



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
124th Assembly and related meetings
Panama City (Panama), 15 – 20 April 2011



Assembly
Item 2

A/124/2-P.2
11 April 2011

**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 124th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
submitted by the delegation of Venezuela**

On 6 April 2011, the Secretary General received from the delegation of Venezuela a request for the inclusion in the agenda of the 124th Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Parliamentary action to strengthen the right to self-determination of peoples
within the framework of international law".

Delegates to the 124th 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 124th Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Venezuela, on Saturday, 16 April 2011.

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- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the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 DELEGATION OF VENEZUELA**

Caracas, 6 April 2011

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

As instructed by Deputy Dario Vivas, leader of the Venezuelan delegation to the 124th IPU Assembly, I wish to submit the following proposal for an emergency item for inclusion in the agenda of the 124th IPU Assembly:

"Parliamentary action to strengthen the right to self-determination of peoples within the framework of international law".

Please find attached an explanatory memorandum and draft resolution.

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

Yours sincerely,

(signed)

Luis AULAR
Director of Research and Consultancy in
International Relations,
National Assembly,
Bolivarian Republic of Venezuela

**PARLIAMENTARY ACTION TO STRENGTHEN THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION
OF PEOPLES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Venezuela

This emergency item comes in response to the situation facing the Libyan people, who have suffered attack and armed aggression by the imperialist powers through their military arm, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO), which, without justification, ignores the principle of sovereignty. Its interference in the internal affairs of the country clearly does not contribute to finding a solution to the crisis, but compounds the suffering and causes further civilian deaths among these brave people. It is well known by all peoples of the world that bombs do not bring democracy or protect human life. In this regard, we appeal for all initiatives to promote support for a peaceful solution to the crisis, to be negotiated by the stakeholders without external military intervention. We also condemn all forms of occupation and invasion of Libyan territory.

**PARLIAMENTARY ACTION TO STRENGTHEN THE RIGHT TO SELF-DETERMINATION
OF PEOPLES WITHIN THE FRAMEWORK OF INTERNATIONAL LAW**

Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of VENEZUELA

The 124th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

(1) *Recognizing* UN General Assembly resolution 2625 of 24 October 1970, Declaration on Principles of International Law concerning Friendly Relations and Co-operation among States in accordance with the Charter of the United Nations, in particular the section entitled *The principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples*, which proclaims that "By virtue of the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations, all peoples have the right freely to determine, without external interference, their political status and to pursue their economic, social and cultural development, and every State has the duty to respect this right in accordance with the provisions of the Charter",

(2) *Also recognizing* that none of the provisions of resolution 2625 authorizes or encourages any action that would undermine or cause to disintegrate, in whole or in part, the territorial integrity of sovereign and independent States conducting themselves in accordance with the principle of equal rights and self-determination of peoples as described above and which are, therefore, ruled by a government representing the entire population without distinction based on race, creed or colour,

(3) *Considering* the right to self-determination of peoples, expressed in a legal decision to freely determine their political status and pursue their economic, social and cultural development without external interference, should in no way affect the territorial integrity of States, in accordance with international law,

(4) *Also considering* Article 5 of the Universal Declaration of the Rights of Peoples of 4 July 1976, which stipulates that all peoples have an inalienable right to self-determination and to freely determine their political status without external interference,

(5) *Underscoring* the misuse of public international law and the weakness of international organizations that are driven by special interests, and that have allowed unjustified attacks and invasions based on unreliable data, in the absence of any process of inquiry, mediation or compensation, on countries with sovereign governments, thereby aggrieving the people,

1. *Supports* the right to self-determination of peoples, which all nations subjected to colonial domination and foreign military occupation should enjoy;
2. *Rejects* all military action that violates international law on the pretext of enforcing the principles and purposes of the United Nations Charter, as well as interference in the internal affairs of another country and the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of States;

3. *Also rejects* cases that invoke the principles of the UN Charter, in particular Articles 41 and 42 under Chapter VII, when not based on the threat or use of force for self-defence by one State against the territorial integrity and sovereignty of another;
4. *Condemns* the use of human rights principles as a pretext for one State to intervene in another, thereby violating its sovereignty and independence;
5. *Strongly condemns* the brutal suppression of the legitimate aspirations to self-determination of peoples under constant colonial or external domination or foreign occupation, which continues in different regions of the world;
6. *Urges* all parliaments to promote strong political will and reject all measures, resolutions or declarations that could violate the sovereignty of States or diminish the right to self-determination of peoples.