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# Summary Records of the Proceedings of the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly

## Hanoi (Viet Nam)

### 28 March – 1 April 2015

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## Introduction

The 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly took place from 28 March to 1 April 2015, at the *National Convention Centre (NCC)* in Hanoi.

Attendance at the Assembly was as follows:

**Members** (Delegations from the Parliaments of 128 countries): Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Botswana, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Côte d'Ivoire, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic People's Republic of Korea, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Guinea, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lesotho, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Malta, Mauritania, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Mozambique, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palau, Palestine, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, São Tome and Príncipe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, Slovakia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Trinidad and Tobago, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, United Republic of Tanzania, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Associate Members:** the Arab Parliament, the Central American Parliament, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), European Parliament, Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS), the Latin American Parliament (Parlatino), and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE).

The following three parliaments participated as Observers with a view to future affiliation: Brunei Darussalam, Fiji and Nauru.

**Observers:** (i) the United Nations system: the United Nations, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA), Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS), the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), UN Women, the World Health Organization (WHO); (ii) the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the International Organization for Migration (IOM); (iii) the League of Arab States; (iv) the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly (JPA), the African Parliamentary Union (APU), the Arab Inter-Parliamentary Union (AIPU), the Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC), the Maghreb Consultative Council, ParlAmericas, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation (PABSEC), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE PA), Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of the Mediterranean (PA-UfM), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia, the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States (PUIC); (v) the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria; (vi) Socialist International; (vii) the Geneva Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF), the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), the International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA).

Of the 1,370 delegates who attended the Assembly, 678 were members of parliament. Those parliamentarians included 45 Presiding Officers, 46 Deputy Presiding Officers and 189 women (27.8%).

# Opening of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly

## SITTING OF SATURDAY, 28 MARCH 2015

*Following a welcoming performance of Vietnamese traditional music, the inaugural ceremony opened at 7.45 p.m. in the presence of His Excellency Mr. Truong Tan Sang, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam.*

Mr. TRUONG TAN SANG, President of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam, welcomed the participants to Hanoi and said that it was an honour for his country to host the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the greatest event in multilateral diplomacy held in Viet Nam to date. Having evolved over its history into the world's most important inter-parliamentary forum, the IPU had made a remarkable contribution to peace, cooperation, development, democracy, social progress, equality and human rights.

In a world of rapid, profound and unpredictable change that was giving rise to all manner of worrying political, social and economic trends, Viet Nam continually joined in promoting global peace, stability, cooperation and prosperity, pursuing the peaceful resolution of disputes and opposing the use and threat of use of force. It had transformed itself from a war-ravaged country into a development partner with a dynamic economy, an open-door foreign policy and foreign investment appeal and had received international recognition of its impressive achievement of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) in such areas as poverty reduction, universal education, fresh water, epidemic control, HIV/AIDS and gender equality.

Within the framework of the IPU, Viet Nam had always worked to pursue common goals and, in the future, would be fully engaged in efforts to implement the post-2015 development agenda and its sustainable development goals (SDGs) as a matter of priority. It would therefore pursue its national endeavours to promote, inter alia, comprehensive administrative, judicial and legislative reform, the rule of law, democracy, economic growth, social development, environmental protection and social and political stability. A goal without action was simply a wish but by focusing on the theme of its General Debate, *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action*, the present Assembly promised to transform ideas and proposals into practical outcomes, thus enhancing the role of parliaments in addressing urgent global issues.

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY, President of the IPU, said he was delighted that the venue for his first attendance at an IPU Assembly as President of the Organization was Viet Nam, a nation of diverse and rich ethnic, religious and cultural heritage that was celebrating 70 years of independence and 40 years of unification. He thanked the host parliament for its warm hospitality and meticulous arrangements, which had set new standards. Acknowledging all the delegations present, he extended a particular welcome to those of Brunei, Fiji and Nauru, who were attending in an observer capacity with a view to membership, and expressed the hope that they would join the IPU after seeing the benefits that it offered. Currently comprising 166 Members representing some 45,000 parliamentarians across the globe, the Organization continually strived for universal membership.

The host parliament had been actively engaged in the substance of the highly topical and timely theme that it had proposed for the General Debate: *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action*. Having exceeded the planetary limits of environmental safety, humanity was at a crossroads where it must either risk continuing pursuit of the current development model or focus on combining economic prosperity with social justice and protection of Planet Earth. For its part, the IPU had persistently advocated people-centred development in the firm belief that there must be no disconnect between the SDGs and the aspirations of the people. The 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly was therefore of great consequence; its outcome would feed into the SDG process and thus bequeath a significant legacy.

For parliamentarians, the times were exciting and challenging in the light of the international processes relating to the recently adopted Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, which specifically referred to their role and that of the IPU in implementation; the new set of SDGs, which were expected to be adopted in September 2015; and the agreement on climate change envisaged for December 2015. The future to which humankind aspired would be largely determined by the coherence and convergence of those three processes; they offered an opportunity for parliamentarians to make their voices heard, including through the Hanoi

Declaration to be adopted at the end of the Assembly, and to do a great service to humanity by playing a robust oversight role at the implementation stage. National ownership of those processes was critical, as was women's empowerment with a view to attainment of the identified goals.

In short, parliamentarians could work together to make a difference, including through between-Assembly efforts to implement the decisions taken. The Hanoi Assembly would surely be remembered not only for the hospitality of its hosts, the warmth and friendliness of the Vietnamese people and the solidarity and support of their Government, but for the depth and substance of its outcomes.

Ms. A.J. MOHAMMED, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, commended the theme of the Assembly and the breadth of the other issues to be examined, all of which complemented United Nations efforts. The post-2015 development agenda, currently under negotiation, would be applicable to all countries and encompass the economic, environmental and social dimensions of sustainable development in order to meet the needs of people and the planet. The unprecedented process of defining the 17 SDGs and 169 targets had galvanized the international community and brought renewed energy, excitement and optimism to the United Nations, in addition to prompting close monitoring of progress at the national level.

Parliamentarians had a key role to play in the post-2015 development agenda, not least through the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament, to be held in New York from 31 August to 2 September 2015 prior to the anticipated endorsement of the new agenda. Consisting of 17 goals and 169 targets, the ambitious and transformative proposal of the General Assembly's Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals had been produced through consultations between United Nations Member States, civil society, the private sector, parliamentarians, academia and others. National consultations with domestic and local stakeholders had been held in more than 60 countries and the My World 2015 project had solicited views from citizens worldwide. With its global convening power, the United Nations had supported those deliberations by bringing stakeholders together and providing substantive input as needed.

The proposed SDGs fully integrated economic, social and environmental dimensions with poverty eradication at their centre. They included stand-alone goals on the economy and productive capacity, climate change, health and well-being, women's empowerment and the reduction of inequalities; addressed ways to build peaceful and inclusive societies; made provision for financial and non-financial implementation, both as targets throughout the goals and in a stand-alone goal; and, most importantly, were based on the principle that no one must be left behind.

That business as usual would no longer be an option was reflected not only in the holistic focus of the new agenda, but also in the way that all stakeholders had been included in the process of defining it and their anticipated role in its implementation. The role of parliaments was thus pivotal; serving as a bridge between citizens and their governments, they could – and indeed must – lead the way, galvanizing action and fostering accountability and implementation.

Goal 16 of the SDGs emphasized the need for representative, transparent and participatory institutions, for which parliaments had a great responsibility. They must create an enabling environment for implementation of the development agenda through legislation and incentives; ensure that central government budgets reflected their commitment to achieving the Goals in a manner aligned with countries' development priorities; and deliver an oversight function through monitoring and evaluation and by holding their governments accountable. It was therefore important to strengthen parliaments' ability to engage in the assessment of development programmes.

Beyond those roles, parliaments could raise awareness of the post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs through such networks as the IPU; they were uniquely positioned to communicate the new agenda to their people and make it a tangible framework for citizens of all countries and could facilitate the national debate on how each country visualized its sustainable future.

A side event at the present Assembly was a consultation for parliamentarians on the updated Global Strategy for Women's and Children's Health, which was aligned with the SDGs and their targets. The role of parliamentarians was critical in bringing an end to all preventable maternal, newborn, child and adolescent deaths within a generation. Indeed, parliaments would be at the forefront in making all of the ambitious SDGs a reality and bringing them to the people. Counting on the engagement of parliamentarians, she expressed the hope that the already-excellent cooperation between the United Nations and the IPU, which would be further strengthened by the forthcoming cooperation agreement between the two Organizations, would continue through such an exciting time.

Mr. NGUYEN SINH HUNG, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, welcomed the participants and said that it was with great pleasure and pride that the National Assembly and the people of Viet Nam were hosting such an important forum for the first time. The attendance of over 1,600 delegates reflected the keen interest of parliaments worldwide in the proceedings of the Assembly and their high expectations for its success. With the potent ideas for peace through dialogue initiated by its nine founding fathers in 1889 remaining ever relevant and valuable, the IPU had grown into the largest global organization of parliaments. Its 166 Members could be proud of its achievements over the past century; it had embodied the voices and aspirations of the world's peoples in areas such as peace, multilateral cooperation, international law, political dialogue, democracy, human rights, gender equality, trade, growth and sustainable development.

As the post-2015 development agenda stood poised to succeed the MDGs, the overarching theme of the Assembly was immensely significant and its task great: the participants must contemplate ways of turning words into action on the SDGs and deliver a strong message that the world parliamentary community was committed to following through with legislation, awareness-raising, mobilization of social resources, budgeting, funding and technical assistance for implementation and monitoring. The fact that the present Assembly coincided with the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, the 30<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 20<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action provided an important opportunity for in-depth discussion of the role of parliaments in promoting action and progress in relation to the many other important topics on its agenda, among them cyber warfare, water governance, gender equality and maternal and child health.

He was confident of the Assembly's ability to carry out that agenda with success and to reach consensus by adopting the Hanoi Declaration, an important outcome document that would be presented to the United Nations General Assembly at its 70<sup>th</sup> session in September 2015 as a practical contribution to the new phase of international development.

Throughout the 70 years since its historic Declaration of Independence, Viet Nam and its people had persevered in the struggle for peace and national independence, carrying out reforms and striving to achieve the goal of a wealthy people, a strong country and a democratic, just and advanced society. After untold difficulties, his country now consistently pursued a foreign policy of independence, self-reliance, peace, friendship, cooperation and development and contributed to worldwide peace, national independence, democracy and social progress as a friendly, reliable and responsible member of the international community. An IPU Member for 36 years, its National Assembly had done its utmost to discharge the noble task of hosting the largest global parliamentary event with the hope that it would also promote better understanding of the nation's culture and history and its friendly and hospitable people. Convinced that the spirit of cooperation underpinning the event presaged its success, he declared open the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly.

*A traditional gong-striking ceremony was conducted to mark the occasion.*

*The inaugural ceremony closed at 8.35 p.m.*



## Sitting of Sunday 29 March (Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 11.20 a.m. with Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), in the Chair.*

### Item 1 of the agenda

#### **Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly**

The PRESIDENT said he took it that, as recommended by the Governing Council of the IPU, the Members wished to elect by acclamation Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung, President of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, as President of the Assembly.

*It was so decided.*

*Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung (Viet Nam) took the Chair.*

The PRESIDENT thanked the Members for their trust in honouring him with election as President of the Assembly; with their support and cooperation, he would do his utmost to fulfil his duties in that role. Taking place at a momentous time – the anticipated adoption of the post-2015 development agenda by the United Nations – the outcome of the General Debate, *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action*, would aptly feed into that process.

### Item 3 of the agenda

#### **General Debate on *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action* (A/132/3-Inf.1)**

The PRESIDENT introduced the keynote speakers who would address the Assembly on the theme of the General Debate: Ms. Tong Thi Phong, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Viet Nam; Ms. A.J. Mohammed, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning; and Mr. S. Chowdhury, President of the IPU. He had no doubt that the Members were looking forward to hearing their views, including on the role of parliaments in ensuring effective implementation of the new Goals.

Ms. TONG THI PHONG (Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Viet Nam), *keynote speaker*, while noting the significant achievements recorded in attainment of the MDGs, said that further global efforts towards truly sustainable development were essential to uprooting poverty and inequality. Thanks to its strong commitment, determination and close cooperation with international development partners and to the MDG-related legislative and oversight efforts of its National Assembly, Viet Nam had overcome multiple difficulties to accomplish its own internationally recognized and highly valued MDG outcomes, most notably in the areas of poverty reduction; gender equality; education and training; control of HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases; and child mortality reduction.

Given the financial, policymaking and other challenges to implementation of the SDGs in the face of climate change, economic crisis and risks to peace and security, it was vital to strengthen the parliamentary role in the process of turning words into action. To that end, the welcome support of the IPU could be usefully channelled towards building sustainable development based on the three pillars of economic growth, environmental protection and equity, and social progress; developing legislative and other measures, including public awareness-raising, for ensuring SDG implementation; promoting further cooperation with global partners and enhancing regional economic linkages with international financial and trade institutions; and fostering peace and international security through, inter alia, conflict prevention and respect for international humanitarian law. She looked forward to support for the anticipated Hanoi Declaration, which would present the position of parliaments worldwide for consideration by the United Nations General Assembly in its SDG-related discussions in September 2015.

Ms. A.J. MOHAMMED (United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning), *keynote speaker*, said that the new international development agenda offered a unique opportunity for a paradigm shift towards a more sustainable approach underpinned by the three interconnected pillars of United Nations work: development, peace and



human rights. Unprecedented in breadth and depth and designed to break new ground, the new Goals and targets must be implementable, measurable and communicable. To that end, a strengthened and inclusive global partnership with mutual accountability, a fair sharing of responsibilities and the engagement of all stakeholders, including parliamentarians, would be needed.

Parliamentarians could harness their “power of purse” to accelerate progress towards the desired objectives, bearing in mind that the complex sustainable development agenda must be financed from all available resources and would also rely on a coherent and holistic package of implementation measures. In its work, the IPU Assembly could usefully aim to drive implementation by identifying game-changing measures and tools, in addition to options for scaling up resources and maximizing investments. Legislative oversight was also key to the robust and inclusive accountability mechanism needed to monitor progress towards the new Goals and targets on the basis of good information and disaggregated data promoting social equality, empowering citizens and ensuring their involvement in policymaking. As representatives of the people, parliamentarians were best placed to communicate the ambition embodied in the post-2015 development agenda by informing their constituencies of the six essential elements of the Goals: dignity, people, prosperity, planet, justice and partnership.

The present year’s schedule of international events on financing for development, the new Goals and climate change presented an opportunity to chart a new era of sustainable development before it was too late. Failure was not an option. She therefore urged the participants to renew their commitment to contribute to a stronger and more effective post-2015 development agenda.

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY (President of the IPU), *keynote speaker*, said that the Special Advisor’s remarks highlighted not only the significance of the SDGs, but also the importance that the United Nations attached to its relationship with the IPU and the international community’s rising expectations of its engagement in global processes. In contrast to the MDGs, the proposed Goals had emanated from inclusive, proactive multi-stakeholder consultations on formulating a transformative post-2015 agenda of universal scope. Strong political commitment to the resulting SDG framework would be instrumental in achieving the ultimate goal of poverty eradication, as would national ownership; parliamentarians would need to think globally but act locally in prioritizing the 17 new Goals and 169 targets.

Thanks to IPU advocacy, parliamentarians were already better sensitized to their increasingly recognized role and attendant responsibility in working for delivery of the new framework and for the grass-roots ownership that would promote implementation. Responses to the questionnaire on parliaments and the SDGs indicated, however, that parliaments needed to identify the officials representing their governments in the SDG negotiations, obtain regular progress reports and offer input accordingly as part of their constitutionally mandated duty to provide leadership. They must also work to ensure that governance retained its place within the framework of the Goals in order to multiply, accelerate and facilitate their implementation. Parliaments would be key to strengthening the important implementation measures, including financing, set out in Goal 17 (“Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the global partnership for sustainable development”).

In short, parliamentarians’ efforts with a view to people-centred sustainable development must be focused on turning the associated challenges into opportunities to fulfil the aspirations of those whom they represented. The three major global processes in progress offered a once-in-a-lifetime occasion to set the world on the right track towards sustainable development with no one left behind, including parliamentarians in their endeavour to provide input into and foster implementation of the new SDGs.

The PRESIDENT thanked the keynote speakers for their remarks, which had clearly shown the important role of parliaments in turning words into action for sustainable development.

Ms. B. BISHOP (Australia), opening the debate, said that the substantial progress towards attainment of the MDGs had not obviated the need to further reduce extreme poverty and maternal, infant and child mortality; promote girls’ education; eliminate preventable diseases; and improve the unsatisfactory record on women’s economic empowerment and leadership. The dramatic achievements in reducing poverty and extreme poverty were attributable to unprecedented economic growth in the first case and increased global trade in the second. Many lives had also been substantially enhanced by the introduction of microfinance schemes; lending to women promoted gender equality and had proved to be a particularly sound investment since women repaid loans more swiftly than men and often passed on acquired financial skills to their children.

Going forward, lessons in sustainable development must be drawn from such disasters as the recent cyclone in Vanuatu in order to build resilience and effective responses to tragic and life-destroying events. Research and investment were also part and parcel of turning words into action, as demonstrated by the advent of affordable access to HIV/AIDS for developing countries, the supply of insecticide-treated mosquito nets for malaria prevention and the private funding channelled into malaria eradication. Australia was helping various Indo-Pacific countries to develop their parliamentary systems and providing capacity-building support to women seeking election in those countries. Much had been achieved over the 15 years of MDG implementation and still more was achievable in pursuit of the SDGs.

Mr. K. JAKUPOV (Kazakhstan) paid tribute to the IPU for its active engagement in the post-2015 agenda. His country, which had progressed significantly in implementing the MDGs, would continue its efforts to implement the decisions taken at the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20). Already one of the world's fastest-growing countries, Kazakhstan aimed to be included in the top 30 in terms of development and was currently in transition to a green economy, including through the expansion of green technologies and investment in innovation. It would also host Expo 2017, to be held in Astana from June 10 to September 10, 2017 on the theme "Future Energy", since the sustainable use of natural resources and the development of renewable and alternative energy sources were vital to security and sustainable development.

Further success in achieving the MDGs would require good governance and concerted action to ensure accountability and control, ambitions that must be carried through into the post-2015 development agenda. In the interests of the universal engagement required for implementation of the new SDGs, he suggested that the G-Global communication platform, launched in 2014 at the Astana Economic Forum, could be used to broaden the global dialogue on development issues with additional underpinning from the World Anti-Crisis Plan that had been adopted at the Forum. Kazakhstan would be actively engaged in implementation of the SDGs in the belief that united efforts were the key to resolving urgent sustainable development problems.

Ms. R. KADAGA (Uganda) noted that the IPU was well placed to influence the trend in global processes; parliamentarians had a unique opportunity to restate their position as key stakeholders in the post-2015 development agenda. Indeed, they must take ownership of the SDGs in the light of their responsibility, as representatives of the people, to take on board the factors that would facilitate implementation, especially from the local perspective of gaps to be filled.

An appraisal aimed at setting standards on social, environmental, gender and climate-related issues would be useful in implementing the SDGs for the common good. A new focus, additional capacity-building and the establishment of dedicated committees for pursuing the Goals in all their multisectoral and multidimensional aspects would be needed. Governments should provide annual progress reports on implementation and parliaments should design action plans with targets, norms, benchmarks and indicators for assessing government performance, an approach that would require continuous capacity-building for parliaments and their staff. Governments must identify those responsible for implementation so that they could be held accountable to parliament.

She endorsed the IPU commitment to building technical capacities and providing information on good practices. Her Parliament would convene a special sitting in May 2015 with the aim of providing input to the final decisions on the 17 proposed SDGs to be taken in September 2015. Parliaments must thereafter ensure that the budgetary and human resources needed for training and implementation were provided; only then could words be turned into action.

Mr. M. ALMURR (United Arab Emirates) said that it was urgent to build a new international order in order to address the unprecedented current challenges to peace and security, sustainable development and the environment, including the escalating threat that terrorism posed to all regions, cultures, religions and nationalities. Counter-terrorism activities must, however, be consistent with international law and must not be exploited for political or other ends at the expense of peace and stability. A unified counter-terrorism strategy rooted in global solidarity, cooperation and coordination must be pursued, bearing in mind that injustice, selectivity and double standards in resolving conflicts, implementing international law and dealing with human rights issues were responsible for the growth of terrorism and extremism and had shattered public confidence in the international community.

Concerning the new SDGs, satisfactory results would depend on the firm commitment of developed and developing countries alike to turn words into action by systematically addressing such priorities as poverty, health care, education, unemployment, sustainable agriculture, water and sanitation while maintaining the requisite social, economic and environmental balance. The

use of modern technologies, including to promote research, enhance performance and build capacities, was also indispensable to achievement of the SDGs, for which all segments of society must mobilize in partnership.

Emphasizing that the United Arab Emirates had always conducted its international relations in a fair, open and tolerant manner and resolved disputes through peaceful means, he reiterated his country's call for dialogue aimed at ending the Iranian occupation of its three islands: Greater Tunb, Lesser Tunb and Abu Musa.

Ms. P. YATHOTOU (Lao People's Democratic Republic) said that her country had mainstreamed the MDGs, including an additional localized goal of reducing the impact of unexploded ordnances (UXO), into its socio-economic development plan as priorities and had made great progress over the past 15 years in the areas of poverty reduction, education, health and gender equality. Together with such additional successes as vastly improved access to electricity and the reduction of urban-rural disparities, those achievements had contributed significantly to economic growth, stability, social order and development of the justice system. Challenges remained, however, particularly with regard to the goals on UXO clearance and reproductive health.

Appropriate direction must be set to ensure realization of the post-2015 development agenda, in continuation of MDG implementation, by translating the new Goals into national laws and policies. The elaboration of her country's next socio-economic development plan in 2015 was therefore a timely coincidence allowing for integration of the new Goals, many of which coincided with the national policy of driving development through attention to, inter alia, environmental protection, sustainable management and utilization of natural resources, stable employment, health care for all and the promotion of peace and justice. By adopting appropriate legislative, financial and other measures, parliamentarians could play a key role in turning words into action.

Ms. T. BISHAGARA KAGOYIRE (Rwanda), speaking on behalf of the President of her country's Senate, recalled that the MDGs had been adopted only five years after the Rwandan genocide and said that efforts to rebuild the country's broken society and infrastructure had focused on promoting social integration and cohesion, national reconciliation and poverty eradication through bold reforms that placed business and trade at the heart of economic growth and social transformation. Crucial to the country's MDG delivery had been the emphasis on State sovereignty in decision-making, zero tolerance of corruption, national ownership and home-grown initiatives based on Rwandan history and culture. As a result, there had been considerable improvement in the poverty, child mortality, malnutrition and girls' school enrolment rates and in women's representation in parliament.

Efforts must now be channelled into elaborating a comprehensive, flexible and achievable post-2015 development agenda centred on people and the environment with poverty eradication as its key objective. Gender equality and infrastructure development were likewise main goals; the former would foster inclusive growth while the latter would enable developing countries, particularly in Africa, to harness the potential of their natural resources.

Rwanda had demonstrated that, with a strong and committed leadership, it was possible to rise from a failed State devastated by genocide to a role model for sustained growth and socio-economic development. Inclusive and accountable governance, together with parliamentary oversight, had proved instrumental to the country's MDG achievement, demonstrating that community and institutional capacity-building, good governance, gender equality and infrastructure development were prerequisites for turning words into action and visions into reality.

Mr. G. NOURI GHEZELCHEH (Islamic Republic of Iran), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the allegations made by the delegate from the United Arab Emirates concerning his country's territorial integrity ran counter to the principles of international law, the Charter of the United Nations and good-neighbourly relations. The Iranian Government had always complied fully with its international obligations, including those arising out of the 1971 Memorandum of Understanding between the two countries and the annexes thereto. In line with its policy of ensuring security, stability and lasting peace in the Persian Gulf, it had worked hard to build confidence with regional States and was convinced that the pursuit of existing negotiations in a spirit of goodwill and tolerance would yield favourable results.

*The sitting rose at 1.05 p.m.*

## Sitting of Sunday 29 March (Afternoon)

*The sitting was called to order at 2.35 p.m. with Lord Faulkner of Worcester (United Kingdom), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

### Item 3 of the agenda

#### **General Debate on The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action**

##### *Resumption of the debate*

Mr. A. SALIFOU (Niger) said that terrorism undermined development and compromised democracy in many countries. With the support of the international community, his country was working to combat that scourge in the region, perpetrated by groups such as Boko Haram. In recent years, the Niger had re-established its democratic processes with free and fair elections and effective institutions based on the Constitution. Promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms was a priority of its President and a National Council for Political Dialogue had been established with the aim of reducing and resolving political conflict.

As the international community prepared to move on from the MDGs, which had produced mixed results with many countries failing to achieve the targets, it was to be hoped that the forthcoming SDGs would have greater success. The new Goals would be universal and would therefore necessitate a common development plan for the international community as a whole in order to preserve the environment with an integrated approach to economic, social and environmental challenges. All countries, whether rich or poor, must contribute to achievement of the new Goals, which must be fine-tuned through an inclusive process before being adopted. To that end, the IPU should play a key role in mobilizing support and expertise in a spirit of international cooperation.

Mr. J. DA GRAÇA DIOGO (São Tome and Principe) said that the IPU had seen much success in its efforts to strengthen democracy and promote peace and cooperation between nations, but there was still much to be done. The aims of the Organization correlated with the MDGs, which his country had endeavoured to achieve. It had made particular progress in the areas of gender equality, with laws to ensure that at least 30 per cent of parliamentarians were women; human rights, which were protected by the Constitution; education, with the literacy rate climbing to 92 per cent; health, and in particular, combating HIV/AIDS and malaria; and strengthening democracy. However, social conflict and a difficult economic situation posed challenges to that progress. He therefore called on all countries to advocate for the peace, social order and political stability that were necessary to achievement of the SDGs.

Mr. U. AHLIN (Sweden) said that, thanks to the MDGs, hundreds of millions of people were no longer living in extreme poverty and there had been considerable progress in improving access to health and education globally. However, climate change and other environmental issues posed a threat to that process and had far-reaching consequences for living conditions and, indeed, for potential conflicts.

His delegation was in favour of an ambitious post-2015 development agenda with a focus on poverty eradication and global sustainable development and believed that the focus should be on tackling climate change; promoting democracy, human rights and gender equality; and encouraging active participation in the labour force and respect for the right to bargain collectively. He welcomed the bottom-up approach that the United Nations had taken in formulating the new development agenda and the broad consultations with governments, national parliaments, civil society and 9 million people around the world. It was now vital to ensure that the commitments made could be translated into action; the first step was to mobilize resources by combatting tax evasion, corruption and capital flight and enhancing international cooperation. In terms of funding, official development assistance (ODA) was an important but limited tool; he called on all donor countries to meet the target contribution of 0.7 per cent of GDP. Effective governance would be instrumental in creating a sustainable environment, not least because, by 2030, around 60 per cent of the global population would be living in cities that outstripped many countries, making good urban governance essential. Parliaments had an important role to play in the implementation of the SDGs and should seize the opportunity to call with one voice for a sustainable future for all.

Mr. A. ALTARAWNEH (Jordan) said that terrorism posed a clear threat to sustainable development as it undermined the social principles of security, safety and stability. For sustainable development to be realistic, it was first necessary to combat terrorism and extremism; only then would it be possible to adopt a balanced and just development framework that would serve all peoples and promote a culture of moderation, tolerance and acceptance. Islam embodied those values and should not be associated with the brutal practices of fanatics and extremists. Jordan was making every effort to combat terrorism but faced various challenges in the areas of security, politics and the economy. Its King had often denounced the international community's negligence in dealing with the question of Palestine, which fuelled terrorism in the region.

Necessary increases in the country's military budget had left insufficient resources to spend on essential services for citizens at a time when there were few investment opportunities in the region as a result of precarious situations in many countries. The 1.5 million Syrian refugees that Jordan was hosting placed an additional burden on the national budget and the country was in dire need of increased international aid, assistance and solidarity. An effective and comprehensive development framework that would benefit all people and generations was thus of the utmost importance.

Mr. A.R. IBRAHIMI (Afghanistan) said that implementation of the MDGs had brought tangible, positive change around the world, including in his country. Because Afghanistan had been unable to commit to the Goals until 2004 owing to instability in the country, its deadline for achieving them had been extended to 2020. The country had made a considerable effort to reach the various targets and several of them, particularly in the areas of health and education, had been reached ahead of schedule. Of particular note was the renovation or reconstruction of more than 5,000 schools and the increase in the number of enrolled students from 1 million to over 10 million since 2001. Hundreds of clinics and hospitals had been constructed, access to basic health care had risen from 9 to 90 per cent and the maternal and child mortality rates had been reduced considerably.

However, the social and economic development necessary for achieving the SDGs was being undermined by continued insecurity and instability. He called on the international community to continue to provide assistance to the country in a spirit of solidarity in order to fend off the threats that terrorists and drug trafficking posed to the continued development of governance, education and health infrastructures.

Ms. S. MAHAJAN (India) said that the worldwide track record on achieving the MDGs was uneven. Global poverty had indeed been halved ahead of the target date, but nearly a billion people were still living in poverty as at 2015. That situation was economically unviable, politically untenable and morally indefensible. Eradicating poverty should be the central and overriding objective of the post-2015 development agenda.

The international community needed to analyse the reasons for such uneven achievement of the Goals across the different regions and to address some of the fundamental issues that remained at the core of development debates. The focus should be on addressing the inter-generational inequity, inequitable development among nations, financial assistance needs and the transfer of technologies from developed to developing countries. Development that came at the expense of culture or the environment would not be sustainable.

There was an Indian philosophy of always giving back more than was received, which her country had endeavoured to follow by providing economic and social development assistance to its partner countries. It was by working in that spirit that the world could achieve the SDGs.

Mr. S. NOVANTO (Indonesia) said that his delegation welcomed the international consensus on the development agenda proposed by the United Nations General Assembly's Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and stressed the important contribution that parliaments could make to achievement of the new Goals. The IPU had established the need for good democratic governance, reflected in proposed Goal 16 ("Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels").

His delegation particularly welcomed the inclusion of the sustainable use of marine resources in the Goals; two-thirds of Indonesia's territory was covered by water and the country had some of the world's most diverse ocean resources. Steps were already being taken to ensure the sustainable use and management of its marine resources and protect them for future generations. The SDGs would only be successful if appropriate national instruments and infrastructures were in place and parliamentarians should ensure that legislative programmes

adequately supported their achievement. A high level of political will was also necessary; Indonesia had already established a national task force on the SDGs and its parliament had underscored the need for private sector, civil society and wider community engagement.

Mr. S. HENG (Cambodia) said that 2015 was a crucial year for the international community as countries reached the deadline for achievement of the MDGs and looked ahead to the post-2015 development agenda in the hope of building a world in which no one had to live in extreme poverty and everyone could enjoy peace, stability and prosperity. Progress towards the SDGs would benefit from recent global economic growth, but all countries needed to beware of the threats posed around the world by conflicts, terrorist groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and Boko Haram, outbreaks of Ebola and other diseases, and energy and food crises.

With economic growth since 2000 moving at a faster pace in many developing countries than in the developed world, the international community had already managed to halve global poverty ahead of the 2015 deadline. Many of the other targets had also been met, but progress varied considerably between and within countries and there remained much unfinished business; in particular, many millions still lived in extreme poverty or close to the poverty line. Cambodia was on track to achieve several of the MDGs but still faced a number of shortfalls regarding others.

With a view to achievement of the SDGs, parliaments needed to promote programmes consistent with the three pillars of social, environmental and economic development; develop institutional mechanisms to oversee implementation; build legislative capacities and monitor enforcement of laws in compliance with national development policies; encourage resource mobilization by development partners and civil society and their participation in implementation; and encourage developed countries to increase funding to developing countries that had limited national budgets for sustainable development.

Mr. P. BURKE (Ireland) welcomed the timely debate, which focused on the conditions that needed to be met in order for parliaments to successfully support achievement of the SDGs in their countries. Those conditions included reviewing committee structures, engaging in the design and oversight of national plans, supporting national consultative and regulatory bodies and strengthening capacities.

Ireland had played a key role in the development of the SDGs through its shared seat in the Open Working Group and had developed a National Sustainable Development Policy with indicators to track progress. A programme of political reform had led to changes in how the Irish Parliament worked and would enhance its ability to support implementation of the SDGs.

Mr. M.C. BIADILLAH (Morocco) said that his delegation welcomed the theme of the General Debate since Members of Parliament needed to show their will to achieve the new SDGs. Parliamentarians had a clear legislative and oversight responsibility and must ensure that governments fulfilled their obligations, acted in the interests of the people and implemented the Goals. The United Nations post-2015 development agenda marked a new starting point for planet-wide development and for future generations. The SDGs represented a common dream for the entire international community; to make that dream a reality required new, robust criteria and standards so that progress towards achieving the Goals could be evaluated. Every country should make a sincere commitment to the new agenda, an objective that would require mutual trust between countries, whether developed or developing; equality between men and women; appreciation of differences in countries' cultural, social and economic circumstances; and a common desire to foster trust, security and well-being.

Mr. M. DI BARTOLOMEO (Luxembourg) said that parliamentarians had an important responsibility to ensure not only that the SDGs were on the agenda of their national parliaments, but that all citizens understood the extent of the challenges faced on the path to sustainable development. Those challenges would take different forms in different places, but the goals applied universally and all nations should uphold them. Citizens needed to understand that the international community was interdependent; events in any partner country, no matter how distant, could have consequences for their own national situation as seen from disease epidemics and terrorism, neither of which respected borders. The social, economic and environmental pillars of the SDGs must be mainstreamed into all policies at every level.

Luxembourg had a Ministry of Sustainable Development and Infrastructure and a committee responsible for all aspects of sustainable development nationally. The country continued to contribute 1 per cent of GDP to ODA, despite being hard hit by the global financial crisis. The European Year for Development would be a key theme of Luxembourg's presidency of the Council

of the European Union and an inter-parliamentary meeting on development would be held in December 2015. The economic crisis had led to a tendency to give priority to economic and financial issues with social issues taking a backseat. For successful development, it was essential to strike the right balance between economic and social considerations.

Mr. M. ALGHANIM (Kuwait) said that sustainable development was not something to which people should aspire; it was a necessity that everyone must strive to achieve in order to overcome the man-made and natural threats facing humankind. In a globalized world, sustainable development could not be seen as a national issue; one country could not live in prosperity while its neighbour suffered abject poverty, nor could environmental issues be dealt with in isolation. All nations needed to work collectively to overcome conflicts, ensure universal access to water and combat outbreaks of diseases such as Ebola.

The many facets of sustainable development were interlinked and needed to be addressed as a package rather than in isolation. Social and economic development, for example, must go hand in hand with political reforms; it was not realistic to expect democracy to be fostered in the absence of economic prosperity. Similarly, people's health could not be improved or lives be saved while there was violence in the streets.

The SDGs would not be achieved unless they took account of the differences in countries' circumstances. What worked to implement the Goals in one country might not work in another. Sustainable development would also be a gradual process as the international community would need to continually adapt to changing situations around the world.

*Ms. S. Mahajan (India), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.*

Mr. S. KINGA (Bhutan) said that his country had long placed sustainable development at the centre of its national agenda and, as a responsible member of the international community, had consciously aligned that agenda with global objectives such as the MDGs. Bhutan had achieved most of the MDGs and was on track to attain the remainder of them. The SDGs must be a shared vision, not a series of negotiated compromises that sustained national interests.

His country had shown that it was possible to turn words into action and had done so through innovative leadership and the strong political will of the King. It had made a steadfast commitment to minimizing the suffering and maximizing the happiness of its people; indeed, the origin of its successful sustainable development lay in pursuing "gross national happiness" rather than gross national product. Sustainable happiness was based not only on material prosperity but on emotional, psychological and spiritual well-being. Good governance, economic development, conservation of the environment and preservation of culture had been set as the four pillars of gross national happiness and had provided the initial framework for the country's sustainable development. Among its achievements, Bhutan had ensured, by making it a constitutional requirement, that 60 per cent of the country was under forest cover. It had allowed only minimal industrialization, did not emit greenhouse gases and was thus a net sink for carbon emissions. Sustainable development had not been without its challenges, however, and hydropower projects were under threat from the unprecedented melting of glaciers as a result of global warming.

Ms. G.T.K. KOKORWE (Botswana) said that her country had already undertaken a number of initiatives that would support achievement of the SDGs. In 2012, Botswana had hosted an African Summit for Sustainability that had led to the adoption of the Gaborone Declaration for Sustainability in Africa. A national wealth accounting and valuation of ecosystem services initiative had highlighted key issues related to sustainability, including optimum use of water in various economic sectors. The National Strategy for Sustainable Development, adopted in 2013, was the vehicle through which international and regional sustainability frameworks were domesticated in Botswana. Measures had been taken to integrate sustainability into specific sectors, including the adoption of ecotourism standards for the tourism sector, and thematic working groups on the economy and employment; social upliftment; sustainable environment; and governance, safety and security generated the content for national development plans.

Mr. D.F. KIDEGA (East African Legislative Assembly) said that the debate was timely; despite concerted efforts, the MDGs would not be fully achieved by the target date, 2015. As the focus shifted, it was important to reflect upon that fact before adopting the SDGs and to consider how best to implement them. One often-cited reason for the failure to fully achieve the MDGs was ineffective parliamentary action; it was vital that the SDGs did not suffer the same fate. Parliaments could play a fundamental role by translating national commitments into enforceable laws and



holding governments to account on development policy choices and the adoption of national budgets. Parliamentarians should also ensure that political differences did not distract them from the broader aim of working together as a single legislative body. As the link between the executive branch and the citizens, parliamentarians were best placed to make the Goals a reality.

The East African Legislative Assembly was committed to enhancing its oversight role at the regional level in support of the Goals. It planned to conduct a regional study on preparedness for implementation of the SDGs, allocate more resources to the East African Community, advocate regional targets through the adoption of resolutions and ensure their implementation by partner States and monitor progress towards the new Goals.

Mr. P. MATIBINI (Zambia) said that the SDGs provided a new opportunity for the world to pursue ambitious development rooted in the core principles of human rights – equality, inclusiveness and sustainability – and to prevent any erosion of the gains recorded under the MDGs. Zambia had been fully engaged in the discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and had developed a set of national priorities to serve as input into the global framework. It was striving to become a prosperous middle-income country by 2030 and had already achieved lower-middle-income status. However, despite the robust economic growth seen in the previous decade, 60 per cent of the population was still living in poverty. With the adoption of the SDGs, the country would prioritize the development of its people and poverty reduction.

Zambia had made steady progress towards several of the MDG targets but needed to overcome various obstacles in order to meet all of them, including by improving access to quality education, addressing the link between poverty and poor health and ensuring equality of access to income and opportunities. His delegation called for effective political leadership at the national and international levels to ensure that obligations under the SDGs were met following their adoption.

Mr. M.J. ALLAHAM (Syrian Arab Republic) said that his country had appealed to the world on several occasions to help stop the terrorism that had devastating consequences not only for the Syrian Arab Republic, but for the entire world. The international response to date had been limited and subject to ineffective policies. Terrorists were still travelling from all over the world to join groups such as the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and the al-Nusra Front while displacement of the country's population, damage to its cultural heritage, violence and killing continued. The terrorists' actions flagrantly violated international law and the Charter of the United Nations and should be strongly condemned by all nations. The entire international community must work together to address the root causes of terrorism and must intervene to stop terrorists from spreading their dangerous ideologies. It would be impossible to eliminate terrorism and bring an end to the conflict in his country without international cooperation based on clear, robust United Nations Security Council resolutions.

He expressed his delegation's appreciation for the support of the IPU and the recent visit to Damascus by its Secretary General. The Syrian Arab Republic would continue to welcome any assistance provided by other nations or regional parliamentary institutions that would help its people to overcome the current problems and was based on the principles of mutual respect, respect for national sovereignty and non-interference in the internal affairs of States.

Mr. R. MSOWOYA (Malawi) said that in 2006, his country had developed a national Growth and Development Strategy to steer its efforts to achieve the MDGs, and that Strategy would continue to be implemented once the SDGs were adopted. Poverty and hunger had been considerably reduced in Malawi thanks to farming projects and programmes designed to improve food security at the national and household levels. Greater numbers of children were now enrolled in school and the drop-out rate had fallen. There had been significant progress in increasing women's participation in parliament, programmes to combat violence against women had been introduced, mother-to-child transmission of HIV had been considerably reduced thanks to the provision of antiretroviral drugs to pregnant women with the disease, and the maternal mortality rate had decreased.

Nevertheless, support from Malawi's development partners was essential if it was to achieve the SDGs. The country still faced a number of development challenges, not least because of a lack of resources. Natural disasters also hindered progress; a greater proportion of the national budget had had to be allocated to deal with the after-effects of recent flooding, including the loss of many food crops. It was important to ensure the independence of parliaments so that they could push forward the new development agenda and oversee the efforts of the executive branch to implement the new Goals.

Mr. K.T. GEBREHIWET (Ethiopia) said that the MDGs had galvanized international efforts to combat extreme poverty and address many other challenges to development. Significant progress had been made in the past 15 years, but the continued objective of the international community should be nothing less than the eradication of poverty, conservation of the environment, equitable economic growth and social development. The SDGs were more ambitious than their predecessors, and rightly so. Mobilizing domestic and external finance would play a critical role in countries' ability to implement the Goals and, without effective implementation, they would remain no more than wishful thinking. Ethiopia would soon host the Third International Conference on Financing for Development and his delegation encouraged all States to participate.

Africa had demonstrated a clear commitment to participating in the formulation of the new Goals. The Common African Position on the Post-2015 Development Agenda was an important landmark for Africa and an effort to advance the shared interests of countries in the region. Ethiopia was on track to meet most of the MDGs as a result of strong commitment, the implementation of effective policies by its Government and the active participation of its people.

He stressed the important role of parliamentarians in streamlining national policies and enacting and overseeing the implementation of laws to ensure achievement of the SDGs. The support of Ethiopia's development partners would also be vital, especially for less-economically-developed countries.

Mr. Z. CHEN (China) said that while achievement of the MDGs had brought considerable benefits for society, many countries still faced the difficult problems of expanding population, scarce natural resources, environmental degradation, extreme weather events and natural disasters; thus, the concept of sustainable development was of ever-growing importance. China was confronted with many of those challenges. The country was determined to achieve sustainable development and had already begun to take action to that end, placing the issue at the centre of national policy in order to fulfil its responsibilities to future generations and to the international community as a whole.

His country was accelerating the transformation of its development model, including through economic restructuring and the promotion of inclusive growth. It had reached many of the MDG targets, including reducing the poverty and maternal mortality rates. There had been significant progress in the area of green and low-carbon development and China had become the first developing country to elaborate and implement a national programme to combat climate change. It had also committed to South-South cooperation in the area of sustainable development and had contributed more than 420 billion yuan to foreign aid.

In a globalized world, all countries were interdependent and it was urgent for the international community to acknowledge and address the key challenges to sustainable development: poverty, resource scarcity and climate change. Developed countries should adapt their non-sustainable modes of production and consumption and enable the necessary transfer of technologies to developing countries, which faced considerable financing and capacity constraints. All countries must cooperate in order to create a world of economic prosperity, social justice and respect for the environment.

Mr. P. HERMINIE (Seychelles), highlighting his country's achievements in terms of the MDGs, stressed the need for convergence between those Goals and the new SDGs. As a small island developing State, Seychelles was particularly interested in Goals 13, on climate change, and 14, on the sustainable use of marine resources. The Blue Economy concept, recently adopted by the African Union, was of particular importance as it emphasized both the economic potential of the seas and the need to protect maritime resources. It was therefore essential to mainstream that concept into the post-2015 development agenda. Climate change posed one of the greatest threats to sustainable growth and he welcomed all international endeavours aimed at mitigating its effects. A parliamentary committee had been established in his country to study the SDGs in depth and UNDP had organized a workshop on the new agenda for members of the National Assembly. The new Goals provided a unique opportunity to reach global consensus on common challenges and priorities. It was therefore important to galvanize political commitment at all levels to ensure their successful implementation, thereby ensuring sustainable and inclusive development and the eradication of poverty and exclusion.

Mr. S. ALHUSSEINI (Saudi Arabia), speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the Government of the Syrian Arab Republic was continuing its efforts to distract the international community from the reality of the situation there. The Syrian people faced numerous injustices at the hands of the Government, including the bombing of residential neighbourhoods. The

Government's focus on destruction rather than development had resulted in millions of refugees and hundreds of thousands of deaths. Saudi Arabia, together with other countries, was endeavouring to provide humanitarian support to the Syrian people, and particularly the country's children, by supplying aid and housing to refugees. There was no doubt that the country had a wonderful history but the current crisis and events amounted to State-sanctioned terrorism.

*Mr. S. Chowdhury, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, resumed the Chair.*

#### Item 2 of the Agenda

#### **Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda** (A/132/2-Inf.1.rev.1)

The PRESIDENT outlined the procedure to be followed, pursuant to rule 11.2 of the Rules of the Assembly, for voting on an emergency item for inclusion in the Assembly agenda. The Secretariat had received eight proposals for the subject of the emergency item:

- *Ensuring enhanced protection for the cultural heritage of humanity threatened with destruction or pillage by terrorist groups in the Middle East and North Africa: The role of the IPU and national parliaments (Morocco);*
- *Respect for religions and religious symbols, and for freedom of opinion and expression (Jordan);*
- *Addressing the criminal activity of Boko Haram: The role of parliaments (Chad);*
- *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in addressing the terrorism and extremism of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Al-Nusra Front and other terrorist groups (Syrian Arab Republic);*
- *The role of the IPU in the face of attempts to violate the sovereignty and right to self-determination of Venezuela (Venezuela);*
- *The role of parliaments in combating the negative effects of climate change (Kenya);*
- *The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls (Belgium and Australia);*
- *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and Member Parliaments in combating terrorism and protecting the common heritage of humanity (Islamic Republic of Iran, with the support of the Asia-Pacific Group).*

He invited the sponsoring delegations to make brief presentations on their proposals.

Mr. H. KOUSKOUS, (Morocco) observed that terrorism was spreading and, with it, the number of crimes against humanity, including organized cross-border crime. However, his delegation wished to withdraw its proposal.

The representative of JORDAN stressed that, given the current global situation, it was important to support all proposals that sought to banish terrorism. His delegation wished to withdraw its proposal in favour of other related ones.

Ms. M. SAADEH, (Syrian Arab Republic) said that the Syrian people were suffering on a daily basis from terrorism and the world should unite to fight that scourge. No State could be sure that it would not become a victim of terrorism; the problem was spreading around the world and people were travelling from other countries to join terrorist groups. Their methods, including beheadings and rape, were becoming increasingly violent. Her delegation encouraged countries to support its proposal but stood ready to merge it with others if necessary to ensure that the voice of the IPU was heard around the world.

Mr. D. VIVAS VELASCO (Venezuela) said that it was vital to combat terrorism in all of its forms, including State terrorism through violations of sovereignty, interference and the funding of terrorist groups. Venezuela continued to be a victim of such acts by another country for the simple reason that it had decided to be free, to take ownership of its natural resources and to protect the well-being of its people. His delegation had submitted its proposal for an emergency item in light of its experience and because it was important for the IPU to stand up to all forms of terrorism and to call for respect of national sovereignty, territorial integrity and the political independence of all States.

The representative of KENYA said that his delegation wished to withdraw its proposal. However, the topic should be discussed by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade and the President of the IPU should follow up on those discussions by contributing to the deliberations of the 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Paris from 30 November to 11 December 2015.

Ms. B. BISHOP (Australia) explained that her delegation's original proposal had been entitled *The role of parliaments in: (i) combatting the threat of terrorism conducted by organizations such as Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls and (ii) ensuring democratic procedures continue*. The issue truly constituted an emergency, particularly in light of the attacks carried out the previous day in Nigeria by Boko Haram, in which a number of people had been beheaded using chainsaws. Discussion of ways to combat that scourge was urgently needed. The Belgian proposal had shared many elements with that of Australia and it had been agreed to combine the two.

Mr. P. VAN DEN DRIESSCHE (Belgium) added that the purpose of the joint draft resolution with Australia was to clearly state the commitment of the IPU and its Member Parliaments to unite in order to halt all forms of terrorism and protect people's freedoms and liberties. It was time to turn words into action.

The representative of the ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF IRAN noted that terrorism posed an increasing threat to international peace and security and had cost thousands of innocent lives and that terrorists were attacking people from many different religious and ethnic groups. The IPU could and should play a significant role in mobilizing support for the international counter-terrorism effort.

Mr. M.N. ABDUL AZIZ (Malaysia), Chair of the Asia-Pacific Group, explained that in the meeting of the Group, it had been decided to merge a previous proposal by Malaysia with that of the Islamic Republic of Iran. He hoped that delegates would support the draft resolution.

Mr. D. VIVAS VELASCO (Venezuela) said that the purpose of his country's proposal was to facilitate discussion of terrorism in all its forms; his delegation therefore wished to withdraw its proposal and merge it with those relating to the general counter-terrorism effort.

The PRESIDENT said that it was no longer possible to merge proposals, but only to withdraw them.

The SECRETARY GENERAL described the voting procedure. In light of the withdrawals, there were now four proposals for consideration by the Assembly.

*Following a roll-call vote, the proposal submitted by the delegations of Belgium and Australia was adopted and added to the agenda as Item 9.*

*The sitting rose at 6:45 p.m.*

## Final agenda

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- Item 1 Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly
  - Item 2 Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda
  - Item 3 General Debate on *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action*
  - Item 4 Cyber warfare: A serious threat to peace and global security  
(*Standing Committee on Peace and International Security*)
  - Item 5 Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water  
(*Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade*)
  - Item 6 International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights  
(*Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights*)
  - Item 7 Reports of the Standing Committees
  - Item 8 Approval of the subject items for the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade for the 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly and appointment of the Rapporteurs
  - Item 9 The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls
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## Sitting of Monday 30 March (Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.10 a.m. with Lord Faulkner of Worcester (United Kingdom), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

### Item 9 of the agenda

#### **Plenary debate on the emergency item:**

#### ***The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls***

Ms. B. BISHOP (Australia), introducing the draft resolution on the emergency item (A/132/2-P.10), co-sponsored by her delegation, said that the Boko Haram atrocities committed only a few days earlier underscored the timeliness and urgency of the present debate. Indeed, the recent string of suicide bombings and abductions, often involving young girls; the beheadings; and the burning alive of caged victims demonstrated the willingness of terrorist organizations to use extreme and indiscriminate violence in pursuit of their goals and to instil terror and raise revenue from ransom. Their use of the Internet as a powerful tool for attracting others to join in their violence was also well documented. Support for the draft resolution would send the message that the world was appalled by such behaviour and would neither accept nor tolerate such tactics.

Mr. P. VAN DEN DRIESSCHE (Belgium) said that his delegation, which had also co-sponsored the draft resolution, hoped that all the participants were convinced of the need to end terrorism in all its forms and manifestations. Noting that the draft resolution called on parliaments to take concrete action to that end, he drew particular attention to the measures outlined in paragraphs 5, 6, 8 and 9. His delegation looked forward to support for adoption of the final text.

Mr. F.M. AMORUSO (Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean – PAM), opening the debate on the item, reported that the PAM had adopted numerous counter-terrorism resolutions and had worked with the United Nations Security Council, notably in the context of Council resolution 2178 (2014) on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, including by adopting counter-terrorism legislation and safeguards for monitoring national intelligence activities. At a recent PAM seminar, parliamentarians from the Maghreb region had exchanged information on their counter-terrorism efforts and had agreed on measures relating to such matters as training in parliamentary oversight of police and intelligence services; observance of the rule of law and human rights in the conduct of terrorism investigations; the balance between individual rights and public protection; cross-border cooperation, information exchange and sharing of good practices; and the development of a long-term counter-terrorism strategy. Similar regional seminars would follow as part of a concerted PAM endeavour to combat the scourge of terrorism worldwide.

Mr. A. BURT (United Kingdom) said that while terrorism had no victim hierarchy, it was the citizens of countries blighted by terrorism who suffered the most with Muslim communities bearing the brunt of actions by those who espoused a distorted, violent and extremist interpretation of a great and peaceful religion. Terrorism was unjustified and the indiscriminate targeting of civilians contemptible; the resolve to defeat it and uphold the values that it sought to undermine must remain unflinching. Parliamentarians should therefore support all counter-terrorism efforts with renewed energy, including by authorizing the legitimate use of force to that end; denying terrorists funding and other resources; combating false ideologies, notably the preaching of hatred and seduction of youth through social media and the Internet; and upholding good governance to prevent the creation of a “reservoir” for terror. In short, parliaments must take action against the threat posed by radicals who sought to reshape the world in their image and alter the prevailing way of life for billions of people.

Mr. M. KADAM (Chad) said that, together with Nigeria and other neighbouring countries, his country was firmly committed to combating Boko Haram and its plethora of violent and barbaric crimes against humanity, committed in the name of Islam, which were the subject of universal condemnation and had prompted a series of regional and international initiatives. In pursuing its ultimate objective of establishing strict shariah rule and extinguishing all vestiges of Western

culture, Boko Haram was fomenting civil war in Nigeria and provoking a subregional crisis with adverse economic, human and other consequences that posed an overarching threat to security, peace, development and freedom of conscience and religion. A robust fight on all fronts was therefore essential to eradicating Boko Haram and halting its efforts to impose its regressive and intolerant beliefs. To that end, Chad and its allies on the ground were counting on the support of the IPU and, indeed, the entire international community.

Mr. R. MSOWOYA (Malawi) commented that the sinister acts of terrorism perpetrated against innocent citizens reinforced the belief that no country was safe from terrorism, while the indiscriminate nature of those acts made pre-emptive measures difficult. The purpose of attacks on unarmed civilians and the abduction of young girls was unclear and it was regrettable that countries that were ill-equipped to deal with such incidents often received little help. The young people abducted by terrorists were denied the right to an education; moreover, terrorist acts compelled governments to redirect development resources into counter-terrorism efforts, destroyed cultural heritage and interfered with the practice of religion. Counter-terrorism measures must therefore be pursued by parliaments, including through the enactment of appropriate legislation, and countries must cooperate in implementing those measures and blocking the financing of terrorism. Concerted efforts were key to effectively addressing the terrorist threat.

Mr. K. MUTEMA (Trinidad and Tobago) expressed his country's solidarity with all nations in the global counter-terrorism effort. Citing the Atlantic slave trade and the Nazi Holocaust as precedents for current acts of terrorism, he suggested that history might be repeating itself as a result of the blind eye turned to such past atrocities. Because any act of terrorism was an act against all of humanity, the world must stand united in the quest for peace and happiness. It was no time for insularity; collectivism, not individualism, would ensure survival and sustainability. The success of the Islamic State in attracting to its ranks young people, including from the West, might lead parliaments to question the relevance of national policies to the lives and aspirations of the younger generation.

Mr. E.B. ODRÓ (Ghana) recalled that democratic governance was founded on freedoms and human rights, including the right to freedom of speech, association, assembly and religion, and said that intolerance in any form was a breach of democracy. The use of terror to foist beliefs, particularly religious beliefs, on others was therefore despicable and must be confronted head-on. Recent atrocities in parts of Africa and Europe had marked a watershed for humankind. Noting the plans to dispatch multinational forces to address the turmoil created by Boko Haram in his region, he called on his fellow representatives of the people to fulfil their mandate and demonstrate their strength by taking action in the face of terrorism.

Ms. M. SAADEH (Syrian Arab Republic) proposed that the draft resolution should draw on relevant Security Council resolutions, notably resolutions 2178 (2014) and 2199 (2015) on threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, by referring to the terrorist entities named therein and underlining the role of parliaments, the IPU and other international organizations in requiring States to implement those resolutions, suppress all forms of financial and other support for terrorism and prevent use of the Internet for terrorist recruitment and the dissemination of extremist propaganda. Terrorist organizations and State sponsors of terrorism bore a shared responsibility for the wide-scale killings and destruction of infrastructure in her country. The Syrian people were also being gravely affected by the adverse consequences of sanctions unilaterally imposed by those States, which were complicit in looting the country's heritage and resources. It was therefore vital for the draft resolution to reflect the focus of relevant Security Council resolutions.

Mr. A. HASHIM ALI MAHDI (Sudan) said it was indeed regrettable that various terrorist organizations professed allegiance to Islam, which was entirely innocent in the matter; consistently calling for social coexistence worldwide, it had never in any way advocated the activities of such organizations. He called for efforts to prevent more young people from being drawn into terrorism, including calm and purposeful dialogue with youth and the enactment of legislation criminalizing recruitment to the terrorist organizations that were active worldwide and instilled such fear into civilian populations.

Ms. G. ORTIZ (Mexico) cited the crimes perpetrated by Boko Haram as examples of its advocacy of terrorism against civilians and its use of coercive measures to achieve its aims. The group's declaration of allegiance to the Islamic State was deeply worrying. Unequivocally



condemning all forms of terrorism, she urged parliamentarians to call for action and to identify the sources that were financing the groups that caused such harm around the globe, especially to women, and promote preventive measures. In order to nip terrorism in the bud, it was essential to develop a fully-fledged strategy that took the political, economic and social causes of that scourge into account and addressed them as a collective effort through alternative forms of development and inclusive policies targeting young people, irrespective of religion, ethnicity or origin.

Ms. L. DESINOVA (Ukraine) said that Ukraine remained the target of Russian military aggression and wide-scale terrorist attacks in systematic violation of international law and human rights, among them the right to life of innocent civilians. Given the failure of the Russian Government to fulfil its obligations under the Minsk ceasefire agreement, despite intensive diplomatic efforts, her Parliament called on the international community to act by, inter alia, acknowledging the Russian Federation as the aggressor State; pressuring it – including by imposing sanctions – to implement the ceasefire agreement and end its occupation of Ukrainian territory; calling for the release of Ukrainian citizens held hostage or illegally detained in Russian territory, among them a Ukrainian Member of Parliament; preventing impunity for the perpetrators of crimes against humanity; providing military, humanitarian and reconstruction assistance to Ukraine; and stepping up demands for its internationally recognized borders to be respected. She urged IPU support for Ukraine and its independence.

Ms. S. BARAKZAI (Afghanistan), speaking from her experience as a citizen of a country that had suffered for decades and a victim of terrorism who had herself been targeted by a suicide bomber, said that parliaments must re-evaluate their perspectives in the wider interest and unite against terrorism without victimizing the followers of the religions behind which it often hid. They must fulfil their duty to stand up for human rights and equality and speak out against all forms of terrorism, regardless of its origin. For its part, the IPU should share the outcome of the present debate with the international community in an effort to promote effective and timely ways of dealing with terrorist organizations worldwide through responsible policymaking that would not inflict further harm on the victims of terrorism.

Mr. W. MENG (China) said that terrorism had regained ground as a common enemy threatening peace and stability worldwide. Global counter-terrorism cooperation must therefore be strengthened in accordance with the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and the fundamental principles governing international relations. Different civilizations and religions must be able to coexist harmoniously in mutual respect and on an equal footing, engage in dialogue and take a shared approach to the eradication of terrorism, which should not be associated with any country, ethnicity or religion. On the basis of the principles mentioned, China participated actively in international efforts to eliminate all forms of terrorism in the interests of maintaining international and regional peace and stability.

The PRESIDENT announced that preliminary indications of interest in participating in a drafting committee to finalize the text of the draft resolution on the emergency item, in accordance with Rule 16 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, had been received from the delegations of Burkina Faso, Chad and Zambia for the African Group; the Islamic Republic of Iran and Malaysia for the Asia-Pacific Group; and Mexico and Venezuela for the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean.

*The meeting was suspended at 10.15 and resumed at 10.35, with Ms. B. Bishop (Australia), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

### Item 3 of the agenda

#### **General Debate on The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action**

##### *Resumption of the debate*

Mr. M.L. OULD KHELIFA (Algeria) said that parliamentarians must seize the present opportunity to reflect the views of their constituents and reaffirm their commitment to development in the face of social, economic and humanitarian challenges. Across the globe, efforts to diversify national economies and create equality of opportunity in the interests of equitable sustainable development had promoted achievement of the MDGs. His country had invested widely in a development strategy that gave priority to ambitious policies aimed at, inter alia, promoting social justice, job creation, improved livelihoods and rational use of resources. It had endeavoured to

further its democratization by strengthening the rule of law and good governance that would, in turn, drive its sustainable development. A member of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD), it complied with the recognized guidelines for sustainability, had cancelled the debts of numerous African countries and joined in efforts to resolve regional problems through dialogue and mediation.

Paradigm shifts in the global economic landscape and the financial accountability process had exacerbated challenges to poverty alleviation and economic growth. Close international coordination must therefore be pursued and poverty eradication mechanisms established as means of helping countries to overcome their vulnerabilities and attain sustainable development. The post-2015 development agenda must take into account those shifts and the need for environmental protection and sustainability. International development assistance, moreover, should not be contingent on conditions that were impossible to implement. As a firm proponent of sustainable development, Algeria would continue to participate actively in all discussions on the theme.

Mr. S. REYES (El Salvador) noted the progress towards achievement of the MDGs but added that millions continued to suffer hunger and discrimination against women, girls and other vulnerable groups persisted. His own small country expected to achieve yet more MDG performance indicators in 2015, leaving only a handful of targets as outstanding priorities to be tackled thereafter. Its parliamentarians had contributed greatly to that achievement by adopting legislation on such matters as immunization, the rights of women in the workplace, access to affordable medicines, and social security guarantees and by introducing fiscal reforms to benefit those in need.

The implications of the paradigm shift towards sustainable development called for similar parliamentary engagement in pursuit of wider-ranging goals and targets relating to, among other things, the environment, climate change and renewable energy. In addition to legislating for those goals, parliaments must work to guarantee the necessary funding and exercise oversight of government sustainable development activities. Parliaments in developed countries should also work collectively with their developing-country counterparts in a joint implementation effort. There were clear links between security and sustainable development, which was impeded by terrorism and other violations of international law that drove affected countries into a downward spiral. The glaring examples of that reality underscored the fact that attainment of the SDGs was inextricably bound up with respect for international law, international humanitarian law and national sovereignty.

Ms. M.N. MENSAH-WILLIAMS (Namibia), emphasizing the environment, economy and social equity as the foundations of the sustainability needed to ensure flourishing societies, reported that Namibia had successfully integrated sustainable development principles into two decades of national policies and programmes with the aim of reversing the loss of environmental resources, including through the adoption of natural resource and environmental management legislation to promote environmental sustainability. It had also worked to create an enabling environment for women's empowerment and gender equality, another prerequisite for sustainable development, and its significant investments in quality health care had already produced encouraging improvements in health-adjusted life expectancy, infant mortality, malaria mortality and HIV prevalence among pregnant women with further progress envisaged across the board. Poverty eradication was being pursued by a dedicated ministry and the private sector was prospering through incentives, creating revenue and employment in, among other things, the tourism sector.

As lawmakers, parliamentarians must take the lead in advocating legal and judicial reforms and promoting the rule of law and good governance, which were essential to the sound and efficient management of all resources for equitable and sustainable development. The establishment of parliamentary standing committees to monitor and evaluate the implementation of programmes related to achievement of the SDGs and ensure proper budget allocation could be a means to that end. The need for countries to assume responsibility for their own development also implied that SDG-related activities must be needs-driven, community-led and involve women as important partners. A cornerstone of her country's long-term vision, sustainable development embraced all of those principles; without capacity, partnership and good governance, it would remain unattainable.

Ms. M. ANDRE (France) said that while the present development model had improved the situation in many developing countries, it was overly focused on economic growth, exacerbated inequalities and no longer responded to modern-day challenges. The post-2015 model was better

suited to that task since it was universal in scope; incorporated the economic, social and environmental pillars of sustainable development; and had been developed in conjunction with civil society. Crucially, the 17 wide-ranging and well-balanced SDGs included the achievement of gender equality through targets relating to, inter alia, the elimination of discrimination and violence against women, women's sexual and reproductive health rights and women's access to decision-making. Equally welcome in the gender context were the specific targets forming part of cross-cutting goals aimed at ensuring inclusive and equitable quality education and healthy lives for all. The promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies and urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts were also important goals.

Parliaments could promote implementation of the SDGs by establishing bodies such as the sustainable development committees created in both of France's Houses of Parliament, which had also joined in forming a delegation on women's rights and gender equality. Parliaments must harness their legislative and oversight functions with a view to sustainable development as her Parliament had recently done by substantially improving a bill aimed at fostering green growth. Indeed, they had a responsibility to turn words into action in order to make the ambition that had prompted the SDGs a reality; her own Parliament looked forward to welcoming participants in the forthcoming United Nations Climate Change Conference in Paris.

Mr. LE LUONG MINH, *Special Guest*, (Secretary-General of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations - ASEAN) remarked on the indispensable role that parliamentarians would play in transposing the SDGs into national legislation, plans and strategies and supervising the implementation process. The abundant biodiversity and natural resources of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN) region were increasingly threatened by such factors as changing demographics and economic growth, generating environmental and other problems that led to unsustainable development. The ASEAN Green Revolution, initiated in 2009, reflected the three-pronged challenge of building an environmentally sustainable, clean and green ASEAN community; creating an economically resilient ASEAN anchored in green growth; and nurturing the new ASEAN as a people-centred organization that respected and lived in harmony with nature.

The Roadmap for an ASEAN Community 2009-2015 had paved the way for achievement of that goal based on the principle of sustainable development through the Community's three pillars – political-security community, economic community and socio-cultural community – and the Initiative for ASEAN Integration. The ASEAN Sustainable Development Goals were action-oriented, global in nature and universally applicable and took into account national policies and priorities, including the enhancement of well-being and livelihoods, particularly for vulnerable groups. Benchmarking exercises and initiatives were in place to quantify sustainability and environmental performance in the region, where key actions aimed at promoting sustainable green development were under way in the energy, agriculture, environment and manufacturing sectors.

ASEAN endeavours in the area of sustainable development and the environment included such initiatives as the triennial celebration of the ASEAN Environment Year, establishment of the ASEAN Environmental Education Inventory Database and the ASEAN Youth Portal on Sustainable Development, and triennial publication of the *ASEAN State of the Environment Report*. The ASEAN Intergovernmental Commission on Human Rights had conducted a series of workshops on the MDGs in order to produce an outcome document for submission to the United Nations General Assembly Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals and the ASEAN Declaration on Strengthening Social Protection had been adopted in 2013 to promote cross-sectoral collaboration.

Currently in preparation, the ASEAN Community's Post-2015 Vision would continue to promote inclusive, sustained and equitable economic growth and sustainable development consistent with the post-2015 development agenda; further narrow development gaps and social and economic divides while balancing economic development with environmental protection; build a resilient community and mechanisms capable of responding to emerging trends and challenges; and strengthen regional institutional arrangements. He called on the international community and, in particular, the ASEAN stakeholders to support and participate in efforts to secure a peaceful solution to territorial and maritime disputes in accordance with the principles of international law and international relations. ASEAN parliamentarians were expected to assist in accelerating integration and sustainability in the context of that process and would be afforded still greater roles in the post-2015 people-centred ASEAN Community.

The critical international conferences taking place in 2015 would produce agreements and commitments with an important bearing on progress towards sustainable development, such as

the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015-2030, and would further formalize the development process. The outcomes of the present IPU Assembly promised to make their own positive contribution, not least through the ability of parliamentarians to turn words into action.

Mr. M. BALLA (Hungary) said that the MDGs had been the compass of international development cooperation since their formulation and were publicly perceived as a highly successful and internationally supported initiative. The overall lack of sustainable development was a trend that endangered the livelihood of future generations; hence, the post-2015 process aimed at adjusting the course of global development was an enormous undertaking. In working for implementation of the ensuing sustainability initiatives, parliamentarians had a shared responsibility to think globally and act locally.

His country endeavoured to conduct itself responsibly at the national and international levels. Its National Council for Sustainable Development, established in 2008 as a forum for parliamentary, governmental, academic, business, church and non-governmental organizations, had the dual task of advising parliamentarians about global risks and the impacts of their proposals and keeping the public informed on sustainable development issues. With the supply of clean water a major challenge in the twenty-first century, Hungary fully supported the inclusion of a water-related SDG in the new development agenda and was organizing national and international initiatives in the light of the absolute water scarcity predicted to occur by 2025. The interests of future generations had also been built into the country's institutional practice to international acclaim. Hungary's parliamentarians looked forward to shaping a common future with their counterparts by acting to ensure a successful outcome of the new development plan over the next 15 years.

Mr. M. TOE (Myanmar) said that the present debate would be instructive for all parliaments in their efforts to play an active role in ensuring the effective implementation of national initiatives with a view to achievement of the new Goals. Following the adoption of the eight MDGs in 2000, the tireless efforts of governments to meet the set targets with assistance from international organizations, civil society and other stakeholders had lifted millions out of severe poverty. There would be over twice as many SDGs and their scope would also be broader, the aim being to achieve higher living standards for all.

Myanmar had achieved Goal 1 of the MDGs (halving the number of people suffering from poverty) and the World Food Summit goal (halving the number of undernourished) by 2015 and had reached other targets to varying degrees. The present debate would surely identify ways and means by which parliamentarians could contribute effectively to implementation of the new SDGs, including by enacting legislation, establishing committees or task forces, raising awareness and mainstreaming the new Goals into the work of their parliaments.

For its part, Myanmar's Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had effectively discharged its functions in striving for democracy. Priority had been given to capacity-building measures and various training courses had been organized in association with other national parliaments, the IPU and UNDP. The Pyidaungsu Hluttaw had recently opened a training centre for parliamentarians and their staff, again thanks to IPU and UNDP cooperation, and was focusing increasingly on institutional capacity-building in preparation for the opening of the new Hluttaw in early 2016.

Mr. P.F. CASINI (Italy) said that a fresh approach, taking into account the new emphasis on the need for sustainability, was required in order to address present-day social, economic, labour and development realities. The ever-rising global population and growing demand for a better quality of life entailed an increase in energy and food consumption. National policies should therefore be based on such objectives as limiting consumption of finite natural resources, recycling waste and using modes of transport powered by self-produced renewable energy. Parliaments were key to building sustainable change by turning words into action with social and environmental sustainability a prerequisite in public policymaking.

While sustainability hinged on energy and food, which were the focus of Expo Milano 2015, both depended on water and its management was crucial to building a sustainable development model. Failure to safeguard access to water would have unpredictable consequences for the capacity to feed the world, triggering socio-economic tensions and even war with water serving as an unconventional weapon. The defence and rational use of existing water resources was therefore essential, as was protection against water-related hazards.

Although international climate change talks would determine much of the planet's social and economic future, parliaments had a duty, particularly to the younger generation, to enact laws that would stimulate and guide political action enhancing and implementing environmental and

industrial best practices and to urge stakeholders worldwide to harmonize production with sustainability principles. The intensification of international economic relations and the consolidation of globalization must be met with policies that parliaments alone could adopt through coordinated action.

Mr. S. SUZUKI (Japan) said that parliamentarians bore the onerous responsibility to ensure implementation of the post-2015 development agenda, building on the experience and lessons learned from the MDGs in order to construct a bright future. The MDGs relating to education, maternal and child health, and sanitation had not been fully met with some regions lagging behind overall and some countries experiencing uneven implementation at the national level. Implementation of initiatives aimed at achievement of the new SDGs must be based on the concept of human security in order to bring out the full potential of individuals in a world of increasingly complex and diverse issues. Parliamentarians must therefore work to protect individuals from threat and enhance their capacities.

Japan had taken the lead by establishing and continuing substantially to finance the United Nations Trust Fund for Human Security, in addition to supporting United Nations projects on a wide range of issues. It also shared its knowledge, experience and lessons learned with other countries, including through such events as the recent Third United Nations World Conference on Disaster Risk Reduction in Sendai, a city devastated by the great Japan earthquake in 2011. Mainstreaming disaster risk reduction was vitally important to sustainable growth. His delegation stood ready to help turn words into action and was eager to welcome the participants in the IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians, to be hosted in Tokyo by the National Diet of Japan, 27 to 28 May 2015.

Ms. S. ATAULLAHJAN (Canada), welcoming the reflection of the core IPU interests of governance, accountability and gender equality in the proposed SDGs, expressed the hope that the world's leaders would successfully translate the discussions on the new Goals into realistic, measurable and focused targets. The post-2015 development agenda must incorporate such cross-cutting issues as the empowerment of women and girls and the elimination of child, early and forced marriage. As a key driver of poverty reduction, women's economic empowerment should be central to the SDGs and maternal, newborn and child health must feature prominently with a view to the elimination of mortality in those population groups within a generation.

Parliamentarians had an important role to play in ensuring adequate oversight of progress towards the Goals in a multitude of policy areas, which might require the adaptation of parliamentary conventions and procedures. Canada's Parliament was using the various tools at its disposal to raise awareness of SDG issues and contribute to the debate. Monitoring of the country's sustainable development strategies was already ongoing and could be usefully carried through into SDG implementation. The Canadian Group at the IPU would also raise the issue of Parliament's role in that process with leaders and fellow legislators at home. In short, it was the duty and responsibility of parliamentarians to ensure that the needs of the poorest and most vulnerable, including all of the world's women and children, were fully addressed and met.

Mr. A. BURT (United Kingdom) noted that the effort to achieve the MDGs had been the most successful global anti-poverty push in history, bringing enormous advances in tackling prevalent ills and meeting the needs of the poorest and most disadvantaged communities. The next phase of that ongoing endeavour lay in recalibrating the MDGs to produce new SDGs through a broader approach that better reflected the realities of an interdependent world with all countries working in active partnership for development. The post-2015 framework must also be accompanied by effective systems for monitoring concrete outcomes and ensuring accountability with parliaments playing a primary role. Equally vital to SDG delivery was investment in and support for capacity-building, particularly in national institutions and in pursuit of good governance.

His country's Government had played a defining role in shaping the post-2015 development agenda and its Parliament had been active in the local and wider discussion. Key parliamentary activities relating to the post-2015 development process had included major debates and questions in both houses, the work of important parliamentary committees and subsequent scrutiny of government responses to their findings. The British Group in the IPU had recently co-hosted a meeting at which Ms. A.J. Mohammed, United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning, had discussed the SDGs with her peers and with parliamentarians. By holding governments to account for their SDG commitments, parliaments could turn words into action in order to meet the goals of poverty eradication, better health care,

education for all and improved prospects for the world's peoples to lead free, safe and purposeful lives.

Mr. Y. CHIN (Republic of Korea), stressing the critical role of parliamentarians in effective implementation of SDG initiatives, said that parliaments must ensure that each of the 17 goals was incorporated into domestic law. To that end, they must promote policy coherence and integration by appraising progress and amending laws accordingly. They should establish an inter-parliamentary cooperation network designed to facilitate information-sharing and knowledge exchange and foster public-private partnerships, which had been of proven worth in driving forward MDG implementation and enabling countries such as his to address social challenges, including poverty, income inequality and corruption.

Parliaments must also thoroughly monitor and review government efforts and provide feedback through their legislative and budgetary functions. They should encourage governments to prepare coherent and integrated action plans for SDG implementation system-wide, develop their own parliamentary action plans, programmes and targets and be proactive in making recommendations to their governments. Lastly, he proposed the establishment of an IPU committee to promote the role of parliaments in SDG implementation by gathering relevant information, sharing it with IPU Members and convening regular meetings to monitor progress and provide feedback and recommendations.

Mr. P.-F. VEILLON (Switzerland) said that Switzerland was actively involved in meeting the daunting challenge of developing a post-2015 agenda that was universal in scope and application yet flexible enough to allow country-specific approaches. The SDGs must be clear, pragmatic, easily communicable and measurable, with precise targets and indicators, and steps must be taken to unlock the requisite funding, create an enabling international environment and establish a universal monitoring mechanism. Switzerland intended to integrate the SDGs into its policy objectives by continuing to provide support to developing countries and adopting appropriate domestic measures.

Parliamentarians were duty-bound to promote the good governance needed to ensure successful outcomes on the basis of such principles as the rule of law, non-discrimination and equality. In particular, local governments must be empowered and strict standards of transparency and accountability observed. The efficient management of public finances was crucial. His own parliament had been involved in the debate and consultations on the post-2015 development agenda and had examined his Government's position concerning the negotiations, on which it received regular progress reports. Sustainable development was ultimately a matter of securing the future of younger generations by working to bequeath them a world of peace, humanity, dignity, liberty, security and prosperity. All parliamentarians must promote and support the collective effort essential to obtaining decisive results through ongoing dialogue, mutual respect and the will for consensus.

Mr. T. QUBA`A (Palestine) spoke of the long-standing Israeli occupation of his country; the daily suffering inflicted on his people; and its struggle for freedom, the establishment of an independent State on its land and the return of Palestinian refugees. Despite Palestinian flexibility in responding to international peace initiatives, the catalogue of Israel's repressive practices and discriminatory policies continued to grow and the blockade of Gaza persisted. Israel was conducting an openly racist, extremist and inflammatory campaign, reminiscent of South African apartheid, with the declared intention of pursuing its settlement policy and putting paid to any notion of the establishment of a Palestinian State, all of which flew in the face of the democracy that it advocated.

Only recently, Israel had stepped up its collective punishments by confiscating Palestinian tax funds, a move that threatened to destroy the Palestinian economy and cause unrest. The daily violence and intimidation directed at Palestinians by settlers was also well documented. Sustainable development under such circumstances was impossible. In order to end the situation, the Palestine National Council had decided to review its political, economic and security relations with Israel and the role and functions of the Palestinian National Authority. Commitment to signed treaties and instruments must be reciprocal. On behalf of the Palestinian people, he called on the IPU to act firmly against that entrenched approach of the Israeli right wing, which destroyed peace opportunities and ignited the region.

Mr. A.F. IZZELDIN AL MANSOUR (Sudan) said that international peace and security were threatened by recent terrorist acts involving reprehensible practices falsely carried out in the name of Islam and distorting the image of Muslims. Such extremism must be countered by moderation

and the rightful portrayal of that religion as advocating the peaceful coexistence of all religions, beliefs and cultures.

The new SDGs would be best implemented through the adoption of national legislation that fulfilled public aspirations for development and of appropriate budgets for its implementation. In progressing towards sustainable development, the Sudan had pursued long-term plans, ratified international instruments, created infrastructure, built capacities and met its international environmental commitments. Its implementation of various development goals had nonetheless been adversely affected by the harsh unilateral sanctions against it and the lack of international cooperation. In the important context of efficient, equitable and sustainable water use, it had nonetheless signed a framework agreement for a Nile dam project that promised to boost not only regional peace, security and stability, but also confidence and economic cooperation.

Parliaments were a cornerstone for advancement owing to their instrumental role in ensuring balanced development and more equitable sharing of wealth and resources, including by promoting initiatives to combat poverty and unemployment and exercising their oversight function. In the Sudan, national dialogue and ongoing efforts to strengthen peace and democracy had culminated in a permanent Constitution underpinning the country's institutional, parliamentary, federal and rule of law systems, while the principles of good-neighbourliness governed its relations in the Arab and African contexts.

Ms. B. LASAGABASTER (UN Women), recalling the conclusions of the analysis of national reports carried out by the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women, reported that progress towards gender equality and women's empowerment over the past 20 years had been limited, painfully slow and full of omissions. While the overall record on the removal of discriminatory laws and girls' school enrolment had improved, persistent challenges such as lack of funding and failure to invest in gender equality and the elimination of gender stereotyping offered important lessons for the new SDGs.

She therefore called on the IPU to support the active engagement of UN Women in the post-2015 development agenda with a view to achieving Goal 5 of the SDGs ("Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls") and ensuring that gender was mainstreamed into the remaining Goals, all of which lent themselves to a gender perspective. As representatives of both women and men, parliamentarians must use their vital legislative, budgetary and oversight mandate to ensure the implementation of laws promoting that ultimate objective. In the interest of women's participation in decision-making, obstacles to gender parity in parliaments must be swiftly overcome through such means as quota systems, campaign assistance and work with political parties and the media. The achievement of gender equality and women's empowerment was an issue for the whole of society, including men. She therefore appealed to male parliamentarians to sign up for and publicize in their home countries its HeforShe solidarity movement for gender equality.

*The sitting rose at 12.30 p.m.*



## Sitting of Monday 30 March (Afternoon)

*The sitting was called to order at 2.45 p.m., with Mr. P.-F. Veillon (Switzerland), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

### Item 3 of the agenda

#### **General Debate on *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action***

##### *Resumption of the debate*

Ms. R. RIKHARDSDOTTIR (Iceland) said that, in turning words on sustainable development into action, the international community must adopt a new way of thinking. It was not sufficient for parliamentarians and others to give speeches in various forums if their good intentions were not in line with common attitudes in society. Education and gender equality were vital ways to ensure fulfilment of the SDGs. As a former teacher, she believed that education had the greatest transformative power for individuals and nations as a whole. Societies could not thrive unless all their children had a good education and were taught the values of equality, respect for diversity and empathy. Schools were the place to promote respectful relationships and gender equality from an early age and to condemn gender stereotypes and all forms of violence.

Sustainable development would never become a reality without gender equality; all sectors of society must promote the unconditional inclusion of men and women and push for their greater political representation and participation in decision-making processes. Iceland regarded women's empowerment as a fundamental issue and their contribution to society and the economy was indisputable and invaluable.

Men and boys must also be engaged, speak out against all forms of discrimination and take action to end violence against women. Gender equality was at the core of reducing poverty and inequality and was therefore essential to sustainable development and the people-centred approach that must be adopted by all parliaments in pursuit of the new Goals.

Mr. D. NUNES (Timor-Leste) said that, as a young, post-conflict country, Timor-Leste faced many challenges to development, including fragile institutions; lack of trained human resources, jobs and training, especially for young people; and environmental degradation. Some 75 per cent of the population lived in rural areas in a quasi-subsistence economy. In anticipation of the United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio +20), Timor-Leste had reanalysed its strengths and weaknesses in areas related to sustainable development, identified challenges and appropriate policies and activities, and produced a report on the national situation. There was broad consensus in the country on the importance of sustainable development and the Government had stressed the central role of peace in that regard. A strategic plan and roadmap had been devised with the objective of improving the country's infrastructure, ensuring better management of natural resources and protection of the environment and supporting all social groups.

The pursuit of sustainable development required better strategies not only at the national level, but at the local and rural levels as well. The Government had decentralized administrative functions so that local authorities could take their own decisions about their economies. Sustainable development would enable growth alongside the promotion of social advances and environmental protection, without risk to future generations.

Ms. B. MBETE (South Africa) said that 2015 was a seminal year for global development. She welcomed the timely debate, which drew attention to the need to find and implement tangible solutions to the challenges confronting the world. The post-2015 development agenda would allow Africa to take important action in the areas of service delivery, infrastructure, inclusive growth, jobs and inequality and the Common African Position on the post-2015 Development Agenda and nationally-tailored development plans would lay the foundation for its future development.

The Common Position also emphasized that financing could not be addressed in isolation. Changes in economic and geopolitical power and influence meant that new forms of cooperation within regions or between like-minded economies were growing and Brazil, Russia, India, China and South Africa (the BRICS countries) exemplified that trend. It was therefore vital for them to

contribute to the development of rules governing world trade, finance and investment. Resources must be mobilized from a variety of sources and developed countries must meet the target of contributing 0.7 per cent of GDP to ODA.

South Africa had devised a national development plan that sought to broaden the base of its economy, spread wealth more evenly and prioritize social protection, investment in health and education and environmental sustainability. Her delegation supported the IPU call for parliaments to be fit for purpose and had therefore enhanced parliamentary structures to ensure they were equipped to support achievement of the SDGs.

Mr. J. KATUPHA (Mozambique) acknowledged the importance of sustainable development and, to that end, of strengthening the role of parliamentarians; obstacles to such development could threaten economic activities, social fabric and the environment. Preservation of the environment had long been a lower priority owing to a lack of awareness of its importance and a desire to use natural resources to fuel industrialization. The negative effects of globalization – population growth and the consequent need for sufficient food and space – had jeopardized the sustainability of those resources. A comprehensive change in attitudes and behaviour was needed in order to ensure sustainability and a decent standard of living for future generations. In turning words into action and ensuring that the SDGs were achieved, the international community must simultaneously eliminate poverty, control transmissible diseases, reduce persistent pollution, protect biodiversity and promote peace and security.

Mozambique had huge reserves of unexploited natural resources, in particular oil and minerals. Their sustainable use was, however, threatened by transnational corporations and the financial interests of developed countries that wanted immediate returns on their investments. Both developed and developing countries had a shared responsibility to ensure the sustainable consumption of natural resources.

Mr. PHAM BINH MINH, *Special Guest*, (Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs, Viet Nam) said that, as Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of the host country, he extended warm greetings to the parliamentarians and other guests present at the Assembly and commended the IPU for its continued promotion of parliamentary solidarity and focus on peace and dispute settlement. In a fast-changing world, globalization and the democratization of international relations had narrowed gaps between nations and increased opportunities for peace, security, cooperation and development. There were, however, many potential threats in the form of instability, conflicts and crises around the world that reversed positive development trends and achievements already made.

The international community must increase its efforts to respond effectively to the most serious issues: terrorism, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, nuclear security and safety, environmental degradation, natural resource depletion, climate change, disease epidemics and food, water and cyber security. Because peace and security were prerequisites for sustainable development, all States should respect international law, renounce the use of force and settle their disputes by peaceful means. It was in the common interests of all nations to promote sustainable, balanced and inclusive growth through employment opportunities and economic restructuring and to build an environment of peace and security that was conducive to development. Greater efforts to achieve the MDGs and build momentum were needed as the world moved on to the new Goals. Countries must strengthen cooperation to address social inequality, reduce poverty, promote a green economy and narrow development gaps.

Peace, cooperation and development were at the centre of Viet Nam's foreign policy and the country placed great emphasis on promoting friendly relations among nations with a view to peace, prosperity, social progress and a fair and equal world for all. It valued the role played by multilateral institutions in supporting national, regional and international security and development and contributed actively to the pursuit of those objectives as a responsible member of the international community and, at the regional level, as an ASEAN member. The ASEAN Community had created a strong and lasting regional architecture and standards and had proved that future development could be built on cooperation rather than competition and rivalry.

Viet Nam called for all countries to work harder to build trust and cooperation and to find permanent, satisfactory solutions to the problems confronting the world. Developed countries in particular must take care to respect the legitimate interests of smaller countries and refrain from actions that might hinder their development. His country would continue to uphold the principles of respect for national sovereignty and territorial integrity oppose the threat or use of force and advocate the peaceful settlement of disputes. As legislative bodies, parliaments continued to play a critical role in realizing the shared global aspiration of a peaceful, stable world order. In its long

history, the IPU had proven its vital role in that regard by continually promoting peace, cooperation and friendship between nations. Viet Nam looked forward to continuing to working with other nations to support the work of the Organization.

Ms. E. MADZONGWE (Zimbabwe) said that the MDGs had averted many of the most serious threats facing developing countries; crucially, most had made remarkable progress in reducing extreme poverty and the number of malnourished children. Her country had achieved gender parity in primary and secondary school enrolment and completion rates and the proportion of women in its Parliament had risen to 34 per cent.

Zimbabwe's progress towards the health-related Goals had been hindered by economic sanctions that prevented it from accessing lines of credit or other international grants. Nevertheless, free health services had been provided for pregnant and breastfeeding women, children under five and those aged 60 and above and there had been considerable progress in combating HIV/AIDS, malaria and other diseases. Significant steps had also been taken with a view to environmental sustainability with many sustainable development principles integrated into national policies.

As the post-2015 agenda came into being, parliaments must be ever more diligent in their oversight and legislative roles to ensure that the executive branch was held accountable and aligned policy choices with the SDGs. Zimbabwe had already instituted a development plan aimed at achieving them and called on the international community to support implementation of the relevant policies and strategies. The success of the new Goals would require a collaborative, participatory approach from all sectors of society.

Mr. A. SCHIEDER (Austria) expressed strong support for the message of the United Nations Secretary-General regarding the need to develop a new and universal compact that was people-centred and planet-sensitive and to fight against poverty, inequality and gender discrimination. With 900 million people living on less than 2 dollars per day, it was vital to create jobs with humane working conditions and to ensure that much-needed social security systems were in place and that all countries incorporated the core labour standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO) into their legal systems.

Parliamentarians' work under the SDGs would be primarily informed by targets 16.6 ("develop effective, accountable and transparent institutions at all levels") and 17.9 ("enhance international support for implementing effective and targeted capacity-building in developing countries to support national plans to implement all sustainable development Goals, including through North-South, South-South, and triangular cooperation"). Despite the inclusion of democratic governance as a Goal in its own right, much remained to be done in securing a strong place for parliamentarians in the final declaration at the present Assembly. Democratic governance must be understood as unifying the principles of participation, transparency, accountability and effective decision-making. The effective rule of law was also crucial for social, economic and environmentally sustainable development, and strong justice and audit systems were needed to ensure equality before the law and allow all citizens to defend their rights.

The role of parliaments as legislative and oversight bodies must also be strengthened worldwide and greater emphasis must be placed on courts of audit and their integration into the SDGs. The new Goals would be universal and it was therefore incumbent upon all countries, regardless of their level of economic development, to ensure that they were successfully implemented and brought about not only an alleviation of poverty, but a transformation in patterns of consumption and production.

Mr. M.C. BIADILLAH (Morocco), speaking as the President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, said that his region faced a number of new challenges owing to the dramatic changes of recent years in various countries, the global economic crisis, the resurgence of terrorist activity and the displacement of millions of people fleeing conflicts. Many women, children and older persons had been forced to flee their homes on a journey into the unknown without any resources. As a result, Jordan, Lebanon and Tunisia had seen significant increases in their populations while thousands of other refugees had fled to southern Italy in boats and makeshift rafts, risking their lives in the process.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM) was working with other international partners to devise effective and coherent strategies for establishing peace and security in the region. It remained concerned about Palestine, the consequences of the continued development of new settlements and the dramatic deterioration in levels of security in neighbouring countries, which had exacerbated the already dire situation of Palestinian refugees. PAM was also

concerned about climate change and the need to protect countries' cultural and architectural heritage and was committed to continued global action to build peace and security in the Mediterranean region.

Mr. S. LIENGBONLERTCHAI (Thailand) said that the principle of sustainability had underpinned economic and social development in Thailand for many years and had proved to be a viable model for national development with long-term benefits. His delegation saw a strong complementarity between the SDGs, the ASEAN development objectives and the country's national policy of a so-called "sufficiency economy". Its parliament and Government had worked together and with civil society to ensure the effective implementation of policies under that economy, including with regard to the management of marine and coastal resources and wildlife conservation. Thailand would continue to push for inspirational, inclusive and people-centred development and for achieving the new SDGs at the earliest possible date.

Mr. F. DRILON (Philippines) said that his country had undertaken bold economic and structural reforms in pursuit human and economic development and had encouraged efficient government spending and transparent and accountable governance. That effort had been supported in no small measure by the appointment of credible women to head the country's Audit Commission, Office of the Ombudsman and Department of Justice, demonstrating the national commitment to gender equality.

It had been recognized, however, that economic growth was only meaningful if all citizens experienced significant improvement in their living standards. Measures had therefore been taken to increase the tax on tobacco and alcohol in order to fund a universal health-care programme and improve the health and education infrastructures. Two landmark laws in support of environmental sustainability had been adopted and the country's legal framework had been praised by the United Nations as one of the best in the world in mainstreaming climate change adaptation and disaster risk reduction into national and local policies and strategies. The Philippines was on track to meet many of the MDG targets and looked to build on that success by instituting policies and programmes aimed at achieving the forthcoming SDGs. It welcomed the reference made in the new Goals to the crucial link between peace and sustainable development; his country had been beset by domestic conflicts that had prevented development in its most impoverished areas.

As economists had shown, the world economy was wholly unequal, created environmental crises and threatened the lives and well-being of many people. He therefore called on parliamentarians to craft responsible, effective laws and policies to ensure sustainable development for the benefit of present and future generations.

*Ms. A.A. Lemos (Brazil), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.*

Mr. A. COSTA (Portugal) said that globalization counted for nothing if the world could not work together to achieve common goals; its true test would be the implementation of a universal agenda that promoted development and dignity. Parliamentarians who showed themselves indifferent to that agenda put at risk both development and the future of democracy.

Parliaments had made great progress in tackling issues such as inequality, access to health and education, protection of fundamental rights, counter-terrorism, environmental sustainability and preservation of natural resources. Action was not always easy, but continued perseverance led to progress. The greatest danger was a lack of political will. Parliamentarians must ensure that public policies were not governed by private interests and promoted the dignity of all people in order to overcome inequalities.

Mr. D. OPREA (Romania) said that the post-2015 development agenda should promote a new development paradigm based on universality, ownership by all Member States, accountability and a renewed global partnership. His country's approach to the SDGs would focus on the efficient management of water resources and forests, sustainable patterns of production and consumption, economic growth, human rights, equal opportunities, democracy and the rule of law.

Parliamentarians had a responsibility to see that the new agenda left nobody behind. It must address the needs of the most disadvantaged and vulnerable groups; advance women's empowerment and the human rights of women and girls; and advocate for peaceful and inclusive societies, democratic governance and the rule of law. The SDGs must be framed by clearly defined indicators, disaggregated across all Goals, that allowed implementation to be adequately monitored with progress measured in ways that went beyond GDP and accounted for well-being, sustainability and equity. The United Nations "My World 2015" survey had shown that "an honest

and responsive government” was among the top four priorities of citizens around the world, a fact that underscored the key role of parliamentarians in ensuring the effective integration of democratic governance into the new development agenda.

Ms. M. TEMMERMAN (World Health Organization) said that there had fruitful collaboration between the IPU and the WHO in engaging stakeholders regarding the necessary legislation, oversight, accountability and advocacy for the SDGs. The WHO was working with other global health partners to ensure that women’s and children’s health remained high on the global and national agendas. Maternal and child mortality rates had decreased by half since the introduction of the MDGs, but more must be done to bring the numbers down further. The unfinished MDG agenda called for strong investment in what had been proven to work, including reproductive health and rights and family planning. Better care during childbirth was vital as it represented a triple return on investment, saving the lives of women and new-borns and preventing stillbirths.

In the transition to the SDGs, it was essential to improve the health of adolescents and young people, who made up 20 per cent of the world’s population. Investing in youth, especially girls, was also an economic and social investment. The United Nations new Global Strategy for Women’s, Children’s and Adolescents’ Health would be vital in building on the unfinished MDG agenda. Other important strategies on addressing violence against women and preventing sexually transmitted infections and HIV had also been instituted. She hoped that all parliamentarians would provide input on and support for those strategies and other measures in the area of health.

Mr. D. EKWEE ETHURO (Kenya) said that Kenya had been one of the first countries to commit to pursuit of the MDGs but, 15 years later, could sadly boast of achieving only Goal 2 on universal primary education. Initiatives under the other Goals were at various stages; in particular, there had been considerable progress towards Goals 4 and 5 on reducing child mortality and improving maternal health.

The country’s 2010 Constitution had ushered in new governance structures that should make the process of translating the SDGs into national legislation easier than it had been for the MDGs. The National Development Plan envisioned Kenya becoming a globally competitive and prosperous country with a clean, secure and sustainable environment by 2030. Several flagship projects had already been initiated to that end and the Government had undertaken various policy, legal, institutional and structural reforms in order to enhance economic stability.

The role of parliaments in the post-2015 development agenda was critical; the MDGs had not been fully achieved, in part because parliaments had played only a peripheral role in their implementation. The SDGs must be fully integrated into all budgetary, policy, legal and institutional frameworks and parliaments must ensure effective oversight of their implementation.

Mr. M. GAROYIAN (Cyprus) said that while the past decade had seen significant political and social changes around the world, many developing countries still had unacceptable poverty rates. The international community must renew its commitment and take concerted action to address the challenges confronting it, including vulnerable democracies, climate change, natural resource management and terrorism, and look for new ways to support development.

In turning words into action on the SDGs, all stakeholders must engage in cooperative action for sustainable development rather than pursuing individual agendas. Efforts must be directed towards three main areas: poverty eradication, including by providing social security; respect for human rights, equality and justice; and ensuring the sustainability of the environment and national resources. The international community had made considerable progress under the MDGs but, before moving on to adopt the new Goals, it must acknowledge the setbacks that had occurred and the fact that not all the Goals had been met. The IPU was well placed to contribute to the global agenda and sustain the necessary political will.

Mr. H.C. SCHMIDT (Denmark) said that formulation of the future SDGs had been a long process; their adoption was within sight but, crucially, the work was only beginning. His Parliament had organized a session to raise awareness about the new Goals among parliamentarians and he suggested that other parliaments do likewise in order to promote and ready themselves for implementation.

Parliaments had an obligation to ensure that the Goals were incorporated into national legislation and to hold governments to account through effective monitoring and oversight mechanisms. Parliamentary committees were well placed for such oversight and should establish annual updates on progress and results. The Danish Parliament intended to hold annual debates on the Goals that would include responses from government ministers.

Mr. F. RABBI (Bangladesh) said that improvement and protection of the environment and biodiversity was written into his country's Constitution; sustainable development was therefore a constitutional obligation. Bangladesh was on track to meet a number of the MDGs and welcomed the global achievements of halving poverty, decreasing child mortality and increasing girls' school enrolment. New challenges to development had, however, emerged and must be addressed through the SDGs. Poverty eradication must remain at the heart of the post-2015 development agenda.

The new Goals and targets were appropriate for addressing the challenges, risks and vulnerabilities facing all nations, but sufficient financial resources were essential to sustainable growth and the success of the new agenda. Donor countries should not break their existing commitments and should meet the target of contributing 0.7 per cent of GDP for ODA. In a globalized economy, it was the least developed countries that needed the greatest support for capacity-building and innovation to bring about growth and development.

Unprecedented levels of migration and climate change posed particular threats to many countries and action in those areas must be prioritized. He called on all parliamentarians to ensure that adequate provision for the SDGs was made at the national level in order to ensure that they were people-centred and fulfilled the aspiration of an equitable, prosperous and sustainable world.

Ms. G. ORTIZ (Mexico) said that the IPU had played a vital role in the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda by urging parliamentarians to promote and devise appropriate strategies and ensure their implementation, earmark sufficient funds and fulfil their oversight responsibilities to ensure that their governments upheld their pledges. Parliamentarians must be bold in their efforts to accelerate achievement of the development agenda around the world and overcome disparities in the pace of progress. Great achievements had been seen under the MDGs; most notably, poverty had been reduced by the target of 50 per cent five years ahead of the deadline set, but overall progress towards the Goals was inconsistent.

In the Quito Communiqué, adopted at the 128<sup>th</sup> Assembly, the IPU had stressed the importance of ensuring sustainable development based on the principles of improving livelihoods and well-being and promoting institutional reforms, transparency, gender equality and greater respect for human rights. During the long process of formulating the post-2015 development agenda, Mexico had continually supported development that was both inclusive and empowering. The success of the new agenda would require strong, transparent and efficient State institutions that were accountable to all and upheld the rule of law based on respect for human rights. Universality was also a key concept; the international community must work together to eliminate the root causes of poverty: inequality, marginalization and environmental degradation.

The negotiations on the new Goals had been long and complex and there were still differences in the directions that various countries wanted to take. Mexico strongly supported the development of global and regional indicators that would make it possible to measure and compare countries' progress. The criteria for the Goals and their targets must be flexible enough to take account of each country's circumstances with different timeframes applied to different countries if necessary, but there should be no compromise on some matters; minimum standards for justice, the rule of law and human rights must apply universally.

Ms. C. CERQUEIRA (Angola) said that the current global situation was worrying with many countries still suffering the effects of the recent financial crisis and increasing reports of terrorist attacks that threatened international peace and security. The key to overcoming those issues lay in establishing robust democratic institutions, pushing for good governance and the preservation of peace and ensuring social conditions appropriate for human development. Angola was committed to fighting poverty and addressing its other vulnerabilities, including resource constraints, through a series of inclusive economic and social policies that promoted and upheld fundamental rights. It recognized the importance of multi-stakeholder participation where responsibilities were shared and all parties reaped the benefits.

The country had made good progress under the MDGs in prioritizing human development, improving living conditions, combating poverty, reducing regional asymmetries and promoting gender equality and women's empowerment. National institutions had been strengthened and public administration modernized. Nevertheless, there were still a number of obstacles to achieving those Goals, not least the need for ongoing national reconstruction after years of war.

A number of existing or planned laws would help to promote the SDGs and facilitate inclusive, socially fair and safe human development. Parliamentary committees had held sessions on various issues related to sustainable development, including democratic governance, and engaged with civil society and other partners to gather opinions on and raise public awareness of the SDGs.

Mr. V. SENKO (Belarus) said that his country had achieved five of the MDGs ahead of the deadline but, sadly, that was the exception rather than the norm at the global level. Implementation of those Goals had varied considerably between countries and regions and the global financial crisis, in particular, had prevented many developing countries from meeting their targets and many donor countries from fulfilling their commitment to contribute 0.7 per cent of GDP to ODA.

The varying rates of implementation of the MDGs showed that initiatives taken under the SDGs must not widen the technological gap between countries or restrict the right of any Member State to choose its own strategy for sustainable development. As a middle-income country, Belarus believed that all such countries must have confidence in the new prospects for social, economic, and technological development. Mutual support between middle-income countries must be increased so that they could benefit from each other's experience, and additional assistance from the wider international community was needed.

His delegation welcomed the new Goals and targets that would help countries to adjust their economies to modern conditions. Their references to the global partnership for sustainable development would also help to mobilize resources for implementation of the SDGs in order to avoid repeating the mistakes of the MDGs. Traditional financing sources would not be sufficient and, as yet, there was no clear understanding of how the post-2015 development agenda would be fully funded. His delegation called for effective mechanisms to measure progress towards the Goals and urged all nations to maintain the necessary moral and political will to secure sustainable development.

Mr. D. VIVAS VELASCO (Venezuela) said that his country had made considerable progress towards achievement of the MDGs, which had been recognized by various international organizations. The Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) had acknowledged that Venezuela's hunger problem had been overcome and had even named a hunger eradication programme after the country's late leader, Hugo Chavez, in recognition of his leadership on the issue. The country had been declared free of illiteracy by the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) in 2005 and the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) had recognized it as one of the few countries to guarantee free antiretroviral drug treatment. The Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC) had confirmed Venezuela's achievement of eradicating extreme poverty, considerably reducing unemployment levels and reducing inequality.

Venezuela was strongly committed to sustainable development in the belief that capitalist systems ignored the ecological limits of the planet and destroyed the relationship between humanity and nature while concentrating wealth in only a few hands. To move from words to action on the SDGs, it had developed a greenhouse gas emission mitigation plan; was promoting integration of its production sectors into an economic model based on the principle of transformative socialist ethics; and had developed an adaptation plan to address the impacts of climate change and the irresponsible behaviour of industrialized countries. Parliamentarians would ensure that SDG commitments were enshrined in legislation, the necessary budgets were approved and all citizens understood and could participate in the effort to achieve the new Goals.

His delegation condemned the rhetoric of the President of the United States of America with regard to Venezuela, which had a destabilizing effect and flouted international laws on respect for human rights, non-interference in the internal affairs of States and the peaceful cohabitation of nations. He called on the international community to denounce President Obama's executive order declaring Venezuela a threat to the national security and foreign policy of the United States.

Mr. I. GIL LAZARO (Spain) said that the post-2015 development agenda required common, universal aims with different targets for different countries. It must be people-centred and focus on poverty eradication, the promotion of rights and the elimination of inequality. It also must be a transformative agenda with a positive impact on the future of the planet. The SDGs should be considered far more than a second generation of the MDGs, notwithstanding the valuable contribution of the previous Goals in improving the lives of many people around the world.

The new Goals should be limited in number so that the international community could devise effective actions, strategies and oversight mechanisms. They must be easy to communicate to citizens and take account of national realities, allowing each country to assume ownership of its policies with a view to their achievement. Poverty eradication required a multidimensional approach that included human rights and climate change and combating inequality required clear instruments for promoting equality and opportunity, including through tax policies and social protection, with a gender dimension. Environmental sustainability must be at the heart of any development model in order to meet the challenges of natural resource management and the protection of biodiversity and ecosystems. Economic governance, combating corruption, protecting human rights and international dialogue should all be seen as global public goods. Gender equality must be fully mainstreamed, including through efforts to end violence against women and female genital mutilation. Food security, health, mobility, education, safe drinking water, sanitation and energy security were also vital to sustainable development.

Mr. J.A. COLOMA (Chile) said that the international community was talking about a new way of doing things because the old way had not worked or had not matched reality; parliamentarians had an important role to play in finding effective solutions to problems which, in the modern world, would be more complex than in the past. For example, simply building hospitals would not improve health; it was also necessary to address issues such as obesity, exercise habits, sedentary lifestyles and new scientific developments. Democracy, too, must evolve since it was no longer enough for it to be representative; legitimacy and the participation of civil society were required.

Parliaments must find new ways to deal with development challenges, including by keeping abreast of recent scientific advances. The IPU might consider inviting special guests from the scientific community to speak to parliamentarians so that they could keep an eye on the future rather than being always a step behind. Such an approach would require strong, democratic oversight to ensure that the impact of such advances on citizens' lives was understood.

Mr. G. DAUDZE (Latvia) stressed the value of inter-parliamentary dialogue; with the many complex challenges facing the world, it was more important than ever to strengthen democracy and develop strong parliaments. The IPU provided an important forum for exchanging knowledge and views with the aim of building closer relationships and devising common strategies for resolving problems.

Sustainable development, including matters of safety, security and well-being, required global as well as regional approaches. Latvia currently held the presidency of the Council of the European Union and had used it to define the issues on which the region must cooperate with its international partners and develop sustainable and mutually beneficial solutions. One of his country's priorities during its presidency was to ensure a competitive Europe by establishing the necessary conditions to help businesses grow, promote investment and provide competitive products and services. Developing competitive industries through efficient structural reforms and growth-stimulating investment led to job creation and thus to greater social cohesion. Latvia also wanted to see Europe become a more digital region. Digital tools had great potential to boost smart, sustainable growth and e-governance, although his country recognized the need to address issues of cybersecurity and accessibility simultaneously. A third priority was to see Europe assume a fuller, more active role on the global stage, including by strengthening relationships with partners in other regions and promoting the post-2015 development agenda with a focus on gender equality and women's empowerment.

Mr. M. QUINTELLA LESSA (Brazil) said that he welcomed the timely debate; sustainable development was a priority for all countries. Considerable progress had been seen since the adoption of the MDGs in 2000 and the many social policies adopted at the national and international levels demonstrated the high level of commitment to the Goals. Nevertheless, despite reduction of the poverty and child mortality rates and increased school enrolment and attendance, various areas, including gender equality and women's empowerment, required more attention. With the new global agenda on the horizon, countries must ensure that the SDGs carefully balanced economic, social and environmental dimensions and were people-centred with the principles of equity, safeguarding human rights and combating all forms of discrimination at their core.

In order to implement actions designed to achieve the Goals, the international community must ensure adequate funding and technology transfer, increase technical capacity and develop reliable, transparent indicators to monitor progress towards their achievement. Lastly, the outcome of all debates on the SDGs should be disseminated to national parliaments.



Ms. S. MOULENGUI MOUELE (Gabon) said that Gabon's national development plan, which was a valuable tool for promoting economic growth, gave priority to poverty reduction and the sustainable management of natural resources. Sustainable development required substantial changes in behaviour and attitudes in order to address issues such as, among others, climate change, environmental degradation and social inequality. Her country had undertaken a number of reforms in order to achieve the MDGs and ensure sustainable development, including by establishing a national health and social insurance fund to improve access to health-care services for all citizens; reducing HIV/AIDS prevalence from 8.1 per cent to 4.1 per cent between 2000 and 2012; improving maternal and child health, including a reduction in mortality rates for those population groups; increasing school enrolment; and reducing poverty and unemployment. Under the SDGs, Gabon would continue to promote good governance, develop infrastructures, guarantee food security, improve social well-being and protect the environment.

Mr. A. ALARADI (Bahrain) said that the world had accomplished a great deal within the MDG framework, which had laid the foundations for further progress towards sustainable development under the post-2015 agenda. Despite the progress to date and the improved standards of living for many around the world, however, greater efforts were needed in order to fully eradicate poverty and guarantee equality, justice, transparency, the protection of human rights and women's empowerment. Bahrain had spared no effort in fulfilling its obligations under the MDGs and other international agreements and had focused particularly on combating terrorism and violence, providing education, health services and housing, empowering women and protecting the environment.

Parliaments must play a leading role in translating the SDGs into national legislation with appropriate oversight mechanisms. They must encourage their governments to establish effective national strategies and allocate the necessary financial resources to support development projects. Establishing prosperous societies in the context of the difficult economic, social and security situations of many countries was a noble objective, but tangible action would require strong cooperation between the executive, legislative and judicial branches.

Mr. E.H.D. SYLLA (Guinea) said that the greatest problem facing humanity was poverty: half of the global wealth was concentrated in the hands of 1 per cent of the global population. Such an imbalance posed a threat to peace, democracy and sustainable development. Extreme poverty made States and their institutions fragile and frequently fuelled internal or subregional conflict. The world had enough to satisfy everyone's needs; all countries, both developed and developing, must join forces to combat poverty, inequality and other threats to humanity, including climate change and disease epidemics. At the national level, the executive and legislative branches must agree to work together and with other stakeholders to overcome those challenges and achieve the SDGs.

Parliaments must ensure that the new Goals were incorporated into national policies and use their oversight powers to ensure implementation and progress. Immense financial resources would need to be allocated annually in order to ensure that the Goals bore fruit. His delegation therefore called for the establishment of a set of priorities for developing countries, especially in Africa. Development assistance and solidarity with Africa should focus on providing individuals with the means to lead a healthy life; promoting the well-being of all people at all ages; eliminating hunger and ensuring food security, improved nutrition and sustainable agriculture; eliminating poverty in all its forms; and ensuring equal access to high-quality education for all.

Mr. P. VAN DEN DRIESSCHE (Belgium) said that 2015 provided a unique opportunity for the international community to end poverty and better meet the needs of people and economies while protecting the environment, ensuring peace and upholding human rights. The world was at a crossroads and the direction that the international community chose to take would determine whether it succeeded or failed in its promises. A globalized economy and sophisticated technology could be used either to end poverty and hunger or to continue degrading the planet and perpetuating inequality.

Substantial progress had been made under the MDGs during the past 15 years, but the overall pace of progress had been disappointingly slow; the challenge now was to find ways to accelerate achievement of the SDGs. Parliaments must urge their governments and other relevant stakeholders to uphold the commitments that they had made, particularly in dealing with climate change.

The international community must do its utmost to ensure a peaceful society. Many people feared terrorist groups such as ISIL and Boko Haram, especially as recent attacks in Brussels, Paris, Copenhagen and Tunis had proved that they could strike anywhere in the world. It was impossible to negotiate with the perpetrators of such barbaric acts and it was urgent for the world to find a way to deal forcefully and effectively with all forms of terrorism.

Mr. V. GAPSYS (Lithuania) said that the post-2015 development agenda must be truly transformative and people-centred; the international community must build on the MDGs in order to address key issues that were essential for achieving sustainable development, including peace and security, democracy, good governance, the rule of law and human rights. A crucial moment for parliamentarians would come when they were required to translate the SDGs into enforceable laws and to ensure that they could actively and effectively monitor progress in implementation. It would not always be easy to allocate parliamentary discussion time to the SDGs, especially when local issues were at stake, but they must find ways to facilitate discussion so that all views could be heard and national implementation targets be set.

Because global peace and stability were essential to the success of the new Goals, his delegation was deeply concerned about the effect of the recent annexation of the Ukrainian Crimea by the Russian Federation and the continuing escalation of hostilities in the region. Recalling United Nations General Assembly resolution 68/262, which affirmed the sovereignty and territorial integrity of Ukraine, he called on the Russian Federation to withdraw its armed forces from all Ukrainian territories, including Crimea.

Lastly, speaking on behalf of the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians, he said that many participants in the Forum had expressed the hope that the SDGs would shape the future of the planet and had urged parliamentarians to reach out to people in areas where real progress was needed. Youth parliaments must be given a greater role in society in order to push for the changes necessary under the SDGs.

Mr. D. ĐUROVIĆ (Croatia) said that 2015 was a pivotal year for the international community as it adopted a new development agenda and sought to respond in a transformative manner to the various challenges facing the world, including by eradicating poverty and achieving inclusive and sustainable development. During the formulation of the post-2015 development agenda, Croatia had advocated giving priority to peace and security, the rule of law, good governance, democracy, transparency and human rights; including tourism under Goal 8 on economic development; and establishing a separate Goal on the conservation and sustainable use of oceans, seas and marine resources; all of those proposals had been accepted. In light of the need for focused and coherent action on sustainable development, the Goals must be specific, measurable, attainable, realistic and timely, or “smart”.

Trends indicated that the richest 1 per cent of the world's population would soon own 50 per cent of the world's wealth; parliamentarians must help to overcome that inequity as part of their efforts to promote and implement the post-2015 development agenda. They had a unique perspective on the specific circumstances of their countries and the needs of their citizens and must raise awareness of the Goals among their people to enable them to demand action and provide feedback on implementation. The SDGs provided a unique opportunity to redefine and strengthen the way in which the global community worked together but in order for that global partnership to succeed, all parties must contribute.

Ms. G. ELDEGARD (Norway) stressed that gender equality was not a Goal in itself but a precondition for the achievement of all the Goals and must be mainstreamed into them. The majority of young children who were exploited or prevented from going to school were girls, who needed to have the same educational opportunities as boys and to be able to attend school without fear. Denying girls access to education had a detrimental effect on the whole of society, preventing development and the eradication of extreme poverty, and their participation in the labour market as adults would be a key factor for sustainable development and economic growth.

Gender equality must be incorporated into all policies and plans, including in countries where there was already a focus on ensuring such equality, and policies must be continually followed up with robust strategies and legislation. She advocated establishing an ombudsman as an independent advocate for gender equality from an early age. Such action would push governments to uphold the right to education and promote gender equality, which, in turn, would accelerate progress towards the SDGs.

Mr. A. MICHELOTTI (San Marino) said that, as the deadline for achieving the MDGs approached, the international community should reflect on the progress made and the final formulation of the post-2015 development agenda. It was vital to remove any element of competitiveness among States and to embrace the concept of cooperative participation in order to meet current needs without denying future generations access to resources.

As a small State, San Marino had limited material resources but was committed to playing an active role in the review process for the Goals and promoting dialogue as an instrument of global peace and security. It would work to ensure that the new Goals were transparent, ambitious and universal and that their achievement was not hampered by the effects of consumerism, violence, conflict or inequality.

The IPU should assist parliaments by providing guidelines for national policies on the SDGs in order to facilitate effective, coordinated action at the international level. The adoption of the Goals would encourage reflection on and planning for a different lifestyle with more responsible and equitable use of the planet's resources.

Mr. I. AL-KUWARI (Qatar) said that Qatar was tireless in its efforts to work with the rest of the international community to foster peace, fight corruption, uphold human rights, strengthen the rule of law and ensure sustainable development. In particular, it had given priority to the advancement of women and had worked to ensure that a significant proportion of high-ranking positions were filled by them. His country had also taken a number of measures designed to strengthen democracy and the rule of law, protect human rights and resolve regional conflicts. Regarding the latter, it had organized forums to bring different stakeholders together around the negotiating table in order to alleviate regional tensions. There could be no lasting peace in the Middle East until the Palestinian question was settled and Palestine was recognized as a sovereign State.

*The sitting rose at 6.35 p.m.*

## Sitting of Tuesday 31 March (Afternoon)

*The sitting was called to order at 2.40 p.m. with Ms. B. Mbete (South Africa), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

### Item 3 of the agenda

#### **General Debate on The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action**

##### *Resumption of the debate*

Mr. M. YILDIRIM (Turkey) stressed the importance of cooperation, coordination and partnerships in the collective decision-making required to set global SDGs and targets for improving the modern integrated world. With SDG implementation clearly dependent on financing, the outcome of the Third International Conference on Financing for Development, to be held in December 2015, would be critical to success. Measures must be taken to encourage private sector investment and ensure effective use of existing resources, for example, by creating an information-sharing platform aimed at eliminating duplication and increasing transparency and efficiency. Sustainability criteria must be built into investment and finance processes in the long-term interests of horizontal and vertical equity.

In addressing the challenges to sustainable development, international peace efforts must be pursued in conflict areas without compromising national sovereignty. He rejected the earlier baseless allegations made by the Syrian delegation: Turkey was sheltering millions of refugees from a conflict started by the brutal and repressive Syrian regime. His delegation called for an end to that conflict, strongly condemned all acts of terrorism and extremism and would continue to implement strict measures aimed at apprehending foreign terrorist fighters.

The post-2015 development agenda called for a human-centred approach focused on equality and sustainability and with poverty eradication as its top priority. Another high priority was the formation of capacity- and institution- building partnerships in order to strengthen the rule of law and good governance, without which sustainable development was impossible. Wealthy countries must share the benefits of technological advances and growth for a more equitable world.

Ms. A.M. MARI MACHADO (Cuba) said that while Cuba had progressed substantially towards achievement of the MDGs, humanity was still plagued by abject poverty, chronic hunger, under-5 mortality, economic and financial crises, energy and food shortages, pollution, epidemic diseases, climate change and vulnerability to natural disasters with new armed conflicts and interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States adding to the toll. The answer lay in a sustainable development process that was closely linked with environmental protection and the rationalization of natural resources and rooted in social justice and equality.

The post-2015 development agenda must be based on the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and international law and must be both universal, encompassing common but differentiated responsibilities, and sufficiently flexible to allow for country-specific needs and priorities. Its success would require resolving the structural problems that beset developing countries and instituting changes conducive to poverty eradication and gender equality. A genuine international commitment to implementation must therefore be made, with parliamentarians playing a paramount role in enacting appropriate legislation and performing oversight.

In conclusion, she thanked all those who had assisted in obtaining the release of the remaining three members of the Cuban Five from United States custody, welcomed the establishment of Cuban-United States diplomatic relations and called for support both for the lifting of the 50-year blockade against Cuba and in defence of Venezuela in the light of President Obama's executive order declaring the country a threat to the national security of the United States.

Mr. K. KOSACHEV (Russian Federation), emphasizing the key role of the IPU and parliamentarians in sustainable development, said that the post-2015 agenda must prioritize economic and environmental goals in line with the Rio+20 Outcome Document, The Future We

Want, and the important criteria recommended by the United Nations Open Working Group on Sustainable Development Goals. The new Goals must be universal yet take into account cultural differences and national specificities and priorities. The sharing of information, expertise and technologies was essential to success, as was adequate financing, in which context the Third International Conference on Financing for Development would be a welcome and timely event. The new development agenda must be neither politicized nor supplemented with further goals or targets.

The IPU should expand its influence by affording due attention to topics of relevance to all peoples. He therefore suggested that the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly, to be held in Geneva from 17 to 21 October 2015, should commemorate the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the end of World War II and of the founding of the United Nations. Future agenda items might also include such issues as non-interference in the internal affairs of States and the legitimacy of power with particular reference to the conduct of free, fair and democratic elections in compliance with international electoral standards, which was an issue of concern in his region. The IPU could also usefully enhance its role by establishing observer missions to prevent power takeovers such as those witnessed in Ukraine and elsewhere.

Mr. M.E. KILIC (Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation - PUIC), stressing the instrumental role of parliamentary diplomacy in strengthening democracy and good governance and preserving international peace and security, said that terrorism in all its forms and manifestations was of common concern to all humanity. The international community must continue to consider how to halt its spread and bring about its eradication. At its most recent session, in January 2015, the PUIC Conference had adopted resolutions condemning all terrorist acts, including those perpetrated by Daesh and Boko Haram, and emphasizing that such acts were contrary to the teachings of Islam. It had also embarked on drafting a charter on combating terrorism and extremism, which was expected to be adopted during the course of 2015.

Mr. S.I. BENOIT (Haiti) recalled his country's historical triumphs, ranging from establishment of the first parliament in the Americas to support for independence in its region and for capacity-building in newly independent African States. Haiti's unstinting efforts to achieve the MDGs had, however, been severely hampered by lack of resources, particularly in the wake of the catastrophic earthquake of 2010 with many promises of aid for reconstruction still unfulfilled.

In the continuing absence of elections, the country's 200-year-old Parliament had only 10 remaining members and was ill-placed to make any commitment to play a role in promoting and ensuring SDG implementation. He therefore appealed to the IPU and its Members to do their utmost to extricate Haiti from its present difficulties by supporting organization of the elections scheduled for August 2015 with a new parliament expected to assume office in October 2015. It was time to reciprocate for Haiti's contribution to the development of modern civilization.

Mr. S.A.R. DASTGHEIB (Islamic Republic of Iran) reported that, since 2000, his country had successfully reduced poverty by, inter alia, providing basic health, education and infrastructure facilities, developing its energy resources and training a skilled workforce. An early achiever of certain MDGs, it was fully on track to achieve most of the remainder. The continuing use of unilateral economic sanctions as a foreign policy tool against developing countries was, however, of grave concern; such morally unjustified measures violated international law and human rights, including the right to development, the path to which was invariably hindered in the countries targeted.

Lasting peace in the Middle East could not be achieved unless the Palestinian issue was resolved by ending the protracted occupation, restoring the right of the Palestinian people to self-determination, ensuring the return of Palestinian refugees to their homeland and establishing a Palestinian State with al-Quds al-Sharif as its capital. A referendum of the entire Palestinian population was the only way forward to that end.

All regional and international actors must unite against terrorism, including through measures designed to end financial and moral support for extremism as advocated in a United Nations General Assembly resolution that had been sponsored by his country and adopted by consensus in 2013. The Islamic Republic of Iran attached great importance to the promotion and protection of human rights, rooting its policy on such matters in the teachings of Islam and welcoming cooperation on the basis of constructive dialogue and mutual respect for national sovereignty. It stood ready to take appropriate steps towards the realization of common goals.

Mr. J. SOARES (Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe Parliamentary Assembly – PA OSCE) said that, despite progress over the past decade, tense and complex conflict situations persisted in many parts of the world. Experience across continents, including in the context of election monitoring, had taught him that parliamentary diplomacy was an indispensable part of efforts to prevent conflict and build international peace and security. Regrettably, many intergovernmental structures were outmoded and incapable of a timely response to challenges; only the more flexible and democratic parliamentary structures had that capacity. Together, it would be possible to break new ground in facing the challenges of the future.

Ms. K. KOMI (Finland) said that increasing sustainability was a responsibility for all and, for companies, it should be a core business. Profitable business strategies delivered tangible social benefits, created shared value and generated important opportunities for innovation, growth and sustainable social impact. Through multi-stakeholder partnership networks, the know-how and interests of companies, academia and non-governmental organizations (NGOs) could be pooled in a cooperative approach to identifying local needs, opportunities and lifestyles and developing innovations while creating ownership and, in turn, market demand. Hands-on activities, rapid prototyping in the field, community networking, involvement and empowerment in target countries were key to such projects.

With sustainable commodity production the common denominator benefiting both private and public interests, governments could contribute by fostering impact entrepreneurship and business. Such win-win partnerships promoted inclusive, sustainable business in emerging markets. Strengthening domestic tax collection and anti-corruption measures were essential to securing sustainable revenue sources, bearing in mind States' responsibility to protect their citizens and fund welfare structures. A clean environment was a commodity to be paid for; it would boost the clean technology sector, improve the environment and create economic growth as its value increased.

In short, ambitious SDGs offered an attractive global business proposition. Companies and developing and industrialized countries must take steps to accelerate the shift from corporate social responsibility to shared value. It was time to start sharing best practices on effective mainstreaming so as to be well prepared when SDG implementation began.

Mr. K. SOO SEANG (Malaysia), speaking on behalf of the ASEAN Inter-Parliamentary Assembly (AIPA), recalled that in 1977, that Assembly's forerunner, the ASEAN Parliamentary Meeting, had decided to establish the 10-member AIPA in order to enhance friendship and mutual cooperation on matters affecting South-East Asia; promote regional peace, security and stability; encourage solidarity, understanding, cooperation and close relations among the parliaments of ASEAN States and with other parliaments and parliamentary organizations; facilitate achievement of the ASEAN goals and vision; and develop information exchange and cooperation with ASEAN in order to provide a parliamentary contribution to its work and raise public awareness of its policies for accelerating the development of an ASEAN Community. The AIPA upheld the ASEAN values of non-interference, informality and consensus-building, endorsed democracy and promoted public engagement in the process of forging a common ASEAN identity and destiny.

Mr. KOH CHIN HAN (Malaysia) said that his country's commitment to the achievement of all development goals, including the MDGs, was shown by its pursuit of sustainable development as part of its medium-term plan. Its sustainability objectives were supported by efforts to strengthen the national framework, targeted policymaking and the implementation of relevant programmes. Measures were being taken to address challenges to economic development with goals such as access to clean water, renewable energy, pollution, disease-free living conditions, soil quality and biodiversity. Substantial resources were also being invested in education, science and technology and new and emerging issues, among them waste management in the context of rapid urbanization, disaster risk management in the face of climate change, the rise in communicable and non-communicable diseases, the achievement of food security and the development of solar energy and biofuels.

Mr. A.L. LABDAG (Arab Parliament) said that the SDG dialogue was firmly rooted in the experience of the development community over the past two decades and in the outcomes of relevant global conferences. Concerted efforts to promote steady economic growth, achieve sustainable development and protect the environment for the benefit of all must be made; the vision articulated in the preamble of the Charter of the United Nations remained far from a reality given the relentless rise in extreme poverty and social ills ranging from marginalization and

unemployment to deprivation and disease. Armed conflict, organized crime, terrorism, corruption and erosion of the rule of law could be added to that list, together with the economic crisis; climate change; and food, water and energy shortages.

All such problems were created by human beings, who must together take on board their global commitments as caretakers of the planet. The threats facing the modern world were no respecters of boundaries, physical or otherwise, but the challenges of overcoming them presented opportunities to forge new partnerships and alliances for advancing the human condition. The road chosen would determine the success or failure of the effort to fulfil those commitments. Through the globalized economy and advanced technology, the gamble on sustainable development for all could succeed. He therefore called for courage in embracing social and economic change and a new relationship with Planet Earth.

Mr. R. WALTER (United Kingdom), speaking on behalf of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, said that the reports, resolutions and recommendations of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE) covered many SDG-related issues, including child poverty, access to education for all, gender equality, decent employment, inclusive growth and social exclusion. The European Parliament resolution of 25 November 2014 on the EU and the global development framework after 2015 (2014/2143(INI)) highlighted key factors for balanced and sustainable development, including good and democratic governance, anti-corruption measures, freedom of expression and, in particular, the empowerment of women and girls, promotion of their sexual and reproductive rights, the elimination of violence against them and their equal access to education and jobs.

With a view to further progress towards the MDGs, Europe could contribute added value by striving to reduce inequalities and setting good-practice examples. PACE had resolved to join forces with like-minded organizations involved in the post-2015 process, including the IPU, to ensure that the new SDGs addressed the key factors identified. Given the crucial importance of international peace and security to a sustainable environment, it had also urged the conclusion of an ambitious global agreement on climate change and advocated a mixed top-down/bottom-up approach involving an annual country reporting exercise. Terrorism, too, jeopardized lives and livelihoods while rendering sovereign States ungovernable and the achievement of any common goal impossible. Europe wholeheartedly supported the SDG process and stood committed to the pursuit of peace and security and the eradication of terror in all its forms.

Ms. A. KING (New Zealand) expressed concern that the proposed 17 SDGs, 169 targets and related progress indicators were unnecessarily complex. Indeed, the International Council for Science (ICSU), in its Review of Targets for the Sustainable Development Goals: The Science Perspective, prepared in cooperation with the International Social Science Council (ICSC) and submitted to the United Nations General Assembly by the Open-Ended Working Group, had recently reported that only 29 per cent of them were well defined and based on the latest scientific evidence; 54 per cent should be more specific and 17 per cent required additional work as they were weak or non-essential. The report also stated that the targets lacked integration and were insufficiently measurable, time-bound or quantitative and that the goals addressed interrelated challenges in isolation, thereby risking conflict rather than synergy.

The SDGs should be sufficiently simple and focused to serve as a global rallying point, supplemented by practical, measurable targets and effective indicators. They must address holistically and further recognize the link between the economic, social and environmental dimensions of sustainable development and incorporate targets that allowed for different country characteristics, including level of development.

Economic areas to be addressed included agricultural sustainability, food security, fisheries, energy and disaster risk reduction. Oceans and seas must feature, perhaps even as a stand-alone goal, so as to prioritize the critical problems facing small island developing States, among others. In the social sphere, emphasis must be placed on education, health and gender equality, notably the empowerment of women and girls. Democratic governance and the rule of law were fundamental to all goals and underlying targets and children were central to the agenda. The hope was that parliamentarians would work for a practicable, simple and accountable action plan as a contribution to the SDG process.

Mr. P.M. EBA (Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS) observed that previously unimaginable progress in halting and reversing the spread of HIV had been accomplished since 2000. Globally, the number of new HIV cases, including among children, continued to decline and millions now received antiretroviral treatment, although the epidemic was far from over and

progress had been uneven among and within nations. Key populations such as young women, sex workers, men who had sex with men and intravenous drug users had a high incidence of HIV but remained underserved by facilities. The next five years offered a critical window of opportunity for fast-tracking efforts to address the problem by scaling up effective HIV prevention and treatment programmes with accompanying measures to address the stigma, discrimination, inequalities and disempowerment that hindered access to such programmes for those key populations.

Those challenges were consistent with many of the proposed SDGs, notably those relating to the achievement of gender equality, the reduction of inequality and the promotion of peaceful, inclusive societies. Renewed commitment and bold actions were needed in order to place human rights and non-discrimination at the centre of the response to HIV, areas in which many of the significant victories achieved were attributable to the leadership of parliamentarians. In 2015, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) would launch new global targets aimed at galvanizing and monitoring the collective progress against HIV discrimination. He therefore called on parliamentarians to spread the message of the centrality of HIV and health to the post-2015 development agenda as the only means of ending the epidemic and leaving no one behind.

Ms. H.S. ALFATLAWI MOHSIN (Iraq) said that it was a global priority to combat the self-proclaimed Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL). That backward, brutal and takfirist terrorist group was running rampant in her country and engaging in slaughter and other atrocities targeting minority communities, Christians and even Muslims who did not espouse its beliefs. It was destroying ancient monuments and artefacts representing the cultural identity and human history of the Iraqi people, whose diverse communities had bravely united and shed their blood to mount a successful patriotic defence.

She thanked all those who had stood by the Iraqi people in its distress and assisted its millions of displaced persons. Her country was now better equipped to shape its own future but looked forward to receiving additional material, military and advisory support. Its aim was to rebuild the human dignity and creative spirit of its people.

Dialogue was the proven way forward to achieve and preserve peace and development at the national, regional and international levels; the military route threatened stability and encouraged the expansion of terrorist groups. The universal lesson to be learned from the experiences of Iraq was that peoples were ultimately stronger than dictators, occupiers and terrorists.

Mr. J.S. CHOE (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that his people had successfully overcome grave difficulties in striving to achieve the MDG targets in a manner consistent with national specificities, having deterred a potential war in the Korean Peninsula and placed the country firmly on track for building a knowledge-based economy in record time. Highly civilized living conditions were now enjoyed across the generations, which faced with confidence and optimism the remaining obstacles and challenges to be overcome.

Key to sustainable social and economic growth were realistic targets and practical measures reflecting the interests of developing countries, such as the establishment of fair international relations alongside the consolidation of MDG successes. His country would participate actively in the discussions on the post-2015 agenda and contribute constructively to SDG implementation. Also essential were peace and security, in which context the IPU must strive to counter the misfortunes forced on, among others, his country and Palestine; their right to sustainable development was being violated by constant military threats and economic blockades.

Because a peaceful environment was a crucial prerequisite for sustained nation-building and a thriving economy, his country was paving the way for Korean reunification after 70 years of division imposed by foreign forces. Its efforts in that righteous cause, however, were being consistently thwarted by a hostile United States policy of denying the country's sovereignty and right to existence and conducting aggressive military drills that must be halted forthwith. He expressed his delegation's appreciation for the support provided for that cause, which his people would continue to defend.

Mr. N. SCHRIJVER (Netherlands) maintained that it was wholly appropriate to formulate SDGs that reflected new interests and needs and the lessons learned from the MDG process, including unmet performance targets and benchmarks. While not legally binding, the new Goals should have a normative force similar to that of the MDGs and should express internationally agreed objectives rooted in such shared global values as human dignity, security, development and sustainability.



The ambitious number of the proposed SDGs and associated targets called for well-defined implementation measures at the global, national and local levels, yet such measures remained alarmingly weak and inadequate. Regrettably, the international consultation and decision-making process with a view to the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda was poorly structured, involving a host of institutions but lacking a single approach. Improvement of the international and national sustainable development architectures was therefore urgent, as was the establishment of fully-fledged international and national organizations dedicated to promoting sustainable development.

The new SDGs nonetheless encompassed welcome innovations, such as the integrated approach incorporating considerations relating to peace and security, environmental preservation, sound microeconomic growth, respect for human rights and the needs of future generations, a people-centred approach to sustainable development and the inclusive formulation of goals and targets for all countries alike. Sustainable development unquestionably entailed shared rights and responsibilities, including a corporate duty to eliminate unsustainable production and consumption patterns with a view to a life of human dignity for all in a healthy and pollution-free environment.

Mr. R. YOGARAJAN (Sri Lanka) said that the serious attempts to ensure universal achievement of the MDGs had ultimately failed but the commitment to that objective remained intact, as exemplified by the reorientation of the original Goals in a new and expanded set of SDGs. The more detailed targets would promote awareness and win public commitment as they envisaged a participatory, bottom-up process that had been absent from the original Goals.

Vital to that process were Goal 17, aimed at strengthening the means of implementation and revitalizing the global partnership for sustainable development, and Goal 16, on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies. Attempts to implement the SDGs for the benefit of a few were destined to fail; sustainable development for all must remain the primary motive.

Poverty eradication, which was central to both the MDGs and SDGs, should not entail hand-outs, which simply increased dependency, but rather greater production and decent work in order to empower the poor to increase their capacities and incomes and raise their living standards. Given the limited financial resources available to developing countries, global partnership was crucial to investment in the real growth needed. Although the Goals had the greatest relevance for developing countries, it was in the common interests of the global family for rich and poor countries to act in concert to address the areas targeted by the MDGs and SDGs. He therefore appealed to the richer nations to share their wealth through investment in their poorer counterparts.

Mr. M. SHEETRIT (Israel) declared that it was high time to move from paper to action in the realm of sustainable development and, indeed, in those of cyber warfare and water governance, the other two themes of the present Assembly. As part of its commitment to fulfilling its international responsibility to combat poverty and achieve sustainable development, Israel's Agency for International Development Cooperation (MASHAV) had been working since 1957 to empower poor people to improve their own lives. Its main priority was therefore human capacity-building, both in Israel and beyond, through extensive training programmes in such areas as agriculture, education, public health, community development, gender equality and emergency planning and response. Its work served as a practical example of action that could be replicated elsewhere.

As to cyber warfare, if indeed the activities involved qualified as warfare, it could not be countered with legislation; the primary objective should be to protect national infrastructures from the paralysis that could be induced by a computer and keyboard. With respect to water governance, predicted water shortages could be resolved through existing technologies such as desalination, employed by his country; the shortage was one of funding.

Mr. D. SQUARE (Senegal) said that the world stood at a crucial social and environmental crossroads with its future at stake; a sustainable development model built on the interdependent economic, social and environmental pillars was needed. With the target date for achievement of the MDGs approaching and a new stage in sight, parliamentarians must take stock. Sub-Saharan Africa had made significant progress in areas such as primary school enrolment, HIV/AIDS, malaria and access to drinking water but had had little success in others, such as poverty and maternal and child mortality. More ambitious SDGs were therefore needed, together with the operational means for their achievement and a commitment to increased social justice and transparency, good governance, universal social protection and economic transformation.

Concerted efforts were the way forward. Taking a participatory and inclusive approach, Senegal had held a national consultation on the post-2015 development agenda and had introduced reforms to give greater prominence to grass-roots concerns in its plans for social and

environmental development based on clear, realistic and workable proposals. The National Assembly would perform its legislative and oversight functions in the sustainable development context, in addition to making proposals for action at the national and international levels. The country would, however, need to be able to count on financial assistance from the United Nations system and the international financial institutions and private sector. It also advocated a North-South alliance aimed at promoting good governance and development in poorer countries.

Mr. I. KONE (Burkina Faso) recalled that, in October 2014, his country had embarked on a social and political transformation stemming from the people's aspirations for freedom, justice and peace. Those aspirations had been expressed in the desire for strict observance of the constitutional rules guaranteeing the democratic transition of power that was essential for abiding peace and harmonious and sustainable socio-economic development. With presidential and legislative elections scheduled for October 2015, the country's new history was taking shape in line with expectations thanks to a combination of positive factors, including the responsible attitudes of all actors, with a view to establishment of the necessary governance mechanisms. Among other things, a transitional charter had been signed, a transitional parliament and a national reconciliation and reform commission had been established and a new legal and institutional framework was being constructed. He thanked the international community and, in particular, the IPU for their unwavering support of Burkina Faso in its path towards a new future.

His country had made great strides towards MDG achievement in terms of access to education, health care and drinking water. Its efforts to overcome the substantial hurdles remaining in other areas were, however, being impeded by climate change, insecurity and lack of financial and technical resources. He called for firm action to turn words into action under the SDGs in order to resolve the world's problems.

Ms. S. SUTTERLIN-WAACK (Germany) expressed regret that German parliamentarians had had little opportunity to participate in the post-2015 process, despite their prominent role in winning public support for implementation of the new Goals. In order to ensure their close involvement in such negotiations, elected representatives must maintain the international contact enabled by the IPU, which had played a vital intermediary role in the SDG process.

The German Bundestag had held hearings and expert discussions on the post-2015 development agenda and had exercised oversight of the country's sustainable development strategy, which offered a ready-made basis for translation of the SDGs into national goals. The Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development performed an overall watchdog function, including by conducting sustainability impact assessments. Parliamentarians had a vital role to play in raising public awareness of the new SDGs as cornerstones for the peaceful and economically beneficial coexistence of people worldwide.

Ms. D. FREITAG (Germany), continuing her delegation's statement, said that shared responsibility for a common future lay at the heart of the SDGs in the interests of people around the world and of generations to come. Inequality, poverty, environmental degradation and climate change had global consequences that must be addressed through cooperation among all countries. Successful implementation of the new Goals would only occur if national leaderships treated them as essential to their countries' future and ensured that they reflected the needs of their populations. They must be viewed as a moral imperative and a practical necessity for securing the future of the planet and its inhabitants, although the responsibility of industrialized countries clearly differed from that of developing countries. During the SDG process, ongoing feedback from capitals should drive a broad debate that parliamentarians must transfer to their home parliaments and constituencies; they were duty-bound to engage actively in the debate and in turning the SDGs into action.

Mr. M. ISLAMI (Asian Parliamentary Assembly) said that the 42-member Asian Parliamentary Assembly (APA), the largest inter-parliamentary organization in Asia, had always promoted the collective role of parliaments in sustainable development at the national, regional and global levels. Common interests, challenges and values had been identified in a multitude of APA resolutions on economic, environmental, social, cultural, political and security issues, including poverty alleviation, health equity, the rights of migrant workers, Palestinian rights, women's empowerment, organized crime, drug and human trafficking and environmental degradation. Given the indispensable role of parliaments in any roadmap for a sustainable future, the APA and the IPU should collaborate with other parliamentary umbrella organizations in setting a common priority

agenda for governments with a particular focus on the SDGs. Vigorous, disciplined collaboration of that nature could lead to new and effective initiatives, guidelines and joint plans of action for achieving the new Goals.

Mr. M.J. ABBASI (Pakistan), reiterating his country's long-standing commitment to sustainable development, said that Pakistan's cross-party parliamentary task force on the SDGs had already undertaken major awareness-raising initiatives and given rise to similar task forces at the provincial level. In the face of continuing global poverty, hunger, energy insecurity and a planet stressed by a development paradigm centred on unbridled consumption, sustainable development based on a holistic approach incorporating the political, social, economic and environmental dimensions was not an option but a necessity.

With inadequate resources among the causes of sub-optimal MDG achievement, United Nations and other agencies must generate funding commensurate with intergovernmental development mandates. Significant, inclusive economic growth was nevertheless unachievable without the peace and stability fostered by sustainable development within a framework that was not confined to national boundaries but had wider international repercussions, as seen from the humanitarian crises that led to waves of refugees and migrants. Conflict prevention, peacebuilding and peacekeeping were therefore a collective responsibility.

Prosperity was not, however, a guarantee of peaceful coexistence; it could only be a conscious choice and the IPU had a key role to play in building trust among nations and civilizations. Even more crucial was the firm commitment of developed countries to the development of developing countries based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. Other prerequisites included real funding for development, architectural reform of monetary and financial institutions and a substantial increase in ODA, including through a rechanneling of disproportionate military investment.

Mr. T. IWINSKI (Poland), citing current conflicts and recent terrorist attacks as factors in global instability, said that the MDG experience had shown that a robust, inclusive and transparent monitoring and accountability framework for both governments and citizens was vital to achieving poverty eradication in the post-2015 age. No meaningful progress towards meeting human needs would be accomplished without a broader accountability framework encompassing regular progress reviews across the board. National capacity, ownership and leadership were also driving factors.

In debating post-2015 modalities, such fundamentals as the mutually reinforcing relationship between development and peace and security must not be forgotten. Higher poverty indicators were typical during armed conflicts and the risk of such conflicts was significantly decreased, development progress enhanced and political stability strengthened by inclusive political processes, access to social services, health care, employment, the rule of law and the promotion and protection of human rights. Proof lay in his own country's peaceful transformation into a land of democratic institutions, anti-corruption mechanisms, respect for human rights and economic growth, notwithstanding other ongoing challenges.

The role of parliaments would be crucial to incorporating the new SDG commitments into national policies and law, encouraging better performance and verifying delivery; their full engagement was a precondition for turning words into action.

Mr. E.B. ODRO (Ghana) said that the SDGs should be factored into national development plans and all political parties should buy into a post-2015 agenda based on sustainable use of the environment and its resources. In Ghana, the stake of future generations in that agenda was recognized and the centrality of education to development was reflected in constitutional provisions ensuring access to basic, secondary and tertiary education. Education promoted social progress in many areas and informed choices, including in parliamentary and presidential elections.

Development was premised on revenue generation, yet the economies of developing countries such as Ghana were imperilled. Fair prices for their primary export commodities must be set in order to avoid the weakened currencies and spiralling interest rates, inflation and unemployment produced by volatile markets. Other consequences of plummeting prices included recourse to activities, such as illegal logging and mining, that depleted sustainable resources, created environmental pollution and degradation, endangered food security and even caused disease. Increasing urbanization also had implications for, inter alia, the supply of food, water, energy, jobs and housing.

As for the role of parliaments in the sustainable development process, they must ensure that the budgets they approved and oversaw were genuinely pro-poor and gender-sensitive and that resources were utilized with future generations in mind. They must also engage with civil society and NGOs in order to promote mainstreaming of the concerns expressed into government policymaking in the interest of equitable development.

Mr. O. HAV (Denmark) stressed that sustainability and understanding among peoples were preconditions for a peaceful world. The solution to the unrest, stability and terror that currently prevailed across the globe lay in promoting respect for fellow human beings and their beliefs. There was a need for systematic efforts to impart sound values to the followers of all religions and to foster interreligious dialogue and respect in order to counter the distrust, hatred and scorn that militated against global peace. Parliaments must focus on strengthening tolerance, understanding, respect and equality in the light of fundamental freedoms and such activities must feature prominently on the post-2015 development agenda as a deterrent to terror and crime.

Mr. B. LOEDEMEL (Norway) expressed concern over the omission of accountability and monitoring targets from the proposed SDGs. The failure of governments to agree on such mechanisms was worrying. The new Goals were also inadequate on the issue of access to information and silent on that of free speech, both of which were key to public involvement in monitoring policy results; parliaments should therefore advocate for their inclusion. As the broadest development dialogue ever witnessed, the SDG process had enhanced democratic accountability and the active participation of civil society. Norway had been an active participant in that process in the hope of producing a strong final version of the SDGs for implementation in all countries.

Mr. A. DESTEXHE (Belgium) urged the streamlining of the proposed SDGs and targets, which were so numerous as to be unrealistic and did not address the biggest problem, the burgeoning global population. Sound economic growth, appropriate policymaking and good governance were no panacea for population-related problems such as stress on land, the environment and natural resources. By contrast, the one-child policy practised in China had proved highly effective in combating global warming. At its current rate, population growth would create unmanageable cities, increase poverty and inequality and lead to political tension, ethnic strife and even war. A major global disaster loomed unless steps were taken to slow that growth.

Ms. M. MULHERIN (Ireland) said that words were the tools employed by parliamentarians to represent their constituents; the challenge lay in turning them into action. It was vital to empower citizens to become the architects of their own development since it was they who had the necessary local knowledge. Also vital was a leadership in tune with its electorate and with sufficient vision to see where resources could be optimized in line with public sentiment and in the best national interests. Sustainable development should proceed from a local starting-point identified by the people, and politicians must work to create an enabling environment for achieving the creative potential of both the public and the private sector.

Mr. M. WATERS (South Africa) said that the new Goals should include the protection of endangered species. Virtually all of the world's remaining rhinoceros were to be found in his country and if their slaughter continued at the present rate, there would be none left by 2030, the target year for achievement of the SDGs.

Furthermore, in many countries there was neither freedom of speech nor any possibility of government change; steps must be taken to introduce multiparty democracy with free and fair elections.

Mr. S. MIYAMOTO (Japan) emphasized the active role played by his country in MDG achievement efforts and in the SDG process. It had recently taken measures to increase its ODA with growth and poverty eradication as top priorities. By providing job opportunities and supporting regional economies, small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) rooted in local communities contributed to poverty reduction and strengthened social infrastructures, thus playing a key role in the private sector development needed to ensure growth that was inclusive, sustainable, of good quality and resilient. Japan would continue to build on its long track record of promoting SMEs and to work for implementation of the SDGs. To that end, parliamentarians must fulfil their responsibility to ensure effective oversight and make recommendations for policy improvements.

Ms. P.S. DIENG (Senegal) emphasized the role of parliamentarians in pursuing the post-2015 development agenda and the need to think globally and act locally. Poverty eradication was a crucial part of sustainable development, as were good governance, women's social and economic empowerment and the elimination of corruption. In Senegal, mechanisms for pursuing sustainable development had been established, including through the provision of affordable renewable energy, which had recently been the focus of a regional parliamentary workshop. In the interests of achieving the SDGs, parliamentarians must disseminate information and strive to ensure that gender equality and universal access to education, health and drinking water were national priorities and that implementation of the relevant legislation was assessed.

Mr. M.A. EZEDYAR (Afghanistan) raised the question of peace and security in his country, a victim of war and terrorism triggered by the interference of neighbouring countries in its internal affairs in flagrant violation of international law. Respect for the principle of non-interference was conducive to the friendship, solidarity and permanent peace that were required for lasting social and economic development and their absence led to such incidents as the recent brutal mob killing of a young Afghan woman. He called for efforts to bring lasting peace and security to his country, which had recently set up its own sustainable development commission.

The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC, speaking in exercise of the right of reply, said that the terrorism situation in her country could not have been perpetuated and exacerbated if Turkey, in violation of the relevant United Nations Security Council resolutions, had not served as the main training base for terrorists operating in Syrian territory. The Turkish Government had dealings with those terrorists, including the purchase of Syrian oil at one fifth of the market price. It was interfering in Syrian internal affairs and worsening the crisis. While advocating respect for human rights, it was turning a blind eye to the gross violations taking place in Turkish refugee camps, where Syrian women were subjected to forced marriage and rape that resulted in countless unwanted pregnancies. It was vital to speak out on behalf of her people.

*Mr. S. Chowdhury, President of the IPU, took the Chair.*

#### Item 9 of the agenda

#### **The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls (A/132/9-DR)**

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft resolution on the emergency item.

Mr. G. GATTA NGOTHE (Chad), rapporteur of the drafting committee, introducing the draft resolution and said that the Committee had comprised members of the delegations of Australia, Belgium, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, the Islamic Republic of Iran, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, the Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Venezuela and Zambia. It had been unanimously agreed that, once adopted, the draft resolution's application should not be limited to the two terrorist groups mentioned therein; all forms of violence and terrorist acts were intolerable and the counter-terrorism dialogue between governments and parliaments must be pursued in all affected countries. The draft resolution attested to the genuine concern of the international parliamentary community over the growing global threat of terrorism, which could be halted only through effective counter-measures.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution by acclamation.

*It was so decided.*

The representative of SAUDI ARABIA, speaking also on behalf of the Moroccan delegation and supported by the representatives of Algeria, Chad and the United Arab Emirates, endorsed the resolution but expressed dissatisfaction at the explicit references to ISIL in the text; that terrorist group was neither a State nor Islamic and should under no circumstances be honoured by association with that religion.

The representative of QATAR said that he supported the statement by the previous speaker. The text should be amended using the name appearing in the title of the resolution, namely Daesh, in order to avoid misinterpretation and misunderstanding for the reasons mentioned.

The PRESIDENT, stressing that the IPU accorded no recognition to the group's self-proclaimed status, said that due note of those comments had been taken. While the proposed amendments could not be included in the resolution, which had already been adopted, they would be reflected in the summary record.

The representative of UGANDA, supported by the representative of the United Arab Emirates, also endorsed of the resolution but voiced disappointment over its lack of focus on young people as a group frequently involved in terrorist acts, whether directly or indirectly.

The representative of VENEZUELA observed that terrorist acts were perpetrated by many other groups in addition to those named in the resolution. His country, for instance, was being subjected to terrorism by a State that financed such groups, both at home and abroad. The IPU was well placed to contribute to the global counter-terrorism effort and its future work on the topic should address all aspects of the scourge.

The representative of CHAD said that his delegation had also proposed an emergency item on the subject of Boko Haram but, unfortunately, had been unable to present its proposal due to its delayed arrival at the Assembly. Chad was paying a heavy price in its fight against Boko Haram. It therefore welcomed the resolution and, in particular, its reference to the role of the Lake Chad Basin Commission although other regional efforts to resolve the problem were also worthy of mention.

The representative of CAMBODIA said that, just as young people could indeed be part of the problem owing to their vulnerability to recruitment by terrorist groups, they could also be part of the solution if they were engaged through an inclusive approach.

The PRESIDENT said that the view expressed by the representative of Cambodia was consistent with the IPU approach of reaching out to young Members of Parliament, including through such events as the IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians.

*The sitting rose at 6.30 p.m.*

# Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

## *Cyber warfare: A serious threat to peace and global security*

**SITTING OF SUNDAY, 29 MARCH**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.25 a.m. with Mr. J.R. Tau (South Africa), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

### **Adoption of the Agenda**

(C-II/132/A.1)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft agenda distributed to the Standing Committee members and said that, in the absence of any comments or objections, he took it that the draft agenda could be adopted.

*It was so decided.*

### **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 131<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2014)**

The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any comments or questions thereon, he took it that the Standing Committee wished to approve the summary records.

*It was so decided.*

### **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The PRESIDENT said that no nominations for the vacancies on the Bureau had been received from the relevant geopolitical groups and that the matter would therefore be deferred to a later meeting to allow time for names to be put forward.

### **Presentation of the draft resolution and the explanatory note prepared by the co-Rapporteurs**

(C-I/132/DR, C-I/132/DR-am and C-I/132/M)

The PRESIDENT recalled that, at the 130<sup>th</sup> Assembly, the Committee had appointed Mr. J.C. Mahía (Uruguay) and Mr. N. Lazrak (Morocco) to serve as co-Rapporteurs for the item to be considered at the present session: *Cyber warfare: A serious threat to peace and global security*. He commended them both for their work as they had produced a strong and focused draft resolution and an excellent explanatory memorandum.

Mr. J.C. MAHÍA (Uruguay), *co-Rapporteur*, said that the subject item had first been proposed as an emergency item at the 129<sup>th</sup> Assembly and had subsequently been taken up as an item to be studied by the Committee the following year. The work that he and his co-Rapporteur had done and were presenting at the current session stemmed from the discussions held on the item at the previous Assembly, in October 2014. Cyber warfare was a multifaceted and increasingly topical issue that parliamentarians could not afford to neglect, especially since it was the subject of growing debate in the public domain and the media. The steadily increasing global reliance on information and communication technology (ICT) had far-reaching implications; cyberattacks had the capacity to inflict heavy damage on national economies, even on the global economy, and on many other areas of human activity, such as public health care.

In considering the issue of cyberattacks, parliamentarians needed to focus on the two fundamental concepts of security and privacy, which were often seen as contradictory. Security was clearly a top priority, as many different organizations had access to personal information and there was a risk that criminal or terrorist groups or even other States could also obtain that information. Whatever was done to protect security, however, also needed to preserve the right to privacy; no State or private entity had the right to violate people's privacy. As citizens' representatives, parliamentarians needed carefully to consider the ethical and legal dimensions of cyberattacks.

Turning to the draft resolution, he drew particular attention to the paragraphs referring to the potential for harm from the improper use of cyberspace and ICTs and to the risks to international peace and security. The co-Rapporteurs had made a variety of recommendations that they believed would allow the IPU to take a proactive stance on those issues. He hoped that work with other international organizations would soon lead to the development of a framework convention on the subject.

Mr. N. LAZRAC (Morocco), *co-Rapporteur*, referred to the discussion of whether the resolution should cover cybercrime in general, including attacks on financial institutions and such, or focus more narrowly on cyber warfare. In the end, the decision had been to focus specifically on cyber warfare, partly because of the legal gaps on the issue. He looked forward to discussing the amendments that had been proposed and to further improving the text of the resolution.

The PRESIDENT said that, in line with Rule 16 of the Rules of the Standing Committees, the Committee should endeavour to discuss amendments and finalize the draft resolution in plenary, as a drafting committee should be established only if necessary. To that end, the co-Rapporteurs had been advised to prepare a brief, focused draft resolution that was action-oriented and negotiable in plenary.

### Debate

Mr. D. OPREA (Romania) said that parliaments faced various challenges in designing suitable cyberdefence laws and policies, in particular in striking a balance between freedom of expression, privacy and the protection of personal data, on the one hand, and the need to ensure and enhance security and stability, including by sharing information across and within borders, on the other. Beyond human rights issues, cyberdefence measures needed to be undertaken and the economic benefits of ICTs harnessed in order to modernize infrastructure, implement new technologies and develop effective cooperation between the public and private sectors.

Romania had recently taken a number of measures pertaining to cybersecurity and cybercrime, including substantial contributions to processes within the European Union on cybersecurity and confidence-building measures. Bucharest was home to a new cybercrime programme office, which helped countries strengthen their capacity to respond to cybercrime. The office worked on the basis of the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime, which was the only legally binding international instrument on cybercrime.

Ms. M. SAADEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that cyberspace was easily used for terrorist purposes and for threats to political and economic stability and human rights. Cyberthreats, including espionage and warfare, were often international in scope and could be devastating for global peace and security. Her own country was a good illustration of the harmful effects of cyberthreats, as terrorist groups, or countries that hosted or sponsored terrorism, used cyberspace to conduct terrorist activities against the Syrian people. The terrorists received military and financial support to violate cyberspace, access key databases and attempt to destroy Syrian infrastructure. They also used the Internet to spread terrorist and extremist views, often targeting young people.

Despite that, the sanctions imposed by some States against the Syrian Arab Republic and the shutting down of various websites deprived the Syrian people of their right to access them, in contravention of the principles of the United Nations Charter and international law. Such sanctions hampered development and education and exacerbated poverty. She drew attention to the amendment that the Syrian Arab Republic wished to make to the draft resolution in that regard, on cooperation between the IPU and other international organizations to put pressure on States to sever any ties that they had with terrorists and to stop sponsoring terrorist groups.

Mr. A. NEOFYTOU (Cyprus) welcomed the draft resolution and acknowledged the capacity of ICTs to expand the freedoms and opportunities available to citizens and to enhance people's ability to better control their own lives. However, a new security environment had emerged in recent years: cyberspace was under growing threat of terrorism, cyberattacks were increasing in number, countries were having less recourse to the conventional use of force, physical borders were losing their significance and private sector entities were becoming more influential.

In a world where non-State actors could use cyberspace to threaten international peace and security, it was vital for governments to identify security threats and possible solutions for preventing them as early as possible. It was essential to draw on the expertise, experience and resources of the private sector in order to help address those challenges. As legislators, parliamentarians needed to commit to enact laws to better prevent and protect against cyber



warfare, for the security of individuals as well as of their countries. International cooperation was vital to raising awareness, reporting on lessons learned and improving processes and procedures for tackling cyberthreats.

Mr. A. WARE (Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament – PNND) said it was fitting that the draft resolution on cyber warfare followed the Committee's previous resolution on *Working towards a nuclear-weapon-free world* as there were direct links between the two issues. Nuclear weapon command and control systems could be hacked, meaning that a third party could intercept or deploy such weapons or give false indication of an attack that could lead to mistaken nuclear retaliation. Furthermore, military planners were considering expanding the role of nuclear deterrence as an option to tackle cyber warfare. The PNND welcomed the amendments proposed by Bangladesh that dealt with the link between cyber warfare and nuclear weapons.

Mr. X. WANG (China) said that the Internet had found its way into almost every aspect of daily life, providing people worldwide with new digital opportunities for progress. At the same time, however, it brought it with serious challenges regarding cybersecurity. Cybercrime and terrorism were becoming more widespread, fundamentally undermining international security and mutual trust; the whole international community needed to create a cyberspace environment that was secure, stable and prosperous, for the good of global peace and security. The development of the Internet had not changed the basic norms that governed international relations, and the principle of State sovereignty still needed to be respected and applied in cyberspace. New international norms on cyberspace should be actively explored. Internet governance was an increasingly important component of global governance and needed to be shared by the entire international community. A multilateral, democratic and transparent governance system needed to be developed that would ensure a secure, peaceful and open cyberspace.

With more than 680 million Internet users, China attached great importance to cybersecurity and had thus submitted a draft resolution on an international code of conduct on information security to the United Nations General Assembly. A revised version had been submitted in January 2015. China hoped that the code would lay the groundwork for international discussions on the norms governing cyberspace globally.

Mr. R.K. SINGH (India) commended the co-Rapporteurs for their work but said that certain aspects of the draft resolution were problematic. At present, the draft confused the concepts of cybercrime, cyberterrorism and cyber warfare; a much clearer distinction needed to be made between them, not least because they each required a different response. Cybercrime needed to be addressed at the national level, with the adoption of appropriate legislation, whereas cyberterrorism required international cooperation.

He underscored the need for the draft resolution to address cyber warfare, which was a third issue altogether and related to hostile action taken by States. Various countries had developed cyber warfare capabilities and, without international regulations, all countries would be at risk of rogue or surprise attacks. It was extremely difficult to attribute responsibility for cyberattacks, as their origin could be masked. One danger was that, if responsibility was wrongly attributed, misunderstandings could occur between countries, leading to retaliation. The draft resolution therefore needed to include mechanisms for building confidence among countries and improving transparency regarding the origin of any attack. There also needed to be international agreement that civilian objects, such as power supply systems, would not be targeted. Humanity had already agreed that space would never be used as a theatre of war; India hoped that the international community would similarly agree not to use cyberspace in that way.

Mr. O. ALROWAIEE (Kuwait) said that cyber warfare and other key terms were not properly defined in the draft resolution. The draft resolution dealt with relatively new concepts relating to modern technology and how it was used and it was essential to get the definitions right if the security and privacy of States and individuals were to be protected. He called for a working group to be set up to look at those definitions, ensure consistency and address any legal gaps.

Mr. M. OSCARSSON (Sweden) welcomed the draft resolution's acknowledgement of the important role that parliamentarians played in helping to strike a balance between national security, human security and individual freedom. The Internet and the emergence of ICTs had led to unparalleled global development but had also heightened society's vulnerability, not least as a result of the rapidly increasing number of cyberattacks. Such attacks were an easy and cheap way for terrorists to cause considerable harm, and international cooperation was paramount to prevent

them and ensure people's security. It was vital to share knowledge and best practice; to that end, the Nordic countries had recently carried out a joint cyberattack exercise in order to learn from experience.

Cyberspace was great for bringing people together and exchanging ideas, but it also posed an increasing threat to the safety and stability of society. With the draft resolution, parliamentarians could take an important step towards addressing its complex nature and preventing attacks.

Ms. C. ROTH (Germany) welcomed the draft resolution as a good starting point for discussing ways to address cyber warfare, but added that it was nevertheless important to fully respect and not diminish freedom of expression. The topic was of particular relevance and importance at the present time, as parallel processes were underway within the framework of the United Nations Convention on Certain Conventional Weapons.

The state of technology had long allowed for partially, if not fully, autonomous weapons. Germany did not want to see such weapons arrive on the market and called for a preventive and comprehensive ban on the development, production and use of autonomous weapons. If Germany's proposed amendments to the draft resolution were accepted, the text would identify the link between cyber warfare and fully automated weapon systems and the dangers arising from the combination of the two. She hoped that parliamentarians might consider drafting a shared position document on the subject and added that an IPU resolution would be another step towards an international, legally binding agreement.

Mr. P. BIERI (Switzerland) said that, although there was as yet no international consensus on certain areas related to cyberspace and cyberpolicy, progress had been made in various international forums, in particular within the United Nations, to which the draft resolution should make reference. In particular, States had agreed that international law applied equally to State activities in cyberspace.

He believed that the draft resolution lacked conceptual consistency. Cyberspace was defined in preambular paragraph 4; however, instead of referring back to that definition, the rest of the text referred to much narrower concepts. In Switzerland's view, the draft resolution should not refer to concepts that narrowed the scope of particular paragraphs. Switzerland had submitted a number of amendments, which he hoped would be accepted.

Ms. S. TAQAWI (Bahrain) said that all members of the Committee were well aware of the need to establish frameworks, including at the domestic level, to effectively regulate cyberspace. All countries should adopt the best possible measures to counter cyber warfare while at the same time protecting freedom of expression and mutual respect for and observance of constitutional obligations. Noting that the draft resolution was not directed against specific institutions or persons but against any parties seeking to use ICTs for criminal or malicious purposes, not least extremist and terrorist groups, she stressed the importance of raising awareness of the issue of cyber warfare in order to protect societies and promote peace, as many people, especially younger people, relied on information technology in their daily lives.

Through the draft resolution, parliamentarians should seek to create an atmosphere that promoted a secure cyberspace and protected people's freedom and safety. Parliaments needed to work with the executive branch to devise cybersecurity strategies that tackled cybercrime and terrorism. They also needed to push for an international convention against cyber warfare.

Ms. K. MAKISHIMA (Japan) said that, in cyber warfare, the enemy was unseen and therefore unknown; it could be a country, an individual or a terrorist group. The worst-case scenario could see a cyberwar become an actual war, and she expressed the hope that all parliamentarians would seek to prevent that from happening.

Japan had recently instituted a basic law for cybersecurity that specified the need for cooperation between countries. She called for an international treaty to prevent cyberattacks, an international cyberspace code of conduct and multi- and bilateral cybersecurity consultations. Countries needed to share information in order to avoid misunderstandings and to prevent cyberattacks that could lead to a cyberwar. All parliamentarians needed to lend robust support to any action aimed at preventing cyber warfare.

Mr. N. WEI AIK (Malaysia) underscored the importance of regional and international collaboration as a means of mitigating cyberthreats, as most cyberattacks and cybercrimes were transnational in nature, and of effective cybersecurity mechanisms. International cooperation needed to include the sharing of knowledge, experience and best practices, capacity-building and technical assistance. Such cooperation was vital in mitigating and combating emerging threats.

Malaysia was committed to countering terrorism by enhancing critical information and communication infrastructure. It saw a need for standardized international legislation to address the transnational dimension of cybercrime and to ensure a safe and secure online environment. Furthermore, domestic legislation needed to be harmonized with relevant international laws in order to criminalize unauthorized access to and interference with computer systems and data.

His country viewed cyberespionage as wholly unacceptable as it went against the true spirit of and commitment to good, neighbourly relations between countries. Trust and respect were essential in the conduct of international relations.

Mr. A. DJELLOUT (Algeria) said that Algeria had suffered greatly from the harmful effects of terrorism with many lives being lost and considerable damage inflicted on the economy. It had long called for vigilance and all possible resources to be mobilized at both the national and international levels to combat terrorism in all its forms, including cyber warfare and cybercrime.

Innovation was distinctly lacking in the fight against cybercrime; States needed to encourage research and development on cyberdefence that was based on dual-use technologies. There was a concomitant need to adapt human resource policies in order to retain skilled personnel and avoid brain drain. At the international level, the anonymity of the Internet required countries to cooperate and counter the propaganda and violence promoted by terrorist groups online. Admittedly, however, it was not easy to institute binding enforcement powers at the international level, as it was difficult to legislate on the Internet. Existing international law was not up to the task of combating the new threat to international security posed by cyber warfare and should be overhauled and updated accordingly.

Further challenges were posed by new technologies, such as drones and other automated weapons. Discussions therefore needed to centre not only on cyber warfare but also on the capacity of international law to counter it and respond to the various challenges of the modern world and technology.

Ms. H.S. KIM (Democratic People's Republic of Korea) said that the Internet had brought unimaginable change and benefits to people's lives. However, inadequate international laws and regulations made it possible for countries to misuse cyberspace as a tool for political and military attacks that threatened global peace and security.

The disclosure by Edward Snowden of National Security Agency data showed that the United States of America had engaged in cyberattacks and cyberespionage against other countries, including against governments and leaders. The United States continued, however, to label other countries as cybercriminals and was quick to single out the Democratic People's Republic of Korea as the alleged perpetrator of the cyberattack on Sony Pictures Entertainment in 2014. Despite the lack of evidence, his country was now subject to further sanctions. He hoped that the draft resolution would denounce the United States for its use of cyberspace to attack other States.

Mr. A.K. AZAD (Bangladesh) said that cyber warfare created tensions between States and hampered regular diplomatic relations, as it could be used to take control of and disturb the peaceful operation of national industry and infrastructure and to damage national security. Because IP addresses could be masked, it was also difficult to identify and directly deter attackers.

Cyberspace was an extensive, borderless domain shared by civilian, government and military users; its interconnectedness made it impossible to determine ownership. The aim of the international community should be to prevent cyberattacks on critical infrastructure and to minimize the damage caused by any such attacks. It was essential to draw up appropriate international cyberlaws and to define the ethics of cyberspace use. Countries also needed to enhance multilateral cooperation, through the United Nations, the IPU and other forums, and align their national cyberstrategies and regulations. Parliamentarians had a key role to play in that regard and in helping to minimize any cyberspace-related conflicts of interests arising between States.

Mr. S. ALSAMAHI (United Arab Emirates) said that it was in the interest of all States to cooperate in order to ward off cyberthreats. Governments needed to strengthen cooperation with each other and with the private sector in order to ensure national security and adequately protect people against cyberthreats while also preserving their right to privacy.

Cyberattacks could be as dangerous as physical, armed attacks and constituted just as much of a threat to peace, security and economies. He endorsed the comments made by the delegate from Bahrain on the role of parliaments and underscored the need to develop appropriate national legislation on criminal sanctions for those who were responsible for cyberattacks and on

how to effectively regulate cyberspace. Further, an international legally binding instrument needed to be developed on preventing cyberattacks and cyber warfare, which constituted a threat to national sovereignty and security. A key aspect was to prevent terrorist organizations from using cyberspace to spread hate and violence and to launch attacks around the globe.

Mr. VU XUAN HONG (Viet Nam) said that websites and portals in Viet Nam were being increasingly targeted by hackers and that government computers had recently been infected with spyware and attacked and controlled by botnets. In order to improve and ensure cybersecurity, Viet Nam had introduced new legislation that was in line with international practices, including on telecommunications, electronic transactions, information technology and ciphers. Further legislation on information safety was due to be introduced in the near future.

In order to deal with the issue of cyber warfare, the IPU should issue a statement calling on all States to pledge not to attack each other through cyberspace. Further, countries should enhance cooperation on cybersecurity and preventing cybercrime, by sharing information and experiences and providing training and technical assistance, and should establish teams of experts responsible for responding to cyberattacks. They should also build the necessary legal frameworks to identify the rights, obligations and responsibilities of individuals and organizations in cyberspace. Viet Nam also called on the United Nations to draft an international convention on cyberspace security and safety.

Mr. S.A. AHMED (Iraq), recalling the terrorist attacks perpetrated against Iraq by the ISIL, said that the so-called "Islamic State" had used a variety of means, including cyberattacks, to launch a global war against human rights and democracy. It had used social networks to spread its message, mobilize extremists and encourage people, especially young people, to travel to Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic to commit crimes and engage in attacks in those countries. It had also used ICTs to raise money, including by launching appeals on telephone networks. It was therefore vital to track down those criminals wherever possible and to shut down the websites that they used to disseminate their dangerous ideas. Countries needed to carefully monitor the activities of ISIL and to find ways to counter the terrorist threat that were based not only on military means but also on intelligence. For that to happen, countries needed to exchange more information and engage in greater security cooperation.

Mr. H. AMARAL (Portugal) said that cyberspace and related security issues were an inevitable topic of discussion given the great challenges and threats posed by cyberattacks and cyber warfare. Cyberspace had become an intrinsic part of daily operations for many and for the proper functioning of the State, but that had brought with it significant risks in many areas, including national security and defence. Cyberspace was increasingly an environment for criminal action or acts of war. Portugal, like many countries, was developing policies and strategies that aimed to guarantee security, increase research and protect information infrastructure. The security of cyberspace should be a pillar of any national security strategy. Portugal hoped that international action would be taken to guarantee that security, provide safeguards for training and research environments and bolster the capacity to respond to any cyberincident. Effective international cooperation was a key means of resolving conflicts, including cyberconflicts.

Mr. M. HOSSEINI SADR (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that, with the growing influence of cyberspace on society and individuals' lives, ensuring security and addressing any cyberspace-related threats needed to be a priority. Properly managed and used, cyberspace provided people with a not-to-be-missed opportunity to access knowledge and ICTs at ever lower costs. To create a secure, safe, and peaceful cyberspace, all countries needed to reaffirm that cyberattacks were an international crime and to enact appropriate legislation on the proper use of cyberspace. Without such efforts, the rights to privacy and freedom of expression risked being violated, jeopardizing individual, regional and global security.

The spread of cybercrimes and cyberattacks was preoccupying, given that they knew no geographic boundary and occurred at the national, regional and international levels alike. Without cooperation between countries, it would be impossible to foresee or prevent such incidents and to counter their effects. Cyberattacks could be perpetrated by hostile States or by non-State players and could target government, financial or technical systems. Nuclear power plants could also be targeted, risking nuclear disaster and irreparable damage.

Countering cybercrimes, cyberattacks and warfare required the formulation of binding international treaties, the adoption of appropriate laws and regulations at the national level, the establishment of a global body to police cyberspace, and international conferences and workshops to study the scope of the destructive actions taken by both State and non-State actors in cyberspace.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland) said that the North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) Parliamentary Assembly had held similar debates on cyberspace and cyber warfare and urged the co-Rapporteurs to look at some of the relevant resolutions adopted there. The distinction between traditional and cyber warfare had become dangerously blurred, as cyberattacks could lead to conventional weapons or missiles being used in retaliation. The draft resolution needed to address that issue somehow, with strong counterbalancing mechanisms and guidelines for preventing that from happening. However, whatever measures were taken to enhance cybersecurity, the need to protect freedom of expression was paramount.

She agreed with the comments made by the delegates from Germany, Japan and Malaysia and the representative of PNND, noting in particular that countries could not work in isolation on issues relating to the borderless world of cyberspace. She called on the international community to not impose draconian sentences on activists who failed to understand the potential implications of their cyberactivity and used the Internet to protest or express particular opinions. She further urged parliamentarians to give due consideration to the views that they were expressing and to ensure that they were backed up by action at home, as there was often a mismatch between the two.

Mr. H. FRANKEN (Netherlands), after welcoming the draft resolution, said that it was vital to bear in mind how dependent individuals, organizations and governments were on ICTs for many aspects of daily life. While the Internet could be used for normal, everyday purposes, it could also be used to perpetrate cybercrimes or conduct cyber warfare. The key question was how to defend against cyberattacks.

The Council of Europe had developed the Budapest Convention on Cybercrime in order to harmonize definitions and national measures relating to cybersecurity and safety and to enable international cooperation between governments and police organizations. The steady rise of cyberintelligence, or the secret collection of data, showed, however, the narrow line that existed between defending against cybercrime and warfare and respecting the privacy of individuals. Defence measures needed to be proportional and based on the law. Parliaments had a key role in regulating cyberintelligence and drawing the line between the two.

Mr. A. NÚÑEZ BETANCOURT (Cuba), noting that Cuba had submitted amendments, welcomed the draft resolution, as cyber warfare was a highly topical and multifaceted subject. Every aspect of cyber warfare was reprehensible, not least the cyberespionage that had been conducted by some States against other nations, heads of State, international organizations and the general public.

If the aim was international peace and security, the use of cyberspace as a theatre of military operations needed to be prohibited. States should not be able to use cyberspace in order to covertly attack other States and destabilize society or cause conflict. Cuba had itself suffered such cyberaggression. Its National Assembly wished to uphold the agreements reached at the World Summit on the Information Society by enhancing international cooperation to promote the legitimate and peaceful use of ICTs. The IPU needed to lead the way in such cooperation, which would also help to narrow the digital divide for the benefit of developing countries. Cyberattacks were a clear violation of international law, which was in urgent need of proper regulations on the use of cyberspace.

Ms. S. BARAKAT (Jordan) said that cyber warfare should be defined as actions taken by one State to attack and attempt to damage another State's information and computer networks. Cyber warfare and cybersecurity were relatively new issues, which many countries were still underprepared and ill-equipped to tackle. The global, virtual and anonymous nature of cyberthreats made it difficult to formulate strategies for defence and counter-attack; moreover, cyberattacks could be highly complex and have a devastating impact on economies and international security. The international community therefore had to adopt a global strategy on information insurance and security and to legislate, through international organizations, against cyber warfare and attacks on countries' critical infrastructure, such as power supply systems and communication networks. Compliance should be enforced by the United Nations Security Council.

Other effective measures that should be taken included the sharing of security- and protection-related know-how, technology and tools among countries; the establishment of an international body on countering cyber warfare; the development of an international database on cyberthreats; strengthening the role of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU); and establishing a legal framework to enhance ICT security and ensure compliance with best practices.

Mr. C. ANTONIO (Zambia) said that Zambia had recognized the need for laws on the use of cyberspace and had accordingly adopted legislation on computer misuse. It had established an ICT authority to regulate the provision of electronic communication services, monitor performance, quality, costs and standards in the sector, set standards, promote competition and regulate tariff changes, and protect the rights and interests of consumers, service providers, suppliers and manufacturers. The authority was ultimately responsible for maintaining a balance between all stakeholders' interests in the sector.

Cybersecurity and the promotion of a crime-free communication environment was a key issue. Cyberattacks were a widespread problem for all countries and needed to be fought collectively.

Mr. M. YOUSIF ABDALLA (Sudan) expressed approval for the draft resolution but said that, as presently worded, it blurred the concepts of cybercrime and cyber warfare, which had to be clearly distinguished. Cyber warfare should be defined as something in which States were involved, while cybercrime was perpetrated by individuals, terrorist organizations or organized crime groups. Cyberespionage was another concept that needed to be properly defined.

The draft resolution should make clear the need for cooperation between all States and for a commitment not to use cyberspace to the detriment of international peace and security. The use of cyberspace should be governed by the principles of peace, friendly relations between people and nations and respect for human rights.

Ms. S. MUSYOKA (Kenya) said that Kenya supported the draft resolution and had recognized the need for appropriate cybersecurity policies that reflected the types of threat that individual countries might face. Given the anonymity of the enemy in cyber warfare, countries needed effective measures for safety and security. She advocated the establishment of cybersecurity command centres; in countries with growing economies, like Kenya, it was important to properly monitor the threats of cybercrime and cyber warfare by providing information and intelligence. There was also a need to enhance partnerships with the private sector and to increase research and development in the field of ICTs.

Ms. S.R. BANERJEE (India) said that both individual Internet users and governments risked being targeted by cyberattacks; individuals risked their personal information being used unlawfully while government institutions could be paralysed by cyberattacks, with serious social, economic or financial consequences. Such disruption had far-reaching implications and could result in chaos or military confrontation. Worryingly, the origin of cyberattacks was usually masked, meaning that they could be launched from anywhere in the world at any time; hence the great need for the international community to develop multilaterally agreed principles on cybersecurity. Noting that India had developed a national cybersecurity policy in 2013, she urged all countries to improve cooperation and develop foolproof systems to ensure that security. The Internet should be used for the benefit of the entire global community and rendered impervious to manipulation by any State or non-State entity.

Mr. A. GOBBI (Algeria) expressed concern at the high financial cost of cybercrime and cyber warfare and the reported number of victims, underscoring the crucial need to protect cyberspace. Cyber warfare was increasing in magnitude and severity, with terrorist organizations using cyberspace to advance their goals, including to recruit members and to demand payment for the release of hostages. Algeria had suffered as a result of terrorism for many years and continued to advocate stronger international condemnation of terrorist activity and cooperation to put an end to that scourge. He hoped that the draft resolution would take a firm stance in criminalizing cyber warfare and the way that terrorists used cyberspace to spread their heinous ideologies.

Mr. Y.A. HARUN (Bangladesh) commended the work of the co-Rapporteurs, noting that the topic at hand was constantly evolving and needed continuous monitoring. He challenged the notion that, in the context of cyber warfare, the best form of defence was offence, as it was often very difficult to ascertain at what point a defender became the aggressor. He was also perturbed at the possibility of a cyber arms race and called for limits to be negotiated accordingly.

Ms. M.N. MENSAH-WILLIAMS (Namibia), speaking on behalf of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, informed the Committee that the Meeting had submitted a number of proposed amendments to the draft resolution. She hoped that they would be accepted as they dealt with issues such as inequalities in access to ICTs between men and women and how women and children were often exploited in wars, including in cyber warfare. Accepting and implementing the proposed amendments would help to mainstream gender in the issues at hand.

Mr. N. LAZRAK (Morocco), *co-Rapporteur*, said that, after hearing various speakers, it was clear that certain aspects of the draft resolution required further consideration, not least the need for clearer definitions of the terms cybercrime, cyberattacks and cyber warfare. He looked forward to discussing the various amendments proposed, which he hoped would improve the final text.

Mr. J.C. MAHÍA (Uruguay), *co-Rapporteur*, expressed appreciation for the rich debate on the subject and the draft resolution. He underscored the need to bear in mind that there were at present no internationally agreed definitions of the concepts of cyber warfare and cybercrime. The various definitions that had been put forward in international forums had many common elements but had not been harmonized. Parliamentarians should consider further developing those definitions with a view to their universal acceptance.

He acknowledged the comments made by some speakers that people did not always have the same opportunities or conditions and the way that affected discussion of the definitions. Indeed, the impact of cybercrime or warfare was also not equal and tended to depend on the level of development of a State and of its private industry.

Some of the issues raised were not explicitly referenced in the draft resolution, such as that of Internet governance and who administered Internet protocols. The range of issues raised showed that parliamentarians and others in the international community were only just starting to address what was a highly complex matter. It was clear that, until there were internationally agreed conventions, resolutions or frameworks, impunity would reign. He reiterated the need for parliamentarians, during their subsequent discussions on the details of the draft resolution, to remain aware of the need to maintain the balance between ensuring security and respecting the right to privacy.

*The sitting rose at 11.50 a.m.*

## **SITTING OF TUESDAY, 31 MARCH**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 11.55 a.m. with Mr. J.R. Tau (South Africa), the President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

### **Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary**

The PRESIDENT expressed appreciation for the Committee's commitment and focus in drafting and finalizing the draft resolution. He proposed that Committee members consider adopting the draft resolution, which truly reflected all their hard work, as a whole.

Mr. I.A. BILOUR (Pakistan) seconded that proposal, as did the delegates from Zambia, India, the Dominican Republic, Viet Nam, the United Republic of Tanzania, Bangladesh and Cambodia.

Mr. A. NÚÑEZ BETANCOURT (Cuba) supported the draft resolution but wished to record reservations to paragraph 10 of the preamble and paragraph 17 of the operative part, as they referred to covenants to which Cuba was not a party.

The delegate from VENEZUELA wished to record a reservation to the term "cyber warfare", which was used throughout the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT took it that the Standing Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution by consensus and take note of the reservations expressed by Cuba and Venezuela, which would be included in the Rapporteur's report to the plenary and reflected in the summary record.

*The Standing Committee adopted the resolution by consensus.*

### **Appointment of a rapporteur to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly**

The PRESIDENT proposed that Ms. S. Taqawi (Bahrain) be appointed Rapporteur of the Committee to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly.

*It was so decided.*

### **Preparations for future Assemblies**

#### **(a) Proposals for a subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee**

The PRESIDENT informed the Standing Committee that the Bureau had met the previous day but had not been quorate and had therefore been unable to reach agreement on the subject item to be proposed to the Committee. The Bureau had therefore opted to defer the decision between two possible items to Committee members when they met in plenary. The first proposal, submitted by Mexico and Sweden, was *Addressing the global drug problem: The role of the IPU and parliamentarians and next steps*, and the second, submitted by India, was *Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights*. He invited the proponents of each proposal to present them to the Committee.

Mr. K.P. SOLANKI (India) said that terrorism was the greatest threat facing humanity. All countries suffered its effects either directly or indirectly. The entire international community was urgently required to raise its voice against terrorism and its destructive effect on security, peace and socio-economic development and to adopt a zero-tolerance approach. There could be no leniency in dealing with Al-Qaida or other terrorist groups: the events of 11 September, other attacks in countries across the globe, the merciless killing of schoolchildren and countless beheadings were absolutely unpardonable.

The IPU provided an appropriate international forum for devising a robust approach to controlling terrorism and the remit of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security made it the most appropriate environment for developing a resolution to that end. The other subject item proposed certainly merited discussion by the Committee but, in his view, terrorism represented the greatest threat at the present time and the international community should not put off taking united action against it.

Mr. I.A. BILOUR (Pakistan) commended the proposal made by India, as his own family had suffered first-hand the devastating effects of terrorism, with the death of his brother.

The PRESIDENT requested delegates not to engage in a discussion on the merits of the proposals until the second proposal had also been presented.

Ms. L. ROJAS (Mexico), recalling the appeal made in 2012 by Mexico, Guatemala and Colombia to the United Nations General Assembly to review the strategy for tackling the global drug problem, informed the Committee that the General Assembly had decided to convene an ad hoc meeting in early 2016 on that topic in order to decide what measures could be taken to improve the strategy. There was growing consensus among States that, in its current form, the strategy had not yielded the desired results.

Various regions suffered the consequences of drug trafficking in terms of health care, financial costs, security, and other social aspects. The widespread crime and violence that was associated with drug trafficking was of particular concern. The international community needed to urgently review and improve the current strategy, so as to counter the phenomenon of drug cartels in Latin America, Africa and elsewhere, the ever increasing demand for illicit drugs and the growing ease with which synthetic drugs could be manufactured.

The United Nations had adopted a resolution on the subject in which it acknowledged the significant role that parliamentarians around the world could play and expressed the expectation that they would contribute to the debate and the preparations for the ad hoc meeting in 2016. There was now barely a year left for the issue to be taken up by the IPU. The Standing Committee on Peace and International Security was the most appropriate forum for those discussions, and she hoped that she could count on Committee members' support to contribute to the United Nations process before it was too late.



Mr. A. AVSAN (Sweden) said that the issue was a complex one with far-reaching implications for security, development and health. Transnational organized crime relating to illicit drugs was undermining security and development across many regions and drug trafficking was often a key source of funding for terrorist groups around the world. He called on the IPU to seize the opportunity to work closely with the United Nations on the issue, not least because it would pave the way for future cooperation between the two organizations on other matters.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine), underscoring that the Committee should not ignore State-sponsored terrorism, said he hoped that the Committee could find a way to consider both topics, as they were closely linked. The drug trade was often the main source of funding for terrorist organizations.

Ms. M. SAADEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that terrorism caused many social ills, including drug problems. By cooperating to combat terrorism, parliaments would be acting on those other social ills as well. Terrorist activity had had a considerable impact on her country: many Syrians had been killed, key infrastructure destroyed and the health and education systems severely disrupted, destabilizing society as a result.

Mr. A. DJELLOUT (Algeria) agreed that drugs and terrorism were closely connected but said that many countries now faced emergencies as a result of terrorism. That issue should therefore be tackled before the drug problem was addressed.

Mr. A. KLIMOV (Russian Federation) expressed support for the proposal made by India, as the current global situation required action against the threat of terrorism.

Mr. I.A. BILOUR (Pakistan) recalled the recent terrorist attack on a school in Peshawar that had resulted in the death of around 150 children and called on the Committee to take up the proposal on terrorism. Terrorism was an issue of serious international concern, given its capacity to hinder development, education, industrialization, employment and many other aspects of people's lives.

Mr. M. HOSSEINI SADR (Islamic Republic of Iran) urged the Committee to take into consideration the destruction of heritage and holy sites in various countries by terrorist and extremist groups such as Daesh. Such destruction would only serve to exacerbate hostilities where it occurred, including in the Middle East. He called for the Committee to take up the issue of terrorism in order to help combat the heinous crimes against humanity that were being committed.

Ms. S. BARAKZAI (Afghanistan) concurred with other speakers' comments that the topics of terrorism and drugs were interrelated, but expressed a preference for taking up the issue of terrorism. Terrorism was a global problem that victimized every human, and it was vital for parliamentarians, in collaboration with the United Nations Security Council and other international organizations, to find ways to tackle its root causes for the sake of humanity, development, democracy, culture and prosperity.

Mr. J.C. MAHÍA (Uruguay), *co-Rapporteur*, expressed support for the proposal presented by Mexico and Sweden, as many of the strategies adopted around the world in recent years to tackle drugs-related issues had failed. Parliaments needed to come together to define new instruments to counter the scourge of drugs affecting so many parts of the world.

Mr. Y.A. HARUN (Bangladesh) said that drugs and terrorism were both pressing issues and interrelated. However, while drugs posed a threat to the future of the younger generation in many societies, terrorism was destroying countries, their economies and their social fabric. In his view, terrorism needed to be tackled and contained before mechanisms could be developed to deal with the drug problem.

Mr. A. NÚÑEZ BETANCOURT (Cuba) said that Cuba had faced terrorist acts in recent decades and had also had to fight the scourge of drugs. Given the links between them, he proposed that the two topics be merged, so that parliamentarians could address them both at the same time.

Ms. S. TAQAWI (Bahrain) endorsed that suggestion. Drug trafficking was known to be a source of funding for terrorist groups and, unless those sources and the root causes of terrorism were eradicated, it would be impossible to overcome that scourge. She also underscored the need for a clear, universal definition of what was meant by terrorism, as the international community still lacked such a definition.

Mr. M. HUN (Cambodia) agreed that drugs and terrorism were interconnected issues and acknowledged that drugs were a complex issue and had a detrimental impact on society. Nevertheless, he supported the proposal on terrorism, which was growing in incidence and magnitude globally.

Mr. M. KADAM (Chad) said that the violent actions of terrorist organizations in West Africa, which had abducted many, including children, and killed countless more, could not afford to be ignored. Both terrorism and drugs presented great challenges but terrorism posed the most imminent and destructive threat and needed to be addressed as a matter of priority. He therefore supported the proposal made by India.

Mr. S. ALHUSSEINI (Saudi Arabia) called for priority to be given to the subject of terrorism as he believed that the IPU should strive to put in place a standard definition of terrorism and to promote the collective action required to tackle the phenomenon. In his view, merging the proposals on terrorism and drugs would be counterproductive; they were both important topics that deserved considerable attention and merging the two would only serve to dilute them both. Terrorism seemed to be the more pressing issue and should therefore be given priority at the present time.

Mr. A. DESTEXHE (Belgium) agreed that merging the two proposals was not a good idea as it could serve to dilute them both.

Mr. A. AVSAN (Sweden) said that, if it meant that there would be an opportunity to discuss the drug issue before the United Nations ad hoc meeting, he was happy for the two proposals to be merged. He underscored the clear link between the subjects, as terrorism was often financed by drugs. Tackling its sources of financing would advance the wider fight against terrorism.

Ms. L. ROJAS (Mexico) expressed support for the suggestion by Cuba to merge the two proposals. She called on the Committee to nevertheless remain sensitive to the realities faced by different countries and regions; Latin America, for example, was fortunate enough not to experience terrorism but it did suffer greatly as a result of drugs. The issue of drugs was a global one and the IPU was a forum for discussing such globally relevant topics. She reminded the Committee that the issue of terrorism had already been addressed by the Assembly in its emergency item.

Mr. K.P. SOLANKI (India) repeated that the biggest threat to peace and international security, which was the remit of the Committee, was terrorism. Every day, many innocent people were killed, captured or enslaved, often simply because they did not share the terrorists' beliefs. The threat was not limited to a particular region, as the recent terrorist attack in France had shown. The whole world was concerned. He urged the Committee not to agree to merge the two topics, which would serve only to dilute the discussions; the issue of terrorism was too important to allow that to happen.

The PRESIDENT said that it was clear that there were strongly divergent views on the proposal by Cuba to merge the two topics.

Mr. A. DJELLOUT (Algeria) said that all of Africa was under the threat of terrorism. It was terrorism that fuelled the drug trafficking that was so rife there.

The PRESIDENT said that he had hoped that the Committee would have been in a position to choose a topic or to reach a compromise. It was certainly true that both terrorism and drugs affected all countries and regions to varying degrees; the Cuban proposal would enable the Committee not to reject either topic if it so wished and avoid having one win and the other lose. Another option was to select one topic as the subject of the Committee's next resolution and to hold a panel discussion on the other topic.

Mr. A. DESTEXHE (Belgium) said that he agreed with the Indian speaker that the topics should not be merged and added that it was not a question of having a winner and a loser; the Committee was simply fulfilling its requirement to choose a topic for consideration.

The PRESIDENT said that he would put the two proposals to the vote.

Ms. L. ROJAS (Mexico) requested that the suggestion to merge the two proposals be included in the vote.

The PRESIDENT said that the proposal to merge the two topics would not be included in the vote, as it did not constitute a formal subject proposal in its own right.

Mr. A. AVSAN (Sweden) said that he did not see why the proposal to merge the topics could not be included in the vote.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine) said that, if the subject of terrorism was chosen, there was nothing to prevent references being made in the ensuing resolution on the issue of drugs, as a key aspect of eradicating terrorism was eradicating its sources of funding, including the trade and trafficking in drugs.

The Standing Committee voted to accept the proposal by India, *Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights*, as the subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee.

**(b) Proposals for the choice of two co-Rapporteurs**

The PRESIDENT said that two co-Rapporteurs needed to be appointed, taking into consideration the need for geographical balance and for them to be sufficiently knowledgeable on the subject. He requested that nominations be submitted as soon as possible.

*The sitting rose at 1.20 p.m.*

## Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

### *Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water*

#### SITTING OF MONDAY 30 MARCH

(Afternoon)

*The meeting was called to order at 2.30 p.m. with Mr. R. León (Chile), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

#### **Adoption of the agenda**

(C-II/132/A.1)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft agenda distributed to the Standing Committee members and said that, in the absence of any comments or objections thereon, he took it that the draft agenda could be adopted.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 131<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2014)**

The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any comments or questions thereon, he took it the Committee wished to approve the summary records.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Presentation of the draft resolution and the explanatory note prepared by the co-Rapporteurs**

The first hour of the sitting was devoted to finalizing the draft resolution.

#### **Interactive debate on *Follow-up on the IPU water governance resolution: Taking it forward***

The PRESIDENT observed that the draft resolution on water governance was timely and would provide input for the activities of all parliaments on the issue. The discussion should focus on the measures parliaments could take to implement IPU resolutions and how the resolution could be used to improve water governance at the national level.

Mr. R.M. GARCIA (Chile) said that discussions alone were not sufficient; an agreement was needed on measuring the progress countries made in terms of legislation and activities on the issue. Investment in pipes and drinking water was extremely worthwhile and more cost-effective than the use of tanks to distribute water. Budget funds should be allocated to that end.

The representative of VIET NAM suggested that Member Parliaments of the IPU should take concrete action on water governance. They could, for example, review national legal frameworks on the issue, review and monitor implementation of national strategies, programmes and projects on water governance, set aside adequate budgetary allocations for those activities, raise awareness of the IPU water governance resolution, and promote regional and international cooperation.

Mr. H. SOBHANI NIA (Islamic Republic of Iran), noting the importance of finding a global solution to the challenges faced, highlighted deforestation, water contamination, human interference in natural environments, unsustainable development activities, climate change and excessive use of water as key areas that needed to be addressed. Integrated management of water resources by governmental and non-governmental institutions and inter-State agreements on water governance could play an important role in that regard.

Ms. S.-O. CHUN (Republic of Korea) emphasized the need for international cooperation on water governance. Unfortunately, differences in economic, geographic and social characteristics had to date often precluded agreements to that end. Parliaments should endeavour to guide their countries towards a more globally beneficial approach, rather than focusing on narrow self-interests. In addition, the IPU should analyse in depth the progress Member Parliaments made towards policy implementation. Lastly, her country should cooperate with the Democratic People's Republic of Korea on the management of transboundary watercourses and both countries should accede to the UN Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses. The IPU should provide support to both countries in that regard.

Mr. A. ALHARBEY (Saudi Arabia) stressed the importance of translating words into action. His country had undertaken activities and adopted legislation related to water storage capacity, cross-border flows, protecting non-renewable water sources and ensuring proper use of water resources.

Ms. E. HULT (Sweden) observed that improving water governance was a cornerstone in the fight against poverty; her country therefore supported the idea of a stand-alone sustainable development goal on sustainable water management and sanitation for all. Improving water management was also important for limiting armed conflict. Her country had been actively involved in programmes related to cross-border cooperation on water management. It was vital to involve all relevant stakeholders, including local communities, in discussions on water management. Stakeholder involvement, clearly defined institutional roles and responsibilities and decentralization were all key to good water governance.

Mr. N. SINGH (India) outlined the efforts made by his country to improve water management, including the adoption of a national water policy and plan of action, the establishment of the National Water Commission and the National Green Tribunal and the formation of a parliamentary committee and forum on water resources and water conservation and management, respectively. Those bodies were important forums, enabling members of parliament to contribute to and make recommendations on water governance. The National Green Tribunal had recently issued a landmark judgement based on the "polluter pays" approach. He welcomed the deliberations on water governance at the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly, which would help to shape parliamentary action around the world.

Mr. H. LOY SIAN (Malaysia), underscoring the importance of good water governance, said that his country had introduced programmes and policies involving all relevant stakeholders in the area of water management in order to ensure the efficient, equitable and sustainable use of water resources. Effective and sustainable water management required innovative thinking and cooperation, together with strong commitment, on the part of both political leaders and the private sector. Strong cooperation and partnerships between the academic community, governments and multilateral institutions were also important in that regard.

Mr. F. MUSENDU FLUNGU (Democratic Republic of the Congo) said that his country had enacted proactive legislation on water management in order to decentralize efforts in that area. In light of the country's size, the water sector had been opened to public and private investment. He therefore welcomed the recommendations contained in the draft resolution. In order to use water as a vector for regional harmony rather than conflict, members of parliament from countries in the Great Lakes Region had held a series of meetings to discuss water issues, adopt common approaches and facilitate harmonization of relevant legal texts across the region.

Mr. T. SHIMIZU (Japan) emphasized the importance of participants bringing the draft resolution to the attention of their respective parliaments. Comprehensive laws and plans for water management were needed and, after their adoption and implementation, parliamentary oversight would be crucial. Establishment of a specific body within parliament would be useful in that regard. Such a committee had been set up in his country and had produced a far-reaching study on water resources and basic legislation related to the water cycle.

Mr. K. WASINONDH (Thailand) explained that his country was in the process of adopting legislation on comprehensive water management and protection; the King of Thailand had been instrumental in raising awareness of the importance of ecosystem and water source conservation

and the Government had worked to improve people's participation in such activities. In addition to water management, efforts had also been made with regard to reforestation and soil restoration, as the three issues went hand in hand and were vital for well-being, agricultural productivity and industrial activity.

Mr. W. MENG (China) said that his country had a law governing water use and the prevention of contamination; it defined stakeholders, targets and methods to protect water resources in China. Local laws also existed in that regard. Although China had numerous cross-border rivers, it used less of those resources than many countries. Many of those rivers suffered from chemical pollution, and international cooperation and good governance had been vital to address the issue. Changing the way countries developed economically, in terms of production, distribution and consumption of goods, would help to solve the water-related challenges faced by the world. For example, China's legislation on environmental protection sought to strike a balance between economic development and protection of the environment.

Mr. L. BATAOIL (Philippines) observed that the public sector, private sector and civil society should work together to ensure that all sectors of society were aware of the importance of sustainable development and the sustainable use of water resources. Parliaments should continue to seek mechanisms to heighten the participation of the private sector and other relevant stakeholders in that regard. More government funding should be made available for conservation projects and young people should be seen as key to changing attitudes and taking action. In addition, government agencies should be given more powers to regulate water usage and efforts should be made to allocate sufficient funding to water governance and amend relevant legislation. The exchange of best water conservation practices between countries should also be encouraged.

Mr. F. JESUS (Portugal) explained that his country had integrated the European Union Water Framework Directive into its national legislation and had developed a plan setting new goals for the preservation and management of water.

The representative of PANAMA said that parliamentarians had a responsibility to enact binding laws that helped to tackle water-related crises when they arose. Water was a limited resource that affected health, poverty and security, and good governance was therefore vital.

Mr. W.A. AYENEW (Ethiopia) said that governments, the private sector, civil society and the general public should work together to provide water to all, especially people living in poverty. Access to water was a particular challenge for developing countries. His country had introduced regulations to govern the management and provision of water and a parliamentary committee had been established to oversee government efforts to provide water to remote areas. As a result, access to drinking water in rural and urban areas had increased from year to year. Challenges nevertheless remained and more efforts were needed.

Mr. D. O'ROURKE (New Zealand) considered that, while good overall, the draft resolution was weak in terms of the sustainable use of water. In his country, water had to be stored for irrigation, leading to conflict between the need to take water from lakes and rivers and the need to protect biodiversity and preserve water for other uses. In New Zealand, the use of water tanks was conditional on compliance with regulations on sustainable farming practices, which set benchmarks and required that improvements be made to meet standards within a prescribed timeframe.

Mr. B. MERJANEH (Syrian Arab Republic) declared that ensuring the sustainable use of water required significant resources; it was up to parliaments to make sure that governments were fulfilling their responsibilities in terms of rationalizing the use of water and providing the necessary budgetary and technical resources. The link between climate change and safe water sources was often ignored for economic reasons, leading to climate and environmental crises. Increasing food needs meant that the rational use of water was becoming more important and pertinent; local governments and civil society should therefore be encouraged to develop sustainable approaches to climate change. It was also important to hold to account those countries that dodged their international responsibilities on the issue.

Ms. T.M. DZIVA (Zimbabwe) said that the legislation enacted in her country on the issue of water governance was predicated on economic efficiency, environmental sustainability and equitable use. Water management had been decentralized to catchment councils, which included all relevant stakeholders. However, without solid political, technical and financial backing,

legislation was difficult to implement. In addition, conflicting policies caused significant confusion and were detrimental to sustainable water governance. She welcomed the IPU resolution as part of the global momentum to stir action to improve water governance.

Mr. A. HASHIM ALI MAHDI (Sudan) observed that water was so important as to warrant proper management at all levels. Legislation was needed at the local level to ensure that all people had fair and equitable access to water for all purposes, and greater efforts had to be made to provide water to people living in remote and rural areas. Sanctions imposed on his country had impeded the implementation of projects in that regard. With regard to legislation, international norms on water governance were vital. Developed countries should provide support to developing countries, particularly those affected by climate change, to help supply water to isolated and rural areas.

Ms. I. PEREIRA SOARES (Timor-Leste) said that parliamentarians, as legislators, should commit to ensuring that water governance received adequate budgetary allocations. Water was a key component of sustainable development, socio-economic development and environmental protection. International cooperation was therefore vital and had been a key component of her country's activities in the past few years.

Mr. S. WIN (Myanmar) highlighted the importance of protecting and restoring freshwater sources, reducing the risk and environmental and social impact of floods and droughts, improving sanitation, encouraging more efficient use of water and expanding the water supply in rural areas and for irrigation. Environmental impact assessments were vital tools for all relevant projects, and efforts should be made to address water pollution using the "polluter pays" approach. Moreover, water management should be delegated to local authorities, private companies and local communities, and the private sector encouraged to participate in tree planting and soil conservation activities in watershed areas. Activities to encourage effective water use and the establishment of a proper sewage treatment system and waste water treatment facilities were also essential.

The PRESIDENT observed that water and climate change were closely linked and that parliamentarians had an important role to play in ensuring that governments sought solutions to those issues.

*The sitting rose at 4.45 p.m.*

## **SITTING OF TUESDAY 31 MARCH**

(Afternoon)

*The sitting was called to order at 5.10 p.m. with Mr. R. León (Chile), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

### **Organization of work**

The PRESIDENT said that the Committee needed to adopt its draft resolution, to take decisions on its future workplan and the subject item to be considered at the 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly and to elect members of the Bureau.

Mr. L.A. HEBER (Uruguay), noting that the Committee did not have a quorum, asked whether a quorum was required for taking decisions. If that was the case, then the decisions that the Committee needed to take would have to be put off until its next meeting, at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly.

The SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE said that the Committee required only a simple majority to take decisions, but that the requirement for a quorum could be applied if a member requested it.

Mr. L.A. HEBER (Uruguay) said that he believed that any decisions on the membership of the Bureau should require a quorum but that he was happy for the Committee to take its other decisions on the basis of a simple majority.

The PRESIDENT took note of the request and confirmed that, if the Committee was still without a quorum when the time came to elect members of the Bureau, the decision would be postponed until its meeting in October 2015.

### **Drafting and adoption of the draft resolution in plenary**

The PRESIDENT, turning to the draft resolution, introduced Ms. N. Marino (Australia), member of the Standing Committee Bureau, who would guide the Committee during the final discussion and adoption of the draft resolution.

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia) asked whether the Committee wished to consider the draft resolution in its entirety or whether it preferred to consider the text paragraph by paragraph.

Mr. A. HASHIM ALI MAHDI (Sudan) indicated that he wanted to consider the draft resolution paragraph by paragraph, as he had an amendment to propose to one paragraph.

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia), ascertaining that it would be necessary to consider only the paragraph in question, and not every other paragraph of the draft resolution, requested Mr. A. Hashim Ali Mahdi (Sudan) to take the floor again once he had identified the number of the paragraph to which he wished to propose an amendment.

Mr. NGUYEN VAN GIAU (Viet Nam), referring to paragraph 10 of the preamble, said that he wished to amend the wording of that paragraph to “Bearing in mind that water governance can be a key element in maintaining peace between States and that good governance can promote cooperation and avoid water-related conflicts”.

Mr. I. CASSIS (Switzerland), *co-Rapporteur*, said that the co-Rapporteurs had discussed the proposed amendment with Viet Nam. They recognized that the current reference to “balance of power” could be misunderstood as a balance of power within a State, between legislative, executive and jurisdictional branches, rather than the intended meaning of a balance of power between States, with water being used as an instrument of war and peace. As such, the co-Rapporteurs were happy with the proposed change to the wording.

Mr. A. HASHIM ALI MAHDI (Sudan) said that he had also wished to suggest an amendment to paragraph 10 of the preamble but was happy to accept the Vietnamese proposal, as it covered his own concern to prevent conflict between States sharing a coastline.

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia) asked the Committee if it wished to accept the new amendment proposed by Viet Nam.

*It was so decided.*

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia) took it that the Committee wished to adopt the draft resolution, as amended by Viet Nam, in its entirety.

*It was so decided.*

*The Standing Committee adopted the resolution as a whole.*

Ms. G.D.V. REQUENA (Venezuela) said that her delegation wished to record a reservation to the use of the term “water governance” throughout the draft resolution, as the word governance implied that political, social and economic institutions, which, crucially, could include private entities, could interfere with, manage, use or develop water resources. Venezuela would have preferred to replace that term with “integrated water management”, which would have covered natural, economic and social aspects of water resources without jeopardizing their sustainability. Even when the private sector was involved in the management of a country’s water resources, it should not be allowed to hamper the proper and sustainable management of those resources.

The PRESIDENT took note of the reservation, which would be reflected in the summary record.



### **Appointment of a rapporteur to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly**

The PRESIDENT proposed that Ms. N. Marino (Australia) be appointed Rapporteur of the Committee to the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly.

*It was so decided.*

### **Preparations for future Assemblies**

#### **(a) Proposals for a subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee**

The SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE, speaking at the request of the PRESIDENT, said that the Bureau had met that morning and agreed on the proposal submitted by Belgium, *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*, which was being put to the Standing Committee for approval.

Ms. S. TIOULONG (Cambodia) drew the Committee's attention to the proposal that had been submitted by Mexico, *Access of women to financial services: A trigger of development*. The proposal underscored how important it was for women to have access to financial services because statistics showed that, when that was the case, families, communities and countries attained much higher levels of development and economies flourished. Much had been said during the Assembly about the need to eradicate poverty, but if women did not have access to financial services and participate actively in the economy, that goal would not be met.

Even though the Bureau had proposed another subject to the Committee, she urged that consideration be given to Mexico's proposal. What benefited women also benefited men and children and thus society as a whole.

The PRESIDENT said that, in addition to deciding on the proposal made by Belgium, the Bureau had also proposed that the Committee should hold a panel discussion on the subject proposed by Mexico if the timetable of the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly allowed.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium) said that the majority of the Bureau members had agreed on the topic proposed by Belgium as the subject item for the Committee's next resolution. The subject had been proposed by Morocco as an emergency item in the Assembly but had not been accepted. The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade was a suitable forum for a discussion and resolution on that topic, as it also touched on economic and tourism concerns. The Bureau had recognized the importance of the subject proposed by Mexico and had suggested that an hour and a half of the time allocated to the Committee's work at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly could be devoted to the matter of women's access to financial services.

Ms. G. CUEVAS (Mexico) said that their lack of access to bank accounts and credit doomed women to poverty and often made it difficult to overcome hunger or illness. Further, it prevented women from starting businesses and providing for themselves and their families. According to the International Monetary Fund, the problem was not just one of poverty, it was also a matter of discrimination; even in high-income countries there were many women who were prevented by the nature of their countries' financial systems and services from accessing credit. Parliamentarians needed to ensure that politics prioritized people; women bore the brunt when funds were allocated elsewhere and not to ensuring that they could overcome poverty and hardship and have financial security. There was good evidence that when women owned property and had access to banking systems, there was a better distribution of income across society and productivity increased. She urged the Committee to give due consideration to the subject item and to vote on the options put forward.

Mr. L.A. HEBER (Uruguay) said that, although he favoured the Mexican proposal, he did not think that the Committee should take a decision on the subject item without having a quorum.

Mr. A. CISSE (Mali) said that he was surprised that the delegate from Cambodia, who was a Bureau member, had raised her disagreement with the Bureau's decision in plenary; the matter should have been raised during the Bureau meeting. If the Committee itself was going to consider the subjects proposed, then it needed to consider all the proposals, not only those of Belgium and Mexico.

Ms. Z. ELY SALEM (Mauritania) said that, in the Bureau meeting that morning, three subject items had been put forward and, after extensive debate, the Bureau had agreed to propose Belgium's item to the Committee, as it was highly topical. The whole world faced the threat of terrorism, and ISIL was destroying much of humanity's cultural heritage in Iraq and elsewhere. Such terrorist activity had an impact on culture and the environment, which was why the Bureau felt that the Committee should take up Belgium's proposal as its next subject item.

Mr. A. ALHARBEY (Saudi Arabia) agreed. It was vitally important to preserve cultural heritage and Belgium's proposal was therefore very pertinent. He urged the Committee not to conflate Daesh, or ISIL, with an Islamic State; Daesh did not constitute a State and did not represent Islam.

Mr. N. SINGH (India) said that his delegation was not against either of the important issues put forward by Belgium and Mexico but requested clarification on whether those topics fell within the purview of the Committee, as he had the impression that they would usually be discussed elsewhere.

The delegate from CUBA said that he favoured Mexico's submission, as his own country had been committed to ensuring gender equality and women's empowerment for many years but recognized that much remained to be done.

Mr. A. HASHIM ALI MAHDI (Sudan) agreed with the comments made by the delegate from Saudi Arabia: ISIL, or ISIS, should not be perceived as an Islamic State: the group was not equivalent to a State, nor was it representative of Islam.

In his view, the Cambodian suggestion merited consideration. Women in his country had access to banks, loans and credit but he recognized that effective development required greater access by women to financial resources. Many women in Sudan had been displaced in recent times and many others had become the family breadwinner when their husbands had died or gone missing. The international community needed to ensure that women in all countries had access to financial services so that they could effectively meet the demands and responsibilities placed on them.

The PRESIDENT said that it was important for a majority of Committee members to agree on a subject item. The item proposed by the Bureau should be conveyed to the Assembly, as it was ultimately the responsibility of the Assembly to decide whether to accept that proposal or to discuss the option of choosing another topic.

Ms. G. CUEVAS (Mexico) underscored that the issue of the destruction of cultural heritage by terrorist groups had already been taken into account in the emergency item adopted by the Assembly.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium) said that, if the Committee could not agree to accept or reject the subject item proposed to it by the Bureau, the decision should be handed over the Assembly. If the Committee did agree to the proposal relating to the destruction of cultural heritage, there was nothing to stop an additional debate being held on the issue of women's access to financial services during the time allocated to the Committee for its work at the next Assembly.

Mr. G. NOURI GHEZELCHEH (Islamic Republic of Iran) expressed support for the subject item proposed by Belgium, as measures needed to be taken as a matter of priority to stop the damage to humankind's cultural heritage that was being perpetrated by terrorist groups like ISIL.

The SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE, speaking at the request of the PRESIDENT, drew attention to Rule 19 (3) of the Rules of the Standing Committees, which confirmed that, if a request was received to consider a proposal that was not accepted by the Bureau, the Standing Committee should first decide whether to consider that request. Accordingly, if the Committee decided to accept the request by Cambodia to consider the subject item proposed by Mexico, the Committee would then need to vote on the two proposals.

However, if a member of the Committee requested a quorum but there was no such quorum, no decision could be taken on the subject item. The annual cycle of the Committee's work would mean that another subject item could not be chosen until the 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly, in the first half of 2016, and the related resolution would not be ready for adoption until the year after.

Mr. L.A. HEBER (Uruguay) said that it was important for the Committee to have a quorum in order to make decisions. He hoped that the issue would be addressed so that delegations ensured that they were present at the Committee's meetings in the future. It was not his intention, however, to prevent the Committee from being able to adopt a resolution on its chosen subject item for two years and he would therefore not insist on a quorum to decide the Committee's next topic.

The SECRETARY OF THE COMMITTEE, speaking at the request of the PRESIDENT, drew attention again to Rule 19 (3) of the Rules of the Standing Committees and confirmed that the Committee needed a simple majority of the votes cast in order to take its decision.

The Standing Committee voted to reject the request by Cambodia to consider the subject item proposed by Mexico, *Access of women to financial services: A trigger of development*.

The PRESIDENT took it that the Committee wished to accept the proposal by the Bureau to take up the subject item proposed by Belgium, *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*.

*It was so decided.*

The PRESIDENT said that Mexico's proposal, *Access of women to financial services: A trigger of development*, could be the subject of a short panel discussion at the next Assembly should the time allocated to the Committee allow.

### **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

Mr. L.A. HEBER (Uruguay) requested a quorum for the election of Bureau members; the Committee should not decide on matters as important as the composition of the Bureau when there were so few Committee members present.

The PRESIDENT took note of the request for a quorum and said that, as only 25 delegations were present, the Committee was not quorate and the election of the Bureau members would be postponed to its next meeting at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly.

*The sitting rose at 6.20 p.m.*

## Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

### SITTING OF MONDAY 30 MARCH

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.25 a.m. with Ms. F.Z. Naderi (Afghanistan), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

#### **Adoption of the agenda**

(C-III/132/A.1)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft agenda that had been distributed to the Committee members and said she took it that the Committee wished to adopt it.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 131<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2014)**

The PRESIDENT said that, in the absence of any comments thereon, she took it that the summary records of the Committee's previous session could be approved.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Future resolution on *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms***

The PRESIDENT said that, in accordance with rule 13(4) of the Rules of the Standing Committees, the President of the IPU, following consultations, had nominated Mr. H.-J. Jhun (Republic of Korea) to join Ms. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) as the second co-Rapporteur for the Committee's future resolution on *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms*. She took it that the Committee wished to approve that nomination.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Finalization and adoption of the resolution on *International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights***

The PRESIDENT recalled that at the 131<sup>st</sup> Assembly, held in Geneva in October 2014, the Committee had received 102 proposed amendments to the draft resolution from 14 parliaments and five from the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. After accepting 10 and rejecting six of those amendments in plenary session, it had set up a drafting committee to examine the remainder. The drafting Committee had considered most of the amendments before it but had referred some of them to the Standing Committee for consideration at its second plenary sitting. A number of delegations had requested that the Committee reconsider some of the decisions taken by the drafting committee. The Committee had approved another five amendments in plenary but had been unable to complete its work in the allotted time and had decided to postpone finalization of the draft resolution until the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly.

The revised draft resolution and the annotated list of amendments, which indicated whether they had been considered in Geneva and whether they had been accepted or rejected by the Committee or the drafting committee, were available for consultation on the IPU website. In order to ensure that the text could be finalized at the present Assembly, the debate on the substance of the draft resolution would not be reopened and no new amendments could be proposed. She suggested that the draft resolution should be adopted as a whole rather than paragraph by paragraph. Delegations would then have an opportunity to explain their position if they so desired.

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) said that there had been multiple irregularities and procedural errors in the work of the Committee at the previous Assembly; the drafting committee had submitted the report on its work too late for the proposed text to be fully examined and, as a

result, key issues that were central to the resolution had not been discussed in plenary session. It was unacceptable for delegations to have no opportunity to exchange views before the vote on the draft resolution.

The representative of INDIA said that his country had reservations regarding certain provisions of in the draft resolution and proposed that the tenth preambular paragraph should be amended by inserting “voluntarily” before “accept”.

The PRESIDENT reiterated that no further amendments to the draft resolution could be made. Delegations could express reservations to the text if they wished; otherwise, the Committee would proceed to a vote.

The representative of INDIA maintained that the Committee should not move so quickly to a vote on the draft resolution; a number of countries' viewpoints had not yet been properly taken into account.

The PRESIDENT said that the fact that the draft resolution had not been adopted at the previous Assembly showed how extensively it had been discussed. It had been drafted to reflect not one country but the entire world, and all viewpoints had been taken into account to the extent that consensus could be achieved. Some delegations, including India's, were represented by different parliamentarians from those who had attended at the previous Assembly, but that did not mean that the debate could be reopened. The agenda of the IPU and its Committees would never be able to move forward if debates had to be repeated whenever new representatives were present.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKOU (Kenya) suggested that the Committee should review the amendments proposed by the drafting committee one by one with a view to finalizing the draft resolution and ensuring that all Committee members were satisfied with the process.

The PRESIDENT invited the two co-Rapporteurs who had worked on the draft resolution, Mr. A.J. Ahmad (United Arab Emirates) and Mr. P. Mahoux (Belgium), to give their views.

Mr. A.J. AHMAD (United Arab Emirates), *co-Rapporteur*, said that all the participants had recognized the importance of the subject of the draft resolution, which had generated considerable interest and debate at the previous Assembly. The Committee had discussed the topic in plenary and considered some paragraphs of the draft resolution and related amendments. The drafting committee that had then been established, which had comprised representatives of all the geopolitical groups, had thoroughly examined each of the proposed amendments and taken all the opinions expressed into account in order to maintain balance and consistency throughout the text. All the amendments that had been accepted strengthened the text without infringing on its title or subject matter. He acknowledged that some delegations were represented by parliamentarians who had not been present at the previous Assembly but called on them not to reopen the debate and to agree to adopt the draft resolution. The Committee had several other important items on its agenda and should not spend time repeating the debate held in Geneva.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), *co-Rapporteur*, said that in deciding whether to accept or reject the proposed amendments, whether in plenary or in the drafting committee, the focus had been on ensuring that the text was balanced and took proper account of the two key principles established therein. In voting on the draft resolution, the Committee should aim for consensus although delegations were, of course, entitled to express reservations if they wished.

The PRESIDENT invited the Committee to vote by a show of hands on whether to vote on the draft resolution as a whole, or paragraph by paragraph.

*The Committee voted to put the draft resolution as a whole to the vote.*

*A vote by show of hands on the draft resolution as a whole was held.*

The PRESIDENT informed the Committee that the draft resolution had been adopted with 37 votes in favour and 3 against.

Ms. S. KOUKOUMA KOUTRA (Cyprus) asked how many delegations had abstained from voting; that number was as important as the numbers voting for and against the draft resolution.

The PRESIDENT said that 10 delegations had abstained from voting.

*The draft resolution was adopted with 37 votes in favour, 3 against and 10 abstentions.*

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) said that his delegation had abstained from voting owing to the procedural issues that he had mentioned in his earlier statement. Countries had been prevented from expressing their views and it was not true to say that consensus had been reached at the previous Assembly in Geneva. In particular, there had not been adequate discussion of aspects relating to national sovereignty and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States.

The representative of INDIA said that he was not opposed to the resolution but was of the view that it had been discussed and adopted in haste. His delegation would submit its reservation on the matter in writing.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine) expressed his delegation's support for the resolution but said he agreed that it could have been improved. He commended the paragraphs that applied to the situation of Palestine, in particular preambular paragraph 19, which recalled the responsibility of occupying States to respect, promote and safeguard the human rights of persons living in the occupied territories. The situation of the Palestinian people was worsening daily; the current Israeli Prime Minister had recently reaffirmed his opposition to a two-State solution and announced that more settlements would be built in clear violation of the Palestinians' right to self-determination.

The representative of the RUSSIAN FEDERATION said that while he supported the draft resolution and welcomed the desire for consensus, the Committee should have been more sensitive to the positions of his own delegation and those of China, Cuba, Belarus and Venezuela. He wished to record the Russian Federation's reservation to paragraph 19 of the resolution, which proposed an overly broad interpretation of the international development agenda, and would have preferred to end the paragraph with the word "agenda".

Mr. A. BAGDACHE (Syrian Arab Republic) said that although his delegation commended the resolution, it had abstained from voting as the text left considerable room for improvement. His country had a particular interest in the resolution as it had experienced intervention in its internal affairs by both North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) countries and terrorist groups, including the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) and al-Nusra Front. The principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States should be upheld and defended by all countries.

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) expressed his delegation's reservations concerning paragraphs 14 and 19 of the resolution. The wording of paragraph 14 had been modified to such an extent that it was difficult to ascertain its meaning or intention; a reference to unilateral, coercive measures such as those taken against Cuba, which could be deemed to constitute political harassment, should have been included. His delegation would also have preferred not to mention the post-2015 development agenda in paragraph 19; the fact that only democracy and human rights were mentioned suggested a biased approach that was not in line with the United Nations discussions on the new development agenda and the hundred or more areas of interest identified within that framework.

Ms. L. EFTEKHARI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that her delegation had reservations regarding various provisions of the resolution and would have liked to see more time allocated to its discussion. In particular, it would be difficult to mainstream gender equality into all aspects of implementation of the resolution. She would submit her delegation's reservations in writing.

Mr. A. IMANOV (Azerbaijan) said that, despite four United Nations Security Council resolutions calling for the unconditional withdrawal of troops, 20 per cent of his country's territory was under continuing occupation by Armenia. His delegation supported the resolution and welcomed its adoption but stressed the need for further efforts to ensure the full implementation of international law.

Mr. A. EL ZABAYAR SAMARA (Venezuela) said that, far from promoting respect for national sovereignty, the resolution seemed to represent a step back with regard to the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of States. The United States of America continued to level accusations and maintain its economic blockade against his country and President Obama's statement that Venezuela posed a threat to national security was tantamount to a threat of war. Meanwhile, terrorists in the Syrian Arab Republic were still receiving outside support and many States seemed to have little desire to prevent them from continuing their campaigns of violence and terror. Parliamentarians had a moral obligation to engage in discussion and find better ways to ensure peace and respect for States' sovereignty and right to non-interference in their internal affairs.

Ms. B. AMONGI (Uganda) said that she had abstained from voting not because of the resolution itself, but because of the procedure that had been followed. Once the drafting committee had been convened, it should have been given adequate time to report to the Committee in plenary on its reasons for accepting or rejecting the proposed amendments.

Ms. K. ATSHEMYAN (Armenia) said that, contrary to the statement made by the representative of Azerbaijan, Armenia did not occupy any other State's territory. Moreover, the present venue was not the time or place to address the issue since the conflict between the two countries was under discussion elsewhere. Her delegation supported the resolution.

Ms. X. CHEN (China) said that more attention should be paid to the concerns raised by the delegation of Cuba regarding the resolution.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland) recalled that the subject of the resolution was national sovereignty. In that context, she encouraged the Committee and the IPU as a whole to grant observer status to all unrecognized States.

Ms. S. KOUKOUMA KOUTRA (Cyprus) said that, as a member of the Bureau, she had voted in favour of the resolution and would have been sorry if the Committee had failed to adopt it. However, she agreed that it would have been better if the members had been able to discuss the amendments approved by the Drafting committee and vote on them individually to allow all delegations to express their views or raise concerns.

Ms. M. OSMAN GAKNOON (Sudan) that while she commended the resolution as a good and balanced text, she had abstained from voting because she would have preferred to adopt the text on a paragraph-by-paragraph basis in order to better understand Committee members' views on the amendments agreed by the drafting committee. Her delegation also wished to record its reservation concerning paragraph 18 of the resolution.

Mr. W. KY (Cambodia) expressed his delegation's support for the resolution but said he agreed that greater consideration should have been given to the concerns raised by some delegations.

Mr. G. CERONI (Chile) said it was unfortunate that so many delegations had recorded reservations concerning the resolution in light of the importance of its subject matter.

The PRESIDENT said that if the Committee agreed, she would serve as its Rapporteur and present the resolution for adoption by the Assembly.

*It was so agreed.*

The PRESIDENT said that she welcomed the Assembly's choice of the subject for the emergency item: *The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls.* Extremism was an ever-growing threat, not least in her own country, Afghanistan. She urged all parliamentarians to maintain the political will to help Afghanistan and other countries in similar situations to strengthen their institutions in order to protect citizens and their human rights and prevent the spread of extremism.

*The sitting rose at 10.40 a.m.*

**SITTING OF TUESDAY, 31 MARCH**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.10 a.m. with Ms. F.Z. Naderi (Afghanistan), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

**Implementation of the 2012 IPU resolution on *Access to health as a basic right: the role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children***

The PRESIDENT said that the interactive debate on the 2012 resolution was particularly timely: the target date for reducing child mortality and improving maternal health under the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) – 2015 – had arrived, yet millions of people worldwide, women and children in particular, still did not have adequate access to health care services. Parliamentarians needed to understand the obstacles to such access so that they could develop the necessary legislative frameworks and allocate budgets accordingly.

The debate was the Committee's first review of the implementation of one of its resolutions and served as a reminder that the work of the IPU had a life beyond the confines of the Assembly. Parliamentarians had a duty to take the resolutions adopted back to their parliaments and ensure that they were reflected in their legislative agendas. She looked forward to hearing interesting and inspiring examples of implementation at the national level.

She then introduced Ms. L. Davies (Canada), Chair of the IPU Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, who would moderate the session, and the three panellists: Ms. M. Temmerman (Director of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization), Ms. B. Amongi (Uganda) and Mr. R.M. Fakhru (Bangladesh). Ms. Amongi and Mr. Fakhru would share their countries' experience and describe the measures taken at the national level since the adoption of the resolution.

Ms. M. TEMMERMAN (Director of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization), *panellist*, said that while it was not always easy to assess the impact of the resolutions of international organizations, their significance lay not in their adoption but in the action taken to implement them. The IPU and the World Health Organization (WHO) had conducted a study on parliamentary action taken in Bangladesh, Chile, Rwanda and Uganda since the adoption of the 2012 IPU resolution in 2012; the findings were outlined in the background paper entitled "Parliamentary actions to promote the health of women and children". The Millennium Development Goals Report 2010, prepared by the Department of Economic and Social Affairs in the United Nations secretariat, showed that the slowest rate of progress had been towards Goals 4 and 5 on reducing child mortality and improving maternal health, respectively. In order to speed up that progress, Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon had established the Every Woman Every Child global movement. The IPU resolution adopted in 2012, which called on parliamentarians to take all possible measures to generate and sustain the political will and resources needed to achieve the MDGs by 2015, complemented the objectives of that movement. To date, maternal and child mortality had been reduced by half; however, while that was an extremely positive achievement, the international community had still not reached the targets for the relevant Goals.

After briefly outlining the key measures taken since 2012 in the four countries studied, she said that while it was impossible to determine whether they had been a direct result of the resolution's adoption, they had certainly supported the wider efforts to achieve the targets under the health-related Goals. The Every Woman Every Child movement would end in 2015 but, with the move to a new set of sustainable development goals (SDGs), an updated Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health would be launched. The Strategy would focus more than ever before on the health of adolescents, who made up more than 20 per cent of the global population.

In the move to the post-2015 development agenda, national leadership, with the involvement of governments, parliaments and civil society, would be vital; the question for the present debate was how parliamentarians could be more engaged in that process and ensure that the new Goals promoted the health of women, children and adolescents.

Ms. B. AMONGI (Uganda), *panellist*, thanked the IPU and WHO for including Uganda in the study. At the 126<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly, held in Kampala in 2012, the participants had called on parliamentarians to ensure government action and accountability. As stated in the WHO/IPU study, her country had implemented legislative and fiscal measures and policy reforms that gave priority



to maternal-health-related issues. Since 2012, legislation on public finance and HIV/AIDS prevention and management had been adopted and further legislation on patients' rights and responsibilities, immunization, health insurance and tobacco control, all of which would help to improve the health of women and children, was planned.

Fiscal measures had included reversing a ban on the recruitment of health workers since assessments had shown that a lack of human resources, including midwives and doctors, was a major problem. It had also been realized that reducing maternal mortality was a key motivation for health workers and that budget allocations needed to be increased. The President had wanted priority to be given to other areas, but Parliament had refused to approve the budget for that financial year until the health workers' salaries were increased. In a bid to improve health care in rural areas, the salaries of doctors who were willing to move there from urban areas had been doubled.

Policy reforms included a move from a comprehensive nurse training programme to midwifery training; mass recruitment of midwives was needed in order to improve maternal health facilities and services, especially in rural areas. Work with civil society organizations had led to government funding of not-for-profit health centres and hospitals that provided maternal health services. A maternal death audit had been introduced and hospitals were now required to record every maternal death and the cause thereof. Those statistics were transmitted to regional health directors, who had to present them in Parliament before the Ministry of Health could defend its budget each year. Parliamentary forums on maternal health and reproductive health had been established in order to mobilize support for those issues. The parliamentary Committee on Social Services had been divided into two stand-alone committees, on education and health, in order to better address health issues and ensure oversight of relevant initiatives. Engagement with civil society had improved with a view to increased data-gathering from independent sources in order to better inform budget prioritization and allocation and loans had been secured in order to build a new maternity hospital in Kampala since the city's main hospital had insufficient capacity to handle the number of deliveries performed. The challenge for all initiatives was to ensure effective implementation, which was why parliamentary oversight and review were so important.

Mr. R.M. FAKHRUL (Bangladesh), *panellist*, said that in 1990, his country had had an under-five mortality rate of 144 per 1,000 live births; by 2012, that rate had fallen to 41 per 1,000 live births, thus meeting the country's target for Goal 4 of the MDGs. The maternal mortality rate had fallen from 550 to 170 per 100,000 live births over the same period, but Bangladesh had yet to meet its target of 143 per 100,000.

The Government had already been working to achieve all the maternal, newborn and child health targets under the Goals but in 2013, following the adoption of the IPU resolution, five new laws relating to women's and children's health had been enacted in a single year. Almost 10 per cent of the generous budget allocated to the health sector had been earmarked for maternal health and steps had been taken to digitize the data on mortality rates in order to better understand the underlying causes.

Among the other significant measures taken were education and awareness-raising initiatives, with assistance from the media and civil society groups, and the development of a new midwifery strategy that included improving infrastructure and building community clinics in rural areas. However, many challenges remained; early and child marriage was still a problem owing to the traditional views of many population groups and such marriages increased the risk of maternal mortality. The Government had therefore given priority to the formal and informal education of women and children in order to prevent child marriage and help to reach the targets for reducing maternal mortality.

The MODERATOR requested Committee members to focus on two key questions in the discussion. First, they should consider what had improved in the area of women's and children's health and what challenges remained; it would be useful for them to share information on specific milestones reached and progress achieved. Secondly, they should describe the impact of the 2012 resolution on their parliaments and the way in which it had been implemented. It would also be valuable to know how easy or difficult it had been for parliaments to monitor their governments' actions. Framing the discussion in that way would help the Committee to understand how resolutions moved from debate within the IPU to adoption, implementation and follow-up.

Mr. A.J. AHMAD (United Arab Emirates) said that, all too often, political issues were given a higher priority than social issues, including those related to women and children. His country had taken a number of initiatives to promote enjoyment of the rights of women and children, including

by establishing a parliamentary human rights committee and enacting legislation to combat violence against women, children and the elderly and prohibit human trafficking. The United Arab Emirates also provided funding to child-oriented programmes in other countries, including Pakistan and Afghanistan.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine) said that the situation of Palestine was unique in the world and its experience needed to be shared. It attached great importance to education and to improving health care for its people, especially children. However, woman and children in particular faced great difficulties as a result of the occupation and their health was often compromised. Children were dying because of food shortages in Gaza, many children had been detained in Israeli prisons or killed by Israeli forces, and many more were living in difficult circumstances in refugee camps in neighbouring countries.

Mr. Y. MAKI (Japan) said that there were still many obstacles to achievement of the maternal-and child-health-related MDGs; pregnancy and childbirth complications were a primary cause of death among young women in developing countries. His country had taken a number of measures to reduce its infant and maternal mortality rates to the lowest in the world. One significant factor in that achievement had been the introduction, several decades previously, of a maternal and child health handbook that was issued to all pregnant women and was used to provide information and advice and to record the health status of mother and child throughout the pregnancy and the child's early years. Japan had subsequently assisted other countries with the introduction of similar handbooks.

Much remained to be done in order to improve health, and maternal health in particular, internationally and to address issues not covered by the MDGs. To that end, Japan's Strategy on Global Health Diplomacy, adopted in 2013, sought to mainstream universal health care, especially in Africa; effectively implement bilateral assistance; reinforce the global health workforce; and partner with other global initiatives.

Mr. F. NDUGULILE (United Republic of Tanzania) said that since the composition of parliaments invariably changed every four or five years, it was sometimes difficult to ensure the institutional memory required for the implementation of legislation and oversight functions. Moreover the fact that health budgets were being cut, particularly in developing countries, increasingly compromised the ability to advocate for and improve the health of women, children and adolescents. The international community should ensure that pledges were fulfilled in order to provide the necessary financial resources for health initiatives.

Ms. K. LORK (Cambodia) said that her country had taken many steps in pursuit of the MDGs and had achieved the health-related goals in 2013. Her Government had increased the health care budget, in particular for maternity care, by over 10 per cent each year. More midwives were being trained and maternity care facilities were being built in rural areas. Women were required to see a midwife during pregnancy and to have a midwife attend the birth; there had also been broader dissemination of information and advice on the need for vitamin and mineral supplements during pregnancy, family planning and immunization schedules for infants and children.

Mr. N. COLMENARES (Philippines) said that the 2012 resolution had made parliamentarians in the Philippines more aware of the need for legislation on reproductive health, which would help to lower the maternal and child mortality rates. Such a law had been adopted in 2013 but had been subsequently challenged in the Supreme Court, which had struck down some of its provisions. The Court had ruled that, except in life-threatening situations, minors and married women must have parental or spousal consent to access reproductive health services and that public and government officials were not required to implement the law if it was contrary to their beliefs. As a human rights lawyer, he was concerned that that judgment had made the law essentially null and void and placed limits on enjoyment of the right to reproductive health services. Parliamentarians in the Philippines needed to fully support the exercise of reproductive health rights, especially given that the country had not achieved the MDG targets concerning the maternal and child mortality rates. It would be valuable for delegations to share best practices on oversight functions so as to ensure that the executive branch was held accountable for budget allocations and to improve access to health services, including reproductive health services, by women and children.

Ms. S. HUSEYNOVA (Azerbaijan) said that in her country, a parliamentary committee was responsible for dealing with women's and children's issues. Azerbaijan had ratified many relevant international instruments and its health budget had increased substantially over the past decade.

Many new programmes had been implemented, some 20 regional hospitals had been built and mortality rates had fallen. Her Government remained committed to promoting women's and children issues and had set education as a priority.

The representative of SOUTH AFRICA said that her Parliament had ratified all the international instruments referred to in the 2012 resolution and incorporated them into domestic law. One of the parliamentary committees that monitored implementation of the country's international obligations was devoted to women's issues, including health, and while there was as yet no committee that dealt specifically with children's issues, they were handled by the committee responsible for health. However, despite South Africa's many efforts to ensure equal access to health services for women and children, it was unlikely to achieve the targets for reducing maternal and child mortality under the MDGs by 2015.

The representative of THAILAND said that her country had ratified key human rights instruments that promoted the health of women and children and had adopted laws on universal health coverage, access to health care, human trafficking and gender equality. A bill that, if adopted, would protect the rights of children born through the use of assisted reproductive technology was currently being debated. Parliament had also organized seminars on reproductive health.

Ms. J. NASSIF (Bahrain) said that Bahrain had made considerable progress in improving women's and children's health. Universal primary health care services were now in place and received a significant proportion of the national budget, and health centres offered regular check-ups for children and pregnant women. Thanks to those and other measures, the birth rate had risen and the mortality rate had fallen. All citizens had access to water and health services, proper inspection and monitoring mechanisms were in place and a parliamentary committee on women and children ensured that the relevant international legislation was incorporated into domestic law.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKOU (Kenya) said that four articles of the Kenyan Constitution were dedicated to maternal and child health. The country had implemented a number of initiatives in those areas and sought to ensure not only that its women and children had access to health services, but that those services were of the appropriate quality. Legislation on the health-related issues of female genital mutilation, domestic violence, reproductive health, sexual offences and human trafficking was in place and parliamentary committees were responsible for health matters and for ensuring the implementation of relevant policies and strategies.

Ms. A. ALSHAMAN (Saudi Arabia) said that, since the adoption of the 2012 resolution, his country had introduced various improvements to health care, including in the areas of communicable diseases, reproductive health and immunization. As a result, maternal and child health had improved and the under-five mortality rate had fallen. There was now a focus on preventing transmissible and hereditary conditions in newborns and ensuring adequate health coverage in rural areas.

Mr. K.P. SOLANKI (India) said that recent health-related reforms and innovations in India had resulted in significant improvements in outpatient care, immunization programmes, the availability of diagnostic tests and drugs, and family welfare services. The country had also been certified polio-free. Reducing the maternal and child mortality rates remained a key priority of the national health strategy and it was acknowledged that there was an important link between children's survival, maternal health and family welfare.

Mr. S. MANDVIWALLA (Pakistan) said that his country, and particularly its children, was suffering greatly as a result of terrorism. In order to improve that situation, it was necessary to train the armed forces and other relevant professions on the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict, ensure that the relevant legislation and directives were consistent with the Optional Protocol and criminalize the recruitment and involvement of children in hostilities. It was also important to ensure that captured child soldiers were detained only as a last resort and in conditions appropriate to their age and vulnerability, were guaranteed periodic and impartial reviews of their detention, had access to independent compliance mechanisms and were dealt with not under military law but through the juvenile justice system. States should prohibit the sale of arms to countries where children were known to or could potentially be recruited or used in hostilities; legislate against negative attitudes towards unaccompanied migrant children; eliminate discrimination against migrants; ensure that

unaccompanied migrant children were not forced into poverty and social marginalization when they arrived in destination countries; ensure that the detention of asylum-seeking and migrant children was used only as a last resort and for the shortest period of time possible; implement legislation to reduce child poverty; and intensify efforts to provide material assistance and support. He requested that the IPU undertake a survey, similar to those conducted in Bangladesh and Uganda, on the status of women's and children's health in Pakistan.

The deadline for achievement of the MDGs was fast approaching and many countries would be unable to achieve the targets, in some cases owing to a lack of commitment, funding and evidence-based programming. As the international community moved forward, setting new goals and establishing new accountability structures, parliamentarians as the representatives of the people must renew their efforts in the areas where progress had been slowest. His Government had launched an integrated mother and newborn health programme that provided round-the-clock labour facilities at 150 basic health units and their number would increase to 650 by April 2015. It had also announced a project on mother and child health care in 12 relatively neglected districts at a cost of 500 million rupees.

Mr. G. NOURI GHEZELCHEH (Islamic Republic of Iran) stressed that ensuring women's access to health care was the primary means of lowering maternal mortality rates. In pursuit of the health related MDGs, his country had taken measures to increase life expectancy among women, establish a pre-conception health care programme, improve care during pregnancy and expand hospital-based health services for women.

Ms. NGUYEN THUY ANH (Viet Nam) said that her country had amended its medical insurance legislation to ensure better coverage and access to health care for children under five and the National Assembly had increased the funds allocated to reducing child malnutrition. Reproductive health care coverage had been expanded with significant improvements in the quality of the services provided. Pregnant Women's access to qualified health care professionals had also improved and the maternal and under-five mortality rates had fallen. There was, however, still work to be done in order to reduce inequalities in access to health care and disparities in mortality rates between regions and social groups.

The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC said that health care and education were free in her country and modern laws promoted maternal and child health. However, terrorism had led to high rates of violence against women and sexual assault. In refugee camps, many girls aged 15 and under were being forced into marriage and the rate of teenage pregnancy in various parts of the country had increased. In order to reverse those trends, it was essential to tackle the dangerous ideologies of the terrorist groups active in the country.

Ms. G. FERMIN (Dominican Republic) said that her country had done better than average for its region in lowering the maternal and child mortality rates, its teenage pregnancy rate was high. Increased financial resources had been promised to the health care system in order to ensure that the MDGs were achieved.

Ms. R. AL-RIYAMI (Arab Parliament) said that the Arab Parliament had drafted guidelines on reproductive and child health, which would provide a legislative model for all of its member States, and was preparing another document on childhood and adolescence that would touch on youth health issues and promote gender equality.

Ms. R.J. SMITH (Sierra Leone) said that when the Ebola epidemic had struck, Sierra Leone had already been grappling with the devastating effects of a decade-long civil conflict. The Government nevertheless had a strong political will to address the issues faced by the country. Recent years had seen some progress in reducing the high maternal mortality rate, but it remained a key challenge across the health care system. The Ebola outbreak had disproportionately affected women, who were their families' primary care-givers and accounted for the majority of health care personnel. The disease was particularly dangerous for pregnant women as those who were infected could not access routine antenatal and delivery care and, if they survived the disease, often suffered miscarriages.

The representative of the LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC said that it was not enough to record the number of deaths; some developing and developed countries had significantly reduced their maternal mortality rates by conducting reviews to identify the causes and contributing factors and developing action plans for problem-solving and prevention. In October

2010, the Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic had taken on board the lessons learned from those countries and the Ministry of Health had received technical and financial support from the country's development partners, in particular WHO and the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA).

The country had already achieved its target for reducing the under-five mortality rate, which had fallen from 170 to 79 per 1,000 live births between 1993 and 2011. Despite significant challenges, it was also on track to reach its target for reducing infant mortality, which had fallen from 114 to 68 per 1,000 live births during the same period. Much of that progress was, however, attributable to improved social and economic circumstances for the less poor; achieving the target of 45 per 1,000 live births would require reaching the poorest and most disadvantaged populations. Fortunately, steady economic growth allowed fiscal space to cover vaccines, other essential supplies and the functioning of primary health care facilities.

Most child deaths in the country were caused by neonatal conditions and communicable diseases, including malaria, acute respiratory infections, diarrhoea and epidemics such as dengue fever, measles and meningitis. The Government must therefore address difficult problems by ensuring universal access to quality health care, training skilled birth attendants, combating malnutrition and increasing and sustaining immunization coverage in a way that benefited all people, regardless of geographic location, gender or wealth.

The maternal mortality rate per 100,000 live births had fallen considerably – from 796 in 1995 to 357 in 2009 – but was still one of the highest in the region. The proportion of births attended by a medical professional had risen from 14 per cent in 1995 to 42 per cent in 2009 but had yet to reach the target of 50 per cent, and the proportion of facility-based deliveries was still low at 38 per cent. There continued to be massive disparities in assisted deliveries; the safe-delivery rate in urban areas was six times higher than in remote rural areas. To achieve the 2015 targets, the country would need to further improve the quality of its services, promote facility-based delivery and prevent high-risk and unwanted pregnancies.

Priority innovations included family planning, which could reduce maternal mortality by almost a third and was one of the most cost-effective interventions; the presence of skilled birth attendants at deliveries; and access to emergency obstetric and neonatal care. However, they would only be effective if they were available to rural women. Improving public health was a central priority of the National Socio-Economic Development Plan (2011-2015). In order to increase the use of health services and provide the reproductive health care needed to improve maternal and neonatal health, investment in training and capacity-strengthening for health personnel, especially skilled birth attendants, was required. Health systems must meet minimum standards in terms of human resources, infrastructure, supplies and management. As a result, expenditure for the health sector, including reproductive health, needed to be increased.

The country's parliamentarians had demonstrated their commitment by visiting health facilities to oversee the implementation of strategies and programmes; influencing the allocation of constituency resources to maternal, child and newborn health programmes; using parliamentary structures to prioritize maternal and child health; and working with other stakeholders to maximize resource allocation. They carried out two monitoring exercises in the field annually and the problems identified were communicated to the Ministry of Health. However, they needed to take further action to reduce maternal mortality and achieve Goals 4 and 5, including by forging links with the relevant ministries and medical services. It would also be necessary to raise grassroots support for developing multisectoral strategies to improve mother and child health and primary health care; acquiring from alternative sources the technology needed to complement health care and continuing to advocate for increased staffing at health care facilities; enhancing parliamentary oversight through mechanisms for reviewing progress made by maternal, newborn and child health programmes; enhancing accountability for resource allocation; improving the flow of information to parliaments on commitments made by governments, resources received and results achieved; improving monitoring of health initiatives; seeking support from partners, including United Nations agencies, in developing strategies for the provision of consolidated, timely, periodic information on Goals 4 and 5 to parliament; and fighting corruption in all its forms in order to ensure the optimal use of all resources. Wider parliamentary action should include advocating for increased funding of the health sector, including oversight of planning and the allocation of resources for contraceptives; ensuring that constituents' needs were met and allowing them to participate fully in decision-making and in implementation of the National Plan; ensuring the cooperation of all government institutions in the implementation of policies and laws; advocating for government and public support for reproductive and maternal health services; and increasing national budgets and staffing quotas in the health sector.

Ms. M. TEMMERMAN (Director of Reproductive Health and Research, World Health Organization), *panellist*, expressed her appreciation for the various contributions to the discussion and said that the Committee's input into global strategies on issues such as violence against women and girls, sexually transmitted diseases and HIV/AIDS would be welcome. The WHO was also working with the IPU on the issue of child marriage.

It was clear that education for girls; gender equity; respect for reproductive health and rights, including access to family planning and contraception; and prevention of unsafe abortions would have a positive impact on women's and children's health. High-quality health facilities and a focus on care in the 24-hour period surrounding childbirth would go a long way in enhancing maternal health and saving the lives of women and newborns. Moreover, all such actions would support achievement of the MDGs and the future SDGs.

*The sitting rose at 11.05 a.m.*

### **SITTING OF WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.05 a.m. with Ms. F.Z. Naderi (Afghanistan), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

#### **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The PRESIDENT announced that the Arab Group had nominated Ms. J. Alsammak (Bahrain) to fill one of the vacant posts on the Bureau from its region and Mr. M.N. Abdrabbou (Iraq) and Ms. F. Dib (Syrian Arab Republic) to replace the current Bureau members from their countries, who were no longer members of parliament. To fill the remaining vacant positions, the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean had nominated Mr. G. Rondón Fudinaga (Peru) and the Twelve Plus Group had nominated Ms. A. King (New Zealand) to replace the current Bureau member from her country, who was no longer part of its delegation. The Eurasia Group's nomination of a woman could not be accepted; a man was needed to fill that vacancy in order to respect the rules on gender balance within the Bureau. She took it that the Committee wished to approve those nominations.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Interactive debate on the future resolution on *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms***

The PRESIDENT introduced the co-Rapporteurs for the future resolution, Ms. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) and Mr. H.-J. Jhun (Republic of Korea), who would jointly moderate the session, and the two panellists: Mr. H. Vales (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) and Mr. D. O'Brien (Electronic Frontier Foundation). She invited delegations to submit written proposals regarding the content of the future resolution, which would be taken into account by the co-Rapporteurs in preparing the draft for discussion at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly, by 15 May 2015.

Mr. H. VALES (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), *panellist*, said that the Internet was one of the most powerful tools for increasing transparency and access to information and facilitating the participation of citizens in democracy. It was, however, clear that the new digital technologies were vulnerable to and even facilitated electronic surveillance, giving governments a greater capacity to conduct invasive, targeted and broad-scale surveillance than ever before. In December 2013, the United Nations General Assembly had adopted resolution 68/187 on the right to privacy in the digital age, which affirmed that the same rights that people had offline must also be protected online and called upon States to review their procedures, practices and legislation regarding the surveillance of communications, their interception and the collection of personal data with a view to ensuring the full and effective implementation of all their obligations under international human rights law. The resolution also requested the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights to prepare a report on the right to privacy, which had been submitted to the Human Rights Council and the General Assembly in 2014 (A/HRC/27/37). The report confirmed that digital surveillance had proliferated, government mass surveillance had

become a dangerous habit rather than an exceptional measure, adequate national legislation and enforcement was lacking, procedural safeguards were weak and oversight was ineffective.

International law provided a universal framework for assessing interference with the right to privacy. The Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights established that “no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy”; thus, that principle was already established, including with regard to electronic communication. It was true that privacy was not an absolute right; interference was permissible under international law, but only under certain circumstances and, even then, it must be necessary and proportionate to the end sought. According to the report, the very existence of programmes of mass surveillance of e-mail and other digital communications constituted an interference with privacy. States must therefore demonstrate that such interference was neither unlawful nor arbitrary. All forms of surveillance should be covered by legislation that was sufficiently accessible, clear and precise as to who was authorized to conduct surveillance and under which circumstances. Surveillance on the grounds of national security might be deemed a legitimate aim, but States needed to show why it was necessary and select the least intrusive measures that might achieve the desired result.

In order for citizens to enjoy protection against unlawful or arbitrary interference with their privacy, appropriate safeguards and effective oversight mechanisms with independent civilian monitoring and the participation of all branches of government were needed. The current recommendations were for mixed models of administrative, judicial and parliamentary oversight. Parliamentarians were well placed to supervise the activities of intelligence services through their committees, which must, however, be given the necessary powers, knowledge and resources.

Private companies also had a role to play. In a worrying trend, they were often required to incorporate so-called “back doors” into their networks to facilitate digital surveillance by governments. When they provided information to a State in response to a request that infringed on the right to privacy, or when the information that they provided violated human rights, they risked being complicit in human rights abuses. The Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, prepared by his Office and endorsed by the Human Rights Council in 2011, provided useful guidance in that area: companies had a responsibility to protect human rights, regardless of whether the State in which they operated met its human rights obligations.

The disturbing lack of government transparency regarding surveillance laws and practices hindered efforts to evaluate them from a human rights perspective and to ensure accountability. The High Commissioner had called on States to address any shortcomings in that regard, to adopt clear, precise, comprehensive and non-discriminatory laws in accordance with international human rights law and to ensure that effective and independent oversight mechanisms were in place.

Mr. D. O'BRIEN (Electronic Frontier Foundation), *panellist*, said that his organization had worked for many years to illustrate both the opportunities that digital technology presented and its potential risks in the area of human rights. The Electronic Frontier Foundation provided technical advice to parliamentarians and lawmakers on digital technology and, in particular, surveillance programmes and had learned that parliamentarians often felt powerless to understand and oversee such programmes. The revelations made by Edward Snowden had come as a shock not only to the general public but to many politicians, including those responsible for the oversight of surveillance programmes in the United States of America and in other countries. Surveillance fell into a grey area of governance, not least because it usually came under the remit of intelligence services; it was often surrounded by legal uncertainty and was conducted to a greater or lesser extent away from legitimate parliamentary oversight.

The consequences were serious; some countries had conducted mass surveillance programmes and stored and analysed the data of private citizens from their own and other countries over long periods of time. It was only a matter of time before the data collected was misused, leaked or made publically available, as evidenced by the increasing numbers of revelations and scandals emerging with the publication of information that could only have been obtained through surveillance. Those revelations had a destabilizing effect and, without effective parliamentary oversight that enforced respect for human rights law and the principles of necessity and proportionality, such surveillance would escalate. The constant demand for increased protection of national security provided a great incentive for surveillance. The situation might be likened to that of nuclear proliferation; countries were advancing dangerously and unchecked towards becoming surveillance States with increasingly aggressive behaviour towards the governments and civilians of other countries. Greater pressure must be brought to bear on the entire international community with a view to the establishment of global standards for necessity and proportionality.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), *co-Moderator*, urged the Committee members to read the recent report of the High Commissioner for Human Rights and said that the Human Rights Council planned to appoint a Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy in June 2015. During the debate, it should be borne in mind that parliamentary processes were often slow compared with the rapid rate at which technologies were advancing. She invited delegations to share best practices and comments or concerns about relevant activities in their countries and looked forward to using their input to inform preparation of the draft resolution.

Mr. H.-J. JHUN (Republic of Korea), *co-Moderator*, said that all the legislative proceedings of his country's National Assembly were made quickly available online. Many citizens used social networks, which facilitated information-sharing with the public. However, it was recognized that the potential infringement of privacy and personal freedoms must be taken into consideration. The fast pace of information circulation on the Internet also gave rise to the risk of misinterpretation or misrepresentation, which could have a direct impact on government policy or legislative proceedings, depending on how it shaped the public debate. It was important to determine the point at which individual governments' jurisdiction over the Internet ended and international rules and regulations were needed.

Mr. S.R. SATAV (India) said that the world was witnessing rapid developments and transformations; digitization helped to make governance more transparent and to bring about empowered societies and knowledge economies, but it also had disadvantages, including the threat to privacy. Electronic governance and voting required personal information that many citizens might be reluctant to provide as there was always a risk of data being leaked. Social media also posed a threat to privacy, especially that of children and women, as identities could be revealed or misused by others. It was essential to have proper safety measures in place before using social networking sites in order to prevent their misuse by children. India had adopted a law that made the transmission of offensive material via a computer, tablet or mobile phone a criminal act that carried a prison sentence and a fine.

Mr. LE MINH THONG (Viet Nam) said that digital technology had a profound impact on people's lives and brought with it both great benefits and a number of challenges. While the Internet provided greater access to information and connected people around the world, it had an impact on democracy and human rights and could compromise privacy and individual freedoms. It could also be exploited in order to launch cyberattacks or by terrorist groups in order to disseminate anti-democratic and extremist views.

Viet Nam understood the social benefits of digital technology and believed that its further development and application would benefit society as a whole. Parliament had taken measures to improve its legislation in the context of the digital era in order to better provide information to citizens while protecting democracy, privacy and individual freedoms. Countries should exchange information and collaborate on initiatives in order to bring about a new international legal framework on information and communications technologies with a view to the maintenance of global peace and security.

Mr. S. CRUSNIERE (Belgium) stressed the importance of effective oversight of surveillance but acknowledged the difficulty of knowing who was conducting surveillance of individuals or States and where and when it was occurring. Action at the international level was needed to ensure that national oversight measures were not overtaken by new technology. Many States sought to justify surveillance on the grounds of national security, but they also had a responsibility to respect people's right to privacy. It would be interesting to hear the experiences of other parliamentarians and to understand different types of oversight mechanism. In his country, a parliamentary committee monitored the national intelligence services but it was sometimes difficult to know exactly what operations were underway.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), *co-Moderator*, stressed that, as democracies were transformed in the digital era, there was an increasing need to protect citizens who wanted to participate. For example, the right to vote and to keep that vote secret was fundamental but could not necessarily be guaranteed when voting took place electronically. It was parliamentarians' task to address that issue and identify best practices that would protect all citizens.



Mr. F.A. ALTENAIJI (United Arab Emirates) stressed the urgent need to assess the ways in which the digital revolution had affected democracy and the right to privacy. One positive consequence of increased digital access was the ability of citizens to call on their governments to show greater respect for human rights. However, the digital revolution had also had negative consequences. Laws needed to be updated to account for the fact that governments, intelligence services and corporations had increased access to private information and could more easily carry out surveillance. The United Nations General Assembly resolution notwithstanding, digital technologies could be misused in order to spread hateful messages and crimes and that issue should be addressed in the future IPU resolution. Parliaments' role should be enhanced and laws that ensured a balance between protecting national security and allowing people to reap the benefits of Internet access should be adopted.

While the Internet gave young people a greater opportunity to engage in political processes, it also made them increasingly susceptible to the messages of terrorist organizations. The draft resolution should refer explicitly to the need to prevent terrorists from exposing young people to their views. There was also a need for a legal framework, based on multilateral cooperation, that would limit the ability of criminals to misuse the Internet.

Ms. S.-O. CHUN (Republic of Korea) said that advances in communications technologies had promoted public participation in politics; the use of social networks had become an important part of political party activities and were often used to promote policies, express candidates' political views and hold interactive debates. Web-based information and broadcasting systems had been established in her country to provide real-time information on legislative activities and encourage public participation in political processes. They also enhanced the transparency of the decision-making process, lowered costs and increased the efficiency of parliamentary activities. However, distorted or misleading information was sometimes disseminated via digital media in an effort to shape public opinion. Parliaments needed to raise public awareness of that problem, establish legislative frameworks that addressed it and incorporated oversight mechanisms, and ensure that sufficient resources were allocated for that purpose.

Mr. D. O'BRIEN (Electronic Frontier Foundation), *panellist*, said that because governments were being asked to restrain themselves, it was important to establish global norms and regulations on surveillance. A civil society group, Necessary and Proportionate, had posted on its website a set of proposed international principles on the application of human rights to communications surveillance. Judicial systems could play an important role in oversight by placing legal constraints on the use of specific technologies and providing for appeals against laws whose provisions were overly restrictive of data retention and use or threatened to violate human rights.

Mr. H. VALES (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), *panellist*, recalling the subject of the debate, stressed that the digital era could pose a threat not only to privacy but to other individual freedoms as well. Surveillance had a chilling effect on the work of journalists and the freedom of the media; the right to legal assistance was compromised if clients chose not to communicate with their lawyers for fear that they might be spied upon and the outcome of their case affected; and there was evidence that people had been detained, tortured or killed based on information received through surveillance. He reiterated the importance of parliamentary oversight of the work of the executive branch.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), *co-Moderator*, said that with many everyday services moving online, there was a need for net neutrality.

Ms. A. ALSHAMAN (Saudi Arabia) said that the importance of the Internet and its opportunities for communication and exchange of information could not be denied. It had, however, become a fertile breeding ground for terrorists and criminals, who were using it to spread their message to all strata of society and recruit young people. Without the proper controls, the Internet would only help to fuel terrorism and extremism. She acknowledged the difficulty of striking the proper balance; cyberspace must be regulated, but freedom of speech must also be protected. Legislation was needed in order to strengthen both international covenants and the role of parliamentarians in ensuring effective governance while protecting individual liberties and the IPU should encourage States to update their countries' legal frameworks accordingly. International cooperation was also vital and experience should be shared among countries so that the needs of all citizens in the digital era could be met.

Ms. T. LINDBERG (Sweden) said that States should work together to determine what was meant by democracy in a digitized world. She recognized that while she lived in a country in which citizens enjoyed great freedom of expression, that was not the case for all people around the world. National laws should not limit the right of all people to express themselves wherever they were, both online and offline. She expressed concern at the fact that, some days previously, local Vietnamese attendees of a seminar organized by the Swedish and German Embassies, for which an open invitation had been issued via social media, had been monitored as they arrived at the event and one of the invited guests had been unable to attend as her door had been fixed shut, preventing her from leaving her home.

The Internet provided opportunities for people to organize and express themselves differently and States should ensure that the right to privacy, freedom of speech and integrity was upheld in the new digital era.

Ms. J.C. SUBHAMITR (Thailand) said that parliamentarians had a duty to ensure that their citizens understood their rights and that their privacy and freedoms were protected. Any party that collected and used personal data must put in place appropriate measures to protect it.

The ease of access to the Internet had inevitably led to an increase in its misuse with a rise in cyberbullying, Internet scamming, distribution of child pornography and online fraud, all of which had the potential to violate fundamental human rights. Parliamentarians should therefore adopt laws that balanced the need to prosecute the perpetrators with the need to protect individual rights in cyberspace.

Her Government had taken various measures to better equip the country and make it more competitive in the global digital economy and a number of bills on such matters had been proposed and approved in principle, including two that promoted cybersecurity and the protection of privacy in the digital era.

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) said that defending the rights of citizens and ensuring privacy in the digital age was problematic. Although the vast majority of Internet users lived in developed countries, their numbers were increasing in developing countries as well, making it important to agree on international standards governing cyberspace. Personal data must be protected from outside surveillance and adequate measures put in place to prevent abuse of the Internet to promote or support racism; hate speech; violence; child abuse, including paedophilia and child pornography; and terrorism. International agreements were needed in order to ensure respect for human rights and the safe use of cyberspace; according to recent reports, Internet crime cost US\$ 130 billion a year with 12 people per second becoming victims of identity theft or having their rights violated online.

Mr. A. SALIMI (Islamic Republic of Iran) recalled that the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights both provided that no one should be subject to arbitrary interference in their privacy, family, home or correspondence and that everyone had the right to the protection of the law against such interference. It was true that modern information and communications technologies represented a powerful tool for democracy and increased individuals' access to information, but they also posed a significant threat by facilitating government surveillance and violation of privacy and individual freedoms. The Islamic Republic of Iran was deeply concerned at the predominance of Western countries in the field of mass communication technologies, including the Internet, and their capacity to interfere in the internal affairs of States through surveillance. All parliaments must take the necessary legal measures to protect their countries' national, cultural and moral principles and values and improve national cybercapacity.

Mr. K. NASER (Jordan) said that his country's legislation on electronic communication had recently been amended and politicians and legal professionals had participated in seminars on e-commerce and electronic communication within the judiciary. Jordan was committed to enhancing democracy and the judiciary in the digital era and its Constitution criminalized the infringement of privacy. Any legislative amendments must build on the positive aspects of the digital age and be clear and easily understood by the general public.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKOU (Kenya) said that the issues of cybersecurity and cybercrime were of great importance, especially as the Internet was being used to facilitate child pornography, human trafficking and terrorism. Ensuring security in the digital era was fundamental, but a careful balance between that concern and individual freedoms and privacy was needed. While he

understood governments' desire to conduct surveillance in the interests of national security, they must also assess the dangers posed by such surveillance. A huge amount of data was being harvested by security and surveillance agencies and it was essential to know the specific circumstances under which surveillance was allowed, how the information gathered could be used, how long it could be kept and whether the individuals concerned should be informed that their data were being retained and why. Mechanisms to prevent the misuse of such data were also needed. Parliamentarians needed answers to those the questions as they played an important oversight role.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine) said that, owing to the occupation of Palestine, all aspects of daily life, including use of the Internet, were controlled by the occupying forces. Digital and communications networks were subject to surveillance and the Internet was often used to disseminate false or misleading information, including by distorting perceptions about the past, with the aim of sowing discord among Palestinians.

Ms. R. SARASWATI (Indonesia) said that Indonesia had one of the world's largest number of Internet users and significant stakeholder engagement. When it came to election processes, however, it was still those with the most financial and other resources who had the greatest power. It was difficult to keep track of the donations made to candidates as, for privacy reasons, bank records could not be checked. Freedom of expression also allowed certain parties to exploit social media for their own purposes in order to defame others and spread false information. In their efforts to protect the right to privacy and individual freedoms, parliamentarians should bear in mind the potential negative consequences of a failure to balance those rights with the need for a safe, secure and stable online environment.

In 2014, Indonesia and Australia had signed the Code of Conduct on the Framework for Security Cooperation with a view to a common understanding of their intelligence and surveillance capacities. Such codes of conduct were one way for countries to work together to build trust and promote and protect human rights and fundamental freedoms in the digital era.

The representative of CHAD noted that political life and public communications had changed considerably in the digital age, presenting both opportunities for democracy and challenges in the form of cybercrime and surveillance. New regulations were urgently needed to ensure that the age of cybercitizenship led to strengthened democracy and maintained respect for the right to privacy and freedom of expression. Mass surveillance violated those rights, allowing governments to operate in secrecy while openly accessing citizens' information. The IPU resolution should urge parliamentarians to adopt appropriate laws to protect Internet users.

Mr. F.R. MAHAZOASY (Madagascar) said that in his country, a new law on cybercrime and the abuse of technology had led to an outcry from journalists, who claimed that it restricted access to information. The situation showed that legislation could sometimes give rise to unexpected reactions.

Technological inequalities between countries, particularly with regard to data collection and storage capabilities, must be recognized. In order to effectively monitor the activities of intelligence services and address the issue of the mass storage of personal data, his delegation called for enhanced parliamentary cooperation under the auspices of the IPU.

Ms. S. KOUKOUMA KOUTRA (Cyprus), responding to the comments made by another Committee member, said that many of the Assembly's meetings and other events were being filmed in order to highlight the participants' work in Hanoi and it was unacceptable to accuse the host country of surveillance rather than expressing thanks for its organization of the Assembly.

Noting that the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security had conducted similar discussions on cyberspace and cyber warfare, she stressed the need to avoid duplication of effort and resources among the committees and for the present Committee to focus on democracy and human rights. Use of the Internet had greatly enhanced participatory democracy and the ability of citizens to engage in decision-making processes. However, new information and communications technologies had also led to the dissemination of misleading information and to information overload and had highlighted the volatile nature of politics. Citizens should have immediate and direct access to information and be able to help shape decisions that affected their lives. But while governments had become more accountable to the people, the new digital environment had provided executives and non-State actors with the tools necessary to collect and store information on citizens' cyberactivity that posed a threat to privacy, individual freedoms and, consequently, to democracy itself.

Parliamentarians needed to find answers to key questions: where the line should be drawn, when online information and citizens' activities should be blocked, what kind of legislative framework would effectively address security issues and set the conditions for online participatory democracy, and how to protect privacy and civil liberties when intelligence agencies could track individuals' online data at any time.

Mr. D. O'BRIEN (Electronic Frontier Foundation), *panellist*, responding to the comments made by the representative of Madagascar, said that an increase in the number of unexpected reactions to cybercrime laws by the press and others should be anticipated. It was difficult to devise legislative frameworks to prevent cybercrime that also provided for adequate oversight in order to avoid violating civil liberties and human rights. Historically, international law had set appropriate limits on such matters, ensuring that data was gathered only on individuals who were suspected of having committed a crime. In light of the pervasive and broad collection of information in the digital age, it was important to enshrine that principle and ensure due process and transparency, including by notifying people who were the subjects of surveillance so that they could challenge it. Governments were responsible for protecting national security, but parliamentarians and civil society should be given robust oversight roles that allowed them to criticize policies with due respect for their governments.

Mr. H. VALES (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights), *panellist*, said that the Internet had helped to expose human rights abuses and amplified the voices of human rights defenders; sadly, however, the latter were sometimes targeted for their work and subjected to surveillance. Companies had a responsibility to ensure respect for human rights and interesting initiatives had shown that some private sector entities were trying to ensure transparency in the acts that governments asked them to perform.

It was important to recognize that surveillance was not always wrong; it was a legitimate law enforcement measure when conducted in accordance with international law, including human rights law, with adequate safeguards provided. However, surveillance measures and subsequent invasions of privacy must be proportionate and necessary to the pursuit of legitimate aims.

Ms. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), *co-Moderator*, said that in adopting legislation to combat cybercrime, parliamentarians must recognize that many crimes, such as paedophilia, were committed offline and that those who were intent on committing a crime often knew how to make themselves invisible online and were already a step ahead of legislators.

Mr. H.-J. JHUN (Republic of Korea), *co-Moderator*, summarized the key points arising from the discussion. The digital era had significantly increased the risk of cyberattacks and surveillance by any number of actors, including governments and private or criminal organizations. Increased international collaboration was vital in addressing that issue and many speakers had recognized that, at present, there was a lack of adequate national and international regulations and mechanisms for governing the Internet and controlling or monitoring surveillance activity.

*The President resumed the Chair.*

The PRESIDENT encouraged all delegations to submit written contributions on the future resolution by 15 May 2015 in order to assist the co-Rapporteurs in drafting the resolution.

\* *Owing to time constraints, the President requested the delegations of Pakistan and the Lao People's Democratic Republic to submit all or part of their statements in writing. The record of the meeting summarizes these statements.*

*The meeting was suspended at 11.05 a.m. and resumed at 11.30 a.m.*

### **Interactive debate on the topic The Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years on: Are children's lives better?**

The PRESIDENT introduced the panellists: Mr. D. Toole (Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF); Ms. A. Lindboe (Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children); and Ms. L.M. Mng'ongo (United Republic of Tanzania). The session would be moderated by Dr. Stephen Atwood, Director, Public Health Solutions, Hong Kong.

*The Moderator took the Chair.*

The MODERATOR explained that the purpose of the panel discussion was to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child and to recognize the importance of Article 19, which prohibited violence against children, and Article 24, which promoted good health, food and nutrition. The Convention was unique in that it covered all rights. The question now was how it had altered the way children were treated.

Mr. D. TOOLE, Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF, *panellist*, said that since the Convention had been signed 25 years previously, there had been a paradigm shift: children were now seen as citizens with rights that had to be respected by governments, communities and their parents. Moreover, the Convention was universal in nature, meaning that it applied to all children in all countries and referred to all rights. It was important to identify where and why children's rights were not being respected, for example when children did not receive adequate nutrition or were not vaccinated, and why communities did not act on violence against children. Parliamentarians had an important role to play by demanding information on relevant issues, setting policies, ensuring the availability of budgetary resources and working with civil society to hold governments accountable.

Ms. A. LINDBOE, Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children, *panellist*, said that the Ombudsperson for Children in Norway was an independent institution established by the Norwegian parliament to monitor and promote children's rights. It had been the first such office established in the world and had played an active role in monitoring the Convention's implementation in Norway. In some ways, children's lives had improved substantially since the adoption of the Convention, as the special requirements and human rights of children were now recognized and taken into account in policies and laws around the world. However, grave violations of children's rights continued to occur in many countries, where children were deprived of a safe childhood and of basic care, good nutrition and education. Corporal punishment continued to be rife, even though there was evidence that it affected learning. With regard to the role of parliamentarians on the issue, she encouraged all members of parliament to look at how they could raise awareness of children's rights in all political processes. It did no good for children to have rights if those rights were flouted; parliamentary action and independent monitoring bodies were crucial in that respect. Children were the future of all countries and it was vital that their rights and needs were taken into account in all policies and budgets. She urged Member Parliaments to sign and ratify the third Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child, on a communications procedure. Children should have the possibility to complain if their rights were not being respected.

Ms. L.M. MNG'ONGO (United Republic of Tanzania), *panellist*, said that parliamentarians around the world should unite and speak with one voice to protect children's rights. Although significant progress had been made since the Convention had been signed, more remained to be done. Malnutrition was a global crisis, in terms of both stunting and obesity. In Africa in particular, millions of children were permanently mentally or physically disabled as a result of inadequate nutrition, despite evidence that children that received adequate nutrition from their mother during pregnancy and in the first 1,000 days were less likely to die young or fall ill. A number of strategies and programmes on nutrition existed at regional level, but parliamentarians were often unaware of them. Her country had introduced many measures to improve child nutrition, including the establishment of a budget line on nutrition and focal points at ministerial, regional and district levels and the creation of the Steering Committee on Nutrition. Parliamentarians had an important role to play by holding their governments to account, allocating the necessary financial resources to nutrition programmes, enacting legislation on the issue and raising awareness about adequate nutrition. Political commitment and urgent action were needed to improve nutrition. Such action included engaging with the media and the private sector, promoting infant and young child feeding and prevention of mother-to-child transmission of HIV, building partnerships on nutrition, better coordination between key players at all levels in the areas of agriculture, nutrition, education, health and finance, and advocacy at the parliamentary level for the mainstreaming of nutrition in all parliamentary committees.

The MODERATOR believed that a multisectoral approach to nutrition and breastfeeding was needed; a particular challenge was how to protect the right of and possibility for women to breastfeed. Studies had shown that the longer children were breastfed, the less likely they were to suffer mistreatment at the hands of their mothers. Moreover, it had been shown that abuse could lead to changes in brain structure, which could then become the root of violence later in life.

Mr. D. TOOLE, Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF, *panellist*, observed that the first step in addressing violence against children was to change people's understanding of it; violence against children was often accepted, even though it was bad for them, their families and their communities. More recognition was needed of the fact that violence was wrong and could cause problems later in life. It was also important to highlight the protective factors of nutrition, such as the bond created by breastfeeding. Lastly, as violence was often inflicted by men, more needed to be done to talk to men about the issue; as violence against children was such a difficult and culturally sensitive matter, the subject would have to be broached carefully.

Ms. L.M. MNG'ONGO (United Republic of Tanzania), *panellist*, responding to a question from the moderator about corporal punishment, said that it was important to change mindsets on such damaging issues, which were often cultural in nature. In her country, corporal punishment was culturally acceptable and permitted in schools; it would be vital to change the laws that permitted such punishment and to raise awareness among all stakeholders of the issues. Partnerships with non-governmental organizations would also be vital. More understanding and awareness were also needed of the psychosocial effects of violence and inadequate nutrition.

Ms. A. LINDBOE, Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children, *panellist*, agreed that corporal punishment was harmful to children. All parents wanted the best for their children, and it had become the trend to think that corporal punishment was necessary for disciplining children. However, violence in any form only served to foster fear and disrespect. In Norway, significant progress had been made and the law was very clear on violence against children: there was zero tolerance of such actions. However, it was important that cases of violence be taken to court. Moreover, parents should be educated about other ways to discipline their children. Parents and teachers should be positive role models and lead by example.

Mr. E.M.S. NATCHIAPPAN (India) drew attention to a number of policies and statutes that had been enacted in his country with regard to children's rights, such as laws related to the right to property, juvenile justice, child marriage and education. India had also established the National Commission for Protection of Human Rights, which performed a similar role to the Ombudsperson in Norway, and the Parliamentary Forum on Children had been set up to enable members of parliament to interact with Ministers and experts on relevant issues. Childhood was an integral part of life and all children held universal, inalienable and indivisible rights; an integrated, multidimensional approach was vital for children's development.

Ms. H. ALHELAISSI (Saudi Arabia) stressed the importance of action; children were the future, and yet they continued to be exploited and victims of violence around the world. Maternal and child mortality, health, education, trafficking, child marriage, poverty, famine, pornography and sexual abuse were all issues that required comprehensive and united action at the global level. Countries should work together and share their experiences in that regard. It was also important to educate families and communities about the importance of policies related to children's rights. She requested information on the activities of UNICEF with regard to the enforcement of policies and accountability and urged international organizations to do more to monitor implementation of international commitments and hold governments to account.

Mr. D. TOOLE, Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF, *panellist*, explained that UNICEF played an active role in many countries with regard to the Convention by working with governments to ensure that the reports they submitted to the Committee on the Rights of the Child were realistic. It also worked with civil society and helped to hold countries to account.

Ms. A. LINDBOE, Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children, *panellist*, noted that the Committee on the Rights of the Child had highlighted the importance of an independent children's rights mechanism, such as an ombudsman or dedicated commission, which could serve as a spokesperson for children's rights. Since the establishment of her office, Norway had made significant progress in terms of legislation, policymaking and budgeting for children's issues and rights. However, it was also critical to have in place a national complaint mechanism enabling children to report violations of their rights; without consequences, violations would continue.

Ms. H.H. LIADAL (Norway) observed that providing a safe childhood was good for children and for society as a whole. The Ombudsperson played an important role in that regard by ensuring a clear voice for children and young people and bringing a youth and children's perspective into policies. Children were often the weaker party in all forms of conflict and therefore needed their own defence. Work was being done in partnership with the Ombudsperson to resolve conflicts in regulations related to children and young people.

Mr. A. SALIMI (Islamic Republic of Iran) explained that his country had taken a number of steps to improve respect for children's rights, including adopting legislation on children with no or unreliable guardians, preparing policies on children's rights, creating a comprehensive information bank for children and teenagers and establishing centres for minors that had broken the law. He expressed concern at the situation of children in conflict areas, occupied areas and camps, and urged the international community to take action in that regard. The situation of children around the world could be improved if more emphasis was placed on: the spiritual rights of children, strengthening families, combatting terrorism, regional and international cooperation on monitoring the media and preventing violence in cyberspace, and the eradication of poverty. His country was keen to work with the international community to improve the conditions of children around the world.

Ms. S. BATTHEU (Belgium) said that more attention should be paid to the influence of the media and social media on the life of children; many children lived in a completely digital world, always connected to the Internet via a smartphone or tablet, and bullying and harassment on social media or at school were commonplace and sometimes had dramatic consequences, such as suicide. The Convention on the Rights of the Child should be updated to make specific reference to that issue. Another issue that should be addressed was the disconnect between Article 7 of the Convention, on the right to know one's parents, and medically assisted procreation techniques. In Belgium, for example, sperm donors were anonymous and children conceived using sperm from a donor did not have the right to trace their biological father. Discussion of the issue was ongoing in the Belgian Parliament, but more attention was also needed at the international level.

Ms. X. CHEN (China) stated that child development was linked to economic and social development. China had introduced a number of development programmes for children, and the most recent focused on health, education, legal protection and environmental responsibility. Legislation on the protection of minors had been amended to enumerate more clearly the rights of children and reaffirm the principle of participation. Awareness-raising campaigns were being conducted to educate citizens on the importance and meaning of that legislation. China strongly supported the work of the United Nations and the IPU on child development and would continue to work with other countries and stakeholders in that regard.

Ms. J.C. SUBHAMITR (Thailand) said that her country had many projects in place to support child nutrition, including one that provided milk to schools. However, with regard to violence against children, much remained to be done. As a member of the National Legislative Assembly, she had personally tabled a private bill to amend the Criminal Code and bring it into line with international law and the Convention on the Rights of the Child. The bill had passed its first reading and the final reading would take place in the near future. She hoped that other countries would make similar efforts to protect children from physical and mental violence and protect their rights. In response to a question from the moderator, she added that Thailand was planning to look at corporal punishment in the future, although mainly from a social welfare point of view.

Ms. S. TUYA (Kenya) acknowledged the importance of linking proper nutrition of children with reduced violence; more facts and figures would be useful in that regard and would enable education and awareness-raising on the issue. Kenya had made gradual progress in the implementation of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, through amendments to the Constitution, parliamentary debates and the introduction of new legislation in areas such as domestic violence and female genital mutilation. Efforts were needed to mitigate the use of culture as a conduit for violence against children. Children's and women's rights were inextricably linked, and it was difficult to respect children's rights when women's rights continued to be trivialized.

The MODERATOR agreed that the rights of women and children were linked, particularly with regard to nutrition and health. He reminded participants that the first 1,000 days of a child's life were understood in that regard to start at conception, meaning that women's health was also a crucial factor.

Ms. R. SARASWATI (Indonesia) said that in her country, which was a Muslim-majority country, there had been much discussion of whether vaccines were *halal*, because of the materials used to make them. In addition, access to medicines was a key challenge in developing countries because of the high prices – States were often forced to spend more of the health-care budget on medicines instead of on improving the health-care system. Stunting was related to access to clean water, which was a difficulty in many countries, with children being required to walk long distances to get water and left too tired to study. Climate change was also a key issue in terms of water availability, and the same pressure should be put on developing countries to address access as on developed countries to address consumerism and its effect on the environment. Lack of water, poor nutrition and bad sanitation all contributed to problems such as child trafficking, child marriage and child pornography. Indonesia was becoming the top destination for child sex tourism, and international collaboration and information-sharing were vital to address that scourge.

Mr. Z. SANDUKA (Palestine) declared that the situation in his country made it difficult to protect the rights of children, particularly during periods of conflict with Israel, during which children often suffered from a lack of adequate nutrition and access to water and electricity. Palestinian children as young as 10 were being held in Israeli jails and women faced many difficulties to giving birth in normal circumstances. He paid tribute to the resilience of his people, particularly Palestinian mothers and women, who often bore sole responsibility for the development, education and nutrition of their children. He asked for input from the UNICEF panellist on those issues.

Ms. T. MPAMBO-SIBHUKWANA (South Africa) highlighted the measures taken by her country to improve the situation of children and respect their rights, including introducing non-fee schools, providing school meals to some pupils, increasing access to schools for children with disabilities, introducing a child support grant and improving the health-care system. A number of challenges nevertheless remained, such as violence against children (including mutilation), a lack of documentation that prevented children from accessing the child support grant, and the impact of teenage pregnancy on school attendance.

Mr. M.Y. ALI (Bangladesh), pointing out that the Prime Minister of Bangladesh had received the prestigious South-South Award for improving the status of women and children in the country, said that a high-level development mechanism had been introduced to promote the introduction of children's rights in the school curriculum, together with a capacity-building initiative for professionals working with and for children. Efforts to improve data collection were also underway. Moreover, the Government had undertaken a number of activities in the area of children's rights, focusing on health, education and nutrition. Budgetary resources had been made available for the building of new hospitals and schools, and poorer students were being given scholarships and textbooks. In addition, there was a parliamentary caucus on children's rights.

Ms. S. LYIMO (United Republic of Tanzania) said that stunting was a particular challenge in her country. More statistics on the status of children were vital to enable parliamentarians to raise awareness of and tackle the issue. However, it was important to note that budgetary concerns were a significant challenge for many developing countries. For example, although her country was a signatory to the Abuja Declaration, which called for 15 per cent of the budget to be allocated to health care, it in fact allocated only 9 per cent. Concerning corporal punishment, different educational settings made disciplining students particularly difficult; in some areas, for example, classes had more than 200 students, most of whom had to sit on the floor, making it difficult for teachers to teach, let alone maintain discipline. What could be done in such a situation?

The MODERATOR acknowledged that a significant problem in many countries was the allocation of sufficient budgetary resources to reduce class sizes and increase the number of teachers.

Mr. NGUYEN DAC VINH (Viet Nam), welcoming the activities of UN agencies with regard to implementation of the Convention, said that his country had done much to implement the Convention, two of its optional protocols and the recommendations of the Committee on the Rights of the Child, for example by amending the Constitution. However, it faced challenges when it came to implementing the new provisions. In many parts of the world, child labour, violence and a lack of education and health care remained significant challenges. Stunting was related to poverty, meaning that more needed to be done to ensure family livelihoods; the Vietnamese Government had policies in place to that end. Countries should invest in children through education. In terms of implementation of the Convention, States should, among other things, exchange experiences in implementation, harmonize national policies and laws with the provisions of the Convention and



consider the best interests of children in the development of all policies. It was also important to monitor implementation. With regard to corporal punishment and violence against children, cultural barriers had to be overcome in order to change attitudes.

The representative of EL SALVADOR noted that there were many different ways to address children's issues. Article 6 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child created an obligation for States to ensure the survival and development of children. El Salvador had a number of laws and programmes in place to protect children's rights, including a programme on providing school meals. All States should address children's issues in a focused and structured manner, and he asked what steps could be taken at the regional level. Lastly, he emphasized the importance of a gender perspective in all policies.

The representative of JAPAN observed it was important for more developed countries to help developing countries improve the situation of children by providing funding, food and other resources. Japan had a total ban on corporal punishment, although cases continued to occur. Other challenges included truancy from school for social and psychological reasons.

The representative of the SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC said that programmes developed to improve the living conditions of children must take into account the specific situation of the country involved and tackle the root of the problem as well as the symptoms. In the Syrian Arab Republic, terrorism and economic sanctions were the main barriers to improving children's lives. The sanctions limited imports inter alia of material vital for medicine and vaccine production, and terrorist groups active in the country were destroying schools, hospitals and medical centres. He encouraged UNICEF and other stakeholders to work together to tackle the roots of the problem and to help the Syrian Arab Republic protect its children.

Ms. L.M. MNG'ONGO (United Republic of Tanzania), *panellist*, observed that a key message from the discussion had been the importance of nutrition. There were many different stakeholders in that sphere and it was vital that they all worked together. Parliamentarians needed to show leadership by adopting legislation, resolutions and policies on nutrition.

Ms. A. LINDBOE, Norwegian Ombudsperson for Children, *panellist*, said that parliamentarians had an important role to play in promoting and building confidence in breastfeeding. One way to do so would be to prohibit aggressive marketing of breast milk substitutes and marketing aimed at children. Legislation alone was not sufficient, however; it was also important to educate mothers-to-be and new mothers about the benefits of breastfeeding and to increase budget allocations for nurses and midwives. With regard to corporal punishment in schools, it was important to ensure that there were sufficient teachers. However, even in big groups, leadership was key, as was showing that misbehaviour had non-violent consequences, such as messages sent home to parents.

Mr. D. TOOLE, Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF, *panellist*, welcomed the comments made, which demonstrated the tremendous level of investment in children around the world. He stressed that parliamentarians had to insist on receiving information on relevant issues and encouraged them to use the discussions on the SDGs to call for new indicators in order to obtain disaggregated data on relevant issues. In response to the comments made by the representatives of the Syrian Arab Republic and Palestine, he agreed that children growing up in conflict situations were affected emotionally and physically; UNICEF was active in both countries, providing support for health education and nutrition. Unfortunately, the key problem faced by both countries was of a political nature and required a political solution. Lastly, with regard to Internet security, he encouraged countries to work together on the issue. UNICEF cooperation with several countries in the South-east Asia region on the matter had raised the point of digital citizenship. A balance had to be struck between ensuring children's right to participate in the digital world and protecting them from violence and abuse.

The MODERATOR recalled that one of the key strengths of the Convention was that it contained a legal obligation for States to protect, promote and support nutrition. Moreover, responsibility for nutrition and ensuring a non-violent society did not lie with women alone; men bore equal responsibility in that area. If that approach could be incorporated into legal systems and policies, it would have a very positive effect on society.

Ms. S. KOUKOUMA KOUTRA (Cyprus)<sup>1</sup> said that the entry into force of the Council of Europe Convention on the Protection of Children against Sexual Exploitation and Sexual Abuse was a significant development in the fight against sexual violence against children. Ratification of the Convention on the Rights of the Child was also vital. Even in times of budgetary constraint, every effort should be made to uphold and provide basic social and health services to children. All budgetary policies should therefore take into account the potential impact on children's welfare. Although progress had been made in the 25 years since the signing of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, child poverty, domestic violence and child trafficking, prostitution and labour continued to increase. More needed to be done to monitor implementation of the Convention, conduct human rights impact assessments of cuts in social and health allocations, exchange best practices and knowledge with relevant stakeholders, and ensure that young people with disabilities and special needs were able to access training and employment, were adequately paid and were fully integrated into society.

*The President resumed the Chair.*

The PRESIDENT urged all Member Parliaments that did not explicitly recognize nutrition issues in their budgets to take steps to address the matter.

*The sitting rose at 1.40 p.m.*

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<sup>1</sup> Ms. Koukouma Koutra was unable to attend the sitting and requested that her statement be included in the summary record of the proceedings.

## Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

### SITTING OF SUNDAY 29 MARCH

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.40 a.m. with Mr. M. El Hassan Al Amin (Sudan), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

#### **Adoption of the agenda**

(C-IV/132/A.1)

The CHAIR said that, in the absence of any comments or questions thereon, he took it that the Standing Committee wished to adopt the agenda.

*It was so decided.*

#### **Interactive debate to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations**

The CHAIR introduced the keynote speaker, Mr. L. Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations, and the panellists: Ms. B. Bishop, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Australia; and Mr. M. Tommasoli, Permanent Observer for International Idea to the United Nations.

Mr. L. MONTIEL, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations, said that the United Nations was the foremost global forum for the discussion of issues that transcended national borders; it had been founded at a time of fragile global peace against the backdrop of the Cold War and was intended to promote social and economic progress and maintain peace. Its principal activities included peacekeeping operations, the promotion of human rights and the development of international law. There were currently 16 peacekeeping operations in place across the world. The 69 operations conducted since the establishment of the United Nations had resulted in over 3,400 fatalities among peacekeeping staff but had made the world a safer place. Numerous international human rights instruments and their monitoring committees drew attention to specific human rights situations. The Charter of the United Nations emphasized the sovereign equality of States and prohibited the use of force in international relations, but international law had also evolved to address new issues and challenges, including with the establishment of the International Criminal Court and the International Tribunal for the Law of the Sea.

With 193 Member States, the United Nations must constantly adapt to emerging challenges such as climate change, terrorism, epidemics and natural and man-made disasters. One of its key aims was to achieve international cooperation in solving the economic, social, cultural and humanitarian problems faced by Member States; in recent years, countries had also come to rely on it to coordinate and organize relief efforts but that reliance posed many challenges, particularly in terms of resources since Member States' contributions to such initiatives were voluntary. The global media also tended to focus on that area of operations, bypassing important and wide-ranging development work in areas such as disaster relief, education and the empowerment of women.

Promoting development and improving people's well-being had been an integral part of the mandate of the United Nations since its establishment. In the 1960s and 1970s, it had worked to fill the gaps left by decolonization, providing programmes and projects tailored to the specific needs of developing countries, while its main focus in the 1990s had been on development decades and summits, environmental threats and climate change. Since the Millennium Summit in 2000, global development efforts had focused on the MDGs, which covered a wide range of issues that included health and education. Member States had agreed that sustainable development offered the best path for improving the global situation and that the post-2015 development agenda would help to usher in a new era with all countries uniting to ensure a sustainable future for the planet.

Independent reviews of its work had shown that most people considered that the United Nations had helped to make the world a more equal place and would continue to benefit future generations. However, there were questions as to whether it was "fit for purpose". It needed to be adequately equipped in terms of funding and human resources in order to meet the growing needs of its Member States and should be allowed to innovate and transform where necessary;

delegations should match their calls for reform with commitments to enable it to take place and Members of Parliament had an important role to play in that regard. Lastly, owing to the cross-cutting nature of the challenges faced, partnerships with other organizations, including the IPU, and with regional organizations, businesses, civil society and local groups were becoming increasingly important.

Ms. B. BISHOP, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Australia, *panellist*, said that it was important to be realistic about what the United Nations could achieve with the resources that it had rather than calling for more funding; it should focus on the areas in which it was most effective. She acknowledged that it was important to strengthen partnerships, particularly with organizations such as the IPU and groups such as the Group of 20. Innovation and transformation were also essential, particularly in the case of the Security Council; one solution would be for the permanent members of the Council to set voluntary limits on their use of the veto.

Mr. M. TOMMASOLI, Permanent Observer for International Idea to the United Nations, *panellist*, stressed the important work carried out by the United Nations, particularly in the areas of international peace and security, accountability and development and in addressing new challenges. The new sustainable development agenda represented a paradigm shift in the organization's development work and while norm-setting was one of its principal activities, it must also have the capacity to help Member States to meet their commitments under international instruments. International instruments, including the Charter of the United Nations, made specific reference to the "peoples of the world", yet the United Nations had been structured as an organization of Member States with a narrow definition of "State" as equivalent to "government". How could it respond to the needs of both States and peoples? The activities of the IPU were proof of the value of involving parliamentarians in conversations and discussions at the United Nations; such involvement would help to ensure the organization's legitimacy, particularly with regard to representativeness, respect for the rule of law and the performance of the Security Council. Finding the resources to enable it to deliver on its large and wide-ranging agenda was also a challenge.

Peacekeeping was one of the most important United Nations activities, but the changing nature of global conflicts, including the spread of violent Islamic extremism, the increasing internationalization of civil wars and the growth of transnational organized crime, had changed the character of such operations. While international cooperation was vital in addressing those challenges, peacekeeping remained a "grey area" in international relations. A 10-year review of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture, currently under way, was showing an increased bureaucratization of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission.

Lastly, he stressed the important role of social media and the Internet. The United Nations had demonstrated its ability to make good use of such forums; its "The World We Want 2015" web platform had invited people from around the world to complete a survey on their priorities for the post-2015 development agenda and it was interesting to note the differences between the responses received and those provided by Member States in a similar survey; for example, an honest and responsible government was a key priority for many people, yet it was far down on the list of States' priorities. That platform was a successful example of the United Nations using its resources to listen to the people of the world. Were countries willing to do so as well?

The CHAIR said that while the United Nations had been an effective tool for peacebuilding, its architecture was the product of a bygone period; reforming the Security Council's membership was of particular importance. He stressed the importance of a strong relationship between the United Nations and the IPU since parliaments were the true representatives of the people.

Ms. B. BISHOP, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Australia, *panellist*, added that in the ensuing discussion, attention should be paid to the role of women; only a foolish country would fail to draw on the talents of its entire population, including women. Justice and participation could not be fully discussed without equality for all under article 7 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

The representative of VIET NAM said that the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations, 2015, provided an important opportunity to look back at the organization's activities and develop new measures to promote its role and provide increased support to Member States, particularly in pursuit of the new SDGs. It should focus more closely on social injustice and inequality, provide more support for regional and subregional programmes, increase its efforts to narrow developmental gaps and reduce poverty and hunger, and promote the green economy. Substantial

reforms must be made in a balanced, transparent and equitable manner to ensure that the interests of all Member States were respected. The number of Security Council members should be increased and developing countries should be given increased representation, to which end further discussion among Member States was required. Lastly, consideration should be given to the potential role of the IPU in the United Nations reform process.

Mr. N.I. MILON (Bangladesh) said it was important to ensure that the United Nations was able to deliver effectively on its mandate; reform of its main institutions, such as the Security Council, was essential in that regard. He drew attention to some of the organization's failures, including its inability to generate consensus on climate change and to prevent nuclear proliferation.

Ms. L. ROJAS (Mexico) said that reform of the United Nations was important in the light of new challenges such as climate change. Political will would be crucial; several proposals for reform of the Security Council had been made, but to no avail. Mexico was a member of the Uniting for Consensus movement, which called for democratic representation on the Council. The IPU should play a role in all discussions on that issue. The current paralysis of the United Nations Conference on Disarmament was another issue that required review.

Mr. M.P. ACHUTHAN (India) said it was unfortunate that institutional reform, and particularly reform of the Security Council, was not high on the United Nations agenda. The privileged position of the Council's five permanent members, afforded by their veto power, did not reflect the current global situation and, despite calls for reform at the 2005 World Summit, nothing had been done to address the issue. The increasing number of conflict situations around the world demonstrated the Council's inability to deal with those global challenges in a responsible and legitimate manner. Its inefficacy was caused by its lack of representativeness and the diverging interests of its permanent members.

Mr. S. MIYAMOTO (Japan) said that reform of the Security Council was urgently needed. Japan was working with other countries, including Brazil, Germany and India, on a reform proposal that would enhance country representation. It was also a candidate for one of the non-permanent seats on the Council and hoped to have the opportunity to focus that body's work more closely on non-proliferation and peacebuilding.

Mr. A. ALMANSOORI (United Arab Emirates), while applauding the United Nations for all that it had achieved, said that more needed to be done to narrow the gap between national concerns and regional and global interests and between countries and to focus on enhancing respect for and adherence to international law. He wondered whether any analysis of the work of the Security Council had been conducted in order to identify gaps and areas for reform and to analyse the potential side effects of such a reform.

The representative of CANADA said that parliamentarians and the IPU had an important role to play in the work of the United Nations by ensuring that the agreements reached therein were implementable, thereby preventing gaps between promises and performance. The IPU should therefore pursue a more direct relationship with the United Nations.

Mr. T. IWINSKI (Poland) said that the infrastructure of the United Nations reflected the post-war situation; the global reality had changed drastically since then and emerging economies such as Brazil and India played an increasingly important role, which should be reflected in the membership of the Security Council. The fact that only governments were represented within the organization had led the IPU to promote the idea of a parliamentary assembly of the United Nations. Another option would be to use an approach similar to the Council of Europe, which comprised both representatives of governments and a parliamentary assembly.

Ms. K. KOMI (Finland) said that while steps had been taken to reform the Security Council, that process had stalled. More should be done to strengthen the democratic legitimacy of the General Assembly, for example by making it easier for it to bypass a veto in the Council by invoking Assembly resolution 377 (V) of 1950 on "Uniting for Peace". Partial reforms included the establishment of bodies such as the Human Rights Council, UN Women and the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission, but much remained to be done. Reform of the United Nations secretariat was also needed with a view to increasing effectiveness and accountability and ensuring a stable financial situation through improved budgetary discipline and cost-efficiency and the organization's financial base should be strengthened, including by increasing the assessed contributions of emerging economies.

Mr. F.V. MACEDO (Portugal) said that one of the main objectives of the United Nations since its inception had been peacebuilding. However, in recent years, conflicts had increasingly arisen not between States, but between States and non-State actors. International cooperation involving all stakeholders, including civil society, parliaments and educational institutions, was the only answer. The globalized world had created many opportunities, but also challenges that could only be addressed at the global level. Globalization must benefit all.

Mr. BOON SOM INONG (Malaysia) said that the United Nations should focus on emerging challenges such as cybersecurity. As cyberthreats transcended borders, international cooperation through smart partnerships, for example between the IPU and the United Nations, and the exchange of knowledge and experiences between countries and organizations were vital. Close inter-State cooperation was also needed, together with efforts to harmonize domestic and international laws and criminalize the unauthorized interception of and interference with data. Cyberespionage, in particular, was unacceptable.

The representative of GUINEA drew attention to the numerous achievements of the United Nations, particularly the assistance received by the global South from UNDP . Nevertheless, although reform had been discussed many times over the past 20 years, change had not been forthcoming. One of the organization's principal aims was to foster and uphold democracy yet one of its main bodies, the Security Council, was undemocratic. The IPU should support increased regional representation on the Council.

Ms. E. NURSANTY (Indonesia) said that her country shared the concerns expressed by other delegates with regard to the Security Council, which often experienced difficulties in its decision-making process and the implementation of its decisions as a direct result of the veto power, abuse of which could result in increased instability. It would be more appropriate to take a consensus-based approach similar to that of the IPU, which provided an important platform allowing Member States to work together on that important issue.

Ms. H. ALHELAISSI (Saudi Arabia) said that the world would be a very different place without the United Nations. However, given the changes since its establishment in 1945, including nuclear proliferation, escalating global racial tensions, technological advances, growing numbers of refugees, famine and drugs, it was no longer clear what the organization's agenda should be. The problems faced were so diverse that customized policies were essential. Accountability was crucial and further discussion of mechanisms that could be used to hold governments accountable was needed.

Mr. F. ALSHAYEE (Kuwait) said that the United Nations had deployed many successful peacekeeping operations throughout its history, including one in his own country, and had played an important role in development operations. However, reform of its key institutions was needed; the Security Council's membership should be more balanced and representative, there should be better links between the Council and other United Nations bodies and the veto should be eliminated. In particular, in light of its share in the global population, the Arab world should be duly represented on the Council.

Ms. Y. FERRER GÓMEZ (Cuba) stressed the need to make the United Nations more dynamic in order to address the problems facing the world. The Security Council must be reformed in terms of the number of its permanent and non-permanent members and made more transparent. Peace and international security were at risk on a daily basis from violations of human rights, including the use or threat of force, failure to respect the sovereignty of States and interference in their domestic affairs, nuclear weapons and the increasing military expenditure of NATO. The General Assembly was the only United Nations body in which all countries were equal and renewed efforts to enable it to fight for peace were needed.

Mr. K. BARHAM (Jordan) said that his delegation supported reform of the United Nations and that its resolutions must be implemented by all countries. Parliamentarians must maintain dialogue with their governments on human rights issues. Lastly, all peoples and countries should be on an equal footing; democracy, human rights and development were local concepts but should be shared internationally.

Baroness HOOPER (United Kingdom) emphasized the important role played by the United Nations and acknowledged the need for innovation in and reform of its work. The issue of refugees required additional attention and she wondered what the IPU and parliamentarians could do to strengthen the role of the United Nations in that regard.

The representative of IRAQ asked whether United Nations resolutions were solely of moral significance or whether they were binding. That issue was of particular relevance to the effort to combat terrorism and terrorist financing.

Ms. J. FOTSO (Cameroon) said that any reform of the United Nations should take into account new forms of criminality, including emerging terrorist organizations. Preventive action, with a particular focus on conflicts between countries and terrorist groups, was essential.

Ms. I. PEREIRA-SOARES (Timor-Leste) paid tribute to the work of the United Nations and to the assistance that her country had received from it in the hope that that support would continue. Her delegation agreed that reform and review of the organization's activities was needed.

Ms. C.M. NABWALA (Kenya) said that, with United Nations support, her country had made significant progress towards gender equality. A National Gender and Equality Commission had been established to review legislation and make recommendations to ensure that the provisions of the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women were implemented. Many relevant pieces of legislation had been promulgated and research into customary law had been conducted in order to identify instances in which it might discriminate against women or conflict with statutory law.

However, the United Nations and its development partners tended to set agendas based on targets and goals rather than the needs of countries. Key examples included HIV/AIDS and Ebola, where the focus had been on treatment rather than awareness-raising, prevention and research. Although the United Nations had made significant contributions to development, more needed to be done to address gaps, particularly in terms of basic needs. Terrorism, insecurity, climate change and political instability were also issues that required urgent attention in order to create an enabling environment for implementation of the future SDGs.

Mr. L. MONTIEL, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations, *keynote speaker*, said that the role of parliaments in international relations was a substantial issue within the United Nations. While he agreed that reform of the Security Council was an important issue, it was a matter for Member States to address. Members of Parliament could play an important role in that regard. Parliaments were responsible for holding their governments accountable, particularly by monitoring the use of official development assistance (ODA). They should also ensure that the provisions of international treaties were incorporated into national legislation.

Ms. B. BISHOP, Speaker of the House of Representatives, Australia, *panellist*, said that a key issue was action by non-State actors, many of which now had access to powerful weapons and were using social media as a tool for recruitment. That question should be as prominent as United Nations reform.

Mr. M. TOMMASOLI, Permanent Observer for International Idea to the United Nations, *panellist*, said he agreed that accountability at the global, regional and national levels was vital and that parliaments had an important role to play in that regard. The term "refugee" was being used differently than in the past and was closely related to the concepts of citizenship and respect for human rights; how countries dealt with refugees was a strong indicator of their level of democracy. Lastly, gender empowerment had been an important achievement of the United Nations; its work had had an important transformational impact and should be continued.

*The sitting rose at 11.30 a.m.*

**SITTING OF TUESDAY 31 MARCH**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.10 a.m. with Mr. M. El Hassan Al Amin (Sudan), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.*

**Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 131<sup>st</sup> IPU Assembly in Geneva (October 2014)**

The CHAIR said he took it that the Committee wished to approve the summary records of its previous session, held in Geneva in October 2014.

*It was so decided.*

**Review of IPU field missions to examine interaction between UN country teams and national parliaments**

The CHAIR introduced the moderator, Mr. D. Dawson, Member of the Senate, Canada, and the panellists: Ms. S. Beavers, Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes Team, UNDP; Mr. O. Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu, Member of Parliament, Ghana; and Ms. S. Lyimo, Member of the National Assembly, United Republic of Tanzania.

The MODERATOR said that the past 20 years had seen rapid development in the relationship between the IPU and the United Nations with agreements, yearly meetings and, most importantly, joint visits to countries such as Albania, Fiji, Sierra Leone, Viet Nam and the United Republic of Tanzania. Those visits were a practical way to promote the role of parliamentarians in implementing development activities, which was vital for the achievement of globally agreed goals and targets.

Ms. S. BEAVERS, Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes Team, United Nations Development Programme, *panellist*, said that each of the countries in which the organization was active had a country team that comprised representatives of the various United Nations system entities working there and was led by a Resident Coordinator to ensure that all work was carried out in a coordinated fashion. Activities were guided by the United Nations Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) for the country in question, which was prepared through a robust consultation process involving many stakeholders. There had been significant progress in engaging parliaments in that process in many countries, but more needed to be done to ensure that they were seen as active participants in development rather than recipients of assistance. The UNDP was leading the charge in facilitating democratic governance and provided support to one out of three parliaments worldwide in areas such as technical assistance, dialogue, conflict prevention and facilitation of relationships with other stakeholders. Other system agencies that cooperated with parliaments included UN Women, the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) and UNICEF.

System-wide coordination was the key to success, but it was not possible in all countries. The United Republic of Tanzania was a good example of active collaboration among a range of United Nations agencies and of parliaments and system agencies working together. There were three main ways in which parliaments could involve themselves with development work at the country level: participation in the drafting of national development plans and strategies, oversight of national processes and consultations between parliaments and the United Nations agencies active in the country.

Mr. O. KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU, Member of Parliament, Ghana, *panellist*, said that in some countries, statutory limitations and constitutional imperatives risked endowing the executive branch with absolute power, marginalizing the representatives of the people; such challenges needed to be addressed. While Ghana had worked with United Nations bodies since its independence, such collaboration had involved the Government rather than Parliament. In recent years, the importance of parliamentary collaboration had been recognized but had not been well structured. The past five years had seen more serious engagement in pursuit of the MDGs. Ghana faced many challenges in that regard, primarily as a result of its agriculture-based economy and poor rainfall, which also affected hydroelectric power generation and had a knock-on effect on industry and infrastructure growth. Parliamentary interaction with system agencies had focused on involving Parliament in



setting the national development agenda and strengthening parliamentary oversight, including tracking and tracing funding received from the United Nations; it had recently developed a platform to engage with donor partners, the executive and civil society in order to identify gaps and areas for improvement.

Ms. S. LYIMO, Member of the National Assembly, United Republic of Tanzania, *panellist*, said that her country, including its parliament, had benefited greatly from United Nations involvement. A focus on gender equality through parliamentary workshops on the issue had increased the number of women candidates in the most recent parliamentary elections. UNDP had been particularly active in that respect and she hoped that its collaboration would continue.

The representative of MYANMAR said that since 2012, when his country had joined the IPU, the latter's Secretariat had organized a parliamentary needs assessment and missions to develop a library, information and research service and provide training on information and communication technologies and management. Since 2014, IPU activities had been carried out under the auspices of the joint UNDP/IPU Parliamentary Support Programme. Ongoing activities focused on developing a digital parliament with projects on improving information and communication infrastructure, training staff to use computers and building a digital database of parliamentary information. A handbook for new Members of Parliament was also being developed and revised.

Ms. J. FOTSO (Cameroon) expressed her delegation's appreciation for the work of the United Nations in her country. It had improved women's representation in parliament by, among other things, helping to reform electoral law. However, funding for women candidates remained a significant challenge and there was no national structure in place to address the issue. She asked how countries could further use the United Nations system to help empower women in politics.

Mr. MINH HUE HA (Viet Nam) said that the main conclusion of the IPU field visits to his country, conducted in 2009 and 2014, had been that tripartite cooperation between the IPU, UNAIDS and member parliaments through such visits was effective and should be continued. The first visit, conducted in December 2009, had focused on HIV/AIDS; the visit team had met with, among others, heads of parliamentary committees, the Deputy Minister of Health, the UNAIDS Country Director and the head of a network of people suffering from HIV/AIDS. Discussions had focused on the HIV/AIDS situation in his country and the impact of the Law on HIV/AIDS Prevention and Control. Viet Nam had been applauded for its efforts to ensure that the provisions of that Law did not contradict those of the country's legislation on the use of drugs; however, its lack of trained health care professionals had been noted and it had been recommended that a specific budgetary allocation be made in order to address the shortfall. During the second visit, conducted in 2014, the visit team had documented good practices and made recommendations on how Viet Nam could further strengthen its AIDS response. Strong and sustained political will and the continued involvement of all parts of society, including people living with HIV/AIDS, were vital in that regard.

Mr. E.M.S. NATCHIAPPAN (India) said that there was an increasing need for cooperation between the IPU and the United Nations in various areas. He welcomed the recommendations contained in the report of the Advisory Group to the IPU Committee on United Nations Affairs Parliamentary Field Mission to Viet Nam (UNC/3/R.1), which showed that parliaments had a key role to play in decision-making, oversight and implementation of development programmes through regular engagement with United Nations country teams. They could also play an important role by increasing trust in the work of the organization and political will to implement its development programmes. However, although interaction between parliaments and country teams was important, the primary relationship should continue to be between those teams and governments.

Mr. A. ALMANSOORI (United Arab Emirates), expressing his delegation's appreciation for the work of UNDP in his country, said that key challenges included interacting with governments, academia and the private sector during United Nations activities; transferring know-how in a way that helped societies become productive rather than merely consuming; encouraging governments to include parliaments in the development process; and bridging the gap between local cultures and United Nations principles and values.

Ms. K. KOMI (Finland) asked how the United Nations Delivering as One initiative was progressing; she understood that there continued to be "teething problems" both at headquarters and in the field. It was important for parliaments to be proactive in their interactions with the United

Nations and for any such dialogue to be structured. She wondered what had been done to address the recommendation that the former Advisory Group had made to the Committee in 2013, regarding the need for clearer guidelines on interaction between parliaments and United Nations country teams, and would be interested to know how such interaction was structured in different countries.

Ms. H. ALHELAISSI (Saudi Arabia) noted that progress had been made in many countries, but not those that were experiencing conflict or fragility. It was important to look at the causes of poverty, one of which was an absence of conflict. The five goals identified at the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding in 2010 – legitimate politics, security, justice, economic foundations and revenues and services – did not necessarily resolve the issues affecting those living in conflict-affected and fragile States. It was important to consider how the United Nations could realistically achieve those goals, measure and supervise their implementation and hold accountable countries which had not made progress and whose commitment was not of the level and sustainability required.

Ms. A. KACHIKHO (Malawi) said that UNDP was very active in her country; it had hired consultants to draft Malawi's most recent strategic plan, which had been guiding the operations of the National Assembly; funded its participation in the most recent meeting of the Commission on the Status of Women, which had increased understanding of women's rights as a global issue; and organized several workshops to help increase the number of women in parliament. In addition, UN Women had provided funding for meetings of her parliament's Women's Caucus to enable discussion of issues of interest to women, particularly with regard to legislation.

Mr. F. R. MAHAZOASY (Madagascar) said that the United Nations system had played an active role in his country by helping to restore democracy and strengthening the capacities of all parliamentarians, particularly women. Continued support would be needed so that Members of Parliament could fulfil their commitment to pursuing development and economic growth.

Ms. S. LYIMO, Member of the National Assembly, United Republic of Tanzania, *panellist*, said that her country was lucky to enjoy United Nations support for its legislative activities, which had enhanced the capacity of parliamentarians, improved the use of information and communication technologies, and expanded outreach to voters. She encouraged the United Nations to support other parliaments in a similar way, particularly in the area of oversight. Seminars on gender equality organized by UNDP, for example, had led to a more gender-sensitive parliament and to the incorporation of a gender perspective into the review of the Constitution.

Ms. S. BEAVERS, Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes Team, United Nations Development Programme, *panellist*, said that she welcomed the willingness of parliaments to cooperate with UNDP and the importance attached to gender equality, particularly in parliament. That tenet had been central to her organization's work with parliaments and had now been principally taken up by UN Women. More targeted cooperation with political parties was needed, and UNDP was beginning to undertake such activities. Viet Nam was a good example of collaboration and support between the IPU, the United Nations and the national parliament.

UNDP had convened the Global Commission on HIV and the Law, which had stressed that laws could be both positive and problematic. Members of Parliament were responsible for helping to ensure that their countries took a rights-based approach to HIV, and UNDP was active in that area as well. Knowledge transfer was another key aspect of its work and it was focusing on South-South and triangular cooperation. The decision to take a unified approach through the United Nations country teams represented a paradigm shift and the transition had not always been smooth; however, significant progress had been made and, in addition to the pilot countries, a number of country teams had changed their strategies. One key area for improvement was the interaction between country teams and parliaments. She acknowledged the comment made by the representative of Saudi Arabia regarding conflicts and said that in many cases, there was insufficient engagement with parliaments during peace processes; more needed to be done in that regard.

Mr. O. KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU, Member of Parliament, Ghana, *panellist*, said that it was important to align United Nations country team activities with national development agendas. Parliamentary involvement in the development of strategic goals and oversight activities was important, especially as parliaments played a role in the use of development financing. It was important to engage with governments at an early stage in order to reconcile policies and

programmes with the yearly budget cycle. Capacity-building for Members of Parliament was vital but presented a challenge in the many countries, including Ghana, whose parliaments had a high turnover rate. More should also be done to strengthen parliamentary committees in terms of human, technical and financial resources and to increase the number of women in parliament; his party had recently proposed ring-fencing the number of women parliamentarians and encouraging women to run for office, proposals which had not been welcomed across the board. The issue was a particular challenge in Ghana because of ethnic, religious and educational barriers and social concerns.

*The sitting was suspended at 10.30 a.m. and resumed at 10.45 a.m.*

### **Assessment of parliaments' institutional capacities to mainstream the new Sustainable Development Goals into their work**

The CHAIR introduced the panellists: Ms. E. Nursanty, Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia; Ms. C. Roth, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany; and Ms. L. Rojas, Member of the Senate, Mexico. The session was moderated by Mr. A. Motter, Economic and Social Affairs Advisor, IPU.

The MODERATOR, noting the broad nature of the SDGs, said that a key challenge for parliaments would be to monitor their implementation, particularly as each goal applied to every country in one way or another. The IPU had carried out studies to identify parliaments that had established a dedicated committee, caucus or coordinating structure for the MDGs, as well as a survey of their readiness for implementation of the SDGs. The results had not been particularly promising; of the 57 respondents, only 16 were reviewing their committee systems to mainstream all of the new Goals into parliamentary work and only 28 planned to ask their governments for a report on how the SDGs would affect their country and how the governments were intending to implement them.

Ms. E. NURSANTY, Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia, *panellist*, said that her parliament had established a task force under the auspices of its Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation, with a membership that included Members of Parliament from all parties, as the focal point for national coordination and international networking on the MDGs and the SDGs. It met monthly to monitor achievement of the Goals and carried out field visits to provincial governments and municipal areas, as a result of which several bills and policies had been adopted and increased budgetary resources had been allocated to health care.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, said that one fundamental difference between the MDGs and the SDGs was that the latter were universal, applying to all countries whether they were developed or developing. Industrialized countries had a duty to discuss the impact of their economic systems and lifestyles on sustainable development and to recognize their common but differentiated responsibilities, particularly at the upcoming international conferences, in order to achieve results. She encouraged countries not to eliminate any of the SDGs; although 17 was an ambitious number, it had the support of most countries, including the Group of 77. She stressed the importance of the upcoming 21<sup>st</sup> Session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Lastly, governments should be urged to make clear proposals with a normative basis so that their implementation could be monitored.

Responding to a question from the Moderator, she said that the SDGs should be discussed by parliamentary committees and by parliaments as a whole. Germany had established a Parliamentary Advisory Council on Sustainable Development comprising members from all political parties, which took a consensus-based approach and was focusing on ways to implement the future Goals. The Council issued reports and recommendations and scrutinized the work of the Government and of parliamentary committees.

Ms L. ROJAS, Member of the Senate, Mexico, *panellist*, said that in 2014, her party had proposed the establishment of a bicameral committee on the SDGs to help formulate Mexico's position in the discussions. However, that proposal had been rejected by the Bureaus of both houses of parliament. Instead, it had been agreed to set up a working group comprising representatives of all relevant parliamentary committees. For Goals on multifaceted issues such as poverty, multiple committees were involved.

Responding to a question from the Moderator regarding ways to ensure the proper functioning of such a group, for example, by providing adequate resources, she said that in order to prevent it from taking an ad hoc approach to its work, the working group had been established with a clear mandate as the primary forum for discussion of the SDGs at the federal and local levels with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society, involved in its work.

Ms. E. NURSANTY, Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia, *panellist*, added that the task force in her country had greater authority than a working group as it had been established by law and had the ability to both issue recommendations and conduct inquiries in order to hold the Government accountable.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, said that it was important to learn how the SDGs were understood by governments, parliaments and parliamentary committees. Parliamentarians should have been included in the negotiations on the new Goals. She agreed that discussions and activities must be carried out at all levels, national, state and local; cooperation with civil society, local communities and groups, including religious groups, was also needed.

Mr. E.M.S. NATCHIAPPAN (India) said that his country had addressed the MDGs one by one through a package of activities that included the adoption of legislation and had established a parliamentary forum on the issue, which was co-chaired by the Speakers of both houses of Parliament. Parliamentary participation in implementation through committees and budget allocations had been ensured and, given the importance of accountability, legislation enabling any citizen to question the Government on its activities in that sphere had been adopted.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, said that a holistic approach was vital to the success of the SDGs, particularly those related to climate change, and encouraged India to play a constructive role in the upcoming Climate Change Conference.

Mr. A. ALMANSOORI (United Arab Emirates) said that his country's parliament had not established a specific committee on the SDGs since its principal activities in that regard – the enactment of legislation and oversight – would come later in the process, after the adoption of the Goals. A key challenge lay in the fact that many countries lacked the capacity for long-term strategic planning, which, when handled by external parties, was not necessarily understood at the grass-roots level. Development approaches should emphasize the rule of law, innovation and equal opportunities for all. Parliaments had a key role to play in ratifying international agreements in relevant areas and informing the public as to their meaning and impact. Lastly, all policies should have a social dimension, for example, by ensuring that economies created jobs.

Mr. P. MARTIN-LALANDE (France) said that specific parliamentary committees on the SDGs were unnecessary since their establishment required financial resources and had legal implications. It was preferable to make use of the existing parliamentary architecture and committees, which could mainstream the relevant Goals into their work and monitor progress and budgetary needs. Those efforts could be strengthened by a mechanism for coordination between committees.

Ms. C.M. NABWALA (Kenya) said that there was a need for policy guidance on implementation of the SDGs in order to boost productivity, competitiveness and growth and harness innovation. Parliaments should promote dialogue with all stakeholders, including civil society and the private sector, in that regard. Traditional parliamentary tools such as committees and inquiries could still be used, but there was also a need for interaction between such committees and for appropriate budgetary allocations to ensure an integrated approach to sustainable development. Increased resources were essential in order to enable better training and enhanced participation of parliamentarians in the negotiation of multilateral agreements and of bilateral agreements between parliaments. For Kenya, the main barriers to implementation of the SDGs were inadequate financial resources, poverty and food insecurity.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, said that although job creation was important, such efforts should be combined with activities that focused on climate change and the environment since jobs that destroyed the planet were not sustainable. She strongly supported the establishment of parliamentary groups that focused on the SDGs, as the Parliamentary Advisory Council did in Germany, an approach that enabled ministers and parliament to work together.

Ms. E. NURSANTY, Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia, *panellist*, said that there were a number of ways to mainstream the SDGs into the work of parliaments. The field visits conducted by her country's Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation had shown that, at the local level, there was often little understanding of the MDGs and what they entailed. Therefore, a key activity of the task force was awareness-raising at the governmental, parliamentary and community levels.

Ms L. ROJAS, Member of the Senate, Mexico, *panellist*, said that a specific parliamentary group was needed in order to develop a road map on SDG implementation for use by all parliamentary committees and to oversee implementation of the Goals. That group should comprise members of all the other committees and should serve as a forum that enabled them to coordinate their work and provided an opportunity for consultation with experts.

The MODERATOR invited comments on ways for parliamentary committees to provide input into their governments' formulation of national sustainable development plans, whether through a specific working group or other coordinated approach.

The representative of ALGERIA said that gender equality was not an issue in his country, which was taking steps to address matters related to sustainable development. Establishing a specific parliamentary body on the SDGs would require substantial efforts and resources. Moreover, as the Goals were universal in nature, developed nations should undertake to support developing countries' efforts to achieve them in a spirit of international solidarity. In addition, more needed to be done to make the voice of the IPU more audible within the United Nations and to ensure that the latter's decisions were respected and implemented.

Baroness HOOPER (United Kingdom) said that field-level action in pursuit of the SDGs was as important as coordination between parliamentary bodies. In her country, the European Scrutiny Committee assessed proposals emanating from the European Union. Parliamentary groups were required to include representatives of both houses of Parliament and of all political parties. Those groups cooperated effectively with civil society and representatives of NGOs regularly attended their meetings to give evidence on specific issues. One key way to disseminate knowledge to all relevant stakeholders, including the local communities, was to work with NGOs. She would welcome information on other forms of parliamentary interaction with civil society.

The CHAIR, speaking as the representative of the SUDAN, said that his country had established a mixed committee made up of parliamentarians and members of the executive branch, which monitored implementation of the MDGs and would expand its work to include the SDGs. A principal implementation challenge for his country was a lack of resources; developing countries would need increased financial support from industrialized nations in order to implement the new Goals, failing which there would be a major disparity in levels of achievement.

Mr. P. MARTIN-LALANDE (France) said that efforts to achieve the SDGs should be as coordinated as possible and awareness-raising among parliamentary committees would be vital in that regard. Each committee should designate one of its members to serve as a focal point for the Goals in order to enable a proactive approach, which could be complemented by other activities.

Mr. E.H.D SYLLA (Guinea) pointed out that many countries, including his own, lacked the resources to establish a specific parliamentary committee on the SDGs; a report produced by a think tank had suggested that US\$ 1 billion would be needed to implement them. Moreover, the Goals did not apply equally to all countries; for example, the concerns of African nations, such as safe drinking water, access to education and poverty, were diametrically opposed to those of developed countries. He was therefore concerned that the suggested approach seemed to be for countries to help themselves; the support and solidarity that had been the basis for implementation of the MDGs would still be needed in pursuit of the new Goals.

The MODERATOR said that each country would need to prioritize its implementation of the SDGs based on its specific circumstances; however, some elements of the Goals did indeed apply to all countries.

Mr. B. MERJANEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that it would be important to clearly explain the concept of sustainable development in order to enable both governments and citizens to participate in that process. The SDGs were clear and although there was some overlap between them, that was to be expected owing to the cross-cutting and complementary nature of the challenges faced. However, governments and parliaments must be held accountable for their

implementation. A pilot project in his country had assessed the situation in the field and led to the development of short-, medium- and long-term proposals. He therefore believed that a dedicated parliamentary committee on sustainable development, independent of the government, was essential.

The MODERATOR acknowledged that the Syrian Arab Republic faced particular challenges in implementing the MDGs and SDGs because of the ongoing armed conflict in the country, which, according to UNDP, had been a significant factor in its failure to reach the MDGs; that situation was likely to pose a continuing challenge to achievement of the new Goals.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, said that developed and developing countries faced common challenges such as climate change, which, if not addressed, would make it difficult for the world to survive. Gender equality was another such issue; in Germany, for example, there was no guarantee of equal pay and although women comprised 52 per cent of the population, only 39 per cent of Members of Parliament were women. She acknowledged the need for solidarity with developing countries and stressed the importance of ensuring a constructive outcome to the Third International Conference on Financing for Development; a lack of results at that meeting would have an impact on the outcome of the upcoming conferences on the SDGs and climate change, both of which were of crucial importance. Lastly, she agreed that action at the local level on the SDGs was essential.

Ms. E. NURSANTY, Member of the House of Representatives, Indonesia, *panellist*, said that her country's task force had prepared a questionnaire that had been distributed to all Members of Parliament and could be used to gather information from their constituencies in order to measure achievement of the MDGs at the local level. A task force or similar body facilitated the building of synergies among all stakeholders and was an invaluable tool.

The representative of ALGERIA said that cultural concepts of freedom and gender equality differed; in his country, there were many women Members of Parliament and wage disparity was not an issue. He emphasized the importance of solidarity among members of the international community; the developed countries, which played a fundamental role in setting standards, had a responsibility to support developing countries in their implementation of the SDGs.

Ms. C. ROTH, Deputy Speaker of the Bundestag, Germany, *panellist*, reiterating that gender equality was a challenge in her country, said that one of the main achievements of the negotiations on the SDGs was the achievement of broad consensus that included the Group of 77. She agreed that international solidarity was vital and stressed that countries had common but differentiated responsibilities in that regard.

The MODERATOR said that the discussion had confirmed that it was important for parliaments to assess their capacity to effectively mainstream the SDGs after their adoption. Such an assessment could be conducted in different ways, including by convening a meeting of parliamentary committee leaders or a session of parliament as a whole.

### **Elections to the Bureau of the Standing Committee**

The CHAIR announced that there were six vacant seats on the Bureau of the Standing Committee: three from the Eurasia Group and one each from the African Group, the Asia-Pacific Group and the Twelve Plus Group. The following nominations had been received: Mr. D.G. Boko (Botswana) for the African Group; Mr. A.K. Azad (Bangladesh) for the Asia-Pacific Group; Mr. K. Kosachev (Russian Federation) for the Eurasia Group; and Mr. A. Avsan (Sweden) for the Twelve Plus Group. He took it that the Standing Committee wished to approve the nominations.

*It was so decided.*

He reminded the Committee that no nominations for the two remaining vacant seats had been received from the Eurasia Group and encouraged members of the Bureau to attend its next meeting to enable the election of a new Chairman.

*The sitting rose at 12.45 p.m.*

# Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

**SUNDAY, 29 MARCH**

(Morning)

*The sitting was called to order at 9.35 a.m. with Mr. F. Al-Tenaiji (United Arab Emirates), President of the Forum, in the Chair.*

## **Adoption of the agenda**

The agenda was adopted.

## **Election of members of the Board of the Forum from the Eurasia Group**

The PRESIDENT informed the Forum that two seats remained vacant on the Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians after the elections held at the 131<sup>st</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. They were to be filled by young members of parliament (one man and one woman) from the Eurasia Group. Since no candidatures had been received thus far, the seats would remain vacant. He said that candidatures should be submitted as soon as possible by the Eurasia Group.

## **Contribution to the work of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly**

The PRESIDENT invited members of the Forum to share their views from a youth perspective on the subject to be discussed by the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, *Cyber warfare – a serious threat to peace and global security*.

The SECRETARY OF THE FORUM recalled that, in line with its procedures, the Forum had appointed a representative, Mr. D. Vintimilla (Ecuador), to consider the issue and draft a report on the youth perspective. The report had been submitted to the co-Rapporteurs of the Standing Committee with sufficient lead time for them to give it due consideration as input in preparing their report and draft resolution. She encouraged Forum members to participate in the Standing Committee's discussions and draw further attention to the youth perspective. She suggested that future reports should be circulated earlier so that members could propose amendments to the draft resolutions, either through their national delegations or in their own names, by the statutory deadline.

Mr. V. GAPSYS (Lithuania) commended the youth perspective report and said he had proposed several amendments to the draft resolution. He said it was particularly important for the resolution to include clear guidelines on how and when to address cyber warfare, and on strengthening the links between governments, businesses and civil society. He had proposed keeping a register of cyber attacks, perhaps in the context of the United Nations, to monitor their frequency and consequences. He expressed disappointment that the Forum would not have the opportunity to present its own amendments to the draft resolutions prepared by the Standing Committee.

Ms. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan) said that a clear definition of the term cyber warfare was essential, stressing that cyber warfare was a reality and would only increase in future. She said it was particularly difficult to identify the perpetrators of cyber warfare and that an overarching debate on all aspects of the issue was therefore crucial. Empirical scientific studies and far-reaching, open journalism would be particularly valuable. As a matter of utmost urgency, she called for measures to prevent use of the Internet for warfare, particularly given the growth in mobile telephones and tablets with Internet capacity, the Internet having been designed without much regard for cyber safety.

Ms. R. SARASWATI (Indonesia) said that without a globally agreed definition of cyber warfare any guidance given by the international community on the issue would be subject to an array of interpretations. She said the lack of consensus among national political and military leaders as to what actually constituted cyber warfare was hampering cyber security and that definitions of cyber warfare often did not reference the global nature of cyberspace, thus inhibiting attempts to reach an international consensus. She said that an internationally agreed code of ethics on the use of cyberspace would also be a major step forward.

She recalled that Indonesia had been a victim of State-sponsored cyber espionage and was therefore strengthening its national cyber defence mechanism. The Indonesian army had signed a memorandum of understanding with academic stakeholders to develop a cyber defence and warfare centre. She called for parliamentarians around the world to make similar efforts to establish cyber defence training in connection with academic institutions. Communities that had previously had no amenities were rapidly obtaining Internet connectivity, and computer literacy among the younger generations was increasing exponentially. In that context, parents often did not have the requisite knowledge to monitor and guide their children's use of the Internet. She said that situation must be rectified and that family empowerment was therefore a particularly important element in the fight against cyber crime.

Ms. B.G. PATIL (India) said that the increasing dependence on technology was giving rise to a new breed of tech-savvy fraudsters, with increasingly innovative ways of conducting cyber attacks, and that young people were particularly vulnerable to such attacks. Reported cyber crime cases in India had increased significantly over the past two years, and urgent preventive measures were being taken. Law enforcement authorities were being trained in mobile surveillance and in tracing anonymous e-mails and phishing. Particular efforts were being made to address child-related cyber crime and to raise public awareness about the importance of safe digital storage of personal data.

Mr. L. MÄNNISTÖ (Finland) agreed that clear definitions must be included in the draft resolution, distinguishing in particular between cyber crime and warfare and defining cyber espionage and sabotage. He called for efforts to influence younger generations – the Internet's most prolific users and thus statistically more likely to be influenced by cyber warfare – both as victims and as perpetrators. Beyond efforts to prevent criminal activities, he stressed the importance of monitoring to prevent misuses of the Internet, even those that technically might be within the parameters of the law.

Mr. NGUYEN DAC VINH (Viet Nam) said that although the birth and growth of the Internet had brought considerable benefits to mankind, it had also created risks and challenges. The potential consequences of cyber warfare would be much more dangerous, he said, than those of traditional forms of warfare. Since cyberspace had no borders, attacks could come from anywhere on the Internet, making cyber warfare particularly unpredictable and rendering the tracing of perpetrators especially difficult. His delegation urged the IPU to issue a declaration calling on all countries to desist from any form of cyber attack, encouraging governments to cooperate and share best practices on cyber crime prevention, and recommending (a) that the United Nations draft and adopt an international covenant on cyber security and safety, and (b) that governments enhance the capacity of national information security systems and clearly define the rights and responsibilities of individuals and organizations using the Internet.

Mr. R. ABDI (Morocco) underscored the key role of education and employment in preventing cyber warfare: people who had not benefitted from adequate standards of education and had not found employment sometimes lived on the margins of the law and did not fully understand the consequences of their actions. He said that governments bore a heavy responsibility to tackle the root causes of cyber crime by providing all young people with an education and equal access to gainful employment opportunities.

Ms. T.M. DZIVA (Zimbabwe) said that cyber crime was becoming increasingly visible in Africa, where connectivity was growing rapidly. At the same time, as a consequence of high levels of unemployment, young people were falling victim to trafficking and slavery in their search for greener pastures. Terrorism, as increasingly spread by the Internet, was also on the rise in Africa. She said that a globally agreed definition of cyber warfare would be beneficial for countries, such as Zimbabwe, where no domestic legislation had yet been adopted on cyber crime or warfare.

Mr. G. MONDE (Zambia) said that owing to the extremely rapid increase in mobile connectivity in developing countries, many governments were unprepared for the possibility of cyber warfare. He said the growth of technology in Africa made the threat of cyber crime and warfare imminent and that young people must be educated about the potential dangers of technology. He recommended a holistic approach to tackling cyber warfare, including education and efforts to mitigate unemployment while also preventing the Internet from being used for criminal purposes. He warned that cyber crime and warfare knew no borders and must therefore be tackled through a concerted, combined effort.



Mr. M. HUN (Cambodia) considered the discussion of cyber warfare timely and important. He noted that access to information technology was increasing the world over, with younger generations becoming increasingly tech-savvy. He said that while access to information was essential and should not be compromised, young people had often not learned how to think critically about the information they received. Education was therefore extremely important. Policy and legislation needed to be approached holistically in each country, while maintaining freedom of information. He said that open dialogue at the national level about the potential threats and dangers of the Internet would help to raise awareness. He observed that although cyber warfare was a global security issue, States were not on a level playing field. He recommended that a monitoring mechanism and code of conduct therefore be developed at the United Nations level, applying to all States. He said that accountability between States was key.

Mr. K. KIYINGI BBOSA (Uganda) observed that the increasing involvement of young people in social media and online gaming was exposing them to cyber threats. To counter such threats he said that governments must reach out to young people to show them the benefits of responsible Internet use, while also monitoring online content to identify and prevent cyber threats.

Ms. V. KALIMA (Zambia) agreed that a globally accepted definition of cyber warfare was essential. She observed that cyber warfare was often waged for the purposes of sabotage and espionage. Recommendations related to the misuse of cyber space, at national and international levels, she said, should be grounded in the fact that target groups often included young people. She concluded that educating young people in the proper use of the Internet would be critical to addressing cyber warfare. She expressed disappointment, finally, that the Forum was not in a position to submit proposed amendments to the draft resolutions of the standing committees.

Mr. C.T. ZERPA (Venezuela) said that his delegation had submitted several proposed amendments to the draft resolution. He said that information technology was giving rise to a new form of warfare that constituted a serious threat to world peace. He said that States should use technology as a tool for development, not to violate international law, and should categorically reject its use to intercept communications. He suggested that countries and regions be encouraged to share their experiences and best practices with regard to cyber security in an effort to seek solutions to the challenges and threats posed by cyber warfare.

The PRESIDENT said that since young people were often the most tech-savvy and prone to misuses of the Internet, they could play an important role in advising legislators on measures to deal with cyber crime and warfare, which he considered an extremely serious threat. He said the IPU could better inform its discussions on the problem by involving young people – as part of the problem and as part of the solution.

The Forum was invited to discuss the agenda item to be taken up by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade: *Shaping a new system of water governance: promoting parliamentary action on water and sanitation*. A youth perspective report on the item had not been prepared.

Mr. R. AKUJA (India) noted that access to safe drinking water, as a prerequisite for human health and well-being, had been recognised as a human right by the United Nations General Assembly and that achieving universal access to drinking water remained one of the greatest challenges to development. He said that India had launched a mission to minimize water wastage and optimize water resource development and management, including through rainwater harvesting. He stressed the importance of ensuring equal democratic opportunities for all, allowing young people in particular to bring innovative approaches to the political processes of water management. He said that safe drinking water for all should be a matter of the highest priority.

Mr. R. ABDI (Morocco) said that younger generations were destined to suffer from today's poor water management. Given the intensity of climate change, global warming and urbanization, he said it was likely that even in places where supplies were currently adequate, water would become scarce in future. Climate change had significantly affected Morocco's water supplies, with more intense rainfall and greater flooding than ever before. The infrastructure in parts of the country, particularly in the Sahara, was not able to cope with such an increase in rainfall; bridges had been destroyed, and many homes and lives had been lost. While some countries were suffering from drought, others were facing different water-related challenges. He called for improvements in water management for future generations, with young people involved at the political level.

Ms. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan) stressed the importance of balance between drinking water needs and irrigation needs in his country, where water scarcity was severe owing to low rainfall, limited water collection and very few waterways. The Arab-Israeli conflict and other wars in the region had brought large influxes of refugees into Jordan, straining the adequacy of already scarce resources. Long-term solutions, meeting both drinking water and irrigation needs, were therefore required. She said the Government of Jordan had launched initiatives to study water management and planning and establish a balance between traditional water supplies and renewable resources. She said that guidelines were needed on the rational and proper use of water and that a decree on accountability in this regard was currently before the Jordanian Parliament.

Mr. Y. MPAWENI (Malawi) said that Malawi, one of the poorest countries in Africa, was facing serious challenges related to water shortages, affecting its young people in particular. He said that despite its large lakes and rivers, Africa suffered from a severe lack of water distribution technology. Many young people, required to walk considerable distances to fetch water, were often unable to attend school and dropped out of education as a result.

Ms. R.J. SMITH (Sierra Leone) said that extensive urban migration had occurred in Sierra Leone after the civil war, placing a considerable strain on Freetown's resources. Water in particular was now rationed. She said that the young people who went to collect water for their families each day, usually girls, often had to wait around late at night and were vulnerable to abuse and rape. Teenage pregnancy had increased as a result. The country had also had to contend with the Ebola crisis. Although the Government had made efforts to address the situation, the country's lack of hospitals and treatment centres with adequate water supplies had deepened the crisis. She said that other killers in Africa included cholera and diseases linked to contaminated drinking water, since much of the water that people consumed had not been purified and was riddled with bacteria, and that greater emphasis must be placed on strengthening water systems in developing countries.

#### **Update and discussion on the forum's activities in 2014 and 2015**

The PRESIDENT reported on the Forum's activities over the past six months. He said that in 2014 the IPU had launched a programme of research into youth participation in parliament and organized networking activities for young parliamentarians. A number of meetings had been held on youth participation in politics and decision-making, at national and regional levels, as well as jointly with other international organizations, including the United Nations Economic and Social Council, to discuss youth engagement in the transition from the Millennium Development Goals to the post-2015 sustainable development goals. He recalled that the 2015 IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians would be held in Tokyo, on 27 and 28 May 2015, and encouraged Forum members to attend.

Mr. T. SHIMIZU (Japan) invited Forum members to attend the Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians to discuss democracy, peace and prosperity, and contribute to the search for solutions to the many problems faced by young people around the world. He said the Conference would serve as a platform for sharing experiences and seeking innovative solutions.

Ms. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan) said that invitations to the Conference and similar events should be sent directly to young parliamentarians.

Ms. T.M. DZIVA (Zimbabwe) suggested that the chairpersons of parliamentary youth committees should also be invited to participate in such events.

The SECRETARY OF THE FORUM said that while the invitations were sent to speakers of parliament, who would decide which parliamentarians would participate in the event, it might be possible, while leaving the ultimate decision to the speaker's discretion, to draw attention to specific individuals.

#### ***Global Parliamentary Report***

Mr. A. RICHARDSON (IPU Secretariat) introduced the second Global Parliamentary Report, which he said was a major new research project to analyse challenges and make recommendations to strengthen parliaments. The first Report, which had been compiled jointly by the IPU and UNDP in 2012, had analysed the changing nature of parliamentary representation, with a focus on how parliamentarians responded to public expectations. He said that in the effort to

identify a theme for the second Report, an initial consultation process had culminated in 30 proposals from researchers and academics. Those proposals had been discussed and synthesized into three potential themes: *Parliaments' power to hold governments to account – the realities and perspectives for the futures*; *The place of money, lobbying and ethics in parliamentary life*; and *How parliaments respond to crisis situations*. He invited all participants to attend an open consultation during the current Assembly to discuss those three possible themes.

He noted that another research project was also under way, on parliaments' power to initiate legislation and that parliamentarians would be interviewed during the Assembly about their experiences in initiating legislation. All contributions in that regard would be welcome.

### **Common Principles for Support to Parliaments**

Ms. N. BABIC (IPU Secretariat) said that over the past year the IPU had been working to draft a set of common principles for support to parliaments, which had been adopted by the IPU Assembly in October 2014. The principles had been developed for two main reasons: first, to avoid duplication in the work of organizations providing support to parliaments; and second, to improve the quality of support provided. She encouraged parliaments to endorse the principles in a ceremony to take place during the Governing Council's current session and to strive to ensure their practical application in parliament.

The SECRETARY OF THE FORUM urged members to participate in the Assembly's debate on the emergency item and to ensure that the youth perspective be considered in drafting the resolution for that item.

### **Preparations for the 133<sup>rd</sup> IPU Assembly**

The PRESIDENT asked which member of the Board would be willing to act as the Forum's rapporteur and prepare the youth overview report on *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms*, to be discussed by the Standing Committee for Democracy and Human Rights at the 133<sup>rd</sup> IPU Assembly.

Mr. V. GAPSYS (Lithuania), noting that the Forum as a whole could not submit proposed amendments to the Standing Committee's draft resolution, asked Forum members to coordinate the amendments proposed by their respective delegations. He said that a few members of the Forum could be selected to ensure that the youth perspective would be taken into account in drafting the proposed amendments and that the proposals would be submitted by the statutory deadline, so as to be duly taken into account. He said that the youth perspective report should be submitted to the Forum in good time, to provide input for preparation of the proposed amendments.

The PRESIDENT proposed that Mr. V. Gapsys (Lithuania) draft the youth perspective report on the subject of democracy in the digital era.

*It was so decided.*

The PRESIDENT announced that Mr. M. Hun (Cambodia), Mr. R. Akiya (India), Mr. F. Al-Tenaji (United Arab Emirates), Mr. F. Carballo (Uruguay), Mr. C.T. Zerpa (Venezuela) and Ms. T.M. Dziva (Zimbabwe) would ensure that the youth perspective would be included in their delegation's proposed amendments to the draft resolution.

### **Any other business**

Mr. K. KIYINGI BBOSA (Uganda) suggested that at future assemblies the Forum should meet ahead of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians, so that members could participate in both meetings.

Mr. R. AKUJA (India) said that it would be useful for the Forum to issue a newsletter as a means of connecting with young parliamentarians around the world.

*The sitting rose at 12 p.m.*

## Adoption of resolutions, final documents and reports

### SITTING OF WEDNESDAY 1 APRIL

(Afternoon)

*The sitting was called to order at 3.10 p.m. with Mr. Nguyen Sinh Hung (Viet Nam), President of the Assembly, in the Chair.*

#### Item 4 of the agenda

#### **Cyber warfare – A serious threat to peace and global security**

*(Standing Committee on Peace and International Security)*

(A/132/4-DR)

Ms. S. TAQAWI (Bahrain), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that 32 speakers had taken the floor at two sittings in the debate on the draft resolution and the Committee had considered 149 draft amendments proposed by member parliaments and the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. It had accommodated as many of the proposed amendments as possible, incorporating 60 per cent of them into the final draft. The Committee members had worked in a spirit of cooperation and efficiency and had adopted the draft resolution at the final sitting. However, the delegation of Cuba had expressed reservations regarding preambular paragraphs 10 and 17, which referred to international covenants to which Cuba was not a party, and the delegation of Venezuela had objected to use of the term “cyber warfare” throughout the resolution.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution.

*The draft resolution was adopted by consensus.*

#### Item 5 of the agenda

#### **Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water**

*(Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade)*

(A/132/5-DR)

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that the Committee had considered 70 amendments to the draft resolution proposed by 15 member parliaments and others proposed by the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. It had worked cooperatively and efficiently and had adopted the draft resolution at its final meeting with Venezuela expressing a reservation.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution.

*The draft resolution was adopted by consensus.*

The representative of VENEZUELA said that she wished to record her delegation’s reservation regarding the use of the term “water governance” throughout the draft resolution and would have preferred for it to be replaced with the term “integrated water management” so as to avoid any implication that the private sector could govern or control water resources and hinder their sustainable management. Governance of and decisions regarding water resources should be the preserve of national governments.

The PRESIDENT said that the Venezuelan delegation’s concern would be reflected in the summary record.

#### Item 6 of the agenda

#### **International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights**

*(Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights)*

(A/132/6-DR)

Ms. F.Z. NADERI (Afghanistan), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, recalled that, at the 131<sup>st</sup> Assembly, the Committee had been unable to finalize the draft resolution on its subject item during the allocated time. It had therefore been decided that the debate should be resumed at the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly on the basis of the text that had been agreed thus far.

The subject was a complex one and the draft resolution struck a careful balance between many competing views. It stressed that States had the right to choose their political, economic and social systems with due regard for international law and respect for human rights. The resolution and the debate had reflected the varied priorities of members; one of the strengths of the IPU was that such differences could be brought together in a document that, while not perfect, was one that the world's parliaments could agree upon. The final text of the revised draft resolution had been adopted with 47 votes in favour, 3 against and 20 abstentions.

Some delegations had expressed reservations regarding one or more paragraphs of the text: Cuba, regarding paragraphs 14 and 19; the delegation of India, regarding preambular paragraphs 6, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17, 18, 20 and 22 and paragraphs 9, 10, 11, 13, 14, 15, 17 and 18; the Islamic Republic of Iran, regarding preambular paragraphs 5, 8 and 22 and paragraphs 7, 11, 16 and 21; the Russian Federation, regarding paragraph 19; and the Sudan, regarding paragraph 18.

The representative of SUDAN recalled that at its 24<sup>th</sup> Summit, held in Addis Ababa in January 2015, the African Union had decided not to cooperate with the International Criminal Court and had expressed deep concern at the Court's summoning of the President of Kenya and its failure to respond positively to requests to defer proceedings initiated against the President of the Sudan and the Deputy President of Kenya (Assembly/AU/Dec.547 (XXIV)). The decision further urged African Union member States to continue to speak with one voice in calling for the amendment of Articles 16 and 27 of the Rome Statute of the Court. In accordance with its obligations under that decision, the Sudan therefore wished to express a strong reservation to paragraph 18 of the draft resolution and called on other delegations to do so as well in solidarity with the African Union.

The representative of VENEZUELA, stressing the importance of the subject of the draft resolution, expressed regret that some delegations had been prevented from describing the situation in their countries or regions. Various Latin American and Caribbean countries had been subject to interference from other states; Venezuela itself had been designated a threat to the United States of America in an Executive Order, signed by President Obama, which was tantamount to a declaration of war. At future Assemblies, the Standing Committee should take greater account of the need for participation and allow delegations to denounce specific situations and put forward viewpoints that would further enrich the debate.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the draft resolution by consensus, taking note of the reservations expressed.

*It was so decided.*

The representative of CUBA recalled that, owing to procedural errors, the Committee had been unable to finalize the draft resolution at the previous Assembly. Those errors had been repeated at the present Assembly and the very countries that had suffered the most from interference in their domestic affairs by other States had been insufficiently involved in the drafting process. The resulting text was evasive in its references to coercive measures taken by one State against another, including economic, trade and financial measures, in violation of international law and of the Charter of the United Nations. Furthermore, the references to the post-2015 development agenda reflected the wishes of certain delegations and were, in the end, discriminatory as other delegations had not been permitted to express their views.

The representative of INDIA said that his delegation had reservations to various provisions of the resolution. The sovereignty and independence of States should not be challenged in any way and he hoped that the issues raised regarding the content of the resolution would be addressed in the future.

The representative of SUDAN said that, given the number of reservations to the text expressed by delegations, the resolution could not be said to have been adopted by consensus.

The SECRETARY GENERAL explained that there were two modalities for adopting a draft resolution within the IPU: it could be adopted unanimously with all delegations in agreement on the text; or, when the Assembly was generally in agreement but certain delegations had expressed reservations regarding certain provisions of the draft, it could be deemed to have been adopted by consensus since the expression of a reservation did not imply outright rejection of the text as a whole. In adopting a resolution by consensus, it was understood that any reservations expressed would be reflected in the summary records of the Assembly.

Item 7 of the agenda**Reports of the Standing Committees**

(a) *Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade*  
(A/132/7(a)-R.1)

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that the Committee had held an interactive debate on the theme, *Follow-up on the IPU water governance resolution: Taking it forward*. Delegates from 21 countries had taken the floor and highlighted the importance of the associated draft resolution on *Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water* as a framework and trigger for parliamentary action in a global push to manage water supplies in a more responsible and sustainable manner. The discussion had covered the issues of climate change, desertification, deforestation, global warming, pollution and waster wastage, all of which must be taken into consideration in adopting legislation and taking other action on water governance. It had been suggested that an inventory of relevant existing laws should be taken in order to ensure that they provided an adequate response to current water governance challenges and that regional and international cooperation among Members of Parliament should be enhanced. A number of delegates had given examples of parliamentary committees and working groups that had raised the profile of water issues in their countries.

At its final sitting, the Committee had agreed on the subject item for its next resolution: "Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity". The delegation of Belgium, which had proposed the subject item, had subsequently nominated one of its members, Mr. A. Destexhe, as co-Rapporteur; the Bureau had accepted that nomination and had asked the Secretariat to organize consultations on the nomination of a second co-Rapporteur. In the absence of a quorum, the Committee had been unable to hold elections to fill the vacancies on its Bureau.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to endorse the report of the Committee.

*It was so decided.*

(b) *Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights*  
(A/132/7(b)-R.1 and R.2)

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKOU (Kenya), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that, in addition to finalizing and approving its draft resolution on *International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights*, the Committee had held an interactive debate on its future resolution on *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms* and chosen two co-Rapporteurs for the topic. It had been emphasized that while the digital world was extremely valuable, it was also vulnerable to abuse and exploitation by cybercriminals, terrorists and others. Security in the new era was a key concern; it was the responsibility of governments to ensure their citizens' security but, in so doing, they were engaging increasingly in mass digital surveillance that threatened individuals' right to privacy. At the next Assembly, the focus would be on finding ways to ensure that States struck that delicate balance between security and privacy.

The Committee had also held a debate on implementation of the 2012 IPU resolution on *Access to health as a basic right: the role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children*. Delegations had focused on good practices and challenges to parliamentary efforts to promote women's and children's health and the delegates of Uganda and Bangladesh had shared experiences from their own countries.

At its final sitting, the Committee had held an interactive debate on the topic, *The Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years on: Are children's lives better?* and had concluded that, despite significant improvement over the past 25 years in terms of the adoption of international instruments and national legislation and policies, there was still much to be done. Two issues of particular concern were violence against children and health, in particular childhood obesity.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to endorse the reports of the Committee.

*It was so decided.*

*Report on the Committee's field trip on nutrition and young child feeding*

Mr. F. GUTZWILLER (Switzerland) said that a field trip on nutrition and young child feeding, organized jointly for some 30 parliamentarians from 16 countries by the IPU, UNICEF and the Alive and Thrive programme, had been conducted on 31 March. The group had visited four Vietnamese feeding centres for infants and young children, called *Little Sun* centres, which provided advice on infant and young child feeding; maternity protection, including programmes on breastfeeding in the workplace; ensuring "baby-friendly", high-quality care in hospitals and other health facilities; and local production of therapeutic foods for children suffering from malnutrition. The parliamentarians had been divided into four groups, each of which had heard an oral presentation and been given a guided visit of the four centres.

The participants had been impressed by the host country's efforts to promote maternal health and infant feeding and by its recognition of the important role of fathers in infant feeding strategies. They had also noted the key role that should be played by parliamentarians with some participants expressing their intention to promote exchanges between their own countries' health personnel working in the area of nutrition in order to benefit from the Vietnamese initiatives.

*The Assembly was shown a video on the field trip.*

(c) *Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs*  
(A/132/7(c)-R.1)

Mr. A. AVSAN (Sweden), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that the Committee had held one sitting on 29 March and two on 31 March. At its first sitting, the participants had engaged in an interactive debate to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations with a keynote address by Mr. L. Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations and IPU focal point for the United Nations system. The debate had focused on whether the United Nations remained as relevant as at its founding in 1945 and it had been concluded that the organization was needed now more than ever given the many challenges which the world faced and which could not be met by individual Member States in isolation.

At its second sitting, the Committee had reviewed previous IPU field missions and examined the interaction between United Nations country teams and national parliaments. Ms. S. Beavers, Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes Team, UNDP, had explained the new country team configurations and processes and representatives of the United Republic of Tanzania and Ghana had shared their countries' experiences. At its third sitting, representatives of Germany, Indonesia and Mexico had described their parliaments' capacities with a view to mainstreaming of the future SDGs. Participants in the subsequent debate had discussed the benefits and drawbacks of various efforts to enable parliaments to establish appropriate processes and structures for implementing the post-2015 development agenda. The Bureau had subsequently decided that at the 133<sup>rd</sup> Assembly, the Committee would hold two debates: on the role of the Peacebuilding Commission and on the International Court of Justice.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to endorse the report of the Committee.

*It was so decided.*

Item 8 of the agenda

**Approval of the subject items for the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade for the 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly and appointment of the Rapporteurs**

The PRESIDENT said that the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security had proposed *Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights* as its subject item for the next Assembly and Mr. D. Trivedi (India) and Ms. C. Guittet (France) as co-Rapporteurs for the topic. The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade had proposed *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity* as its subject item for the next Assembly and Mr. A. Destexhe (Belgium) and Mr. H. Kouskous (Morocco) as co-Rapporteurs. He took it that the Assembly wished to agree to those proposals.

*It was so decided.*

Item 3 of the agenda**General Debate on *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning words into action***

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh), President of the IPU, said that, as the outcome document for the Assembly's discussions on the SDGs, the Hanoi Declaration constituted a roadmap for pursuit of the new Goals and beyond. It had been drafted through a comprehensive and inclusive process that took account of all statements made during the General Debate and built on the action taken in implementation of the Quito Communiqué, adopted at the 128<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly.

The Declaration focused on the importance of public ownership of the SDGs and on the role of parliamentarians in keeping their constituents informed, not only about decisions made at the global level, but about how those decisions would affect their daily lives. The Goals must also be incorporated into domestic policies. The Declaration had been drafted in clear, simple language and took a people-centred approach with an emphasis on the importance of respecting individuals' welfare, rights and security at each step of implementation of the post-2015 development agenda. It underscored the importance of ensuring that national institutions and structures were "fit for purpose", that the new Goals were relevant to all countries and that global cooperation and partnership would therefore be key to ensuring that they were met. It was outcome-oriented, reflecting on the commitment required from parliamentarians and the actions to be taken.

The Declaration also emphasized the importance of the partnership between the IPU and the United Nations and the need for convergence in the global political processes that would shape the international agenda for the next 15 years. Efforts to reduce disaster risk and mitigate climate change would also have a significant impact on development. Consistency between the SDGs and the international agendas on those issues was therefore essential.

Although the vision, commitment and action of the world's parliamentarians were shared through the Declaration, there was no one-size-fits-all path towards achievement of the new Goals; each country must work out its own methods of internalizing them and carrying the Declaration forward. When the Heads of State met in New York in September 2015 to adopt the post-2015 development agenda and the SDGs, they must be mindful of what the world's parliaments had said in Hanoi. Each Member of the IPU must therefore make an effort to raise his or her government's awareness of the Declaration; its success would depend largely on parliamentarians' commitment to carrying forward the solidarity demonstrated at the Hanoi Assembly. All those present should be proud of what they had achieved and should commit to going back to their respective countries and making a difference in the lives of the people they represented.

The PRESIDENT said that he welcomed the adoption of the Declaration, which reflected the participants' high level of engagement and the many valuable insights shared during the General Debate. The President and Secretary General of the IPU now had before them the difficult but noble task of promoting cooperation between the Organization and the United Nations, particularly with regard to the new sustainable development agenda. The Declaration was an important step in that process and an expression of the commitment of parliamentarians the world over to translating their words into action for the benefit of all people, having pledged to mainstream the Goals into their national legislation and policies and to fulfil their responsibilities as representatives of the people by raising awareness of them among their constituents.

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh), President of the IPU, said that the Declaration would serve as a road map for all parliaments during the run-up to adoption of the SDGs and beyond. The final text was the culmination of almost two years of engagement and rich input from IPU members on a timely and important issue. The words in its preamble, "This is our declaration", were a valuable reminder of the need for parliaments to take ownership of the Declaration by informing their constituencies about the Goals and the actions taken with a view to their achievement. Citizens needed to see that what was agreed at the global level had an impact on their individual lives. As had been mentioned many times during the debate, welfare, security and human rights must be placed at the centre of all policies and actions. Parliamentarians must also review their national parliamentary structures to ensure that they had the capacity to fulfil their responsibilities to the people under the SDGs.



The Declaration acknowledged that the future Goals would be of universal application and that global partnerships based on solidarity would be essential. Nevertheless, it also recognized that each country needed to take ownership of the Goals and determine the best way to achieve them in light of its specific national circumstances. Strong partnerships between the United Nations, the IPU and national parliaments would also be needed in order to implement the post-2015 development agenda.

The Declaration would only be of value if parliamentarians committed to following up on its implementation in their own countries. They should make their governments aware of its provisions and advocate for it during the preparations for the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament and the United Nations Summit to adopt the post-2015 development agenda.

The PRESIDENT said he took it that the Assembly wished to adopt the Hanoi Declaration.

*The Hanoi Declaration was adopted.*

## Closure of the Assembly

Mr. M.C. BIADILLAH (Morocco), speaking on behalf of the Africa Group, expressed his Group's appreciation for the warm hospitality provided by the host country and its President, National Assembly and people and for the measures taken to ensure the success of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly. He commended the Vietnamese people on their politeness, eloquence and pride in their history and country. He also thanked the Secretary General and President of the IPU for their leadership of the Assembly; in their hands, the IPU could look forward to progress in its work and high regard on the international stage.

Mr. A. AL TARAWNEH (Jordan), speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, welcomed the rich and constructive debates held during the previous days. He thanked the National Assembly of Viet Nam for organizing such a successful Assembly and for the warm welcome extended to all participants. His Group commended the various decisions and resolutions that had been adopted, especially on the emergency item; the whole world was suffering from the scourge of terrorism, which respected no boundary, culture, ethnicity or religion. Lastly, he thanked the President of the Assembly and the President and Secretary General of the IPU for their excellent organization of the work of the Assembly.

Ms. N. MARINO (Australia), speaking on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group, thanked the President and Prime Minister of Viet Nam and all those in the host country who had been involved in organizing the Assembly and had contributed to its success; the warmth and hospitality of the Vietnamese people had been evident from the moment that the parliamentary delegations had arrived in Hanoi. She commended all delegates for contributing to the various debates in a spirit of good will and solidarity.

Ms. I. PASSADA (Uruguay), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, echoed the previous speakers' expression of gratitude to the parliament and people of Viet Nam for welcoming the world's parliaments to Hanoi and convening an extremely fruitful Assembly. It had been a pleasure to discover Viet Nam, a country founded on the values of friendship, solidarity and courtesy.

Parliamentarians should encourage greater participation by women and young people in the IPU and other forums in order to ensure that both debates and the resolutions arising therefrom were more representative, inclusive and democratic.

Recalling the earlier comments made by the representative of Venezuela, she called on the Government of the United States of America to engage in dialogue with Venezuela on the basis of the principles of non-interference in the internal affairs of States and respect for national sovereignty. Parliaments should seek to uphold those principles in all international forums and should encourage nations caught up in political disputes to seek a joint and peaceful resolution.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the Twelve Plus Group, thanked the National Assembly and people of Viet Nam for their warm welcome and for organizing the Assembly and sharing a taste of Vietnamese culture with the participants. The new Secretary General and President of the IPU had taken up those roles in a spirit of continuity and proven to be an effective team in whose hands the Organization and its future work would be safe. The IPU brought together those who had been elected to represent the people of the world and whose purpose was to find solutions to the various challenges that they faced. During the Assembly, parliamentarians had underscored the importance of sustainable development, gender equality, cyber warfare, violence and terrorism. They must now undertake to turn the resolutions and declarations adopted in Hanoi into reality once they returned home in order to improve the lives and well-being of their citizens.

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY (Bangladesh), President of the IPU, echoed the sentiments expressed on behalf of the geopolitical groups and commended all those who had worked to make the Assembly a success, including behind the scenes in the Secretariat. The best way for parliamentarians to show their appreciation to Viet Nam would be to honour the legacy of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly by implementing its decisions and resolutions in their own countries. The parliamentarians present were privileged to represent their people at a time when the world was deciding on the direction of humanity's future in the coming decades. They needed to grasp that opportunity to make a difference and work together to serve all people and improve their lives. The 134<sup>th</sup> Assembly, to be held in Zambia, would shift the focus from advocacy and preparation to implementation of the post-2015 development agenda and he looked forward to hearing parliamentarians share their countries' experiences and good practices.

The PRESIDENT summarized the outcome of the Assembly and its specialized committees and thanked the participants for their active engagement in the discussions, especially in the General Debate. He thanked the Secretary General and President of the IPU, the Secretariat and the other officials who had worked to make the week's meetings a success and declared the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly closed.

*The sitting rose at 5.20 p.m.*

# Hanoi Declaration

## *The Sustainable Development Goals: Turning Words into Action*

*Adopted by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

We, parliamentarians from over 130 countries and 23 international and regional parliamentary organizations, gathered in Hanoi, Viet Nam, reviewed the emerging sustainable development goals and considered our role in attaining them.

This is our declaration.

Despite global advances in technology, health, knowledge, and material wealth, longstanding economic and social disparities are increasing, to the detriment of the whole planet, with progress continuing to elude many the world over.

This situation – exacerbated by the urgent threat of climate change and growing waves of social unrest, political instability and conflict within or between countries – is coming to a head. As we saw with the Millennium Development Goals, international commitments can only be met with strong political will, leadership and national ownership. As parliamentarians, we have a moral obligation to act.

The adoption of the post-2015 development agenda and its sustainable development goals in September 2015 will afford a unique opportunity to meet global challenges, using a universal, integrated approach that will apply to all countries and link poverty eradication to sustainable development.

### **Vision**

At this critical moment, we, the parliamentarians of the world, reaffirm our vision for people-centred sustainable development based on the realization of all human rights, to eradicate poverty in all its forms, and eliminate inequalities, thus empowering all individuals to exercise their full potential. This requires conditions of peace and security, in full observance of the Charter of the United Nations and international law.

Poverty eradication and sustainable development are a shared commitment for us all, and we should all strive for a balanced and more equitable distribution of resources. Our current production and consumption patterns are clearly unsustainable, and all countries – developed and developing alike – need to work together, based on the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities. That is the only way we can advance towards a common model of inclusive and sustainable growth.

A people-centred approach requires environmental justice: the planet and all its ecosystems must be treated as common assets for the whole of humanity to enjoy now and in the future. Human well-being must be the driver of all policies for sustainable development and progress measured in terms that go well beyond gross domestic product. People are more than taxpayers and consumers; they are citizens endowed with rights and responsibilities towards each other. We must invest in them – their health, nutrition, education and skills – as our most important resource.

All government institutions must be representative and accessible to all. Cultural differences should be respected and home-grown approaches to sustainable development employed. All people, regardless of gender, race, culture, religion and health status, must be empowered to work cooperatively for peace and the common good.

### Commitment

Acknowledging that the sustainable development goals will be the result of a delicate compromise, we look forward to this transformational framework that will inspire policy-making in all countries.

We are pleased that our efforts to advocate for the inclusion of goals on healthy lives and well-being, gender equality and women's empowerment, reducing inequalities within and between countries, as well as on governance, have borne fruit. We appreciate the broadened focus on health, which will provide an opportunity to end the AIDS epidemic while tackling emerging challenges such as non-communicable diseases.

We welcome the new goal calling for urgent action against climate change and we appreciate the broad-based goal on the means of implementation – finance, trade, technology, capacity building and systemic reforms – that must be mobilized in support of the new framework. This goal should inject new energy into the current global partnership for development.

We commit to doing our utmost to strengthen national ownership of the goals, particularly by making them known to our constituents. People must understand how the goals are relevant to their lives. As representatives of the people, we are responsible for ensuring that each and every voice is heard in the political process without discrimination and irrespective of social status.

We commit to translating the goals into enforceable domestic laws and regulations, including through the critical budget process. Each country must do its part to ensure that all the goals are met.

### Action

As parliamentarians, we must support efforts to reach the new goals in ways that respect each country's national specificities. Our responsibility is clear: to hold governments accountable for the goals they have subscribed to, and to make sure that enabling laws are passed and budgets adopted.

Our first order of business must be to examine our institutions and decision-making processes to ensure that they are *fit for purpose*.

As representatives of the people, our concern is to defend the public interest and pursue the common good above all else. We must prevent individual interests from exercising excessive influence in our deliberations. We must focus on building consensus around practical solutions.

We will seek to overcome the silo mentality within our own parliaments and national administrations to reflect the intersectoral nature of the goals. To this end, we will do our utmost to institutionalize the goals in every parliament, with sufficient time for discussion and monitoring. Parliamentary committees and processes must pursue all goals coherently.

We will help build national ownership of the goals by seeing to it that each of our countries has a sustainable development plan, crafted in an inclusive and participatory manner, including through public hearings with civil society, and in line with the international human rights framework.

We pledge to make laws and budgetary provisions in line with the national sustainable development plan, clearly identifying the goals and targets that apply and means of funding. Governments should report annually to parliaments on the implementation of the national plan. Parliaments should garner regular feedback from their constituents to help assess progress on the ground, where it matters most.

We further pledge to measure progress not only in terms of national averages, but most importantly by looking at how the most vulnerable and disadvantaged in our societies have fared. No one should be left behind. Strong national capacities for data collection and disaggregation, including by gender, age, minority group and health status, will be crucial.

Recognizing our role in mobilizing the means to attain the goals, including through funding from private and public sources, at both the national and international levels, we will support the implementation of all international commitments. In particular, we will work to increase domestic resources, including by combating illicit financial flows. We will improve the quality and quantity of aid, set out an orderly sovereign debt restructuring mechanism, strengthen the environment for private-sector investments, including through public-private partnerships, and reform the global financial, monetary and trade regime in ways that directly support sustainable development.

Lastly, we pledge to support accountability for meeting the goals at the global level. We will seek to join our national delegations to meetings of the United Nations Economic and Social Council, where global progress reports will be discussed. We will contribute to the national reviews submitted to the United Nations High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development. Wherever feasible, we will seek to engage with United Nations field operations in our countries to share information and explore all avenues for cooperation to advance our national plans.

We ask that the central messages of this Declaration and of its predecessor, the Quito Communiqué, be reflected in the outcome of the Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliament later this year, which will in turn provide input to the United Nations Summit for the adoption of the post-2015 development agenda.

We urge governments to conduct negotiations keeping in mind the real needs and expectations of citizens and addressing the critical linkages between sustainable development, democratic governance and human rights. The Post-2015 United Nations Declaration should commit to building strong public institutions, including parliaments, with the ability and capacity to ensure accountability for results. We encourage the drafters of the Declaration to acknowledge the critical role and responsibility of parliaments – and of the IPU as their world organization – in implementing the new development agenda and monitoring progress.

Moreover, we stress that convergence between the outcomes of this year's negotiations on the post-2015 development agenda, financing for development, climate change and disaster risk reduction is essential to facilitate implementation at the national level.

We are profoundly grateful to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, our world organization, for raising our awareness of the sustainable development goals and for making our voices heard at the United Nations. We will continue to look to the IPU for support in our efforts to attain the goals.

Together, we will succeed.

## Cyber warfare: A serious threat to peace and global security

*Resolution adopted by consensus\* by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly (Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

*Mindful* that information and communication technologies (ICTs) are means of inclusion and development and must not be used by States or non-State actors to violate international law, in particular the provisions and principles of the Charter of the United Nations relating to sovereignty, non-intervention, the sovereign equality of States, the peaceful settlement of disputes and the prohibition of the threat or use of force,

*Acknowledging* the work accomplished by the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security,

*Considering* that people's access to cyberspace involves inter alia extensive digital communication via satellites, optical networks and advanced computer programmes, the systematic exchange of information, graphic, audio-visual and computerized data, intelligent tools and equipment, software, advanced operating systems, and the possibility to use them for their own purposes,

*Acknowledging* that improper use of technology can have a harmful impact at national, regional and even global level, and that internationally applicable legal regulatory authorities and instruments must therefore be established with regard to its purpose and use,

*Convinced* that, given the immense socio-economic benefits that cyberspace brings to all citizens around the world, predictability, information security and stability in the cyberdomain are essential,

*Having considered* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 31/72 of 10 December 1976 (on a convention on the prohibition of military or any other hostile use of environmental techniques), 55/63 of 4 December 2000 and 56/121 of 19 December 2001 (on combating the criminal misuse of information technologies), 69/28 of 2 December 2014 (on developments in the field of information and telecommunications in the context of international security) and 57/239 of 20 December 2002 (on the creation of a global culture of cybersecurity),

*Recognizing* the importance of international and regional agreements on cybercrime, transnational organized crime, the exchange of information and administrative assistance, including the 1977 Convention on the Prohibition of Military or Any Other Hostile Use of Environmental Modification Techniques, the 2001 Council of Europe Convention on Cybercrime (Budapest Convention) and its Additional Protocol (concerning the criminalization of acts of a racist and xenophobic nature committed through computer systems), the 2010 Arab Convention on Combating Information Technology Offences and the 2010 Shanghai Cooperation Organization Agreement on Cooperation in the Field of International Information Security; *also recognizing* the importance of international treaties in preventing cyber warfare,

*Fully aware* that some concepts, definitions and standards of cyberpolicy, especially in cyber warfare and as they relate to international peace and security, are not commonly understood and are still being clarified at the national, regional and international levels, and that international consensus still does not exist in some areas,

*Welcoming* the progress made in international forums towards a common perception of what constitutes acceptable behaviour on the part of States in cyberspace, in particular by the United Nations Group of Governmental Experts on Developments in the Field of Information and Telecommunications in the Context of International Security and by other bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives,

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\* The delegation of Venezuela expressed a reservation on the use of the term "cyber warfare".

*Acknowledging* that certain principles of public international law, including, in particular, those contained in the United Nations Charter, the 1949 Geneva Conventions and their Additional Protocols, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, are relevant and applicable to cyberspace and are essential to maintaining peace and international stability and promoting an open, secure and peaceful ICT environment, accessible to women and men alike,

*Considering* that cyberspace is more than the Internet, that the use of hardware, software, data and information systems can have effects beyond networks and IT infrastructure and is considered as a tool of economic growth, and that inequalities, including gender inequalities, exist in the ICT environment,

*Cognisant* of the fact that different areas of cyberpolicy, while distinct, are inextricably linked and may have an impact on international peace and security aspects of cyberspace, and vice versa,

*Considering* that the covert and illegal use, by individuals, organizations and States, of the computer systems of foreign countries to attack third countries is a matter of grave concern because of its potential to spark international conflicts,

*Also considering* that cyberspace has the potential to be exploited as a new dimension of conflict as well as a new operating environment where many, if not most, cyberassets have both civilian and military applications,

*Aware* that cyberspace is not an isolated domain and that destabilizing activities within it may have serious effects on other areas of global social life, trigger other, traditional forms of insecurity or conflict, or start a new type of conflict, *and convinced* that there is a need for regional and international cooperation against threats resulting from the malicious use of ICTs,

*Also convinced* that States should encourage the private sector and civil society to play an appropriate role to improve the security and use of ICTs, including supply chain security for ICT products and services,

*Aware* that military ICT systems for the deployment and use of force are susceptible to acts of cyber warfare that could lead to third parties intercepting and deploying such systems to cause unauthorized, illegal and destructive use of force, *concerned* that fully autonomous military systems ("killer robots") are especially vulnerable to such unauthorized deployment, as there is no human validation of final targeting decisions, and *especially concerned* that the hacking of nuclear weapon command-and-control systems could result in the unauthorized launch and detonation of nuclear weapons and cause unparalleled catastrophes,

*Noting* that the use of ICTs has reshaped the national and international security environment and that such technologies can be used for malicious purposes and to violate human and civil rights; *also noting* that, in recent years, the risk of ICTs being used by State and non-State actors alike to commit crimes, including violence against women and girls, and conduct disruptive activities has risen significantly,

*Bearing in mind* the negative impact that the unlawful use of ICTs could have on State infrastructure, national security and economic development, and *aware* that the only viable means of preventing and dealing with these new challenges, consolidating the positive aspects of ICTs, preventing their potential negative effects, promoting their peaceful and legitimate use and guaranteeing that scientific progress is aimed at maintaining peace and promoting the well-being and development of peoples is joint cooperation between States, which will also prevent cyberspace from becoming a theatre of military operations,

*Considering* that cyber warfare may encompass, but is not necessarily limited to, operations against a computer or a computer system through a data stream as a means and method of warfare that is intended to gather intelligence for the purpose of economic, political or social destabilization or that can reasonably be expected to cause death, injury, destruction or damage during, but not exclusively in, armed conflicts,

*Aware* that cyberdefence and cybercrime control measures complement each other, and *noting*, in this connection, that the Budapest Convention, the only international treaty on crimes committed via the Internet and other computer networks, is open for accession, including by third countries,



*Noting* that the military use of cyberspace and the impact of specific activities are not yet fully understood; *also noting* that many cyberactivities may have the effect of destabilizing the security situation, depending on their nature, range, potential consequences and other circumstances,

*Concerned* about the suggestion by military planners that nuclear deterrence be maintained as an option for dealing with the existential threat of a cyberattack,

*Acknowledging* that a lack of strategic State-to-State communications, prompt attribution of responsibility and a limited understanding of allies' and adversaries' priorities may lead to miscalculation, misconception and misunderstanding in the cyberdomain, and that it is therefore important to introduce confidence-building measures of a nature to improve transparency, predictability and cooperation between States,

*Considering* that the risk to international peace and security has increased with the development and spread of sophisticated malicious tools and techniques by States and non-State actors,

*Rejecting* States' use of cyberspace as a means of applying economic, restrictive or discriminatory measures against another State, for the purpose of limiting access to information or services,

*Condemning* the use of ICTs in contravention of international law, the goals and principles of the Charter of the United Nations and internationally recognized rules of coexistence between States,

*Also condemning* the use of ICTs by criminal or terrorist groups to communicate, collect information, recruit, organize, plan and coordinate attacks, promote their ideas and actions and solicit funding, and *mindful* that, in so doing, these groups often exploit the vulnerability of certain social groups, and *further condemning* the use of cyberspace to destabilize and threaten international peace and security,

*Noting* the need to work for the conclusion of an international Internet convention to prevent the use of the Internet by terrorists or terrorist organizations for illegal activities, in particular to raise funds, enlist members or publish ideas inciting people to violence and hatred,

*Recalling* that acts of sexual violence during times of war or conflict are considered to be war crimes and *considering* that the broadcast of such acts using ICTs to intimidate, threaten or terrorize citizens, communities or countries and force them into submission, therefore constitutes a crime of cyber warfare,

*Considering* that there is a need to strike a balance between security control of cyberspace and respect for privacy, confidentiality, intellectual property, and e-government and e-commerce development priorities,

*Also considering* that there is a need to develop national, regional and international levels of practical confidence-building measures in the ICT field,

*Condemning* any intentional misuse of technology, including, but not limited to, State-sponsored espionage,

1. *Recommends* that parliaments build their capacities to better understand the complex nature of national and international security in the cyberdomain and to take into account the interlinkages between different areas of cybergovernment development;
2. *Encourages* parliaments to work with other branches of government, civil society and the private sector to develop a holistic understanding of cyberdependence, risks and challenges at the national level; *also encourages* governments to reduce the negative effects of cyberdependence, especially with regard to e-government development and national security, and to promote the adoption of national cybersecurity strategies;
3. *Calls upon* all parliaments to review their countries' legal framework to examine how best to adapt it to potential threats, in terms of crime, terrorism and/or warfare, which might arise from the evolving nature of cyberspace;
4. *Also calls upon* parliaments to legislate to counter acts of sexual violence against women and girls during times of war and conflict, which constitute war crimes, and against the broadcasting of such acts using ICTs, which is a crime of cyber warfare;

5. *Encourages* parliaments to be accountable by scrutinizing public finances with a view to ensuring that adequate resources are allocated to cybersecurity;
6. *Also encourages* parliaments to make use of all the oversight tools at their disposal to ensure that cyber-related activities are rigorously monitored, and to enact national laws, with due regard for their respective constitutions, that stipulate stiffer penalties for cyberattacks, using appropriate safeguards, governance mechanisms and existing structures so as to protect freedom of expression and not compromise the citizen's ability to use ICT tools;
7. *Recommends* that parliaments from States which have not yet done so request that their respective governments expressly state that international law, including the law of armed conflict, must apply to cyber warfare in order to ensure that limits are placed on the use of cyberoperations as a means and method of warfare while noting that the exact manner of application is still a matter under international discussion;
8. *Encourages* parliaments to work with other branches of government and with civil society to develop a comprehensive cybersecurity strategy encompassing cyberdefence, capacity-building and action to combat cyberterrorism;
9. *Invites* parliaments to support the dissemination of cybersecurity information and best practices among all national stakeholders;
10. *Calls upon* all parliaments to ensure meaningful participation by all stakeholders, including the private sector, academics, the technical community, civil society, and women's organizations and associations, in efforts aimed at addressing the cyberthreats related to the use of ICTs;
11. *Recommends* that parliaments from nuclear-weapon States call on their governments to rescind launch-on-warning policies, stand down nuclear weapons from high operational readiness and extend the decision-making time for nuclear-weapon use in order to prevent unauthorized activation and deployment of nuclear weapon systems through cyberattacks, pursuant to the negotiation of agreements to prohibit the use of nuclear weapons and achieve their elimination;
12. *Calls upon* all parliaments to ensure their national laws and regulations do not condone the criminal use of cybertechnology for the purpose of fomenting conflict between States or provide the perpetrators with immunity and a safe haven;
13. *Encourages* national parliaments to promote close cooperation and partnership between the public and private sectors, so as to improve the effectiveness of cybersecurity and cyberdefence strategies at the national level;
14. *Recommends* the application of a strategic information plan involving the education sector, organized communities and citizen participation, for the purpose of heightening awareness of the benefits and usefulness of being active in cyberspace and the harmful effects that can be generated from its misuse;
15. *Also recommends* that States comply with international law and the Charter of the United Nations when using ICTs and that, at the legislative and executive levels, consideration be given to cooperative measures likely to enhance peace and international stability and security and lead to a common understanding of the application of the relevant international law and derived standards, rules and principles underpinning the responsible conduct of States;
16. *Encourages* parliaments to support the widest possible accession to the Budapest Convention as a means of strengthening national legislation and enhancing the effectiveness of international cooperation against cybercrime;
17. *Recommends* that parliaments press for the formulation and adoption at the regional and international levels of appropriate regulations and oversight guaranteeing that the use of cyberspace is fully compatible with international law, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, and internationally recognized rules of coexistence, together with practical confidence-building measures to help increase transparency, predictability and cooperation and reduce misconceptions, thus diminishing the risk of conflict using the cyberdomain;

18. *Invites* parliaments to support the use of aid instruments and resources for capacity-building to prevent and counter cyberthreats;
19. *Urges* the IPU, together with relevant international organizations, to lend support to inter-parliamentary cooperation with a view to promoting international agreements guaranteeing better use of ICTs by countries and appropriate and secure use of cyberspace, to sharing good practices on confidence-building measures that are conducive to peace and international stability and security in that they reduce the security risks inherent in the use of ICTs, and to developing collaborative mechanisms;
20. *Encourages* parliaments to play a positive role in creating a secure environment in support of the peaceful use of cyberspace and ensuring that freedom of expression and information exchange are appropriately reconciled with public safety and security concerns;
21. *Also encourages* parliaments to work with their governments on establishing international agreements to prevent cyber warfare, apply the body of international peace and security law to cyberspace, establish global standards and ensure that national and international responses to cyberattacks are consistent with such agreements and standards;
22. *Further encourages* international cooperation to provide developing countries with technical assistance and capacity-building in terms of prevention, investigation, and the prosecution and punishment of offenders, and to enhance network security in relation to cyber warfare;
23. *Calls on* the IPU to urge the United Nations to adopt a resolution prohibiting illegal monitoring and cyberattacks on critical infrastructure such as water, electricity and hospital networks;
24. *Encourages* the United Nations to enhance cybersecurity by establishing a global registry of cyberattacks;
25. *Recommends* that the legal instruments, agreements and cooperation agreements, inter alia, relating to cyberspace, cybersecurity, technology and telecommunications, be reviewed and updated;
26. *Suggests* that the IPU, acting on the basis of this resolution, propose that the General Assembly of the United Nations convene a conference on the prevention of cyber warfare with a view to adopting a unified position on the issues involved and drafting an international convention on the prevention of cyber warfare.

## Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water and sanitation

### *Resolution adopted by consensus\* by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly (Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

*Referring to* the resolutions adopted by the 100<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Conference (Moscow, September 1998) and the 130<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Geneva, March 2014), which acknowledged that freshwater resources are essential to basic human needs, health, food production and the preservation of ecosystems, and highlighted the need to improve water management in order to prevent and mitigate high disaster risks, strengthen resilience and ultimately contribute to sustainable development, respectively,

*Recalling* the IPU regional seminar for the parliaments of the Arab States, *Global capacity-building initiative for parliaments on sustainable development*, which was held in Beirut on 29 and 30 November 2005,

*Having considered* United Nations General Assembly resolutions 64/292 of 28 July 2010 and 68/157 of 18 December 2013, and Human Rights Council resolution 27/7 of September 2014, in which the right to safe and clean drinking water and sanitation is recognized as a human right essential for the full enjoyment of life,

*Bearing in mind* the entry into force of the 1997 Convention on the Law of the Non-Navigational Uses of International Watercourses and the global opening of the 1992 Convention on the Protection and Use of Transboundary Watercourses and International Lakes,

*Deeply concerned* by the increased pressure being exerted on water resources by factors such as population growth, climate change, rapid urbanization, the growing needs of modern agriculture, industrialization, natural disasters, desertification, deforestation, growing energy demand and lack of effective governance,

*Equally concerned* by the fact that water scarcity is already affecting one in three people on every continent and that, in the absence of effective management, by 2025 approximately two thirds of the world's population, in particular women and children, will be under water stress and 1.8 billion people will face absolute water scarcity,

*Also deeply concerned* at the fact that 748 million people lack access to an improved drinking water source, that 2.5 billion people still lack access to improved sanitation and that 1 billion people still practise open defecation,

*Aware* that global numbers/statistics mask profound and persistent disparities between and within countries, and that targeted measures must be adopted to progressively eliminate such inequalities, with a specific focus on gender equality,

*Mindful* that water pollution, water overuse, lack of cooperation in respect of national and international river basins and aquifers, and the realization of the human right to water and sanitation are interconnected issues,

*Bearing in mind* that water governance can be a key element in maintaining peace between States and that good governance can promote cooperation and avoid water-related conflicts,

*Aware* that international law and national legal systems relating to the management of water resources tend to be fragmented and poorly implemented in practice,

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\* The delegation of Venezuela expressed a reservation on the use of the term "water governance".

*Recognizing* that men and women contribute differently and often unequally to household and community water management, in particular in developing countries and in rural areas, where it is the women and girls who fetch the family's water supply, frequently covering long distances in uncertain security conditions in which they are at greater risk of violence,

*Convinced* that States should increasingly pursue integrated water resources management by taking into account the water-energy-ecosystem-food security nexus, improving wastewater treatment and preventing and reducing surface and groundwater pollution,

*Recalling* that integrated water resources management strategies are based on the principles set out in the Dublin Statement on Water and Sustainable Development and incorporated into Agenda 21 at the UN Conference on Environment and Development in Rio de Janeiro in 1992,

*Stressing* the urgent and absolute need to conserve and sustainably manage the quality and quantity of water resources for present and future generations,

*Also stressing* that effective management and multilevel good governance of water resources are indispensable preconditions for achieving the human right to water and sanitation,

*Recalling* the key role parliamentarians play in establishing good water governance systems that are conducive to the realization of the human right to water and sanitation, in respect of which women should be active participants in the decision-making process and able to express their needs and opinions,

*Recognizing* that parliamentarians have a weighty responsibility to develop national legal frameworks in order to realize a water-secure world for all present and future generations,

1. *Calls on* national parliaments to advocate a dedicated comprehensive water and sanitation goal in the post-2015 development agenda, so as to ensure the availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all, said goal to include concrete actions and in particular the development of an efficient monitoring system with global indicators;
2. *Also calls on* national parliaments to enact legislation for the appropriate implementation of international treaties, customary law and resolutions related to water management and to the human right to water and sanitation, to organize appropriate human resources training and further education so as to enhance understanding of these instruments, and to encourage awareness-raising campaigns for citizens with a view to promoting responsible use of water;
3. *Exhorts* national parliaments to ensure that women take part in all local, national and international water governance decision-making bodies;
4. *Urges* national parliaments to set aside adequate budget allocations for multilevel and efficient governance, and to establish legislative and regulatory frameworks encouraging dialogue and partnerships between the public and private sectors in order to stimulate investment in the water sector, with a view to establishing a water-secure world for all present and future generations and to securing water affordability, accessibility and safety for all;
5. *Also urges* national parliaments to approve comprehensive and integrated laws so as to encourage conservation, spur innovation and ensure sustainable use of water and energy in their respective countries;
6. *Further urges* national parliaments to promote water security by developing and implementing, within their jurisdiction, Integrated Water Resources Management plans involving inter-ministerial cooperation and stakeholder participation, in order to balance competing human needs while giving priority to water for personal and domestic use for all, without discrimination and with a special focus on gender equality and the most vulnerable sectors of society;
7. *Encourages* States sharing water resources to cooperate on matters relating to international watercourses and to consider joining international legal frameworks for transboundary water cooperation mentioned in the fourth preambular paragraph above;

8. *Calls upon* States and international organizations to use international assistance and cooperation to provide financial resources, capacity-building and technology transfers, in particular to developing countries, in order to scale up efforts to provide safe, clean, accessible and affordable drinking water and sanitation for all;
9. *Encourages* national parliaments to urge their governments to honour the commitments their countries have made in regard to the protection and conservation of freshwater sources;
10. *Calls on* parliamentarians to support and strengthen the participation of local communities in improving water and sanitation management;
11. *Calls on* States, especially developed countries, to promote cooperation and support developing country water management efforts, including in respect of water planning and effective and sustainable water protection and use for the purpose of sustainable development;
12. *Requests* the IPU to draft a compilation of best legal and policy practices related to human rights-based water management, in order to support the work of parliamentarians involved in water-related issues;
13. *Also requests* the IPU to facilitate action by its Member Parliaments to follow up on the recommendations made in this resolution in their respective countries and regions.

## International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights

*Resolution adopted by consensus\* by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

*Recalling* the relevant provisions of previous resolutions of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the United Nations General Assembly with regard to international law, human rights, national sovereignty and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States, as well as the UN Charter, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action and the relevant international human rights instruments, all of which are of paramount importance to the promotion of the rule of law among nations,

*Reaffirming* that the sovereign equality of States is the basis for international cooperation and an essential factor of stability,

*Considering* that international law defines the legal responsibilities of States in the conduct of their international relations and establishes the obligations of each State towards all individuals within its territory and subject to its jurisdiction,

*Mindful* of the fundamental importance of the rule of law for political dialogue and cooperation among all States, and *underlining* that the rule of law applies to all States equally,

*Aware* that the rule of law, peace and security, human rights and sustainable development are strongly interrelated and mutually reinforcing,

*Reaffirming* the universal, indivisible, interdependent, indissociable and complementary nature of human rights and fundamental freedoms, and the commitment made by all States to respect, promote and protect the human rights and fundamental freedoms of all individuals in their territory and falling within their competence in a fair and equal manner, including refugees and internally displaced persons, and *underscoring* that this is fully compatible with the principles of State sovereignty and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States enshrined in the UN Charter,

*Emphasizing* the responsibilities of all States, in conformity with the UN Charter, to respect human rights and fundamental freedoms for all, without distinction of any kind on the basis of race, ethnicity, colour, sex, language or religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status,

*Stressing* the importance of the existing international legal framework for women's rights and gender equality, in particular the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, and existing UN Security Council resolutions on women, peace and security (resolution 1325 and others),

*Reaffirming* that, while national and regional particularities and historical, cultural and religious contexts must be borne in mind, all States, regardless of their political, economic and cultural systems, have the duty to promote and protect all human rights and fundamental freedoms,

*Recognizing* that the respect, promotion and safeguarding of human rights is a matter of concern for all members of the international community,

*Underscoring* the central role played by the UN Human Rights Council as a means of monitoring State policy for the promotion and protection of fundamental rights,

*Noting* that, by ratifying international human rights law instruments, States accept the monitoring mechanisms foreseen in the instruments,

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\* The delegations of Cuba, India and Venezuela expressed reservations. The delegation of Sudan expressed reservations specifically regarding operative paragraph 18 and on account of that, opposed the entire resolution.

*Recalling* the resolution adopted by the 128<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly (Quito, 2013) on *Enforcing the responsibility to protect: The role of parliament in safeguarding civilians' lives*, in particular operative paragraph 6 encouraging parliaments “to monitor the executive’s submission of country reports as required by the relevant treaty bodies, particularly those relating to human rights, [and] to become more involved with regional and international human rights mechanisms”,

*Stressing* that an independent judiciary, representative, accountable and inclusive institutions, an accountable administration, active civil society and independent and responsible media are important components of the rule of law at the national and international levels and necessary to guarantee democracy, as well as respect for and the promotion and protection of all human rights,

*Recalling* the permanent responsibility of each individual State to protect its populations from genocide, war crimes, ethnic cleansing and crimes against humanity,

*Mindful* that justice, particularly transitional justice in conflict and post-conflict societies, is a prerequisite for achieving sustainable peace, and *reiterating* that States bear primary responsibility for investigating and prosecuting international crimes,

*Stressing* that women are the main victims of situations of crisis and conflict, and that armed conflicts, terrorist acts and drug trafficking heighten women’s vulnerability and place them at greater risk of gender-based violence and abuse in the form of rape, kidnapping, forced and early marriage, exploitation and sexual slavery,

*Emphasizing* that, in such situations, specific groups of women, such as young girls, refugees and internally displaced women, are even more at risk and in greater need of protection,

*Recalling* the responsibility of occupying States to respect, promote and safeguard the human rights of persons living in the occupied territories,

*Considering* that the application of a “double standard” in statements on or reactions to violations of international human rights law, or their politicization, will ultimately undermine the very validity of that law,

*Aware of* the seriousness of the threats posed to international human rights law by terrorist movements attempting to supersede the State by taking military action to seize territory and systematically murdering civilians,

*Desirous* of seeing positive developments in the system of international cooperation and the settlement of international disputes through dialogue and other peaceful means, within the framework of the international collective security system,

*Considering* that the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals and the future Sustainable Development Goals could greatly contribute to such developments,

1. *Reaffirms* international law as the standard of conduct for relations between States;
2. *Reaffirms* also its commitment to a democratic and equitable international order based on the rule of law, and *underlines* the essential role of parliaments in upholding the rule of law at the national level through their legislative and oversight functions;
3. *Reiterates* the principles of the sovereign equality of States, State sovereignty, respect for their territorial integrity and political independence;
4. *Reiterates also* the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of other States, as a means of guaranteeing respect for human rights and democracy, and *encourages* States to respect and promote that principle;
5. *Stresses* that States have the right to choose, without external interference, their political, economic and social systems, and to organize internally in the way they deem appropriate, with due regard for international law;
6. *Urges* States to consider ratifying the core international human rights treaties, in accordance with their constitutional process, and to fulfil their treaty obligations to respect, promote and safeguard human rights without discrimination;



7. *Underscores* the importance of ensuring that women, on the basis of gender equality, and minorities fully enjoy the benefits of the rule of law, and *restates* its determination to uphold their equal rights and ensure their full and equal participation, including in institutions of governance and the judicial system;
8. *Underscores* also the right of persons with disabilities to fully enjoy their human rights, inter alia, the right to participate in all aspects of life, including politics and public affairs;
9. *Urges* States to adopt all appropriate legislative, administrative and other measures for the implementation and the interpretation, in good faith, of their obligations under international human rights law, and *calls on* parliaments to play an active role in overseeing the implementation of those obligations;
10. *Rejects* any unilateral interpretation and application of international human rights law that is not in conformity with international law, including in national legislation, and *reiterates* that human rights may not be interpreted as implying for any State, group or person the right to engage in any activity or perform any act aimed at striking down any of the rights or freedoms recognized by international human rights law, or at limiting them to a greater extent than is provided for in the relevant provisions of that law;
11. *Expresses* support for the UN Human Rights Council and the existing independent treaty-based mechanisms that monitor States' compliance with international human rights law, *calls for* such mechanisms to be further strengthened, and *calls on* parliaments to participate actively in these monitoring mechanisms;
12. *Encourages* parliaments to strengthen national systems for the respect, promotion and safeguarding of human rights, including by supporting the development of independent and effective national human rights institutions, in accordance with the 1993 Principles relating to the status of national institutions for the promotion and protection of human rights (Paris Principles), and ensuring equal and effective protection for all, without discrimination based on religious belief, gender, age, sexual orientation, language, ethnic origin or other status;
13. *Appeals* to States to refrain from the threat or use of force against the territorial integrity or political independence of any State, and to resolve disputes by peaceful means, in such a manner that international peace and security, justice, human rights and fundamental freedoms are respected and in conformity with the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;
14. *Strongly urges* States, in the conduct of their foreign relations, to ensure that their economic, financial and trade measures are in compliance with international law and the purposes and principles of the UN Charter;
15. *Strongly supports* the provision of humanitarian and economic aid by the international community in cases of disaster, crisis or armed conflict;
16. *Reiterates* that the UN Security Council bears primary responsibility for maintaining international peace and security under the UN Charter;
17. *Calls on* States to strengthen the system of collective and individual security and to bring about greater democratization of the international community, including through reform of the UN Security Council to ensure greater legitimacy of its decisions, and reform of the United Nations in general, particularly the machinery for dealing with major humanitarian disasters;
18. *Invites* States that have not yet done so to consider becoming parties to the Rome Statute and the Agreement on the Privileges and Immunities of the International Criminal Court, and *calls on* States to strengthen their national legal systems and to cooperate fully with the Court, so as to ensure that international crimes are properly investigated and prosecuted;
19. *Expresses* its full support for a new post-2015 development agenda that ensures a rights-based approach encompassing all human rights, addresses issues of justice, equality and equity, good governance, democracy and the rule of law, and promotes peaceful societies and freedom from violence;

20. *Appeals* for greater cooperation between parliaments, the IPU and the United Nations in the respect, promotion and safeguarding of human rights and the development of the rule of law at the national and international level; *strongly supports* UN General Assembly Resolution 68/272 on *Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union*, which recommends that a new IPU-UN cooperation agreement be drawn up, so as to reflect progress and developments over past years and place the institutional relationship between the two organizations on a strong footing;
21. *Proposes* that a committee be set up within the IPU to prepare a declaration based on this resolution as a way of further contributing to the enhancement of peace and international security.

## Report of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

*Noted by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade discussed item 5 of the Assembly agenda, on *Shaping a new system of water governance: Promoting parliamentary action on water*. The two co-Rapporteurs on the item, Mr. I. Cassis (Switzerland) and Mr. J. Mwiimbu (Zambia), had prepared a draft resolution and an accompanying explanatory note.

The Standing Committee met in plenary on 29 and 30 March to consider 70 proposed amendments to the resolution presented by 15 Member Parliaments. It also considered nine amendments submitted by the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians. The drafting process culminated in the Standing Committee's adoption of the consolidated draft in its entirety. One reservation was expressed, by Venezuela. The resolution was submitted to the Assembly for approval.

Once the drafting process had been completed, the Standing Committee held a discussion entitled *Follow-up on the IPU water governance resolution: Taking it forward*. The discussion sparked an exchange that helped shape ideas about how parliamentarians could use the IPU resolution in their national parliaments and with other partners.

Delegates from 21 countries took the floor. They highlighted the importance of the IPU resolution as an important trigger for parliamentary action on the issue of water as part of a global push to manage water supplies in a more responsible and sustainable manner. They agreed that the resolution provided a good framework that each parliament could build on. Delegations were urged to bring the resolution to the attention of their parliaments and thereby further increase awareness of the important points that the document covered.

The discussion covered climate change, desertification, deforestation, global warming, pollution and water wasting as critical factors that needed to be taken into account in any work on water governance. They were all complex and sometimes sensitive issues about which parliamentarians had to be well informed before they took legislative or other action. It was crucial to cooperate with other stakeholders, and in particular the executive, private sector, civil society and scientists, to raise awareness in parliaments about the water situation in their countries.

The information and scientific evidence received from those sources needed to be used to ensure sustainable use of water, fresh water quality and sustainable farming. Parliaments should use all their powers to take action on these critical issues. In terms of concrete action by parliamentarians to give effect to the resolution, delegates suggested that an inventory be made of existing laws to make sure that they provided an adequate response to current water governance challenges. Regional and international cooperation among parliamentarians was also important, including sharing good practices and information. Several delegates gave examples of parliamentary committees and working groups that had managed to raise the profile of water-related issues in their parliaments.

At its final sitting on 31 March, the Standing Committee adopted its next subject item, *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*. Belgium, which had proposed the subject item, nominated Mr. A. Destexhe as a co-Rapporteur. The Standing Committee asked the IPU Secretariat to carry out consultations with the Member Parliaments on the second co-Rapporteur.

Because it did not have a quorum, the Standing Committee did not hold elections to fill the vacancies on its Bureau.

## Report of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

*Noted by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The Standing Committee met on Wednesday, 1 April 2015 for an interactive debate on Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms. The session was moderated by Ms. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) and Mr. Juhn H.-j. (Republic of Korea) and attended by two panellists: Mr. D. O'Brien, International Director of Electronic Frontier Foundation, and Mr. H. Vales, UNHCR.

Mr. Vales observed that there was a distinct lack of transparency around government surveillance activities and policies, making it difficult to ensure accountability. Digital surveillance had proliferated and was becoming a dangerous habit. Precise, accessible, comprehensive and non-discriminatory laws were therefore vital to provide a legal framework for the use of surveillance as a legitimate law enforcement measure. Parliaments had a key oversight role to play, whether in general or via specific parliamentary committees. However, parliamentary committees needed sufficient powers, mechanisms and resources to be able to carry out their work effectively.

Mr. O'Brien stressed the importance of oversight. Mass surveillance by States was a grey area in terms of governance and, if unchecked, could lead to increasingly aggressive policies. Surveillance was already having a chilling effect on journalists and civil society groups, whose communications could be picked up by mass surveillance. He urged parliamentarians to enact appropriate legislation in accordance with international human rights law to assess the need for and proportionality of government surveillance activities.

Many participants observed that the Internet had significantly helped increase political transparency and facilitate citizens' participation in politics. It nevertheless posed a number of challenges, particularly in terms of privacy, as data monitoring and surveillance, both nationally and internationally, was widespread. In addition, social media sites were commonly used by terrorist groups to incite hatred, and crimes such as identity theft, fraud, and publishing and use of child pornography were also on the increase.

Adequate safeguards and strong legislation were therefore vital. Parliaments should set limits on the quantity of data to be collected, how it was stored and for how long, in order to protect against data misuse. They should also take steps to educate the public about democracy in the digital era.

A number of participants highlighted the importance of developing global and inter-State norms and agreements governing surveillance and preventing the potential misuse of the data collected.

The Standing Committee met again on Wednesday, 1 April, to discuss implementation of the 2012 IPU resolution on *Access to health as a basic right: the role of parliaments in addressing key challenges to securing the health of women and children*. The discussion was moderated by Ms. L. Davies (Canada), President of the IPU Advisory Group on HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health. It opened with a presentation by Dr. M. Temmerman, Director of the WHO Department of Reproductive Health and Research, who spelled out the main provisions and recommendations of the 2012 resolution. She introduced a draft report on parliamentary action in four countries – Bangladesh, Chile, Rwanda and Uganda – since the adoption of the resolution and gave an overview of the renewed Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health.

Ms. B. Amongi (Uganda) provided numerous examples of legislative action in her country. She explained how parliament had refused to adopt the budget until the country's President had agreed to increase the allocation for health. This had allowed salaries for medical personnel based in rural areas to be increased and thereby to improve access to health-care services in those areas. The requirement to audit maternal deaths had allowed parliament to hold hospital management to account for deaths under their responsibility, which was a powerful spur to reduce those numbers.

Mr. R. Fakhrul (Bangladesh) described the progress that had been made in digitizing data on maternal mortality, especially in rural areas. By having a fuller picture of the situation, parliament was better placed to call people to account and identify problems that needed to be addressed.

During the ensuing debate, 20 countries reported on legislative action on women and children's health since 2012. To cite just a few examples, the United Arab Emirates had adopted legislation on violence against women and was in the process of approving a law that protected children, the Philippines had adopted a law on reproductive health, and Azerbaijan had regulated marriage registration.

Many parliaments referred to increased budget allocations for health, which had led, for example, to higher funding for reproductive health issues, training for health workers, and construction of health facilities for safe deliveries in the cases of Viet Nam, Cambodia and India respectively.

Effective implementation of legislation was identified as a key challenge by many parliaments. Parliaments needed to continually monitor the situation to ensure that the sums they had allocated – for example, to recruit more doctors – had indeed led to the intended actions. Kenya, for instance, had established a committee on implementation to oversee the effective expenditure of the health budget, while Viet Nam had strengthened its oversight activities at local level.

In her closing remarks, Dr. Temmerman underlined the partnership between WHO and the IPU to support parliaments in their efforts to increase access to health. She called for parliaments to actively contribute to the updating and implementation of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health.

The Standing Committee held a final interactive debate on Wednesday, 1 April, on *The Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years on: Are children's lives better?* The debate was moderated by Dr. S. Atwood and opened with statements by Mr. D. Toole (Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific, UNICEF), Ms. L. Mafuru Mng'ongo (United Republic of Tanzania) and Ms. Tong T.P. (Viet Nam).

The Convention on the Rights of the Child had been adhered to by almost all countries worldwide and marked the start of a new era in which children's rights figured at the heart of the debate and children were full-fledged rightsholders. For children to benefit fully from those rights, however, the Convention had to be more effectively implemented.

The aim of the debate was to take stock of the progress made since 1990 to improve the situation of children around the world and to identify the activities to be undertaken by parliamentarians to reduce the obstacles preventing children from fully enjoying their rights, in particular with regard to nutrition and violence against children.

After having considered the progress made in terms of the Convention's application, the participants discussed how to promote improved nutrition for newborns and young children and how to prevent corporal punishment of children. They concluded by making the following recommendations:

- systematic account should be taken of the higher interests of the child, and everyone should feel individually responsible for implementation of the rights of the child;
- emphasis should be placed on monitoring application of the Convention and an independent and suitable mechanism established to that end;
- the data on malnourished children should be published;
- breastfeeding should be advocated and mothers encouraged to continue breastfeeding their babies, if possible, until the age of 24 months;
- legislation should be tabled extending paid maternity leave, if possible, to six months;
- areas should be provided at the place of work for mothers to continue breastfeeding their babies after maternity leave;
- misleading advertising on breast milk substitutes should be prohibited;
- alternatives should be found to corporal punishment of children, especially in schools.

## Report of the Standing Committee Democracy and Human Rights

### *Interactive debate on Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms*

*Noted by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The Standing Committee met on Wednesday, 1 April 2015 for an interactive debate on the issue of democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms. The session was moderated by Ms. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) and Mr. Ha-Jin Juhn (Republic of Korea) and there were two panellists: Mr. D. O'Brien, International Director of Electronic Frontier Foundation, and Mr. H. Vales, Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights.

Mr. Vales observed that there was a distinct lack of transparency around government surveillance activities and policies, making it difficult to ensure accountability. Digital surveillance had proliferated and was becoming a dangerous habit. Precise, accessible, comprehensive and non-discriminatory laws were therefore vital to provide a legal framework for the use of surveillance as a legitimate law enforcement measure. Parliaments had a key oversight role to play, whether in general or specific parliamentary committees. However, parliamentary committees needed sufficient powers, mechanisms and resources to be able to carry out their work effectively.

Mr. O'Brien stressed the importance of oversight. Mass surveillance by States was a grey area in terms of governance and, if unchecked, could lead to increasingly aggressive policies. Surveillance was already having a chilling effect on journalists and civil society groups, whose communications could be picked up by mass surveillance. He urged parliamentarians to enact appropriate legislation in accordance with international human rights law to assess the need for and proportionality of government surveillance activities.

Many participants observed that the Internet had significantly helped increase political transparency and facilitate citizens' participation in politics. It nevertheless posed a number of challenges, particularly in terms of privacy, as data monitoring and surveillance, both nationally and internationally, was widespread. In addition, social media sites were commonly used by terrorist groups to incite hatred, and crimes such as identity theft, fraud and publishing and use of child pornography were also on the increase.

Adequate safeguards and strong legislation were therefore vital. Parliaments should set limits on the quantity of data to be collected, how it was stored and for how long, in order to protect against data misuse. They should also take steps to educate the public about democracy in the digital era.

A number of participants highlighted the importance of developing global and inter-State norms and agreements governing surveillance and preventing the potential misuse of the data collected.

## Report of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

*Noted by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly  
(Hanoi, 1 April 2015)*

The Committee held three sittings under the chairmanship of its Vice-President, Mr. El Hassan Al Amin (Sudan).

The first sitting was held on 29 March in the morning and consisted in an interactive debate to mark the 70<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations. The debate opened with a statement by the keynote speaker, Mr. L. Montiel, Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development, United Nations. The two discussants were Ms. B. Bishop (Australia) and Mr. M. Tommasoli, Permanent Observer of International Idea at the United Nations on whether the United Nations. The debate focused on whether the United Nations was as relevant today as at the time of its founding in 1945. It concluded that the United Nations was needed more relevant than ever today as the world faced a number of challenges that could not be met by individual States acting alone. On the other hand, the United Nations' considerable record of accomplishments was not without blemish, owing in part to lack of resources and political stalemate among Member States on specific issues. The United Nations as an organization could only deliver what Member States agreed to and were willing to support.

The United Nations could be credited for many things that helped governments and people around the world in ways they did not always realize: the establishment of an international human rights framework, vital support for newly independent countries, whole new institutions of justice (international tribunals, the International Criminal Court), humanitarian assistance and peacekeeping operations that had helped save countless lives.

On the development front, the United Nations was responsible for finding common ground among countries on questions of global economic governance, including finance and trade, and for helping to put issues like climate change and sustainable development on the international agenda. The world conferences of the 1990s, the Millennium Declaration and the post-2015 development agenda, which included a new set of Sustainable Development Goals, were good illustrations of UN leadership.

Unfortunately, the United Nations had not been as effective at preventing conflicts and the spread of armaments around the world. It was not equipped to deal with the rising threat of non-State terrorist groups. Most UN resolutions failed to be fully implemented, and there was often a disconnect between Member State decisions and the actual wishes of people on the ground. Social media advances had changed the methods of discourse since 1955. Some wondered if this posed a problem of legitimacy: did the United Nations really speak for the peoples, as implied by its Charter? It needed to address the cost efficiency of its operations, including the Secretariat, and ensure it was nimble enough to innovate when needed.

Many participants highlighted Security Council reform as a litmus test of UN efficiency and leadership. The veto power of a few members of the Council was undemocratic. Membership in the Council should be expanded to better reflect the expansion in General Assembly membership over the years. Other participants suggested that the Council had to respect the General Assembly's authority and avoid dealing with issues that were not clearly within its mandate.

At the end of the day, making the United Nations more relevant would require closer partnership with the world of parliaments. National governments had two branches – the executive and the legislative – yet the “States” of the United Nations were represented by the executive branch only. While there was clearly a benefit to having each Member speak with only one voice (the Permanent Representative, a minister or the head of State), it was becoming urgent for that voice to include the views of parliamentarians. Parliamentarians, for their part, had a key role to play in holding governments to account for their decisions at the United Nations. That was exactly what the partnership between the United Nations and the IPU was all about.

The Committee met for a second sitting on Tuesday, 31 March, in the morning, to review the field missions undertaken to examine changes in the relationship between national parliaments and UN Country Teams over the years and provide guidance as to how that relationship could be strengthened further. The discussion was moderated by Mr. D. Dawson, Canada, with input from Ms. S. Lyimo (United Republic of Tanzania), Mr. O. Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu (Ghana), and Ms. S. Beavers (Policy



Adviser, Inclusive Political Processes Team, UNDP). Twenty years earlier, it would have been unthinkable for the United Nations to work with national parliaments instead of with the government alone. As the role of parliaments in national development gained recognition, it had become common for Country Teams to reach out to parliament or for parliament to seek assistance from the United Nations.

IPU field missions in a number of countries had highlighted various aspects of the UN-parliament relationship. The most important was that the United Nations looked at parliaments from two perspectives: as recipients of assistance (capacity-building) and as development partners providing input for key processes such as the UN Development Assistance Framework (UNDAF) – a unique operational plan prepared for each country in which a Country Team was present.

The balance between those two perspectives varied from country to country. However, it was a safe assumption that it was easier for a Country Team to relate to parliament as a recipient of assistance than as a partner in development planning, which tended to be a function of the parliament's willingness to engage, but also of the government's willingness to bring parliamentarians into discussions with the United Nations. Regardless, one objective of cooperation between the United Nations and the IPU should be to ensure that, wherever feasible, parliaments were consistently included in round tables and structured discussions with the government.

Participants expressed strong appreciation for the UN's field presence. UN assistance had made a real difference to parliaments, empowering members and staff alike with technical knowledge and policy advice. As a result, many parliaments reported feeling much better equipped today to hold their governments to account. The discussion included examples of how UN teams had provided hands-on assistance and seminars to bolster the capacity of parliamentarians, particularly women, and increase their confidence as policymakers. Examples were given from the following countries: Cameroon, Ghana, India, Kenya, Madagascar, Malawi, Myanmar, the United Republic of Tanzania and Viet Nam.

In an effort to become more effective development partners, many UN Country Teams were working to put their own house in order, primarily by merging the agencies making up the team into a single programme of work, a single budget, and a single office. Called ONE UN, that exercise was having good results.

The Committee's third and final sitting also took place on 31 March in the morning. The moderator on that occasion was Mr. A. Motter, Senior Advisor, IPU, accompanied by Ms. C. Roth (Germany), Ms. E. Nursanty (Indonesia), and Ms. L. Rojas (Mexico). The Committee considered the question of whether parliaments were sufficiently equipped to mainstream the SDGs and the options that existed to make that process as effective as possible. Because each of the SDGs would apply to all countries to one degree or another, all parliaments must be prepared to support their implementation through the legislative and budget processes. The challenge for parliaments was to find a coherent and synergistic way to advance all the SDGs, overcoming the traditional silo approach of committee structure.

As the experience of the parliaments of Germany, Indonesia and Mexico had illustrated, a most effective way to institutionalize the SDGs was for parliament to set up a dedicated informal body, a working group, advisory council or task force. To be effective, that body would need to be composed of members of the substantive committees and be representative of all political parties. It would need to have sufficient authority and resources to commission expert reports, convene hearings, conduct field missions and provide input to the substantive committees.

An informal body would be less difficult to set up from a legal standpoint than a formal committee. Its function, in addition to helping to capture the inter-linkages between the various SDGs, would be to keep the SDGs high on the parliamentary agenda over the entire implementation period to 2030. It would be a means of helping parliaments assume ownership of the SDGs so that they were not seen as a "foreign" agenda cooked up by the United Nations in New York. Indeed, one of its functions would be to promote the SDGs among city councils and local communities, which were increasingly in the lead in sustainable development efforts.

Very clearly, the decision whether to set up a new structure, and of what type, lay with each parliament alone. Some parliaments reported seeing no need for a dedicated structure for the SDGs. They considered that, in the final analysis, each SDG would fall within the purview of one or more of the standing committees that dealt with substantive policy issues (health, education, etc.). A dedicated body for the SDGs, formal or informal, might end up duplicating efforts. That being said, what mattered most now, when the SDGs had yet to be officially adopted, was that each parliament conducted a review of its own processes and structures, asking the question, "Are we fit for purpose?"



## Addressing the criminal activity of Boko Haram: the role of parliamentarians

### Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of Chad for the inclusion of an emergency item

#### R e s u l t s

Affirmative votes.....	337	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	587
Negative votes .....	250	Two-thirds majority.....	391
Abstentions .....	604		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	14			Hungary			13	Panama			<i>Absent</i>
Albania			<i>Absent</i>	Iceland		10		Papua New Guinea			<i>Absent</i>
Algeria	10		5	India			23	Peru			14
Angola			12	Indonesia			<i>Absent</i>	Philippines			<i>Absent</i>
Argentina			<i>Absent</i>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)			18	Poland		15	
Armenia			10	Iraq			<i>Absent</i>	Portugal		13	
Australia			14	Ireland			11	Qatar			8
Austria		12		Israel		10		Republic of Korea			17
Azerbaijan			<i>Absent</i>	Italy			17	Romania		14	
Bahrain	10			Japan	20			Russian Federation			20
Bangladesh			20	Jordan			12	Rwanda			<i>Absent</i>
Belarus			<i>Absent</i>	Kazakhstan			<i>Absent</i>	San Marino	5		5
Belgium		12		Kenya	15			São Tome and Príncipe	10		
Bhutan			<i>Absent</i>	Kuwait			9	Saudi Arabia	14		
Botswana			11	Lao People's Dem. Republic			<i>Absent</i>	Senegal			<i>Absent</i>
Brazil			20	Latvia		11		Seychelles			10
Bulgaria			<i>Absent</i>	Lesotho			10	Sierra Leone			<i>Absent</i>
Burkina Faso	13			Lithuania			11	Slovakia			<i>Absent</i>
Cambodia			13	Luxembourg			10	South Africa			17
Cameroon	13			Madagascar			<i>Absent</i>	Spain		10	
Canada		15		Malawi		13		Sri Lanka			<i>Absent</i>
Chad			<i>Absent</i>	Malaysia			14	Sudan	15		
Chile			13	Maldives			<i>Absent</i>	Sweden			<i>Absent</i>
China	23			Mali			<i>Absent</i>	Switzerland		12	
Côte d'Ivoire			13	Malta			<i>Absent</i>	Syrian Arab Rep.	13		
Croatia			10	Mauritania			<i>Absent</i>	Thailand			18
Cuba			13	Mexico	20			Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus			10	Micronesia (Fed. States of)			<i>Absent</i>	Trinidad & Tobago			<i>Absent</i>
Czech Republic	13			Monaco			<i>Absent</i>	Turkey	18		
DR of the Congo	17			Mongolia			<i>Absent</i>	Uganda			13
DPR of Korea			14	Morocco	5		10	Ukraine			17
Denmark		12		Mozambique			13	United Arab Emirates			11
Djibouti	10			Myanmar			17	United Kingdom		18	
Dominican Rep.			<i>Absent</i>	Namibia			11	United Republic of Tanzania			<i>Absent</i>
El Salvador			12	Netherlands			13	Uruguay			11
Equatorial Guinea	11			New Zealand			11	Venezuela			13
Estonia			<i>Absent</i>	Niger	13			Viet Nam			19
Ethiopia	10		9	Nigeria			<i>Absent</i>	Zambia			13
Finland			<i>Absent</i>	Norway			12	Zimbabwe	13		
France		18		Oman			<i>Absent</i>				
Gabon	11			Pakistan			<i>Absent</i>				
Georgia			<i>Absent</i>	Palau			<i>Absent</i>				
Germany		19		Palestine			<i>Absent</i>				
Ghana			<i>Absent</i>								
Guinea			<i>Absent</i>								
Haiti	10										

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes.

**The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in addressing the terrorism  
and extremism of the Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL),  
Al-Nusra Front and other terrorist groups**

**Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of the  
Syrian Arab Republic for the inclusion of an emergency item**

**Results**

Affirmative votes.....	216	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	511
Negative votes .....	295	Two-thirds majority.....	341
Abstentions .....	680		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	8		6	Hungary			13	Panama			<i>Absent</i>
Albania			<i>Absent</i>	Iceland		10		Papua New Guinea			<i>Absent</i>
Algeria	15			India			23	Peru			14
Angola			12	Indonesia			<i>Absent</i>	Philippines			<i>Absent</i>
Argentina			<i>Absent</i>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	18			Poland		15	
Armenia	10			Iraq			<i>Absent</i>	Portugal		13	
Australia			14	Ireland			11	Qatar			8
Austria		12		Israel		10		Republic of Korea			17
Azerbaijan			<i>Absent</i>	Italy			17	Romania		14	
Bahrain			10	Japan			20	Russian Federation	20		
Bangladesh			20	Jordan	12			Rwanda			<i>Absent</i>
Belarus			<i>Absent</i>	Kazakhstan			<i>Absent</i>	San Marino			10
Belgium		12		Kenya			15	São Tome and Príncipe			10
Bhutan			<i>Absent</i>	Kuwait			9	Saudi Arabia		14	
Botswana			11	Lao People's Dem. Republic			<i>Absent</i>	Senegal			<i>Absent</i>
Brazil			20	Latvia		11		Seychelles	10		
Bulgaria			<i>Absent</i>	Lesotho			10	Sierra Leone			<i>Absent</i>
Burkina Faso		13		Lithuania			11	Slovakia			<i>Absent</i>
Cambodia	8		5	Luxembourg			10	South Africa			17
Cameroon			13	Madagascar			<i>Absent</i>	Spain		10	
Canada		15		Malawi		13		Sri Lanka			<i>Absent</i>
Chad			<i>Absent</i>	Malaysia			14	Sudan	5		10
Chile			13	Maldives			<i>Absent</i>	Sweden			<i>Absent</i>
China	23			Mali			<i>Absent</i>	Switzerland		12	
Côte d'Ivoire			13	Malta			<i>Absent</i>	Syrian Arab Rep.	13		
Croatia			10	Mauritania			<i>Absent</i>	Thailand	8		10
Cuba			13	Mexico			20	Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus			10	Micronesia (Fed. States of)			<i>Absent</i>	Trinidad & Tobago			<i>Absent</i>
Czech Republic	13			Monaco			<i>Absent</i>	Turkey		18	
DR of the Congo			17	Mongolia			<i>Absent</i>	Uganda			13
DPR of Korea	14			Morocco			15	Ukraine			17
Denmark		12		Mozambique			13	United Arab Emirates			11
Djibouti			10	Myanmar			17	United Kingdom		18	
Dominican Rep.			<i>Absent</i>	Namibia			11	United Republic of Tanzania			<i>Absent</i>
El Salvador			12	Netherlands		13		Uruguay			11
Equatorial Guinea			11	New Zealand		11		Venezuela	13		
Estonia			<i>Absent</i>	Niger			13	Viet Nam	5		14
Ethiopia			19	Nigeria			<i>Absent</i>	Zambia			13
Finland			<i>Absent</i>	Norway		12		Zimbabwe			13
France		18		Oman			<i>Absent</i>				
Gabon			11	Pakistan			<i>Absent</i>				
Georgia			<i>Absent</i>	Palau			<i>Absent</i>				
Germany		19		Palestine			<i>Absent</i>				
Ghana			<i>Absent</i>								
Guinea			<i>Absent</i>								
Haiti	10										

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes.

**The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts  
perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram  
against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls**

**Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of Australia and  
Belgium for the inclusion of an emergency item**

**Results**

Affirmative votes.....	994	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	1017
Negative votes .....	23	Two-thirds majority.....	678
Abstentions .....	174		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	14			Hungary	13			Panama			<i>Absent</i>
Albania			<i>Absent</i>	Iceland	10			Papua New Guinea			<i>Absent</i>
Algeria			15	India			23	Peru	14		
Angola	12			Indonesia			<i>Absent</i>	Philippines			<i>Absent</i>
Argentina			<i>Absent</i>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)		18		Poland	15		
Armenia	10			Iraq			<i>Absent</i>	Portugal	13		
Australia	14			Ireland	11			Qatar	8		
Austria	12			Israel	10			Republic of Korea	17		
Azerbaijan			<i>Absent</i>	Italy	17			Romania	14		
Bahrain	10			Japan	20			Russian Federation	5	5	10
Bangladesh	10		10	Jordan	12			Rwanda			<i>Absent</i>
Belarus			<i>Absent</i>	Kazakhstan			<i>Absent</i>	San Marino	10		
Belgium	12			Kenya	15			São Tome and Príncipe	10		
Bhutan			<i>Absent</i>	Kuwait	9			Saudi Arabia	14		
Botswana	11			Lao People's Dem. Republic			<i>Absent</i>	Senegal			<i>Absent</i>
Brazil	20			Latvia	11			Seychelles	10		
Bulgaria			<i>Absent</i>	Lesotho	10			Sierra Leone			<i>Absent</i>
Burkina Faso			13	Lithuania	11			Slovakia			<i>Absent</i>
Cambodia	13			Luxembourg	10			South Africa			17
Cameroon	13			Madagascar			<i>Absent</i>	Spain	10		
Canada	15			Malawi	13			Sri Lanka			<i>Absent</i>
Chad			<i>Absent</i>	Malaysia			14	Sudan	15		
Chile	13			Maldives			<i>Absent</i>	Sweden			<i>Absent</i>
China	23			Mali			<i>Absent</i>	Switzerland	12		
Côte d'Ivoire	13			Malta			<i>Absent</i>	Syrian Arab Rep.	13		
Croatia	10			Mauritania			<i>Absent</i>	Thailand	18		
Cuba			13	Mexico	20			Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus	10			Micronesia (Fed. States of)			<i>Absent</i>	Trinidad & Tobago			<i>Absent</i>
Czech Republic	13			Monaco			<i>Absent</i>	Turkey			18
DR of the Congo	17			Mongolia			<i>Absent</i>	Uganda	13		
DPR of Korea			14	Morocco	15			Ukraine	17		
Denmark	12			Mozambique	13			United Arab Emirates	11		
Djibouti	10			Myanmar	17			United Kingdom	18		
Dominican Rep.			<i>Absent</i>	Namibia	11			United Republic of Tanzania			<i>Absent</i>
El Salvador	12			Netherlands	13			Uruguay	11		
Equatorial Guinea	11			New Zealand	11			Venezuela			13
Estonia			<i>Absent</i>	Niger	13			Viet Nam	5		14
Ethiopia	19			Nigeria			<i>Absent</i>	Zambia	13		
Finland			<i>Absent</i>	Norway	12			Zimbabwe	13		
France	18			Oman			<i>Absent</i>				
Gabon	11			Pakistan			<i>Absent</i>				
Georgia			<i>Absent</i>	Palau			<i>Absent</i>				
Germany	19			Palestine			<i>Absent</i>				
Ghana			<i>Absent</i>								
Guinea			<i>Absent</i>								
Haiti	10										

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes.

## The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union and Member parliaments in combating terrorism and protecting the common heritage of humanity

### Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of the Islamic Republic of Iran with the support of the Asia-Pacific Group for the inclusion of an emergency item

#### Results

Affirmative votes.....	558	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	830
Negative votes .....	272	Two-thirds majority.....	553
Abstentions .....	361		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	14			Hungary	7		6	Panama			<i>Absent</i>
Albania			<i>Absent</i>	Iceland		10		Papua New Guinea			<i>Absent</i>
Algeria	15			India	23			Peru			14
Angola			12	Indonesia			<i>Absent</i>	Philippines			<i>Absent</i>
Argentina			<i>Absent</i>	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	18			Poland		10	5
Armenia	10			Iraq			<i>Absent</i>	Portugal		13	
Australia			14	Ireland			11	Qatar	8		
Austria		12		Israel		10		Republic of Korea			17
Azerbaijan			<i>Absent</i>	Italy			17	Romania		14	
Bahrain			10	Japan	20			Russian Federation	20		
Bangladesh	20			Jordan	12			Rwanda			<i>Absent</i>
Belarus			<i>Absent</i>	Kazakhstan			<i>Absent</i>	San Marino			10
Belgium		12		Kenya	15			São Tome and Príncipe			10
Bhutan			<i>Absent</i>	Kuwait	9			Saudi Arabia		14	
Botswana			11	Lao People's Dem. Republic			<i>Absent</i>	Senegal			<i>Absent</i>
Brazil			20	Latvia		11		Seychelles	10		
Bulgaria			<i>Absent</i>	Lesotho			10	Sierra Leone			<i>Absent</i>
Burkina Faso		13		Lithuania			11	Slovakia			<i>Absent</i>
Cambodia	13			Luxembourg			10	South Africa	17		
Cameroon	13			Madagascar			<i>Absent</i>	Spain		10	
Canada		15		Malawi		13		Sri Lanka			<i>Absent</i>
Chad			<i>Absent</i>	Malaysia	14			Sudan	5		10
Chile			13	Maldives			<i>Absent</i>	Sweden			<i>Absent</i>
China	23			Mali			<i>Absent</i>	Switzerland		12	
Côte d'Ivoire			13	Malta			<i>Absent</i>	Syrian Arab Rep.	13		
Croatia	10			Mauritania			<i>Absent</i>	Thailand	18		
Cuba	13			Mexico	20			Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus			10	Micronesia (Fed. States of)			<i>Absent</i>	Trinidad & Tobago			<i>Absent</i>
Czech Republic	13			Monaco			<i>Absent</i>	Turkey			18
DR of the Congo	10		7	Mongolia			<i>Absent</i>	Uganda	10		3
DPR of Korea	14			Morocco			15	Ukraine			17
Denmark		12		Mozambique	13			United Arab Emirates			11
Djibouti	10			Myanmar	17			United Kingdom		18	
Dominican Rep.			<i>Absent</i>	Namibia	11			United Republic of Tanzania			<i>Absent</i>
El Salvador	12			Netherlands		13		Uruguay	11		
Equatorial Guinea	11			New Zealand		11		Venezuela	13		
Estonia			<i>Absent</i>	Niger			13	Viet Nam	19		
Ethiopia			19	Nigeria			<i>Absent</i>	Zambia			13
Finland			<i>Absent</i>	Norway		12		Zimbabwe	13		
France		18		Oman			<i>Absent</i>				
Gabon			11	Pakistan			<i>Absent</i>				
Georgia			<i>Absent</i>	Palau			<i>Absent</i>				
Germany		19		Palestine			<i>Absent</i>				
Ghana			<i>Absent</i>								
Guinea			<i>Absent</i>								
Haiti	10										

N.B. This list does not include delegations present at the session which were not entitled to vote pursuant to the provisions of Article 5.2 of the Statutes.

## The role of parliaments in combating all terrorist acts perpetrated by organizations such as Daesh and Boko Haram against innocent civilians, in particular women and girls

### *Resolution adopted unanimously by the 132<sup>nd</sup> IPU Assembly (Hanoi, 31 March 2015)*

The 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

*Considering* that all forms and manifestations of terrorism are criminal and unjustifiable, regardless of the motivation and the perpetrators and no matter where they are committed,

*Reaffirming* that terrorism is not to be associated with any religion, nationality or civilization, or with any ethnic group,

*Noting* that those who commit, order, finance or support terrorist acts must be brought to justice,

*Underscoring* that such acts of violence target civilians, in particular women, children and the elderly,

*Expressing* grave concern at the continued threat that terrorism poses to international peace and security,

*Bearing in mind* that the self-proclaimed Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL) (also known as Daesh) has accepted Boko Haram's pledge of allegiance,

*Considering* the scope and spread of the abuses committed by Boko Haram and ISIL, which is steadily expanding into new territory in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic,

*Bearing in mind* that Nigeria, Chad, Niger, Cameroon and Benin decided to mobilize 8,700 men in early February to fight Boko Haram,

*Considering* that ISIL's ideology has inspired terrorist attacks in other parts of the world, for example Brussels, Paris, Sydney and most recently Tunis, and that those attacks are clearly aimed at undermining democracy and hampering intercultural dialogue and exchange by sowing terror,

*Gravely concerned* by the systematic looting and cultural destruction wrought by ISIL and deplored by UNESCO, which refers to "cultural cleansing",

*Noting* that all anti-terrorist measures must comply with international law, notably human rights law, refugee law and humanitarian law,

*Recalling* all relevant United Nations resolutions, notably those adopted by the Security Council, on terrorism and organized transborder crime, and condemning all forms of financing of terrorism,

*Recalling* relevant IPU resolutions on terrorism, including the declaration adopted by the Ninth Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament,

1. *Condemns in the strongest possible terms* all inhuman and terrorist acts and the steady escalation in violence;
2. *Requests* parliaments to use legislative channels to contribute to the implementation of relevant UN Security Council resolutions;
3. *Invites* all parliaments vigorously and unanimously to condemn the acts committed by ISIL and Boko Haram;
4. *Calls* for the development of avenues of cooperation between State security and intelligence agencies in order to facilitate the exchange of information between States;

5. *Invites* parliaments to pressure their respective governments to prosecute any person or organization helping to finance ISIL or Boko Haram, in accordance with UN Security Council resolutions 2161 (2014) and 2170 (2014);
6. *Requests* that any person having helped to commit war crimes or crimes against humanity in the name of those organizations be brought to justice;
7. *Also requests* that particular attention be paid to women and children in countries in which terrorist organizations like ISIL and Boko Haram are active;
8. *Condemns* the deliberate destruction and systematic looting of cultural property and *asks* that those responsible be held accountable and brought to justice;
9. *Calls on* parliaments to draw up a common strategy on citizens joining the ranks of such organizations and *proposes* that techniques for exchanging information between States be developed for that purpose;
10. *Also calls on* parliaments to adopt a common strategy to counter the remote recruitment of combatants and propaganda on the Internet, especially on social networks;
11. *Urges* the competent UN bodies to adopt the emergency measures needed to support the efforts being made on the ground by the countries of the Economic Community of Central African States and the Economic Community of West African States, to fight Boko Haram;
12. *Endorses* the initiatives taken by the Lake Chad Basin Commission, the African Union and the international community to find a solution to the problem, notably the establishment of the Multinational Joint Task Force;
13. *Reaffirms* the significance of dialogue among the governments and parliaments of all countries involved in the fight against terrorism.

## **LIST OF PARTICIPANTS** ***LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS***

Dr. Nguyen Sinh Hung

President of the National Assembly of the Socialist Republic of Viet Nam  
*Président de l'Assemblée nationale de la République socialiste du Viet Nam*

*President of the 132<sup>nd</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union*  
*Président de la 132<sup>ème</sup> Assemblée de l'Union interparlementaire*

Mr./M. Saber Chowdhury

President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union  
*Président de l'Union interparlementaire*

Mr./M. Martin Chungong

Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union  
*Secrétaire général de l'Union interparlementaire*

**I. MEMBERS - MEMBRES****AFGHANISTAN**

IBRAHIMI, Abdul Raouf (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of the People <i>Président de la Chambre du peuple</i>
EZEDYAR, Mohammad Alam (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the House of Elders, Women Affairs Committee / <i>Vice-Président de la Chambre des Anciens, Commission de la femme</i>
KHAN MANGUL, Mirbat (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People, Member of the Committee on Internal Security Affairs / <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple, Membre de la Commission de la sécurité intérieure</i>
BARAKZAI, Shukria (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité</i>	Member of the House of the People, Committee on Defence Affairs / <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple, Commission de la défense</i>
NADERI, Farkhunda Zahra (Ms./Mme) Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / <i>Présidente de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme</i>	Member of the House of the People, Member of the Committee on Immunity and Privileges of Parliamentarians / <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple, Membre de la Commission des immunités et des privilèges des parlementaires</i>
DAWOD GHAFARI, Mohd (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Elders <i>Membre du Conseil des Anciens</i>
EBRAHIMI, Nilofar (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple</i>
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KOOSHAK, Stephen (Mr./M.) Technical Adviser <i>Conseiller technique</i>	
MUDASIRY, Nasratullah (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ADEL, Nezamudin (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
MOHAMMAD, Wazir (Mr./M.)	Director, IPU Relations, House of Elders <i>Directeur des relations avec l'UIP, Chambre des Anciens</i>
IBRAHIMI, Faiz Mohammad (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
FEKRAT, Mohammad Salim (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	



**ALBANIA - ALBANIE**

PALOKA, Edi (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>  (PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocrate)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (PD)</i>
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**ALGERIA - ALGERIE**

OULD KHELIFA, Mohamed Larbi (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National People's Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée populaire nationale</i>
BENAROUS, Zahia (Ms./Mme) Committee on Middle East Questions <i>Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Nation <i>Vice-Président du Conseil de la Nation</i>
DRIF BITAT, Zohra (Ms./Mme) Member of the Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif</i>	Member of the Council of the Nation <i>Membre du Conseil de la Nation</i>
GOBBI, Adem (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of the Nation <i>Membre du Conseil de la Nation</i>
MEFTALI, Yamina (Ms./Mme) Committee to Promote Respect for IHL / <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of the Council of the Nation <i>Membre du Conseil de la Nation</i>
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AMRANI, Hafnaoui (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
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MAAZOUZ, Amel (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Deputy Director / <i>Directeur adjoint</i>

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ELIAS, Carolina (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPLA)*

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(MPLA: Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola / Mouvement populaire pour la libération de l'Angola)  
(UNITA: National Union for the Total Independence of Angola / Union nationale pour l'indépendance totale de l'Angola)

**ARGENTINA – ARGENTINE**

CUCOVILLO, Ricardo (Mr./M.)  
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*Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, President of the  
Parliamentary Friendship Group Argentina-Viet Nam  
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Groupe d'amitié parlementaire Argentine-Viet Nam*

**ARMENIA - ARMENIE**

ATSHEMYAN, Karine (Ms./Mme)  
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Security, Leader of the delegation / *Bureau de la  
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GHAZARYAN, Zabela (Ms./Mme)  
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*Secrétaire du Groupe*

Member of the National Assembly, Member of the  
Committee on Science, Education, Culture, Youth and  
Sports / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (HHK),  
Membre de la Commission de la science, de  
l'éducation, de la culture, de la jeunesse et des sports*

(HHK: Republican Party of Armenia / Parti républicain arménien)

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JONES, Damien (Mr./M.)

Senior Adviser to the Speaker  
*Conseiller principal de la Présidente*

(LPA: Liberal Party of Australia / Parti libéral australien)  
(ALP: Australian Labor Party / Parti travailliste australien)

**AUSTRIA - AUTRICHE**

SCHIEDER, Andreas (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of the National Council  
*Membre du Conseil national (SPÖ)*

LOPATKA, Reinhold (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council

MOSER, Gabriela (Ms./Mme)	<i>Membre du Conseil national (ÖVP)</i> Member of the National Council
LINTL, Jessi (Ms./Mme)	<i>Membre du Conseil national (Mpg)</i> Member of the National Council
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Member of the ASGP	<i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
BRENNER, Brigitte (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
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Secretary to the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
(SPÖ: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)	
(ÖVP: Austrian People's Party / Parti populaire)	
(Mpg: Green Party / Les Verts)	
(Frank: Team Stronach for Austria / Equipe Stronach pour l'Autriche)	

**AZERBAIJAN - AZERBAÏDJAN**

ALIYEV, Ilham (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly
President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
<i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	
HUSEYNOVA, Sevinj (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
IMANOV, Anar (Mr./M.)	
Ambassador/Permanent Representative	
<i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
ASLANOV, Eltay (Mr./M.)	
Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	

**BAHRAIN - BAHREIN**

ALARADI, Ali (Mr./M.)	First Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Leader of the delegation	<i>Premier Vice-Présidente du Conseil des représentants</i>
<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
NASAIF, Jameela (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme</i>	<i>Vice-Présidente du Conseil Consultatif</i>
ALJOWDER, Mohamed (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives
	<i>Membre du Conseil des représentants</i>
ALSAMMAK, Jameela (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Council of Representatives
	<i>Membre du Conseil des représentants</i>
HUSAIN, Saeed (Mr./M.)	Member of the Shura Council
	<i>Membre du Conseil Consultatif</i>
TAQAWI, Sawsan (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Shura Council
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité</i>	<i>Membre du Conseil Consultatif</i>
ALDOSERI, Abdulla (Mr./M.)	Secretary General
Member of the ASGP	<i>Secrétaire général</i>
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
ALKHAZALI, Ali (Mr./M.)	
Advisor of the delegation	
<i>Conseiller de la délégation</i>	
ALQATTAF, Ameerah (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary of the Delegation	

*Secrétaire de la délégation*  
ISMAEEL, Sadeq (Mr./M.)  
Administrative Assistant  
*Assistant administratif*  
ADWAN, Haifa (Ms./Mme)

Staff Member / *Secrétariat*

### BANGLADESH

RABBI, Fazle (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Chairman of the Library Committee, Business Advisory Committee, Committee on Petitions / <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (AL), Président de la Commission de bibliothèque, Comité consultatif sur les affaires, Commission des pétitions</i>
CHOWDHURY, A B M Fazle Karim (Mr./M.) Vice-President of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Vice-Président du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Railways, Standing Committee on Ministry of Public Administration / <i>Membre du Parlement (AL), Président de la Commission permanente, Commission permanente du Ministère des chemins de fer, Commission permanente du Ministère de l'administration publique</i>
AZAD, Abul Kalam (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Chairman of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Planning, Member of the Library Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (AL), Président de la Commission permanente du Ministère de la planification, Membre de la Commission de bibliothèque</i>
ALI, Md. Yeasin (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Member of the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Ministry of Railways <i>Membre du Parlement (WPB), Commission permanente du Ministère des chemins de fer</i>
FAKHRUL, Razeq Mohammad (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Ministry of Foreign Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement (Ind), Commission permanente du Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
KHAN, Waseqa Ayesha (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Public Accounts / <i>Membre du Parlement, Commission permanente des comptes publics (AL)</i>
NEWAZ, Md. Nobi (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Ministry of Environment and Forests / <i>Membre du Parlement (AL), Commission permanente du Ministère de l'environnement et des forêts</i>
MILON, Nurul Islam (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Ministry of Science and Technology / <i>Membre du Parlement (J), Commission permanente du Ministère de la science et de la technologie</i>
ROSY, Quazi (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Library Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (AL), Commission de bibliothèque</i>
HARUN, Yussuf Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Committee on Estimates <i>Membre du Parlement, Commission des évaluations (Ind)</i>
MOQBUL, Md. Ashraf (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
HELAL, Md. Abu Al (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>

*Membre de l'ASGP*

BEGUM, Farhana (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Director  
*Directrice adjointe*

KHAN, Naimul Azam (Mr./M.)

Deputy Director  
*Directeur adjoint*

ZILANE, Abdul Quader (Mr./M.)

Deputy Director  
*Directeur adjoint*

SHAHAB ULLAH, Mohammad (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

RAHMAN, Azizur (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(AL: Bangladesh Awami League / Ligue Awami du Bangladesh)

(Ind: Independent / Indépendant)

(J: Jatiyo Party / Parti Jatiyo)

(WPB: Workers Party of Bangladesh / Parti des travailleurs du Bangladesh)

**BELARUS**

SENKO, Vladimir (Mr./M.)

Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the  
delegation / *Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la*  
*délégation*Member of the Council of the Republic, Chairman of the  
Standing Committee for Foreign Affairs and National  
Security / *Membre du Conseil de la République,*  
*Président de la Commission permanente des affaires*  
*étrangères et de la sécurité nationale*

SHAMAL, Elena (Ms./Mme)

Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians  
*Comité de coordination des Femmes parlementaires*Member of the House of Representatives, Deputy  
Chairperson of the Standing Commission on Health,  
Physical Culture, Family and Youth Policy / *Membre de*  
*la Chambre des Représentants, Vice-Présidente de la*  
*Commission permanente de la santé, de la culture*  
*physique, de la famille et de la jeunesse***BELGIUM - BELGIQUE**

VAN DEN DRIESSCHE, Pol (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Committee on  
Transversal Matters: Community Competences,  
Advisory Committee on European Affairs / *Membre du*  
*Sénat (N-VA), Président de la Commission des matières*  
*transversales : compétences communautaires, Comité*  
*d'avis chargé des questions européennes*

DESTEXHE, Alain (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Committee on Transversal  
Matters: Regional Competences, Advisory Committee on  
European Affairs / *Membre du Sénat (MR), Commission*  
*des matières transversales : compétences régionales,*  
*Comité d'avis chargé des questions européennes*

MAHOUX, Philippe (Mr./M.)

President of the Twelve Plus Group  
*Président du Groupe des Douze Plus*Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Advisory  
Committee on European Affairs, Committee on  
Institutional Affairs / *Membre du Sénat (PS), Président du*  
*Comité d'avis chargé des questions européennes,*  
*Commission des affaires institutionnelles*

BATTHEU, Sabien (Ms./Mme)

Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on  
the Interior, General Affairs and the Civil Service,  
Select Committee on Rules and Reform of Parliamentary  
Proceedings, Committee on Infrastructure,  
Communications and State Enterprises / *Membre de la*  
*Chambre des Représentants (Open VLD), Commission*  
*de l'Intérieur, des affaires générales et de la fonction*  
*publique, Commission spéciale du règlement et de la*  
*réforme du travail parlementaire, Commission de*  
*l'Infrastructure, des communications et des entreprises*

GRYFFROY, Andries (Mr./M.)	<i>publiques</i> Member of the Senate, Committee on Transversal Matters : Regional Competences / <i>Membre du Sénat (N-VA), Commission des matières transversales : compétences régionales</i>
CRUSNIÈRE, Stéphane (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on External Relations, Committee on Finance and Budget, Advisory Committee on European Affairs / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PS), Commission des relations extérieures, Commission des finances et du budget, Comité d'avis chargé des questions européennes</i>
HONDEQUIN, Hugo (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the Senate <i>Secrétaire général du Sénat</i>
VAN DER HULST, Marc (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary General of the House of Representatives / <i>Secrétaire général adjoint de la Chambre des représentants</i>
DE ROUCK, Marc (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group and to the delegation <i>Secrétaire du Groupe et de la délégation</i>	
PELEMAN, Martin (Mr./M.) Deputy Secretary of the Group and to the delegation <i>Secrétaire adjoint du groupe et de la délégation</i>	
PIRET, Antoine (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	
MICHAUX, Anne (Ms./Mme) Adviser to the Twelve Plus Group <i>Conseillère au Douze Plus</i>	
(N-VA: New Flemish Alliance / Nouvelle alliance flamande / Nieuw-Vlaamse Alliantie)	
(MR: Movement for Reform / Mouvement réformateur)	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)	
(Open VLD : Flemish Liberals / Libéraux flamands)	

**BHUTAN - BHOUTAN**

KINGA, Sonam (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Council <i>Président du Conseil national</i>
DORJI, Rinzin (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national</i>
SUBBA, Tek Bahadur (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Social and Cultural Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission des affaires sociales et culturelles</i>
WANGCHUK, Jigme (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Women, Child and Youth Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission de la femme, de l'enfant et de la jeunesse</i>
WANGMO, Kezang (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the Women, Child and Youth Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission de la femme, de l'enfant et de la jeunesse</i>
NORBU, Tshewang (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
CHODEN, Tshewang (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
WANGDI, Phuntsho (Mr./M.)	

Secretary to the delegation  
*Secrétaire de la délégation*

**BOTSWANA**

KOKORWE, Gladys T.K. (Ms./Mme)  
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the  
Business Advisory Committee / *Présidente de  
l'Assemblée nationale, Présidente du Comité consultatif  
sur les affaires*

BOKO, Duma G. (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Governance and  
Oversight Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée  
nationale (UDC), Commission de la gouvernance et de  
la surveillance*

GAOLATHE, Ndaba (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Finance, Trade and  
Economic Development Committee / *Membre de  
l'Assemblée nationale (UDC), Commission des finances,  
du commerce et du développement économique*

TSHIRELETSO, Botlogile M. (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the  
Women's Caucus / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale  
(BDP), Présidente du Forum parlementaire des femmes*

MZWINILA, Kefentse (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Finance, Trade and  
Economic Development Committee / *Membre de  
l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des finances, du  
commerce et du développement économique (BDP)*

DITHAPO, Barbara N. (Ms./Mme)  
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*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire générale*

NFILA, Christopher S. (Mr./M.)  
SAUBI, Babui (Ms./Mme)

Adviser / *Conseiller*  
Adviser / *Conseillère*

(UDC: Umbrella for Democratic Change / Collectif pour le changement démocratique)  
(BDP: Botswana Democratic Party / Parti démocratique botswanais)

**BRAZIL - BRESIL**

QUINTELLA LESSA, Mauricio (Mr./M.)  
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PR)*

CAMELI, Gladson (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal Senate  
*Membre du Sénat fédéral (PP)*

LEMOS, Ana Amelia (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Federal Senate  
*Membre du Sénat fédéral (PP)*

NOGUEIRA, Ciro (Mr./M.)  
Vice-President of the Group  
*Vice-Président du Groupe*

Member of the Federal Senate  
*Membre du Sénat fédéral (PP)*

PETECÃO, Sergio (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal Senate  
*Membre du Sénat fédéral (PSD)*

LINS, Atila (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PSD)*

CAJADO, Claudio (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (DEM)*

PORTELLA, Iracema (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PP)*

ROCHA, Jose (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés*

VASCONCELOS, Jarbas (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PMDB)*

MAGALHAES JUNIOR, Jutahy (Mr./M.)  
Advisor / *Conseiller*

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés*

DA FONTE, Eduardo (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Advisor / *Conseiller**Membre de la Chambre des Députés*

ARAUJO, Silvia (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

(PR: Party of the Republic / Parti de la République)

(PP: Progressive Party / Parti progressiste)

(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(DEM: Democrats / Démocrates)

(PMDB: Brazilian Democratic Movement Party / Parti du mouvement démocratique brésilien)

**BULGARIA - BULGARIE**

GLAVCHEV, Dimitar (Mr./M.)

Vice-President of the Group, Leader of the delegation

*Vice-Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Budget and

Finance Committee / *Vice-Président de l'Assemblée**nationale (GERB), Commission du budget et des**finances*

IMAMOV, Alliosman (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Budget and

Finance Committee / *Vice-Président de l'Assemblée**nationale (DPS), Commission du budget et des**finances*

KARAKACHANOV, Krasimir (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Defence

Committee, Internal Security and Public Order

Committee / *Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale**(NFSB-VMRO), Commission de la défense,**Commission de la sécurité et de l'ordre public*

SLAVCHOV, Ivan (Mr./M.)

Secretary General

Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire général**Membre de l'ASGP*

ALEXANDROVA, Stefka (Ms./Mme)

Administrative Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire administratif du Groupe*

STEFANOVA, Malina (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

(GERB: Citizens for European Development of Bulgaria Party / Citoyens pour le développement européen de la Bulgarie)

(DPS: Movement for Rights and Freedoms / Mouvement pour les droits et les libertés)

(NFSB - VMRO: Patriotic front / Front patriotique)

**BURKINA FASO**

KONE, Ibrahima (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

Leader of the delegation

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition**Chef de la délégation*

OUEDRAOGO, Vincent (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

DICKO, Moussa Oumarou (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

OUEDRAOGO, Denis François (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

SANA, Abdoul (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

SORGHO, Evrad (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

SIENOU, Issa (Mr./M.)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

SOUGUE, Christine Gniko (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Transitional National Council

*Membre du Conseil national de la transition*

ZOBILMA-MANTORO, Emma (Ms./Mme)

Secretary General

Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire général**Membre de l'ASGP*



TRAORE, Jean Marie Karamoko (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ILBOUDO, Souleymane (Mr./M.)	
Technical Adviser	
<i>Conseiller technique</i>	
ZAGRE, Edouard (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
BAKOLO, Leon Hermann (Mr./M.)	
Press / <i>Presse</i>	

**CAMBODIA - CAMBODGE**

HENG, Samrin (Mr./M.)	Speaker of the National Assembly
Leader of the delegation	<i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
YANG, Sem (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, Reception of Complaints, Investigation
	<i>Membre du Sénat, Président de la Commission des droits de l'homme, de l'instruction des plaintes et des enquêtes</i>
CHHEANG, Vun (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
BAN, Sreymom (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
HUN, Many (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
LORK, Kheng (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Commission on Human Rights, Reception of Complaints, Investigation and National Assembly-Senate Relations / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des droits de l'homme, de l'instruction des plaintes et des enquêtes et des relations Assemblée nationale-Sénat</i>
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme</i>	
KY, Wandara (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
TIOULONG, Saumura (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce</i>	
OUM, Sarith (Mr./M.)	Secretary General

Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i> SRUN, Dara (Mr./M.)	<i>Secrétaire général</i>
CHHIM, Sothkun (Mr./M.) Assistant / <i>Assistant</i> PROM, Virak (Mr./M.) TEP, Charya (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i> Director / <i>Directeur</i>
KHLANG, Oudam (Mr./M.) Assistant / <i>Assistant</i> HEANG, Thul (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i> Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i> Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
PEN, Prakath (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
CHEA, Danet (Ms./Mme) HENG, Peou (Ms./Mme) CHHAN, Vannak (Mr./M.) HIN, Chanveary (Ms./Mme) DAV, Ansan (Mr./M.) CHHIT, Kimyeat (Mr./M.) KEO, Piseth (Mr./M.) SOK, Pisey (Mr./M.) Assistant / <i>Assistant</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i> Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
SONG, Chankannica (Ms./Mme) SAN, Sarana (Mr./M.) NHEM, Thavy (Mr./M.) KANN, Pha (Mr./M.) NHAY, Chamroeun (Mr./M.) SOCHEAT, Sroy (Mr./M.) HOK, Bunly (Mr./M.) Assistant / <i>Assistant</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
TOP, Sareoun (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
NOU, Sophors (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
PHANY, Hul (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i> TEKNGY, Hak (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	

**CAMEROON - CAMEROUN**

CAVAYE YEGUIE, Djibril (Mr./M.) President of the Group <i>Président du Groupe</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale (RDPC)</i>
TJOUES, Geneviève (Ms./Mme)	Vice-President of the Senate <i>Vice-Présidente du Sénat</i>
EMAH ETOUNDI, Vincent (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Constitutional Laws, Human Rights and Freedom, Justice, Legislation and Rules, Administration <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDPC), Commission des lois constitutionnelles, des droits de l'homme et des libertés, de la justice, de la législation et du règlement, de l'administration</i>
FOTSO, Joséphine (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Finance and Budget / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDPC),</i>

KOULTCHOUMI AHIDJO, Oumoul (Ms./Mme)	<i>Commission des finances et du budget</i> Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UNDP)</i>
TSOMELOU, Jean (Mr./M.)	Senator / <i>Sénateur (SDF)</i>
HAMIDOU, Maurice (Mr./M.)	Senator / <i>Sénateur</i>
YENE OSSOMBA, Victor (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
MAKONGO DOOH, Alexandre (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
BOUBA, Simala (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Officer, Speaker's Bureau <i>Fonctionnaire au Bureau du Président</i>
ESSEBA, Cyriaque (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire administratif du Groupe</i>	

(RDP: Cameroon People's Democratic Movement / Rassemblement démocratique du peuple camerounais)  
(UNDP: National Union for Democracy and Progress / Union nationale pour la démocratie et le progrès)  
(SDF) Social Democratic Front / Front social démocratique)

**CANADA**

ATAULLAHJAN, Salma (Ms./Mme) Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, Leader of the Delegation / <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Senate, Deputy Chair of the Foreign Affairs and International Trade Committee, Human Rights Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (CPC), Vice-Président du Comité des affaires étrangères et du commerce international, Comité des droits de la personne</i>
DAWSON, Dennis (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (LPC)</i>
CALKINS, Blaine (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons, Standing Committee on Justice and Human Rights <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (CPC), Comité permanente de la justice et des droits de la personne</i>
DAVIES, Libby (Ms./Mme) Advisory Group of HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health / <i>Groupe consultatif sur le VIH/sida et la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant</i>	Member of the House of Commons, Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Health, Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, Standing Committee on Health <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (NDP), Vice-Président du Comité permanent de la santé, Sous-Comité du programme et de la procédure</i>
MCGUINTY, David (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons, Vice-Chair of the Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (LPC), Vice-Président du Comité permanent des transports, infrastructures et collectivités, Sous-Comité du programme et de la procédure</i>
MILLER, Larry (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons, Chair of the Subcommittee on Agenda and Procedure, Standing Committee on Transport, Infrastructure and Communities, Subcommittee on Committee Budgets, Liaison Committee / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (CPC), Président du Sous-Comité du programme et de la procédure, Comité permanent des</i>

*transports, infrastructures et collectivités, Sous-Comité des budgets de comité, Comité de liaison*

FORGE, Frédéric (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

GAGNON, André (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

GRAVEL, Line (Ms./Mme)

Executive Secretary

*Secrétaire exécutive*

(CPC: Conservative Party of Canada / Parti conservateur du Canada)

(LPC: Liberal Party of Canada / Parti libéral du Canada)

(NDP: New Democratic Party / Nouveau parti démocratique)

#### **CHAD – TCHAD**

KADAM, Moussa (Mr./M.)

Leader of the Delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

*Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)*

GATTA NGOTHE, Gali (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Committee on Economy and Planning / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PR), Président de la Commission de l'économie et du plan*

BIDI VALENTIN, Neaotbeï (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on General Politics, Law, Administrative and Legal Affairs / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PAP-JS), Commission de la politique générale, des lois, des affaires administratives et judiciaires*

MADI MAÏNA, Tchari (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Finance, Budget and Public Accounts / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDP), Premier Vice-Président de la Commission des finances, du budget et de la comptabilité publique*

NDJENDI BASSA, Djidingar (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Education Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS), Président de la Commission de l'éducation*

OPPORTUNE, Aymadji (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)*

MASSA HAROU, Gali (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General

*Secrétaire général*

ISSA HAMIDI, Bechir (Mr./M.)

Administrative Secretary

*Secrétaire administratif*

Director / *Directeur*

(MPS: Patriotic Salvation Movement / Mouvement patriotique du salut)

(PR: Republican Party / Parti Républicain)

(PAP-JS: African Party for Peace and Justice / Parti africain pour la paix et la justice)

(RDP: Rally for Democracy and Progress / Rassemblement pour la démocratie et le progrès)

#### **CHILE - CHILI**

COLOMA, Juan Antonio (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the delegation

*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat (UDI)*

GIRARDI, Guido (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat*

LETELIER, Juan Pablo (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate

Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	<i>Membre du Sénat (PS)</i>
PASCAL-ALLENDE, Denise (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions / <i>Membre du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i>	<i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PS)</i>
CERONI, Guillermo (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies
	<i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PPD)</i>
GARCÍA, René Manuel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies
	<i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (RN)</i>
LEÓN, Roberto (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies
President of the GRULAC, President of the Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade / <i>Président du GRULAC, Président de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce</i>	<i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDC)</i>
URRUTIA, Ignacio (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies
	<i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (UDI)</i>
LABBÉ, Mario (Mr./M.)	Secretary General
Member of the ASGP / <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	<i>Secrétaire général</i>
PEILLARD, Jacqueline (Ms./Mme)	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
Secretary of the Group / <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
BUSTOS, Marcelo (Mr./M.)	
Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	
OSES, Juan (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ROJAS, Luis (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
Member of the ASGP / <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
(UDI: Independent Democratic Union / Union démocratique indépendante)	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)	
(PPD: Party for Democracy / Parti pour la démocratie)	
(RN: National Renewal / Rénovation nationale)	
(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)	

**CHINA – CHINE**

CHEN, Zhu (Mr./M.)	Vice-Chairman of the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress / <i>Vice-Président de la Commission permanente de l'Assemblée populaire nationale (CP)</i>
Leader of the delegation / <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
CHEN, Xiurong (Ms./Mme)	Member of the the Standing Committee of the National People's Congress, Deputy-Chairperson of the Internal and Judicial Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de la Commission permanente de l'Assemblée populaire nationale (CP), Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires internes et judiciaires</i>
WANG, Xiaochu (Mr./M.)	Deputy to the National People's Congress, Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale, Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères (CP)</i>
MENG, Wei (Mr./M.)	Deputy to the National People's Congress, Deputy Chairman of the Environment Protection And Resources Conservation Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale (CP), Vice-Président de la Commission de la protection de l'environnement et de la préservation des ressources</i>

LIU, Rui (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director General, Foreign Affairs Bureau <i>Directeur général adjoint du Bureau des affaires étrangères</i>
ZHANG, Yuhuan (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director General, General Office <i>Directeur général adjoint, Bureau général</i>
LIU, Deyu (Mr./M.)	Director, Foreign Affairs Bureau <i>Directeur du Bureau des affaires étrangères</i>
XIE, Jifeng (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director of the Department of International Organizations and Conferences, Ministry of Foreign Affairs / <i>Directeur adjoint du Département des organisations internationales et des conférences du Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
LI, Xiang (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
XU, Jue (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, Department of International Organizations and Conferences, Ministry of Foreign Affairs <i>Secrétaire du Département des organisations internationales et des conférences du Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
JIN, Tao (Mr./M.) Security Officer <i>Agent de sécurité</i>	
WANG, Xiaoyan (Ms./Mme)	Foreign Affairs Bureau <i>Bureau des affaires étrangères</i>
DONG, Junxian (Mr./M.)	Foreign Affairs Bureau <i>Bureau des affaires étrangères</i>
ZHU, Hongying (Ms./Mme)	Department of International Organizations and Conferences, Ministry of Foreign Affairs / <i>Département des organisations internationales et des conférences du Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
WANG, Xunjia (Ms./Mme) Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs <i>Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
LIU, Di (Ms./Mme) Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs <i>Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>

(CP: Communist Party / *Parti communiste*)

#### **COTE D'IVOIRE - COTE D'IVOIRE**

OUATTARA, Siaka (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on General and Institutional Affairs / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDR), Commission des affaires générales et institutionnelles</i>
GNANGBO, Kacou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Economic and Financial Affairs / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Esp), Commission des affaires économiques et financières</i>
YACE DE MEL, Laurette Andrée (Ms./Mme) Vice-President of the Group <i>Vice-Présidente du Groupe</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Security and Defence / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDCI/RDA), Commission de la sécurité et de la défense</i>
N'GUESSAN, Kouakou Désiré (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Administrator, Legislative Services <i>Administrateur des Services législatifs</i>
KASSI YA, Blandine (Ms./Mme) Assistant / <i>Assistante</i>	

(RDR: Rally of Republicans / *Rassemblement des Républicains*)

(Esp: Espérance)  
(PDCI/RDA: Democratic Party of Côte d'Ivoire/African Democratic Rally / Parti démocratique de Côte d'Ivoire/Rassemblement éocratique africain)

**CROATIA - CROATIE**

ĐUROVIĆ, Dražen (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Croatian Parliament, Defence Committee, War Veterans Committee, Interparliamentary Co-operation Committee / *Membre du Parlement de Croatie (SDASB), Commission de la défense, Commission des anciens combattants, Commission de la coopération interparlementaire*

(SDASB: Croatian Democratic Alliance of Slavonia and Baranja / Alliance démocratique croate de Slavonie et Baranja)  
(SDP: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

**CUBA**

MARI MACHADO, Ana María (Ms./Mme)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of the People's Power / *Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire*

BARREDO MEDINA, Lázaro (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire*

FERRER GÓMEZ, Yolanda (Ms./Mme)  
President of the Group  
*Président du Groupe*

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire, Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères*

NÚÑEZ BETANCOURT, Alberto (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire*

LÓPEZ DÍAZ, Herminio (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

MARTÍNEZ CORDOVÉS, Ada (Ms./Mme)

Administrative Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire administratif du Groupe*

FEO LABRADA, Ariadne (Ms./Mme)

Advisor / *Conseillère*

RODRÍGUEZ BARRIOS, Liurka (Ms./Mme)

Advisor / *Conseillère*

**CYPRUS - CHYPRE**

NEOFYTOS, Averof (Mr./M.)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security, Leader of the delegation / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Foreign and European Affairs / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (DISY), Président de la Commission permanente des affaires étrangères et européennes*

GAROYIAN, Marios (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PD)*

KOUKOUMA KOUTRA, Skevi (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme*

Member of the House of Representatives, Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Refugees, Enclaved, Missing, Adversely Affected Persons / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (AKEL), Président de la Commission permanente des réfugiés, des personnes enclavées, disparues ou lésées*

VARNAVA, George (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Defence Affairs / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (EDEK), Président de la Commission permanente des affaires de défense*

ANASTASSIADOU, Vassiliki (Ms./Mme)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

CHRISTOU, Avgousta (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary to the delegation  
*Secrétaire de la délégation*

International Relations Officer A'  
*Chargée des Relations internationales'*

(DISY: Democratic Rally / Rassemblement démocratique)

(PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocrate)

(AKEL: Progressive Party of the Working People / Parti progressiste des masses laborieuses)

(EDEK: Social Democratic Movement / Mouvement social démocrate)

### **CZECH REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE TCHEQUE**

DOUBRAVA, Jaroslav (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs / *Membre du Sénat (S.cz), Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires européennes*

LÁTKA, Jan (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Vice-Chairman of the Mandate and Immunity Committee, Committee on European Affairs / *Membre du Sénat, Vice-Président de la Commission des mandats et des immunités, Commission des affaires européennes*

GROSPÍČ, Stanislav (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs, Mandate and Immunity Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des Députés, Commission des affaires constitutionnelles et légales, Commission des mandats et des immunités*

LOBKOWICZ, Jaroslav (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee on Budgetary Control, Committee on Agriculture / *Membre de la Chambre des Députés (TOP09), Commission du contrôle budgétaire, Commission de l'agriculture*

VÁHALOVÁ, Dana (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee on European Affairs, Committee on Agriculture / *Membre de la Chambre des Députés (ČSSD), Commission des affaires européennes, Commission de l'agriculture*

ŠARAPATKA, Milan (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee on Foreign Affairs / *Membre de la Chambre des Députés (Usvit), Commission des affaires étrangères*

KYNSTETR, Petr (Mr./M.)

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

UKLEIN, Jiří (Mr./M.)

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

KOŠAŘÍKOVÁ KATEŘINA (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

TUKOVÁ, Alena (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

(S.cz: Severoces.cz)

(TOP 09: Tradition Responsibility Prosperity 09 / Tradition, responsabilité, prospérité 09)

(ČSSD: Czech Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate tchèque)

(Usvit: Dawn of Direct Democracy / Aube de la démocratie directe)

### **DEMOCRATIC PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF KOREA REPUBLIQUE POPULAIRE DEMOCRATIQUE DE COREE**

CHOE, Jin Su (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation

Member of the Supreme People's Assembly, Chairman of the Central Committee for the Democratic Front for the



<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Reunification of the Fatherland / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire suprême, Président du Comité central du Front démocratique pour la réunification de la patrie</i>
HYON, Jong Ung (Mr./M.)	Member of the Supreme People's Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire suprême</i>
KIM, Kyong Ho (Mr./M.)	Member of the Supreme People's Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire suprême</i>
KIM, Hak Song (Mr./M.)	Member of the Supreme People's Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée populaire suprême</i>
PAK, Myong Guk (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation, Foreign Affairs Ministry <i>Secrétaire de la délégation, Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>	

**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO - REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO**

MOKOLO WA MPOMBO, Edouard (Mr./M.) Co-President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Co-Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	First Vice-President of the Senate <i>Premier Vice-Président du Sénat</i>
EZADRI EGUMA, Norbert (Mr./M.)	Rapporteur of the National Assembly <i>Rapporteur de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MASIKINI MBILI, Lilie (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MBUKU, Boris Laka (Mr./M.) Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Economic, Financial and Budget Control Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ARC), Commission économique, financière et de contrôle budgétaire</i>
SHE OKITUNDU, Léonard (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
EKOMBE, Toussaint (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDC)</i>
GOYA KITENGE, Bijoux (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
MUSENDU FLUNGU, Flore (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
BYAZA-SANDA, David (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the Senate <i>Secrétaire général du Sénat</i>
MADJUBOLE MODRIKPE, Patrice (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ADRARO, Vanessa (Ms./Mme) Assistant / <i>Assistante</i>	
MUTUMBE, Crispin (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
MUKWANGA, Gilbert (Mr./M.)	Head of Cabinet / <i>Chef de cabinet</i>
KATAKO, Josué (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	
KABANGU DIBA NSESE, François (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	
MBOMBO KAYALA, Roger (Mr./M.)	Secretariat, General Services <i>Secrétariat de la Direction des Services généraux</i>

(ARC: Alliance for Congo's Renewal / Alliance pour le renouveau du Congo)

(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti des Démocrates Chrétiens)

**DENMARK – DANEMARK**

SCHMIDT, Hans Christian (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Chairman of the Rural Districts and Islands Committee, Environment Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (PL), Président de la Commission des districts ruraux et des îles, Commission de l'environnement</i>
DAHL, Jonas (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Finance Committee, Health Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (SPP), Commission des finances, Commission de la santé</i>
CHRISTIANSEN, Kim (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Transport Committee, Legal Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (DPP), Commission des transports, Commission des affaires juridiques</i>
BARFOED, Lars (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Foreign Policy Committee, European Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (C), Commission de la politique extérieure, Commission des affaires européennes</i>
HAV, Orla (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Chairman of the Social Affairs Committee, Foreign Policy Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (SD), Président de la Commission des affaires sociales, Commission de la politique extérieure</i>
LAUSTSEN, Bjarne (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Defence Committee, Employment Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (SD), Commission de la défense, Commission de l'emploi</i>
RAVN, Troels (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Chairman of the Immigration and Integration Affairs Committee, Gender Equality Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (SD), Président de la Commission de l'immigration et de l'intégration, Commission de l'égalité entre les sexes</i>
NONBO, Karsten (Mr./M.)	Member of the The Danish Parliament, Chairman of the Defence Committee, Chairman of the Intelligence Services Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement danois (PL), Président de la Commission de la défense, Président de la Commission des services de renseignement</i>
DETHLEFSEN, Claus (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
DELEURAN, Pernille (Ms./Mme) Adviser to the delegation <i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	
LARSON, Claudius (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
VESTERGAARD, Mette (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
NIELSEN, John (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	

(PL: Liberal Party / Parti libéral)  
(SPP: Socialist People's Party / Parti populaire socialiste)  
(DPP: Danish People's Party / Parti populaire danois)  
(C: Conservative Party / Parti Conservateur)

(SD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

**DJIBOUTI**

- MOHAMED DAOUD, Ali (Mr./M.)  
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*
- AHMED ELMI, Deka (Ms./Mme)
- SAID GOUMANEH, Hassan (Mr./M.)
- (FRUD: Front for Restoration of Unity and Democracy / Front pour la restauration de l'unité et la démocratie)  
(RPP: People's Rally for Progress / Rassemblement populaire pour le progrès)  
(UMP: Union for the Presidential Majority / Union pour la majorité présidentielle)

**DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE**

- SUAREZ, Victor (Mr./M.)  
Advisory Group of HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health, Leader of the delegation / *Groupe consultatif sur le VIH/sida et la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant, Chef de la délégation*
- FERMIN, Graciela (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité*
- VÁSQUEZ FERNÁNDEZ, José Alberto (Mr./M.)
- MÉNDEZ MÉNDEZ, Rafael (Mr./M.)
- (PLD: Dominican Liberation Party / *Parti de la libération dominicaine*)

**EL SALVADOR**

- REYES, Sigfrido (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*
- MERINO, Francisco (Mr./M.)
- SOSA, Karina (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme*
- MENJIVAR, Vicente (Mr./M.)
- QUINTANILLA, Nelson (Mr./M.)

RECINOS RAMÍREZ, Karla Beatriz (Ms./Mme)  
Advisor to the Delegation  
*Conseillère de la délégation*

SANABRIA ROMERO, Hazell Brigitte (Ms./Mme)  
Advisor to the Delegation  
*Conseillère de la délégation*

#### **EQUATORIAL GUINEA - GUINEE EQUATORIALE**

MOHABA MESSU, Gaudencio (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Président de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)*

TORAO OYO, Ricardo Maximo (Mr./M.)

Deputy President of the Senate  
*Vice-Président du Sénat (PDGE)*

MANGUE ESIMI, Juliana (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)*

ONDO NSE MADJA, Juan (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)*

NKA OBIANG MAYE, Victorino (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

ESONO EKUA, Bienvenido (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

MBA, Francisco Javier (Mr./M.)  
Press / *Presse*

(PDGE: Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea / Parti Democratique de Guinée Equatoriale)

#### **ESTONIA - ESTONIE**

KÕIV, Tõnis (Mr./M.)  
President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation  
*Chef de la délégation, Président du Groupe*

Member of the Estonian Parliament, Environment  
Committee, European Union Affairs Committee  
*Membre du Parlement estonien, Commission de  
l'environnement, Commission des affaires de l'Union  
européenne (ERP)*

ÕUNAPUU, Jaan (Mr./M.)

Member of the Estonian Parliament, Economic Affairs  
Committee / *Membre du Parlement estonien,  
Commission des affaires économiques (SDE)*

NOOL, Erki (Mr./M.)

Member of the Estonian Parliament, Deputy Chairman of  
the Environment Committee / *Membre du Parlement  
estonien, Vice-Président de la Commission de  
l'environnement (IRL)*

OTSEPP, Riina (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

(ECeP: Estonian Centre Party / Parti estonien du centre)

#### **ETHIOPIA - ETHIOPIE**

GEBREHIWET, Kassa Teklebrhan (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the House of the Federation  
*Président de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)*

ANKO, Daniel Demissie (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of the Federation  
*Membre de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)*

FARIS, Yohannes Bewale (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of the Federation  
*Membre de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)*

BARAMO, Tekle Tessema (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Peoples' Representatives, Foreign Defence Security Affairs Standing Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants du Peuple (EPRDF), Commission permanente des affaires de la sécurité défense</i>
DEJENE, Meles Tilahun (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Peoples' Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants du Peuple (EPRDF)</i>
WOLDESEMEYAT, Ayelech Eshete (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Peoples' Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants du Peuple (EPRDF)</i>
ZEGEYE, Asmelash Weldeslassie (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Peoples' Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants du Peuple (EPRDF)</i>
WAKO, Lema Megersa (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Peoples' Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants du Peuple (EPRDF)</i>
AYENEW, Worku Adamu (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
MAHADI, Bashir Ali (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
DERA, Debebe Barud (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
GEBRE, Nigus Lemma (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ALEMAYEHU CHEWAKA, Estifanos (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
GIZACHEW, Mulugeta (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
(EPRDF: Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front / Front populaire démocratique révolutionnaire de l'Ethiopie)	

**FINLAND - FINLANDE**

KOMI, Katri (Ms./Mme) Vice-President of the UN Nations Affairs, Leader of the delegation / <i>Vice-Présidente du Groupe, Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (KESK)</i>
KARHU, Saara (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (SDP)</i>
MÄNNISTÖ, Lasse (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (KOK)</i>
SOININVAARA, Osmo (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (Mpg)</i>
UOTILA, Kari (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
TIITINEN, Seppo (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
HUTTUNEN, Marja (Ms./Mme) Assistant Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire assistante du Groupe</i>	
VUOSIO, Teemu (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Adviser <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Conseiller</i>	

LÄHDEVIRTA, Kimmo (Mr./M.)  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

(KESK: Center Party / Parti du Centre)  
(SDP: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)  
(KOK: National Coalition Party / Coalition nationale)  
(Mpg: Green Party / Les Verts)

## FRANCE

ANDRÉ, Michèle (Ms./Mme)  
Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians,  
Leader of the delegation / *Comité de coordination des  
femmes parlementaires, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Senate, Chairperson of the Finance  
Committee / *Membre du Sénat (PS), Présidente de la  
Commission des finances*

GILLOT, Dominique (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Senate, Committee on Culture,  
Communication and Education / *Membre du Sénat  
(PS), Commission de la culture, de la communication et  
de l'éducation*

MAUREY, Hervé (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Committee on  
Sustainable Development / *Membre du Sénat (UDI),  
Président de la Commission du développement durable*

DEL PICCHIA, Robert (Mr./M.)  
Member of the Executive Committee  
*Membre du Comité exécutif*

Member of the Senate, Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defence and Armed Forces / *Membre du Sénat (UMP),  
Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et  
des forces armées*

GUITTET, Chantal (Ms./Mme)  
Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle East  
Questions / *Membre suppléante du Comité sur les  
questions relatives au Moyen-Orient*

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Foreign Affairs / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PS),  
Commission des affaires étrangères*

MARTIN-LALANDE, Patrice (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Foreign Affairs / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale  
(UMP), Commission des affaires étrangères*

PALLEZ, Christophe (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

LUQUIENS, Corinne (Ms./Mme)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

EIFERMANN, Didier (Mr./M.)  
Executive Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire exécutif du Groupe*

FAUCONNIER, Inès (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary of the ASGP, Member of the ASGP  
*Secrétaire de l'ASGP, Membre de l'ASGP*

VANCE, Loïc (Mr./M.)  
Executive Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire exécutif du Groupe*

VELASCO, Karine (Ms./Mme)  
Administrative Secretary of the ASGP, Member of the  
ASGP / *Secrétaire administratif de l'ASGP, Membre de  
l'ASGP*

ORSI, Mathieu (Mr./M.)  
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

LAMBERT, Rémi (Mr./M.)  
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PS: Socialist Party / Parti Socialiste)  
(UDI: Union of Democrats and Independents / Union des Démocrates et Indépendants)  
(UMP: Union for a Popular Movement / Union pour un Mouvement Populaire)

**GABON**

MOULENGUI MOUELE, Sophie (Ms./Mme)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*  
BOUANGO, Christophe (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Law Committee  
*Membre du Sénat (PDG), Commission des finances*

Member of the Senate, Deputy Chair, Economic Affairs  
Committee / *Membre du Sénat (PDG), Vice-Président  
de la Commission des affaires économiques*  
Director / *Directrice*

ROSSATANGA, Lygie (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary to the delegation  
*Secrétaire de la délégation*

(PDG: Gabonese Democratic Party / Parti Democratique Gabonais)

**GEORGIA - GEORGIE**

CHAPIDZE, Eliso (Ms./Mme)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of Parliament, Education Committee, Science  
and Culture Committee / *Membre du Parlement (GD),  
Commission de l'éducation, Commission de la science  
et de la culture*

BAKRADZE, David (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament  
*Membre du Parlement (UNM)*

MARAKVELIDZE, Zurab (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

BROKISHVILI, Irakli (Mr./M.)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

(GD: The Georgian Dream / Rêve géorgien)

(UNM: United National Movement / Mouvement national uni)

**GERMANY - ALLEMAGNE**

LAMMERT, Norbert (Mr./M.)  
Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the  
delegation / *Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la  
délégation*

Speaker of the German Bundestag  
*Président du Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU)*

ERNSTBERGER, Petra (Ms./Mme)  
Coordinating Committee of Women  
Parliamentarians, Deputy Leader of the  
delegation / *Comité de coordination des  
Femmes parlementaires, Chef adjointe de  
la délégation*

Member of the German Bundestag  
*Membre du Bundestag allemand (SPD)*

ROTH, Claudia (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Speaker of the German Bundestag, Committee on  
Economic Cooperation and Development, Subcommittee  
on Cultural and Education Policy Abroad / *Vice-Présidente  
du Bundestag allemand (Bündnis 90/Die Grünen),  
Commission de la coopération économique et du  
développement, Sous-Commission de la culture et de  
l'éducation à l'étranger*

FABRITIUS, Bernd (Mr./M.)  
Committee on the Human Rights of  
Parliamentarians / *Comité des droits de  
l'homme des parlementaires*

Member of the German Bundestag, Committee on the  
Affairs of the European Union, Committee on Human Rights  
and Humanitarian Aid, Parliamentary Assembly of the  
Council of Europe / *Membre du Bundestag allemand  
(CDU/CSU), Commission des affaires de l'Union  
européenne, Commission des droits de l'homme et de l'aide  
humanitaire, Assemblée parlementaire du Conseil de  
l'Europe*

FREITAG, Dagmar (Ms./Mme)	Member of the German Bundestag, Chairperson of the Sports Committee, Committee on Foreign Affairs, NATO Parliamentary Assembly / <i>Membre du Bundestag allemand (SPD), Président de la Commission des sports, Commission des affaires étrangères, Assemblée parlementaire de l'OTAN</i>
HOCHBAUM, Robert (Mr./M.)	Member of the German Bundestag, Chairperson of the Subcommittee on Disarmament, Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, Defence Committee / <i>Membre du Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU), Président, Sous-Commission du désarmement, la maîtrise des armements et la non-prolifération, Commission de la défense</i>
ULRICH, Alexander (Mr./M.)	Member of the German Bundestag, Committee on the Affairs of the European Union / <i>Membre du Bundestag allemande (DIE LINKE), Commission des affaires de l'Union européenne</i>
SÜTTERLIN-WAACK, Sabine (Ms./Mme)	Member of the German Bundestag, Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection / <i>Membre du Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU), Commission des affaires légales et de la protection des consommateurs</i>
RISSE, Horst (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
SCHÖLER, Ulrich (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
BEATRICE, Gelsomina (Ms./Mme) Assistant to the delegation <i>Assistante de la délégation</i>	Division of International Parliamentary Assemblies <i>Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales</i>
BRAMMER, Claudia (Ms./Mme) Assistant to the delegation <i>Assistante de la délégation</i>	Division of International Parliamentary Assemblies <i>Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales</i>
MÜLLER, Lorenz (Mr./M.)	Chief, Office of the President of the German Bundestag <i>Chef du Cabinet du Président du Bundestag allemand</i>
TEPASSE, Nicole (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Division of International Parliamentary Assemblies <i>Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales</i>
KREBS, Andrea (Ms./Mme)	Head of Division, International Parliamentary Assemblies <i>Chef de la Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales</i>
BERKEMEIER, Gunnar (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(CDU/CSU: Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union / Union chrétienne démocrate/Union chrétienne sociale)	
(SPD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)	
(Bündnis 90/ Die Grünen: Green Party / Les Verts)	
(DIE LINKE: Left Party / Parti de gauche)	

**GHANA**

ODRO, Ebo Barton (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (NDC)</i>
KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU, Osei (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
NKRUMAH, Georgina Aboa (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
TEYE MENSAH, Enoch (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>



MARKIN APENYO, Alexander (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
APODOLLA, Robert (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
BREFO BOATENG, Evelyn (Ms./Mme)	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
ASARE MENSAH, Joseph (Mr./M.)	Speaker's Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole du Président</i>

(NDC: National Democratic Congress / Congrès démocratique national)

#### GUINEA - GUINEE

SYLLA, El Hadj Dembo (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RPG)</i>
BAH, Mariama Taata (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Education Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UFDG), Commission de l'éducation</i>

(RPG: Rally of the Guinean People - Rainbow / Rassemblement du Peuple de Guinée - Arc en ciel)  
(UFDG: Union of Democratic Forces of Guinea / Union des Forces Démocratiques de Guinée)

#### HAITI

ANDRIS, Riche (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	President of the Senate, Committee on Justice, Defence and Public Security / <i>Président du Sénat, Commission de la justice, de la défense et de la sécurité publique</i>
BENOIT, Steven Irvenson (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Committee on Finance, Justice, Human Rights and Anti-Corruption / <i>Membre du Sénat, Commission des finances, de la justice, des droits humains et de la lutte contre la corruption</i>

#### HUNGARY – HONGRIE

BALLA, Mihály (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FIDESz), Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
LATORCAI, János (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (KNDP)</i>
BARTOS, Mónika (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Committee on Sustainable Development / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FIDESz), Commission des affaires étrangères, Commission du développement durable</i>
GYÖNGYÖSI, Márton (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Jobbik), Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
JÓZSA, István (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on European Affairs / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MSZP), Commission des affaires européennes</i>
SCHMUCK, Erzsébet (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Budget / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LMP), Vice-Président de la Commission du budget</i>
SEMJÉN, Zsolt (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (KNDP)</i>

SUCH, György (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
KOVÁCS, János (Mr./M.) ÁDÁM SOMFAI, Katalin (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
TORDA, Eszter (Ms./Mme) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente</i>	
HORVATH, Gellert (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
SIKLOSI, Dorottya (Ms./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
KAROLYI, Marton (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(FIDESz: Hungarian Civic Union / Union civique hongroise)	
(KNDP: Christian Democratic People's Party / Parti chrétien-démocrate du peuple)	
(Jobbik: Movement for a Better Hungary / Mouvement pour une meilleure Hongrie)	
(MSZP: Hungarian Socialist Party / Parti socialiste hongrois)	
(LMP: Politics Can Be Different / Faire de la politique autrement)	

**ICELAND - ISLANDE**

RIKHARDSDOTTIR, Ragnheidur (Ms./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament, Welfare Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (IP), Commission des affaires sociales</i>
DADASON, Ásmundur Einar (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Budget Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (PP), Commission du budget</i>
JÓNSDÓTTIR, Birgitta (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Constitutional and Supervisory Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement (P), Commission constitutionnelle de surveillance</i>
BERNODUSSON, Helgi (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
BANG, Arna Gerdur (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
(IP: Independence Party / Parti de l'indépendance)	
(PP: Progressive Party / Parti progressiste)	
(P: Pirate Party / Parti pirate)	

**INDIA - INDE**

MAHAJAN, Sumitra (Ms./Mme) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of the People <i>Présidente de la Chambre du peuple</i>
ACHUTHAN, M.P. (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (CPI)</i>
NATCHIAPPAN, E.m. Sudarsana (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (INC)</i>
SATAV, Shankarrao Rajeev (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (INC)</i>
BANERJEE, Satabdi Roy (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (AITC)</i>
PATIL, Bhavana Gawali (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (SS)</i>
SINGH, Nagendra (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>

SINGH, Raj Kumar Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>
SOLANKI, Kirit Premjibhai (Mr./M.) Advisory Group of HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health / <i>Groupe consultatif sur le VIH/sida et la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant</i>	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>
MISHRA, Anoop (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
JOHN, Cyril (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
KANDPAL, Y.M. (Mr./M.) RAMANA, L.V. (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i> Deputy Director, Lok Sabha <i>Directeur adjoint, Lok Sabha</i>
JASON, S. (Mr./M.) MISHRA, Vijay (Mr./M.) ROY, Rashmi (Ms./Mme) SHERIFF, Shumsher K. (Mr./M.) Executive Member of the ASGP <i>Membre exécutif de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i> Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
KUMAR, Praveen (Mr./M.)	Assistant Director, Rajya Sabha <i>Directeur adjoint, Rajya Sabha</i>
SALEEM, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
AKUJA, Rajiv (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	

(CPI: Communist Party of India / Parti communiste indien)  
(INC: Indian National Congress / Parti du Congrès national indien)  
(AITC: All India Trinamool Congress / )  
(SS: Shiv Sena)  
(BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party / Parti Bharatiya Janata)

#### INDONESIA - INDONESIE

NOVANTO, Setya (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Président de la Chambre des Représentants (Golkar)</i>
HAFID, Meutya (Ms./Mme) Advisory Group of HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health / <i>Groupe consultatif sur le VIH/sida et la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant</i>	Member of the House of Representatives, Vice-Chairman of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (Golkar), Vice-Président de la Commission de la coopération interparlementaire</i>
MUNAWAR, Rofi (Mr./M.) Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions / <i>Membre suppléant du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i>	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on Energy / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PKS), Commission de l'énergie</i>
NURSANTY, Evita (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on Foreign Affairs / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PDI-P), Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
KIEMAS, Nazarudin (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Commission for Energy / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PDI-P), Commission de l'énergie</i>
SARASWATI, Rahayu (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on energy and environment / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (G)</i>

ABDURRAHMAN, Mahfudz (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee for Transportation and Housing / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PKS), Commission des transports et du logement</i>
SYAFRUDDIN, Muhammad (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee for Foreign Affairs / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PAN), Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
FAISHAL ZAINI, Ahmad Helmy (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee for Education / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PKB), Commission de l'éducation</i>
TATANG, Sutharsa (Mr./M.)	
Member of the ASGP	
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
ISLAM, Saiful (Mr./M.)	
Secretary to the Delegation	
<i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
RETNOASTUTI, Endah T.D. (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary to the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
SARTOMO, Hardjono (Mr./M.)	
Assistant Secretary to the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
ALFIAH, Warsiti (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary to ASGP Delegation	
<i>Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP</i>	
NOVIANTI, Novianti (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary to the Speaker	
<i>Secrétaire du Président</i>	
PRATOMO, Eddy (Mr./M.)	
Advisor to the Speaker	
<i>Conseiller du Président</i>	
ANGGORO, Heriyono Adi (Mr./M.)	
Adviser to the Delegation	
<i>Conseiller de la délégation</i>	
TETA CARINA, Sheila (Ms./Mme)	
Adviser to the Delegation	
<i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	
KATINDING, Jeffri (Mr./M.)	
Adviser to the Speaker	
<i>Conseiller du Président</i>	
WINURINI, Sulis (Ms./Mme)	
Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>	
YOGA DARMAWAN, Kristanto (Mr./M.)	
Secretary to the Head of the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire du Chef de la délégation</i>	
RAHARDJO, Sigit (Mr./M.)	
Secretary to the Head of the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire du Chef de la délégation</i>	
THERESA MULYONO, Pauline (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
BADIB, Linda (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	

(Golkar: Party of Functional Group / Parti des groupes fonctionnels)

(PKS: Prosperous Justice Party / Parti de la justice et de la prospérité)

(PDI-P: Indonesian Democratic Party - Struggle / Parti démocrate indonésien en lutte)

(G: Gerindra Party / Parti Gerindra)

(PAN: National Mandate Party / Parti du mandat national)

(PKB: National Awakening Party / Parti du réveil national)

**IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) - IRAN (REPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE D')**

<p>DASTGHEIB, S. Ahmad Reza (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i></p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Deputy Chair of the Standing Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Vice-Président de la Commission permanente de la sécurité nationale et de la politique extérieure</i></p>
<p>BETKOLYA, Younaten (Mr./M.) Vice-President of the Group <i>Vice-Président du Groupe</i></p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for Development / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente du développement</i></p>
<p>HOSSEINI SADR, Moayed (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security, Secretary of the Group / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité, Secrétaire du Groupe</i></p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for Industries and Mines / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente des industries et des mines</i></p>
<p>JALALI, Kazem (Mr./M.) Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i></p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente de la sécurité nationale et de la politique extérieure</i></p>
<p>JAHANGIRZADEH, Javad (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i></p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente de la sécurité nationale et de la politique extérieure</i></p>
<p>SOBHANI NIA, Hossein (Mr./M.)</p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for National Security and Foreign Policy <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente de la sécurité nationale et de la politique extérieure</i></p>
<p>NOURI GHEZELCHEH, Gholamreza (Mr./M.)</p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for Agriculture, Irrigation and Natural Resources / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente de l'agriculture, de l'irrigation et des ressources naturelles</i></p>
<p>SALIMI, Alireza (Mr./M.)</p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for Education and Research / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente de l'éducation et de la recherche</i></p>
<p>EFTEKHARI, Laleh (Ms./Mme)</p>	<p>Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran, Standing Committee for Cultural Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran, Commission permanente des affaires culturelles</i></p>
<p>SHEIKHOESLAM, Hossein (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i></p>	
<p>GHASSEMPOUR, Amir Abbas (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire administratif du Groupe</i></p>	<p>Deputy Director, International Department <i>Directeur adjoint, Département international</i></p>
<p>GHASHGHAVI, Mahdi (Mr./M.)</p>	<p>Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i></p>
<p>YOUSEFI, Alireza (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i></p>	
<p>SAHRARI, Mohamed Reza (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i></p>	

**IRAQ**

ABDULMAGED, Humam Baqer (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Council of Representatives of Iraq / <i>Vice-Président du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
ALFATLAWI MOHSIN, Hanan Saeed (Dr/Mme)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
ABBAS, Hasan Khudhair (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
EZGHAYER, Najim Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
ABO-JARRY, Iqbal Abdulhussein (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
NADER, Muthanna Ammen (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
AHMED, Shakhwan Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
HAMMOD, Mohammed Noori Ahmed (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
TALABANI, Ala (Mrs./Mme) Substitute member of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians / <i>Membre du Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
NAMIK MAJID, Ayad (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
KHUDHAIR, Yasir Nazar (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
MAKEE, Ali Nabil (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
ASSI, Mohanad Kadhim (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
ABBAS, Abbas Khudhair (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
RADHI, Mustafa Mohammed (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
MAHDI, Raad Mohammed (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
MOHAMMED, Ali Kareem (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
ABDUL SATAR, Ghaith Majid (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
MOHAMMED, Hayder Shareef (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
ALI, Hatim Farhan (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
SAHIB, Alaa Kamil (Ms./Mme)	Advisor / <i>Conseillère</i>
HARFASH, Omer Abed (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>

**IRELAND - IRLANDE**

BURKE, Patrick (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Group of Facilitators for Cyprus, Leader of the delegation / <i>Président du Groupe, Groupe de facilitateurs concernant Chypre, Chef de la délégation</i>	President of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat (FG)</i>
COWEN, Barry (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FF)</i>
HARRINGTON, Noel (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FG)</i>
LYONS, John (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Vice Chair of the Jobs, Enterprise and Innovation Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (L), Vice-Président de la Commission de l'emploi, des</i>

MULHERIN, Michelle (Ms./Mme)

*entreprises et de l'innovation*

Member of the House of Representatives

*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FG)*

MATHEWS, Bernadette (Ms./Mme)

Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire de la délégation*

(FG: Fine Gael)

(FF: Fianna Fáil)

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

**ISRAEL**

SHEETRIT, Meir (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament

Committee on Middle East Questions, Group of

*Membre du Parlement (H)*

Facilitators for Cyprus, Leader of the delegation

*Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient,**Groupe de facilitateurs concernant Chypre, Chef de**la délégation*

EILON SHAHAR, Meirav (Ms./Mme)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente*

(H: Hatenua (the Movement) / Hatenua (le Mouvement))

**ITALY - ITALIE**

CASINI, Pier Ferdinando (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs

Honorary President, Leader of the delegation

*Committee / Membre du Sénat (AP), Président de la**Président honoraire, Chef de la délégation**Commission des affaires étrangères*

AMORUSO, Francesco Maria (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Foreign Affairs Committee

*Membre du Sénat (FI-PL), Commission des affaires**étrangères*

FARINA, Giovanni (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Foreign Affairs

Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle East

*Committee / Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PD),**questions relatives au Moyen-Orient**Commission des affaires étrangères**Président honoraire, Chef de la délégation*

SORBELLO, Roberto (Mr./M.)

Director / *Directeur*

Secretary General of the Group, Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire général du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP*

RADONI, Susanna (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Director

Secretary of the Group

*Directrice adjointe**Secrétaire du Groupe*

LASORSA, Antonella (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

OLMEDA, Claudio (Mr./M.)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

PINELLI, Alessio (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

REGAZZONI, Carlo (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

SANGINITI, Natalia (Ms./Mme)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

SCHINA, Fabio (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(AP: Area Popolare)

(FI-PL: Forza Italia - Popolo della Libertà)

(PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocrate)

**JAPAN - JAPON**

SUZUKI, Shunichi (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (LDP)</i>
MAKISHIMA, Karen (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (LDP)</i>
IZUMI, Kenta (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (DPJ)</i>
MAKI, Yoshio (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (JIP)</i>
MIYAMOTO, Shuji (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Councillors <i>Membre de la Chambre des Conseillers (LDP)</i>
SHIMIZU, Takayuki (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Councillors <i>Membre de la Chambre des Conseillers (JIP)</i>
HAYASHIYAMA, Yasuhiko (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director General, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives / <i>Directeur</i> <i>général adjoint, Département des affaires</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des représentants</i>
NISHIKOBE, Natsuko (Ms./Mme)	Assistant Director, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives / <i>Directeur assistant,</i> <i>Département des affaires internationales, Chambre des</i> <i>représentants</i>
SUGIYAMA, Jin (Mr./M.)	Secretary, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives / <i>Secrétaire, Département des affaires</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des représentants</i>
UENO, Ayako (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives / <i>Secrétaire, Département des affaires</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des représentants</i>
KONO, Miho (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, International Affairs Department, House of Representatives / <i>Secrétaire, Département des affaires</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des représentants</i>
KURATA, Yasuo (Mr./M.)	Director, International Conferences Division, House of Councillors / <i>Directeur, Division des conférences</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des Conseillers</i>
OGAWA, Akiko (Ms./Mme)	Assistant Director, International Conferences Division, House of Councillors / <i>Directrice assistante, Division des</i> <i>conférences internationales, Chambre des Conseillers</i>
TAKEUCHI, Kenta (Mr./M.)	Secretary, International Conferences Division, House of Councillors / <i>Secrétaire, Division des conférences</i> <i>internationales, Chambre des Conseillers</i>
HIGUCHI, Mariko (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
HOSHINOYA (KAWAMURA), Shiho (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
KODAMA, Emiko (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
SAKAI, Itsuko (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
OTA, Midori (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
TAMURA, Kayo (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
IWAMOTO, Noriko (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
YONEMARU, Chiaki (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
CHIDA, Masako (Ms./Mme)	
Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	



(LDP: Liberal Democratic Party / Parti libéral démocrate)  
(JIP: Japan Innovation Party / Parti japonais de l'innovation)  
(DPJ: Democratic Party of Japan / Parti démocrate japonais)

**JORDAN - JORDANIE**

ALTARAWNEH, Aatif (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Président de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
BARAKAT, Salwa (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
BARHAM, Kamal (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
SAKET, Bassam (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
AL SHEYAB, Husni (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
ALRIYATI, Tamam (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
OWAIS, Samer (Mr./M.) Committee to Promote Respect for IHL / <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
ALGHARAGEER, Amneh (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
AL-GHRIR, Hamad (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
SHAWABKEH, Fayez (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ALADOWAN, Samer (Mr./M.)	Head of Protocol <i>Chef du protocole</i>
AL-ADWAN, Firas (Mr./M.)	Director General, Speaker's Office <i>Directeur général du Bureau du Président</i>
AL- BARAISEH, Moh'd (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ALMASHAKBEEH, Adnan (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
HUNAITI, Attallah (Mr./M.) Media Advisor <i>Conseiller médias</i>	
HADDADIN, Bassam (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ALWAKED, Abdelrahim (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ALTARAWNEH, Shareef (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	

**KAZAKHSTAN**

JAKUPOV, Kabibulla (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Président de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan)</i>
ICHSHANOV, Kairat (Mr./M.)	Deputy President of the Senate <i>Vice-Président du Sénat (Nur Otan)</i>
MUKAYEV, Yerbulat (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Committee on Agrarian Issues and Environmental Protection / <i>Membre du Sénat, Commission des questions agraires et de la protection de l'environnement</i>
BIMENDINA, Assima (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on Social and Cultural Development / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan), Commission</i>

ASHIMBAYEV, Maulen (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité</i>	<i>du développement social et culturel</i> Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan), Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
KIYANSKIY, Viktor (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on Environmental Issues and Natural Resource Use <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan), Commission des questions liées à l'environnement et à l'utilisation des ressources naturelles</i>
MADINOV, Romin (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the Committee on Agrarian Issues / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants, Commission des questions agraires</i>
MEDEUOV, Ussengeldy (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defense and Security / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan), Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
TURARBEKOV, Ayan (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
SMAGULOV, Danay (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
KASSYMBEKOV, Talgat (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
KELSEITOV, Yergali (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
SAGINOVA, Zhanna (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
ABRAMOVA, Olga (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
BEKENOV, Aray (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
SAKHARIYEVA, Aliya (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
ZHUMAGULOV, Aibol (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
YELEUOV, Zhomart (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
TENELBAYEVA, Nazym (Ms./Mme) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
MAILYBAYEV, Sailybay (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
(Nur Otan: People's Democratic Party / Parti populaire démocratique)	

**KENYA**

EKWEE ETHURO, David (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	President of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat (TNA)</i>
NABWALA, Catherine Mukiite (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the Senate, Finance Committee, Health Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (ODM), Commission des finances, Commission de la santé</i>
MUSYOKA, Susan (dr.) (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Business Committee, Health Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>

	(CORD), <i>Commission des affaires, Commission de la santé</i>
PKOSING LOSIAKOU, David (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (URP)</i>
TUYA, Soipan (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Finance Committee, Health Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (URP), Commission des finances, Commission de la santé</i>
WA KABANDO, Kabando (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Defence and Foreign Relations Committee, Agriculture Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NA), Commission de la défense et des relations étrangères, Commission de l'agriculture</i>
BUNDI, Justin (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALI MOHAMED, Mohamed (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
KIOKO, Sarah (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
CHANIA, Daniel (Mr./M.)	Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>
OSUNDWA, Lilian (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
EDUNG, Edward (Mr./M.) Personal Assistant <i>Assistant particulier</i>	
WANJIKU, Mainah (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
MUPUSI, Deborah (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
(TNA: The National Alliance / Alliance nationale)	
(ODM: Orange Democratic Movement / Mouvement démocratique orange)	
(URP: United Republican Party / Parti républicain uni)	
(KANU: Kenya African National Union / Union nationale africaine - Kenya)	
(CORD: Coalition for Reforms and Democracy / Coalition pour les réformes et la démocratie)	

**KUWAIT - KOWEIT**

ALGHANIM, Marzouq (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALAZEMI, Saif (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ABDULLAH, Khaleel (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALHAJIRI, Madi (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSHAYEE, Faisal (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Financial and Economic Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires financières et économiques</i>
ALROWAIEE, Oudah (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ASHOUR, Saleh (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALKANDARI, Allam (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>

*Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP*

ALENEZI, Shehab (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ALFARDAN, Amer (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ALDEGAISHEM, Jamal (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
AL-MONAIIFI, Jamal (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
AL-MUTAWA, Amal (Ms./Mme)	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
ALAWADI, Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-HARBAN, Talal (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
ALENEZI, Mishal (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ALSOBAIEE, Muslat (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
SHISHTERI, Bader (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-EDAN, Tariq (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-AJMI, Mubarak (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
HUSSAIN, Othman (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-ENEZI, Jamal (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-LOGHANI, Maha (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
AL-GAZWEENI, Fatema (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
ALOTAIBI, Dana (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
FARHAN, Tareq (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-RASHED, Ahmed (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-WEQAT, Khaled (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>

**LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE POPULAIRE LAO**

YATHOTOU, Pany (Ms./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP)</i>
PHENGKHAMMY, Somphan (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP)</i>
AKHAMOUNTRY, Koukeo (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP), Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
KHAMMANIVONG, Bounsay (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP)</i>
LEEKAIYA, Bouaphanh (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice Chairperson of the Social and Cultural Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP), Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires sociales et culturelles</i>
VIGNAKET, Suanesavanh (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice Chairperson of the Women Parliamentarians Caucus / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP), Vice-Présidente du Forum des femmes parlementaires</i>

SISOULATH, Bounpone (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice Chairman of the Economy Planning and Finance Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP), Vice-Président de la Commission de la planification économique et des finances</i>
SVENGSAKSA, Viseth (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
KONGPHALY, Thanta (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Director General <i>Directeur général</i>
THEPHACHANH, Viengthavison (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Director General <i>Directeur général</i>
ANOTHAY, Kemphone (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
ANANTHA, Soutsakhone (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
KEOMANYKHOT, Kaysone (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
SADETTAN, Sanexay (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
SOUTHAMMAVONG, Siriphone (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
YATHOTOU, Sengmany (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
BOUPHA, Vatlana (Ms./Mme) Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	

(LPRP: Lao People's Revolutionary Party / Parti populaire révolutionnaire lao)

**LATVIA - LETTONIE**

DAUDZE, Gundars (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Legal Affairs Committee, Parliamentary Inquiry Committee / <i>Vice-Président du Parlement, Commission des affaires juridiques</i>
ABOLTINA, Solvita (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Chairperson of the National Security Committee, Legal Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement, Présidente de la Commission de la sécurité nationale, Commission des affaires juridiques</i>
MIRSKIS, Sergejs (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Foreign Affairs Committee, Citizenship, Migration and Social Cohesion Committee <i>Membre du Parlement, Commission des affaires étrangères, Commission de la citoyenneté, de la migration et de la cohésion sociale</i>
PAURA, Sandra (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director / <i>Directrice</i>

**LESOTHO**

MOTSAMAI, Ntlhoi (Ms./Mme) Member of the Executive Committee, Ex-officio Member of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, Leader of the delegation <i>Membre du Comité exécutif, Membre de droit du Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly, Development Planning Committee, Vice-Chair of the Parliamentary Reforms Committee, Committee on Standing Orders, Economic Cluster / <i>Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale, (DC) Commission de la planification du développement, Vice-Président de la Commission des réformes parlementaires, Commission du règlement, Commission de l'économie</i>
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(DC: Democratic Congress / Congrès démocratique)

**LITHUANIA - LITUANIE**

GAPSYS, Vytautas (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament, Committee on Law and Justice <i>Membre du Parlement (L), Commission des lois et de la justice</i>
KIRKILAS, Gediminas (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Chairman of the Committee on European Affairs / <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (SDPS), Président de la Commission des affaires européennes</i>
RAUDONIENE, Daiva (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
SUMSKIENE, Laura (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail) (SDPS: Social Democratic Party "Harmony" / Parti Social-démocrate « Harmonie »)	

**LUXEMBOURG**

DI BARTOLOMEO, Mars (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Président, Chamber of Deputies (PS)</i>
BERGER, Eugène (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre, Chamber of Deputies (PD)</i>
BODRY, Alex (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre, Chamber of Deputies (PS)</i>
KLEIN, Aurélie (Ms./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste) (PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocratique)	

**MADAGASCAR**

RAKOTOMAMONJY, Jean Max (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
RABETAFIKA, Norovelomampionona Roberthine (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Deputy General Rapporteur / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Rapporteuse générale adjointe</i>
RIVOTIANA, Jean Bosco (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Committee on Home Affairs and Decentralization <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission de l'intérieur et de la décentralisation</i>
RAKOTOBÉ RAMAROSOA, Emiline (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
RAZANAKOTO, Andramasina (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ANGELE, Solange (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
RAKOTOMALALA, Lucien (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MARA, Niasry (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly

MAHAZOASY, Freddie Richard (Mr./M.)  
Advisor / *Conseiller*

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*  
Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

RANDRIAMAHAFANJARY ANDRIAMITARIJATO,  
Calvin (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General of the National Assembly  
*Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale*

RAPELANORO RABENJA, Haja Jose (Mr./M.)  
Technical Adviser  
*Conseiller technique*

## MALAWI

MSOWOYA, Richard (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the  
Parliamentary Service Commission / *Président de*  
*l'Assemblée nationale (MCP), Président de la*  
*Commission des services parlementaires*

KACHIKHO, Anna (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly, Public Appointments  
Committee, Women's Caucus / *Membre de l'Assemblée*  
*nationale (DPP), Commission des nominations, Forum*  
*parlementaire des femmes*

MLOMBWA, Clement (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Legal Affairs  
Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MCP),*  
*Commission des affaires juridiques*

MPAWENI, Yaumi (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

NJOLOMOLE, Henry (Mr./M.)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

Deputy Secretary-General  
*Secrétaire général adjoint*

DZIDEKHA, Gloria (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

KAIRA, Patrick (Mr./M.)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

(MCP: Malawi Congress Party / Parti du Congrès du Malawi)

(DPP: Democratic Progressive Party / Parti démocratique progressiste)

## MALAYSIA - MALAISIE

WEE, Ka Siong (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (MCA)*

KOH CHIN HAN (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate  
*Membre du Sénat*

BOON SOM INONG (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate  
*Membre du Sénat*

LAU KIONG YIENG, Alice (Ms./Mme)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants*

LOY SIAN, Hee (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants*

SOO SEANG, Khoo (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants*

WEI AIK, Ng (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants*

RAHMAT, Riduan (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

KONG YIT SIN, Lester Wyeth (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

SAMSURI, Zamrizam (Mr./M.)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

MOHD ZABIDI, Azmil (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

HUSSAIN, Ahmad Afifi (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

ASANGANY, Azra Firzadh (Ms./Mme)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(MCA: Malaysian Chinese Association / Association sino-malaisienne)

**MALDIVES**

MOHAMED, Abdulla Maseeh (Mr./M.)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

MANIK, Ahmed Nihan Hussain (Mr./M.)

Speaker of the People's Majlis

*Président, Majlis du Peuple (PPM)*

Member of the People's Majlis

*Membre, Majlis du Peuple (PPM)*

Member of the People's Majlis

*Membre, Majlis du Peuple (MDP)*

Member of the People's Majlis

*Membre, Majlis du Peuple (JP)*

Member of the People's Majlis

*Membre, Majlis du Peuple (PPM)*Adviser / *Conseillère*

ABDULLA, Abdul Bari (Mr./M.)

IBRAHIM, Moosa Nizar (Mr./M.)

RIFAU, Abdulla (Mr./M.)

FILZA, Fathimath (Ms./Mme)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

ZAKARIYYA, Abdul Hameed (Mr./M.)

Head of Foreign Relations

*Chef des relations étrangères*

RIKAZ, Hassan (Mr./M.)

Security Officer to the Speaker

*Agent de sécurité du Président*

(PPM: Progressive Party of Maldives / Parti progressiste des Maldives)

(MDP: Maldivian Democratic Party / Parti démocratique des Maldives)

(JP: Jumhooree Party / Parti Jumhooree)

**MALI**

CISSE, Amadou (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development,  
Finance and Trade, Leader of the delegation / *Bureau  
de la Commission permanente du développement, du  
financement et du commerce, Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

*Vice-Président de l'Assemblée Nationale*

TIMBINE, Moussa (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly

*Vice-Président de l'Assemblée Nationale*

MAIGA, Amadou (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée Nationale*

DRAME, Maimouna (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée Nationale***MALTA - MALTE**

FARRUGIA, Godfrey (Mr./M.)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

ZAMMIT DIMECH, Francis (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, House

Business Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des**Représentants, Commission des questions internes*

Member of the House of Representatives, Standing

Committee on Foreign and European Affairs / *Membre*



*de la Chambre des Représentants, Commission  
permanente des affaires étrangères et européennes*

**MAURITANIA – MAURITANIE**

ELY SALEM, Zeinebou (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade, Leader of the delegation <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
BABA SY, Marienne (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>

**MEXICO - MEXIQUE**

CUEVAS, Gabriela (Ms./Mme) President of the Committee to Promote Respect for IHL, Leader of the delegation / <i>Présidente du Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Senate, Chairperson of the International Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (PAN), Présidente de la Commission des affaires internationales</i>
GUERRA, Marcela (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, North America Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (PRI), Présidente de la Commission des affaires extérieures, Amérique du Nord</i>
MONREAL, David (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Jurisdictional Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (L), Président de la Commission juridictionnelle</i>
ORTIZ, Graciela (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the Senate, Chairperson of the Legislative Studies Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (PRI), Présidente de la Commission des études législatives</i>
POZOS, Raúl (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Administration Committee / <i>Membre du Sénat (PRI), Président de la Commission de l'administration</i>
FLORES MÉNDEZ, José Luis (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés</i>
ROJAS, Laura (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, International Organizations Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PAN), Présidente de la Commission des affaires extérieures, Organisations internationales</i>
SAMUEL GURRIÓN, Matías (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés</i>
GONZÁLEZ CARILLO, Adriana (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee on National Defence / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PAN), Commission de la défense nationale</i>
ENCINAS RODRÍGUEZ, Alejandro (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
ENRÍQUEZ, Arelí (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director / <i>Directrice</i>

(PAN: National Action Party / Parti de l'Action nationale)

(PRI: Institutional Revolutionary Party / Parti révolutionnaire institutionnel)

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

(PRD: Democratic Revolution Party / Parti de la révolution démocratique)

**MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF) - MICRONESIE (ETATS FEDERES DE)**

FIGIR, Isaac V. (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Congress, Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee, External Affairs Committee, Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, Transportation and Communication Committee / <i>Membre du Congrès, Président de la Commission des voies et moyens, Commission des opérations judiciaires et gouvernementales, Commission des transports et des communications</i>
GEORGE, Yosiwo P. (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress, Chairman of the External Affairs Committee, Health and Social Affairs Committee, Judiciary and Governmental Operations Committee, Ways and Means Committee / <i>Membre du Congrès, Président de la Commission des affaires extérieures, Commission de la santé et des affaires sociales, Commission des voies et moyens, Commission des opérations judiciaires et gouvernementales</i>
MARTIN, Berney (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress, Vice Chairman of the Judiciary and Governmental Operations, Vice Chairman of the External Affairs Committee, Education and Resources and Development Committee / <i>Membre du Congrès, Vice-Président de la Commission des opérations judiciaires et gouvernementales, Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires extérieures, Commission de l'éducation et du développement des ressources</i>
REYES, Jessicalynn (Ms./Mme) Deputy Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP / <i>Secrétaire adjoint du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjointe</i>
DANG, Tung Lam (Mr./M.)	Legislative Counsel / <i>Conseiller législatif</i>

**MONACO**

FICINI, Alain (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national (HM)</i>
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(HM: Monaco Horizon / Horizon Monaco)

**MONGOLIA - MONGOLIE**

DAMDIN, Demberel (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the State Great Hural <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat (MPP)</i>
JALBASUREN, Batzandan (Mr./M.)	Member of the State Great Hural, Legal Affairs Committee / <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat (PD), Commission des affaires juridiques</i>
NYAMAA, Enkhbold (Mr./M.)	Member of the State Great Hural, Security and Foreign Policy Committee / <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat (MPP), Commission de la sécurité et de la politique extérieure</i>
ZANGAD, Bayanselenge (Ms./Mme)	Member of the State Great Hural, Social Policy Committee / <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat (MPRP-MNDP), Commission de la politique sociale</i>
BYAMBADORJ, Boldbaatar (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ALTANGEREL, Batsoyombo (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
MARUUSH, Batbold (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
TSOLMON, Gantuya (Ms./Mme)	Staff / <i>Membre du personnel</i>

D., Enkhbat (Mr./M.)  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

(MPP: Mongolian People's Party / Parti populaire mongole)

(PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocrate)

(MPRP-MNDP: Justice Coalition / Coalition pour la justice)

### MOROCCO - MAROC

TAIBI EL ALAMI, Rachid (Mr./M.)  
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the House of Representatives  
*Président de la Chambre des représentants (RNI)*

BIADILLAH, Mohamed Cheikh (Mr./M.)  
President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation  
*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the House of Councillors  
*Président de la Chambre des Conseillers (PAM)*

BENMASSOUD, Rachida (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs  
*Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies*

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives  
*Vice-Présidente de la Chambre des représentants (USFP)*

KOUSKOUS, Hamid (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Councillors  
*Membre de la Chambre des Conseillers (MP)*

OMARI, Abdelaziz (Mr./M.)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité*

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PJD)*

LAZRAK, Noureddine (Mr./M.)  
Rapporteur of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / *Rapporteur de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité*

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (RNI)*

ALAMI, Mohamed (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (USFP)*

ABDI, Rachid (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PAM)*

TAGHOUANE, Bouamar (Mr./M.)  
Adviser / *Conseiller*

Member of the House of Representatives  
*Membre du Parlement*

TOUIZI, Ahmed (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament  
*Membre du Parlement*

EL KHADI, Najib (Mr./M.)

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

KHOUJA, Abdelwahid (Mr./M.)

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

CHAQRI, Ahmed (Mr./M.)

Head of the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives / *Chef de Cabinet du Président de la Chambre des représentants*

CHIBANE, Omar (Mr./M.)

Director, Office of the Speaker of the House of Councillors / *Directeur du Cabinet du Président de la Chambre des conseillers*

EL JAFFALI, Mounir (Mr./M.)

Diplomatic Adviser, House of Councillors  
*Conseiller diplomatique, Chambre des Représentants*

SATRAOUY, Said (Mr./M.)  
Administrative Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire administratif du Groupe*

DRIOUCHE, Abdelwahad (Mr./M.)

Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

ISLAM BADAD, Lalla (Ms./Mme)

Adviser to the Speaker of the House of Councillors

*Conseillère du Président de la Chambre des Conseillers*

(RNI: National Rally of Independents / Rassemblement national des indépendants)

(PAM: Authenticity and Modernity Party / Parti Authenticité et modernité)

(USFP: Socialist Union of Popular Forces / Union socialiste de forces populaires)

(MP: Popular Movement / Mouvement populaire)

(PJD: Justice and Development Party / Parti de la justice et du développement)

**MOZAMBIQUE**

KATUPHA, Jose (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Assembly of the Republic, Spokesman of the Permanent Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (FRELIMO), Porte-parole de la Commission permanente</i>
MACUIANA, Saimone (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic, Legal and Constitutional Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (RENAMO), Commission des affaires légales et constitutionnelles</i>
MALEMA, Lucinda (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic, Social Affairs and Gender Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (FRELIMO), Commission des affaires sociales et de l'égalité des sexes</i>
BONIFACIO, Cesar (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
MATIAS, Jaime (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
MUNGUAMBE, Gamiliel (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
(FRELIMO: Mozambican Liberation Front / Front de libération du Mozambique)	
(RENAMO: Mozambican National Resistance / Résistance nationale du Mozambique)	

**MYANMAR**

TOE, Maung (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the House of Representatives, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (USDP), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
MYINT, Ye (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Nationalities, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des nationalités (USDP), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
TIN, Nyunt (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Nationalities, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des nationalités (USDP), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
WIN, Soe (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Nationalities, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des nationalités (USDP), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
BU, Dwe (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (UDP), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
MAUNG, Zaw Myint (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, Joint Committee on IPU / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (NLD), Comité mixte de l'UIP</i>
TUN, Ko Ko (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives, International Relations Committee / <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (USDP), Commission des relations internationales</i>
AYE, Ni Ni (Ms./Mme)	Staff / <i>Secrétariat</i>

HAN, Thiha (Mr./M.)

Staff / *Secrétariat*

MOE, Myat (Mr./M.)

Staff / *Secrétariat*

(USDP: Union Solidarity and Development Party / Parti de la solidarité et du développement de l'Union)

(UDP: Unity and Democracy Party / Parti de l'unité et de la démocratie)

(NLD: National League for Democracy / Ligue nationale pour la démocratie)

**NAMIBIA – NAMIBIE**

MENSAH-WILLIAMS, Margaret Natalie (Ms./Mme)  
President of the Group, First Vice-President of the  
Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians,  
Committee on Middle East Questions, Leader of the  
delegation / *Présidente du Groupe, Première Vice-  
Présidente du Comité de coordination des Femmes  
parlementaires, Comité sur les questions relatives au  
Moyen-Orient, Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Council, Standing  
Rules and Orders Committee / *Vice-Présidente du  
Conseil national (SWAPO), Commission permanente  
du règlement et de la procédure*

KATAMELO, Phillipus Wido (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council  
*Membre du Conseil national*

MUREMI, Nimrod (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council  
*Membre du Conseil national*

NAKWAFILA, Johannes (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council, Public Accounts  
Committee / *Membre du Conseil national (SWAPO),  
Commission des comptes publics*

NAMBILI, Ndapewoshali (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Council  
*Membre du Conseil national*

MUPURUA, Juliet (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Secretary General of the National Council  
*Secrétaire générale adjointe du Conseil national*

Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

NAKUTWIMA, Mirjam N. (Ms./Mme)

Adviser / *Conseillère*

SHALI, Auguste (Ms./Mme)

Adviser / *Conseillère*

RIRUAKO, Brian (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

(SWAPO: South West Africa People's Organization / Organisation du peuple du Sud-Ouest africain)

**NETHERLANDS - PAYS-BAS**

FRANKEN, Hans (Mr./M.)

Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions,  
Leader of the delegation / *Membre du Comité sur les  
questions relatives au Moyen-Orient, Chef de la  
délégation*

Member of the Senate, Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defence and Development Cooperation, Security and  
Justice Committee, European Affairs Committee  
*Membre du Sénat (CDA), Commission des affaires  
étrangères, de la défense et de la coopération pour le  
développement, Commission de la sécurité et de la  
justice, Commission des affaires européennes*

SCHRIJVER, Nico (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Defence and Development Cooperation, European  
Affairs Committee, Security and Justice Committee  
*Membre du Sénat (L), Commission des affaires  
étrangères, de la défense et de la coopération pour le  
développement, Commission des affaires européennes,  
Commission de la sécurité et de la justice*

DE ROON, Raymond (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Foreign  
Affairs Committee, Defence Committee, NATO  
Parliamentary Assembly / *Membre de la Chambre des  
Représentants (PVV), Commission des affaires  
étrangères, Commission de la défense, Assemblée  
parlementaire de l'OTAN*

BAKKER, Henk (Mr./M.)

Deputy Secretary General, House of Representatives

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

HAMILTON, Geert Jan (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

NIEUWENHUIZEN, Bas (Mr./M.)

Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire de la délégation*

(CDA: Christian Democratic Appeal / Appel chrétien-démocrate)

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

(PVV: Party for Freedom / Parti de la liberté)

*Secrétaire général adjoint de la Chambre des  
représentants*

Secretary General of the Senate

*Secrétaire général du Sénat*Director / *Directeur***NEW ZEALAND - NOUVELLE-ZELANDE**

KING, Annette (Ms./Mme)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

LEE, Melissa (Ms./Mme)

Member of the House of Representatives, Health  
Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants  
(L), Commission de la santé*Member of the House of Representatives, Chairperson of  
the Commerce Committee, Education and Science  
Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants  
(NP), Président de la Commission du commerce,  
Commission de l'éducation et des sciences*

O'ROURKE, Denis (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Justice and  
Electoral Committee, Standing Orders Committee  
*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (NZF),  
Commission judiciaire et électorale, Commission du  
règlement*

HART, Wendy (Ms./Mme)

Secretary to the delegation, Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire de la délégation, Membre de l'ASGP*

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

(NP: National Party / Parti national)

(NZF: New Zealand First Party / La Nouvelle-Zélande d'abord)

**NIGER**

SALIFOU, Amadou (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the delegation

*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

HABIBOU, Aminatou (Ms./Mme)

Vice-President of the Group

*Vice-Présidente du Groupe*

Speaker of the National Assembly

*Président de l'Assemblée nationale (MNSD/NASSARA)*Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Rural  
Development and Environment / *Membre de l'Assemblée  
nationale (PNDS), Commission du développement rural  
et de l'environnement*

IBRO, Aoua (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Treasurer of the Group

*Trésorière adjointe du Groupe*

NOUHOU, Daoudou (Mr./M.)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

SAMAILA, Ali (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Foreign  
Affairs / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PNDS),  
Commission des affaires étrangères*Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Finance and Budget / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale  
(MDN), Commission des finances et du budget*Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PNDS)*

ACOTEY, Assibite (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

CHOUDA, Mamane (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

ABDOU, Boukary (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

BOUBACAR, Sabo (Mr./M.)

Secretary General

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

ALIO, Issa (Mr./M.)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

IBRAHIM, Laouali (Mr./M.)

Technical Adviser

*Conseiller technique*

(MNSD/NASSARA: National Movement for the Development Society/NASSARA / Mouvement national pour la société du développement/NASSARA)

(PNDS: Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism / Parti nigérien pour la démocratie et le socialisme)

(MDN: Niger Democratic Movement for an African Federation / Mouvement démocratique nigérien pour une fédération africaine)

*Secrétaire général*Director / *Directeur***NIGERIA**

MARK, David (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the delegation

*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

IHEDIOHA, Chukwuemeka Nkem (Mr./M.)

Deputy Leader of Delegation

*Chef adjoint de la délégation*

ALI, Aidoko Atai (Mr./M.)

President of the Senate

*Président du Sénat (PDP)*

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives

*Vice-Président de la Chambre des représentants (PDP)*Member of the Senate, Inter-Parliamentary Relations Committee / *Membre du Sénat (PDP), Commission des relations interparlementaires*

ESUENE, Helen U. (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat (PDP)*

UZAMERE, Ehigie Edobor (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Inter-Parliamentary Relations Committee / *Membre du Sénat (PDP), Commission des relations interparlementaires*

USMAN, Abdul'aziz (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Relations Committee / *Membre du Sénat (PDP), Président de la Commission des relations interparlementaires*

BELLO, Binta Fatimah (Ms./Mme)

Member of the House of Representatives

*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PDP)*

GARBA, Ado Alhassan (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the MDGs Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des représentants (APGA), Président de la Commission des OMD*

IGBOKWE, Raphael (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives

*Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PDP)*

REYENIEJU, Daniel (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Chairman of the Inter-Parliamentary Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PDP), Président de la Commission interparlementaire*

GANIYU, Solomon (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

Member of Parliament

*Membre du Parlement*

SANI IDRIS, Mohammed (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

Member of Parliament

*Membre du Parlement*

EFETURI, Ben (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

Secretary General, Senate

*Secrétaire general, Sénat**Membre de l'ASGP*

EDHERE, Basil U. (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

Deputy Secretary General, House of Representatives

*Secrétaire général adjoint, Chambre des représentants**Membre de l'ASGP*

ASHIEKAA, Christopher (Mr./M.)

Special Assistant to the Clerk

*Assistant special du Secrétaire général*

AUDU, Rabi A. (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
GREMA, Garba S.G. (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
LASISI, Alh. Bukoye (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
GARBA, Lawal A. (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
BERNARD, Okoh (Mr./M.)	Committee Clerk <i>Greffier de commission</i>
OBASI, Ijeoma Ngene (Mr./M.)	Official / <i>Fonctionnaire</i>

(PDP: Peoples Democratic Party / Parti démocratique populaire)

(APGA: All Progressives Grand Alliance / Grande alliance progressiste)

**NORWAY - NORVEGE**

SVENDSEN, Kenneth (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Standing Committee on Scrutiny and Constitutional Affairs / <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (PP), Commission permanente du scrutin et des affaires constitutionnelles</i>
HJEMDAL, Line Henriette (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of Parliament, Standing Committee on Business and Industry / <i>Vice-Présidente du Parlement (PDC), Commission permanente des entreprises et de l'industrie</i>
ELDEGARD, Gunvor (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Member of the Nordic Council, Standing Committee on Scrutiny and Constitutional Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement (L), Membre du Conseil nordique, Commission permanente du scrutin et des affaires constitutionnelles</i>
LOEDEMEL, Bjorn (Mr./M.) Deputy Leader of the delegation <i>Chef adjoint de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament, Delegation for Arctic Parliamentary Cooperation, Standing Committee on Local Government and Public Administration / <i>Membre du Parlement (C), Délégation de la coopération parlementaire arctique, Commission permanente du Gouvernement local et de l'administration publique</i>
TRETTEBERGSTUEN, Anette (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Labour and Social Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement (L), Commission permanente du travail et des affaires sociales</i>
LIADAL, Hege Haukeland (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Standing Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement (L), Commission permanente de la famille et des affaires culturelles</i>
HJELBAK, Hanne (Ms./Mme)	Senior Adviser <i>Conseillère principale</i>
STOCK, Lisbeth Merete (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>

(PP: Progress Party / Parti progressiste)

(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

(C: Conservative Party / Parti Conservateur)

**OMAN**

AL MAAWALI, Khalid (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Consultative Council <i>Président du Conseil consultatif</i>
AL FARSI, Fawziya (Ms./Mme)	Member of the State Council



Second Vice-President of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians / <i>Deuxième Vice-Présidente du Comité de coordination des Femmes parlementaires</i> AL MUSHARRAFI, Rahma (Ms./Mme)	<i>Membre du Conseil de l'Etat</i> Member of the State Council <i>Membre du Conseil de l'Etat</i>
AL RAISI, Mohammed (Mr./M.)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
BAHWAN, Saad (Mr./M.)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
AL MAHROUQI, Ali (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
AL RASHDI, Abdul Salam (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
AL HOSNI, Ahmed (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
AL-OWAISI, Ayman (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>

## PAKISTAN

ABBASI, Mustaza Javed (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
RABBANI, Mian Raza (Mr./M.)	President of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat (PPPP)</i>
MANDVIWALLA, Saleem (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
BILOUR, Ilyas Ahmed (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the Senate, Committee on Federal Education and Professional Training, Committee on Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization, Committee on Commerce and Textile Industry / <i>Membre du Sénat (ANP), Commission de l'éducation fédérale et de la formation professionnelle, Commission des finances, des revenus, des affaires économiques, des statistiques et de la privatisation, Commission du commerce et de l'industrie textile</i>
RAJWANA, Malik Muhammad Rafique (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate, Defence Committee, Foreign Affairs Committee, Committee on Finance, Revenue, Economic Affairs, Statistics and Privatization / <i>Membre du Sénat (PML-N), Commission de la défense, Commission des affaires étrangères, Commission des finances, des revenus, des affaires économiques, des statistiques et de la privatisation</i>
MUHAMMAD AKRAM, Sheikh (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)</i>
DRISHAK, Hafeez-ur-rehman Khan (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)</i>
HAMEED, Fouzia (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MQM)</i>
HARRAJ, Mohammad Raza Hayat (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)</i>
SHAHJEHAN, Muneer (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)</i>
AHMED JAMALI, Rafique (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament / <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
RIAZ, Mohammad (Mr./M.) Secretary General of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire général du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
MALIK, Amjed Pervez (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ALI KHAN, Shafqat (Mr./M.)	Joint Secretary

Advisor / *Conseiller*

AFZAL KHAN, Hassan (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

JAN PATHAN, Arshal (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

EMAD ALAM, Muhammad (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

HAYAT, Khizer (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

ARSHAD, Ch. (Mr./M.)

Security Officer

*Agent de sécurité*(PPPP: Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians / *Parlementaires du Parti du peuple pakistanais*)(ANP: Awami National Party / *Parti national Awami*)(PML-N: Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) / *Ligue musulmane pakistanaise (Nawaz)*)(MQM: Muttahida Qaumi Movement / *Mouvement Muttahida Quami*)*Co-Secrétaire*

Joint Secretary, Inter-Parliamentary Relations

*Co-Secrétaire, relations interparlementaires***PALAU - PALAOS**

CHIN, Camsek E. (Mr./M.)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

AKITAYA, Regis (Mr./M.)

President of the Senate

*Président du Sénat*Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Committee on Youth Affairs, Social Welfare and Culture / *Membre du Sénat, Président de la Commission de la jeunesse, des affaires sociales et de la culture*

BAULES, Hokkons (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and State Matters Committee / *Membre du Sénat, Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères et des affaires d'Etat*

RUDIMCH, Mark U (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate, Chairman of the Committee on Grant Assistance, Appropriation and Financial Matters / *Membre du Sénat, Président de la Commission de l'aide financière, des crédits et des questions financières*

KEMESONG, Noah (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Delegates

*Membre de la Chambre des délégués*

BECHESRRAK, Ngedikes (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

UMETARO, Warren (Mr./M.)

Deputy Secretary-General

*Secrétaire général adjointe*

Deputy Secretary-General

*Secrétaire général adjoint***PALESTINE**

QUBA'A, Taysir (Mr./M.)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

AL-AHMAD, Azzam (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security,

Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle East

Questions / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de la**paix et de la sécurité, Membre suppléant du Comité sur**les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient*

AL-WAZIR, Intisar (Ms./Mme)

Deputy Speaker of the Palestinian National Council

*Vice-Président du Conseil national palestinien*

Member of the Palestinian National Council

*Membre du Conseil national palestinien (F)*

SANDUKA, Zuhair (Mr./M.)

Member of the Palestinian National Council

*Membre du Conseil national palestinien*

Member of the Palestinian National Council

*Membre du Conseil national palestinien*

SULAIMAN, Bashar (Mr./M.)

Director / *Directeur*

AL-TMAIZI, Salama Saadi (Mr./M.)  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

(F: Fatha)

#### PANAMA

PÉREZ DÍAZ, Alfredo Víctor (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the Delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly  
*Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (PRD)*

CASTILLO GÓMEZ, José Luis (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Transport and Health / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PP), Commission des transports et de la santé*

GOZAIN ABDELMALAK, Samir Camilo (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Government Affairs, Justice and Health / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PRD), Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires gouvernementales, de la justice et de la santé*

LEVY GARCÍA, Katleen (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on External Relations / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PP), Commission des relations extérieures*

WEAVER, Frank (Mr./M.)

Secretary General  
*Secrétaire général*

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

(PRD: Democratic Revolutionary Party / Parti révolutionnaire démocratique)

(PP: Panameñista Party / Parti panaméiste)

#### PAPUA NEW GUINEA – PAPOUASIE-NOUVELLE-GUINEE

GANASI, Aide (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the National Parliament

Leader of the delegation

*Vice-Président du Parlement national*

*Chef de la délégation*

WHITCHURCH, Richard P. (Mr./M.)

Parliamentary Counsel / *Conseiller parlementaire*

Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire de la délégation*

#### PERU - PEROU

LEÓN RIVERA, José (Mr./M.)

Member of the Congress of the Republic, Committee on Foreign Trade and Tourism / *Membre, Congrès de la République, Commission du commerce extérieur et du tourisme*

Leader of the Delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

LÓPEZ CÓRDOVA, María (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Congress of the Republic

*Membre, Congrès de la République*

RONDÓN FUDINAGA, Gustavo (Mr./M.)

Member of the Congress of the Republic

*Membre, Congrès de la République*

#### PHILIPPINES

DRILON, Franklin (Mr./M.)

President of the Senate

Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the Delegation / *Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation*

*Président du Sénat*

PIMENTEL III, Aquilino Koko (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat*

LAPID, Manuel (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat*

COLMENARES, Neri (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
GARIN, Sharon (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
BATAOIL, Leopoldo (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
YABES, Oscar (Mr./M.)	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
BARUA-YAP, Marilyn (Ms./Mme)	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
ADASA Jr., Artemio (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
PANGILINAN, Edgardo (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
DE GUZMAN Jr., Antonio (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
ABRAJANO, Filmer (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ARLEGUE, Celito (Mr./M.)	Adviser to the President of the Senate <i>Conseiller du Président du Sénat</i>
ACEDERA, Jericho (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
BULAUITAN, Joy (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
ZAMORA, Paolo (Mr./M.)	
Assistant / <i>Assistant</i>	
TORRES III, Anthony (Mr./M.)	Executive Assistant of the President of the Senate <i>Assistant exécutif du Président du Sénat</i>
OCTAVO, Riza (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary to the Delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
BUENDIA JR., Efren (Mr./M.)	
Secretary to the Delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
SANTOS, Samuel (Mr./M.)	
Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
DOROTAN, Maria Luwalhati (Ms./Mme)	
Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
SANTOS, Jerril (Mr./M.)	
Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	

**POLAND - POLOGNE**

ZIOLKOWSKI, Marek (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PO)</i>
Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
WOJTCZAK, Michal (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PO)</i>
IWINSKI, Tadeusz (Mr./M.)	Member of the Sejm <i>Membre, Sejm (SLD)</i>
MAZUREK, Beata (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Sejm <i>Membre, Sejm (PiS)</i>
RACZKOWSKI, Damian (Mr./M.)	Member of the Sejm <i>Membre, Sejm (PO)</i>
STEFANIUK, Franciszek (Mr./M.)	Member of the Sejm

POLKOWSKA, Ewa (Ms./Mme)	<i>Membre, Sejm (PSL)</i>
Member of the ASGP	Secretary General
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	<i>Secrétaire général</i>
CZAPLA, Lech (Mr./M.)	Secretary General
Member of the ASGP	<i>Secrétaire général</i>
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
KARWOWSKA-SOKOLOWSKA, Agata (Ms./Mme)	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
GRUBA, Wojciech (Mr./M.)	
Secretary of the Group	
<i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
(PO: Civic Platform / Plate-forme civique)	
(SLD: Democratic Left Alliance / <i>Alliance de la gauche démocratique</i> )	
(PiS: Law and Justice / Droit et justice)	
(PSL: Polish Peasant Party / Parti paysan polonais)	

### Portugal

COSTA, Alberto (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
Leader of the delegation	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PS)</i>
<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
CARDOSO, Maria Paula (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
AMARAL, Helder (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (CDS-PP)</i>
ALBERNAZ, Rosa Maria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
Member of the Group of Facilitators for Cyprus	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PS)</i>
<i>Membre du Groupe de facilitateurs concernant Chypre</i>	
JESUS, Fernando (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PS)</i>
PACHECO, Duarte (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité</i>	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
MACEDO, Fernando Virgilio (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République</i>
DE MATOS ROSA, José (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic
	<i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
ARAÚJO, José Manuel (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General
Member of the ASGP	<i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
ISIDORO, Ana Margarida (Ms./Mme)	
Adviser to the delegation	
<i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)	
(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)	
(CDS-PP: Democratic and Social Centre - People's Party / Centre démocratique et social - Parti populaire CDS-PP)	

### QATAR

AL-KUWARI, Issa (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Advisory Council, Internal and External Affairs Committee / <i>Vice-Président du Conseil consultatif, Commission des affaires intérieures et extérieures</i>
Leader of the delegation	
<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
AL-MEADADI, Rashid (Mr./M.)	Member of the Advisory Council, Legal, Legislative and Cultural Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif, Commission des affaires légales, législatives et culturelles</i>
LABDA, Khalid (Mr./M.)	Member of the Advisory Council, Internal and External Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif,</i>

AL-JEHANI, Nasser (Mr./M.)	<i>Commission des affaires intérieures et extérieures</i> Member of the Advisory Council, Services and Public Utilities Committee / <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif, Commission des services publics</i>
AL-MAJID, Abdulreda (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
AL-SHAHWANI, Mesfer (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
AL-DELAIMI, Ahamed (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
<b>REPUBLIC OF KOREA - REPUBLIQUE DE COREE</b>	
CHIN, Young (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the Security and Public Administration Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SP), Président de la Commission de la sécurité et de l'administration publique</i>
CHUN, Soon-Ok (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Trade, Industry and Energy Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NPAD), Commission du commerce et de l'industrie</i>
JHUN, Ha-Jin (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Trade, Industry and Energy Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SP), Commission du commerce et de l'industrie</i>
PARK, Heong-Joon (Mr./M.) Head of ASGP delegation, Member of the ASGP <i>Chef de la délégation de l'ASGP, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
SHIN, Moon-Keun (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
HA, Kyeong-Chan (Mr./M.) ASGP Secretary <i>Secrétaire de l'ASGP</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
KIM, Hyun-Sook (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
KIM, Jun-Heon (Mr./M.) ASGP Secretary <i>Secrétaire de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
LEE, So-Youn (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
OH, Nam-Gyun (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
KIM, Eui-Jeong (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
(SP: Saenuri Party / Parti Saenuri)	
(NPAD: New Politics Alliance for Democracy / Alliance pour la démocratie)	

**ROMANIA - ROUMANIE**

STAN, Ioan (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee for the Investigation of Abuses, Corrupt Practices, and for Petitions / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés, Commission d'enquête des abus, de la corruption et des pétitions (SDP)</i>
PALĂR, Ionel (Mr./M.) Vice-President of the Group <i>Vice-Président du Groupe</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Committee for Public Administration and Territorial Planning / <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (NLP), Commission de l'administration publique et de l'aménagement du territoire</i>

OPREA, Dumitru (Mr./M.)  
Secretary of the Executive Bureau of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Bureau exécutif du Groupe*  
CIUCA, Liviu-Bogdan (Mr./M.)

MARIN, Gheorghe (Mr./M.)

DUMITRICĂ, George Ionut (Mr./M.)  
Member of the ASGP  
*Membre de l'ASGP*

DUMITRESCU, Cristina (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*

ȘOVAGĂU, Mircea Nehad (Mr./M.)  
Secretary to the delegation  
*Secrétaire de la délégation*

ARTENI, Valeriu (Mr./M.)  
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(SDP: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(NLP: National Liberal Party / Parti libéral national)

(CP: Conservative Party / Parti conservateur)

#### RUSSIAN FEDERATION - FEDERATION DE RUSSIE

KOSACHEV, Konstantin (Mr./M.)  
Vice-President of the Group, Leader of the delegation  
*Vice-Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

GAVRILOV, Sergey (Mr./M.)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development,  
Finance and Trade / *Bureau de la Commission*  
*permanente du développement, du financement et*  
*du commerce*

KLIMOV, Andrey (Mr./M.)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and  
Security / *Bureau de la Commission permanente de*  
*la paix et de la sécurité*

TIMOFEeva, Olga (Ms./Mme)  
Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians  
*Comité de coordination des Femmes parlementaires*

MISHNEV, Anatoly (Mr./M.)

VTORYGINA, Elena (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and  
Human Rights / *Bureau de la Commission permanente*  
*de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme*

PETRENKO, Valentina (Ms./Mme)  
Committee to Promote Respect for IHL, Coordinating  
Committee of Women Parliamentarians / *Comité*  
*chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH, Comité de*  
*coordination des Femmes parlementaires*

Member of the Senate, Committee for Education,  
Science, Youth and Sports / *Membre du Sénat (NLP),*  
*Commission de l'éducation, de la jeunesse et des sports*  
Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Chairman of the  
Committee for Legal Matters, Discipline and Immunities  
*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (CP), Commission*  
*des affaires légales, de la discipline et des immunités*

Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Vice-Chairman of  
the Committee for Industries and Services / *Membre de*  
*la Chambre des Députés (SDP), Commission des*  
*industries et des services*  
Deputy Secretary General, Chamber of Deputies  
*Secrétaire général adjoint, Chambre des députés*

Director, Senate  
*Directrice au Sénat*

Adviser, Cooperation with International Organisations  
and the EU, Chamber of Deputies / *Conseiller,*  
*Coopération avec les organisations internationales et*  
*l'Union européenne, Chambre des députés*

Member of the Council of the Federation, Chair of the  
Committee on Foreign Affairs / *Membre du Conseil de la*  
*Fédération, Commission des affaires étrangères*  
Member of the State Duma, Chairman of the Committee  
on Property / *Membre, Douma d'Etat (CP), Président de*  
*la Commission de la propriété*

Member of the Council of the Federation, Vice-Chair of  
the Committee on Foreign Affairs / *Membre du Conseil*  
*de la Fédération, Commission des affaires étrangères*

Member of the State Duma, Committee on Informational  
Policy and Communication / *Membre, Douma d'Etat,*  
*Membre de la Commission de la politique de*  
*l'information et de la communication*

Member of the Council of the Federation, Committee for  
Agrarian and Food Policy and Environmental  
Management / *Membre du Conseil de la Fédération,*  
*Commission de la politique agricole et alimentaire et de*  
*la gestion de l'environnement*

Member of the State Duma, Committee on Federative  
Structure and Local Governance / *Membre, Douma*  
*d'Etat (United Russia), Commission de la structure*  
*fédérative et de la gouvernance locale*

Member of the Council of the Federation, Committee on  
Social Policy / *Membre du Conseil de la Fédération,*  
*Commission de la politique sociale*

YEMELIANOV, Mikhail (Mr./M.)

Member of the State Duma, First Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Economic Policy / *Membre, Douma d'Etat (A Just Russia), Premier Vice-Président de la Commission de la politique économique*

TULOKHONOV, Arnold (Mr./M.)

Member of the Council of the Federation, Committee on Science, Education and Culture / *Membre du Conseil de la Fédération, Commission de la science, de l'éducation et de la culture*

MARTYNOV, Sergey (Mr./M.)

Secretary General

Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire général**Membre de l'ASGP*

ERMOSHIN, Pavel (Mr./M.)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

STAVITSKY, Valery (Mr./M.)

Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire de la délégation*

BELOVA, Julia (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

BOGDANOVA, Natalia (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

BELOUSOVA, Veronica (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

FOLOMEEVA, Olga (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

KUKARKIN, Pavel (Mr./M.)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

OSOKIN, Boris (Mr./M.)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

SHERBAKOV, Stanislav (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

(CP: Communist Party / Parti communiste)

**RWANDA**

GAKUBA, Jeanne d'Arc (Ms./Mme)

Vice-President of the Senate

Leader of the delegation

*Vice-Présidente du Sénat**Chef de la délégation*

KAGOYIRE BISHAGARA, Therese (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the Senate

President of the Group

Chairperson of the Social Affairs, Human Rights and Petitions Committee

*Présidente du Groupe**Membre du Sénat**Président de la Commission des affaires sociales, des droits de l'homme et des pétitions*

BAMPORIKI, Edouard (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

*Membre de la Chambre des députés*

CYITATIRE, Sosthene (Mr./M.)

Secretary General

Member of the ASGP

*Secrétaire général**Membre de l'ASGP***SAN MARINO - SAINT-MARIN**

MICHELOTTI, Augusto (Mr./M.)

Member of the Great and General Council

Vice President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation

*Membre, Grand Conseil général (ZL)**Vice-Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

MULARONI, Mariella (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Great and General Council

*Membre, Grand Conseil général (PDGS)*

MARFORI, Lucia (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*



(ZL: United Left / Gauche Unie)  
(PDCS: Christian Democrats / Parti chrétien-démocrate)

### SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE - SAO TOME-ET-PRINCIPE

DA GRAÇA DIOGO, José (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale (ADI)</i>
CASSANDRA CORREIA, Carlos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Budget, Finance and Public Administration / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ADI), Commission du budget, des finances et de l'administration publique</i>
DA VEIGA MENDES AZEVEDO, Beatriz (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Foreign Affairs, Communities, Defence and Maritime Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MLSTP), Commission des affaires étrangères, des communautés, de la défense et de la mer</i>
SANTIAGO DAS NEVES, Delfim (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Political, Legal, Constitutional Affairs, Human Rights, Social Communication and Internal Administration <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PCD), Commission des affaires politiques, juridiques, constitutionnelles, des droits humains, de la communication sociale et de l'administration interne</i>
TRINDADE BOA MORTE, Domingos (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
BANDEIRA MANDINGA, Bilma (Ms./Mme)	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
(ADI: Independent Democratic Alliance / Action démocratique indépendante)	
(MLSTP: São Tome and Principe Liberation Movement / Mouvement de libération de São Tomé-et-Principe)	
(PCD: Democratic Convergence Party / Parti démocratique de convergence)	

### SAUDI ARABIA - ARABIE SAOUDITE

ALHELAISSI, Hoda (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
ALHUSSEINI, Saleh (Mr./M.)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
ALSHAMAN, Amal (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
ALHARBEY, Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
ALAMR, Mohammed (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ALANGARI, Saad (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
ALAJLAN, Abdulaziz (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
ALSAUD, Reem (Ms./Mme) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
ALSAEED, Anas (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
ALMUBARAK, Khalid (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	
ALSHOBAILY, Rasha (Ms./Mme) Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>	

**SENEGAL**

SQUARE, Djimo (Mr./M.)  
Acting President of the Group, Leader of the  
delegation / *Président délégué du Groupe,*  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Economy, Finance, Planning and Economic  
Cooperation / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (BBY),*  
*Commission de l'économie, des finances, du plan et de*  
*la coopération économique*

DIENG, Penda Seck (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Economy, Finance, Planning and Economic  
Cooperation / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (BBY),*  
*Première Vice-Présidente de la Commission de*  
*l'économie, des finances, du plan et de la coopération*  
*économique*

DIOUF, Aïssatou (Ms./Mme)  
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy  
and Human Rights / *Bureau de la Commission*  
*permanente de la démocratie et des droits de*  
*l'homme*

Member of the National Assembly, Committee on  
Development and Land Use Planning / *Membre de*  
*l'Assemblée nationale (BBY), Commission du*  
*développement et de l'aménagement du territoire*

GUEYE, Alioune Abatalib (Mr./M.)  
Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of  
Parliamentarians / *Membre du Comité des droits de*  
*l'homme des parlementaires*

Member of the National Assembly, Defence and  
Security Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale,*  
*Commission de la défense et de la sécurité*

CISSE, Baye Niassé (Mr./M.)  
Administrative Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire administratif du Groupe*

Deputy Secretary-General  
*Secrétaire général adjoint*

(BBY: Groupe Benno Bok Yakaar)

**SEYCHELLES**

HERMINIE, Patrick (Mr./M.)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Speaker of the National Assembly, Chairman of the  
Chairpersons Committee, Chairman of the Reform and  
Modernisation Committee, Chairman of the Scrutiny of  
Bills and Standing Orders Committee / *Président de*  
*l'Assemblée nationale (Parti Lepep), Président du Comité*  
*des Présidents, Président de la Commission des*  
*réformes et de la modernisation, Président de la*  
*Commission des projets de lois et des ordres*  
*permanents*

(Parti Lepep: Seychelles People's Progressive Front / Front progressiste du peuple seychellois)

**SIERRA LEONE**

SMITH, Rosaline Jariatu (Ms./Mme)  
Leader of the Delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Member of Parliament, Lands and Environment  
Committee, Finance and Water Resources Committee  
*Membre du Parlement (APC), Commission des terres et*  
*de l'environnement, Commission des finances et des*  
*ressources en eau*

(APC: All Peoples Congress / Congrès du peuple réuni)

**SLOVAKIA - SLOVAQUIE**

LAŠŠÁKOVÁ, Jana (Ms./Mme)  
Leader of the delegation  
*Chef de la délégation*

Deputy Speaker of the National Council, Committee  
for Human Rights and National Minorities / *Vice-*  
*Présidente du Conseil national (Smer-SD),*  
*Commission des droits de l'homme et des minorités*  
*nationales*

VISKUPIČ, Jozef (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council, Chairman of the  
Special Committee on Supervision of the Activities of  
the National Security Office, Vice-Chairman of the

Committee for Culture and Media, European Affairs  
Committee / *Membre du Conseil national (O)*,  
*Président de la Commission spéciale de la*  
*surveillance des activités de la sécurité nationale,*  
*Vice-Président de la Commission de la culture et des*  
*médias, Commission des affaires européennes*  
Director / *Directrice*

STRÝČKOVÁ, Katarína (Ms./Mme)

PACOLÁK, Igor (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

NUONG THI NGUYEN (Ms./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

(Smer-SD: Smer - Social Democracy / SMER - Démocratie sociale)

(O: OLANO)

### **SOUTH AFRICA - AFRIQUE DU SUD**

MBETE, Baleka (Ms./Mme)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

MNCWANGO, Mangaqa (Mr./M.)

Speaker of the National Assembly

*Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC)*

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (IFP)*

Member of the National Council of Provinces

*Membre du Conseil national des provinces (DA)*

Deputy Chairperson of the National Council of

Provinces / *Vice-Président du Conseil national des*

*provinces (ANC)*

TAU, Raserati (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and Security

*Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la*  
*sécurité*

WATERS, Mike (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (DA)*

DLAKUDE, Dorries (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC)*

FROLICK, Cedric (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly, House

Chairperson, Committees Committee / *Membre*

*de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC), Président de la*

*Commission des commissions*

MAKUE, Edwin (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council of Provinces

*Membre du Conseil national des provinces*

TSOLELI, Sibongile (Ms./Mme)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

Member of the National Assembly

*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

PRINS, Ellen (Ms./Mme)

Adviser / *Conseillère*

Member of the National Council of Provinces

*Membre du Conseil national des provinces*

JARDINE, Zurina (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

DLABAZANA, Mzwandile (Mr./M.)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

BRANDT, Madeleine (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

MONNAKGOTLA, Mpho (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

SIGCAWU, Mandlakazi (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

PAULSE, Cheryl-anne (Ms./Mme)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

MGIDLANA, G. (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

Secretary, Parliament

*Secrétaire au Parlement*

*Membre de l'ASGP*

XASO, M. (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

Secretary, National Assembly

*Secrétaire, Assemblée nationale*

*Membre de l'ASGP*

SCHALK, S. (Ms./Mme)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

VAN DER WESTHUIZEN, Mariela (Ms./Mme)

MATIWANE, Mat (Mr./M.)

MAGAU, K (Ms./Mme)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente*

(ANC: African National Congress / Congrès national africain)

(IFP: Inkatha Freedom Party / Parti de la liberté Inkatha)

(DA: Democratic Alliance / Gauche démocratique)

**SPAIN - ESPAGNE**

GIL LÁZARO, Ignacio (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the delegation

*Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation*

BURGOS BETETA, Tomas (Mr./M.)

TORME PARDO, Ana (Ms./Mme)

GARCIA-TIZON, Arturo (Mr./M.)

MOSCOSO DEL PRADO, Juan (Mr./M.)

Vice-President of the Group

*Vice-Président du Groupe*

PICO I AZANZA, Antoni (Mr./M.)

ROS MARTINEZ, Susana (Ms./Mme)

CAVERO, Manuel (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

GUTIERREZ VICEN, Carlos (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

BOYRA, Helena (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group

*Secrétaire du Groupe*

JUAREZ, Maria Rosa (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group and to the delegation

*Secrétaire du Groupe et de la délégation*

TENA, Alfonso (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

PUIG, Javier (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PP: People's Party / Parti populaire)

(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)

(CiU: Convergence and Union / Convergence et Union)

Manager Office of the Secretary

*Direction du Secrétaire*

Staff

*Membre du personnel*

Staff

*Membre du personnel*

Deputy Speaker of the Congress of Deputies

*Vice-Président, Congrès des Députés (PP)*

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat (PP)*

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat (PP)*

Member of the Congress of Deputies

Member Constitutional Committee

*Membre, Congrès des Députés (PP)**Commission constitutionnelle*

Member of the Congress of Deputies

*Membre, Congrès des Députés (PS)*

Member of the Congress of Deputies

*Membre, Congrès des Députés (CiU)*

Member of the Congress of Deputies

*Membre, Congrès des Députés (PS)*

Secretary General

*Secrétaire général*

Secretary General

*Secrétaire général*Director / *Directrice*

**SRI LANKA**

WEERAKKODY, Chandima (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (UPFA)</i>
ALAGIYAWANNA, Lasantha (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (UPFA)</i>
RAJAPAKSA, Nirupama (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (UPFA)</i>
YOGARAJAN, Ramiah (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (UNP)</i>
DAHANAYAKE, Dharmawijaya Wijesekera (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
DASANAYAKE, Dhammika (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
UDALAMATTA GAMAGE, Nuwan Duminda (Mr./M.)	Parliamentary Media Officer <i>Chargé des médias au Parlement</i>
UKWATTA, Kashyapa (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(UPFA: United People's Freedom Alliance / Alliance populaire unifiée pour la liberté) (UNP: United National Party / Parti national unifié)	

**SUDAN - SOUDAN**

IZZELDIN AL MANSOUR, Al Fatih (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP)</i>
AL HASSAN EL AMIN, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Foreign Relations Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP), Commission des relations étrangères</i>
HASHIM ALI MAHDI, Alfa (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Roads and Transportation Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP), Commission des routes et des transports</i>
YOUSIF ABDALLA, Mohammed (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the Foreign Relations Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP), Président de la Commission des relations étrangères</i>
OSMAN GAKNOON, Marwa (Ms./Mme) Committee to Promote Respect for IHL / <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Justice and Legal Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP), Commission de la justice et des affaires légales</i>
ABDALLA, Abdelgadir (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
FADUL ABDELGADIR, Thana (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Director / <i>Directrice</i>
ABDEL HAFIZ, Abdel Moniem (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
AWAD EL GEED, Yousef (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
FARAH, Adel Azeem (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>
HASSAN, Al Dirdeiri (Mr./M.) Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	Deputy Director <i>Directeur adjoint</i>

ALI AHMED, Al Tayeb (Mr./M.)

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

AL TAYEB AHMED, Sayed (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*

SAIF ALISLAM, Muhamed (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(NCP: The National Congress / Parti du Congrès national)

**SWEDEN - SUEDE**

AHLIN, Urban (Mr./M.)

Leader of the delegation

*Chef de la délégation*

ÖRNFJÄDER, Krister (Mr./M.)

Speaker of Parliament

*Président du Parlement (SAP)*Member of Parliament, Committee on Foreign Affairs,  
Committee on Justice / *Membre du Parlement (SAP),  
Commission des affaires étrangères, Commission de la  
justice*

AVSAN, Anti (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament, Committee on Justice,  
Committee on Foreign Affairs / *Membre du Parlement  
(M), Commission des affaires étrangères, Commission de  
la justice*

GREEN, Monica (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions

*Membre du Comité sur les questions relatives au  
Moyen-Orient*

LINDBERG, Teres (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament, Committee on Finance,  
Committee on Transport and Communications  
*Membre du Parlement (SAP), Commission des finances,  
Commission des transports et des communications*Member of Parliament, Committee on Transport and  
Communications / *Membre du Parlement (SAP),  
Commission des transports et des communications*

HULT, Emma (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament, Committee on Civil Affairs,  
Committee on Cultural Affairs / *Membre du Parlement  
(Mpg), Commission des affaires civiles, Commission des  
affaires culturelles*

OSCARSSON, Mikael (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament, Committee on Defence,  
Committee on Industry and Trade / *Membre du  
Parlement (KD), Commission de la défense, Commission  
de l'industrie et du commerce*

FLOSSING, Kathrin (Ms./Mme)

Member of the ASGP

*Membre de l'ASGP*

MÅNSSON, Ann-louise (Ms./Mme)

Secretary General

*Secrétaire général*

Head of the International Department

*Chef du Département international*

LINDHOLM, Daniel (Mr./M.)

Executive Secretary to the Secretary General

*Secrétaire exécutif du Secrétaire général*

LUNDSTEDT, Helena (Ms./Mme)

Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire de la délégation*

SONDÉN, Björn (Mr./M.)

Deputy Secretary to the delegation

*Secrétaire adjointe de la délégation*

WALLIN, Peter (Mr./M.)

Adviser

*Conseiller*

VICKLANDER, Per (Mr./M.)

Adviser / *Conseiller*

(SAP: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(M: Moderate Party / Parti modéré)

(Mpg: Green Party / Les Verts)

(KD: Christian Democrats / Parti chrétien-démocrate)

**SWITZERLAND - SUISSE**

VEILLON, Pierre-François (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national (SVP/UDC)</i>
GUTZWILLER, Felix (Mr./M.) Deputy Leader of the delegation <i>Chef adjoint de la délégation</i>	Member of the Council of States, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (FDP/PLR), Président de la Commission de la politique extérieure</i>
BIERI, Peter (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (CVP/PDC)</i>
JANIAK, Claude (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights / <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la démocratie et des droits de l'homme</i>	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre, du Conseil des Etats (PS)</i>
CASSIS, Ignazio (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national (FDP/PLR)</i>
KIENER NELLEN, Margret (Ms./Mme) Member of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Membre du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national (PS)</i>
MEIER-SCHATZ, Lucrezia (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national (CVP/PDC)</i>
MÜRI, Felix (Mr./M.) Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle East Questions / <i>Membre suppléant du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i>	Member of the National Council, Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Science, Education and Culture <i>Membre du Conseil national (SVP/UDC), Vice-Président de la Commission de la science, de l'éducation et de la culture</i>
SCHWAB, Philippe (Mr./M.) Member of the Executive Committee of the ASGP <i>Membre du Comité exécutif de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
EQUEY, Jérémie (Mr./M.) Substitute Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire suppléant de la délégation</i>	
TRUONG DINH, An Lac (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	
ZEHNDER, Daniel (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
ANASTASI, Andrea (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(SVP/UDC: Swiss People's Party / Union démocratique du centre)	
(FDP/PLR: The Liberals / Les Libéraux-Radicaux)	
(CVP/PDC: Christian Democratic People's Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)	

**SYRIAN ARAB REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE ARABE SYRIENNE**

ALLAHAM, Mhd Jihad (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the People's Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée du Peuple (BP)</i>
BAGDACHE, Ammar (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (SCP)</i>
DIB, Fadia (Ms./Mme)	Member of the People's Assembly, Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (BP), Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>

MERJANEH, Boutros (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly, Committee on Housing, Construction and Environment / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (Ind), Commission du logement, de la construction et de l'environnement</i>
SAADEH, Maria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the People's Assembly, Committee of Public Freedoms and Human Rights / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (Ind), Commission des libertés publiques et des droits de l'homme</i>
NASR, Arkan (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly, Chairman of the Committee on Housing, Construction and Environment / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (Ind), Président de la Commission du logement, de la construction et de l'environnement</i>
WARDEH, Fadel (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly, Youth Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (BP), Commission de la jeunesse</i>
AL WAWI, Mhd. Nasser (Mr./M.)	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
DIAB, Abdul Azim (Mr./M.)	
Secretary / <i>Secrétaire</i>	
(BP: Baath Party / Parti Baath)	
(SCP: Syrian Communist Party / Parti communiste syrien)	
(Ind: Independent / Indépendant)	

**THAILAND - THAILANDE**

LIENGBONLERTCHAI, Surachai (Mr./M.)	First Vice-President of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Premier Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
Leader of the delegation	
<i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
SAMPATISIRI, Bilaibhan (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
WASINONDH, Kitti (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
SUWANMONGKOL, Anusart (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
RATANACHAICHAN, Chukiert (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
PANMANEE, Sompol (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
SUBHAMITR, Jintanant Chaya (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
WAYUPARB, Surangkana (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
TANABOONCHAI, Sakchai (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	
PANPRUANG, Charae (Mr./M.)	Secretary General / <i>Secrétaire général</i>
Head of the ASGP delegation, Member of the ASGP	
<i>Chef de la délégation de l'ASGP, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
KHAMASUNDARA, Supasinee (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Secretary-General / <i>Secrétaire général adjointe</i>
Secretary to the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
TUNTRAKUL, Kunnavuti (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General / <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
CHAOWALITTAWIL, Saithip (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Secretary-General / <i>Secrétaire général adjointe</i>
Member of the ASGP	
<i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
NOPPAWONG, Monton (Mr./M.)	Director, IPU Division / <i>Directeur de la Division de l'UIP</i>
Assistant Secretary to the delegation	
<i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	



KUNKLOY, Chollada (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director, Bureau of Inter-Parliamentary Organizations / <i>Directrice du Bureau des Organisations interparlementaires</i>
NUANMANEE, Pakorn (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
MASRICHAN, Krisanee (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
LEELANOND, Kanteera (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
MANUNPICHU, Sornsak (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
RATANAWIROJ, Tatiya (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
THONGPRASOM, Andhika (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
WANABHUM, Chawin (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
WIBOONCHAN, Nisaporn (Ms./Mme) Assistant secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
THONGSAMRIT, Pилanthana (Ms./Mme) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
TALEERAT, Yossawadee (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
WIBOONPANUVEJ, Tana (Ms./Mme) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
SAEWONG, Saensak (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
SIRIWONG, Kanjanat (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
PUTORNJAI, La-or (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
POOLTHUP, Panyarak (Mr./M.) Ambassador / <i>Ambassadeur</i>	

**TIMOR-LESTE**

NUNES, Duarte (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Parliament, Vice-President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT), Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
DA CONCEIÇÃO, Anselmo (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament, Committee on Infrastructure, Transport and Communications <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT), Commission des infrastructures, des transports et des communications</i>
GUTERRES LOPES, Aniceto (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament, Commission for Constitutional Affairs, Justice, Public Administration, Local Government and Anti-Corruption / <i>Membre du Parlement national (FRETILIN), Commission des affaires constitutionnelles, de la justice, de l'administration publique, du gouvernement local et de la lutte contre la</i>

PEREIRA SOARES, Izilda (Ms./Mme)	<i>corruption</i> Member of the National Parliament, Vice-President of the Committee on Public Finance / <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT), Vice-Président de la Commission des finances publiques</i>
CORREIA, Brígida (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Parliament, Member Economy and Development Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement national Commission de l'économie et du développement (CNRT)</i>
XIMENES BELO, Mateus (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
FERNANDES, Jonas (Mr./M.) Adviser to the Secretary-General <i>Conseiller du Secrétaire général</i>	
SOUSA CORTE REAL, Marta (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
RAMOS PEREIRA, Jemmy (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>

(CNRT: National Congress for the Reconstruction of Timor-Leste / Congrès national pour la reconstruction du Timor)  
(FRETILIN: Revolutionary Front for an independent East Timor / Front révolutionnaire pour l'indépendance du Timor-Leste)

**TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO - TRINITE-ET-TOBAGO**

MUTEMA, Kwasi (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Senate, Minister of State in the Ministry of Works and Infrastructures / <i>Membre du Sénat, Ministre des travaux et des infrastructures</i>
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**TURKEY - TURQUIE**

GÜNEŞ, Hürşit (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
KORKMAZ, Nevzat (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey Member of the Committee on Constitution Member of the Committee on Security and Intelligence <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
SERTER, Nur (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
YILDIRIM, Murat (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
NEZİROĞLU, İrfan (Mr./M.) Member of ASGP Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
AĞAÇ, İsa Yusuf (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
ÖNAL, Elif Esra (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	

**UGANDA - OUGANDA**

Rt Hon KADAGA, Rebecca (Ms./Mme) President of the Group, Member of the Executive Committee, Ex-officio Member of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, Leader of the delegation / <i>Présidente du Groupe, Membre du Comité exécutif, Membre de droit du Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of Parliament, Chairperson of the Appointments Committee, Business Committee <i>Présidente du Parlement (NRMO), Présidente de la Commission des nominations, Commission des affaires</i>
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AKELLO, Judith Franca (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Finance Committee, Budget Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement (FDC), Commission des finances, Commission du budget</i>
AMONGI, Betty (Ms./Mme) Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of Parliament, Agriculture Committee, Appointments Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement (UPC), Commission de l'agriculture, Commission des nominations</i>
DOMBO, Emmanuel (Mr./M.) Committee to Promote Respect for IHL <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of Parliament, Physical Infrastructure Committee, Public Accounts Committee / <i>Membre du Parlement (NRMO), Commission des infrastructures physiques, Commission des comptes publics</i>
KIYINGI BBOSA, Kenneth (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Committee on HIV/AIDS, Committee on East African Community Affairs <i>Membre du Parlement (Ind), Commission du Sida/VIH, Commission des affaires de la communauté d'Afrique de l'Est</i>
BALYEJJUSA, Sulaiman (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, National Economy Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (NRMO), Commission de l'économie nationale</i>
KIBIRIGE, Jane (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
WABWIRE, Paul (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
KASULE, Ali (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ODEKE, Peter (Mr./M.) Press Secretary <i>Secrétaire de presse</i>	
TUMUKWASIBWE, Robert (Mr./M.) Advisor to the Group <i>Conseiller du Groupe</i>	
MUKYASI, Alice (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
(NRMO: National Resistance Movement Organisation / Organisation du Mouvement de la résistance nationale)	
(FDC: Forum for Democratic Change / Forum pour un changement démocratique)	
(UPC: Uganda Peoples Congress / Congrès populaire de l'Ouganda)	
(Ind: Independent / Indépendant)	

## UKRAINE

DENISOVA, Lydmila (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Social Policy, Employment and Pension Provision / <i>Membre du Parlement (PF), Présidente, Commission de la politique sociale, de l'emploi et des retraites</i>
HORDEIEV, Andriy (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Chair of Sub-Committee, Committee on Budget Affairs / <i>Membre du Parlement, Président de sous-commission, Commission du budget</i>
KUZHEL, Oleksandra (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament, Vice-Chair of the Committee on Industrial Policy and Entrepreneurship / <i>Membre du Parlement (PF), Vice-Présidente, Commission de la politique industrielle et de l'entrepreneuriat</i>
TOMENKO, Mykola (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament, Chair of the Committee on Environmental Policy, Natural Resources and Chernobyl Disaster Relief / <i>Membre du Parlement</i>

*(PPB), Président de la Commission de la politique  
environnementale, des ressources naturelles et de la  
catastrophe de Tchernobyl*

FURMAN, Oleksandr (Mr./M.)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*  
SHOVKOPLIAS, Oleksii (Mr./M.)  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*  
TARHONII, Serhii (Mr./M.)  
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PF: People's Front / Front populaire)

(PPB: Petro Poroshenko Bloc / Bloc Petro Poroshenko)

#### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - *EMIRATS ARABES UNIS*

ALMURR, Mohammed (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Federal National Council <i>Président du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALQUBAISI, Amal (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the Federal National Council <i>Vice-Présidente du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALNUAIMI, Ali (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
AL-MANSOORI, Ahmed (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALSAMAHI, Sultan (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALTENAIJI, Faisal Abdulla (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALSHURAIQI, Rashed (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
AHMAD, Ali Jasim (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALMAZROOEI, Dr Mohamed (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ALSHAMSI, Abdulrahman (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Assistant Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général adjoint</i>
ALSHAMSI, Omar Eisa (Mr./M.)	Director, Speaker's Office <i>Directeur du Bureau du Président</i>
ALMEHIRI, Juma Saeed (Mr./M.)	Head of Protocol <i>Chef du protocole</i>
ALMEHIRI, Saeed Khamis (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>
ALSHEHHI, Abdulrahman (Mr./M.)	Head of Communication <i>Chef de la communication</i>
AIZAABI, Ibrahim Ahmed (Mr./M.)	Communication Coordinator <i>Coordinateur de la communication</i>
ALBLOOSHI, Hamda Ali (Ms./Mme)	Head, Parliamentary Research <i>Chef de la recherche parlementaire</i>
ALSHEHHI, Roudha Ali (Ms./Mme)	Senior Researcher <i>Chercheuse principale</i>
ALSHEHHI, Salama Othman (Ms./Mme)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>
ALKAMALI, Mai Mohammad (Ms./Mme)	Strategic Partnerships Coordinator

ALMAEENI, Sara Ahmed (Ms./Mme)

*Coordinatrice des partenariats stratégiques*  
Media Department  
*Département des médias***UNITED KINGDOM - ROYAUME-UNI**

Rt Hon BURT, Alistair (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (C)</i>
WALTER, Robert (Mr./M.) Member of the Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif</i>	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (C)</i>
JUDD, Frank (Lord) Chair of the Committee on Middle East Questions <i>Président du Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i>	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (L)</i>
Rt Hon DHOLAKIA OBE DL, Navnit (Lord)	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (Lib Dems)</i>
CHIDGEY, David (Lord)	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (Lib Dems)</i>
FAULKNER OF WORCESTER, Richard (Lord)	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (L)</i>
HOOOPER CMG, Gloria (Baroness)	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (C)</i>
NIMMO, Rick (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director / <i>Directeur</i>
REES, Dominique (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Director <i>Directrice adjointe</i>
LIBEROTTI-HARRISON, Gabriella (Ms./Mme)	International Project Manager <i>Chef de projets internationaux</i>
LAYFIELD, Jonathan (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
HELME, Philippa (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
OLLARD, Edward (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
COMMANDER, Emily (Ms./Mme) Joint Secretary of the ASGP <i>Co-Secrétaire de l'ASGP</i>	
MOELLER, Daniel (Mr./M.) Assistant to the ASGP Secretariat <i>Assistant du Secrétariat de l'ASGP</i>	
LEVER, Giles (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	

(C: Conservative / Parti conservateur)  
(L: Labour / Parti travailliste)  
(Lib Dems: Liberal Democrats / Démocrates libéraux)

**UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA - REPUBLIQUE-UNIE DE TANZANIE**

MOHAMED, Hamad Rashid (Mr./M.) Standing Committee Development, Finance and Trade, Leader of the delegation / <i>Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce, Chef</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (CUF)</i>
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*de la délégation*

LYIMO, Susan (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly, Spokesperson of the Committee on Education and Vocational Training  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Porte-parole de la Commission de l'éducation et de la formation professionnelle (CHADEMA)*

KAFULILA, David (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCCR-Mageuzi)*

KIKWEMBE, Pudenciana (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (CCM)*

NDUGULILE, Faustine (Mr./M.)

Advisory Group of HIV/AIDS and Maternal, Newborn and Child Health / *Groupe consultatif sur le VIH/sida et la santé de la mère, du nouveau-né et de l'enfant*Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*

MWAKASYUKA, Jossey (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP

Director of Civic Education, National Assembly  
*Directeur de l'éducation civique de l'Assemblée nationale**Membre de l'ASGP*

MPANDA, Emmanuel (Mr./M.)

Assistant Director, Clerk's Office  
*Directeur adjoint au Bureau du Secrétaire général*

MWANDUMBYA, Owen (Mr./M.)

Information Officer / *Chargé de l'information*

UKHOJYA ELIUFOO, Daniel (Mr./M.)

Director, Speaker's Office

*Directeur au Bureau de la Présidente*

BEREGE, Herman Edgar (Mr./M.)

Private Secretary to the Speaker

*Secrétaire particulier du Président*

MWAKASEGE, Alphonse Martin (Mr./M.)

Aide de camp to the Speaker

*Aide de camp de la Présidente*

HOKORORO, Suzan Peter (Ms./Mme)

Aide de camp to the Speaker

*Aide de camp de la Présidente*

(CUF: Civic United Front / Front civique unifié)

(CCM: Revolutionary Party of Tanzania / Parti révolutionnaire de Tanzanie)

(CHADEMA: Party of Democracy and Development / Parti de la démocratie et du développement)

(NCCR-Mageuzi: National Convention for Construction and Reform - Mageuzi

*Convention nationale pour la construction et la réforme - Mageuzi***URUGUAY**

PASSADA, Ivonne (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Executive Committee, Ex-officio

Member of the Coordinating Committee of Women

Parliamentarians, Leader of the delegation

*Membre du Comité exécutif, Membre de droit du**Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires,**Chef de la délégation*Member of the Senate, National Defence Committee, Public Health and Social Assistance Committee / *Membre du Sénat (FA), Commission de la défense nationale, Commission de la santé publique et de l'assistance sociale*

HEBER, Luis Alberto (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate

*Membre du Sénat (PN)*

CARBALLO, Felipe (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives, Industry, Energy and Mining Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FA), Commission de l'industrie, de l'énergie et des mines*

MAHÍA, José Carlos (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs

*Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires**des Nations Unies*Member of the House of Representatives, International Affairs Committee / *Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FA), Commission des affaires internationales*

PENADÉS, Gustavo (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives

*Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PN)*

MONTERO, José Pedro (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP Executive Committee

Secretary General

*Membre du Comité exécutif de l'ASGP**Secrétaire général*

PIQUINELA, Oscar (Mr./M.)  
Secretary of the Group  
*Secrétaire du Groupe*  
GALVALISI, Carina (Ms./Mme)  
Assistant to the Group  
*Assistante du Groupe*  
NGUYEN, Tram Anh (Ms./Mme)  
Staff  
*Membre du personnel*

IRIGARAY, Carlos (Mr./M.)  
Ambassador/Permanent Representative  
*Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent*  
LLANTADA, Felipe (Mr./M.)  
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(FA: Frente Amplio / Front élargi)  
(PN: Partido Nacional / Parti national)

**VENEZUELA**

VIVAS VELASCO, Dario (Mr./M.)  
Vice-President of the Executive Committee, Leader of the  
delegation / *Vice-Président du Comité exécutif, Chef de la*  
*délégation*  
Member of the National Assembly  
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)*

EL ZABAYAR SAMARA, Adel (Mr./M.)  
Member of the National Assembly, Security and  
Defence Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée*  
*nationale (PSUV), Commission de la sécurité et de*  
*la défense*

ALEMAN, Juan Carlos (Mr./M.)  
Member of the National Assembly, Interior Politics  
Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée nationale*  
*(PSUV), Commission de la politique intérieure*

REQUENA, Gladys Del Valle (Ms./Mme)  
Member of the National Assembly, President of the  
Committee on Culture and Recreation / *Membre de*  
*l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV), Président de la*  
*Commission de la culture et des loisirs*

ZAMBRANO, Edgard (Mr./M.)  
Member of the National Assembly, Indigenous  
Peoples Committee / *Membre de l'Assemblée*  
*nationale (AD), Commission des peuples indigènes*

ZERPA, Christian Tyrone (Mr./M.)  
Member of the National Assembly, Foreign Affairs,  
Sovereignty and Integration Committee / *Membre*  
*de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV), Commission des*  
*affaires étrangères, de la souveraineté et de*  
*l'intégration*

AVILA, Jose (Mr./M.)  
Adviser / *Conseiller*

GARCIA SEQUERA, Fenix (Mr./M.)  
Adviser / *Conseiller*

RODRIGUEZ, Sandra (Ms./Mme)  
Press / *Presse*

GOMEZ, Ruben (Mr./M.)  
Press / *Presse*

GARAYCOA, Merlyn (Ms./Mme)  
Press / *Presse*

GALANTON, Jean Carlos (Mr./M.)  
Press / *Presse*

ALDANA, Victor (Mr./M.)  
Press / *Presse*

(PSUV: United Socialist Party of Venezuela / Parti socialiste uni du Venezuela)  
(AD: Democratic Action / Action démocratique)

**VIET NAM**

TONG, Thi Phong (Ms./Mme) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
NGUYEN, Thi Kim Ngan (Ms./Mme) President of the Meeting of Women Parliamentarians <i>Présidente de la Réunion des femmes parlementaires</i>	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
TRAN, Van Hang (Mr./M.) President of the Group <i>Président du Groupe</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
TRUONG, Thi Mai (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairperson of the Social Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission des affaires sociales</i>
NGUYEN, Van Giau (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Economic Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Président de la Commission économique</i>
NGUYEN, Dac Vinh (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Culture, Education, Youth, Teenagers and Children <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission de la culture, de l'éducation, de la jeunesse, de l'adolescence et de l'enfance</i>
VU, Hai Ha (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
HA, Huy Thong (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
NGUYEN, Thuy Anh (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairwoman of the Social Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires sociales</i>
LE, Minh Thong (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Vice-Chairman of the Law Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Vice-Président de la Commission des lois</i>
VU, Xuan Hong (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Membre de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
HA, Minh Hue (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Foreign Affairs Committee / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires étrangères</i>

**ZAMBIA - ZAMBIE**

MATIBINI, Patrick (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
KUNDA, Haward (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Education, Science and Technology / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission de l'éducation, de la science et de la technologie</i>
KAZABU, Luxon (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NFSB - VMRO)</i>
BANDA, Esther M. (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NFSB - VMRO)</i>



ANTONIO, Carlos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UPND)</i>
KALIMA, Victoria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on Legal Affairs, Governance, Human Rights, Gender Matters and Child Affairs, Committee on Government Assurances <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des affaires légales, de la gouvernance, des droits de l'homme, les questions de parité entre les sexes et de l'enfant, Commission des assurances gouvernementales</i>
CHUNGU, Annie (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MWIIMBU, Jacob (Mr./M.) Rapporteur, Standing Committee on Development, Finance and Trade / <i>Rapporteur de la Commission permanente du développement, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the National Assembly, Chairman of the Committee on Legal Affairs, Governance, Human Rights, Gender Matters and Child Affairs / <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UPND), Président de la Commission des affaires juridiques, de la gouvernance, des droits de l'homme, des affaires de genre et des enfants</i>
NGIMBU, Christabel (Ms./Mme) Advisor / <i>Conseillère</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MONDE, Greyford (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UPND)</i>
MWINGA, Doris Katai K. (Ms./Mme) President of the ASGP, Member of the ASGP <i>Président de l'ASGP, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
MBEWE, Cecilia N. (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Secretary-General <i>Secrétaire général adjointe</i>
CHELU, John (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
BANDA, Naomi (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
MONGA, Pauline M. (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
MPOLOKOSO, Anthony K. (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
SOLOPI, Mwaula (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
NYIRENDA, Temwa (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
NGULUBE, Roy (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
ZULU, Christine M. (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
CHEELO, Solistor (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
CHIKANWA, Gregory (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
KABWE, Chishimba (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
(NFSB - VMRO: Patriotic Front / Front patriotique) (UPND: United Party for National Development / Parti uni pour le développement national)	

**ZIMBABWE**

MADZONGWE, Edna (Ms./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	President of the Senate <i>Présidente du Sénat (ZANU/PF)</i>
CHIBAYA, Amos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MDC-T)</i>
CHISUNGA, Daster (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre Sénat</i>
DZIVA, Tionei Melody (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ZANU/PF)</i>

DADIRAYI MAKONI, Roselyn (Ms./Mme)  
Secretary of the Group / *Secrétaire du Groupe*

CHINYEMBA, Gift (Mr./M.)

Advisor / *Conseiller*

(ZANU/PF: Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front / *Union nationale africaine - Front patriotique du Zimbabwe*)  
(MDC-T: Movement for Democratic Change / *Mouvement pour un changement démocratique*)

**II. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS - MEMBRES ASSOCIES****ARAB PARLIAMENT  
PARLEMENT ARABE**

LABDAG, Abderrahmane Labdag (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker <i>Vice-Président</i>
AL-RIYAMI, Rahila (Ms./Mme)	Member / <i>Membre</i>
KHOURY, Walid (Mr./M.)	Member / <i>Membre</i>
FAWZY, Maye (Ms./Mme) Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>	External Relations <i>Relations extérieures</i>

**CENTRAL AMERICAN PARLIAMENT  
PARLEMENT CENTRAMERICAIN**

TARDENCILLA, Orlando (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
HERNANDEZ, Williams (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>

**EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)  
ASSEMBLEE LEGISLATIVE EST-AFRICAINE**

KIDEGA, Daniel F (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker / <i>Président</i>
MADETE, Kenneth (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
KALIBA, Winifred (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>

**PARLIAMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)  
PARLEMENT DE LA COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST (CEDEAO)**

MOREIRA MONIZ, Martina (Ms./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker <i>Vice-Présidente</i>
KWAME AKBESI, Alfred (Mr./M.)	Member / <i>Membre</i>
MOUSSA GROS, Hadizatou (Ms./Mme)	Member / <i>Membre</i>
DANSOKO, Cheick Abdel Kader (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
FWANGDER, Ezekiel (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>
HARISSOU, Mamane Souleymane (Mr./M.)	Committee Clerk <i>Greffier de commission</i>

**EUROPEAN PARLIAMENT  
PARLEMENT EUROPÉEN**

PAPADIMOULIS, Dimitrios (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker, Committee on Economic and Monetary Affairs / <i>Vice-Président, Commission des affaires économiques et monétaires</i>
BAJTAY, Peter (Mr./M.)	Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>
NGUYEN, Thi Thuy Nga (Ms./Mme)	Political and Sectoral Officer <i>Chargée des affaires politiques et sectorielles</i>
VIEN, Ngoc Bich (Ms./Mme)	Press and Public Affairs Officer <i>Chargée de la presse et des affaires publiques</i>

**INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC  
AND MONETARY UNION (WAEMU)  
COMITE INTERPARLEMENTAIRE DE L'UNION ECONOMIQUE  
ET MONETAIRE OUEST-AFRICAINE (UEMOA)**

DJARIRI, Abdou (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member / <i>Membre</i>
AKA AMANAN, Véronique (Ms./Mme) SANWIDI WARE, Maria (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Member / <i>Membre</i> Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
FONGNI, Emile (Mr./M.)	Communication Officer <i>Chargé de communication</i>

**LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT  
PARLEMENT LATINO-AMÉRICAIN**

ALCALÁ RUIZ, Blanca (Ms./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Secretary General, Senator (Mexico) <i>Secrétaire générale, Sénatrice (Mexique)</i>
SANCHEZ, José Ramón (Mr./M.) MARTÍNEZ UBIEDA, Alejandro (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member (Venezuela) / <i>Membre (Venezuela)</i>

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE  
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE**

WALTER, Robert (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member / <i>Membre</i>
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**III. OBSERVERS - OBSERVATEURS****UNITED NATIONS ORGANIZATION****ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES**

KUO, Taona (Ms./Mme), Senior Manager, Every Woman Every Child Team, Executive Office of the UN Secretary-General / *Directrice principale, Mouvement Chaque femme chaque enfant, Bureau exécutif du Secrétaire général des Nations Unies*

METHA, Pratibha (Ms./Mme), UN Resident Coordinator / *Coordonnateur Résident*

**JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)****PROGRAMME COMMUN DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE VIH/SIDA**

EBA, Patrick Michael (Mr./M.), Human Rights and Law Adviser / *Conseiller pour les droits de l'homme et le droit*

SCHOULTZ, Kristan (Ms./Mme), Director, Viet Nam Office / *Directrice, Bureau du Viet Nam*

NGUYEN, Phuong Mai (Ms./Mme), Adviser, Viet Nam Office / *Conseillère, Bureau du Viet Nam*

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)****PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE DEVELOPPEMENT (PNUD)**

BEAVERS, Suki (Ms./Mme), Policy Advisor, Inclusive Political Processes Team / *Conseillère politique, Processus d'intégration politique*

CURRY, Dennis (Mr./M.), Viet Nam Office / *Bureau du Viet Nam*

BUI PHUONG TRA (Ms./Mme), Viet Nam Office / *Bureau du Viet Nam*

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)****ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'EDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE**

LEI, Sun (Ms./Mme), Education Coordinator, Viet Nam Office / *Coordinateur de formation, Bureau du Viet Nam*

MARIN, Katherine Muller (Ms./Mme), Representative to Viet Nam / *Représentant au Viet Nam*

RAMIREZ-MIRANDA, Juan Pablo (Mr./M.), Monitoring and Reporting Officer, Viet Nam Office  
*Responsable du suivi et de l'évaluation, Bureau du Viet Nam*

**UNITED NATIONS DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS (UN DESA)****DEPARTEMENT DES AFFAIRES ECONOMIQUES ET SOCIALES (ONU DAES)**

MONTIEL, Lenni (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary General for Economic Development / *Sous-Secrétaire général pour le développement économique*

**UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR REFUGEES (UNHCR)****HAUT COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LES RÉFUGIÉS (HCR)**

BOULTON, Alistair (Mr./M.), Assistant Regional Representative / *Représentant régional adjoint*

**UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)****FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE**

PONET, David (Mr./M.), Parliamentary Specialist / *Spécialiste parlementaire*

TOOLE, Daniel (Mr./M.), Regional Director for East Asia and the Pacific / *Directeur régional, Asie du Sud-Est et Pacifique*

RUDERT, Christiane (Ms./Mme), Regional Adviser Nutrition / *Conseillère régionale en nutrition*

MOLLER, Jesper (Mr./M.), Deputy Chief Representative / *Représentant principal adjoint*

**UN WOMEN****ONU FEMMES**

LASAGABASTER, Begoña (Ms./Mme), Acting Head, Policy Division / *Directrice par intérim de la Division des politiques sociales*

BALLINGTON, Julie (Ms./Mme), Policy Adviser / *Conseillère politique*

ISHIKAWA, Shoko (Ms./Mme), Country Director, Viet Nam / *Directrice régionale, Viet Nam*

HUONG, Doan Mai (Ms./Mme), Programme Associate, Viet Nam / *Adjointe de programme, Viet Nam*

**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)**  
**ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE**  
 HA BAE, Jong (Mr./M.), Office in Viet Nam / *Bureau du Viet Nam*

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)**  
**HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME (HCDH)**  
 VALES, Hernán (Mr./M.), Human Rights Officer / *Chargé des droits de l'homme*

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)**  
**ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTE (OMS)**  
 TEMMERMAN, Marleen (Ms./Mme), Director / *Directrice*  
 SCOLARO, Elisa (Ms./Mme), Technical Officer / *Administratrice technique*

**AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION (APU)**  
**UNION PARLEMENTAIRE AFRICAINE**  
 CHEROUATI, Samir (Mr./M.), Director / *Directeur*  
 N'ZI, Koffi (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR MIGRATION (IOM)**  
**ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DES MIGRATIONS (OIM)**  
 FATIMA, Rabab (Ms./Mme), Regional Coordinator and Advisor for South and South West Asia / *Coordinateur régional et Conseiller pour l'Asie du Sud et du Sud-Ouest*  
 KNIGHT, David (Mr./M.), Chief of Mission, IOM Vietnam / *Chef de mission, Bureau du Vietnam*  
 LACZKO, Frank (Mr./M.), Head, Migration Research Division / *Chef de la Division de la recherche sur la thématique de la migration*

**LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES**  
**LEAGUE DES ETATS ARABES**  
 HASSAN, Hassana (Mr./M.), Deputy Director / *Directeur adjoint*

**ACP-EU JOINT PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (JPA)**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE PARITAIRE ACP-UE**  
 PAPANIMOU, Dimitrios (Mr./M.), Vice-President of the European Parliament  
*Vice-Président du Parlement européen*

**ARAB INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION (AIPU)**  
**UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE ARABE**  
 BOUCHKOUJ, Nour Eddine (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

**ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE ASIATIQUE**  
 ISLAMI, Masoud (Mr./M.), Deputy Secretary-General / *Secrétaire général adjoint*  
 MOSHIRVAZIRI, Bijan (Mr./M.), Deputy Secretary-General / *Secrétaire général adjoint*

**GLOBAL ORGANISATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION (GOPAC)**  
**ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES PARLEMENTAIRES CONTRE LA CORRUPTION**  
 HYDE, John (Mr./M.), Chair, GOPAC Oceania / *Président de GOPAC Océanie*  
 SIRATHRANONT, Jetn (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre*

**MAGHREB CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL**  
**CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DU MAGHREB**  
 MOKADEM, Said (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE BLACK SEA ECONOMIC COOPERATION (PABSEC)**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE POUR LA COOPERATION ECONOMIQUE DE LA MER NOIRE**  
 BAYTEKIN, Hasan (Mr./M.), Deputy Secretary General / *Secrétaire general adjoint*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION OF BELARUS AND RUSSIA**  
**ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE L'UNION DU BELARUS ET DE LA FEDERATION DE RUSSIE**

BORTSOV, Nikolay (Mr./M.), Deputy Head of Committee / *Vice-Président de commission*

SENKO, Vladimir (Mr./M.), Head of Committee / *Président de commission*

SHUMYANTSEV, Alexander (Mr./M.), Head of Department / *Chef de département*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN (PAM)**

**ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE**

BIADILLAH, Mohamed Cheikh (Mr./M.), PAM President and President of the House of Councillors of Morocco

*Président, Président de la Chambre des Conseillers du Maroc*

AMORUSO, Francesco Maria (Mr./M.), PAM Honorary President / *Président honoraire*

QUBA'A, Tayseer (Mr./M.), PAM Vice-President and Head of Delegation of the Palestinian National Council

**ORGANISATION FOR SECURITY AND CO-OPERATION IN EUROPE PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (OSCE PA)**

**ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE L'ORGANISATION POUR LA SECURITE ET LA COOPERATION EN EUROPE**

SOARES, Joao (Mr./M.), Member of the Portuguese Parliament / *Membre du Parlement portugais*

OLIVER, Spencer (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY - UNION FOR THE MEDITERRANEAN**

**ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE L'UNION POUR LA MEDITERRANEE**

BOTELHO LEAL, Isabel (Ms./Mme), Secretary-General - Parliamentary Assembly - Union for the Mediterranean.

**PARLAMERICAS**

GUERRA, Marcela (Ms./Mme), President, Member of the Mexican Parliament / *Présidente, Membre du Parlement mexicain*

URRUTIA, Ignacio (Mr./M.), Member of the Board of Directors, Member of the Chilean Parliament / *Membre du Conseil d'administration, Membre du Parlement chilien*

**PARLIAMENTARY UNION OF THE ORGANIZATION OF ISLAMIC COOPERATION MEMBER STATES (PUIC)**

**UNION PARLEMENTAIRE DES ETATS MEMBRES DE L'ORGANISATION DE LA CONFERENCE ISLAMIQUE (UPCI)**

KILIC, Mahmut Erol (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

MOHAMMADI SIJANI, Ali Asghar (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary General / *Secrétaire général assistant*

**SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL  
INTERNATIONALE SOCIALISTE**

AYALA, Luis (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

PERRY, Latifa (Ms./Mme), Secretariat Coordinator

**THE GLOBAL FUND TO FIGHT AIDS, TB AND MALARIA**

**LE FONDS MONDIAL DE LUTTE CONTRE LE SIDA, LA TUBERCULOSE ET LE PALUDISME**

ROBINSON, Svend (Mr./M.), Senior Adviser, Parliamentary Relations

*Conseiller principal, Relations parlementaires*

**CENTRE POUR LE CONTROLE DEMOCRATIQUE DES FORCES ARMEES - GENEVE**

**GENEVA CENTRE FOR THE DEMOCRATIC CONTROL OF ARMED FORCES (DCAF)**

FLURI, Philipp (Mr./M.), Directeur adjoint / *Deputy Director*

**INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)**

**COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (CICR)**

BOUVIER, Antoine (Mr./M.), Legal Adviser / *Conseiller juridique*

MARTINEZ, Juan (Mr./M.), Office Manager / *Chef de bureau*

**INTERNATIONAL IDEA**

TOMMASOLI, Massimo (Mr./M.), Permanent Observer / *Observateur permanent*

**PARTNERSHIP FOR MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH (PMNCH)  
PARTENARIAT POUR LA SANTE DE LA MERE, DU NOUVEAU-NE ET DE L'ENFANT**

PASION, Naida (Ms./Mme), Director, Newborn and Child Survival Campaign / *Directrice de la Campagne pour la survie du nouveau-né et de l'enfant*

**INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS (INTOSAI)**

GONZALEZ-KOSS, Monika (Ms./Mme), Representative of the General Secretariat / *Représentante du Secrétariat général*

**PARLIAMENTS PARTICIPATING AS OBSERVERS WITH A VIEW  
TO A POSSIBLE AFFILIATION/REAFFILIATION****PARLEMENTS PARTICIPANT EN QUALITE D'OBSERVATEURS EN VUE D'UNE  
AFFILIATION/REAFFILIATION EVENTUELLE****BRUNEI DARUSSALAM**

MORSHIDI, Awang Ahmad (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Legislative Council <i>Membre du Conseil législatif</i>
ASAR, Judin (Mr./M.) AMINAH, Rose (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Clerk / <i>Secrétaire général</i>

**FIJI – FIDJI**

NADALO, Ruveni (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament <i>Vice-Président du Parlement</i>
WAINIU, Senitieli R. (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>

**NAURU**

SCOTTY, Ludwig D. (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of Parliament <i>Président du Parlement</i>
CAIN, Ann-Marie (Ms./Mme)	Clerk of Parliament <i>Secrétaire générale</i>

**PERSONS TAKING PART IN THE WORK OF THE ASSOCIATION OF SECRETARIES GENERAL  
OF PARLIAMENTS (ASGP) AND WHOSE NAMES DO NOT ALREADY APPEAR UNDER A NATIONAL  
DELEGATION, AN OBSERVER OR ANY OTHER BODY****PARTICIPANTS AUX TRAVAUX DE L'ASSOCIATION DES SECRETAIRES GENERAUX DES PARLEMENTS  
(ASGP) DONT LE NOM NE FIGURE PAS DÉJÀ AU TITRE D'UNE  
DELEGATION NATIONALE, D'UN OBSERVATEUR OU D'UNE AUTRE ENTITE****BURUNDI**

NIYONZIMA, Renovat (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the Senate <i>Secrétaire general du Sénat</i>
RWABAHUNGU, Marc (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the National Assembly <i>Secrétaire general de l'Assemblée nationale</i>



**SPECIAL GUESTS TAKING PART IN ACTIVITIES FORESEEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE 132<sup>nd</sup>  
ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

**INVITES SPECIAUX PRENANT PART A DES ACTIVITES PREVUES A L'OCCASION DE LA 132<sup>ème</sup>  
ASSEMBLEE DE L'UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE**

MOHAMMED, Amina (Ms./Mme), United Nations Assistant Secretary-General and Special Adviser on Post-2015 Development Planning / *Assistante Secrétaire générale des Nations Unies et Conseillère spéciale sur la Planification du développement post-2015*

PHAM, Minh Binh (Mr./M.), Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Foreign Affairs of Viet Nam  
*Vice-Premier ministre et Ministre des affaires étrangères du Viet Nam*

MINH, Le Luong (Mr./M.), Secretary General, Association of South-East Asian Nations (ASEAN)  
*Secrétaire général de l'Association des Nations de l'Asie du Sud-Est*

SMITH, Pio (Mr./M.), Special Assistant to the Special Advisor of the Secretary-General on Post-2015 Development Planning / *Assistant spécial de la Conseillère spéciale du Secrétaire général pour le "Programme de développement pour l'après-2015"*

**Interactive debate on the future resolution on Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms / Débat sur le thème "La démocratie à l'ère numérique et la menace pour la vie privée et les libertés individuelles"**

O'BRIEN, Danny (Mr./M.), International Director, Electronic Frontier Foundation / *Directeur international, Electronic Frontier Foundation*

**IPU-PMNCH side event on a new global strategy to improve women's and children's health  
Réunion parallèle "Consultation sur la nouvelle Stratégie mondiale pour la santé de la femme, de l'enfant et de l'adolescent"**

FERRIER, Kathleen (Ms./Mme), Member of the independent Expert Review Group for Accountability for Women's and Children's Health / *Membre du Groupe d'examen indépendant d'experts sur l'information et la redevabilité pour la santé de la femme et de l'enfant*

**Interactive debate on « The Convention on the Rights of the Child 25 years on: are children's lives better? »**

**Débat interactif sur le thème "La Convention relative aux droits de l'enfant a 25 ans : les enfants vivent-ils mieux ?"**

MNG'ONGO, Lediana Mafuru (Ms./Mme), Member of the Parliament of Tanzania / *Membre du Parlement tanzanien*

**Launch of the Common Principles  
Lancement des principes communs**

HUBLI, K. Scott (Mr./M.), NDI Director of Governance Programs / *Directeur des programmes de gouvernance du NDI*

**Side event "Eliminating risks of nuclear war by accident, cyber-attack or conflict escalation"  
(Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament - PNND)  
Réunion parallèle sur le thème "Faire disparaître les risques de guerre nucléaire que pourraient engendrer un accident, une cyber attaque ou l'escalade d'un conflit"  
(Parlementaires pour la non prolifération nucléaire et le désarmement - PNDN)**

WARE, Alyn (Mr./M.), PNND Global Coordinator / *Coordinateur global de PNND*

ROBSON, Matt (Mr./M.), PNND Coordinator, Pacific and South-East Asia / *Coordinateur de PNND, Pacifique et Asie du Sud-Est*

SUPAWONG, Titeporn (Ms./Mme), PNND Programme Officer, South-East Asia / *Chargé de Programme de PNND, Asie du Sud-Est*