0.08	0	10
5.	Angola	10	8.3	2	12
6.	Argentina	10	33.0	5	15
7.	Armenia	10	3.4	1	11
8.	Australia	10	21.0	4	14
9.	Austria	10	7.8	2	12
10.	Azerbaijan	10	7.3	2	12
11.	Bahrain	10	0.7	0	10
12.	Bangladesh	10	153.0	10	20
13.	Belarus	10	10.2	3	13
14.	Belgium	10	9.9	2	12
15.	Benin	10	7.6	2	12
16.	Bolivia	10	6.7	2	12
17.	Bosnia and Herzegovina	10	4.3	1	11
18.	Botswana	10	1.3	1	11
19.	Brazil	10	146.0	10	20
20.	Bulgaria	10	8.5	2	12
21.	Burkina Faso	10	10.4	3	13
22.	Burundi	10	5.2	2	12
23.	Cambodia	10	10.7	3	13
24.	Cameroon	10	12.9	3	13
25.	Canada	10	30.8	5	15
26.	Cape-Verde	10	0.3	0	10
27.	Chile	10	15.1	3	13
28.	China	10	1,200.0	13	23
29.	Colombia	10	29.5	4	14
30.	Comoros	10	0.5	0	10
31.	Congo	10	1.9	1	11
32.	Costa Rica	10	3.3	1	11
33.	Côte d'Ivoire	10	15.5	3	13
34.	Croatia	10	4.8	1	11
35.	Cuba	10	10.2	3	13
36.	Cyprus	10	0.7	0	10
37.	Czech Republic	10	10.5	3	13
38.	Dem. People's Rep. of Korea	10	20.9	4	14
39.	Dem. Republic of the Congo	10	56.8	7	17
40.	Denmark	10	5.2	2	12
41.	Djibouti	10	0.79	0	10
42.	Dominican Republic	10	9.0	2	12
43.	Ecuador	10	14.0	3	13
44.	Egypt	10	64.8	8	18
45.	El Salvador	10	5.3	2	12
46.	Estonia	10	1.5	1	11
47.	Ethiopia	10	67.5	8	18
48.	Finland	10	5.4	2	12

MEMBERS		Votes under (a)	Population in millions	Votes under (b)	Total number of votes
49.	France	10	58.3	7	17
50.	Gabon	10	1.0	1	11
51.	Gambia	10	1.5	1	11
52.	Georgia	10	4.7	1	11
53.	Germany	10	81.3	9	19
54.	Ghana	10	16.5	3	13
55.	Greece	10	10.2	3	13
56.	Guatemala	10	8.2	2	12
57.	Guinea-Bissau	10	1.5	1	11
58.	Hungary	10	10.4	3	13
59.	Iceland	10	0.31	0	10
60.	India	10	1,000.3	13	23
61.	Indonesia	10	206.0	12	22
62.	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	10	60.5	8	18
63.	Iraq	10	26.7	4	14
64.	Ireland	10	3.5	1	11
65.	Israel	10	6.7	2	12
66.	Italy	10	57.0	7	17
67.	Japan	10	123.6	10	20
68.	Jordan	10	5.5	2	12
69.	Kazakhstan	10	17.0	3	13
70.	Kenya	10	24.0	4	14
71.	Kuwait	10	2.2	1	11
72.	Kyrgyzstan	10	4.5	1	11
73.	Lao People's Dem. Rep.	10	5.6	2	12
74.	Latvia	10	2.7	1	11
75.	Lebanon	10	2.4	1	11
76.	Lesotho	10	2.1	1	11
77.	Liberia	10	2.8	1	11
78.	Libyan Arab Jamahiriya	10	3.9	1	11
79.	Liechtenstein	10	0.3	0	10
80.	Lithuania	10	3.9	1	11
81.	Luxembourg	10	0.4	0	10
82.	Malawi	10	13.9	3	13
83.	Malaysia	10	22.7	4	14
84.	Maldives	10	0.35	0	10
85.	Mali	10	8.0	2	12
86.	Malta	10	0.3	0	10
87.	Mauritania	10	3.1	1	11
88.	Mauritius	10	1.02	1	11
89.	Mexico	10	104.0	10	20
90.	Monaco	10	0.03	0	10
91.	Mongolia	10	2.0	1	11
92.	Montenegro	10	0.62	0	10
93.	Morocco	10	26.5	4	14
94.	Mozambique	10	12.1	3	13
95.	Namibia	10	1.5	1	11
96.	Nepal	10	22.9	4	14
97.	Netherlands	10	15.3	3	13
98.	New Zealand	10	3.3	1	11
99.	Nicaragua	10	5.1	2	12
100.	Nigeria	10	111.7	10	20
101.	Norway	10	4.3	1	11
102.	Oman	10	2.5	1	11

MEMBERS		Votes under (a)	Population in millions	Votes under (b)	Total number of votes
103.	Pakistan	10	160.9	11	21
104.	Palau	10	0.02	0	10
105.	Palestine	10	3.9	1	11
106.	Panama	10	1.7	1	11
107.	Papua New Guinea	10	3.0	1	11
108.	Paraguay	10	5.7	2	12
109.	Peru	10	23.0	4	14
110.	Philippines	10	62.1	8	18
111.	Poland	10	38.5	5	15
112.	Portugal	10	10.3	3	13
113.	Qatar	10	0.88	0	10
114.	Republic of Korea	10	45.5	6	16
115.	Republic of Moldova	10	4.3	1	11
116.	Romania	10	23.0	4	14
117.	Russian Federation	10	148.8	10	20
118.	Rwanda	10	6.2	2	12
119.	Samoa	10	0.17	0	10
120.	San Marino	10	0.02	0	10
121.	Sao Tome and Principe	10	0.16	0	10
122.	Saudi Arabia	10	16.9	3	13
123.	Senegal	10	7.0	2	12
124.	Serbia	10	9.7	2	12
125.	Seychelles	10	0.08	0	10
126.	Sierra Leone	10	4.9	1	11
127.	Singapore	10	2.9	1	11
128.	Slovakia	10	5.2	2	12
129.	Slovenia	10	1.9	1	11
130.	South Africa	10	40.4	6	16
131.	Spain	10	39.4	5	15
132.	Sri Lanka	10	17.0	3	13
133.	Sudan	10	35.0	5	15
134.	Suriname	10	0.4	0	10
135.	Sweden	10	8.7	2	12
136.	Switzerland	10	6.7	2	12
137.	Syrian Arab Republic	10	12.5	3	13
138.	Tajikistan	10	5.1	2	12
139.	Thailand	10	60.1	8	18
140.	The fYR of Macedonia	10	2.3	1	11
141.	Timor-Leste	10	0.92	0	10
142.	Togo	10	5.4	2	12
143.	Tunisia	10	10.2	3	13
144.	Turkey	10	64.5	8	18
145.	Uganda	10	17.0	3	13
146.	Ukraine	10	50.1	7	17
147.	United Arab Emirates	10	2.5	1	11
148.	United Kingdom	10	60.2	8	18
149.	United Rep. of Tanzania	10	34.4	5	15
150.	Uruguay	10	3.2	1	11
151.	Venezuela	10	18.1	3	13
152.	Viet Nam	10	63.7	8	18
153.	Yemen	10	10.5	3	13
154.	Zambia	10	10.9	3	13
155.	Zimbabwe	10	10.4	3	13