



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

Summary Records of the Proceedings of the 133rd IPU Assembly

Geneva

15 – 21 October 2015

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Introduction

The 133rd IPU Assembly took place from 17 to 21 October 2015, at the *Centre international de Conférences (CICG)* in Geneva.

Attendance at the Assembly was as follows:

Members (Delegations from the Parliaments of 134 countries): Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Andorra, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bhutan, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Botswana, Brazil, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cabo Verde, Cambodia, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Djibouti, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Estonia, Ethiopia, Fiji, Finland, France, Gabon, Georgia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guinea, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Hungary, Iceland, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Madagascar, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mauritius, Mexico, Micronesia (Federated States of), Monaco, Mongolia, Morocco, Myanmar, Namibia, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Palestine, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, San Marino, Sao Tome and Principe, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Singapore, Slovenia, South Africa, South Sudan, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Suriname, Sweden, Switzerland, Syrian Arab Republic, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom, Uruguay, Venezuela, Viet Nam, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

Associate Members: the Arab Parliament, the East African Legislative Assembly (EALA), the Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union (WAEMU), the Latin American Parliament (PARLATINO), and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE).

The following two parliaments participated as Observers with a view to future affiliation: Comoros and Vanuatu.

Observers: (i) the United Nations system: the UN Security Council's Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), UN Security Council, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the United Nations, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR), the International Labour Organization (ILO), the International Telecommunications Union (ITU), 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 Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), UN Women, the World Health Organization (WHO); (ii) the International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions (INTOSAI), the International Organization for Migration (IOM), World Bank, the World Trade Organization (WTO); (iii) the African Union, the League of Arab States; (iv) 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 Inter-Parliamentary Assembly of the Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States (IPA CIS), the Maghreb Consultative Council, Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-proliferation and Disarmament (PNND), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Co-operation (PABSEC), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), the Parliamentary Assembly of Turkic-speaking countries (TurkPA), the Parliamentary Assembly of the Union of Belarus and Russia, the Parliamentary Union of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation Member States (PUIC), World Scout Parliamentary Union (WSPU); (v) the Global Fund to Fight Aids, Tuberculosis and Malaria; (vi) Liberal International, 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), and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies (IFRC).

Of the 1,399 delegates who attended the Assembly, 647 were members of parliament. Those parliamentarians included 41 Presiding Officers, 50 Deputy Presiding Officers and 210 women (32.5%).

Opening of the 133rd Assembly

SITTING OF SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER 2015

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 11.15 a.m. with Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT thanked Switzerland for hosting the Assembly. He welcomed all participants to the 133rd Assembly, in particular Fiji, which had been granted membership of the Organization that morning. The election of both a new President and a new Secretary General in the past year had created a new partnership at the head of the IPU. Consideration was being given to how the Organization could be made 'fit for purpose' by assessing the efficiency and effectiveness of its structures, and making them more responsive to the needs of the membership. The IPU had a global, diverse membership. It must therefore apply its values consistently, while taking a clear position on complex, sensitive and important world issues.

Largely owing to IPU advocacy, the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development clearly referred to the role of parliamentarians: the time had come to translate those words into action. Parliamentary support had been crucial in lobbying for the inclusion of a goal on governance in the Sustainable Development Goals. The new Goals were aspirational and ambitious. By setting budgets, plans and programmes of work, national parliaments would play a key role in defining how the Goals would be met in the context of each country's particular circumstances. The Goals must be considered as part of an interconnected package along with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction and the outcome of the forthcoming Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. Over the years to come, every activity would be viewed through the lens of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

However, complex challenges, including large-scale migration flows and increasing terrorism, were threatening peace, development and stability the world over. Parliaments must add value to the anti-terrorism process by making sure that the voice of the people was heard when debating the defining issues of the moment. Over the past year, the IPU had been making considerable efforts to reach out to young people and promote youth participation in politics; he was pleased to note that students from the University of Geneva would be participating in the Assembly. The IPU was also fostering cooperation with the United Nations. The Organization was very proud of that relationship, which demonstrated that the international community had high expectations of the world's parliamentarians. Several heads of United Nations agencies would address the Assembly.

During the course of the Assembly, a resolution would be adopted on democracy in the digital era and the threat to democracy and individual rights. Those issues were at the heart of parliaments' work and he hoped the resolution would find broad consensus. Resolutions were not simply adopted as a formality, but rather to ensure that all national parliaments took up the issues contained in them and ensured regular follow-up. Resolutions facilitated the sharing of experiences and best practices so as to shorten the learning curve.

Item 3 of the agenda

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration

The PRESIDENT said that the general debate would focus on one of the most pressing contemporary global issues. It was clear that as representatives of the people, parliamentarians had a critical role to play: they were well placed and duty bound to focus on the human face of migration. They must ensure that migration and asylum policies complied with international human rights principles. Parliamentarians also had a duty to inform their constituents, question governments, lead by example when speaking to the media, condemn any form of hate speech, and promote the view that migration was an opportunity rather than a problem. As the world organization of parliaments, the IPU had a responsibility to bring the debate on migration to the fore, and ensure prompt, concerted action.

Mr. W. LACY SWING, Director General, International Organization for Migration, said that his Organization was proud of its relationship with the IPU, and delighted with the particularly timely choice of subject for the general debate. The current era was one of unprecedented human

mobility. The world's population had quadrupled in the twentieth century and too many people – about 1 billion in total – were being forced to move from their homes. There was unprecedented anti-migrant sentiment, particularly in Europe, with harmful stereotypes being propagated. Migration was a mega-trend that would continue as a result of demographic disparities, growing North-South socioeconomic inequality, the digital revolution, environmental degradation and labour demand. People were being forced to leave their homes and seek a safe haven elsewhere, because of unprecedented humanitarian disasters, including war in the Syrian Arab Republic, continuing instability in the Middle East and ethno-religious conflicts in Africa, as well as environmental and natural disasters such as the recent super typhoon in the Philippines.

Parliamentarians had three powers that could affect the situation. Firstly, with the power of policy, MPs could set the parameters for migration policy and protect migrants by ensuring a people-centred, rights-based approach. Parliamentarians could influence national action plans and strategies on the provision of public housing, on measures to combat racism and xenophobia, and on access to health care and education. They could legislate to prohibit trafficking in persons, to regularize migrants' immigration status and to help them integrate smoothly and effectively into their host society. They could make migration easier by facilitating dual citizenship and promoting the portability of social security benefits.

Secondly MPs had the power of parlance. Migrants were victim to widespread negative and misleading stereotypes. The public debate was toxic and some rhetoric in the public domain was irresponsible. Parliamentarians had the power to change that by focusing their discourse on what migrants contributed and on the opportunities that migration provided for host societies as well as for migrants themselves.

Thirdly, parliamentarians held the power of the purse: the way in which they approved budgets and allocated resources could affect migration policy. Parliaments could provide for cultural orientation programmes, language learning and other measures to ensure harmonious integration into host societies, and to avoid migrant ghettos. Funds could be allocated to facilitate the safe return of migrants who did not qualify for protection under the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951). If they were returned safely, with resources to resume their lives in their home countries, they would be less likely to become irregular migrants again. Ultimately, that approach would be cheaper for receiving countries than bearing the cost of deportations. Granting migrants access to medical services and education would lead to healthier, more educated communities as a whole. Diaspora policy was important, and often neglected; migrants should be encouraged not only to engage with their host society, but also to contribute to their home society. Tax incentives for investment and trade, and out-of-country voting rights were particularly important in that regard. Diaspora representation in parliament could also be beneficial.

The International Organization for Migration could provide support through its international development fund, and could assist with studies, analysis, capacity-building and training. It had recently established a Global Migration Data Analysis Centre in Berlin, which would provide data to inform policymaking. Efforts were being made to engage with regional parliamentary assemblies and to provide national-level support by participating in parliamentary hearings and roundtables, and by providing seminars and training on migration-related policy issues. Migration was as old as humankind. It was, in fact, the world's oldest poverty reduction strategy. It was not a problem to be solved, but rather a human reality that elected officials must manage in a fair, just and humane manner for the benefit of all.

Mr. G. RYDER, Director-General, International Labour Organization (ILO), said that ILO valued its partnership with the IPU very highly. A cooperation agreement had been concluded between the two organizations in 1999, which was pursued actively. For example, a handbook for parliamentarians on migration, human rights and governance, due to be launched at the current Assembly, had been a joint initiative of the two organizations.

Migration was an extremely important global issue and ILO was at the intersection of the economic and moral aspects that must guide migration management. The ILO Constitution referred to the need to protect the interests of workers in countries that were not their own, and stated quite clearly that labour was not a commodity. At a time when the economic case for migration had never been stronger, the social and political obstacles to migration had never been greater. That paradox must be addressed in a toxic environment of nationalistic and isolationist political attitudes. Now more than ever, the international community must join forces to counter prejudice, misinformation and stereotypes. There was ample evidence of the economic benefits of migration. In most countries, migrants contributed in taxes and social contributions much more than they received in individual benefits.

Migrants faced considerable disadvantages. They were habitually required to make substantial payments to recruitment agencies and other intermediaries. They suffered wage gaps compared with local populations. They lacked access to social security benefits, and their skills and qualifications were often not recognized in the host society. They also faced difficulties on their return to their countries of origin.

ILO used two fundamental principles to address those issues: equal treatment between migrants and local workers; and a requirement that fee-charging employment agencies should charge employers, not workers. The case for migration should not be made from a purely economic standpoint: economic reductionism could result in labour being treated as a commodity. The case for migration looked different in a corporate boardroom than it did in societies and communities. It also looked different from the perspectives of different government ministries. But whatever the perspective, the movement of people internationally would, remain a key and growing feature of the world and a substantial driver of change.

Whatever motives might lie behind the movement of people, work would almost inevitably become part of the situation. Access to labour markets was the most powerful engine of integration for migrant populations. New reasons for people to move were arising, such as the effects of climate change, and the effects of technological innovation on the spatial location of work. Important instruments existed that could affect all migration-related issues. For example, the recently adopted 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development must be implemented. Parliamentarians also had an important role to play in the ratification and implementation of international law. In that regard, he drew attention to the ILO Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189) and the Protocol of 2014 to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29). He called on all parliamentarians to examine those instruments carefully, ratify them and contribute actively in the struggle for fair migration.

Ms. C. KASHETU KYENGE, Vice-President, ACP–EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, said that Europe was facing unprecedented migration flows. There was not only a legal, but also a moral obligation to provide migrants with protection. Europe had become a place of hope, where the values of freedom and respect for human rights were a source of comfort for thousands of people. But Europe was also the most dangerous destination in the world. Thousands of people had lost their lives crossing the Mediterranean.

In Italy, following the Lampedusa migrant shipwreck in 2013, the *Mare Nostrum* project had been established in a bid to save human lives by rescuing migrants and fighting traffickers. The challenges posed by migration would be insurmountable if the global community did not work together. Nearly 60 million people were displaced around the world, and the number of people fleeing conflict was unprecedented. Although immediate measures to address the crisis were necessary, medium- and long-term plans to address the root causes of mass refugee movements were also crucial.

The European Parliament had recently decided to relocate 120,000 people requiring international protection from Greece and Italy to other member States of the European Union, in addition to a further 40,000 other refugees already being moved. Those activities would have immediate repercussions. With that in mind, financial provision had been made to hold an informal meeting of the European Council. The European budget framework must be reviewed to ensure that the financial implications of the migration crisis could be accounted for.

Although much had been done to address it, the migration crisis was only just beginning. It was a global phenomenon and must be dealt with as such. A balance must be struck between establishing a European asylum system, which was urgently needed, and ensuring that European Union values were not undermined. The closing of internal borders was acceptable for specific purposes and for a given time period, but was not an effective solution to the issues that arose from large-scale influxes of migrants. Those fleeing war, persecution and poverty would find ways to do so, despite barriers and fences. Crossing a border to seek political asylum was not a criminal act.

The European Commission and the EU heads of state and government considered that developing a more effective policy on the return of migrants to their countries of origin was an essential element of an effective migration policy. The European Parliament was fighting to prevent arbitrary return to third countries: the fundamental rights of migrants must be respected at all times. The European Parliament would consider a report in the near future that promoted a paradigm shift in migration policy. It would allow the European Union to move from emergency thinking to the consideration of medium- and long-term solutions. The protection of individuals and their fundamental rights and freedoms must be at the centre of all measures taken. Migrants were not numbers; they were people.

Managing migration flows meant addressing the deep-rooted economic and political causes of migration in countries of origin. A multi-sectoral approach was required, which linked foreign, development and neighbourhood policies, and allowed receiving countries, transit countries and countries of origin to cooperate effectively. Measures to counter trafficking in persons were particularly crucial. Responsibility for the crisis was shared between European countries and countries of origin. Legal channels for immigration must be provided, and must also include humanitarian guarantees, visa issuance and family reunification. Migrants must have access to education and employment, to enable them to contribute financially to their host society and to their country of origin. The rise in racism and xenophobia in receiving countries was a matter of misinformation and a lack of communication. The ageing population in Europe meant that the workforce would be reduced by 15 million in the coming 10 years. Legal migration could contribute significantly to bridging that employment gap. Migrants must be allowed to become fully integrated members of their host society. The parliaments of Europe had the responsibility to guarantee that universal human values were respected and to uphold their commitment to protect the human rights and dignity of those who entered Europe because they were fleeing conflict, persecution and poverty.

Mr. W. Simina (Federated States of Micronesia), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

Ms. S. MAHAJAN (India) said that migration was a phenomenon that had existed since time immemorial and which all countries had experienced in some form or another. In recent times, however, globalization had broken the barriers of the nation state and facilitated the movement of people, goods, services and ideas. People chose to migrate in search of better opportunities, at times under difficult economic, political and social circumstances. However, the exodus of hundreds of thousands of people from the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries was a refugee crisis rather than a trend of voluntary migration. Although migration in general posed challenges for receiving countries, it also presented an opportunity for economic growth, human development and cultural diversity. India had a rich history of migration, which had contributed to its cultural heritage and its economy. Parliamentarians must support international efforts to address the challenges associated with migration, and ensure that the dignity and human rights of migrants were respected at all times.

Mr. S. KINGA (Bhutan) said that Bhutan, a small, least developed country in the Himalayas, was not an economic or military power, but was located in one of the most strategically important regions of the world. With a population of less than 1 million, it shared borders with two of the world's largest countries, India and China. Despite its size and vulnerability, Bhutan had survived as an independent nation for nearly 400 years. It was a country of considerable ethno-linguistic diversity, which was the consequence of a long history of migration. Bhutan's successful socioeconomic development, including the provision of free education and health care, had made it an attractive destination for illegal economic migrants. Whatever the moral and economic imperatives that drove migration, the national identity or security of countries of destination must not be undermined. Historically, Bhutan was a receiving country and had a migrant workforce of some 100,000 people. However, a delicate balance must be struck between protecting the lives of refugees and asylum seekers forced from their homes by the ravages of war, conflict and humanitarian disaster on the one hand, and guaranteeing national security on the other. Of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals recently adopted by the United Nations, four were migration-related. Bhutan would work hard to achieve them, as it had done with the Millennium Development Goals.

Ms. V. MATVIENKO (Russian Federation) said that the choice of subject for the general debate was timely. There were many underlying causes of migration, including economic factors, poverty, unemployment and armed conflict. But migration was mostly caused by short sighted policies pursued by various countries, their illegal interference in other States' sovereign affairs, the toppling of incumbent regimes and the imposition of so-called democracy without taking account of local religious and cultural specificities. As a result, the world was now faced with Islamic State in Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and other terrorist organizations, which posed a serious threat to global security. In a time of chaos, bloodshed and terror, millions of refugees were fleeing their homes in a situation that could only be described as a humanitarian disaster. The Russian Federation was in favour of creating an international coalition to fight against such evils, and to that end had decided to support the President of the Syrian Arab Republic and the regular Syrian army, in line with international law, in the fight against ISIS.

Large-scale migration flows into Europe were posing a host of complex problems, including the migration of terrorism, drugs and epidemics. Although many countries had responded with strict immigration policies, restricting freedom of movement was not the solution. Migration was a global issue, which could only be addressed successfully in a cooperative manner, based on both humane principles and a delicate balance between the protection of human rights, national interests and security. The Russian Federation had extensive experience of successfully addressing migration issues. It was one of the world's leading host countries and approximately 11 million foreign citizens currently lived in Russia. Efforts were made to foster integration, such as by providing subsidized Russian language lessons. A total of 2,6 million Ukrainians had fled to the Russian Federation because of the civil war in Ukraine and the fact that the Ukrainian Government had prevented humanitarian aid from the Russian Federation reaching those in need. Every effort was being made to integrate those who had fled into the labour market and provide them with access to health care and education.

She thanked the President of the IPU for the statement that he gave during the first meeting of the Governing Council's 197th session on the need for inclusivity in international parliamentary forums. The imposition of sanctions and barriers would not allow the world's parliamentary community to seek common solutions to pressing global issues.

Mr. P.H. KATJAVIVI (Namibia) said that the number of people around the world forcibly displaced by conflict or persecution had reached its highest level since the Second World War. More than 51 million people had fled their countries or were internally displaced. Whether migrants, refugees or asylum seekers, their rights as human beings must be upheld. Migration had existed throughout human history. However, the root causes of the current mass exodus must be addressed. Parliamentarians had a key role to play so as to ensure a meaningful, balanced and informed debate, and to promote fair and effective policies. The General Assembly of the United Nations had adopted the 17 Sustainable Development Goals to end poverty, protect the planet and ensure prosperity for all. In that regard, parliamentarians the world over must raise awareness, combat stereotypes and resolve problems of social cohesion and national identity. Migration was a global issue and could not be addressed by individual countries in isolation. Although it put a strain on limited resources in host countries and countries of origin, it also contributed to ever-evolving societies. A coordinated, global effort was therefore essential.

Mr. G. MOHABA MESU (Equatorial Guinea) said that the phenomenon of migration was an urgent item on the global agenda, which must be addressed from a global perspective. Equatorial Guinea was receiving migrants from around the world. Development policies were essential to address the root causes of migration, and ensure that all people could live a life of dignity in their countries of origin. The current situation of large-scale migration could only be addressed through shared responsibility, cooperation and integration. Equatorial Guinea had taken legislative measures to facilitate migration and eliminate xenophobia and discrimination, in particular by guaranteeing the rights to social security, education and health care for all. Legislation on naturalization had also been adopted. While it was essential to guarantee the human rights of migrants and put an end to all forms of discrimination, host countries must also protect their own citizens and must therefore avoid settling persons who could constitute a threat. Nevertheless Equatorial Guinea placed emphasis on facilitating the integration of migrants, and guaranteeing their safety and dignity, to ensure that they did not become marginalized.

Mr. R. NDIKURIYO (Burundi) said that migration was the voluntary movement of people from one country to another for economic, political, cultural and religious reasons. In some cases, most often in countries with dictatorships, people migrated to flee ethnic, religious and political persecution. The global parliamentary community should work together in order to promote migration policies that were beneficial to all countries, whether countries of origin, transit or destination, and in order to ensure positive results that kept migrants safe from exploitation at all stages in their journey. Policies to address the human tragedies associated with migration – in particular the loss of life at sea – must be adopted not just nationally, but also at the regional and international levels. Efforts were being made in Burundi to promote peace and democracy and to foster development, in order to give the people of Burundi good reason to stay in their home country. More must be done to ensure that Burundi's democratic values bore fruit to the benefit of the whole of society. Steps must be taken to curb the spread of terrorism in Africa, which was an increasingly significant cause of migration.

Mr. A. GERASYMOV (Ukraine), exercising his right of reply, said that the statement made by the Russian Federation had been cynical and full of hypocrisy. The conflict in Ukraine was not a civil war. He had witnessed the hostility, violence and misery that were the result of Russian aggression against Ukraine. Russia was supplying terrorists with weapons and ammunition. The so-called Russian humanitarian convoys had been sent to Ukraine without the consent of the Ukrainian Government and in violation of the border regime and international standards. Terrorists backed by Russia made it impossible for genuine deliveries of humanitarian assistance to be made. The migration figures given by the Russian delegation had been manipulated. There were more than 1.5 million internally displaced people in Ukraine as a result of the Russian aggression. With regard to travel sanctions against Russian parliamentarians, dialogue should remain open at all times. However, Ukrainian parliamentarians were being detained illegally by the Russian authorities and were therefore also unable to participate in international meetings.

The sitting rose at 1.15 p.m.

Sitting of Sunday, 18 October (Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.40 p.m. with Mr. P.H. Katjavivi (Namibia), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration

Resumption of the debate

Mr. D. DRAMANI (Togo) stressed the importance of identifying the root causes of migration and finding solutions to migration-related problems. It was important that countries were aware of their responsibilities and committed to protecting migrants. Recently broadcast media images of refugees' situations had demonstrated that current policies did not always fully respect the basic rights of migrants. Alternative policies were therefore urgently needed that would respect the human rights of migrants and at the same time recognize that States had the right to control their borders and protect their peoples. As a country of origin, Togo had a significant diaspora in other States. It was thus particularly vital to protect the remittances system, find a way to centralize contributions that enabled the whole country to benefit, and introduce a national policy to prevent a 'brain drain'. As anti-migrant sentiment and xenophobia existed in some countries, it was important that migrant flows and processes were well managed and well ordered.

Mr. N. BERRY (Lebanon) observed that there was often a political dimension to migration that created increasing numbers of refugees. Half of the population of Lebanon was currently made up of refugees, a large number of which were from Palestine and the Syrian Arab Republic. Reductions in international aid were having a significant impact on their lives. Despite the importance of material aid, political solutions were also essential, including the establishment of a Palestinian State, in line with United Nations Security Council resolutions and international law. Countries in the Middle East needed to work together to find solutions, particularly for the Syrian Arab Republic. To that end, it was essential to combat terrorism and prevent the spread of extremism, which had no basis in religion and threatened global peace and stability.

Mr. M.J. ALLAHAM (Syrian Arab Republic) said that although other causes of migration, such as climate change, were important, the focus should be on extremism and terrorism, as those were the main drivers of the current migration crisis. Some countries' support for different groups in his country had exacerbated the issue. The international response to terrorism continued to be limited and constrained by the interests of certain individual States, despite a number of United Nations Security Council resolutions calling for international cooperation and coordination in the fight against terrorism. The coalition forces active in Syrian territory had had limited success. There were doubts about its true aims, particularly in light of direct criticism of the actions of another country in support of Syrian efforts to defeat Daesh. He applauded the role played by countries such as the Russian Federation and the Islamic Republic of Iran in combating terrorist groups in his country and encouraged other States to join the fight to eradicate terrorism before it spread to other territories. It would only be possible to address the current refugee situation by ending terrorism in Iraq, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic. He urged donors to fulfil their commitments to run relief operations in refugee camps. He called for a comprehensive national dialogue to shape the future of his country as a secular, democratic and multicultural State.

Mr. L. HOUSAKOS (Canada) observed that images in the media reiterated the moral imperative to act. His country was a party to relevant international agreements and in recent years had seen increasing numbers of asylum applications, even before the current crisis. All States had a responsibility to respect the human dignity of refugees and to provide for their basic needs. As such it was essential to provide financial assistance to front-line States. Migrant smuggling required particular attention and a multilateral approach. To that end, Canada was working with other States and partners on border security initiatives. To ensure fairer, intelligent and more humane migration, a long-term perspective should be taken. Any approach should include finding safe and legal alternatives for 'boat people', be they refugees or economic migrants. Resettlement was one option and Canada had a well-established refugee resettlement programme in place. As needs increased, his country intended to review its commitments and find ways to do more. Civil society

organizations and community and private groups played a key role in the resettlement programme. Alternative measures proposed by the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees included student scholarships, expanded opportunities for family reunification, temporary protection schemes and labour mobility. He welcomed the inclusion of migration in the sustainable development agenda. Temporary migration opportunities had a positive impact on migrants themselves and on countries of origin and destination. It was essential, however, that migrant workers enjoyed the same rights as the domestic workforce, that they returned to their country of origin at the end of their authorized stay or that they had legal options to gain full citizenship. It was particularly important to protect vulnerable migrants.

Mr. A. SALIFOU (Niger) explained that his country was a transit country for migrants travelling to Europe. That posed a key challenge to Niger in light of the economic difficulties and poverty that it faced. Migration had changed in nature and was now commonly practiced by young people seeking *El Dorado*. Increased efforts were needed to ensure that young migrants did not fall prey to human traffickers or were not subject to inhumane and degrading treatment. International cooperation was vital in that regard. Measures to address trafficking in persons included strengthening criminal legislation, increased monitoring and controls at exposed borders, transnational tracking of trafficking networks and resource mobilization for social and economic development programmes to encourage young people to stay in their places of origin. Niger had made efforts to improve its border management, and ensure that the free movement of persons both respected human dignity and was carried out in accordance with national and international law. However, individual State action alone was not sufficient. Sustained international cooperation, particularly in terms of information exchange, was essential. It was possible to manage migration so that it was a source of revenue for migrants and a useful tool for host countries, without having an impact on their unemployment levels.

Mr. M. ALGHANIM (Kuwait), stressing the difference between voluntary and forced migration, said that his region was experiencing an unprecedented refugee crisis, which was further exacerbated by pre-existing refugee situations. All efforts would be in vain if the symptoms of the crisis were addressed without fixing the root causes of migration. That was particularly important in the case of Palestine. The present situation was in contravention of documents such as the Charter of the IPU and the Geneva Convention. Such contraventions should be condemned. He urged the IPU to ensure that its Member Parliaments respected recent appeals to resolve the issue: a peaceful solution was vital.

Ms. R. KADAGA (Uganda) said that the decision to migrate was not taken lightly. Many who migrated were likely to be subject to trafficking and exploitation. Large movements of people, such as those happening at present, had an impact on the environment and put pressure on the facilities and communities of countries of arrival. As a result, those countries should put in place contingency funds and plans to enable them to house, feed and settle migrants in large numbers when necessary. Immigration quotas were also an option. Trafficking in persons was a significant issue. Trafficking networks were often well organized and potentially enjoyed the complicity of border officials and other relevant actors. Despite that, it did not appear that steps were being taken to prosecute traffickers under international law. It was also important to treat skilled and unskilled migrants equally. In addition, the increasingly globalized world meant that developed countries should take an interest in the stability of other countries and invest in the infrastructure and industries of those countries to help create jobs. More corporate social responsibility was also required in that regard. Highlighting the different categories of migrant women, she expressed concern that the domestic work sector, in which the majority of workers were women, was the most abused area of employment. Domestic workers were often subject to sexual abuse and harassment, physical violence, food and sleep deprivation and other forms of cruelty. Moreover, domestic work was often not classified as work, so that workers did not qualify for legal protection under labour laws.

Ms. A. BRASSEUR (Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe) underscored that migration was a global phenomenon, which had to be addressed by a global and strategic approach. Europe, in particular, should shoulder its responsibilities in managing the current refugee crisis. The failure to anticipate the scale of the problem meant that countries were overwhelmed. As a result, they were bargaining over quotas, which was shameful. Providing shelter and support to those fleeing conflict and extreme poverty was both a moral and international obligation. Parliamentarians had a key role to play in responding to the crisis by: raising governments' awareness of the gravity of the situation; developing a strategic migration management policy both

at the national and regional levels; tackling the root causes of refugee situations and irregular migration; ensuring that the human rights of migrants were appropriately respected and protected; encouraging the integration of migrants into host communities, which required efforts from both migrants and hosts; facilitating migrants' access to education; speaking out against discrimination and xenophobia; and communicating with constituents, answering their questions and supporting grassroots initiatives. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe had already been active in some of those areas. It had organized a visit by parliamentarians from 20 European countries to refugee camps in Turkey to see the situation on the ground. A future trip was planned to the Greek island of Kos to gather first-hand information on the situation and needs of both refugees and the authorities. National delegation visits to detention facilities for irregular migrants were also planned as part of International Migrants Day in order to ensure that migrants' fundamental rights were respected. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe had developed a guidebook for parliamentarians on the issue of such visits.

Mr. V. DA SILVA GUTERRES (Timor-Leste) observed that political instability often led to economic difficulties, causing people to migrate for both economic and safety reasons. Such instability was sometimes caused by external interference, guided by different interests and disguised as humanitarian efforts. There was a moral imperative not to ruin peoples' lives under the pretext of intervention for human rights reasons. Highlighting the recent experiences of many Timorese citizens and Sahrawi refugees of the Western Sahara territory, he noted that the recent migration crisis was characterized by two main flows of migrants: those escaping conflict areas, and those seeking a better life economically. The numbers of refugees attempting to reach Europe were small in comparison to those being hosted by neighbouring countries such as Jordan, and in comparison to the thousands of refugees leaving countries such as Bangladesh, Myanmar and Sri Lanka. It was regrettable that such situations only received widespread attention when they threatened the borders of Europe. Migration, which was worsened by trafficking and smuggling, was an inevitable occurrence, particularly in light of unequal development, armed conflict, discrimination and climate change. Cooperation and transparency among all partners was vital to address economic migration. Any migration policy should include a partnership platform involving countries of origin and destination; that would enable them to maximize the benefits of migration and minimize the risks. A network for the exchange of information on migration opportunities and quotas should also be developed.

Mr. R. TALBI EL ALAMI (Morocco) said that countries should not forget recently broadcast media images of migrant situations. The migration crisis posed a significant challenge. Although the economic and political causes of the crisis required urgent consideration, issues such as terrorism and people and drug trafficking should also be addressed. According to the United Nations Development Programme, the current crisis was characterized by the proliferation of well-educated migrants. That caused a significant brain drain in countries of origin, although it also had a potentially positive impact in host countries. It was important to respect the human rights of migrants and therefore use human rights law to protect them. He encouraged the IPU to carry out a study on migration flows around the world which included consideration of the role of parliaments in addressing migration. Morocco had recently introduced a new migration policy to respond to its shifting status from transit to host country and was happy to share its experiences in that regard. As part of the policy, Morocco did not apply selection criteria but welcomed all migrants. A lack of resources and wealth was not an obstacle. Morocco was also open to the self-determination of the Sahrawi people.

Mr. P. MATIBINI (Zambia) said that fair and effective migration policies should ensure that countries of origin could benefit from both increased skills among returning workers and technology transfer. Migrant workers should also be able to send remittances home and so contribute to poverty alleviation and economic growth. Host countries benefited from migrant workers through filling gaps in the labour market. International migration therefore could have a potentially positive impact on countries of origin and destination. However, xenophobia triggered by recession and unemployment in host countries had led to increased hostility towards immigrants and the violation of their human rights. Migration policies should include measures to: encourage destination countries not to be selective; recognize the positive impact of remittances; and educate countries of origin on ways to attract emigrants to return in order to contribute to the socio-economic development of their countries of origin. Zambia had enacted several pieces of legislation on migration issues, on topics such as trafficking in persons, immigration, deportation, refugees and asylum-seekers. The importance of international cooperation to migration management should not be underestimated.

Ms. V. Matvienko, Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

Mr. A. ALMULLA (Bahrain) said that the current migration crisis was a major burden for many countries. It was incumbent on parliaments to work together to find solutions and foster peace and stability in all regions. His country continued to suffer from terrorist activity, which was often supported by militias and other States. Moreover, some organizations were using humanitarian slogans and guises to destabilize countries by spreading disinformation. Bahrain was undergoing a process of reform, which was a positive step and which would continue, regardless of other events. The humanitarian situation in the region was of particular concern. Bahrain was committed to providing humanitarian and financial aid to the affected countries. Nevertheless, there was more to do. Refugees, including Palestinian refugees, were in a very difficult situation. A clear message from parliaments was needed that supported the right of Palestinians to their own State. Although his country welcomed migrants, it was a challenging situation for all involved. Unfortunately xenophobia did occur, mainly as a result of cultural differences and economic challenges. Solutions were needed to prevent the situation from worsening. It was vital to create a legal framework to properly manage migration, improve the provision of aid and help people find a better life.

Mr. W. SIMINA (Federated States of Micronesia) stated that migration was a truly global phenomenon. Even his country had hosted refugees and asylum-seekers who had been rescued by Micronesian maritime patrols while en route to a different destination. Caring for those people had posed a challenge to the country's already small budget. A solution to the issue was urgently needed but it should not involve moving migrants to third countries in exchange for financial assistance. That merely swept the problem under the rug, without considering the social, economic and political impact on the third countries. Climate change was another substantial migration-related challenge. If sea levels continued to rise unchecked, many islands in the Pacific would become uninhabitable and so trigger mass migration. He hoped that the global community would come together and address that problem. In addition to talking about migration issues, it was important to take action. On his return to Micronesia, he intended to introduce legislation to appropriate US\$ 100,000 to help address the migration crisis. He would consult with the IPU to assess where those funds could best be used. The amounts involved were significant to a small State and showed that all countries, whether large or small, could make a contribution. Other countries should do the same.

Ms. M. GOJKOVIĆ (Serbia) said that her country had taken in a large number of migrants, although it was principally a transit country. To date, 90 per cent of the costs of registration, shelter and medical assistance for the refugees and migrants had been covered by the State budget. But donors and international and civil society organizations were providing additional support to help prepare for the winter. Addressing a refugee crisis was a matter of solidarity and respect for human rights. The answer was to cooperate and share, not to build walls at borders and overestimate security threats. To enable the world to face future migration challenges, continued efforts were needed to develop institutions and strengthen democracy and to facilitate international cooperation.

Mr. D. KIDEGA (East African Legislative Assembly) said that migration was a predominant and persistent characteristic of humanity and that a fresh approach was needed. The root causes of migration should be addressed, together with the stigma and discrimination faced by migrants in host countries. Member States of the East African Community hosted refugees from conflicts in neighbouring countries. Efforts were focused on developing a politically stable and sustainable region, where political unity was key. Parliaments could help to address migration issues, including by: ensuring effective implementation of the sustainable development agenda, particularly in areas of peace, development, migration and human rights; enacting robust legislation against trafficking in persons; advocating for legal migration channels, such as resettlement, family reunification and work and study visas; and encourage the allocation of additional resources to migration issues, both at the national and international levels.

Mr. M.C. SY (Burkina Faso) expressed appreciation for the support received from the international community to uphold democracy following the coup attempt in his country. He said that, in light of seemingly insoluble conflicts, many people were turning to migration as their only option, without considering the impact on host countries. Nevertheless, the root cause of the migration crisis was the unbalanced distribution of the world's riches. Multinational corporations from developed countries in the North had access to almost all of the world's natural resources.

That contributed to developed countries being seen as the dream destination by people from the developing world. Solving the migration crisis required prevention and resolution mechanisms for challenges such as conflict, neo-colonialism and economic imperialism. It was also necessary to challenge stereotypes and clichés about migrants and to recognize that the analysis of the determinants of migration was often biased, which resulted in increased xenophobia. That situation was the result of years of ineffective governance in poor countries and of the complicity of certain countries which protected their own people by exploiting the populations and natural resources of other States. As long as international cooperation was biased by the interests of certain countries, immigration would be difficult to address. All actors must play their role in addressing migration and its determinants. When people from the developed world moved to other countries, they were seen as expatriates, while those from the developing world were seen as economic migrants or refugees. The IPU should adopt a resolution requiring parliaments to develop effective policies and mechanisms to resolve the challenges related to migration. Liberty, justice and well-being were universal ideals that were not restricted by artificial borders. Parliaments should do their utmost to work for peace and stability and to enable everyone to seek those ideals. The Earth was a common heritage for all and stopping people from settling where they wished represented a violation of the right to that universal heritage.

Mr. A.R. IBRAHIMI (Afghanistan) explained that situations such as poor living conditions, poverty, disease, natural disasters, conflicts and wars meant that migration was common. Ensuring the safety of migrants and the protection of their rights was a key priority. In most cases, migration had a positive impact for migrants, countries of origin and countries of destination. Achieving tangible and effective results on the matter would be subject to a number of obstacles and challenges. As some migrants were highly qualified, governments generally did not want to lose such people; but those people were welcomed by countries with low population growth and better economic opportunities. Economic migration should be regulated so that both sides could benefit. Migration had been an issue in Afghanistan for many years. It had resulted from periods of occupation, wars and external interventions, which had increased unemployment and had also severely damaged the economy and infrastructure. The ongoing conflict in the northern provinces continued to produce more internally displaced persons and refugees. He urged the international community not to forget about Afghanistan's situation at such a critical juncture.

Mr. A. HOUNGBEDJI (Benin) stated that migration was an important part of population and societal dynamics. It offered economic, cultural and social benefits for all countries involved, as long as it took place under normal sociological conditions. However, the current migration crisis accentuated peoples' vulnerabilities. It required the international community and all those associated with international humanitarian law to act in a coordinated manner in order to find appropriate and sustainable solutions for all countries involved. Action was needed at both the local and global levels. His country hosted many refugees from countries in West Africa and had decided to grant refugees a special status that enabled them to obtain residents' permits free of charge. As part of the process, Benin had requested the governments of the refugees' countries of origin to provide the necessary administrative documents. In the case of Togo, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees had given invaluable support. That decision had enabled thousands of refugees to make a social and economic contribution to the Benin. To address current and future migration challenges, development cooperation policies that took into account human mobility were needed, together with migration management policies that respected human rights and public freedoms. Awareness-raising and integration programmes were also key.

Ms. N. MOTSAMAI (Lesotho), emphasizing the need to address migration situations through a collaborative humanitarian approach, said that strong policies and legal frameworks which respected the human rights of migrants were crucial. It was important to focus on exchanging experiences. Her country had developed a number of frameworks and policies on migrant-related issues, including on the diaspora, data protection, returning migrants and bilateral labour agreements. It had also established a multi-stakeholder committee on migrant issues. Lesotho experienced significant migrant flows as a result of minimal natural resources, high youth unemployment, poverty, food insecurity and climatic conditions. Lesotho was also a host country and unfortunately traffickers were active in its territory. Remittances comprised approximately one third of its gross domestic product. As migrants had such significant financial capacities, policies that could target migrants as development actors should be considered. It was planned to issue a unique identity document to immigrants and refugees in Lesotho to enable them to access services. The approach was designed to prevent migrants from resorting to people traffickers or

smugglers. Lesotho had also reached a bilateral agreement with South Africa on the free movement of citizens. Concerted efforts were needed to maximize the developmental benefits of migration and minimize the negative impacts on countries of origin and destination.

Mrs. E. MADZONGWE (Zimbabwe) said that the current migration crisis required a concerted regional and global response. A global framework was needed that clearly outlined the responsibilities of each actor in a way that did not place particular burdens on one or more countries. Countries of origin, transit and destination needed to share the responsibility of managing refugee flows and create a safer and more humane environment for migrant movements. In light of increased xenophobia and anti-migrant sentiment in many countries, a comprehensive approach was needed to deconstruct the myths and stereotypes that had proliferated about migrants and encourage social acceptance of migrants. The media had an important role to play in that regard. In turn, migrants had to respect the laws of their host countries. It was important for all countries to play their part in solving the migration crisis through a holistic approach.

Mr. A. ALJARWAN (Arab Parliament) noted that there were many obstacles to peace and security and to ensuring the safety of migrants. It was essential that migrants were treated in accordance with international law. He thanked countries in his region that had taken in Syrian refugees and stressed that Islam was a peaceful religion. Any extremist views and activities did not reflect the key tenets of Islam and, as such, education was vital to push back extremist groups. In light of the seriousness of the situation, the Arab Parliament had called on the United Nations and UNESCO to intervene in the Syrian Arab Republic in order to help protect the heritage of mankind. Moreover, the international community needed to assume its ethical responsibility in the crisis. An urgent resolution to the conflict was needed in accordance with the Geneva Convention, which would enable the country to be rebuilt and migrants to return home. Political dialogue and initiatives in line with international law would be crucial in that regard. As regards the situation of the Palestinian people, he condemned current aggression by Israel. The international community should do more to foster peace and democracy and to resolve the situation. The Arab Parliament supported efforts to establish a sovereign Palestinian State. In the case of Yemen, he encouraged the international community to work with Saudi Arabia in order to re-establish peace and help the Yemeni people. He also called on the Islamic Republic of Iran to stop any intervention in Bahrain.

Mr. M.J. ABBASI (Pakistan) observed that it was important to recognize migrants as legitimate participants in social, economic and political processes and to define and acknowledge mutual rights and responsibilities. Migration provided opportunities to resolve national challenges such as growth, unemployment, poverty and income inequalities. Pakistan was endeavouring to enhance its capacity to manage migration-related benefits through developing skills, productively using remittances and improving the migrant-host society relationship. Integration was a two-way process: migrants and host societies both had responsibilities and obligations. Discrimination against migrants prevented integration and put the social fabric of the host society at risk. Migrants should be included in health-care and social security programmes. Parliaments had an obligation to take effective action to combat discrimination, xenophobia and violence against migrants. In order to do so, parliaments must be convinced of the importance of multi-ethnic and multicultural societies. In times of political tension, migrants were often the first to be suspected of being a security risk, which inadvertently encouraged xenophobia. Pakistan placed particular importance on matching short-term market considerations with long-term demographic trends, on avoiding the politicization and stigmatization of migrants and on promoting inter-State dialogue to find common ground between countries of origin and destination. Regional consultative processes were useful and bilateral cooperation between countries in the same region was particularly important. Approaches such as free trade agreements containing provisions for the mobility of workers could help reduce and prevent irregular migration. Trafficking also required particular attention. A two-pronged approach was needed to both deal with traffickers and address the root causes of the issue. It was the collective responsibility of the international community to address the current migration crisis through political unity and action on the ground. A human-rights based approach was also key.

Mr. P. BURKE (Ireland) noted that addressing the migration crisis was an enormous challenge for all and increased cooperation was vital. The United Nations was undertaking vital work to address the root causes of mass migration and provide humanitarian assistance to refugees and migrants. He urged States to cooperate and work with the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on International Migration and Development. Ireland was supporting

humanitarian efforts by providing funding and other resources and had recently established programme to provide a safe haven to persons seeking protection. As part of that programme it had also agreed to resettle over 4,000 refugees. Ireland had also deployed rescue ships in the Mediterranean Sea, which had already saved many lives. That humanitarian action would continue. The crisis in the Syrian Arab Republic was having a substantial impact on neighbouring countries such as Iraq, Jordan, Lebanon and Turkey, all of which were playing host to large number of Syrian refugees.

Mrs. F. DIB (Syrian Arab Republic), exercising the right of reply, observed that the President of the Arab Parliament had requested the international community to intervene in order to protect the Syrian Arab Republic, but had been silent on the issue when the western coalition had carried out bombing raids. Russian operations in her country had been carried out in accordance with international law, United Nations Security Council resolutions and the wishes of the legitimate Syrian Government. It was important that the principle of non-interference in the sovereign affairs of States was respected. She also asked what kind of protection the President of the Arab Parliament was expecting for Yemen.

The sitting rose at 5.50 p.m.

Item 2 of the agenda

Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda (A/133/2-P.1 to P.6 and A/133/2-Inf.1.rev.2)

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 four proposals for the subject of the emergency item:

- *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict, and socio-economic situations according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions (United Arab Emirates and Sudan)*
- *The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union in countering the terrorism and extremism of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Al-Nusra Front (ANF) and other terrorist groups associated with them (Syrian Arab Republic)*
- *Protecting human rights in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism (Mexico)*
- *The role of parliaments in taking urgent action to protect the climate (New Zealand)*

He invited the sponsoring delegations to introduce their proposals.

Ms. A. ALQUBAISI (United Arab Emirates), introducing the joint proposal submitted by the United Arab Emirates and Sudan (document A/133/2-P.6), said that a large-scale human tragedy was being caused by unprecedented migratory flows from areas ravaged by political tension and conflict. People were being driven out of their homes in situations that constituted grave violations of international humanitarian law and human rights. There were more than 30 million refugees in the world and in recent months alone, almost 3,000 had died in transit. Refugees must be protected. Parliamentarians had a crucial role to play in defending the rights of refugees and holding governments accountable in their application of international law. Parliamentarians, as representatives of the people, must work together to ensure that international human rights and humanitarian law were fully respected at all times.

Mr. M. MUSTAFA ALDAO (Sudan) urged the Assembly to adopt the proposed emergency item. The number of refugees was growing and States that bordered countries of origin were shouldering an enormous burden. The international community had a duty to assist. The IPU could play an important role in mobilizing its Member Parliaments to take action in order to protect refugees and foster the integration of migrants into their host societies. Refugees must be allowed to enjoy the rights that would enable them to live a decent life in dignity. The global community must provide them with shelter, while also working together to address the root causes of the issues that had led them to flee their countries in search of safety. Men, women and children were travelling long distances over land and taking precarious journeys by sea; many were dying en route. The world's parliamentarians and the international community must work together to protect them.

Ms. F. DIB (Syrian Arab Republic), introducing the proposal in document A/133/2-P.3, said that the Syrian people were fighting to defend their rights. She urged the world's parliaments to act together in order to counter terrorism and extremism, both of which constituted a grave threat to world peace and security. Refugees and migrants must be given sanctuary, and all efforts must be made to protect Syria's national heritage. The global community must stand firm against terrorism and defend the principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations and the precepts of peace and democracy on which the IPU had been founded. Terrorism was a time bomb, which must be stopped.

Ms. M. GUERRA (Mexico) introduced the emergency item proposed by her country (document A/133/2-P.4) and said that the provisions of international humanitarian law required all parties to distinguish between civilians and military targets. However, the fight against terrorism could lead to considerable numbers of innocent victims. The world must stand together against expressions of violent extremism. She called on parliamentarians to urge their governments to cooperate with international organizations in the fight against terrorism. All Parliaments had a duty to review the standards and legislation for the regulation of intelligence issues and to ensure respect for international humanitarian and human rights law.

Mr. G. KENNEDY (New Zealand) introduced the proposed emergency item contained in document A/133/2-P.5. He said that, as representatives of the people, parliamentarians knew about the pain that climate change was inflicting around the world, destroying homes, livelihoods, and physical security. Extreme weather was exacting a toll on humanity that could not be ignored. Climate change was one of the greatest contemporary challenges as global emissions continued to increase. The imminent Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change was arguably one of the most important international meetings of all time. Parliamentarians were the representatives of the world's people and must therefore debate the subject in plenary, where all delegations could exchange views and report those views to their national parliaments. Climate protection was too important to be left to the executive branch of government. It was a global emergency and must be debated in an emergency context.

The PRESIDENT said that since four proposals remained on the table, the Assembly must vote to select an emergency item for discussion.

The SECRETARY GENERAL explained the voting procedure.

Following a roll-call vote, the joint proposal submitted by the delegations of the United Arab Emirates and Sudan was adopted and added to the agenda as Item 7.

The sitting rose at 7.15 p.m.

Final agenda

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| Item 1 | Election of the President and Vice-Presidents of the 133 rd Assembly |
| Item 2 | Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda |
| Item 3 | General Debate on <i>The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration</i> |
| Item 4 | Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms (<i>Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights</i>) |
| Item 5 | Reports of the Standing Committees on Peace and International Security; Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade; and United Nations Affairs |
| Item 6 | Approval of the subject item for the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights at the 135 th IPU Assembly and appointment of the Rapporteurs |
| Item 7 | The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions. |
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Sitting of Monday 19 October (Morning)

The meeting was called to order at 9.20 a.m. with Mr. M.R. Rabbani (Pakistan), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.

Item 7 of the agenda

Plenary debate on the emergency item:

The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions
(A/133/2-P.6)

Mr. M. MUSTAFA ALDAO (Sudan), introducing the draft resolution (document A/133/2-P.6), said that the plight of refugees was a global phenomenon that affected every country in the world without exception. The international community should work together to address the root causes of mass migration. It should seek solutions, legislate and make policy to find sustainable solutions to the situations that caused people to flee their homes. A selfless and determined approach was essential to find a long-term solution to the conflicts, poverty, and lack of development and growth that led people to seek a better life and better conditions elsewhere.

Ms. M. LUGARIĆ (Croatia) said that the draft resolution could draw more attention to the situation of refugee children, adolescents and young people. They were particularly vulnerable and had unique needs and rights that were not adequately addressed in national migration policies. Despite the international framework to protect and promote the human rights of all individuals, young refugees faced severe difficulties, including isolation, exclusion, discrimination and insecurity. They frequently lost their social networks and were left without parental guidance and care. Refugee women and children were vulnerable to trafficking and abuse, and often became victims of discrimination, marginalization and poverty. Laws and policies should address the specific vulnerabilities of young refugees and the different needs of women and men on the move. Gender sensitive and age-appropriate policies should be applied in countries of origin, transit and destination to prevent human trafficking and refugee smuggling. Children and adolescents must have access to age-appropriate information on safe migration and on their rights and obligations. They should be encouraged to participate in debate and policymaking at the local, national, regional and global levels to ensure that they were seen and heard.

Mr. A. EL ZABAYAR SAMARA (Venezuela) said that around the world, a variety of phenomena were causing large movements of people. Venezuela had shouldered the social burden of hosting 5 million refugees from Colombia, all of whom had enjoyed social rights, guaranteed by the Government. There were also large numbers of internally displaced persons still in Colombia, who received health and education services from Venezuela. Colombians in Venezuela received housing benefits, and education; Venezuelan medical teams provided health services to displaced Colombians in Colombia. The international community must work together to address the underlying causes that led to such a mass exodus of people from their homes. The situation in the Syrian Arab Republic was particularly serious. Mercenaries were being trained in Syrian territory by the United States Government, and later joining Islamic State. Toyota trucks provided by the United States Government had ended up in the hands of Daesh. The actions of the Russian Federation were particularly welcome: Russian airstrikes had achieved in one day more than the West had managed to achieve in the past year.

Mrs. C. VIENNE (Belgium) said that the world was evolving, and the movement of people, either to escape conflict or the consequences of climate change, was not a temporary phenomenon. Large-scale migration was a societal development that must be managed. A global overview of the movement of populations was therefore essential. All refugees deserved protection and support. Coordinated action between countries of destination and origin was particularly important. Migrants must always have the possibility to return to their countries of origin. They must

maintain links with the culture and society of home and must equally be supported in their efforts to integrate into the culture and society of their host country. The fragile and vulnerable situation of women and children deserved particular attention: they could not successfully integrate into host societies without access to language, culture and education. Building walls and closing borders to prevent the influx of migrants was not acceptable. A global problem could not be solved through isolationist policies: coordinated efforts were required. The criminalization of refugees must also stop. Wanting a better and more dignified life was not a crime.

Mr. A. AL-AHMAD (Palestine) said that parliaments had a key role to play in dealing with the crises facing the world, not only by addressing the symptoms and results of those crises, but also by tackling their root causes. Parliamentarians must cooperate with their governments and the international community as a whole. For more than 60 years, Palestinian refugees had been displaced all over the world as a result of the ongoing war waged against the Palestinian people by Israel, and other wars erupting in neighbouring areas. Palestinian refugees who had sought sanctuary in the Syrian Arab Republic were now fleeing for their lives. Similarly, during the Israeli wars against Lebanon in the 1980s and the wars in Iraq, hundreds of thousands of Palestinian refugees in Lebanon had been further displaced; tens of thousands had died at sea. When would the suffering end? All people, wherever they might be, were humans, with the right to seek a better life for themselves and their families. Millions of people were seeking asylum around the world. Rather than just discussing how to address the coming refugee crisis, real steps must be taken to resolve the root causes of forced migration, to halt wars of aggression and to support the efforts of people in developing countries both to improve their economies and to allow them to live in security and dignity.

Mr. F. RABBI (Bangladesh) said that around the world, 50 million people had been forcibly displaced by conflict and persecution. Instability and violence continued to fuel massive displacement, not only in the Middle East, but also in Africa. The neighbours of conflict-ridden countries shouldered a great burden; it was disappointing that others were reluctant to share it. Despite its difficult socioeconomic situation, Bangladesh had always welcomed refugees. Globalization and growing socioeconomic disparities had also influenced international migration, with many young people risking their lives to go in search of a better future, opening themselves to potential exploitation and abuse. States regarded such movements as a threat to their sovereignty and security. The illegal migration and displacement crisis was a new development challenge. It put strains on the resources of destination countries, particularly with respect to law enforcement.

Mr. M. KADAM (Chad) said that Chad welcomed the choice of emergency item, which had given the Assembly the opportunity to address a crucial and complex issue. As well as taking an active role in the fight against terrorism in Mali and the fight against Boko Haram, Chad was hosting large numbers of refugees from Sudan, the Central African Republic and Nigeria, which was putting a strain on its limited resources. International support had been crucial, in particular from the International Organization for Migration, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the European Union, the African Union and the United States of America. He proposed several amendments to the text of the resolution. The resolution should place greater focus on refugee flows into non-European countries, and should give more consideration to the needs of receiving countries, in particular the need for financial aid to ease the burden on developing host countries with large refugee populations.

Mr. P.F. CASINI (Italy) said that he welcomed the choice of subject. Insufficient consideration had been given to how the global migration situation would be addressed in future. Europe could not be defended against migration by building walls. The root causes of mass migration must be addressed: the fight against poverty was still ongoing and climate change was leading to food shortages, while terrorism had undermined the rule of law and resulted in the failure of traditional States. Somalia, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic, among others, had become terrorist States, where religious persecution and violence were driving people away from their homes in search of safety. Although birth rates in Europe tended to be low, many other parts of the world had increasing populations, which would lead to increased economic migration. The European Union should consider establishing a neighbourhood policy with the Mediterranean region and providing more development assistance in countries of origin. Religious freedom was particularly important and terrorism, in all its forms, should be eliminated. That could only be achieved through concerted joint efforts.

Mr. M ALKHARABSHEH (Jordan) said that parliamentarians had a responsibility to reflect on the current complex migration situation, particularly on how to support neighbouring countries and countries of origin. It was only natural that people whose well-being and livelihoods were in danger wanted to seek a safe haven and a better quality of life; many were fleeing war and terror. For decades, Jordan had been receiving massive inflows of refugees from Lebanon, Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. Jordan's population had doubled as a result. Receiving countries must therefore receive more assistance to help them shoulder the burden. The international community must accept its responsibilities, as migration was a global issue. If Europe was struggling to host 350,000 refugees, how could Jordan be expected to shelter the 1.5 million Syrians arriving across the full length of its borders? Words were not enough: logistical support was crucial. European governments must assume their responsibilities both in terms of providing support for host countries that were overburdened, and in hosting more refugees themselves. The refugee situation in Jordan was untenable, yet refugees could not be sent back to the inhuman conditions from which they had fled. Aid was essential to enable Jordan to provide health care, food, shelter, education and clothing for all refugees, without diminishing the services provided to the Jordanian people.

Mr. E. JALILI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that the Islamic Republic of Iran was a haven for refugees from the Middle East region. Every effort was made to provide them with necessary services and facilities. Iran had hosted about three million refugees, all seeking a safe haven from conflicts in neighbouring countries, and therefore understood the difficulties faced both by refugees and host countries. Thousands of refugees, mostly from the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and Afghanistan, were struggling to overcome difficult and dangerous situations. The root causes of mass migration, in particular terrorism, must be addressed.

Ms. S. KOUSANTINI (Tunisia) said that Tunisia had adopted a new Constitution after the revolution and that its new parliament had galvanized the country's political strength. The world's parliamentarians must debate the need to provide protection and urgent support to the victims of war, conflict and socioeconomic disparity. The whole world had been moved by the images of little Aylan, the Syrian child who had drowned while crossing to Turkey and whose body had washed up on a Turkish beach. Consideration must not only be given to how to help the thousands of refugees seeking a safe haven, but also how to address the root causes of the problems from which they were fleeing. States that bordered countries of origin were at the forefront of hosting refugees, and therefore needed particular support. She commended the resilience and perseverance of the Syrian people. She expressed her sympathy with the people of Palestine, who had suffered enormously under occupation and had been driven from their homelands.

Ms. A. ALQUBAISI (United Arab Emirates) thanked all delegations for supporting the emergency item proposed by her delegation and the delegation of Sudan. The problem of migration had become global. Many countries were dealing with the aftermath of conflict, war, and socioeconomic disparity, which were causing large-scale migration and threatening world peace and security. Those challenges must be addressed internationally, through the application of international law. Large flows of refugees were not only linked to war and terrorism, but also to natural disasters. The international community, along with international and regional organizations, must take responsibility to tackle poverty and all other root causes of mass migration. Conflicts must be resolved through international cooperation, and particular care must be given to the most vulnerable. It was especially crucial for host countries to apply international law, and for refugees to respect the rule of law and the culture of their host countries. The United Arab Emirates was making every effort to ensure full respect of its international obligations. It had allocated more than four billion dirham to building camps, mobile clinics and hospitals and to providing education for refugee children. They had also been granted visa exemption for their stay in the United Arab Emirates. The refugee situation was more urgent than ever before; parliamentarians must cooperate with international organizations to promote peace and security. She looked forward to seeing the resolution translated into life-saving action.

The CHAIRPERSON announced that a draft resolution on the item would be finalized by a drafting committee comprising members of the delegations of Chad, Gabon, Zambia, Sudan, United Arab Emirates, Islamic Republic of Iran, Russian Federation, Mexico, Venezuela, New Zealand, Sweden and Croatia.

Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, took the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda
(continued)

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration

Special segment on the humanitarian dimension of migration

Ms. C. BEERLI, Vice-President, International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), said that the protection of vulnerable migrants was a critical policy challenge. The magnitude, diversity and complexity of current migratory movements at the global level required an ambitious, coordinated and smart response, with the migrant at its centre. Efforts must be made to prevent politicization, which would pollute the debate and impede balanced and fair solutions. While statistics and legal considerations were essential indicators to inform policymaking, migration was more than just numbers: the suffering of refugees in their home countries, along migratory routes and in their countries of destination could not be quantified. The humanitarian needs and gaps in protection along migratory routes were complex. Legal status was important for granting specific protection to certain categories of migrants. But the ICRC considered that the humanitarian response to their needs should focus on responding to their vulnerabilities. Understanding the complexity and diversity of the realities behind migration was fundamental in order to find sustainable responses to the challenges it created. Above all, those responses should be driven by humanity.

Most migratory movements resulted from human tragedies that reflected a failure of national and international policies. The ICRC witnessed the devastating effects of protracted and unresolved conflicts fuelled by a lack of respect for the basic principles of international humanitarian and human rights law. Such conflicts threatened the stability of entire regions, turning homes into battlefields and annihilating human lives. They led to situations in which: people had to risk their lives by crossing frontlines under continuous shelling just to fetch clean water; sieges and blockades meant that wild grass was the only food available; hospitals and schools were systematically attacked; doctors and teachers carried guns; and in which good governance and the rule of law were unachievable dreams.

Why would anyone stay in a place where survival was a luxury? The ICRC worked in such places, close to those affected by conflict and those forced to leave their homes in search of basic humanity and dignity. The ICRC strove to preserve humanity in the battlefield, to protect life and health, and to encourage authorities to protect the populations under their jurisdiction. However, the ICRC response was no more than a sticking plaster on a gaping wound. It could not break the vicious cycle of violence that fed forced displacement and migration flows. Humanitarian action was crucial to protect human life. But courageous and ambitious political solutions were also essential to address the global failure to protect victims of violence.

Given the global situation of protracted conflicts and instability, migration pressure would increase. More people would flee their devastated homes, and in the absence of durable political solutions, few would be able to return. Parliaments had a critical role to play in ensuring that migrants, including refugees and asylum seekers, had effective access to adequate protection mechanisms and essential services. She commended the efforts that many parliamentarians had already made. She urged them to continue to: oversee their governments' applications of international law; ensure that their assistance was provided where it was most needed; and support conflict-ridden countries and their neighbours, which continued to bear the brunt of the burden of forced displacement. If efforts were not intensified, the situation would deteriorate.

The ICRC was committed to assisting with restoring family links and conducting monitoring to ensure that detained migrants were treated humanely, with dignity and in accordance with due process of law. Humanitarian imperatives must remain at the forefront of migration policies. Parliamentary support was essential to help alleviate human suffering, protect lives and uphold human dignity.

Mr. V. TÜRK, Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR, said that the world was in turmoil, one of the most visible manifestations of which was the magnitude, scope and complexity of refugee and displacement challenges. The recent adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development made numerous references to migration and migrants and promised to "leave no one behind". Around 3 per cent of the world's population lived outside their country of origin. When migration occurred as a matter of choice, rather than desperate necessity, it increased human development potential and benefitted host and home societies alike.

As a result of conflict and persecution, there were currently over 60 million refugees, asylum seekers and internally displaced persons worldwide. An increasing number of people were relying on Europe for their protection and survival. Almost 600,000 refugees and migrants had braved dangerous sea crossings in search of safety in Europe. However, that phenomenon was not exclusive to Europe; similar situations were occurring in the Bay of Bengal, the Andaman Sea and the Gulf of Aden. Neighbouring countries that bore the brunt of the burden were struggling, as were some European countries. Many refugees and migrants fell prey to smugglers because there were no opportunities for legal migration, and border controls were restrictive.

In many parts of the world, the migration debate focused on security concerns. While those concerns were legitimate, migration and protection were not mutually exclusive. Giving primacy to security issues in the response to the migration situation would not have the desired results. Push-backs, building walls, increasing detention and restricting access only served to divert refugee and migrant movements along other routes, aggravate their situation and allow traffickers to flourish. The logic of exclusion served to reinforce the perception of refugees as a burden and a threat even though increasing numbers of studies indicated the contrary: when the right policies were adopted, host societies could benefit in many ways from the presence of migrants and their contributions.

Over recent months, there had been a spontaneous groundswell of solidarity and support from civil society, which had been instrumental in driving changes in policies and rhetoric. The single most important protection challenge stemmed from populist uninformed politics and public debates, which engendered a climate of fear and emotion. It was worrying that “refugee” and “migrant” tended to be used interchangeably in public debate. Refugees and migrants should both enjoy human rights. But it was crucial to understand that there was a specific legal regime in place for the protection of refugees and that they could not go home. Preserving the institution of asylum was critical. Asylum saved lives. While there were problems and challenges associated with large-scale mixed migration flows, particularly with regard to shelter, reception, security and burden sharing, those challenges were manageable and must be addressed in accordance with the obligations of international law.

The international community was experiencing a crisis of the values that it had vowed never to forget after the atrocities of the Second World War, and which were embodied in the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Those values must be rekindled. Parliamentarians, as the elected representatives of the people, had a key role to play. In a globalized and interdependent world, local events were linked with global ones. The world’s refugees must be granted safety and protection. The best way to do that was to reaffirm and honour those fundamental values and that shared humanity.

Resumption of the debate

Mr. E.K.D. ADJAHO (Ghana) said that migration was an urgent, complex and divisive issue on the international agenda. Political and humanitarian crises were leading to the displacement of large numbers of people. Despite the acknowledged benefits of migration both for countries of origin and host countries, recent responses to migration had focused on adverse effects, and so cultivated a climate of fear, discrimination and abuse of migrants’ rights. Parliaments had a key role in formulating and implementing national migration policies and overseeing the application of international humanitarian law. Parliaments could shape public debate and promote policies that both maximized the benefits of migration and addressed the challenges it raised. They must ensure the proper application of the robust international legal framework, which was in place to protect the rights of refugees.

While recent unprecedented flows of migrants into Europe had understandably made headline news, there was a greater and more complex refugee crisis in Africa. Any discussion of migration in international forums must be conducted from a global perspective. It should address the issue in a comprehensive and balanced manner and take account of the shared responsibility of the international community. The action – and inaction – of parliamentarians could have an immense impact on public opinion and on the effectiveness of governance. The foundations must be laid for the sort of development that would alleviate the sense of helplessness that often led to migration. That could only be done through real oversight, transparency and accountability.

Mr. D. EKWEE ETHURO (Kenya) said that alongside climate change, migration was the most important social issue of the 21st century. It was generally an effort to escape from human-generated crises and must be given a humanitarian perspective. Although mass migration posed challenges for security, it also provided social and economic opportunities, which could contribute to host societies and to sustainable development in countries of origin. Recent statistics showed

that there were currently more than 600,000 refugees on Kenyan territory. Illegal migration into Kenya mainly involved human trafficking. The number of internally displaced persons was also increasing, owing to ongoing conflicts. With their protection in mind, in 2012, Kenya had enacted legislation for the protection of internally displaced persons. Refugees, internally displaced persons, asylum seekers and migrants the world over were subject to discrimination and ill treatment.

Migration-related challenges could only be overcome through a global, cooperative effort, with the burden on less developed countries being eased by the more developed. Legislatures could take the lead in advocating for the provision of planned, legal migration, and arguing against xenophobic and discriminatory attitudes. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development took migration into account as a key component of development. He called on the IPU and national parliaments to promote international cooperation on migration issues and seek practical solutions to the benefit of all.

Ms. D. PASCAL ALLENDE (Chile) said that Chile's history and economic, political, social and cultural development would have been very different without the contributions of various migrant communities. Similarly, Chilean migrants, many of whom had left during the military regime, had made significant contributions to their host societies. A migration policy had been established in Chile based on international law. It included active measures to ensure humanitarian resettlement, provide residence permits, protect victims of trafficking and promote the links between migration and development. Efforts were being made to promote safe migration and to avoid migrants becoming victims of transnational organized crime. The current migration crises had shown that the time had come not only to redefine the international migration architecture so as to complement national and regional policies, but also to focus on integration and acceptance of social diversity.

Migration was not only a reality, but also an opportunity and a necessity. When managed effectively, it could benefit everyone. Parliaments should encourage the ratification of international law, in particular the Geneva Conventions and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families. Commitments to human rights must be strengthened in countries of destination, origin and transit. Globalization would inevitably lead to human mobility. Increasing economic disparities between the developed and developing world would lead people to search for better opportunities. Efforts must therefore be made to promote fairer trade, more equitable development, and a migration agenda based on human rights.

Mr. P. Matibini (Zambia), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

Mrs. M. TRIANTAFYLLOU (Greece) said that the phenomenon of migration was inextricably linked to neoliberal globalization. Developing countries were facing wars as a result of centuries of imperialist exploitation, current deregulated markets, uncontrollable liberalization of capital movements, environmental degradation, food insecurity and extreme poverty. The current refugee crisis was the most significant that UNHCR had faced in its history. Greece, and other countries in southern Europe, had turned from countries of origin into countries of destination. In light of the large influxes of refugees and migrants into Europe, European Union governments were gradually moving from an attitude of bewilderment and reluctance to one of implementing harsh, restrictive and aggressive measures and policies. Migration was a complex global issue that could not be effectively addressed through repression and persecution. Those measures did not work. Fences, coast guards, the European border management authority FRONTEX, and even the threat of death would not deter people looking for hope.

Countries of the West were primarily responsible for the current crisis: their attempts to export their model of democracy had left people homeless and stateless, resulting in a global humanitarian crisis. No country could resolve the situation alone. A new European migration policy was needed, which kept the migrant at its centre and acknowledged Europe's responsibility. The Dublin II Regulation should be abolished. A coordinated European effort was essential.

Ms. J.A. GAKUBA (Rwanda) said that migration was an essential ingredient of development and human welfare, which must be governed by appropriate laws and policies; parliaments had a key responsibility in that governing process. Migration affected every region of the world, and many countries were simultaneously countries of origin, transit and destination. Large numbers of migrants were moving between developing countries and their creativity and dynamism was changing the world for the better.

The genocide in Rwanda in 1994 had caused unprecedented suffering and a mass exodus. On the one hand, rapid reconciliation and the establishment of peace and stability had enabled more than three million Rwandans to be repatriated. But on the other, many Rwandan refugees remained abroad. The Government was doing its utmost to facilitate their return. Rwanda was also a country of destination and had hosted refugees from neighbouring countries for several decades. Land had been made available for refugee camps and access to public services provided, particularly health care and education. The world's parliamentarians should urge their governments to: strengthen good governance; establish strategies, policies and programmes to enhance peace and security; ensure that the new Sustainable Development Goals were implemented without discrimination; and most importantly, meet migrants and hear their voices in order to advocate for them effectively.

Mr. G. SILVA (Portugal) said that Europe was facing a refugee crisis that no one could ignore. Each day, the media portrayed images of pain and suffering, which demanded a solution. There were currently three million refugees in sub-Saharan Africa, a further three million Syrian refugees in Turkey and Lebanon. And in recent months, 2,500 people, including children, had lost their lives in the Mediterranean while fleeing conflict in the Middle East. Refugees were not statistics: they were people in desperate need of safety. Increasing numbers of people were seeking asylum in Europe. However, the problem should not be solved by the European Union alone. It was a global problem, which required a coordinated effort by the whole of the international community. The crisis could not be solved by building walls. The root causes of mass migration must be addressed.

Humanitarian assistance was essential, including aid provided by UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration. However, the problems must be tackled at source by building peace and security and ending the conflicts, terror and violence that were forcing thousands to flee for their lives. Refugees must be welcomed and integrated into host societies. Portugal had a long history of migration, as both a country of origin and destination. It had therefore borne witness to the great contributions that migrants could make to their host and home societies. Global cooperation based on mutual respect and dignity, without discrimination, was therefore essential to: support refugees; integrate them into their host societies; strive to end instability in countries of origin; and foster economic development in those countries.

Mr. J.C. MAHÍA (Uruguay) said that, in order to break the cycle of discrimination, greater attention should be paid to the positive impact that migrants could have on the societies of both countries of origin and destination. Efforts must be made to consider the relationship between migration, development, human rights and social inclusion. Migration policies should balance the needs and rights of migrants against the imperatives of national security, address trafficking in persons, and optimize the economic and development impact of migration on countries of origin, transit and destination. In order to prevent situations that led to mass migration flows, greater efforts must be made to understand and address the root causes of forced displacement. Greater political will and international cooperation were essential to achieving that. Trafficking in persons must be countered by facilitating safe, legal migration and guaranteeing migrants' rights. Particular attention should also be paid to the protection of unaccompanied minors.

Parliaments must ratify and ensure the implementation of international instruments on migrants' and refugees' rights. Uruguay had a rich history of migration. It had therefore developed a human rights-based approach to migration policy, with migrants and members of their families at its centre. Links with Uruguayans abroad had been strengthened, and guidance and support was provided to those who wished to return. Uruguay was engaged in regional migration initiatives as well as in dialogue on migration at the international and regional levels. Uruguay was committed to the international protection of refugees through resettlement programmes.

Mr. X. WANG (China) said that migration was a global issue of common concern. Diverse social structures, cultures and traditions were themselves the result of massive migration. Migrants played an important role in facilitating economic development and cultural exchange. International cooperation mechanisms for the protection of migrants must be continually strengthened. Migration was an important element in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. That would give new impetus to international cooperation on migration issues. China was a country of origin, transit and destination. There were more than 62 million Chinese nationals living and working abroad. And over the past 10 years, the number of migrants arriving in China had doubled.

Global turmoil, terrorism and armed conflict were forcing an increasing number of people to migrate. The burden of large-scale migration flows from western Asia and North Africa was posing a significant challenge for countries of destination. The resultant humanitarian crisis was deepening. Consideration must be given to tackling its root causes, and protecting migrants' rights and interests by using an approach based on openness, fairness and inclusivity. Cooperation at regional and global levels was imperative. The channels for regular migration should be expanded, and the advantages of migration should be harnessed. All migrants should be given full opportunities for family reunification, employment, education and health care. Inclusivity was the key to reducing xenophobia and intolerance. Policy cooperation should be enhanced, and development gaps bridged. The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development must therefore be implemented. Particular attention should be paid to the migration-related Goals. The principles of the Charter of the United Nations must be upheld and the sovereignty of all States respected.

The international community must work together in a spirit of solidarity and adopt holistic policies to address the root causes of the crisis. Legislation should be strengthened and efforts made to crack down on human traffickers and migrant smugglers. Double standards must be eliminated, and migration management capacities enhanced. Global efforts should be made to maintain peace and stability, protect human dignity and uphold the rights of all migrants.

Mr. S. YANG (Cambodia) said that migration was a longstanding part of human history, and a crucial means for vulnerable people to escape hardship, poverty, conflict and war. People migrated to avoid persecution and prejudice, yet discrimination and xenophobia against migrants was on the rise. Desperate people were fleeing their homes, and many were losing their lives in the Mediterranean Sea, the Bay of Bengal and the Andaman Sea. However, migration also had its benefits. Migrants contributed to economic growth and prosperity in countries of destination and in countries of origin through remittances. Cambodia had been particularly affected by labour migration. With technical assistance from the International Labour Organization, Cambodia had drafted a comprehensive labour migration policy, highlighting key issues and challenges.

Parliamentarians had a critical role to play. They should ensure that a meaningful, balanced and informed migration debate took place; and they should promote fair and effective policies in order to maximize the benefits and tackle the challenges of migration for countries of origin, transit and destination, and for migrants themselves. Parliaments in host countries should legislate to protect migrant workers against all forms of exploitation. Development-oriented migration policies should be adopted in countries of origin and destination alike. Migration was an international issue requiring global action; cooperation and coordination must be strengthened. Affluent nations should provide financial and technical support to ensure that destination countries were properly equipped to deal with the challenges of hosting migrants.

Mr. N. EVANS (United Kingdom) said that the world was facing the largest migration crisis since the Second World War. Nearly 60 million people were forcibly displaced from their homes in 2014 and that figure was set to rise in 2015. A total of 86 per cent of all refugees were from countries considered to be less economically developed. The camps in Jordan and Turkey reflected an immense human tragedy. Much more must be done to create a smarter migration policy. Efforts must be made to address the increasing numbers of deaths in transit. Thus far in 2015, there had been 3,279 documented deaths in the Mediterranean. The harrowing photograph of the body of three year old Aylan Kurdi, who had drowned in the Mediterranean, showed that the world was failing those who were forced to flee their homes.

Recent developments in the migration crisis had put new pressures on the European Union, particularly in Greece and Italy. Germany's announcement that it would accept large number of migrants irrespective of how they arrived had placed considerable pressure on Eastern European countries and put the Schengen agreement under threat. Countries of transit should ensure the welfare of migrants when in transit. Host countries had clear responsibilities: providing health care in particular, but also fostering integration and eliminating racism and xenophobia. Mutual trust and a sense of solidarity among countries were imperative. Effective policy rested on the balance between caring for the safety and security of migrants and maintaining the security of borders. Collaboration was needed to break up networks of criminal gangs that were exploiting desperate people and making money out of human misery. The international community must not just deal with the symptoms of mass migration, but must also tackle its root causes. Parliamentarians must ensure that public debate about migration was meaningful and balanced. Emphasis must be placed on good governance, on removing the need for mass migration, on working towards stability, peace and prosperity, on hope for all people, and on ending the most horrific human tragedy.

Mr. S. SUZUKI (Japan) said that the mass exodus from the Syrian Arab Republic and its neighbouring countries was increasing, with an overwhelming number of migrants arriving in Europe. There were many reasons why people migrated, but those from the Middle East were risking their lives to flee from the fear of death and destruction. Japan was committed to the principle of human security and determined to save those who were on the brink of life and death. Japan had pledged financial support for Syrian and Iraqi refugees and for Lebanon, thus strengthening the link between humanitarian aid and development aid. Japan would provide Serbia and Macedonia with humanitarian aid, and prepare to contribute US\$ 750 million to peacebuilding efforts in the Middle East and Africa.

The international community must take emergency measures to help people in desperate situations. But it must also address the root causes of the conflicts and terrorism that gave rise to mass migration flows. And it must build a world with regional stability, in which poverty was eliminated and children and young people could have hope for the future in their country of origin. Japan's contribution was not purely financial; it was committed to sharing its development experiences and knowledge. Japan would continue to cooperate with other countries to achieve development.

Mr. L. NAZARÉ (Sao Tome and Principe) said that parliament had a key role to play in facilitating debate on major issues of national and international relevance. The internal and international displacement of people had reached such high levels that it had become a humanitarian catastrophe. Migration had historically had cultural and economic benefits not only for migrants themselves, but also for countries of origin and destination. Economic factors were a common driver of migration. But the crisis currently facing the international community was caused by social, political, ethnic and religious factors that had generated armed conflicts. Policies adopted to address the migration crisis must be based on human rights and dignity. Coordinated efforts were required to meet the challenges posed by large numbers of refugees seeking asylum in Europe.

It was essential to accept and welcome migrants, and to help them to integrate into their host societies. At the same time, the problems that gave rise to mass migration flows must be tackled at source. Aid must be provided to countries of origin in a spirit of peace and understanding, with respect for the sovereignty of each State. The number of people dying in transit was a matter of grave concern. The time had come to translate words into action.

Mr. V.-A. STERIU (Romania) said that current migration challenges were unprecedented. A fundamental reframing of policies and approaches was essential in countries of origin, transit and destination. Europe was confronted with a growing wave of migrants from the Middle East and Africa. Romania was involved in the European response to the unfolding crisis. It would continue to base its actions on the principles of solidarity and responsibility. Nationally, Romania was focused on ensuring that the necessary facilities were in place for the reception, accommodation and protection of asylum seekers who would be relocated to Romania. In the longer term, mechanisms and policies were required that took account of the humanitarian aspects of migration, education and health, social protection, access to the labour market and the specific needs of especially vulnerable groups, such as women and children. Parliament had a key role to ensure the necessary legislation and budgetary allocations were in place.

Internationally, Romania had responded to appeals for assistance to Syrians and Syrian refugees in neighbouring countries. Its national contribution to the World Food Programme would increase significantly over the coming three years in order to support the refugee camps near crisis-plagued areas in Jordan, Turkey and Lebanon. Romania was providing bilateral humanitarian aid to Jordan and Serbia. Based on an agreement with UNHCR and the International Organization for Migration, Romania had also hosted the first Emergency Transit Centre for Refugees. A fairer, smarter and more humane approach to migration would be a coherent, global approach, based on solidarity, common responsibility and joint actions. Treating the symptoms was not enough. Efforts must be made to fight poverty and social exclusion, instability and terrorism. Peace must be brought to conflict-ridden societies, sustainable economic structures developed, and democracy promoted. The role of the United Nations must be strengthened and official development assistance should be reformed to better address migration challenges. The commitment of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda to leave no one behind must be put into practice.

Mr. K.P. MOLATLHEGI (Botswana) said that international migration was growing in scope, complexity and impact, and was affecting almost all countries in the world. The economic, social and political reasons for human mobility were diverse. Botswana had a rich history of migration, as

both a sending and a receiving country. Legislation had been enacted to promote liberal immigration. That had been in response to an influx of illegal migrants, which had led to an upsurge in crime and had negatively impacted health services, law enforcement and employment. Efforts were made to repatriate illegal immigrants in a humane manner. Immigration and migrant workers' employment legislation had been merged to facilitate the issuance of visas and work permits. A points-based system had also been introduced for assessing residence permit applications. Migration was a sensitive and complex issue that must be managed by cooperative action and the engagement of all stakeholders.

Mr. K. GRAHAM (New Zealand) said that when a country was in crisis or unable to safeguard human rights, the relocation of people was a moral imperative. However, that imperative translated into a practical requirement to move refugees from one region to another. He had personally borne witness to the plight of refugees in camps in Cambodia, Thailand, Jordan and Gaza. Although the moral imperative for accepting refugees was clear, more must be done to improve its practical implementation. There was currently no global political process to solve the global refugee problem. The world was witnessing the highest forced migration on record: 60 million people had fled their homes. There were also 350 million economic migrants. There was no moral imperative for economic migration; it should be judged according to transactional logic. Sustainability, population pressure, resource depletion and excessive waste were the drivers of economic migration. If the global community did not live within planetary boundaries as responsible citizens, threats to international peace and security would increase. The distinction between forced migration and economic migration was critical, and different policies were required to address those two phenomena: fairer policies were needed for forced migrants, and smarter policies for economic migrants. Parliaments must ensure that the debate on those subjects was clear, reasoned and compassionate. The only way to ensure an adequate response to the situation of forced migrants was to achieve a clear distinction between them and economic migrants.

Mr. M. QUINTELLA LESSA (Brazil) said that the world was facing the worst refugee crisis since the Second World War. Parliaments must help governments to find ways to structure that large-scale migration. The global community could not sit back and ignore the shocking images of people risking their lives. Brazil had increased the number of refugees it received, and unlike in other countries, granted them the right to work and access to basic services while their asylum applications were being processed. Although unplanned migration posed considerable challenges for host countries, in cases of war and natural disaster it was a humanitarian issue. Integration was crucial and refugees must be offered work, housing, health care and education to enable them to contribute to the local economy in the host country. The current wave of refugees from the Syrian Arab Republic included people from all walks of life and all professions. Many were well-qualified professionals and could make a significant contribution to the labour market in any country in the world.

Brazil was making efforts to adopt a migration policy that mitigated the negative social and economic impacts of unplanned migration and protected refugees from falling into the hands of organized criminals. Police officers had been trained to work with refugees. Steps had been taken to remove the word "refugee" from personal identity documents, since it had been shown to lead to stigmatization. Efforts were being made to develop policies on accepting refugees in cooperation with neighbouring countries. A conference had been held in 2014 to commemorate 30 years since the adoption of the Cartagena Declaration on Refugees and discuss the challenges that lay ahead with regard to the refugee situation in Latin America. Brazil considered statelessness to be a violation of human rights. It was not sufficient simply to let refugees in: their rights must be upheld in very complex situations. They must be integrated into society and afforded the opportunities they needed to rebuild their lives. They must be given education and protected against discrimination.

Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, resumed the Chair.

**Launch of the Handbook for Parliamentarians:
Migration, human rights and governance**

The PRESIDENT introduced the Handbook for Parliamentarians on migration, human rights and governance, which had been prepared jointly with the International Labour Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, along with Global Migration

Policy Associates. Despite being a phenomenon as old as time, migration was high on the international agenda, and had been chosen as a central theme for the 133rd Assembly. Migration should be managed properly, with appropriate governance, taking into account its potential benefits and the human rights dimension. The Handbook described best practices in migration governance, the international framework in place and the challenges with regard to the rights of migrants and refugees. It could only be useful, however, if it was taken back to national parliaments and used to guide actions that were similar to the situations it described.

Mr. R. CHOLEWINSKI, Migration Policy Specialist, International Labour Office, said that during the course of the general debate, speakers had noted the need for people-centred legislation and policies on migration. That meant respect for the rule of law, as enshrined in the legal frameworks presided over by the International Labour Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. Those frameworks underscored that, irrespective of their status, all migrants had the right to non-discriminatory and equal treatment, as well as being entitled to: economic, social and cultural rights; freedom of association and collective bargaining; the right to be free from forced labour and trafficking; certain rights with respect to their movement, including the right to leave any country, the right to liberty and security of person, and the right to protection from arbitrary or collective expulsion. The Handbook could assist parliamentarians in better understanding those legal frameworks and applying them to migrants. International migration was closely related to the world of work. Even refugees who were seeking safety for themselves and their families would inevitably end up in the labour market. It was therefore important to address the labour market aspects of migration. Work was the key to the human dignity of migrants, as well as to their integration into host societies. Successful labour market integration could help counteract some of the fears expressed by host societies, such as the unfounded claims that migrants threatened national identity or “stole” local jobs. He hoped that the Handbook would provide useful guidance for parliamentarians and others with regard to designing legislation and policies on migration that were people-centred, rights-based, fair and inclusive.

Mr. B.C. SMITH, Secretary, Committee on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, said that migration was among the defining human rights issues of the time. The Office of the High Commissioner had made efforts to draw greater attention to the rights of migrants, particularly their right to life and security of person, their rights to education and health care, as well as the scourge of intolerance and xenophobia. There were, however, opposing views. They implicitly suggested that migrants had no rights at all. In those situations, the international human rights law framework showed its relevance. The Handbook would be a valuable tool for parliamentarians and others. It would help legislators to enact and promote fair and effective laws and policies, to maximize the benefits of migration and to protect the human rights of migrants. Enormous challenges remained, even though the rights of migrant workers were clearly set out in the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families and in International Labour Organization Conventions Nos. 97 and 143. Those rights were frequently violated, when migrants were forced to work in dangerous and harmful conditions, were given wages well below the minimum baseline, and were subject to excessive working hours, exploitation, harassment, threats and intimidation. He hoped that the Handbook could be used to make the necessary changes in all States, both in law and in practice, in order to guarantee the protection of migrant workers and their families and respect for their rights.

Mr. P. TARAN, President, Global Migration Policy Associates, said that there were estimated to be 232 million migrants across the world. There were also millions of temporary and seasonal migrants. While global attention was currently being paid to the millions of people driven from their homes by devastating warfare and human rights violations, refugees only represented a small proportion of migrants worldwide. Migration was crucial to sustaining the world of work. More than 90 per cent of all migration was related to employment and economic activity. According to the ILO, 105 million people, including refugees, living outside their countries of origin in 2010 had been economically active. Migration rejuvenated workforces, maintained the viability of numerous economic sectors, met growing demand for skills and promoted entrepreneurship in all countries.

Most migration took place within, not between, regions. There were 13 regional economic communities that had either established or were negotiating formal regimes of free circulation of persons. They involved over 120 countries and demonstrated the reality that free movement of

capital, goods, services, technology and people were the crucial pillars of economic integration and development worldwide. The annual flow of remittances was more than four times greater than the annual total of all official overseas development budgets. As much as 80 per cent of the aggregate direct earnings of migrants were spent in their host country. Within 15 years, the majority of populations would be in workforce decline, owing to little or no population growth.

Migration could only yield benefits and sustain social cohesion when governed under the rule of law. Legislation and policy must provide legal recognition and protection for migrants, regular labour and skills mobility must be facilitated, international labour standards must be applied, full protection for working women assured, social cohesion guaranteed, social and health protection provided and training and education enhanced. The Handbook was a toolkit for getting it right. It provided facts and figures on migration trends and identified the challenges migration brought with it. The Handbook presented foundations for migration governance in international law and the rule of law, underscored the principles of non-discrimination and equality as essential building blocks for law and policy, and identified five key human rights principles for the protection of migrants. It discussed the crucial relationship between migration governance and human rights, demonstrated how rights could be best applied in law and practice at the national level, and discussed migration as an important enabler of inclusive, sustainable economic and social development in countries of origin and destination. The Handbook was available for all parliaments to use in drafting urgently needed legislation.

The sitting rose at 1.10 p.m.

Sitting of Monday 19 October (Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.40 p.m. with Ms. D. Pascal Allende (Chile), Vice-President of the Assembly, in the Chair.

Item 3 of the agenda

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration (A/133/3-Inf.1)

Resumption of the debate

Ms. A. ALQUBAISI (United Arab Emirates) emphasized the importance of working together to resolve current conflicts on the basis of international law. The existence of groups such as Daesh was contrary to international law. Their proliferation was related to shortcomings in the UN Security Council and a failure to respect its resolutions. The rise of terrorist groups threatened global peace and security, and yet UN Security Council resolutions on issues such as Palestine, crimes against humanity in the Syrian Arab Republic, and the situation in Yemen continued to be ignored. Terrorist groups were benefiting from the silence of the international community: the world could and should not stand by as international law was violated. The United Arab Emirates was part of the allied group led by Saudi Arabia working on the situation in Yemen to support its people and work for peace in accordance with international law and UN Security Council resolution 2216. She was concerned at Israel's disregard for UN Security Council resolutions; more should be done in that respect. Her country provided substantial humanitarian support to the Syrian people and had been recognized for its work by international organizations. More should also be done to uphold international law around the world, including with regard to the Iranian occupation of the Emirati islands of Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb.

Mr. K. ÖRNFJÄDER (Sweden) said that most countries had a long history of migration. The European Union should be able to support the main countries hosting Syrian refugees, given its population, economic situation and number of Member States. It was also essential for States to support United Nations inter-agency appeals on the issue. A truly effective solution to the crisis would require the involvement of the entire international community together with greater efforts to resettle refugees through programmes of the UN High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR). Attention should be given to the root causes of the migration crisis, including the military aspects. The crisis needed a political solution which must involve all stakeholders. If the European Union continued to ignore the Dublin Regulation, new solutions would be needed to enable all Member States to shoulder their responsibilities. He welcomed a recent agreement to establish centres in Greece and Italy from which refugees would be distributed across the region using a fair formula. Although individual countries could make meaningful contributions to helping refugees, a united global effort was ultimately required.

Mrs. L. MACHUCA (Ecuador) said that real human lives were behind the alarming figures on migration. One single death should be enough to focus efforts on protecting the human rights of migrants, refugees and asylum-seekers and ensuring they could obtain international protection where applicable. Parliaments should play an important role in those efforts. Ecuador had been the first country to introduce the concept of universal citizenship in its Constitution. It recognized that all persons had the right of free movement, eliminated the concept of being a foreigner and so prohibited the criminalization of migration. Throughout history, migration issues had been linked to the security agenda. However the issues of human mobility, cross-border work and the portability of rights should also appear on countries' social agendas. Human security, another focus of the international community; in Ecuador it was a fundamental concept, along with respect of human rights and *buen vivir* (well-being). Despite many countries' expressions of solidarity and the humanitarian actions of host countries' populations, States had been unable to develop united, global and definitive responses to the situation. It was impossible to continue living in a world that permitted the free movement of capital but not the free movement of people; crossing a border to save one's life should not be a crime. It was time for more solidarity and fewer walls.

Mr. F. ZON (Indonesia) observed that the issues raised in Europe by the current crisis showed that an agreement on handling it urgently needed across the continent. He therefore encouraged European Member States to reach a decision as soon as possible that protected migrants' rights and addressed States' concerns. In some quarters, there were concerns that the refugee status determination process might, in some countries, lead to religious discrimination; he therefore urged all States party to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its supplementary protocol to ensure that the observance of human rights and non-discrimination principles underpinned refugee resettlement programmes. Migration was a multi-dimensional phenomenon and should be addressed through substantive policies in a number of areas including health, dealing with natural disaster, education, climate change, and gender equality. Cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination was therefore crucial. Although Indonesia was not a State party to the Convention, it continued to provide shelter to refugees fleeing neighbouring countries. Nevertheless a multilateral response and international solidarity were also needed to manage migration flows. Women migrants often faced a variety of difficult situations. It was also important to combat the negative impacts of migration (e.g. people smuggling and human trafficking) and address its root causes (e.g. conflict and global economic inequalities). The recently adopted Sustainable Development Goals would be a useful tool in that regard. Palestinian refugees living in refugee camps in the Syrian Arab Republic had been substantially affected by the ongoing armed conflict; increased efforts were needed to resolve the issue of Palestinian sovereignty and enable them to return home.

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

Interactive debate with Dr. M. Chan, Director-General of the World Health Organization

Dr. M. CHAN, *Director-General, World Health Organization (WHO)*, paid tribute to the IPU for its engagement in health issues, such as maternal and child mortality and HIV/AIDS. She also acknowledged the legislative and oversight role of parliamentarians and their position as representatives of the people. Legislation had been key to combatting both violence against women and early marriage as well as to removing barriers to health care, including family planning services. The health challenges faced by the world were now more complex: political solutions were increasingly needed more than biomedical ones. The Millennium Development Goals had been a crucial tool that had addressed persistent causes of human misery, demonstrated the power of international solidarity and brought out the best in human nature. The Goals had also contributed to reducing maternal and child mortality, and improving AIDS prevention and treatment. Moreover, significant improvements had been seen in the prevention and treatment of tuberculosis and in the reduction of deaths from malaria. Drug donations from the pharmaceutical industry had enabled WHO to provide preventive treatment for neglected tropical diseases to more than 800 million people per year.

Nevertheless, the world had also changed in other, less positive ways. The Sustainable Development Goals had been adopted at a time when some of the worst of human nature was visible: international terrorism, mass shootings, bombings in markets and religious sites and seemingly endless armed conflicts were becoming commonplace. Likewise, the health landscape had changed, with non-communicable diseases overtaking infectious diseases as the world's biggest killers. The world was ill-prepared to cope with that challenge. Antimicrobial resistance was increasing and climate change was causing a wider spread of infectious diseases and more deaths from air pollution and extreme weather events. Those new challenges did not fit the technology-driven biomedical model that had historically guided public health responses as their root causes lay outside the traditional public health domain. Consequently, the health sector could not respond alone. In an increasingly interdependent world, threats to health were becoming transboundary: for example the globalized marketing of unhealthy products respected no borders, climate change affected the entire planet and drug-resistant pathogens could spread around the world through air travel and medical tourism. The Ebola virus disease outbreak and the current refugee crisis had shattered the notion that issues affecting faraway lands would stay remote.

Universal health coverage was an essential pillar of sustainable development: it transformed livelihoods and lives and worked as a pro-poor, poverty-reduction strategy. The economic benefits of investing in universal health coverage had been estimated to be ten times that of its cost. It helped to cushion communities from the impact of crises and emergency situations, built cohesive and stable societies and underpinned economic productivity. She therefore urged parliamentarians to encourage their governments to move towards universal health coverage. Although it was not

cheap, it was affordable. Parliamentarians could help to make it affordable by seeking to reduce waste and inefficiencies in health service delivery, such as overuse of tests, overprescribing and longer-than-needed hospital stays. The cost of medicines should also be monitored and companies held to account when they raised prices. Trade agreements that restricted the entry of low-cost generic medicines into the market should be scrutinized. Moreover, parliamentarians could encourage governments to raise taxes on tobacco products and ensure food producers provide accurate and useful nutritional information on their products in order to help consumers make informed choices. In order to achieve sustainability, a long-term view was needed that went beyond parliamentary term limits. That would ensure that the need for immediate and measurable results was balanced with the duty to serve the next generation. WHO was keen to strengthen its collaboration with the IPU in a number of ways, for example through structured technical support to advisory bodies.

The PRESIDENT expressed appreciation for the information on the importance of universal health coverage and welcomed Dr. Chan's interest in increasing collaboration with the IPU.

The representative of ITALY emphasized the importance of universal health coverage, which had existed in his country for several decades. He welcomed the recent adoption of the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health, 2016-2030, and asked what members of parliament could do to operationalize that Strategy.

The representative of CUBA highlighted the close collaboration between WHO and his country in emergency situations and said that political will was crucial for sustainable health systems. Cuba's health system had weathered many difficult situations, including natural disasters and economic sanctions. Moreover, Cuba had provided support to a number of developing countries, particularly in terms of training doctors. International cooperation on health issues was vital.

Mr. F. HOOHLO (Lesotho) welcomed the Global Strategy for Women's, Children's and Adolescents' Health. He said that, although parliamentarians had the authority to legislate on such health issues and carry out oversight, challenges on the ground made those activities difficult in practice. Parliamentary turnover was a key challenge. He asked how Member Parliaments could tap into the increased cooperation between the IPU and UN agencies such as WHO in order to increase their effectiveness.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium) asked for more information on the role of parliaments regarding access to health care and medicines and regarding relationships with industry. What could be done to increase cooperation on research, particularly for neglected diseases?

Mr. E.H.D SYLLA (Guinea) observed that previously reduced or eliminated diseases were recurring in West Africa; he wished to know what WHO policy was on those illnesses. He asked for further information on facilitating access to bed nets as part of efforts to combat malaria.

Mrs. A. DE LA PEÑA GÓMEZ (Mexico) observed that teenage pregnancies were high risk, and that it was important both to enable young girls to develop properly and to consider activities of the UN Children's Fund (UNICEF) on teenage pregnancy. How could parliamentarians ensure that policies took account of gender equality questions?

The representative of INDONESIA asked how WHO could work with the IPU and national assemblies on the implementation of Sustainable Development Goal 3.

Dr. M. CHAN, *Director-General, World Health Organization*, responding to questions, said that although different countries had different needs, all countries needed a high quality, people-centred and integrated primary health-care system. Another key priority should be to ensure the education of girls and the empowerment of women: achieving those priorities would enable countries to tap into the power of half of the population. She welcomed the efforts of Cuba in the sphere of global health, which represented a smart intersection between health and foreign policy. The Sustainable Development Goals differed substantially from the Millennium Development Goals. Under the former, it was up to individual countries to decide what was a priority to them and ensure that different Ministries worked together to address those priorities. Parliaments needed to be honest brokers in their dealings with industry so that citizens could access necessary

medicines. It was important to ensure no conflicts of interest existed; that did not mean ignoring lobbyists, but instead making sure that decisions were taken in the best interests of the people. Industry had little incentive to produce medicines to treat neglected diseases, which disproportionately affected the poor, due to those medicines' limited profitability. WHO had worked with the pharmaceutical industry for many years on projects to provide such medicines free of charge. WHO was working with the World Trade Organization and the World Intellectual Property Organization to encourage industry to share compounds with researchers in developing countries and so enable them to develop new medicines for neglected tropical diseases. Resurgences in old diseases were often seen in countries during and after periods of conflict, as health systems were often weak at that time. WHO was working with Guinea to strengthen its health system. WHO was working on family planning for teenagers with other organizations including UN Women, UNAIDS and UNICEF. Moving from the Millennium Development Goals to the Sustainable Development Goals would be a challenge for many countries; the first step would be to develop national targets. The United Nations and its agencies and partners all stood ready to support Member States in that regard. She suggested that side events could be held for parliamentarians during the sixty-ninth World Health Assembly in May 2016.

The PRESIDENT observed that the Sustainable Development Goals provided indicators to measure progress but were not prescriptive as to the activities to be undertaken. That enabled countries to have their own targets and development plans in which parliaments would play a crucial oversight role.

Mr. S. Kinga (Bhutan), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration (A/133/3-Inf.1)

Resumption of the debate

Mr. F. PIERRI (Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations) noted that his Organization and the IPU pursued common objectives in the area of peace and security and that collaboration on those objectives was important. He drew attention to the main outcomes of the second International Conference on Nutrition and the activities of the IPU during that Conference. Hunger, food insecurity, access to natural resources and the consequences of climate change were key drivers of forced migration, together with social and political instability. The strong engagement of parliaments in global policy debates was vital to ensure that the necessary legislative tools on food security and nutrition were put in place. Introducing the work of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean, he drew attention to the upcoming sixth Forum of that platform. The IPU had been invited to join a round table session focusing on the exchange of experiences and knowledge between members of parliament from different regions in order to strengthen parliamentary cooperation on addressing hunger.

Ms. E. WINKELMEIER-BECKER (Germany) explained that, during 2015, her country expected to take in approximately one million refugees, which would be a major challenge for the Government and society as a whole. Reforms had been adopted to improve the current system, but more remained to be done. An approach was needed that reflected German values, fulfilled international obligations and offered protection to persecuted peoples. However, unregulated migration was not possible and those people that did not meet the requirements for asylum could not simply stay in the country because they wished to. It was therefore important to raise awareness of the opportunities and conditions for migration to Germany. Moreover, the resulting "brain drain" effect in countries of origin was a significant concern. She encouraged countries to find political solutions and work for a better solution at home. Integration of migrants was vital in host countries, but was a two-way process: host societies needed to be open-minded and migrants had to accept the laws of the host country.

Mr. A.E. FISCHER (Germany), continuing the intervention by Germany, stressed the importance of listening to the different viewpoints expressed about the migrant crisis; the IPU was an excellent forum for doing that. It was vital to understand the concerns and positions of all Member States of the European Union and to find an acceptable solution for all. Although the current increase in migrants could have a positive impact on countries, particularly those with

diminishing populations, it was important to focus efforts on those migrants that were fleeing persecution. Global poverty issues could not be solved simply by bringing all of the poor to Europe. Consequently, Germany was increasing its support to solving poverty-related problems around the world. In addition, it was important to address the expectations of migrants arriving in Europe, as the reality of the situation was often a very different matter.

Ms. M. LUGARIĆ (Croatia) highlighted the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals as part of the solution to the migration crisis. Although achieving the Goals would be a significant challenge, they provided a unique opportunity to redefine and strengthen the way the global community, including parliamentarians, worked together. Croatia was principally a transit country for migrants endeavouring to reach Western Europe, and had received a very low number of asylum applications itself. Since the construction of the fence on the Hungarian-Serbian border, the numbers of migrants had increased substantially. Croatia was firmly committed to treating migrants in a humane and dignified manner and had set up a reception and registration centre to that end. A number of United Nations agencies, the International Organization for Migration and civil society organizations were providing support to the migrants in Croatia, and community organizations were also playing an active role. Unofficial estimates placed the cost to Croatia of dealing with the refugee crisis at 2.8 million euros. Constructing walls and sending in the armed forces and police were not the answer; it was important to treat all migrants as humans.

Mr. S. LIENGBONLERTCHAI (Thailand) explained that his country was one of transit and destination. Migration was an international issue, which required global efforts to address the problem. It was particularly important to address the root causes of migration, such as wars, armed conflict and economic difficulties. Thailand had hosted and continued to host migrants, some of whom eventually moved on to a third country and some of whom returned home. The large number of displaced persons in the country raised a number of problems over how to monitor the situation of those persons. Thailand had legislated in areas such as human trafficking, child pornography and gender equality in order to ensure fair and humane socio-economic standards. Despite being in a period of political transition, Thailand remained strongly committed to the principles of good governance, human rights and the rule of law.

Ms. J. URPILAINEN (Finland) observed that population growth and climate change would only increase human mobility and that it was essential to manage migration flows properly. International migrants were agents of development, meeting labour force needs in destination countries and contributing to countries of origin through remittances. Well-coordinated work-based migration would be both economically viable and culturally enriching. However, it was crucial to ensure humane working conditions for all. The International Labour Organization and trade unions had a key role to play in that area. Forced migration as a result of conflict and humanitarian disasters was increasing. In Finland, there had been huge increases in numbers of asylum-seekers. Parliamentarians had an important role to play by demanding political leadership from their governments. International dialogue was needed between countries of origin, transit and destination as was the discussion of new migration policies. Moreover, governments needed to fulfil their moral obligations to offer and provide humanitarian aid. Action was needed to address the root causes of forced migration and the Sustainable Development Goals would be a useful tool in that regard.

Mr. L. FOFANA (Guinea) said that, in a globalized world, migration was potentially unlimited and multidirectional. Economic inequalities, environmental challenges, unemployment and political instability all served to accelerate migration, particularly among young people and women with young children, many of whom moved from southern to northern countries. The sometimes obsessive need to reach the north, whatever the cost, often had tragic consequences for those involved. Citizens of West Africa were among the most mobile in the world; the adoption of a protocol on the free movement of people and the right of residency within the region by the Economic Community of West African States highlighted the political will of the Community's Member States to place intra-regional mobility at the heart of the regional integration process. It enabled countries to address a number of key issues, including promoting legal and protected migration, combatting irregular migration, ensuring the protection of the rights of migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees, and introducing a gender dimension into migration policies. At the global level, greater emphasis should be given to implementing the provisions of migration-related instruments, such as the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol and the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of

their Families. International migration could have positive effects on both countries of origin and destination, as long as the flows were well managed. Strengthened multilateral and international cooperation was vital, together with increased efforts to combat the smuggling and exploitation of irregular migrants, particularly women and children.

Mr. S. MIRSKIS (Latvia) stated that, although it was vital for European countries to take action to help migrants arriving on their territories, the large numbers created a number of challenges, particularly on security, the economy and labour. Although the majority of refugees were truly fleeing a desperate situation, it was impossible to be sure from a security standpoint that there were no terrorists, drug traffickers or criminals entering countries under false pretences. Due to the recent economic crisis, some countries were continuing to suffer economic difficulties; housing large numbers of migrants was therefore difficult, and the increased numbers of persons requiring employment put more pressure on the labour market. Cultural and linguistic integration and respect for other religions were also a key challenge. He asked whether amendments to the Convention and protocol relating to the Status of Refugees should be made in order to clearly differentiate between refugees and economic migrants; about how long refugees and migrants should potentially stay; and whether they would return to their countries of origin at the end of hostilities. If they planned to return, temporary measures, such as interim housing, jobs and education, should be the focus of efforts rather than integration. However, if the intention was long-term resettlement, issues such as the language barrier, housing location and infrastructure would require attention. European countries in particular needed to overcome their differences and respect the rights of asylum-seekers and refugees.

Mrs. G. CUEVAS (Mexico) observed that, although countries were willing to work tirelessly to address issues such as trade barriers, double taxation and the costs of financial transactions, when it came to the movement of people, common reactions were to build walls and increase the number of border guards to keep people out. It was deplorable that countries attempted to distinguish between those who did and did not deserve a new opportunity by differentiating between refugees and economic migrants. All of those suffering had the same rights. The current migration situation raised a number of issues, particularly in light of the increase in women migrants and unaccompanied migrant children. National responses alone were not enough; a global, or at the very least regional, response was needed, to both address the consequences and root causes of the crisis. Countries should consider whether bodies such as the International Organization for Migration received sufficient government funding, particularly in light of the current situation. It had been calculated that the revenue made by migrant smugglers and traffickers moving people from Africa to Europe and South America to North America, was up to eight times higher than the total budget of that Organization. The principle of co-responsibility meant that countries of origin had to improve the lives of their citizens to prevent them needing to migrate, that transit countries had to commit to respecting the lives of migrants and address trafficking, and that destination countries had to protect the dignity of those arriving in their territories. Solidarity was key to finding a solution. Although receiving large numbers of migrants in a short period of time placed a strain on host communities, countries such as Lebanon had accepted almost the same amount of refugees as the whole of the European Union. Clear short- and long-term actions were needed and parliamentarians had a key role to play.

Mr. P. VAN DEN DRIESSCHE (Belgium) explained that the Belgian federal and regional governments were doing their utmost to care for the refugees arriving in his country. Belgium endorsed the European Union plan but had doubts that all Member States would fulfil their commitments. The number of asylum-seekers could not continue to grow endlessly; citizens were worried that the permanent presence of refugees would lead to tension between different cultures. It was essential to protect the principles of freedom, equality and the rule of law. Part of the solution lay in correctly applying the Dublin Convention and spending more money on the reception of refugees under decent circumstances in safe countries in the Middle East. Asylum applications in a European country should be ruled inadmissible, if an applicant had access to decent reception facilities in their own region. The development of “safe zones” for refugees could also be considered. Current emigration from the Middle East and Africa had a detrimental effect on the countries of origin. It was therefore vital to defeat Daesh and other terrorist organizations and enable those fleeing to return home. It was surprising that the current efforts of more than 70 countries had been unable to achieve that; could some countries be secretly supporting such groups?

Mr. L. Housakos (Canada), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

Ms. N. KATSER-BUCHKOVSKA (Ukraine) explained that there were a large number of internally displaced persons in Ukraine as a result of conflict. The Government and Parliament were doing their utmost to protect their people, including internally displaced persons, and to stabilize the situation through social support and energy provision in occupied territories, and by strengthening the economy and national security. Migration challenges should be addressed by focusing efforts on conflict resolution, sustainable development and poverty reduction.

Ms. L. HRYNEVYCH (Ukraine), continuing the intervention by Ukraine, stated that the largest group of internally displaced persons was in the east of the country, where terrorist groups were active. In the territory that they held those groups did not respect the needs of the people, the majority of whom were women and children who needed special protection. The Ukrainian authorities were prevented from providing support in that territory. Women were suffering particular hardships, as they endeavoured to care for children and elderly relatives and often faced discrimination. A large number of internally displaced persons were also concerned about the psychological impact of displacement on their children. Despite the ceasefire, people continued to leave the conflict zone, placing pressure on the State budget. Ukraine was aware of the urgent need to increase support to those persons. She urged other countries to stop their support for rebel groups.

Mr. M. GAROYIAN (Cyprus) suggested that fundamental changes were needed to countries' perceptions and policy directions, particularly on foreign policy. A careful analysis was needed of which parties were active in the Syrian conflict and why. Nevertheless, remaining neutral in the name of non-interference in the affairs of sovereign States was no longer an option in the face of terrorist groups such as Islamic State and exodus of people fleeing persecution that they caused. The migration crisis could only be resolved through the restoration of peace and security in countries such as Afghanistan, Iraq, Libya and the Syrian Arab Republic. At the same time, much remained to be done in terms of development and humanitarian aid in conflict areas. The creation of humanitarian sea corridors to help those who had already fled to reach Europe safely should also be considered. Migration should not be viewed as an issue to be bureaucratically managed by international or regional institutions; any decisions made from now on should take account of the particularities of affected countries and of the best interests of the people at risk. He called for solidarity with the European countries that had been most affected by the flow of refugees, most of which lacked the policies, structures, funding and facilities to deal with the situation. The Dublin Convention should be revised and a binding relocation mechanism adopted. Moreover, international protection should be extended to vulnerable applicants, material conditions at reception points should be improved and integration efforts intensified without interfering with different religious or cultural beliefs. Migrants should be seen as equals, not as a cheap workforce.

Mr. S.A.R. DASTGHEIB (Islamic Republic of Iran) stressed the need to investigate the cause of the recent tragedy during the Hajj pilgrimage and to adopt appropriate measures to prevent reoccurrences. The recent agreement reached between his country and the P5+1 group of countries was a significant development and underscored the importance of diplomacy over bullying and sanctions. The Islamic Republic of Iran was committed to strengthening ties with its neighbours and countries around the region on the basis of mutual respect and good neighbourliness. The Joint Comprehensive Plan of Action provided numerous opportunities to work together to address common threats such as terrorism and extremism. There was an urgent need to resolve the issue of Palestine. In order to resolve the current crisis of extremism in the region around Palestine, international and regional cooperation was crucial, together with measures to help refugees and displaced persons. There was no military solution to the situation in Yemen; a political solution was needed involving all of the country's political and social groups under the auspices of the United Nations.

Mrs. C. CERQUEIRA (Angola) opined that parliamentarians had an important role to play in managing migration by promoting policies to maximize the benefits of migration and address the challenges faced by countries of origin, transit and destination. Extreme poverty, unemployment, environmental degradation, armed conflict, terrorism and human rights violations all contributed to the migration phenomenon. Previous armed conflict in Angola had led to an exodus of people to neighbouring countries. After the conflict, many of them had returned to contribute to national

reconstruction. Angola planned to invest in a vast repatriation programme to help with issuing of identity documents and to foster social and economic integration. Particular attention should be paid to women and girls. Angola had adopted a law to protect migrants, including refugees and asylum-seekers, and was developing a corresponding implementation policy. Illegal immigration was increasing in Angola; the measures had been introduced to address that increase, reduce xenophobia and aid integration or repatriation. It was vital to find quick, effective and fair solutions to the current migration crisis so that refugees could live in dignity and safety.

Mr. S. NARYSHKIN (Russian Federation) said that it was important for parliamentarians' voices to be heard at such an important time. International dialogue, rather than hegemony, was key to solving the world's problems. It was untenable to have one rule for one country and another for the rest. The Arab Spring, for example, which had been nurtured by the intervention of a certain State, was linked to the birth of the terrorist groups now active in the region where the Arab Spring has occurred. There was limited global recognition of that fact. Countries were being destroyed as a result of the interference of that State and the Russian Federation was endeavouring to return peace to that region. A new formula for regional stability was needed, based on dialogue among the peoples of the region, rather than on force and the influence of external parties. He was concerned at the recently agreed Trans-Pacific Partnership, which he feared would only strengthen the hegemony of one State, effectively allowing it to write the rules of the World Trade Organization. That State had also sought a similar agreement with the European Union, an issue that had been the subject of protests in a number of EU Member States. Dialogue was once again crucial to avoid ideological traps.

Mrs. M. ANDRÉ (France) said that migration affected all countries and regions and gave rise to contradictory feelings among host populations. Compassion and solidarity were important for some, while others were concerned by the potential effect on social cohesion. Throughout history, France had hosted refugees and migrants from around the world, and it was important to continue that tradition. Nevertheless, the migration crisis required a global, coordinated response: the burden could not be shouldered alone. It was important that all EU Member States played their part. The regulations governing free circulation throughout the Schengen Area placed a particular burden on the countries through which the refugees were first entering Europe. France stood ready to provide support to those States where required. However, free movement of people had been hard to achieve and should not be given up. Given the current situation, priority should be given to the most threatened populations from areas of conflict. Nevertheless, doors should not be closed to other immigrants including economic ones. There should also be increased dialogue with Balkan countries and countries such as Lebanon, Jordan and Turkey, all of which were bearing the brunt of the crisis. Welcoming the resolution on the emergency item adopted by the 128th IPU Assembly, she recalled that the European Union had increased its support to the UNHCR and the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations to improve facilities for refugees in countries that neighboured the Syrian Arab Republic. It was also important to combat migrant smuggling and fight the root causes of migration.

Mr. A.K. PIMENTEL III (Philippines) welcomed the deliberations on strengthening partnerships that had taken place during the eighth Global Forum on Migration and Development. That summit had affirmed that migrants could be and had been net contributors to the public good. In the current globalized world, significant efforts were put into finding innovative ways to move financial capital and other goods and services around the world, but the same attention was not given to ensuring that movements of people were humane and safe. The Philippines was fully committed to a rights-based, migrant-centric, gender-sensitive approach to migration and was party to a number of relevant international agreements on the matter. A large number of Filipinos lived in other countries, and played a significant role in the development of their country through remittances, while at the same time contributing fully to the economies of their host countries. Their experience showed that when properly and humanely managed, migration could have a positive impact on countries of origin and destination. The Philippines had always opened its doors to refugees of all faiths and nationalities that were fleeing persecution and stood ready to play its part in solving the current crisis. Compassion, not indifference was needed.

Mr. T. SUMATHIPALA (Sri Lanka) noted that migration, human trafficking and people smuggling had been raised in a number of international forums. Concerted efforts from all stakeholders to address the current crisis were needed as a matter of priority. Armed conflict and

political and security problems were key migration push factors, while pull factors included the perception of opportunities for better living conditions in developed countries. His country had not been immune from conflict-related migration, owing to terrorism and insecurity. As the representatives of the people, parliamentarians had a moral responsibility to address the root causes of migration and work in partnership with other stakeholders at the regional and global levels in order to prevent unsafe and irregular migration practices, to make return migration informed and sustainable, and to make migration an integral part of development. Sri Lanka had taken steps to address human trafficking, including by ratifying relevant international instruments. As current Chair of the Colombo Process, Sri Lanka had focused discussion on key areas such as enhancing the skills of those migrating for work purposes, improving pre-departure orientation and working with destination countries. Sri Lanka also hosted a modest number of refugees and asylum-seekers. Managing and investing in migration and raising awareness of the dangers of irregular migration were key elements of making migration beneficial to all.

Mrs. M. BONELL (Andorra) explained that more than half of the population of her country was made up of foreigners. The country enjoyed a high degree of social cohesion and citizen security, and was able to offer equal opportunities and free public education to all. Each country needed to find a migration system that suited their situation and enabled migration to be seen as a driver for harmonious and sustainable growth without social discrimination. Andorra was unique in its geographic, economic and societal make up; it did not experience immigration on the same scale as other countries and immigration did not have the same impact on the country's society, culture or economy. Immigration into the country was mainly for long-term work and as a result Andorra was able to invest in adequate integration processes and social services. Integration was a bilateral process, which required the participation of all. A key element of integration was respect for the culture, inhabitants and language of both Andorra and migrants' countries of origin. Equal opportunities to work and education were also vital. Andorra had adopted a quota system for each profession and nationality. Societal well-being stimulated peace and stability. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to prevent conflicts, guarantee human rights and create the conditions for permanent peace. Although not all States could take measures to respond to the crises facing the world, all countries could endeavour to prevent the exclusion of and discriminatory attitudes towards certain sectors of the population and to promote respect for human rights. It was up to countries to act within their means. Andorra was ready to receive some Syrian refugees in coordination with the European Union.

Mrs. L. MARKUS (Australia) said that that the significant burdens of the Syria crisis on the infrastructure, education and health systems of neighbouring countries should be shared. Large numbers of migrants, including refugees and those in humanitarian need, had arrived in Australia since 1945. Australia was one of the most generous countries in the world in terms of resettlement and providing protection for UNHCR-referred refugees. Australia's migration system was strictly managed and its borders strongly protected, which was helping to end the scourge of people smuggling and to prevent deaths at sea.

Mr. P. RUDDOCK (Australia), continuing the intervention by Australia, explained that his country had placed significant emphasis on integrating the large number of migrants that had arrived on its territory. Having visited refugee camps in the Middle East on multiple occasions, he was struck by how the hope of returning home was disappearing as the conflict continued. Parliamentarians, together with the international community as a whole, should play a role in seeking resolutions to situations that caused mass displacement of people. It was currently necessary to help countries neighbouring the Syrian Arab Republic to shoulder the burden. During the Kosovo crisis, Australia had issued safe haven visas. They enabled refugees to stay in Australia for the duration of the conflict, on the understanding that they would return home once the conflict had ended. That approach could be replicated for the current crisis. But regardless of the approach, it was vital that all countries played their part.

Mr. P.-F. VEILLON (Switzerland) said that his country's history as both a country of origin and destination had contributed to its economic development and social and cultural enrichment. Migration today was a complex phenomenon, which presented significant geopolitical challenges and required bilateral, regional and international dialogue to find solutions. Long-term, sustainable solutions to the current crisis were needed and it was essential to work together in that regard. The Sustainable Development Goals were an important step in the right direction. Countries of origin

needed to find new dynamics in terms of economic and social development and the sharing of wealth, which would require good governance and democracy. Destination countries needed to redefine their relationships with the developing world, particularly in terms of economic engagement and development aid in order to ensure balanced exchanges and to promote sustainable development. Switzerland was hosting refugees from the current crisis. Given the number of refugees, any response could only be modest. Integration was key for social cohesion; without it, migration gave rise to significant social and economic difficulties, particularly in smaller host countries.

Mr. Y. CHIN (Republic of Korea) stated that the current migrant crisis was linked to human rights violations and presented a serious threat to global sustainable development. The Republic of Korea was a State party to the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its protocol and had introduced national legislative safeguards for refugees. Parliaments had an important role to play through their legislative and oversight functions. More attention should be paid to ensuring that domestic laws complied with the provisions of the Convention and protocol and to overseeing the implementation of those laws. Consideration should also be given to establishing temporary settlements for refugees during the resettlement process; that idea was of particular importance in response to the current migration crisis. The international community needed to do its utmost to bring stability to countries and regions affected by conflict and to ensure that the human rights of refugees were respected. Countries should not repatriate refugees against their will and should follow a humanitarian approach. Efforts were needed to improve negative perceptions of migrants and to raise public awareness of the importance of humanitarian responses. Public-private partnerships should be developed to ensure that the private sector played a role in the resettlement of refugees.

Mr. M. HOSSEINI SADR (Islamic Republic of Iran), exercising the right of reply, reiterated his country's sovereign right to the islands of Abu Musa, Greater Tunb and Lesser Tunb. The Islamic Republic of Iran had a policy of good neighbourliness based on non-interference and mutual respect. He called for the settlement of the dispute through multilateral dialogue.

Mr. Y. ALSAMAAN (Saudi Arabia), exercising the right of reply, said that his country had done its utmost to ensure the safety and security of pilgrims to holy sites. Despite increasing numbers of pilgrims, incidents were rare. He extended his condolences to those affected by the most recent event and stressed that investigations into the cause of the tragedy would be conducted quickly and transparently. However, Saudi Arabia would not accept interference in its internal affairs and he warned against politicization of the matter.

Mr. M. KAWRMA (Syrian Arab Republic), exercising the right of reply, said that terrorism in his country was causing the displacement of people, which would create serious social problems if left unchecked. It was therefore crucial to stop the exodus. A common position was needed to combat terrorist groups active in the region; it was also essential to prevent people from joining those groups. The Syrian Government was doing its utmost to protect its people. The mass migration would only stop when the terrorists were stopped.

Ms. I. KLYMPUSH-TSINTSADZE (Ukraine), exercising the right of reply, was alarmed at some of the rhetoric she had heard but welcomed the acknowledgement that international law continued to be violated in Ukraine. Nevertheless, that acknowledgement had failed to recognize that the Russian Federation had and continued to commit such acts itself. The refugees fleeing parts of her country were fleeing a war instigated by another State as a result of Ukraine's decision to forge closer ties with the European Union, which was a sovereign choice of the Ukrainian people. There was currently a propaganda war taking place. She urged the Russian Federation to abide by international law and stop its activities in Ukraine.

The sitting rose at 6.45 p.m.

Sitting of Tuesday 20 October (Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.45 p.m. with Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in the Chair.

Item 7 of the agenda

**Adoption of the resolution on the emergency item
*The role of the inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions***

Mr. K. GRAHAM (New Zealand), Chairperson of the drafting committee, said that his committee was presenting a draft resolution on the emergency item submitted jointly by the United Arab Emirates and Sudan (document A/133/7-DR). The plenary debate allowed for expressions of genuine concern about the human suffering caused by the recent worsening of the refugee crisis. The drafting committee had comprised representatives of the delegations of Chad, Croatia, Gabon, Islamic Republic of Iran, Jordan, Mexico, New Zealand, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Sweden, Sudan, the United Arab Emirates, Venezuela and Zambia.

The draft resolution was a reminder of the importance of the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967), which provided that refugees should enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms without any discrimination based on ethnicity, race, gender, age or country of origin. The resolution invited IPU Member Parliaments, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) and all other international and regional organizations involved in refugee affairs. The collective task of parliamentarians was to monitor the implementation of international rules on refugee protection and to ensure that the rights guaranteed to refugees under international instruments were realized. The resolution also called for cooperation and burden sharing with host countries.

The drafting committee had discussed one potential amendment to the title, on advice from UNHCR, in order to ensure consistency with international refugee law. The words “socio-economic situations” would be replaced by “social circumstances”. The drafting committee therefore recommended that the Assembly adopt the draft resolution, with the proposed amendment to the title.

It was so decided.

Mr. A. EL ZABAYAR SAMARA (Venezuela) said that, on the basis of the comments made during the debate, it seemed that the IPU should organize a special visit to refugee camps on the ground in Turkey and Jordan to collect the stories of those living there. The protection of women in those camps should be strengthened, since their rights were often violated. Trafficking in children, women and human organs as well as sexual exploitation of women migrants were particularly horrifying.

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

Item 3 of the agenda

**General debate
*The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration***

Resumption of the debate

Mr. K. AYDIN (Turkey) said that migration was a global issue with global repercussions, which could only be addressed through a global approach. Given the cross-border nature of the migration crisis, international cooperation and solidarity were essential. While security measures were one part of the approach to dealing with irregular migration, the only true solution was to

address the root causes. Those included economic, political and social instability and conflict. The severe threat posed by organized criminal networks involved in irregular migration must be taken into account, including threats to internal security and the security of migrants. Thousands were losing their lives on the dangerous journey in search of safety: the current humanitarian crisis was a test of humanity and morality. The stories of three-year-old Aylan Kurdi and many others should serve as a reminder of the human side of the crisis. Turkey spared no effort in offering protection to refugees fleeing persecution and war and was the country with the largest refugee population in the world. There were currently more than 2.2 million Syrian refugees in Turkey. Thus far, being a host country had cost Turkey around US\$ 8 billion, while it had received only US\$ 417 million in bilateral and multilateral contributions. There was a clear deficit of solidarity on the part of the international community. Burden-sharing must be stepped up.

Ms. A. NAZLIKA (Turkey), sharing the allocated speaking time with her colleague, said that the traditional distinctions between refugees, asylum seekers and economic migrants were becoming blurred as people moved from one country to another for a combination of reasons. Efforts should therefore be made to better organize and improve the conditions for legal migration and movement: that would have a positive impact on security, particularly at border points. Turkey, which had traditionally been a country of origin and transit, had become a country of destination. As the number of Syrians seeking safety and refuge in Europe and taking perilous journeys to do so had increased dramatically, so the Turkish coastguard had intensified its efforts to save migrants' lives at sea. However, if the root causes of the current refugee crisis were not addressed, the situation would become increasingly unmanageable. The recent terrorist attack in Ankara had been the deadliest in Turkey's recent history. It had killed more than 100 people and injured more than 400, all of whom had gathered for a peace march. It was an urgent matter of human dignity to find new ways to deal with the phenomenon of forced migration. Parliamentarians had a duty to promote peace and non-militarism, and to exert pressure on governments accordingly. There could be no substitute for peace.

Ms. M. BOROTO (South Africa) said that in recent months, the world had witnessed the mass movement of people in various regions. Those movements were caused by internal strife and civil wars, which, in turn, were driving people to migrate under desperate circumstances. It was also a time of unprecedented anti-migrant sentiment. Harsh border controls and visa regimes, and the criminalization of irregular migrants were driving people into the hands of smugglers and criminals. The issue was not a problem to be solved, but rather a reality to be managed. Migration was fuelled by poor social and economic conditions, such as unemployment, rural underdevelopment, poverty, lack of opportunity, and the absence of peace and security. Migration should therefore be situated within the broader discourse of sustainable development.

South Africa continued to be a major destination for asylum seekers and migrants. Migrants were often exploited, with human trafficking and smuggling on the rise. Women and children were particularly at risk, and women were often subject to labour exploitation. Establishing frameworks for the protection of women migrants should therefore be given particular attention. UN Women and women's nongovernmental organizations could provide useful advice in that regard. South Africa had introduced new immigration regulations to improve the balance between openness to legitimate travellers and South Africa's development and security imperatives. South Africa's experience showed that well managed migration policies could yield significant benefits to the economy of both host and destination countries.

The international community should strengthen its efforts to address the root causes of mass migration, which required long-term engagement by all stakeholders. That would involve looking beyond the "pull" factors that drew people towards open and free societies, and identifying and addressing the "push" factors that constrained opportunities and denied freedoms. Efforts must be made to prevent conflict and displacement, while maintaining respect for state sovereignty. New migration policies were needed to keep pace with change: those might include increasing the legal avenues for migration, instituting temporary protective status, enhancing resettlement opportunities, and strengthening systems for seasonal work permits, voluntary return, humane border management and integration. Peacebuilding was also essential, and parliaments had a key advocacy role to play in that regard. Migration should be an option, not a desperate attempt to survive. Parliamentarians could bring together all relevant stakeholders to ensure effective migration management. In an age of unprecedented mass displacement, an unprecedented humanitarian response was required, not just as a matter of solidarity and shared commitment, but also as one of global peace and security.

Mrs. Z. GRECEANÎI (Moldova) said that political and social instability, and the lack of job opportunities, had led a third of Moldovan citizens to migrate. The remittances sent back to Moldova had a significant impact on the country's economy. Moldova was fourth on the list of countries most economically dependent on remittances. Unfortunately, free trade agreements had been concluded with the European Union without having adequately prepared local industries. Moldova had therefore suffered severe drops in its exports to the Russian Federation, which accounted for the majority of its exports, as well as reductions in exports to the European Union. Price increases and high rates of inflation had also severely affected the Moldovan economy.

The economic and political situation was desperate. Many young people left to study abroad and never returned. Families were fragmented and remained so for long periods. The economically active population was leaving the country: the average age of Moldovan migrants was 30 years, 37 per cent had completed higher education and the majority had secondary level or vocational qualifications. Most were trying to enter the Commonwealth of Independent States, although many women were leaving for destinations within the European Union, in search of domestic work. Effective measures were therefore desperately needed to control migration flows. The exchange of information and best practice were essential for solving the issue of large-scale migration. Developing countries should have markets based on production and export: it was therefore important for small countries to be included in industrial cooperation. It was all too easy for partners to give small countries grants and loans, but true help could only come from industry and job creation. That would assist economic development and help people to stay in their countries of origin, rather than seeking employment opportunities elsewhere.

Special segment on the role of parliaments in countering terrorism

Mr. J.-P. LABORDE, Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director of the Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), said that parliamentarians were the representatives of the people, and their alliance with the United Nations was particularly important to address such a complex and difficult subject as migration.

Terrorism was one of the greatest threats to global peace and security. Wherever terrorist acts were committed with impunity even more serious violence ensued. Terrorism was often propelled by situations that supported it. Situations leading to terrorism could arise when exercising national sovereignty and protecting the rule of law.

When taken as a whole, the international human rights instruments constituted a body of law that defined all acts of terrorism in the world. However, achieving a universally accepted definition of terrorism would unite all parties in the fight against it. The victims of terrorism all over the world must be considered: no country in the world was free from terror. Sharing experiences and good practices, not only between parliaments but also with the United Nations, was essential for mutual learning and to understand the situation in countries that had suffered the most. Information and experiences should also be shared with regard to countering violent extremism through education, development and conflict resolution.

Inconsistencies in dealing with crimes of terrorism should not be allowed. It was crucial to pursue a joint approach based on the application of international instruments and resolutions, and on dialogue and interaction with the United Nations. State terrorism should be classed as a war crime or a crime against humanity. He expressed the Counter-Terrorism Committee's support and solidarity with the world's parliamentarians in their fight to overcome terrorism.

Mr. M. MIEDICO, Chief of Section, Terrorism Prevention Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), explained that he had moderated a panel discussion at the present IPU Assembly where the debate had been lively. UNODC had identified five counter-terrorism mandates for parliamentarians and five recommendations for their implementation. Parliamentarians had a role to play in the ratification of international conventions and protocols against terrorism. Ratification ensured that national legislation was aligned and coherent. Parliamentarians must also ensure that international standards were taken into account at the national level in the criminalization of terrorist offences. They must regulate cooperation with the private sector and agreements with banks. They must also ensure that security and law enforcement agencies and the judiciary were invested with the powers and means that they needed to conduct effective prosecutions and adjudication. Parliamentarians must ensure the oversight and monitoring of the work of national institutions. Broader action was required to ensure that the conditions conducive to terrorism were properly addressed and to acknowledge that development was intrinsically linked to security. Any military action must be accompanied by social and education programmes, interreligious and other types of dialogue, which parliamentarians must promote.

The IPU had called for closer cooperation with the United Nations. UNODC had drawn up five recommendations for the IPU. First, to consider establishing a mechanism for cooperation and interaction with the United Nations; second, to consider how the IPU and the United Nations could best engage at the regional level; third, to find ways to promote dialogue and discussion at the country level by cooperating with national parliaments in order to raise awareness about international standards at the national level; fourth, to facilitate cooperation between practitioners and parliaments; and lastly, to use parliamentary diplomacy as a key instrument for tackling the root causes of terrorism and conflict.

Resumption of the debate

Mrs. R. RIKHARDSDOTTIR (Iceland) said that more people than ever before were being driven from their homes by wars and persecution: the global community was struggling to respond. Focus must be placed on finding the correct strategic and practical approaches to deal with the large numbers of people on the move. The international community should support countries hosting large refugee populations, in particular by helping to shoulder both their immense financial burdens and the many challenges they faced in accommodating refugees. That burden must be shared. It was impossible to underestimate the importance of funding humanitarian and development responses to the crisis, providing support to national response plans and strengthening the resilience of host countries. Since most refugees wanted nothing more than to be able to return home, host countries must be supported in establishing and operating refugee camps that provided more than the basic needs for human survival. Camps should be a safe and secure environment with a daily routine, education and health care.

The gender dimensions of migration were particularly important. Urgent humanitarian action was required to address the specific needs of women and girls. Safe routes, safe spaces and specific protection on arrival in host countries should be provided especially those at particular risk of violence. Policies that specifically took account of those issues should be developed in refugee camps, and with partners in countries of origin, transit and destination. Women and adolescent girls had a tremendous capacity to adapt. They were among the first responders in crises, holding their families and communities together. They must not be portrayed as helpless or forced to become so by restrictive environments.

Education was the single most important transformative factor for the individual and for the nation as a whole. It was a basic human right for all children, and created a crucial sense of security and hope, which was particularly important for refugee children. Education taught self-reliance, care, empathy and respect for diversity. It created the human social capital needed for development, and played a fundamental role in providing physical and psychological protection for children. It was clear that the current refugee situation was unacceptable and that funding was needed to address the crisis.

Mrs. Y. FERRER GÓMEZ (Cuba) said that illegal migration was a major impediment to human development. UNHCR had warned of the potentially disastrous consequences of the arrival of winter for the tens of thousands of people who were arriving in Europe and living in makeshift camps. They travelled in precarious boats across the Mediterranean, or walked through the Sahara desert, risking their lives and falling prey to traffickers. About half of all international migrants lived in only 10 countries. The majority lived in the United States where they suffered all types of discrimination. Trafficking in persons had become the third most lucrative illegal business in the world, after drugs and arms trafficking. The criminals involved considered people as mere commodities. An estimated 30 million people around the world currently lived as slaves. 'Brain drain' was a serious consequence of migration: knowledge was being monopolized by the most industrialized nations, which in turn held back the development of countries of origin.

The walls and barriers being built might hinder migration but would not solve the problems that were causing around one sixth of the world's population to move in search of a better life. As migration increased, so did anti-migrant sentiment, xenophobia and racism. The international community must adopt policies to address the causes and consequences of migratory flows, ensure the physical integrity and protection of migrants and protect developing countries from the mass exodus of their population. States that were party to international conventions lacked the political will to implement them. Countries must invest in the integration process necessary for migrants to develop to their full potential and make a positive contribution to their host and home societies. Bilateral, regional and international cooperation among States was essential to fulfil the shared responsibility of finding a lasting solution to a problem of global concern.

Mr. S. YUSSUFF (Nigeria) said that the scale, scope and complexity of migration were increasing due to several “push” factors, including armed conflicts and terrorism, economic downturns, social strife as a result of fundamentalism, xenophobia, ideological intolerance, sexism, racism, and natural disasters. Irrespective of the reason for which people migrated and where they were located in the world, they must all enjoy their fundamental human rights as enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. It was therefore the responsibility of all parliaments to make policies that respected the rights of refugees and asylum seekers, recognizing that all human beings were born free and must not be discriminated against on any grounds.

Efforts must be made to eliminate the stereotype of migrants as desperate, parasitic and with no economic potential. If properly integrated, migrants were real drivers of economic growth and development. The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) granted refugees the right to protection and non-refoulement. Hosting refugees was therefore an international obligation. The international community must ensure that refugees were safe and protected. As a minimum, refugees deserved the same standards of treatment enjoyed by other foreign nationals in a given country, and in many cases, the same treatment as nationals. Refugees should be guaranteed the right to housing, work, education, to have access to the courts, and to hold identity and travel documents. National legislation must be in place to prevent the exploitation of irregular economic migrants. At the same time, States must work in collaboration with INTERPOL to ensure that asylum was not granted to anyone who had planned, facilitated or participated in acts of terrorism. Migrants, for their part, must uphold their responsibilities by respecting the laws, customs and cultural values of their host country.

Nigeria was currently struggling against the scourge of the terrorist activities of Boko Haram. Despite claiming to be committed to the propagation of the teachings of the Prophet, there was nothing Islamic about Boko Haram. It rejected the concept of statehood, western education and values and its activities had led to at least two million people migrating. In response, several internally displaced persons camps had been set up, run by the national emergency management agency and supported by civil society organizations. A presidential committee had been established to provide support to the victims of Boko Haram. A parliamentary committee had been set up to address issues related to internally displaced persons and pursue initiatives in the north-east of Nigeria. A north-east development commission was also under consideration. All nations must deepen their democratic systems to eliminate the sources of conflict and tension. Efforts must be made to create employment and economic opportunities. Stemming the escalating tide of the migration crisis was a collective responsibility.

Ms. A. TORME PARDO (Spain) said that the current migration situation was posing new challenges and was a humanitarian crisis. The world was witnessing the greatest human movement since the Second World War. The massive displacement had given rise to true tragedies and the deaths of thousands of innocent people fleeing the terror of war. Refugees should not be left at the mercy of traffickers. Children required the greatest support. Some 80,000 minors were seeking refuge in Europe, many unaccompanied. In April 2015, the European Union and its member States had pledged to act together in a spirit of solidarity.

Spain had committed to host as many refugees as the European Commission requested. The next draft budget included a significant increase in allocations for hosting refugees with an additional €250 million earmarked for resettlement and relocation programmes. In spite of the forthcoming general elections, the two chambers of parliament had worked together to compile an asylum policy package. The package included agreements to seek peaceful conflict resolution, work towards an integrated European Union asylum policy, strengthen cooperation with third countries, fight against criminal organizations involved in human trafficking, increase transparency with regard to European Union integration and resettlement, strengthen cooperation with countries in conflict, accept the maximum possible number of refugees, respond to the specific needs of refugees, pay particular attention to minors, continue to adapt legislation to provide a suitable legal framework for hosting and integrating refugees, design awareness campaigns to facilitate true integration and prevent racism and xenophobia in the media, and finally, to adopt decisions on asylum and refuge through processes of dialogue, consensus and loyalty. Spain had a history of successfully integrating foreigners into its society, many of whom had been refugees. With that experience and the commitment of the Spanish authorities and of society, Spain hoped to make a positive contribution to the resolution of the current crisis.

Mr. S. SROUR (Jordan) said that Jordan had been receiving large numbers of migrants since the 1950s, starting with Palestinians fleeing persecution and conflicts. Although Jordan had never been involved in those conflicts, the Jordanian authorities had done their utmost to provide

the affected populations with the necessary support, through the adoption of policies and international agreements, and through a strong belief in solidarity. Over recent months Jordan had received more than 1.6 million Syrian refugees, as well as thousands of Iraqis and others, all of whom had fled their homes. Jordan had guaranteed their security. It would continue to provide them with all they needed to live in dignity and to prepare them for an eventual return to their home countries. Despite gaps in education, water supply, resources and basic infrastructure, Jordan had done its utmost to respect the provisions of international law and the conventions that guaranteed human dignity.

Jordan had received aid from partner countries, for which the authorities were particularly grateful. However, the aid had only covered 40 per cent of Jordan's needs. The remaining 60 per cent of the financial burden was borne by Jordan itself, to the detriment of the local community. Nevertheless, refugees and migrants made a valuable contribution to host societies and must be respected. European countries were reticent about taking in large numbers of migrants and refugees, yet hosted a very small number in comparison with Jordan. The Mediterranean should be viewed as a 'bridge of relations', uniting neighbours and serving as a source of communication between them. He was therefore surprised by the treatment of refugees. They had taken a perilous journey and risked their lives to cross that bridge to safety. He called on all countries to provide those refugees with the protection necessary to guarantee their security and dignity. A political solution would be the only sustainable end to the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, which would allow the displaced to return and rebuild their nation. The Palestinian issue was also a burning one. The people of Palestine must be guaranteed their rights. It must not be forgotten that they were subject to grave persecution.

Ms. G. ELDEGARD (Norway) said that refugees were ordinary people, who deserved to be treated with dignity. The rest of the international community must not let the fact that vast swathes of refugees were on the move around the world overshadow the commitments and principles enshrined in international law. Every individual had the right to apply for asylum. Only five years previously, the Syrian Arab Republic had been on its way to meeting the Millennium Development Goals. Only a short time later, a large part of the country had been reduced to ruins and more than half of the population had fled their homes. In spite of such a desperate situation, only 43 per cent of the United Nations' appeals for humanitarian aid for the Syrian Arab Republic and its neighbours had been met. That response was simply not good enough. The World Food Programme had been forced to stop distribution to more than 360,000 refugees in Jordan and Lebanon owing to lack of funds. In addition, more than 700,000 refugee children had been left without schooling. Schools that did admit Syrian children were oversubscribed, underfunded and understaffed. The international community's failure to provide basic necessities such as food, education and health care was contributing to the large number of people risking dangerous journeys across the Mediterranean to reach Europe. The international community must mobilize the necessary funds so that all refugees were guaranteed their right to protection. Norway, in cooperation with the United Nations, Germany and other partners, had offered to host an international donor conference.

Mr. A. AL-AHMAD (Palestine) said that Palestine was the victim of the Israeli occupation forces. The Israeli Government was carrying out atrocious attacks against the Palestinian people in East Jerusalem and surrounding villages. Entire families had been burnt alive. The Israeli settlers, who were protected by the Israeli army, prevented Muslims from attending mosque. That risked the conflict becoming a religious war. Attempts to reactivate the peace process had been failing for more than two years, owing to the Israeli Government's lack of respect for agreements reached and its failure to uphold its international obligations. The peace process had been based on a two-State solution. The international community should allow Israel to act with impunity and insist that it meet its obligations under international law. The separation wall built by Israel would not bring peace. Successive Israeli governments had signed peace agreements and had failed to implement them. Their activities were tantamount to terrorism. The international community must exert the necessary pressure and do its utmost to seek a solution that would bring an end to the Israeli occupation. That would allow the Palestinian people to be granted the right to self-determination and allow Palestinian refugees to return home. Palestinian political prisoners, including members of parliament, should be released. The Palestinian cause must not be forgotten in the context of the fight against terrorism in the Middle East. The Palestinian State must be recognized, and the suffering of the people of Palestine must end.

Mrs. Z. BENAROUS (Algeria) said that migration affected the whole world. The current volume of migration was unprecedented. Countries must therefore consider how to deal with refugee flows and how to eliminate the discriminatory practices to which refugees were often subjected. Algeria was party to many international conventions, including on transnational organized crime. Those conventions must be implemented. Algeria, which had historically been a country of origin, had now become a country of destination. The necessary social and economic conditions must be put in place in countries of origin to reduce the number of people wanting to leave their homes. The conflicts in the Middle East had involved the interests of third parties outside the region. International cooperation was crucial to address migration in all its dimensions. Particular attention should be drawn to the links between migration and development, and to migrants' capacity to contribute to their host societies. All governments should respect the human dignity of migrants and allow them to integrate fully. When properly managed, migration could be beneficial to all involved. The parliamentarians of the world must ensure that their governments respected international agreements.

Mr. F. ZON (Chair, Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC)) said that the abuse of power for personal gain was a problem linked to most aspects of migration. Aid for refugees was subject to corruption. There had been reports of authorities and civil society organizations taking advantage of international contributions and donations, by creating proposals that would not be implemented correctly. Corruption deprived people of their fundamental rights in countries where the rule of law was weak and the integrity of the state apparatus was low.

Corruption occurred at all stages in migration and led to a failure to meet even the most basic needs of refugees. It facilitated migration-related crime, such as trafficking in persons and smuggling, in which migrants were treated as a mere commodity. Widespread corruption hampered development, led to poverty, closed economic opportunities and undermined the rule of law. By combating corruption, a more prosperous environment could be created for ordinary people. As a result, they would no longer seek a better life abroad. The best way to diminish the drivers of forced migration was to overcome political corruption. At its sixth conference, the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption had committed to pursue the perpetrators of large-scale corruption. It took into account Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals to pursue good governance and advocate for peace for the betterment of human life. More partnerships and collaboration were needed to recognise that the refugee crisis had emanated from a broader corruption crisis, and that the international community must work together to address that broader issue.

Mr. M. Niat Njifenji (Cameroon), Vice-President of the Assembly, took the Chair.

Mr. F. RABBI (Bangladesh) said that, in an increasingly interconnected world, migration was growing in scale, scope and complexity, and had developed into a humanitarian crisis. The number of people forcibly displaced by conflict or persecution had reached more than 50 million, and instability was continuing to fuel massive displacement in the Middle East. Violence and displacement were also rife in Africa. The burden of these crises was primarily borne by neighbouring countries. It was disappointing that others were reluctant to increase their assistance. Globalization and growing disparities in living conditions within and between countries had contributed to the increase in international migration. People were risking their lives in search of better opportunities. They were often obliged to travel in inhumane conditions and exposed to exploitation and abuse. States regarded those movements as a threat to their sovereignty and security.

Illegal migration represented a development challenge, which could jeopardise the attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals. Parliamentarians had a vital role to play in ensuring a meaningful and balanced debate about migration, and in promoting fair and effective policies that maximized the benefits of migration and made labour migration a win-win situation. Close and comprehensive cooperation between countries, international organizations and civil society was essential to solve the crisis. Solutions would include more sympathetic diplomacy and foreign policy, eradicating extreme poverty, ending extremist military activities, eliminating racial and religious conflict, establishing good governance and healthy regional politics. Countries of transit and destination must manifest tolerance and a pro-migrant attitude. Human rights and international solidarity were essential to maintaining effective asylum and refugee protection policies.

Ms. R. ERSHAD (Bangladesh), sharing the allocated speaking time with her colleague, said that Bangladesh had traditionally been a country of origin. At the time of the liberation war, many Bangladeshis had taken refuge in India, which had provided them with all the support they had needed. Bangladesh had a positive view of migration as an effective tool for poverty eradication. Although densely populated, Bangladesh had given shelter to 32,000 registered Rohingyas. Migration was a fundamental part of human life: people moved to survive, to search for food, to escape danger and death and to find new opportunities.

During the current migration and refugee crisis, particular consideration should be given to who the migrants were, what their needs were, what rights they should enjoy, how those needs and rights would be balanced with those of the host society, whether countries had obligations to citizens other than their own, whether countries could close their borders at any cost, and whether they had any obligation to minimize the harm endured by people crossing their borders.

To end the crisis, sustainable development was required. That would enable all citizens to enjoy economic freedom, as well as freedom from poverty, climate-oriented displacement conflict and war. European countries were currently facing mass influxes of migrants, arriving by sea and over land. Those influxes could only be reduced by tackling the root causes of people's desperation. Increased economic investment in their countries of origin would be a key element of a well-rounded response to the crisis. Members of parliament had an important role in formulating effective migration policies and ensuring that all forms of migration were humane. Every individual was a citizen of the world, and equal opportunities should be granted to all.

Mr. A. ALI (Iraq) said that Iraq had done its utmost to strengthen its participation in international meetings, and the Iraqi parliament was doing its best to uphold its responsibilities. Efforts had been made to form a national government, which was jointly leading a reform process with parliament. Mutual respect must be strengthened without differentiating between religions, ethnicities or beliefs. Terrorism was a dangerous scourge. Its root causes must be tackled and the wave of fear that was pervading the world must end. Iraq was suffering at the hands of Daesh; it was killing innocent civilians and attacking the country's culture, heritage and history. All peoples in Iraq must unite against Daesh with the support of the international community. Iraq was paying the high price of war, coupled with the drop in oil prices, which had led to economic crisis. International assistance was desperately needed. Daesh terrorists were indiscriminate in their attacks, killing adults and children alike, committing murder and seizing territory. Efforts must be made to seek permanent, durable solutions. Medical supplies, housing, food and water were all lacking. Children were unable to attend school and university and mass displacement had occurred. He therefore called on all countries to meet the basic needs of Iraqi refugees and afford them the protection they needed. The assistance of the international community was essential to bring an end to the scourge of terrorism.

Mrs. V. MATA (Venezuela) said that the problem of migration was one of the greatest currently facing the world. Large flows of migrants and refugees were complex and multifaceted, and required regional and global cooperation. The global community must come together to save lives and defend human rights, in particular by applying the principle of non-discrimination. The solution was not to prevent migrants from entering developed countries, but rather to grant humanitarian assistance and respect for human rights, particularly since thousands of refugees were women, children and the elderly. The current migration crisis was largely the result of repercussions of colonialist and imperialist activities. Greater cooperation was required between countries of transit, origin and destination to build resilient programmes that could meet the challenges of the future. Criminal gangs were taking advantage of the situation of migrants to traffic in persons, weapons and drugs.

Venezuela intended to coordinate action by attending to the needs of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers, using a human rights-based approach. Trafficking in persons should be tackled in line with the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and its Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children. Venezuela had opened its doors to the Syrian people in an act of solidarity, with a view to building bridges, not walls. A political solution to the problems in the Syrian Arab Republic was essential.

Venezuela was undergoing one of the worst aggressions of its history: political, economic, national and international factors were leading to conflict at Venezuela's borders, in which the international media was participating. The United States of America was continuing its policy of destabilizing the democracies of South America that were not in line with United States political and

economic interests. A peaceful border regime had been established to protect people living in frontier areas, in particular along the borders with Colombia. Venezuela would continue to be a land of peace and solidarity, willing to build a fairer, smarter, and more humane world.

Mr. J.S. FIGUEROA AGUILAR (Nicaragua) said that migration was an issue of great importance, closely linked to international humanitarian law and solidarity between peoples. Many causes and factors had led to current migration flows, including poverty, conflict, war, natural disasters, and lack of employment opportunities. The issue of mass migration was affecting the whole world. Whatever was causing the issue, the political will and moral stature of States, governments and parliaments were required to seek solutions to it. Parliaments had a significant responsibility to seek solutions through the adoption of relevant strategies and policies. Efforts should be made to amend migration legislation and to put the migrant at its centre. Parliaments must ratify and ensure compliance with all relevant international treaties. Constant dialogue was required between all stakeholders in society in order both to create the conditions that would enable countries to be better prepared for influxes of migrants and also to ensure full respect for their rights and dignity.

Migrants often faced rejection and anti-migrant sentiment. However, it had been demonstrated that well-managed migration flows were beneficial both to countries of origin and destination. Parliaments must play a more active role in contributing to the development of global policies and following up on government commitments under international agreements. Nicaragua recognized that all persons had the right to request asylum, and therefore did its utmost to guarantee the safety of refugees and to promote compliance with the international agreements to which it was party. Any type of political, cultural, religious, or other interference in the sovereign affairs of States should be rejected. Nicaragua prohibited the use of nuclear weapons and other weapons of mass destruction, and rejected any aggression between countries. All efforts were made to abide by international law and promote regional integration. He appealed to the consciences of all countries or coalitions that had provoked wars, destruction and death and that had caused citizens to flee for their lives. He called on those countries to institute policies that compensated for the damage and suffering they had caused to millions of people.

Mr. G. FARINA (Italy) said that Italy's experiences of migration as a country of origin had made it more sensitive to the needs of migrants as a country of destination. As a result, working conditions and safety at work had been improved for migrant workers. The world must understand that diversity was enriching. The population of the United States of America could serve as an example of a cultural melting pot with a unified sense of national identity. Italians abroad had been absorbed into their host communities, while at the same time maintaining their traditions. Mutual tolerance was the way to seek the truth. In the Balkans, the Middle East and Afghanistan, Italy had done its utmost to promote peace, civil rights and solidarity. The *Mare Nostrum* operation had been an example of those efforts. It had saved lives in the Mediterranean and promoted peace, friendship and dialogue. The flag of solidarity should be raised at the borders of the European Union.

Mr. J. HORVAT (Slovenia) said that migration was one of the greatest contemporary global challenges and was affecting an increasing number of countries. Slovenia was a transit country, which had seen more than 3,000 people cross its borders at any one time. Most migrants were from the Syrian Arab Republic, with some from Iraq and Afghanistan. The vast majority had continued their journey beyond Slovenia, with only 32 applying for international protection in that country. Slovenia was dealing with migration issues within the framework of the European Union, which had adopted the European Agenda on Migration and undertaken a series of commitments and targets designed to strengthen its presence at sea, combat trafficking in persons, prevent illegal migration and strengthen solidarity and responsibility among member States.

The European Union paid particular attention to providing humanitarian aid. Despite considerable efforts, the situation in the field remained serious and required an immediate and unified response from the international community. Steps should be taken to intensify diplomatic efforts in order to eliminate the root causes of the migration crisis, bring an end to the wars and armed conflicts in the Syrian Arab Republic, Libya and Iraq and strengthen their institutions. Delaying attempts to resolve those conflicts would be disastrous for the countries affected, their inhabitants, the wider region and receiving countries. Nonetheless, Europe had played a part in the destabilization of the Middle East region, and must therefore assume its responsibilities. Parliamentarians must ensure solidarity and that the burden of the refugee crisis was shared equally. Building walls was not the answer.

Mr. D.N. DATU MANSUR (Malaysia) said that migration was a complex global issue, affecting almost every country in the world. Economic migrants played a significant role in Malaysia's workforce. Malaysia had established a legislative framework for the protection of migrant workers' rights, including by ratifying the ILO Equal Remuneration Convention, 1951 (No.100). Malaysia condemned forced migration, trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants in all forms. It had made significant efforts to improve its domestic mechanisms for combating those crimes.

Malaysia called on the international community to join forces and share the burden of forced migration. Malaysia had taken measures on humanitarian grounds that went beyond its international obligations, given that it had neither signed nor ratified the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) or its 1967 Protocol. The Government of Malaysia continued to cooperate with the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees in dealing with migrants on a case-by-case basis and pending their resettlement in third countries. The international community should strive to find a lasting solution to the issue of mass migration, while upholding the principle of non-interference in the internal affairs of sovereign States.

Mr. H.M. OO (Myanmar) said that all countries, wherever they were in the world, faced migration challenges. While it was positive to see several countries welcoming migrants on humanitarian grounds and providing them with food and temporary shelter, it was also disappointing to see that many migrants had become victims of human trafficking networks. The IPU had an important role to play in addressing the global migration crisis, by supporting its Member Parliaments to encourage their respective governments to work together.

Turning to the situation in Myanmar, he said that a ceasefire agreement had been concluded a few weeks previously. It was hoped that would lead to internal peace and reduce migration from Myanmar. Democratic reforms were gaining momentum and a general election would be held in the very near future. Parliament had been making efforts to perform its functions in line with the IPU Strategy, and was now considered the most important institution in Myanmar's democratic transformation. He thanked the IPU and its Member Parliaments for their support. He hoped that the cooperation between Myanmar and the IPU would strengthen with the election of the new Parliament.

Mr. V. GUMINSKY (Belarus) said that it was worrying to see how Europe was becoming increasingly submerged in the migration crisis as the days went by. The problem was rapidly growing and Europe's response had come late. Every day, thousands of people were crossing borders into the European Union ready to risk their lives in search of refuge and safety. Such large influxes of refugees into Europe were the result of protracted armed conflicts in the Middle East and Africa, which engendered violence, impunity, poverty, chaos and despair. The restrictions on legal migration into the European Union had been a contributing factor to the increase in illegal migration. There had been a disappointing lack of hospitality in the way that the European Union had received such desperate people. They deserved protection and shelter.

Parliamentarians had an important role to play by reacting to violations of migrants' and refugees' rights, drawing attention to the issue and joining together to rectify it. Countries receiving refugees and those in conflict areas needed greater donor support. The organizations working in those areas to help millions of migrants and refugees must not be forgotten. The current migration crisis should be used as an opportunity to improve migration policies the world over.

Belarus had observed an increase in the number of people arriving to seek asylum, many of whom were from Ukraine, the Syrian Arab Republic and Afghanistan. While considerable efforts were made to enable those people to live a normal life, experience had shown that Belorussian legislation was insufficient. A Bill on forced migration was therefore currently before parliament. An effective solution to the refugee crisis could only be found through international solidarity and strengthened cooperation between all stakeholders. Unfortunately, over recent months, dialogue and the development of joint approaches had given way to political sanctions, restrictions and unilateral measures towards countries, enterprises and even parliamentarians. It was unacceptable that the authorities in the United States and Finland had prevented certain parliamentarians from participating in international parliamentary forums. In the face of the current crisis, parliamentarians must increase their capacity to react to global and regional challenges, strengthen trust and cooperation between countries and strongly support the maintenance of the values of the Charter of the United Nations as well as the universal principles of international law.

Mr. O. HAV (Denmark) said that mass migration constituted a tragedy and a challenge for the global community. Any person forced to flee from their home risked ruining all aspects of their life: their family may be fragmented, their economic situation would be insecure, and they must adapt to a new culture. There were many reasons why people fled their homes, including war, hunger or a lack of prospects for their children. It was not just a tragedy for those who were fleeing, but also for the country from which they fled. In such difficult circumstances, countries receiving migrants and refugees were also deeply affected, particularly neighbouring countries in North Africa, the Middle East and Europe. New solutions must therefore be sought.

While it was essential to provide humanitarian assistance to those who were fleeing, the key to the crisis was to resolve the issues that were causing people to flee their countries of origin. War and hunger must be brought to an end and the world must begin to admit that not all problems could be solved militarily. Fairer trade and business environments should be created to give everyone the opportunity to improve their economic situation. Parliamentarians the world over must make serious efforts to create a fairer world for the benefit of all.

Mr. M. MUSTAFA ALDAO (Sudan) said that the social and political issues that parliamentarians had to address in an effort to protect peace and human dignity should be considered. The world was facing a difficult situation owing to the spread of war, terrorism and economic crisis. Several conflicts were still in progress and could threaten world peace. The international community must work together to address dangerous phenomena that posed a global threat. Each parliament must look at its legislation and ensure that it could be used to protect refugees and migrants and to counter trafficking in persons. Migration issues were linked to poor economic conditions, to which solutions must be found. Living standards were getting worse, and people's economic and social well-being must be a matter of priority. Sudan was hosting four million refugees from South Sudan, the Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen, and offered them all the assistance they required. Rather than building camps, refugees had been welcomed into people's homes.

The question of how to solve the root causes of migration, including conflicts and political instability must be considered. Sudan had made great efforts to contribute to international peace and security, engaging in inclusive dialogue with a view to solving political problems. Economic reforms were also under way. The issue of Palestine was particularly serious and the Israeli occupation must be brought to an end. Palestinian people were the victims of systematic human rights violations, which would drive extremism. Failure to act together to find sustainable solutions would be a disaster for all.

Mr. K. GEBREHIWOT (Ethiopia) said that over several centuries, migration had played a major role in shaping the history of mankind. However, the current situation was one of vast displacement that constituted a humanitarian crisis, caused by armed conflicts, war, extreme poverty, violations of human rights and freedoms, and severe underdevelopment. Cooperation must be strengthened not only to help those whose rights were not protected and who risked their lives in search of safety, making dangerous journeys by sea and land, but also to assist countries affected by the humanitarian crisis that had arisen from mass forced displacement. The number of migrants dying while travelling had increased rapidly. Social coherence would be undermined if the current set of controversies and the sense of urgency around them were not addressed. The present Assembly had a key role to play in identifying areas that required urgent action and in making recommendations, which parliamentarians could pursue in their respective countries in order to reduce the colossal cost of migration.

Ethiopia had participated actively in the Global Forum for Migration and Development, which had recently concluded, and was committed to fully implementing its outcome the universal recognition of migration and ensuring inclusive and sustainable development. The positive impact that migration had on development must be emphasized, while hostile, divisive attitudes must be set aside. All nations should commit to implementing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, which included a goal on migration. Concerted action would not only relieve the situation for migrants themselves, but would also ensure peace and security for all. Particular measures were required to prevent and combat trafficking in persons, and to dismantle smuggling networks.

Mr. A. CISSÉ (Mali) said that migration was an international issue with economic, social, political and many other causes. It had become a major concern in an increasing number of countries in recent years. Mali was traditionally a country of origin and transit. It treated migrants coming through the country in line with its tradition of hospitality and morality. Mali had become an

important stage in many migrants' journeys to Europe. A number of bilateral agreements were in place with countries in central and northern Africa, which facilitated transit from south to north through Mali.

The majority of migrants from Mali had a low level of education and were working in industry, construction, agriculture and fishing. Nevertheless, Mali had suffered a 'brain drain' between 1995 and 2005, when many of its university graduates had emigrated to developed countries, notably France. Most people who chose to leave Mali did so as a result of extreme poverty, which was increasing as a result of population growth, rising unemployment and difficult climatic conditions. Most of Mali's migrants came from rural areas and moved abroad. Climatic factors, including water shortages, low rainfall and increased pressure on natural resources had also increased migratory movements in the country.

The crisis in the north of Mali had led to internal displacement and cross-border migration to Algeria, Burkina Faso, Mauritania and Niger. Following presidential elections in 2013, many migrants had returned to Mali with support from UNHCR. The peace and reconciliation agreement concluded in mid-2015 would facilitate ideal conditions for the return of those migrants and internally displaced persons. The international community must not remain indifferent to the plight of refugees, wherever they came from, in particular young people and children who were losing their lives in the Mediterranean. The international community must act together to protect those in need, to avoid any further deaths at sea and to dismantle trafficking networks.

Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, resumed the Chair.

Mr. G.F. TRENZI (San Marino) said that the migration challenges currently facing the world were complex and painful. Careful consideration should be given to the economic and social factors that caused people to leave their countries of origin, as well as how to address the challenges that migration posed for countries of transit and destination. Political instability and financial crisis led to increased migration, which had severe consequences for countries, migrants and their families. Terrorism, conflict and religious persecution were causing entire populations to leave their countries and undertake perilous journeys, often with an unknown destination. The large-scale influx of migrants into the European Union was putting increasing pressure on host countries, while the desperate images of the tragic events leading to mass migration could not be ignored.

There were many challenges that required immediate responses, including the improvement of reception services, financial support, and more humane migration management with full respect for human rights in line with international standards. Parliaments must call on their respective governments to increase their cooperation in support of countries of origin and destination. Asylum regulations and the provision of specific support for international organizations in the field must all be reformed. The humanitarian urgency of the situation, namely the need for food, housing and medical care, was the responsibility of the whole international community. Countries providing first assistance to refugees must be supported. Illegal migration, exploitation and violence must be tackled. In order to protect innocent victims, States must make a joint effort to strongly condemn all forms of violence and to counter trafficking in persons, particularly trafficking of women and children.

San Marino, although a small country, had a rich history of hospitality and had given serious consideration to how to optimize the use of its resources. It was committed to working closely with the international organizations of which it was a member and was taking direct measures to support UNHCR. San Marino has established a coordination committee to provide care and shelter for children temporarily separated from their parents. Migration was having a major impact on many countries. History was repeating itself for individuals and families in a dramatic fashion. The global community must act to encourage respect for the human dignity of all people, and to work together to build a future of hope.

Mr. L. TSOG (Mongolia) said that an increasing number of migrants, refugees and asylum seekers were leaving home to escape from armed conflicts, violence, poverty and discrimination and to search for freedom, peace and a better life. The challenges posed by such large-scale migration must be addressed through a collective effort at the international level. Effective implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development would provide an important pathway towards finding lasting solutions to the root causes of the surge in migration. The international community must work together. Parliamentarians had a particularly important role to

play by amending legislation, overseeing the work of the executive branch of government and allocating adequate budgetary resources to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals.

Mongolia was committed to promoting democratic values, and the Mongolian parliament had recently hosted the autumn meeting of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe, during which fruitful discussions had been held on the broad issues of regional security, terrorism, combating trafficking in persons, addressing regional economic challenges, migration, food security, disaster risk reduction, human rights, press freedom, freedom of religion and gender issues.

Mrs. G. CONDORI JAHUIRA (Peru) said that in order to achieve fairer, smarter and more humane migration, the promotion and protection of human rights must be prioritized. Peru was committed to upholding international law and its migration policy respected free movement between the Andean countries. Peruvian legislation had been updated and structures established to guarantee rights and ensure smoother processes for migrants. People migrated voluntarily or by necessity. They were all in search a better future. Destination countries should ensure that the migrants they hosted enjoyed the same rights as their nationals. Employment was particularly important. Countries should make a real commitment to ensure the transferability of social benefits and to ensure that migrant workers did not forfeit their labour rights. Factors which attracted migrants to receiving countries included their economic stability and social, development, education and health policies. Peru considered trafficking in persons and migrant smuggling as crimes against humanity. The world was globalized. While efforts were being made to bring down barriers to trade and promote the free movement of goods and services, the same approach was not being applied to the free movement of people. The lack of equality in the world and the social cost of it on the race for growth must be seriously considered.

Ms. M. MOCTAR (Mauritania) said that although migration was not a new phenomenon, the volume of movement had increased exponentially over recent years. That had mostly been caused by economic reasons and also by increased conflict. In the past, migration had been largely voluntary. Now it involved large-scale involuntary movements of people fleeing persecution. Migration was concentrated in Europe, where there were fewer conflicts and better opportunities with regard to human rights, education and employment. Host countries were suffering as a result of the economic crisis and were struggling to shoulder the burden of receiving large numbers of migrants.

Mauritania was largely a country of transit and destination on one of the main routes linking Africa to Europe. Mauritanian migration authorities had done their utmost to improve the situation for those in transit, in respect of providing accommodation and food. It was hoped that measures could be taken to avoid clandestine migration and thus stem the market for migrant smuggling and trafficking in persons. The presence of migrants in Europe was a reality, which must be tackled from a humanitarian perspective, and which ensured that all migrants were guaranteed their human rights. There was an urgent need for smarter migration, with respect for economic conditions and for development based on job creation; more humane migration was also needed that was based on respect for human rights and dignity. Lasting solutions could only be found by addressing the root causes of civil wars and conflict situations and by improving the situation in countries of origin through financial support designed to keep people at home and in employment. Greater democracy, good governance and human rights were crucial if people were to wish to stay in their homelands. Mauritania had never spared any effort in assisting those who entered its territory in search of refuge. The whole international community must work together to seek long-term solutions that would address poverty, repression, inequality and war, and that would promote the values of democracy, human rights, and the preservation of the dignity of all people.

Mr. M. KITT (Ireland) said that Ireland was committed to ensuring a strong and effective contribution to efforts to improve the global response to humanitarian emergencies, such as that caused by mass forced migration. The displacement caused by protracted conflict had had a lasting and devastating impact on families who had fled their homes and communities to seek refuge in Europe, many of whom had lost loved ones in truly shocking circumstances. In order to address the root causes of displacement, Ireland was contributing humanitarian assistance to the Syrian Arab Republic and its neighbours, as well as to countries in the Horn of Africa and other regions of Africa.

In addition, Irish Aid had contributed €24 million in flexible, non-earmarked core funding to UNHCR, and had also contributed to search and rescue operations in the south central Mediterranean. Ireland was committed to principled humanitarian action and to ensuring that crisis-

affected communities were placed at the heart of the humanitarian response. A total of €640 million had been allocated to that response in Ireland's 2016 budget. But much more should be done by the global community as a whole.

Mr. T. KATO (Japan) said that, in order to eliminate the causes of large-scale forced migration, the united efforts of the international community were needed. Japan had contributed to the global effort. It had recently announced a US\$ 810 million pledge of humanitarian aid to the Syrian Arab Republic and neighbouring countries in order to ease the humanitarian burden of the current migration crisis. Parliaments played an important role in ensuring oversight of government activities. More must be done to eliminate the root causes of terrorism by resolving conflicts, while providing humanitarian aid. Japan was committed to contributing to global efforts in that regard.

Mrs. B. KURIGER (New Zealand) said that globalization had led to the breakdown of the rules about geographical borders and had made more issues transnational. Living in an interconnected world meant that migration was increasing in scale, scope and complexity. Media reporting on migration showed a constant stream of tragedies affecting helpless refugees and migrants, particularly those making dangerous crossings of the Mediterranean Sea. While all States could make efforts to provide aid and host refugees, those efforts would never be sufficient. Until every citizen lived freely, the response to migration would never be absolute. However, attempts must be made to mitigate current crises. Parliamentarians had a role and a duty to be part of the solution. The more comprehensive the approach taken to analysing security needs, the more likely those needs were to be met.

Ms. S. SANTOS (Brazil) said that, although migration was as old as humanity, current migration flows were reaching unprecedented levels, particularly in the Mediterranean. Parliamentarians had a responsibility to review their countries' migration policies and make them fit for purpose to face the challenges of those unusually large flows. Efforts must be made to fight xenophobia and help the people who had fled their homes to rebuild their lives. Brazil had a history of welcoming immigrants, and migration was considered an important aspect of Brazilian culture and its economy, with immigrants integrating into the social and economic life of the country. Brazil was assisting with family reunification, providing education for migrant children, and protecting and promoting humanitarian values.

Mr. H. KALEMZAI (Afghanistan) said that countries strove to attain sustainable economic and social development and to live together in security and peace. Afghanistan's economy, society and infrastructure had been destroyed by nearly 40 years of war and conflict, during which millions of people had been killed, injured, displaced or forced to flee the country. Since late 2001, the situation had improved significantly through the establishment of good governance, the enactment of laws and the development of a modern, democratic society. The Government, Parliament and people of Afghanistan were grateful to the international community for its strong support and for providing humanitarian, political and economic assistance.

Terrorism and extremism were global phenomena. Afghanistan and its neighbours had become a centre for powerful organizations to exploit certain situations and spread their negative influence. The people of Afghanistan had been victims of terrorism for some 30 years. Recent attacks in Kunduz and Kabul demonstrated that significant threats against Afghanistan still existed. Further international support would be needed. Afghanistan's security forces would continue to fight terrorism and would never allow the country to become a safe haven for terrorist groups.

The sitting rose at 6.55 p.m.

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms

SITTING OF SUNDAY, 18 OCTOBER

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 9.40 a.m. with Mrs. A. King (New Zealand), Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

The CHAIR informed members that the Committee's President, Ms. F. Naderi (Afghanistan) had regrettably not been able to attend owing to the political situation in her country.

Adoption of the Agenda

(C-III/133/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (March/April 2015)

The summary records of the last session were approved.

Elections to the Bureau

The CHAIR said that there was one vacancy on the Bureau to be filled by a man from the Eurasia Group. She encouraged delegations without representation on the Bureau to submit their nominations before the last sitting of the Committee.

Debate on and adoption of a resolution

Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms

The CHAIR recalled that Mrs. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) and Mr. H.-J. Jhun (Republic of Korea) had been appointed to serve as co-Rapporteurs for the item under consideration, *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms*. Their draft resolution explanatory memorandum had already been sent to Committee members for review: 115 proposed amendments to the draft resolution had been submitted before the statutory deadline. The Committee would debate the subject, discuss amendments and then finalize the resolution in plenary.

Mrs. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), *co-Rapporteur*, said that it was essential to reflect the realities of the twenty-first century in legislation. Parliaments always seemed to be a few steps behind advances in technology: guidelines, standards and best practices relating to that new reality should be adopted. Parliamentarians increasingly used social media to reach out to the electorate, while the electorate used it to become more involved in policy-making and hold their representatives to account.

She was pleased that no amendments had been submitted on the text that dealt with parliamentary oversight and whistle-blowers. That showed parliamentarians agreed on the need for robust oversight tools to deal with the huge amounts of data relating to their constituents. International human rights law should apply equally in cyberspace as in the physical world. She was concerned that not everybody understood the extent of their digital footprint and how it could be nationally and internationally captured and shared. She hoped parliamentarians would work together towards a robust resolution based on best practices outlined by the United Nations and other international bodies regarding digital privacy.

Mr. H.-J. JHUN (Republic of Korea), *co-Rapporteur*, said that, in a fast-changing information age, the development of information and communications technologies had increasingly put the protection of personal data and privacy at risk. That protection was fundamental to defending the values of democracy and human rights: the draft resolution sought to determine the key role that parliaments should play in maintaining such protection. The draft resolution therefore presented and called for the observance of global norms and practices that were generally agreed by States.

It also called for a legal framework relating to and increased parliamentary oversight of the controversial mass surveillance programmes conducted by some governments, as they had not previously been subject to sufficient legal oversight. Oversight was necessary in order to protect the right to privacy and freedom of expression.

The rapid development of information and communications technologies was one reason for the rise in digital surveillance. Unless parliaments were equipped with sufficient knowledge and information, efforts to keep up with those technologies would lag. While all countries around the world were evolving quickly in the information age, their mechanisms for protecting and managing personal data differed according to political, economic or social circumstances. It was vital that they shared knowledge, experiences and best practices in order to find constructive solutions to the challenges at hand.

Debate

Mr. K. BARHAM (Jordan) said that the digital divide needed to be addressed, especially for countries where instability and social and political challenges existed. The question was how to take advantage of information and communications technologies in order to face those challenges and to ensure that real democracy flourished based on widespread online or real-world public participation. Consideration should be given to establishing regional centres to look at that question, taking into account the particular circumstances of individual countries.

Jordan recognized the importance of protecting the right to individual privacy and had drafted laws that criminalized the infringement of that right. A charter on digital rights had also been endorsed which guaranteed the rights of citizens online. He hoped that others around the world would consider similar charters.

Ms. J. MURGEL (Slovenia) said that, with rapid technological advances, ensuring privacy and personal freedoms would become an ever greater challenge in future. Hate speech was on the rise, especially on social media networks, where hatred could be stirred up against marginalized groups under the guise of individual freedom of expression. Several measures had been taken in Slovenia to address the issue, including the drafting of a new anti-discrimination law. The report of the country's human rights ombudsman was discussed annually and public hearings were also held on hate speech.

It was important to note that, if measures to limit hate speech were excessive, they could interfere with the technical and social characteristics of Internet freedom. Societies needed to establish systems to protect against intolerance and to put in place self-regulatory mechanisms. Sadly, hate and intolerance could, at times, also be heard among parliamentarians. As representatives of the people they needed to remain aware of the consequences of their actions. Slovenia called for the adoption of a code of ethics for all parliaments to serve as a basis for ensuring tolerant and constructive debate and dialogue.

Mr. I. SHANKARLAL JAIN (India) said that the digital revolution of the twenty-first century had led to rapid development in many areas and had opened up new opportunities for political participation. Innovation in information and communication technologies was enabling India's transformation into a digitally empowered society and knowledge economy. It had also brought about a new form of digitalized governance, with new technologies assisting parliaments in many aspects of their work.

However, the digital era also posed serious threats to individual privacy, as the Internet had vastly increased the capacity for intrusion. The Internet and its usage were still evolving and its future would be shaped by many choices and policies. Crucially, it had the potential to divide populations into those who were part of the digital era and those who were not: it was important to make sure that all people could participate in the digital world. Parliaments needed to work closely with governments to address issues of privacy and net neutrality and to maximize the democratic potential of the Internet.

Mr. A. MANSOURI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that parliaments were designed to bring about progress and development and to protect and promote human rights and democracy. Mass surveillance by governments, however, threatened individual rights, such as the right to privacy and freedom of expression, and inhibited the free functioning of a vibrant civil society. Such surveillance was becoming a dangerous habit rather than an exceptional measure, with reports confirming that surveillance programmes were often undertaken arbitrarily and in violation of both international law and the obligation to protect people's privacy. Recent disclosures had shown that some

governments regularly tracked the communications of ordinary people, which had shocked public opinion globally. The IPU and other international organizations needed to be frank in identifying and criticizing the most persistent and intrusive surveillance practices.

Ms. D. KOHLER-BARNARD (South Africa) said that privacy was a fundamental right that underpinned human dignity and other core values such as freedom of association and freedom of speech. New technologies, however, had made it harder for the privacy of individuals to be maintained and had given rise to complex issues regarding national and global regulation. A number of States filtered or blocked access to the Internet, thus limiting freedom of expression. Parliamentarians needed to ensure that citizens were able to exercise that freedom, whether offline or online.

South Africa was committed to the deepening of democracy underpinned by accountability, the rule of law, and respect for and promotion of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Privacy was protected as one of those fundamental rights in the South Africa's constitution. Importantly, however, it was not an absolute right: it could be infringed to uphold law and order, prevent crime and disorder and protect state security.

South Africa had one concern regarding the reference in the draft resolution to removing all legal limitations on free speech. While everyone had the right to freedom of expression, it did not extend to propaganda promoting war, incitement to violence, or advocating hatred based on race, ethnicity, gender or religion. She hoped that the Committee would consider revising the reference accordingly.

Mr. P. MARTIN-LALANDE (France) said that by enabling people to express themselves and to communicate globally, the Internet had shown itself to be a fantastic tool of freedom. The primary risk, however, was that it could become a tool of domination, whether dominance of power at the national level, dominance of one State over another, or dominance of the Internet giants over the digital economy.

The international community needed to ensure that the Internet was a tool for democracy, which gave citizens and parliamentary representatives a means of democratic control based on transparency and the trust of all stakeholders. The Standing Committee should not seek to redefine the principles established by the United Nations Charter but to determine the most appropriate parliamentary means for implementing those principles in the digital age.

Ms. T. LINDBERG (Sweden) said that as people relied increasingly on the Internet in their daily lives, it was of growing importance to reflect on its impact on democracy and human rights. Technology was a tool that could be used both for both good and harmful purposes. The Internet had enhanced access to information and the ability to communicate, but privacy could easily be jeopardized online and, in closed societies, technology was used to restrict the freedom of expression of citizens.

Parliamentarians had a primary role as guardians of the freedoms of speech, information, association and privacy, which had been enshrined in international covenants and which were fundamental to democratic societies. However, Parliamentarians also needed to recognize the challenges of fulfilling those universal commitments in the digitalized, globalized world. Sweden urged all countries to uphold fundamental rights to ensure that every individual could enjoy the right to privacy and remain free from surveillance or censorship. By ensuring freedom and security on the Internet, a more tolerant and open-minded digital world for future generations could be created.

Mr. A. NUÑEZ BETANCOURT (Cuba) said that it was difficult to speak about democracy in the digital era when the digital world was dominated by developed countries. Of the 2.7 billion people connected to the Internet (38 per cent of the global population), 78 per cent lived in the developed world. Multilateralism was the best way to bridge the gap between those with and without access to the digital universe.

The surveillance practices undertaken by various countries threatened the sovereignty of States. The use of cyberspace needed to be regulated by international law. Cuba continued to defend the protection of personal data and privacy and called for the adoption of appropriate measures for the proper control of the Internet and information and communications technologies. There were numerous obstacles to the globally inclusive use of cyberspace, including the lack of investment resources, lack of infrastructure, and the difficulties of technology transfer in the developing world.

Mr. A. JASIM (United Arab Emirates) said that there was much that was fundamentally positive about the digital era. However, there were also challenges regarding Internet usage, which called the credibility of human rights in some countries into question. Regulation of the Internet varied between countries: some governments used the pretexts of national sovereignty or security as justification for controlling the Internet. Governments and parliaments needed to respect international law and to ensure the free use of the Internet while also protecting privacy and individual rights. There also needed to be greater transparency to ensure better balance between protecting security and ensuring the Internet was not misused. One obstacle to the proper use of the Internet was the issue of companies profiting from the use of personal data, which undermined the privacy of Internet users. Regulations were also needed to prohibit terrorist organizations from using the Internet in order to target vulnerable young people and children.

Mr. H. HAMDANI (Indonesia) said that some technologies had been developed for the sole purpose of national security but that a careful balance between security interests and human rights was needed, particularly the right to privacy, which should not be violated. That was in accordance with Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which prohibited the arbitrary interference with privacy, family, home or correspondence and stated that everyone had the right to the protection of the law against such interference. The sovereignty of States should also be protected in the digital age and all States should comply with international law and human rights principles in that regard.

Business entities also needed to ensure that they protected and promoted human rights. The use of personal data by corporations without consent was increasing and it was important that businesses adhered to United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, in particular regarding privacy.

Mr. T. SUMATHIPALA (Sri Lanka) expressed concern about the misuse of private data, which could lead to the infiltration of an individual's private life and could restrict their individual freedoms, including freedom of expression. The transformation from the analogue to digital era had been remarkable; according to the International Telecommunications Union, there were billions of mobile phones subscribers globally and tens of millions used the Internet every year. Digital democracy had flourished around the world: the Internet was used as a platform for discussion and debate as well as a tool for exposing corruption, enhancing good governance and ensuring the right to information.

It was not all positive, however. The ugly side of the Internet was shown in the way social media could be used to promote extremism and violence, hate speech, pornography and more. There were often many challenges in reconciling under the law the right to privacy, individual freedom and freedom of speech. Sri Lanka nevertheless believed that better control and regulation of the digital world was possible and the threats it posed to democratic rights could be minimized. There should be greater collaboration between the IPU and the International Telecommunications Union to address the challenges posed by the digital sphere. Governments needed to enact appropriate legislation, bearing in mind the evolving nature of information and communications technologies and that limiting access to the Internet or imposing censorship was deemed to be counterproductive. Parliaments also needed to ensure that citizens enjoyed the same right to privacy in both their offline and online lives. Several countries had policies in place on social media, which sought to maximize its potential and minimize the associated risks and challenges; such policies could serve as examples to others.

Mr. H. VALES (Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights) said that the draft resolution was a very good basis for discussion. It included certain important provisions that his Office hoped would be preserved in its final version: acknowledgement that mass surveillance programmes interfered with individuals' right to privacy; the need to increase parliamentary oversight of surveillance measures; the call for parliaments to review national laws and practices to make sure they complied with international human rights law; and references to the role and responsibilities of businesses, in accordance with the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

The resolution needed to state that laws providing for restrictions on privacy through surveillance or interception programmes should be sufficiently accessible and clear. The resolution should also highlight the need for States to ensure that any interference with the right to privacy complied with the principles of legality, proportionality and necessity, regardless of the location or nationality of individuals whose communications were under surveillance. The draft called for the removal of all legal limitations on free speech and flow of information. Given that international law

allowed for some limitations in very limited circumstances, such as in the case of hate speech, the draft resolution should instead call for the removal of all unnecessary and disproportionate limitations to freedom of expression, in accordance with international human rights law.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKU (Kenya) said that the topic of democracy and the digital era drew together both branches of government through the need to promote democracy while protecting citizens in the digital world. His key concern was to ensure that the resolution reflected the current reality of terrorism; criminals and terrorist groups had invaded the digital world and were using it to recruit people and spread hate speech. It was essential that parliamentarians strike the right balance between their responsibilities to provide an open space for freedoms, individual rights and democracy and to protect their citizens.

Mr. Y. NI (China) said that the mass cyber surveillance programmes of certain countries revealed by Edward Snowden infringed the information sovereignty of States and citizens' privacy. The concerns of the international community regarding surveillance had been raised in UN General Assembly Resolution 68/167 on the right to privacy in the digital age. There should be no double standards: despite the globalized nature of the Internet, every country had the right to safeguard its information security. No country should be able to seek its own so-called 'absolute security' at the expense of the security of others or to monopolize international cyberspace through their own technological advantages.

International coordination and cooperation needed to be enhanced in order to promote greater democracy in cyber governance. Countries differed in terms of their national circumstances, culture, traditions, needs and concerns regarding the Internet. Internationally, appropriate norms and a global code of conduct on Internet governance should be adopted that were acceptable to all countries. States should also continue efforts to apply international law to the new developments of the digital age.

Ms. J. ALSAMMAK (Bahrain) said that the reference to systems of communication for the public good and the protection of basic rights might be too general and therefore problematic for some countries. Instead the text should refer to safe systems of communication in the area of human rights. Regarding the reference to the free exchange of information and ideas, she urged all parliaments to remove any obstacles to that exchange or to freedom of expression, even if that required legislation to be amended. Parliaments should also review national laws, including constitutions, to ensure that they were aligned with international law and human rights.

Mr. F. ALSHAYA (Kuwait) said that, at such a time of change in the world, it was imperative for all governments and parliaments to guarantee social justice and the right to privacy for all people and to do all that they could to deliver the benefits of information and communications technologies to everyone. Such technology had created a favourable environment for democratic progress in many countries, including by enabling citizens to exercise their political rights. Governments and people had been brought together by the tools of e-governance. Social media, for example, enabled citizens to participate more effectively in political life and to better communicate with their parliaments or governments. New technologies also helped to monitor the effectiveness of governments and to reduce corruption.

It was essential, however, that all aspects of digital democracy were respected by governments and citizens alike. Governments in particular needed to respect individual freedoms. Parliaments should ensure that their governments guaranteed freedom of expression and used technology to enhance participation rather than to restrict individual freedoms or conduct surveillance.

The IPU should push for greater international cooperation to guarantee those freedoms without infringing the national sovereignty. National security issues should also be addressed, as many countries used that as the rationale for reducing individual freedoms. All States should implement relevant international agreements in order to guarantee global peace and security.

Mrs. F. KOOFI (Afghanistan) thanked the Standing Committee for having elected her compatriot Ms. F. Naderi as its first women Chair. She hoped that Ms. Naderi would be able to join them for future sessions.

Afghans had enjoyed freedom of speech for the past 15 years and now had one of the most democratic media laws in the region. It was important that freedom for one did not limit the freedom of others. There was a need for effective frameworks on digital media that did not limit individual privacy. The threat of violence was often as bad as violence itself: protection from online harassment was therefore needed, particularly for women.

Mr. C. KIM SEN (Malaysia) said that the digitalization of the world and advances in information and communications technologies posed an inherent threat to the right to privacy and individual freedoms. Malaysia was committed to protecting those rights and freedoms: various laws had been enacted to that end, including on personal data protection, which set strict conditions for any interception, collection or analysis of data. In addition, Malaysia continuously sought to counter all forms of extremism, to promote peace, unity and stability as a multicultural, multiracial and multi-faith country and to work constructively with the international community to build and promote democracy.

Mr. G. MIGLIORE (Italy) said that the digital revolution was global by nature. All people's individual rights and the freedoms of expression and opinion should be protected; nobody should be subjected to hate speech on the Internet, which was a serious violation of those freedoms. All people should be free to express their personalities online without fear of governments or multinational corporations monitoring or using their personal data. Italy had enacted a range of legislation on digital freedoms and had also established a commission on the rights of the individual on the Internet.

Ms. T.V. SHIKONGO (Namibia) said that ever-evolving technologies and advanced technical systems were of great benefit to the world but were also susceptible to illegitimate use. Namibia's constitution guaranteed the rights to privacy and to freedom of association but also made provisions for those rights to be curtailed in the interests of national security, public safety or the economic well-being of the country. Any interception of communications was carried out by law enforcement, security and intelligence agencies in their work to combat crime and threats to national security. Such interception was conducted in accordance with the law, ensuring that the rights of citizens were not interfered with arbitrarily.

Social media networks were powerful tools for spreading information to the general public but there were also various dangers associated with social media, including cyberbullying. Robust laws were needed regarding online protection, especially for children. Parliaments needed to share best practices to ensure that legal frameworks were effective in addressing risks related to cybersecurity, electronic transactions, data protection and online child protection. All parliaments needed to raise awareness among communities about the risks of abusing social media.

Mr. J.A. COLOMA (Chile) said that privacy should be better defined. It was usually linked to freedom of expression but sometimes, the right to privacy could infringe on that and other freedoms. For example, an individual's right to privacy and a journalist's freedom of expression could run wholly counter to each other. It was therefore important to define the measures by which a person was able to exercise that right to privacy.

Robust regulation was needed: the draft resolution included important references to strict judicial procedures for authorizing communications surveillance, limits on surveillance duration, and the security and storage of the data collected. Authorization should only be given to collect data that was relevant to a specific investigation and not to arbitrarily collect all of an individual's data.

Mrs. S. KOUKOUMA KOUTRA (Cyprus) said that all citizens should have unobstructed access to the Internet, whatever the challenges might be to achieving that. The Internet had become a principal means of exercising the rights to freedom of expression and information; any impediment to Internet access was a violation of human rights. Moreover, the Internet was increasingly linked to daily life in all societies; attempts to limit access could lead to protest or even social unrest. Parliaments had a duty to safeguard citizens' human rights online; to do so, they needed to be well informed and have effective oversight of surveillance and data interception with transparent and secure access to information.

When a State had concerns that crime or terrorism-related activities or networks were being facilitated by the Internet, it had a legitimate right to dismantle those networks through appropriate legislation. However, governments' suspicions were not always well-founded and their actions could harm Internet users' rights. Finding a balance between privacy and security was not easy. The United States and some European intelligence agencies had conducted global, indiscriminate, mass surveillance and interception of electronic communications and had not cooperated in ending the practice of retaining citizens' profiles. A well-governed and safe online society should be one where someone could send e-mails, make a phone call, use a credit card or read an electronic book without fear of what any government agency might be thinking about them. For the protection of human rights to prevail, parliamentarians needed to maximize the benefits of Internet use for people's rights and to minimize any risk of those rights being undermined.

Mr. S.A.A.K. LEGHARI (Pakistan) said that the digital era offered vast opportunities to citizens to freely express their views and participate in democratic processes; but it also posed challenges with regard to ensuring an individual's right to privacy. Pakistan was deeply concerned about the arbitrary mass surveillance, including extraterritorial surveillance, carried out by some States in clear violation of the right to privacy and of the principle of proportionality. He called for those States to be held accountable under an international justice system.

Human rights should be recognized and protected equally online and offline; awareness of online rights should be raised among citizens. Freedom of expression should be upheld in accordance with the relevant articles of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights; the exercise of that freedom should not impinge on the freedom and rights of others. States should ensure net neutrality and ensure equal Internet access for all. Parliaments had a key role in monitoring businesses as one element of ensuring net neutrality. They also had a wider oversight role to protect the right to privacy for individuals. Pakistan was in the process of approving a law on cybercrime that would mean no personal data could be accessed without the approval of the relevant authorities.

Mrs. V. MATA (Venezuela) said that technological development was essential to the development of all States. However, limited technology transfer was generating new inequalities between the developed and developing parts of the world. Developing countries still had much to do in order to ensure equal access to the Internet. Parliaments should remain attentive to ensure that the digital era promoted development and freedoms for their citizens. Mass surveillance posed a serious threat to democracy and freedoms. Venezuela looked forward to cooperating in the design of mechanisms to ensure the transparent use of surveillance and interception practices.

Mr. A. GERASYMOV (Ukraine) said that freedom of speech and information was a cornerstone of digital democracy but noted that, if used improperly, new technologies could threaten the enjoyment of human rights. The use of mobile electronic devices continued to grow, enhancing possibilities for people to communicate and manage their daily lives. However, numerous devices were now equipped with software which was capable of collecting and storing personal data and which allowed for the tracking and surveillance of individuals. That data could be processed to provide detailed profiles of the individuals concerned. Processing that data without the necessary safeguards and security raised major human rights-related concerns. Ukraine had made considerable efforts to enhance its legislation to protect personal data and to ensure independent oversight of the automatic processing of that data.

Democracy was threatened when the tools of the digital era were abused for unlawful purposes. Ukraine faced that threat currently following the rise of Russian aggression. Propaganda had been disseminated by the Russian media to incite hatred and violence and to manipulate public opinion. That served to undermine freedom of expression and global and regional efforts to tackle intolerance and hate speech. Ukraine requested the support of all States in calling on the Russian Federation to abide by commitments to protect freedom of speech and information.

Mrs. Z. BENAROUS (Algeria) said that the digital revolution, with its emphasis on freedom of information, brought with it challenges regarding the right to privacy. As both a parliamentarian and a journalist, she felt a victim of the new digital era, as everything she said could be traced and tracked and her private life was no longer her own.

Algeria was still a relatively young democracy and was a country that had been ravaged by terrorism. Algeria recognized the positive benefits of the digital age but also had direct experience of its threats, such as cybercrime. The digital era brought with it many new pressures and exacerbated existing threats and problems. Measures were being taken to address those threats, and there was recognition of the need for legislation that both protected the privacy and dignity of citizens and also ensured peace, security and stability.

Ms. B. AMONGI (Uganda) said that the digital era was remarkable for making available to all people all recorded knowledge in digitized archives. However, it had also enabled States to engage in surveillance and curtailed the individual freedoms of many people, including politicians and journalists. It was a vital topic of debate for parliamentarians, who needed to enact laws that protected fundamental rights and prohibited the curtailing of democratic freedoms. Many countries had enacted draconian laws in the name of countering terrorism and used them to intercept the communications of political opponents, journalists and others.

The Meeting of Women Parliamentarians had discussed the topic and would be proposing amendments to the draft resolution. They wished to underscore that the digital era perpetuated sexual violence against women and children, as the Internet was used as a tool for trafficking, pornography, psychological abuse and gender-based harassment.

Mr. Z. SANDUQA (Palestine) said that the occupation that Palestinians lived under violated their rights every day, including their digital rights. Their digital world was infiltrated by those in Israel who sought to spread xenophobic and hate messages and to sow discord among Palestinians. Individuals also had their private telephones tapped. Some were imprisoned as a result of those taps in violation of their rights. There were also attempts to derail agreements made between Palestine and corporations that would help to develop the economy.

Ms. A. ALSHAMAN (Saudi Arabia) said that the digital era had given rise to the threat of 'electronic' terrorism, which her country and many others faced. Daesh used thousands of websites worldwide, including social media networks, in order to recruit young people. Despite all efforts, it was a major challenge to stop Daesh as new websites immediately took the place of any that were shut down.

Such circumstances only served to diminish democracy in the struggle to ensure both national security and the protection of private data in the digital sphere. Parliamentarians needed to ensure that States adopted balanced approaches that protected security as well as human rights and fundamental freedoms.

Mrs. A. DE LA PENA GOMEZ (Mexico) said that the right to Internet access should be considered as a human right; it was the responsibility of governments to provide Internet access in public spaces for those with the most difficulty in gaining access. All people had the right to access the knowledge, information and experience of the digital sphere. It was clear, however, that there were challenges in ensuring that the right to privacy and protection of personal data were not affected by any abuse of the Internet.

Mr. K. HARI BABU (India) said that individual freedoms offered citizens the chance to speak and act according to their individual choices without external intervention. However, those freedoms could not be absolute and should not compromise another person's privacy, safety and rights. An increase in cybercrimes and cyberattacks meant that there were ever greater challenges in trying to balance the protection of individual freedoms and national security. With unprecedented amounts of personal data placed online, parliamentarians were increasingly called upon to safeguard citizens' privacy and data from use by both commercial and non-commercial actors. As such it would be valuable to include a paragraph on cybercrime and cyberattacks in the draft resolution. The resolution should also underscore the significance of the Overall Review of the World Summit on the Information Society Outcomes.

There should be greater cooperation between governments, the private sector, civil society and technical sector in order to ensure that legislation and policies were harmonized and took full account of emerging technologies. Those stakeholders should also ensure that emerging technologies did not threaten democracy, privacy, freedoms and security.

The Committee began the process of considering amendments to the draft resolution in plenary at 11.55 a.m.

SITTING OF TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 11.40 a.m. with Mrs. A. King (New Zealand), Member of the Bureau of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Debate on and adoption of a resolution on Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms

The CHAIR thanked the Standing Committee for its hard work and commitment to finalizing the draft resolution and proposed that the Committee adopt the draft resolution in its entirety.

The Standing Committee adopted the resolution by consensus.

Appointment of a rapporteur to the 133rd Assembly

The CHAIR proposed that Ms. B. Jónsdóttir (Iceland) be appointed Rapporteur of the Committee to the 133rd Assembly.

It was so decided.

Preparations for future Assemblies

The CHAIR said that the Bureau had considered eight proposals for the subject item of the Committee's next resolution, which would be debated and adopted at the 135th Assembly in October 2016. The proposals put forward to the Committee were: *The inadmissibility of outside interference in the affairs of foreign states in order to change the regime by force*, submitted by the Russian Federation, and *The freedom of women to participate in political processes fully, safely and without interference: Building partnerships between men and women to achieve this objective*, submitted by Australia. She invited both proponents to speak on their respective proposed subject items.

Mr. K. KOSACHEV (Russian Federation) recalled the Committee's debate at the 132nd Assembly, *International law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights*. The resolution as adopted contained a proposal for a committee to be set up within the IPU to prepare a declaration based on the resolution as a way of further contributing to the enhancement of peace and international security. The Russian Federation did not believe that such a declaration would be an adequate response to that important issue which the world faced.

Certain concepts were being introduced into international law, such as humanitarian intervention and the responsibility to protect. Those could certainly lead to the right course of action if countries found themselves in difficulty when trying to protect civil society and human rights. In some cases, however, certain countries used difficult situations, or the shortcomings of a State's political system as a pretext to intervene in the internal affairs of that sovereign State and attempt to change the government by military force, sanctions or economic pressure. The Committee had not addressed that issue at the 132nd Assembly but had a duty to debate it fully.

Mrs. L. MARKUS (Australia) said that the issues of women's empowerment and full participation in public life were human rights issues. Women had the right to equal participation with men in shaping and implementing decisions and policies affecting them, their families, communities and society. However, while there had been progress in the level of women's participation, only 22 per cent of all parliamentarians were women, as of August 2015. The issue also concerned women's representation in political parties; their access to and support for being selected to run as candidates; and their freedom to express voting preferences in privacy, without fear of coercion.

Male and female leaders had a responsibility to ensure that women could participate freely and safely in all aspects of the political process. It was essential that leaders worked strategically to improve the situation for women around the world.

The Standing Committee voted by a show of hand for the proposal submitted by Australia as the subject item for the next resolution to be considered by the Committee.

The CHAIR said that consultations would be carried out to identify two Rapporteurs to work on the chosen topic.

On a recommendation of the Bureau, the Committee decided to accept a joint proposal by Mexico and the United Kingdom to hold an additional debate at the next Assembly entitled *Open Parliaments: Building an association on accountability*, which would not lead to a resolution.

Elections to the Bureau

The CHAIR proposed that the Standing Committee approve two nominations. The Group of Latin America and the Caribbean wished to nominate Mr. M. Bouva (Suriname) to complete the mandate of Mr. A. Misiekaba, a Bureau member from the same country. The Eurasia Group wished to nominate Mr. V. Senko (Belarus) to complete the mandate of Ms. A. Naumchik from the same country.

It was so decided.

The sitting rose at 12.05 p.m.

Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

SITTING OF SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.50 p.m. with Mr. R. Tau (South Africa), President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

(C-I/133/A.1)

The agenda was adopted.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (March-April 2015)

The summary records of the last session were approved.

Elections to the Bureau

The PRESIDENT said that the Bureau had no vacant positions and commended the stability of its membership.

Expert hearing

Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights

The PRESIDENT recalled that, at the 132nd Assembly, the Standing Committee had agreed on the above subject item for its next resolution, to be debated and adopted at the 134th Assembly. In preparation, the Committee had agreed to hold an expert hearing on terrorism at the present session. He introduced the two invited panellists who would share their own perspectives on the subject: Mr. A.S. El-Dawla, Chief of Section in the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and Mr. K. Koser, Executive Director of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).

Mr. A.S. EL-DAWLA (CTED), *panellist*, said that the current terrorist threat was dominated by groups such as Daesh, Boko Haram, Al-Qaida and Al-Shabaab. Various factors had contributed to the evolution of the threat posed by those groups and foreign terrorist fighters. While States had successfully introduced many measures to counter terrorism their success had also forced terrorists to adapt their modus operandi for further attacks, thereby transforming and increasing the threat. Terrorists knew that the most wanted individuals among them were on global watch lists. They therefore sought to recruit individuals who were unknown to the authorities, including by using the Internet to recruit across regions and to bypass law enforcement systems. So-called "lone wolves" posed another growing threat. Any individual could subscribe to the same ideology as a terrorist group, without being known to the authorities and could attack civilians anywhere at any time. It was difficult to address such a threat, as laws and criminal justice systems needed to strike a careful balance between regulating and deterring on the one hand and protecting freedoms and rights on the other. Ideology-related threats were numerous and complex. Countering them required them to be properly understood. Some had argued that terrorists all shared the same ideology but that had been disproved in recent years. There were crucial differences between Al-Qaida and Daesh, for example: Al-Qaida required its followers to die for it and operated from hide-outs, while Daesh required its followers to kill for it and controlled considerable territory with vast resources.

Broadly, the challenges to counter-terrorism were policy-related, legal and operational. At the policy level, the primary issue was striking a balance between protecting national or regional security and boosting the economy and trade. An example was how to maintain the free movement of capital and people across borders while also having effective measures for screening people and goods to prevent possible terrorist attacks. There was no single solution for all circumstances. States needed to adopt comprehensive, integrated counter-terrorism approaches that involved all stakeholders, not least the government, civil society and private sector.

Noting that the legal challenges were too numerous to cover in full, he drew particular attention to those related to foreign terrorist fighters. The threat posed by those fighters had evolved quickly and dramatically in recent times, bringing unique challenges for criminal justice systems. The journey from interest, to radicalization, to commitment, action and, ultimately, joining a foreign terrorist group had accelerated rapidly, which complicated efforts to follow, intercept, investigate and prosecute cases. The individuals being recruited were also increasingly younger, sometimes as young as 15. Significant numbers of women were also joining those groups and, sometimes, whole families relocated. Authorities were struggling to cope with those new dimensions and to develop the necessary prosecution strategies. It was also a complex task to generate admissible evidence against foreign terrorist fighters. Close cooperation and coordination between intelligence, law enforcement and prosecution agencies was vital. Involving prosecutors from the outset would enhance decision-making processes and ensure successful intervention and prosecution. Another challenge was the difficulty of proving intent to commit an act of terrorism before individuals physically joined terrorist organizations in conflict zones, as many claimed to be travelling for humanitarian purposes. Although States were beginning to amend their laws so as to address some of those challenges, practical implementation was still proving difficult.

At the operational level, information exchange was a primary challenge. Nationally, there was a need for: greater coordination and information exchange between agencies; real-time information exchange to boost the capacity of border officers to secure borders; provision of relevant intelligence to strengthen the work of agencies that conducted risk assessments; and faster information exchange among law enforcement agencies than among terrorists. The bilateral agreements between States in different regions was often more limited than those in the same region, as States in the same region often shared concerns and policies. However, as terrorists increasingly exchanged information across regions more interregional agreements between States were needed to establish more effective, faster channels for cooperation and information exchange.

Parliaments were primarily responsible for drafting or amending laws that would address those challenges. Their approach to adopting counter-terrorism legislation should be based on the rule of law and focus not only on the penal code but also the criminal procedure code. Parliaments could also benefit from the legal texts of relevant international bodies working on counter-terrorism, notably United Nations resolutions, in order to harmonize the message globally and to facilitate implementation later on. Actively managing the process of enacting legislation was key. The period of debate and discussion was important but it was vital that texts were approved in a timely manner to enable law enforcement and intelligence agencies to work under them.

Mr. K. KOSER (GCERF), *panellist*, said that his Fund was a relatively new mechanism, established to support local communities to build resilience against violent extremist agendas. GCERF was currently working in Bangladesh, Mali and Nigeria and would be extending its scope to Kenya, Kosovo and Myanmar in 2016. The Fund presented a new approach to preventing and countering violent extremism and was an important tool for global counter-terrorism efforts.

He outlined the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats that were identified when taking stock of the early months of that new approach. There were three key strengths. Firstly, the Fund provided a counterweight to the security, military and intelligence-led approach to combating terrorism. Some had acknowledged that that approach alone had not always been effective enough and that a comprehensive approach, including community development and local solutions, would be more successful. Secondly, the Fund was a truly global endeavour which made considerable efforts towards building a global coalition. Thirdly, there was a strong focus on communities: to understand why people turned to violent extremist agendas, it was essential to understand and engage with the communities in which they lived and worked.

The Fund was still relatively new. Since its establishment, he had observed various ways in which it could be enhanced. Firstly, the Fund was working in something of a vacuum: there was no definition of and a lack of research on violent extremism, particularly regarding what drove people to such extremism and how to counter that. Secondly, human rights had not been sufficiently linked to countering violent extremism. Thirdly there was no legal framework. Some countries were developing frameworks to counter violent extremism, but there was not yet a clear legal framework at the international level.

Nevertheless, the new approach generated a number of opportunities. Firstly, it had brought together both the security and development communities after what seemed to have been a division between the two in recent years. Countering violent extremism bridged the gap between them, as it was about achieving security outcomes by using development tools and principles.

Secondly, there was an opportunity to engage with the private sector, where GCERF had seen considerable success both at headquarters and local levels. The private sector had a clear interest in tackling violent extremism: businesses wanted to ensure that there was a safe environment for investment, talent pools were not being damaged and supply chains were resilient. Thirdly, there was an opportunity to develop a bottom-up approach. A reasonable criticism of the global war on terror was that it had used a top-down approach with no outstanding success in many countries. By working from the bottom up, it was possible to understand what drove individuals or communities to extremism and to find community-based solutions.

Nevertheless, there were still some threats or risks to GCERF's approach and the current thrust against violent extremism. Firstly, holding meetings and summits risked swamping action. There had been good high-level dialogue on the issue but action was now necessary if progress was to be made. Secondly, in the event of a major terrorist attack, countries might swiftly revert to a military and security-based approach. A sustainable focus on development and community solutions should be maintained, even in the face of major terrorist atrocities. Thirdly, it was difficult to demonstrate impacts and results. By definition, countering violent extremism was a long-term endeavour, particularly in terms of making sure that young people and others did not become radicalized. The international community needed to commit to staying the course for the long term.

He recommended all parliamentarians to ensure support and funding for community-based measures that countered violent extremism; to ensure robust human-rights-based legal frameworks to underpin that work; and to engage all stakeholders, not least the private sector and civil society.

Debate

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) said that his country had a transparent policy on terrorism which condemned all forms of terrorist activity, wherever it occurred, and regardless of its perpetrators or their motivations. Cuba also condemned any action to promote, support, incite, or cover up any act of terrorism. Terrorism was intrinsically violent and Cuba rejected any claim that terrorist activity could ever be justified, even if it was deemed to be in the wider interest of a particular State. Cuba was a signatory to the three relevant United Nations conventions and protocols to counter terrorism and had also adopted national laws to detect, prevent and penalize terrorism and related crime, such as money-laundering. None of the problems in the world, including terrorism, could be solved by strength alone. In order to eliminate terrorism, there was a vital need to continue with policies of peace and of respect for international laws and security.

Mr. S. ALSAMAHI (United Arab Emirates) said that a profusion of definitions of terrorism prevented countries from united, effective cooperation to combat it. Terrorist groups were exploiting the situation and a common definition was urgently needed. His country wholeheartedly opposed the name "Islamic State": Islam was a religion of peace and forbade the killing of innocent persons. He urged the international community not to give the group credence by using that name. International counter-terrorism agreements needed to address and limit the use of social media and new technologies for the recruitment of young people to or the financing of terrorist groups. Strengthening economic and social development was also vital to preventing young people from joining those groups or from carrying out individual acts of terrorism.

Mr. O. ALROWAIE (Kuwait) agreed that there was a need to define terrorism. Terrorist acts had considerably worsened in the previous few decades, moving from the use of traditional weapons, to kidnappings and hostage-taking, to the hijacking of airplanes. The present day practice of using modern technologies had further increased terrorists' abilities to wreak havoc and devastation. Unlike traditional wars, which inevitably came to an end, terrorism continued to expand. That was why a single, internationally agreed definition was needed. Global, coordinated action could then be taken that would counter terrorism, end the worsening violence and human rights violations associated with it and ensure security and stability for all countries. The forms of State-sponsored terrorism occurring in Palestine, where many people were suffering, should also be addressed.

Mr. D. OPREA (Romania) drew attention to a joint initiative by Romania and Spain to create an international court for terrorism. It acknowledged the international community's need to do more to combat terrorism, not only with military force but also through international criminal law. Existing legislation was fragmented and did not sufficiently address the challenges of countering terrorism. Establishing an independent, neutral court, possibly through the adoption of a treaty or United Nations resolution, would give recognition to the transnational nature of terrorism while also enhancing the legitimacy of international efforts to combat the scourge.

Mr. A. SUWANMONGKOL (Thailand) said that all forms of terrorism and violent extremism posed a serious threat, not only to international security, peace and harmony, but also to democracy and human rights. Since the events of 9/11, the world had recognized the ferocity and complexity of terrorism and its damaging impact on humanity, yet still lacked an internationally agreed definition. Cyberterrorism was increasing and targeting critical infrastructure: the lack of a definition of what constituted terrorism posed considerable challenges to countering it. It was not enough to focus on particular acts of terrorism; its root causes should also be addressed. Parliamentarians needed to lead the international community in effectively tackling issues of poverty, social disparity, marginalization and lack of economic opportunity. Other terrorism-related crimes should also be addressed, including trafficking in persons, the illicit drugs trade, the arms trade and money-laundering.

Mr. K. ÖRNFJÄDER (Sweden) said that the Swedish Parliament had recently held a seminar on the important role of women in combating terrorism. There were various examples of the organized violence that terrorist groups perpetrated against women in conflicts, including systematic rape and forced marriages. Strategies were needed to defend women's rights. It was important to remember that there were also women who joined terrorist groups and to address the specific factors that attracted them. European women who had joined Islamic State spoke of restrictions to their religious practices and of feelings of alienation in their home countries. National policies needed to ensure religious freedom for all and to improve coordination and cooperation between agencies at all levels of society to prevent violent extremism. Women had a vital role to play in decision-making and brokering peace in conflict zones and it was essential that they were enabled to fulfil that role before, during and after conflicts.

Mr. M. KADAM (Chad) said that his country well understood the scourge of terrorism, as Chad had been fighting together with other countries in the region against Boko Haram for many months. In trying to agree a single definition of terrorism, the international community needed to recognize the differing realities on the ground; terrorist activities varied greatly in terms of their scope and cause.

Effective counter-terrorism was hampered not only by a lack of resources but also by the slow pace of cooperation. The international community risked becoming bogged down in meetings and in drafting agreements, without moving to practical action, including assessments of the scope of damage and the extent of forced marriages or rape perpetrated by the terrorist groups.

Mrs. S.M. MAZARI (Pakistan) said that discussions on terrorism often focused solely on non-State actors and neglected State terrorism, through which some countries aided and abetted the killing of innocent civilians. Given the lack of consensus on a definition of terrorism, the newly devised but vague concept of violent extremism, which also had no clear definition, was regrettable. She questioned whether it would be defined on the basis of culture or religion and whether the violence and extremism increasingly occurring against minority groups in Europe would be addressed.

Pakistan was concerned about the attention being given to violent extremism, as it diverted focus away from the efforts to combat terrorism and seemed to unnecessarily politicize the matter. As a result of its concerns, Pakistan had recently abstained from voting on a relevant resolution of the United Nations Human Rights Council. The international community needed to continue to prioritize combating terrorism and reaching a universal understanding of the basic concept of terrorism.

Mr. B. QASEM (Palestine) stressed the importance of supporting young people and providing them with secure futures. That would avoid their being enticed to join terrorist organizations, which targeted the vulnerable. Ministers of youth needed innovative initiatives to help counter terrorism, extremism and violence.

Palestinians suffered not only from occupation but also from terrorist activity carried out with the support of the Israeli government, including the inciting of extremists to attack holy sites or to commit violence against young people and children. Parliamentarians needed to adopt clear strategies against all State-sponsored, organized terrorism.

Ms. I. KLYMPUSH-TSINTSADZE (Ukraine) welcomed the panellists' emphasis on the need for different regions to cooperate more extensively and efficiently to counter terrorism. She agreed with the need for consensus on a definition of terrorism. Ukraine had long participated in counter-

terrorism efforts and had never been a target of terrorism until the onset of Russian aggression. Since then, there had been a number of State-sponsored terrorist attacks, killing many civilians. Russian training camps had been established in the annexed territory of Crimea, occupied territories of Donetsk and Luhansk and other disputed territories in the region.

She asked how States that supported and sponsored terrorist activity could be punished, particularly when they denied any involvement in such activities. The international community needed to know how to address the involvement of the Russian Federation, a permanent member of the United Nations Security Council, in violating international law and sponsoring terrorism.

Mr. D. PACHECO (Portugal) asked whether sanctions placed on one State by another constituted a kind of terrorism. Regarding the financing of terrorism greater coordination was needed to prevent the trade of items such as oil, drugs and antiquities on the black market. The States funding of terrorist groups also needed to be addressed. The community-based programmes undertaken by GCERF were interesting, but much more was needed to prevent recruitment in Europe, where people with middle-class backgrounds, good education and job prospects were still leaving to join terrorist groups.

Mr. M. ALKHARABSHEH (Jordan), referring to previous interventions, asked whether occupation was considered a form of state terrorism. Parliamentarians had an important role to play in taking key decisions on combating terrorism and ensuring that peace and security for all countries was promoted through democracy. Jordan condemned all forms of terrorism and had paid a high price for its counter-terrorism efforts. Jordan had striven to implement all international obligations to combat terrorism in national laws and urged all parliaments to do likewise so as to ensure that terrorism could be effectively countered at the global level.

Ensuring peace and security at the global level was a continuing struggle. Jordan called for conflict resolution through political negotiation rather than violence. The Arab Group sincerely hoped that all problems related to terrorism in the region could be resolved and that extremist groups would be prohibited from manipulating religion for their own twisted ideological ends.

Mr. M. HOSSEINI SADR (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that terrorist acts were becoming fiercer and more organized than ever before. Sadly, that was especially true in Islamic countries, despite Islam being a religion of peace. He asked: what the United Nations had planned in terms of a comprehensive programme to counter terrorism; what the Counter-Terrorism Committee had done to identify the financial resources of terrorist groups and define different types of terrorism including cyberterrorism; whether terrorist groups could be blocked from using cyberspace to recruit members globally; and what criteria existed for identifying a country as a supporter of terrorism.

Mr. R.K. SINGH (India) stated that terrorism was the greatest threat to peace and international security that the world currently faced. India was no stranger to that threat and had experienced a number of horrific terror attacks in recent years. Although the panellists had given a comprehensive analysis of the problem as they saw it, he believed their analysis fell short: the roots of terrorism did not always lie in poverty or a lack of education, as demonstrated by the many Daesh recruits that came from developed countries.

India believed that State sponsorship of terrorist organizations was a major challenge. Some States used terrorism as an instrument of their national or foreign policy and helped to finance, recruit, train, and provide shelter to terrorist fighters. Despite the adoption of various United Nations resolutions, the international community was not doing enough to sanction those States. There was no excuse for terrorism and no such thing as a “good” terrorist who could be supported by any State. Parliamentarians needed to take the lead in condemning all forms of terrorism and all those who financed or supported it.

Mr. D. AL-ASADI (Iraq) said that the terrorist group known as Islamic State should not be referred to by that name and should only be called Daesh. Daesh was not recognized as a State, nor was it an Islamic group. The current situation in Iraq and the wider Middle East was the result of the foreign policies of the world’s superpowers and many years of intervention in the region. Iraq, which had long been known as the cradle of civilization, was now suffering considerably at the hands of Daesh. It had bombed sacred historical tombs of prophets and other sites. The world’s response had been inadequate. Some who fought for Daesh came from many other countries in all regions of the world; they would not return to their home countries as citizens but as terrorists.

States needed to increase their support for combating Daesh, not only for Iraq's sake but also in order to prevent Daesh terrorists from committing atrocities in other countries. To improve security in Iraq, it was also vital to boost its economy and overcome many of the problems that it had faced in recent years.

Mr. A.K. AZAD (Bangladesh) said that democracy faced many threats but terrorism was perhaps the greatest. Despite the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee having taken up the matter 14 years previously, the progress made to date was not encouraging. Mr. El-Dawla had mentioned the various types of agency that needed to be involved in counter-terrorism efforts but had not talked about any results that had already been achieved. Terrorist activities were still increasing around the world. The international community, including parliamentarians, needed to end the lengthy discussions and reach firm agreement on how to move from dialogue to action.

Mr. J. STEENHUISEN (South Africa) agreed with many other speakers on the need for a single, international definition of terrorism. Too often, illegitimate governments used the word "terrorist" to target and pursue those legitimately fighting for democracy in their countries. An international definition would go a long way to resolving that issue.

Countering terrorism often seemed an almost insurmountable task. Countries should therefore focus on the particular areas where clear, cooperative action could be taken against terrorism, such as on the sources of its financing. Funding frequently came from criminal activity, including prostitution, racketeering and the illicit drugs trade. He asked whether any research existed on the relationship between criminal cartels and terrorist organizations. In tackling the links between crime and terrorism, States needed to cooperate in order to exchange information on those who financially supported terrorists and to strictly regulate transborder capital flows and lax banking regulations, as those were frequently exploited by terrorists.

He acknowledged others' views on the lack of a causal link between poverty and terrorism but underscored that extremists often exploited situations of hopelessness, hunger and unemployment as breeding grounds for recruitment. Overcoming those issues through a strong commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals was essential to discouraging the recruitment to terrorist groups.

Mr. Y.-K. WOO (Republic of Korea) said that terrorism posed the utmost threat to the security of the globalized world in the 21st century. According to a study, terrorist incidents occurred in 130 countries between 2001 and 2013. Terrorism was increasingly transnational, indiscriminate and destructive. It had far-reaching impacts on all aspects of political, economic and social life. By capitalizing on vulnerabilities inherent to the world's interdependent societies, and by using the Internet, social networks and other technologies, terrorists could carry out attacks whenever and wherever they pleased. In response, the international community needed to renew its commitment to counter-terrorism measures and to fulfilling its obligations under relevant United Nations instruments. Greater cooperation was also needed to counter violent extremism, poverty, unemployment and discrimination, all of which had been identified as causes of the recent escalation in terrorism.

Mr. A. WARE (PNND)) underscored the risks associated with terrorists acquiring and using weapons of mass destruction or radiological materials out of which crude nuclear weapons or radiological bombs could be made. Some important international agreements and mechanisms existed for addressing those risks and PNND encouraged all parliaments to ensure that those agreements were fully ratified and implemented. PNND further encouraged parliamentarians to remain abreast of new proposals for an agreement on control of fissile material, which was understood to be part of a forthcoming United Nations resolution to establish an open-ended working group on nuclear disarmament. The adoption of relevant resolutions by the IPU in recent years was commendable. Parliamentarians should continue to follow up on those resolutions, ensuring that appropriate measures were adopted nationally to facilitate their implementation.

Mr. J. JUWAINI (Indonesia) said that terrorism was the enemy of peace and international security and could never be justified from any religious standpoint. In order to combat terrorism, it was essential to identify and address its underlying causes. In particular, democracy should be strengthened globally and the international community needed to address the injustices that many believed existed throughout the world.

Mr. V. GUMINSKY (Belarus) said that the world had been shaken and divided by countless armed conflicts and acts of terrorism to which there had not been an effective global response. Terrorism destroyed the global balance of power, leading to a serious lack of stability, systemic crises and damaged relations between States. The international community needed to uphold the inalienable right of every State to choose its own development path. Many of the problems seen in countries such as Syria, Iraq and Libya had arisen from others trying to accelerate the establishment of democracy and supporting revolutions in those countries. Such action had been counterproductive: chaos in the region had led to the formation of extremist groups, including Daesh. There was a very real danger that militants would move to other countries, including in Europe, which posed a serious threat to global security. The only effective response to Daesh would be to create a legitimate international coalition, which adhered strictly to the norms and principles of international law, as well as relevant Security Council decisions. The United Nations should remain a forum for cooperation, not a place for confrontation or the demonstration of force by any State towards another.

Mrs. E.M. BANDA (Zambia) said that various measures had been implemented in Zambia in order to contribute to international efforts to counter and eliminate terrorism and to ensure that anyone engaging in terrorist activities would not find a safe haven in that country. Anti-terrorism legislation had been enacted to help tackle the causes of terrorism, which included government corruption, poverty and social injustice and also to help prohibit related crimes, such as money-laundering.

Zambia was in the process of establishing a national counter-terrorism centre, which would provide a policy and administrative framework with which to tackle the issue. The changing nature of terrorism meant that methods of combating it at the global level should also change. The international community needed to reassess how best to combine efforts to fight the scourge of terrorism. Success would ultimately depend on every country committing to effective action.

Mr. M. ALJOWDER (Bahrain) lamented the lack of a single, internationally agreed definition of terrorism, given the threat it posed to the world. If there was no agreement on a definition, there could be no agreement on how to combat it. Terrorist acts were not new, but they were becoming more devastating and complex. Such acts were not just committed by individuals: they were the work of organized terrorist groups with large budgets and elaborate ideological or political agendas. Terrorism gravely threatened human rights, the stability and security of States and the availability of resources.

Mr. A. CHIBAYA (Zimbabwe) said that there was a demonstrable link between development and terrorism. A number of community share ownership trusts had therefore been established in Zimbabwe to assist the poor. Youth funds had also been created to help combat unemployment and poverty, both of which provided a breeding ground for social grievances that could be hijacked by terrorist groups and used to encourage recruitment. Parliaments should push for the ratification of all United Nations conventions and protocols on combating specific forms of terrorism and for their incorporation into national legislation. Further bilateral and multilateral agreements were also needed to ensure that all States cooperated on security matters.

Mrs. L. LIU (China) said that terrorism and extremism posed major and complex challenges to social stability and security. Global cooperation was needed to counter the surge in terrorist activity that the world was experiencing. Many countries were currently in turmoil, with their people living in constant danger. The resulting refugee flows from the Middle East and North Africa increased tensions and placed pressure on other countries in that region and in Europe.

China was no stranger to terrorism. Two of its cities had experienced terrorist attacks in recent years and many Chinese civilians living overseas had been caught up in attacks elsewhere. The Chinese Government had undertaken various counter-terrorism measures at the national level and called for enhanced, effective global cooperation against a global enemy. All States should adhere to international law and regulations and allow the United Nations and its relevant bodies to play a leading and coordinating role. More attention was also needed on addressing the root causes of terrorism in order to prevent extremism from taking hold and to disrupt terrorist organizations. Any military action needed to comply with United Nations processes and relevant Security Council resolutions.

Ms. K. HUSZTI-ORBAN (OHCHR) said that the impact of terrorism and measures to counter terrorism were primary areas of concern for OHCHR. The current global turmoil once again brought into focus the considerable challenges that States faced in preventing acts of violence and safeguarding the security of their citizens. To effectively protect populations and to deliver justice, there was wide consensus that States should fulfil their obligations under international law and ensure that all laws and policies were grounded in the protection of human rights and respect for the rule of law, as set out in the United Nations Global Counter-Terrorism Strategy.

Parliaments had a cardinal role to play in ensuring that States appropriately addressed the conditions that fostered terrorism. The Strategy highlighted that terrorism and violent extremism tended to thrive in environments with a lack of respect for human rights, an absence of the rule of law, a lack of democratic space, corruption and the exclusion or marginalization of particular groups or individuals. OHCHR urged all States to view the protection of security and of human rights not as competing objectives but as interrelated, complementary and mutually reinforcing.

Mr. J. AJEO MOILING (South Sudan) said that terrorism was a universal menace requiring a universal response. Its definition should cover any act with religious, ethnic, economic or political motivations. It was particularly despicable for terrorists to use a religion as the basis for their extremist ideologies. States should ensure that all religious teaching was sound and could not be twisted to radicalize individuals or encourage extremist agendas.

Addressing the root causes of terrorism by improving social and economic conditions should be taken seriously. Parliaments should also pass legislation to combat terrorism and act cooperatively and collectively to counter it through additional means such as workshops and seminars. It was vital that States that sponsored terrorism in any way were punished.

Mr. P. NZENGUE MAYILA (Gabon) welcomed the call to move from discussion to action: that was essential given the magnitude of the problem. All States needed to be proactive in tackling the roots of terrorism, such as by identifying and punishing those who supplied weapons to terrorists. States should consider how social media was used to target and recruit young people. By combating poverty and promoting employment opportunities they would help avoid such recruitment by ensuring that all young people had promising futures.

Mrs. F. KOOFI (Afghanistan) said that, if the amount of money in the world that was used to buy weapons were instead used to create jobs and reduce poverty, there would be significantly fewer terrorist groups. It was time for all States to agree on a single, clear definition of terrorism that also took account of those who financed or provided safe havens for terrorist groups.

Women and children were often the primary victims of conflict and war. It was therefore vital that the international community agreed on a mechanism for implementing United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. Even recently, women in Afghanistan had been subject to sexual harassment and other violence by terrorist groups.

She sought clarification on the criteria for including particular groups or individuals on global watch lists; she had not heard Mr. El-Dawla mention the Taliban, which was still active in her country.

Mr. B. AKPAN (Nigeria) said he would submit his comments in writing for consideration by the panellists.

Mr. A. GOBBI (Algeria) said that Algeria had suffered greatly as a result of terrorism. More than 100,000 people had died and the costs of counter-terrorism action had reached US\$ 30 billion. Algeria had managed to overcome the terrorist threat and could now serve as an example for other countries to follow. Huge sums of money were spent on funding terrorism. All countries should ensure that they did not finance terrorism, including by refusing to pay ransoms to terrorist groups.

Mr. S. ALHUSSEINI (Saudi Arabia) said that all countries should show the same cooperative spirit on terrorism that they did on issues such as climate change and human rights. Saudi Arabia had taken various steps to combat terrorism, including through legislation. The country had also called for the establishment of the United Nations Centre for Counter Terrorism and provided US\$ 10 million towards its funding. Saudi Arabia urged other States to provide further funding for the Centre to enhance its effectiveness.

Mr. A. KLIMOV (Russian Federation), recalling the comments of the delegate from Ukraine, said that it had not been Russian forces but the Ukrainian Government that had carried out acts of State terrorism since 2014. It had used troops and heavy weapons in eastern Ukraine and killed several thousand civilians.

Mr. A.S. EL-DAWLA (CTED) welcomed all the questions that had been raised during the discussion, noting that they broadly covered five areas: successes in counter-terrorism; the definition of terrorism; the financing of terrorism; cyberterrorism; and organized crime and terrorism.

The success of counter-terrorism efforts was difficult to quantify. It was often difficult to publicize successful counter-terrorism operations, as their very success relied on high levels of confidentiality. Terrorism offences had been criminalized around the world, so it could not be said that the international community had failed to address the problem, despite the fact that terrorists continued to act. Success in counter-terrorism should be based on the rule of law: he was pleased that many laws had been enacted around the world in the past 14 years.

He advocated the use of already existing definitions of terrorism. Terrorist acts had already been defined in a number of instruments, conventions and protocols; they still provided the basis for defining terrorism today. Offences had already been outlined in those instruments; crucially, States should criminalize all those offences in domestic law, ensuring that they were clearly defined as terrorist acts. States would continue to debate a universal definition. However, the lack of agreement on that point should in no way be an excuse for failure to deal with offences on which there was already agreement, such as hijackings, kidnappings, bombings and the financing of terrorism.

The modes of financing terrorism were more complex than ever before. Previously, attention had focused on preventing money-laundering and identifying suspicious transactions. Currently, terrorist groups such as Daesh controlled large territories where many natural and other resources could be found. Those groups not only received external funding, but were also able to finance their actions by trading resources under their control, including oil, antiquities and hostages. New countermeasures were needed to stop terrorist groups from benefiting from such trade.

The link between organized crime and terrorism had been well established in recent years. As many speakers had noted, terrorist groups now often committed crimes such as kidnapping for ransom, trafficking in human organs, and money-laundering. Processes to combat money-laundering and the financing of terrorism had been joined together, so that they could be tackled according to one set of recommendations.

Cyberterrorism had, in part, arisen because of the success of conventional counter-terrorism. The more that borders and law enforcement was strengthened, the more that terrorist groups had to resort to the Internet in order to radicalize and recruit. Legislators needed to tread a careful line in ensuring a balance between criminalizing incitement to violence and protecting freedom of speech.

Although poverty was never a justification for terrorism, it should be recognized that poverty could be exploited by terrorist groups. A comprehensive and integrated approach, developed and followed by all sectors, including parliamentarians, was therefore essential in dealing with terrorism.

Mr. R.K. SINGH (India) said that individuals who had been listed at an international level as terrorists, including by the United Nations, were still moving around freely. Solutions were needed to tackle that.

Mr. A.S. EL-DAWLA (CTED) said that there was a comprehensive process for designating individuals under the United Nations sanctions regime. It was the only list of individuals on which all States agreed.

Mr. K. KOSER (GCERF), recalling Mr. El-Dawla's comments on a comprehensive approach, underscored the importance of including prevention as part of that approach. It was also vital to engage communities, as that was often where extremism emerged.

The lack of a clear definition of violent extremism was a challenge that GCERF took very seriously. GCERF did not define it as a religious issue alone, and certainly not in terms of any one religion. It was clear that there were also political and other forms of extremism: a better definition was a priority. There was no direct link between poverty and extremism but they were still related: the leaders of terrorist organizations might not be poor, but their followers often were. Poverty, injustice, marginalization and disenfranchisement made people, especially young people, susceptible to recruitment. It was an area where much more discussion was needed. The new Sustainable Development Goals would provide an opportunity in that regard.

Focusing on countering violent extremism would not divert attention from combating terrorism. A focus on violent extremism and its prevention was a complementary tool when tackling terrorism. Military, security and intelligence-based responses were necessary but there should also be a longer-term focus on prevention and providing alternatives for young people before they turned to extremism or terrorism.

Mr. A.S. EL-DAWLA (CTED), responding to the issue of reconciling human rights and counter-terrorism legislation, said that, when Bills on counter-terrorism came before parliaments, they should contain provisions to criminalize terrorism offences but also provide for the protection of the suspect's human rights, including the granting of a fair trial and the right to a lawyer and interpretation.

Workplan for future Assemblies

The PRESIDENT said that the Bureau proposed that all meetings of the Committee at the 134th Assembly should focus on discussing and finalizing the draft resolution.

It was so decided.

The sitting rose at 5.50 p.m.

Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

SITTING OF MONDAY 19 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.30 p.m. with Mr. O. Hav (Denmark), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda

(C-II/133/A.1)

It was decided to consider item 2 before item 1.

Parliamentary contribution to the 2015 UN Climate Change Conference

Mr. S. CHOWDHURY, *President of the IPU*, said that 2015 was perhaps the most important year for defining how the international community viewed, shaped policy and took action on development over the coming 15 years. The IPU had closely followed the United Nations processes on climate change, including the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction in March 2015 and the Sustainable Development Goals in September 2015. The climate change conference (COP21) to be held in Paris in December 2015 raised the question of why and how parliaments should be involved in those processes. There should be clear connections between the international agreements signed by governments and the work of parliamentarians. Increasingly, it was parliaments that were called upon to implement those international agreements at the national level.

The COP21 Paris conference would be important not just for climate change, but also for sustainable development and disaster risk reduction and resilience. The IPU advocated dealing with all three processes as a coordinated package. It was important to identify the synergies between the three and how they mutually reinforced each other. For example, if a natural disaster was not effectively managed, that could push back a country's development by a decade and greatly reduce its capacity for sustainability.

In the run-up to the COP21 Paris conference, parliamentarians should continue to push their governments to increase their levels of ambition. More than 140 countries had recently submitted their Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs). Sadly, those contributions would not limit the global temperature rise to two degrees and would instead result in warming of at least three or four degrees. It was vital that governments raised their ambitions and that clear plans of action were established for achieving the two degree objective. Parliamentarians had an important role in determining the appropriate measures to be taken. If the international community failed to properly tackle climate change, any action taken on sustainable development or managing risk would continue to fall short of what was needed.

He urged all parliamentarians to attend the two-day Parliamentary Meeting that would run alongside the COP21 conference in order to enhance the presence of national parliaments and the IPU in the climate change arena. At that Meeting discussions would open on the draft Parliamentary Action Plan on Climate Change, to be adopted at the 134th Assembly in Lusaka. Following up on the Plan and enhancing national-level implementation of climate change policies would provide the opportunity for parliaments to make a real difference to climate change.

The delegate from INDIA said that the requirements of the Sustainable Development Goals and the direction of climate change policy would create financial problems for many developing countries. He asked whether it would be possible to create a compendium of good practices that could mitigate those problems and be useful for developing action plans.

The PRESIDENT OF THE IPU said that the IPU was trying to establish best practices for countries to follow. In particular, South-South cooperation was needed: the technology needed to combat climate change often related much less to the latest development in Silicon Valley than to what communities had themselves been practising over the years. Countries could minimize the costs in various ways: a small investment today often meant substantial savings in the future.

Mr. L. BORBELY (Romania) said that 2015 was a critical year because of the approval of the Sustainable Development Goals and the COP21 climate change conference. It was hoped that COP21 would result in a legally binding agreement. Parliaments would have a crucial role and responsibility over the next 15 years, the life of the Sustainable Development Goals. Through the IPU, they needed to coordinate with possible partners, including the UN Environment Programme, UN Development Programme, the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank, to make available greater resources to fulfil the Goals and to address climate change issues. After the Climate Change Conference, discussions should be held within the IPU on finding new ways to inform citizens about what should be done in the coming 15 years.

The PRESIDENT OF THE IPU said that parliamentarians needed to focus on fulfilling their core responsibilities. They needed to ensure that there was coherence between what governments agreed internationally and the policies and legislation that implemented those agreements nationally. They also needed to ensure that national finances were properly managed and that enough was appropriated for implementing the Sustainable Development Goals, which would cost at least US\$ 1.6 trillion a year globally. The Goals represented a 15-year commitment: it was vital that parliaments were ready and had the capacity, knowledge and structures to deliver on them.

The CHAIR said that the fifth annual edition of the Global Climate Legislation Study had recently been published. It was a uniquely comprehensive review of climate change legislation throughout the world and the IPU was pleased to have been associated with the preparation and distribution of the latest edition. He introduced one of the authors of the Study, Ms. A. Averchenkova.

Ms. A. AVERCHENKOVA (London School of Economics and Political Science) presented the main findings of the Global Climate Legislation Study. In 2010, the study had covered only 16 countries, while the most recent version covering 99 countries and accounted for 93 per cent of global greenhouse gas emissions in those countries. The study looked at national legislation that specifically addressed or was related to climate change, such as laws on renewable energy, energy efficiency, land-use change or forestry.

The report found that firstly, legislative activity on climate change had grown significantly in the past decade. The number of climate change laws continued to double every four or five years and developing countries in particular had been actively putting forward climate change legislation and policies. There were now more than 800 climate-related laws globally, compared to 50 laws in 1997 when the Kyoto Protocol was adopted. Secondly, countries were taking an increasingly strategic approach to climate change: more than three-quarters of the countries analysed had put in place framework legislation. Such legislation set a vision and served as a unifying basis for all other activities taken on climate change in a country. Around 60 per cent of countries had framework legislation in place addressing both mitigation and adaptation. Around 18 per cent focused on only mitigation and a smaller percentage focused on only adaptation. Thirdly, countries were increasingly adopting quantified objectives in their climate change legislation and policies. Around 75 per cent of greenhouse gas emissions were covered by emission reduction targets and more than 40 countries had targets set up to 2020. A small number had targets going beyond that date, which was important for longer-term transformation and the decarbonization and climate-resilience of the economy. In many cases, the overall objectives and framework legislation was supported by specific activities in areas such as renewable energy or energy efficiency.

The study also found some areas where more work was needed. Firstly, emissions measurement should be improved: many countries had outdated inventories of greenhouse gas emissions so that it was difficult to assess the effectiveness of legislation. Secondly, climate change risk assessments were needed. Very few developing countries, which were most vulnerable to the effects of climate change, had assessments on the impacts they would face or what the exposure would be for key sectors of the economy.

Various issues arose in the context of the COP21 climate change conference. On ambition, the INDCs that were submitted before the deadline of 1 October 2015 covered 147 parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change and around 87 per cent of global emissions. Of those pledges, 80 per cent included quantified emission targets, which was the first time such a level of action had been seen. The pledges did not yet go far enough to allow temperature rises to stay below two degrees, but they would reduce emissions below “business as usual” levels and below what the pledges at the COP15 climate change conference in 2009 would have achieved. On feasibility, successfully achieving the emissions reductions was dependent on sufficient financial support, technology and capacity-building. There was also the issue of the

political credibility and feasibility of creating an enabling legislative and policy environment at the national level to fulfil the commitments made in Paris. Parliamentarians would have a key role to play in ensuring that political will and ambition existed to follow up on the Paris conference, achieve emission reductions and implement adaptation actions.

Mr. S. TCHELNOKOV (IPU Secretariat) drew attention to the invitation that all parliaments had received to participate in the Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, jointly organized by the IPU and French Parliament. It was hoped that the two-day event would be not just an informative meeting for parliamentarians but a chance to share views and opinions with panellists who included the United Nations Secretary General, the heads of agencies such as the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change, the UN Environment Programme, UNESCO and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development. It was further hoped that the Meeting would be the start of a new chapter in the Organisation's presence in the climate change arena and that the outcomes of the Meeting would be meaningful.

The CHAIR said that the Parliamentary Meeting would adopt a formal outcome document. The Meeting's Rapporteur, French Senator Mr. H. Maurey, had already prepared a preliminary draft. Mr. Maurey would take into account the Committee's comments, and publish a revised preliminary draft online, after which there would be a period in which parliaments could propose amendments to it. The final version would be presented for approval at the Parliamentary Meeting in Paris in December.

Mr. H. MAUREY (France) said that the commitment of the IPU in the area of climate change was essential and the French Parliament was delighted to be hosting the two-day Parliamentary Meeting alongside the COP21 conference. Awareness of the problems linked to the deregulation of the climate was now universal and it was therefore vital that any agreement to respond to those problems was also universal. Parliaments needed to ensure that their voices were heard loudly when that agreement was being negotiated, not least because they would have a pivotal role in ensuring that, at a national level, the agreement was ratified, adequately resourced, appropriately legislated for and well implemented. Parliaments would also be responsible for monitoring the governments' compliance with the commitments made in Paris.

Declarations or similar texts had been adopted at several of the previous COP climate change conferences. The preliminary draft outcome document of the Parliamentary Meeting contained a number of elements from those previous agreements but also added to them. The draft recognized the clear concern of parliamentarians regarding deregulation of the climate. It underscored the tragic consequences and acceleration of global warming on the environment, the economy, and social and political arenas.

Robust legislative measures were vital to reducing greenhouse gas emissions and to limiting the average global temperature rise to two degrees. Effective mitigation and adaptation measures should also be implemented, including through the resources of the Green Climate Fund, technology and knowledge transfer, and capacity-building. Any agreement in Paris needed to: clearly respect the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibility; acknowledge the link between achieving sustainable development and combatting climate change; and underscore the need for parliaments to exercise increased oversight of those matters, through legislation, budget control and the monitoring of government policy.

The draft outcome document included additional elements that would hopefully correlate to the nature of the overall agreement that was expected at the COP21 conference. That agreement needed to be both durable and dynamic. The cumbersome nature of negotiations presented a difficult challenge to successfully reaching binding agreements. A wiser aim would be to reach agreement on a set of clearly defined medium- to long-term objectives that could be adjusted as necessary: that would ensure a more flexible, dynamic process. The INDCs were a key element of building the agreement, as they defined the commitments that each country was ready to make. Compiling them would make it possible to assess how likely it was that the overall global objectives would be attained. Such calculations would provide substantial added value. Around 150 countries had already submitted their contributions, which accounted for 90 per cent of emissions. While those commitments were not yet enough to reach the two degree target, they would already ensure that temperatures would not increase by more than three degrees and showed that the international community was on the right path to further reducing that limit. It was also vital to emphasize the need for innovation. All countries and stakeholders needed to disseminate and share their most innovative good practices in order to yield the best results.

He hoped that the important role of parliaments would be recognized in the outcomes of the COP21 conference and encouraged the IPU to systematically include the issue of combating climate change on the agenda of all its meetings. He looked forward to hearing any suggestions on ways to further improve the text of the draft outcome document, which he hoped would be as ambitious as possible.

Mr. E. CHILQUINGA MAZÓN (Andean Parliament) said that all States needed to share the responsibility of tackling climate change. The Andean Parliament was working jointly with the sustainable development division of the Development Bank of Latin America on a framework law to harmonize climate change matters across the Andean region. The Andean Parliament had submitted its proposed amendments to the draft outcome document. The amendments proposed including language on the need to utilize ancestral, traditional knowledge from aboriginal communities in mitigating the effects of climate change, to generate a culture of respect for the environment, and to improve knowledge of prevention processes through education.

Mr. R. RAMAKRISHNA (India) said that India welcomed the draft parliamentary action plan and the preliminary draft outcome document and had already submitted observations on the latter. Many developed countries had already submitted their INDCs but their pledges covered only around 87 per cent of emissions. In spite of its development challenges, India had put forward an ambitious INDC for the period 2020-2030. It was in harmony with the Sustainable Development Goals. One of its key aspects was the target to reduce the emissions intensity of its GDP by 33 to 35 per cent by 2030 (in comparison to 2005 levels). India also aimed to for a 40 per cent increase in the share of non-fossil fuel-based energy sources by 2030. India was conscious of the need to move towards cleaner fuel and renewable energy systems. However, the need to ensure energy for over 300 million people who had no access to basic energy meant that the country would continue to rely on coal and fossil fuels for the foreseeable future.

Mr. L. BORBELY (Romania) said that, in order to be relevant, the agreement reached in Paris needed to reflect present realities and take into account that common but differentiated responsibilities and capabilities evolved over time. The approach should not allow the biggest polluters to be exempt from commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions if warming was to be limited to no more than two degrees.

Romania attached particular importance to the modalities of differentiating between developed and developing countries and their respective contributions in curbing the effects of climate change. Any agreement needed to provide for a common system of monitoring and reporting on national-level measures taken based on transparency and accountability. The agreement should reflect the particular needs of the least developed countries, given that they were most vulnerable to the negative impacts of climate change and should also create the conditions for climate resistance, sustainable food production, food security and economic development. Action on the climate needed to encompass human rights, gender equality, education and awareness-raising, alongside technology transfer and support for capacity-building.

Mr. S.A.A.K. LEGHARI (Pakistan) said that climate change, which had been scientifically proven beyond doubt, was a global issue with major environmental, economic, social and political repercussions. Developing countries were more at risk because of their increased vulnerability and reduced capacity to respond and adapt to climate change. South Asia had recently witnessed unprecedented climatic disruption. Some parts of Pakistan had seen their worst levels of seasonal flooding, while other parts were experiencing drought or unexpected heatwaves. Pakistan had ambitiously set a target of a 30 per cent reduction in greenhouse gas emissions by 2025 and also sought to increase its reliance on renewable energy sources.

The forthcoming COP21 conference was expected to adopt an outcome document that would consolidate international support for adapting and responding to climate change and mitigating its impact. Pakistan was considerably concerned, however, with the discrepancy between the global objectives for reducing emissions and limiting global warming on the one hand, and the national commitments that had so far been set for achieving those objectives on the other. It was vital that all commitments were backed up by the provision of sufficient resources.

Mr. G. VARNAVA (Cyprus) said that climate change was the major challenge of the 21st century. Given the devastating effects that it could have economically, socially and politically, it would sadly remain high on the agenda for many years to come. More than ever, should take courageous decisions and act ambitiously. Cyprus hoped that the COP21 conference would deliver a comprehensive and realistic international agreement to curb climate change and global warming.

Parliamentarians needed to focus on ensuring that such an agreement could be reached in Paris and that the needs and capacities of developing countries were properly taken into account. It was essential that appropriate support was provided to countries so that they could tackle climate change. Parliamentarians had a duty to ensure the effective implementation of policies and to encourage the required political will among governments to guarantee that a robust agreement was reached in Paris.

Mr. T. KATO (Japan) said that, in the preliminary draft outcome document of the Parliamentary Meeting, the reference to common but differentiated responsibilities in paragraph 6 should be followed by “according to the Lima Call for Climate Action adopted at COP20 and in the light of different national circumstances”. Japan stressed the need to support small-island developing States and least developed countries as they were most vulnerable to the effects of climate change. In the period 2013-2014, Japan had provided substantial sums to assist developing countries and continued to provide tailored support. Japan had also made a US\$ 1.5 billion contribution to the Green Climate Fund, enabling it to begin its assistance to developing countries.

Mr. R. AL SHURAIQI (United Arab Emirates) commended the work of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change but noted that pollution remained widespread and considerable efforts were needed to combat that scourge. His country was undertaking various measures to combat climate change, including through enhancing the use of renewable energy. All parliaments needed to enact appropriate legislation to combat climate change and to ensure that adequate assistance was provided to developing countries to enable them to adopt sustainable energy policies. Parliaments also needed to monitor the actions taken by their governments to ensure that they were meeting targets and complying with international environmental norms.

Mr. R. SATTLER (International Organization of Supreme Audit Institutions) said that effective, accountable and transparent institutions would be vital at all levels. They were essential to the attainment of all 17 Sustainable Development Goals and their targets. That was particularly the case with parliaments and related institutions which would oversee government implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals and which would monitor the effectiveness of climate change legislation. Supreme audit institutions could make a particularly valuable contribution by auditing performance highlighting any shortcomings in implementation and issuing recommendations for improvement. It was, however, vital that those audit institutions were independent. Parliaments and supreme audit institutions were natural partners; he hoped that the IPU and its Member Parliaments would support the independence, capacity-building and improvement of public accounting systems.

Mr. M.U.K. BADAL (Bangladesh) said that Bangladesh had recently won the United Nations Champion of the Earth prize, which demonstrated the extent of the country's efforts to tackle climate change. Nevertheless, Bangladesh continued to suffer. The international community discussed a great deal, made many promises but did not take enough action.

Numerous reports underscored the need for finance, technology transfer and capacity-building, but there was never enough money. And yet, countries such as the United States were spending vast amounts on preserving their nuclear weapons arsenals. In the face of climate change, such action was a sin against humanity. Until the nuclear States gave up their nuclear weapons, all the reports and promises on climate change would have no proper meaning.

Mr. A. DJELLOUT (Algeria) said that Algeria attached particular importance to climate change negotiations because it was highly susceptible to climate change, and was a hydrocarbons exporter, as. Algeria continued to pursue economic development and the eradication of extreme poverty but that was becoming increasingly difficult as climate change posed a number of social and environmental problems. In particular Algeria faced a loss of biodiversity and damage to agriculture and living conditions. Future climate agreements should avoid placing ever-greater burdens on national authorities, especially in developing countries; any additional constraints should be offset by sufficient funding.

Mr. B. MERJANEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that climate change affected all countries and each one must shoulder its responsibility to tackle climate change and global warming. The agreements made at previous COP climate change conferences should be respected. Recommendations for action continued, but results were needed, especially in light of the 2.4 per cent increase in global temperatures in 2014. Awareness should be raised at the national level of the threats posed by climate change; effective policies that fostered environmental protection

needed to be established to combat the scourge. Parliamentarians needed to redouble efforts to ensure national adherence to international conventions. NGOs and civil society needed to play their part in supporting parliaments by exerting pressure on governments to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, especially with regard to climate change.

Mr. K. WASINONDH (Thailand) commended the preliminary draft outcome document but said future drafts should put greater emphasis on long-term aspirations that went beyond the COP21 conference. It was necessary to look for what else could strengthen international action rather than repeat what had already been agreed by the United Nations. As the results of the Conference were not yet known, the draft should refer to a possible “Paris Agreement” and not the “Paris Accord.”

Mr. C. ZERPA (Venezuela) said that, despite existing measures to tackle climate change, even more were needed to protect the world for future generations. Natural disasters caused by global warming were increasing in number and intensity every year. Although the impact of global warming was felt much more by developing countries, all countries should adapt their national situations to global events with better coordinated policies. All States needed to be ambitious in Paris so that the COP21 conference would boost sustainable development and countries’ economies.

All States needed to shoulder their joint climate change responsibilities and adopt a balanced approach to mitigation, adaptation and implementation, particularly regarding funding, technology transfer and capacity-building. The Conference in Paris was crucial: Venezuela hoped for a strong global agreement.

Mr. J.R. LEON RIVERA (Peru) said that his country had been honoured to hold the previous year’s Climate Change Conference but was dismayed that there were still questions about the outcome of that conference. Parliaments should closely follow the situation and ensure that commitments made at those international meetings became reality. Peru urged all governments to account annually to their parliaments on the progress made and the measures implemented in line with the Lima proposal.

Mrs. A. HABIBOU (Niger) said that Niger acknowledged the need for strong national sustainable development strategies and was focused on strategies for adaptation and resilience to climate change and bolstering capacity to reduce emissions. The country had a strategic framework and an economic and social development plan for growth, which would run to 2035. Various measures had been taken to combat climate change and to reduce vulnerability, including by tackling desertification and targeting the country’s three main carbon-emitting sectors.

Mr. S. TCHELNOKOV (IPU Secretariat) said that the draft parliamentary action plan referred to in the IPU President’s opening remarks, was the first attempt to devise a long-term climate change programme. Committee members should share their comments on the draft with the Secretariat. The draft would be considered in Paris and adopted at the 134th Assembly in Lusaka.

Approval of the summary record of the Committee’s session held on the occasion of the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (March-April 2015)

The summary records of the last session were approved

Elections to the Bureau

The CHAIR said that there were seven vacant posts in the Bureau. The African Group wished to nominate Mr. F. Musendu Flungu (Democratic Republic of the Congo), the Asia-Pacific Group wished to nominate Mr. N. Singh (India), the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean wished to nominate Ms. C. Prado (Panama), Mr. J.R. León Rivera (Peru) and Mr. L.A. Heber (Uruguay). No nominations had been received from the Eurasia Group, needed to fill two vacant posts.

The Twelve Plus Group wished to nominate Ms. J. Mijatovic (Serbia) to complete the mandate of the outgoing member from Serbia. Similarly, the Arab Group wished to nominate Mr. K. Abdullah Abul (Kuwait) to complete the mandate of the outgoing member of the same country.

It was so decided.

Future work programme

The CHAIR said that the Bureau recommended that, at the 134th Assembly, the Committee should devote most of its allotted time to discussing and finalizing its draft resolution entitled *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*. If time allowed, a panel discussion on a different subject item could be organized.

It was so decided.

Debate

Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity

Mr. G. BOCCARDI, (UNESCO), *panellist*, said that UNESCO was the only United Nations agency with a mandate covering culture and heritage. In a globalized, unstable and uncertain world, it was important to build intercultural understanding by protecting heritage and supporting cultural diversity. UNESCO developed international standards, coordinated international efforts, provided technical assistance, and carried out advocacy, awareness campaigns and education activities. There were seven UNESCO Conventions and a number of additional protocols that related to the protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage.

The definition of cultural heritage had evolved and broadened over time. It no longer referred only to monuments such as palaces but also encompassed cultural landscapes, industrial architecture and more. Anything could be deemed as cultural heritage if a community decided so. Cultural heritage was now also associated with cultural rights, was seen as a driver of sustainable development and had accordingly been incorporated into a number of the Sustainable Development Goals. There was also an increasing emphasis on the link between the conservation of cultural heritage and ensuring peace and security. The main threats to the protection of cultural heritage were cultural globalization, development-related pressures such as urbanization and tourism, conflicts, climate change and natural disasters, looting or illicit trafficking of cultural items, lack of awareness and a lack of legal, institutional and financial capacity. Each UNESCO Convention had associated policies, tools and programmes to address those issues. All parliamentarians should push their governments to implement all the Conventions and to use existing instruments.

The protection of cultural heritage in conflict situations was of particular concern. In the twenty-first century, conflicts tended to be within and not among States, they often involved non-State actors, and were frequently associated with ethnic, religious and cultural issues. Culture, and cultural heritage, had become a deliberate target as well as a weapon. The Director-General of UNESCO had used the term 'cultural cleansing' to describe the deliberate strategy of erasing cultural heritage and persecuting cultural minorities, as used by terrorist groups in Iraq and the Syrian Arab Republic. The link between attacks on cultural heritage and on people was clear. The destruction of that heritage was no longer simply a cultural emergency, it was also a humanitarian and security emergency. UNESCO was increasingly being asked to intervene in conflicts and was developing ways to respond effectively.

UNESCO had stepped up its advocacy role including through many forums. It was urging Member States to intervene, whether through legislation or tangible support, so as to counter the destruction of cultural heritage sites and the persecution of cultural minorities. UNESCO strongly condemned the illicit trafficking or looting of cultural property, which terrorists often used as a funding source. The Organization had been asked to assist in the implementation of United Nations Security Council resolution 2199, on the threats to international peace and security caused by terrorist acts, which introduced a ban on the trade of cultural property from the Syrian Arab Republic and Iraq. UNESCO also called on all countries to support its activities in the areas of monitoring, provision of technical assistance and capacity-building. All States needed to recognize the destruction of cultural heritage as a war crime, develop national inventories of cultural heritage and enhance the training of civil, military and police personnel. They should also: ensure that cultural heritage protection was incorporated into all development, security and humanitarian policies; raise awareness and include cultural diversity in curriculums at all levels of education; and share information regularly and transparently with other States on the illicit trafficking of cultural property.

Mr. A. DESTEXHE (Belgium), *co-Rapporteur for the resolution and debate Moderator*, said that cultural heritage could refer to notions such as the natural environment, intangible concepts including cultural events, monuments, or natural features modified by man. There were five main UNESCO Conventions dealing with the protection of cultural heritage. Grouping those Conventions into a single legal text should be considered: the Conventions were all technical and related to similar principles; it could also prove less complex for States to ratify a single legal text.

There were nine key challenges to the protection of cultural heritage: mass tourism; armed conflicts and terrorism; looting and illicit trafficking; population growth and urbanization; lack of awareness; restoration; globalization; climate change; and a lack of or insufficient registration by some countries. Mass tourism, while beneficial for development often ran counter to conserving heritage. Sites could be damaged by excessive crowding or by tourists sitting or standing on monuments. Countries should consider instituting a charter of obligations to which tourists should adhere when they entered particular sites, including not making excessive noise or not walking or sitting on monuments. The flow of tourists could be controlled by designating clear pathways to be followed. Protected zones should be established so that no hotels, restaurants or other buildings could be built too close to sites of historical importance.

As had been seen recently in the Syrian Arab Republic, Iraq and elsewhere, armed conflict and terrorism posed a considerable threat to cultural heritage. Sites or artefacts were at risk of being damaged collaterally, looting or cultural cleansing by deliberate destruction (such as when Daesh destroyed the site of Palmyra). It was vital that all States ratified the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict and its protocols. When war crimes were committed against cultural heritage, the perpetrators needed to be subject to legal action. The International Criminal Court had recently taken action against those responsible for the destruction of world heritage and, to ensure that similar action could be taken in future, it was vital that all States also ratified the Rome Statute.

Cultural goods could be looted or trafficked and used as a source of income in situations of conflict or political instability. Trafficking also affected natural heritage, as demonstrated by the poaching and killing of protected elephants for their ivory tusks or of rhinos for their horns. To counter that, States should ratify the UNIDROIT Convention on Stolen or Illegally Exported Cultural Objects. They should also develop accurate inventories of their cultural heritage and establish national bodies mandated with monitoring sites and combatting looting and trafficking.

Population growth and urbanization increased the difficulty of protecting cultural heritage. In Egypt, for example, Cairo had doubled in size in the previous 40 years and now encroached on the ancient Egyptian heritage sites of the pyramids. Where urbanization projects were developed, it was vital that due attention was given to the protection of cultural heritage.

A lack of awareness of the need to protect cultural heritage also posed problems. Countries should promote citizen participation in protection and conservation work through education and training programmes. Such programmes should target those who worked in the tourism sector and military personnel. Restoration could pose a further risk to the protection of cultural heritage if the techniques used did not respect the history or original nature of the relic. It was vital to regularly maintain monuments or relics; and ensure that experts restored them. Globalization made it increasingly difficult to protect the integrity of historical monuments and buildings: globalization led to greater homogenization of places, such as old towns, often for tourist purposes.

Climate change also threatened cultural heritage. Flooding, could damage sites, as had been seen in St. Mark's Square in Venice in recent years. A number of sites were at risk of disappearing completely in the coming years as a result of global warming and rising sea levels. States could address those threats by tackling climate change, which was currently a global priority.

Lastly, some countries registered their national heritage insufficiently or not at all. There were still some countries, including Angola, Burundi and Equatorial Guinea, which had no sites listed with UNESCO as world heritage sites. The sites on that list should be better spread between countries and countries should ensure better systems for managing inventories of cultural sites nationally.

Mrs. B. SAMPATISIRI (Thailand) said that her country wholeheartedly supported all efforts to ensure protection against the destruction of tangible and intangible cultural heritage. Thailand considered all cultural property to belong to all people, and any loss or destruction was to the detriment of all mankind.

Universal cooperation in was needed to protect cultural heritage. The IPU, which represented all people and cultures, was well placed to encourage and contribute to those collaborative efforts. It should provide clear guidance on action to be taken. To ensure effective

action, Thailand called on all States to provide full governmental and parliamentary support to their ministries of culture. The UNESCO World Day for Cultural Diversity for Dialogue and Development should be celebrated worldwide every year and renamed as World Cultural Day. There should also be a review and, if necessary, revision of the UNESCO Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict in order that the promotion, safeguard, preservation of and respect for all cultural property at all times was properly observed.

Mr. E. JALILI (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that cultural heritage was the expression of communities' ways of life which was passed on from generation to generation. It was vital that all the customs, practices, places, objects, artistic expressions and values that constituted that heritage were protected. It was well known, however, that culture was often a victim of war and conflict. Sadly there were many news reports of the ongoing destruction of and attacks on both tangible and intangible cultural heritage around the world. Heritage sites, especially in the Middle East, were systematically targeted by terrorists and extremists who sought to destroy the human dignity, identity and legacy that they represented.

New policies and renewed cooperation within the international community were needed to counter that destruction. It was only through an active and effective international coalition for peace that violence and extremism would be overcome and lasting protection for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of mankind guaranteed.

Mr. N. SINGH (India) said that India shared others' concerns about the need to protect and preserve tangible and intangible cultural heritage and emphasized the importance of effective national measures to meet that need. His country had taken various protection and preservation measures, including enacting legislation and establishing a national culture fund. The fund's mandate was to establish and nurture partnerships between government and non-government agencies and the private and public sectors in order to mobilize resources for the restoration, conservation and protection of India's rich cultural heritage.

It was vital that every effort was made to: prevent the erosion or unauthorised exploitation of traditions; protect traditional knowledge and skills from misuse or distortion; stimulate innovation and creativity based on traditional knowledge systems; protect the transmission of knowledge with regard to the dignity and moral rights of innovators; establish inventories of national bodies that worked on living heritage; and facilitate access to such bodies. States should also ensure greater legislative, policy and financial coordination at the regional level to promote the safeguarding of intangible cultural heritage.

The recent instances of deliberate destruction of tangible cultural heritage in some parts of the world necessitated deeper international discussion on the measures that should be taken to prevent that destruction and to prolong the life of heritage sites around the world. A pool of cultural heritage experts should be created and called upon to ensure the proper management and protection of sites in conflict zones.

Mrs. F. QIAN (China) said that her country had a rich cultural heritage and attached great importance to protecting that legacy. China had an evaluation system for departments charged with maintaining and securing historically significant heritage and a system for protecting cultural assets which provided information on the state of conservation and protection of national treasures. The Chinese Government also used scientific innovation for preventive work and encouraged corporations and citizens to play their part in protecting national cultural heritage. The Government was committed to protecting and promoting the intangible assets of ethnic minorities and to strengthening cooperation with other countries in that regard.

All countries needed to strengthen cultural exchange and cooperation and to scrupulously uphold relevant international conventions. They should also sign more bilateral or multilateral agreements to prevent the unlawful excavation or sale of artefacts.

Mr. K. ABDULLAH ABUL (Kuwait) said that globalization was a clear threat to cultural heritage: it had the effect of imposing certain ideas or ways of life and excluding the intangible cultural heritage of many societies. The copying and imitation of artefacts was also a problem.

Given the existence of numerous conventions, declarations and laws on heritage, the question was why they were not sufficient. New laws were needed with stronger punishments for the violation of cultural heritage. UNESCO needed greater powers to hold States to account over the deterioration or destruction of heritage. All States should be encouraged to better document their heritage and to ensure they could protect it. Younger generations should be educated on the need to protect and preserve heritage.

Mr. T. KANAAN (Jordan) underscored the need to clamp down on the destruction of heritage as a result of State terrorism. Palestine in particular suffered greatly as a result of the destruction of hundreds of towns and villages and the associated loss of its cultural heritage. At present, excavations near the Al-Aqsa Mosque, the third holiest site in Islam, threatened its foundations and risked its collapse.

Ms. R. SHILENGA (Namibia) said that Namibia was a signatory to various international and regional conventions or other instruments on culture, heritage and their protection. Tangible heritage in Namibia was conserved and protected through a range of legislation and area management plans. Tourism policies in particular required the protection of culture and heritage. The country viewed the study of cultural heritage objects as an important part of the study of Namibian history. They provided an understanding of the past and of the origin of various ideas and stories. Preserving intangible heritage was also important: Namibia looked forward to hosting the tenth session of the UNESCO Intergovernmental Committee for the Safeguarding of Intangible Cultural Heritage.

Mr. T. KATO (Japan) said that Japan had enacted its first laws on protecting cultural property 140 years ago while intangible cultural property had been protected in law since 1950. The people of Japan took great pride in how well the country's cultural property was preserved and how restoration technology was used to protect it. Japan had shared that technology to support the preservation of other heritage around the world and had established a Funds-in-Trust for the preservation of cultural heritage in cooperation with UNESCO. Japan focused on capacity-building to enable sustainable preservation and restoration. International cooperation between research institutions and government agencies was important to enhance that preservation.

Ms. M. GREEN (Sweden) lamented the attacks on and destruction of the world's common heritage in countries such as Syria, Iraq, Libya and Mali. The deliberate destruction of sites, such as the Temple of Baal Shamin at Palmyra in 2015, the Buddhas of Bamiyan in Afghanistan in 2001 and of the Sarajevo city hall and library in 1992 constituted violations of human rights and attacks on communities' history and heritage. The devastation of such sites was often used as a tactic of war to spread fear and hatred and was, without doubt, a war crime. It showed a fundamental lack of respect for culture, heritage and collective memory. Cultural sites had a universal value; they represented the values of the past and helped to shape the identities and culture of the present. They belonged to all and should be protected by all. All countries needed to redouble their efforts to protect heritage and to combat the illegal smuggling of cultural goods.

Mr. M. MIJATOVIĆ (Serbia) said that Serbia had a strong tradition of cultural, religious and architectural heritage. Its people were proud of the country's historical treasures, a number of which had been recognized as UNESCO world heritage sites. Its most precious sites were four important Serbian monasteries that were in the territory of Kosovo. Listed by UNESCO as medieval monuments in Kosovo, they were today protected by barbed wire fences, as their safety could not be guaranteed. The buildings had survived centuries of turbulent history but had then been exposed to systematic devastation by the Kosovo Liberation Army. The administration in Kosovo had taken no responsibility for, and was not capable of, protecting the monasteries. Serbia called for the support of the international community in protecting those cultural heritage sites.

Mr. I. KARAGIANNIS (Greece) said that Greece viewed the Convention on the Means of Prohibiting and Preventing the Illicit Import, Export and Transfer of Ownership of Cultural Property as one of the most important UNESCO Conventions. The Greek Ministry of Culture had, three decades previously, raised the issue of the return of the Parthenon Marbles to the country but, to date, the matter had sadly not been resolved. Greece was a strong supporter of the UNESCO Unite4Heritage campaign, especially in the wake of the destruction of various cultural heritage sites by terrorist groups. Furthermore, Greece viewed the illicit trade in art and cultural goods as a major crime against humanity and undertook various measures to raise public awareness on the need to protect cultural heritage and to fight such illicit trade.

Mr. A. ALHARBI (Saudi Arabia) underscored the importance of preserving cultural heritage and the need to draw the attention of the whole international community to that matter. Cultural heritage reflected the world's various civilizations, their characteristics and ideas and enabled all people to understand, describe and relate to history. Saudi Arabia was in a strategic location from a cultural perspective and had a rich cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible. The country had

undertaken various measures to ensure the preservation of its cultural and historical identity, including by establishing a special body to deal with culture and the protection of heritage, which reported annually to the parliament.

Mrs. O. ASOKAWATI (Indonesia) expressed deep concern about the destruction of cultural heritage in war and conflict, in particular the devastating attacks by extremists on Palmyra's ancient temple. It was clear that the perpetrators had no respect for the cultural legacy left behind by others. Their actions constituted cultural cleansing and a war crime and violated international law, in particular the Convention for the Protection of Cultural Property in the Event of Armed Conflict.

Indonesia underscored the need to document and digitalize ancient texts and manuscripts and to build adequate research and storage facilities for items of cultural heritage. The responsibility to preserve cultural heritage was universal. All States should seek to prevent armed conflict and the associated destruction of cultural heritage. The requisite political will was also needed to respect and promote minority cultures and to encourage awareness among communities of their particular cultural treasures. The media also had a role to play in promoting culture and heritage.

The protection of tangible and intangible cultural heritage also correlated with a number of the Sustainable Development Goals; tapping into local knowledge and culture could help to achieve the goals.

Mr. G. MTHIMUNYE (South Africa) recalled that South Africa's former President, Nelson Mandela had said that when the country's first democratically elected government had decided to make Heritage Day a national public holiday, it had done so in order to recognize that the country's rich and varied cultural heritage had a profound power in the building of a new nation. The current administration and parliament in South Africa continued to draw inspiration from Mandela's words in their efforts to protect tangible and intangible cultural heritage. South Africa encouraged all parliaments to: advocate the establishment of the educational, scientific and technical institutions required to protect cultural heritage; ensure oversight of archaeological excavations to protect artefacts at their discovery sites; strengthen cooperation and coordination among key institutions to detect the theft or smuggling of items of cultural heritage; develop national inventories of tangible and intangible cultural heritage; and enforce stringent measures against the perpetrators of destruction and deterioration of cultural heritage.

Mr. M. HAMED FADLE ALLAH (Sudan) said that his country was particularly proud of its history and cultural heritage. He highly commended UNESCO and its work. Sudan believed, however, that the Organization needed to do more to protect intangible cultural heritage to the same degree as tangible cultural heritage.

Parliaments should ensure the adoption of effective laws on the protection of intangible cultural heritage and the allocation of sufficient financial resources to implement them. Laws should provide for tough sanctions for those who perpetrated crimes against cultural heritage, such as looting and smuggling of cultural goods. Sudan was concerned by the attacks on cultural heritage sites carried out by extremist groups but was heartened by the fact that, despite their destruction of tangible cultural heritage, extremists could not destroy intangible cultural heritage, which remained in the hearts and minds of communities.

Mr. B. MERJANEH (Syrian Arab Republic) said that armed conflict posed a serious danger to people and their cultural heritage, whether tangible or intangible, particularly with regard to historic civilizations, whose heritage remained long after the civilizations themselves had disappeared. The destruction of his country's cultural heritage was particularly distressing given that Syria was known as the cradle of civilization and much of that heritage dated back more than 10,000 years. It was truly world heritage and it was vital that all countries participated in protecting it. All countries needed to subscribe to the UNESCO Conventions and to the Fourth Geneva Convention and its optional protocol, which deemed the destruction of cultural heritage to be a war crime. The world could not effectively protect its heritage in times of war unless such conventions and other relevant legislation were implemented fully.

Mr. B. QASEM (Palestine) said that Palestine attached much importance to cultural exchange in sowing peace and stability around the world and called for all possible efforts to be made to end the destruction of cultural heritage, particularly in the Middle East. Israel had at various times sought to destroy Palestine's culture and heritage, which was demonstrated in

particular through its attacks on the Al-Aqsa Mosque. Palestine had subscribed to all UNESCO Conventions and its people strived to protect their heritage. He called on all parliamentarians to condemn the attacks by Israel against the Palestinian people and their heritage.

Mr. C. ANTONIO (Zambia) said that Zambia had a rich and varied cultural heritage, including historical buildings from the colonial period, ancient ruins, rock art sites and natural sites such as the Victoria Falls. That wealth of cultural heritage was, however, increasingly threatened, not only by traditional causes of deterioration but also by changing economic and social conditions, which were aggravated by poverty and climate change. The country had therefore undertaken various measures to safeguard that heritage, including establishing a national heritage conservation commission that sought to raise awareness among the general public, ensure the implementation of relevant international conventions and push for adequate resources to be provided for protection and conservation. The Parliament had been instrumental in providing a legal framework conducive to protecting and promoting cultural heritage. It was recognized that, if properly protected, that heritage could contribute greatly to the social and economic development of the country.

Mr. J. FAKHRO (Bahrain) said that Bahrain attached much importance to the preservation of its cultural heritage and ensured that funding was provided to that end. He expressed deep concern about not only how a coalition of 100 countries had been unable to protect Palmyra, but also how an even greater number of countries had not been able to stop the Israeli destruction of the cultural heritage of Palestine and how the international community had not been able to hold the United States to account for the pillaging of Iraq's cultural heritage when it invaded the country in 2003. Cultural heritage was not only at risk from attacks by terrorist groups; the lack of respect for that heritage by some countries was also a clear threat.

Mr. L. MORLOTE RIVAS (Cuba) lamented the number of monuments that were at risk of destruction in areas of conflict and war. It was clear that extremist and terrorist groups made no distinction between strategic and cultural targets. The heritage that was at risk belonged to the entire world. All people therefore needed to contribute to tackling the terrorist threat and ensuring that heritage was protected. The defence of tangible and intangible cultural heritage necessarily involved the defence of peace.

Heritage was a signal of mankind's presence on the planet. At a time of globalization, homogenization and consumption, the preservation of those historical artefacts and traditions was one way that different countries and regions could distinguish themselves and preserve their individual identities. It was therefore important that economic and social trends did not further endanger cultural heritage. Cuba believed that communities needed to be at the forefront of preserving cultural heritage, both tangible and intangible. Its legislative and education systems emphasized that approach.

Mr. G. BOCCARDI (UNESCO), *panellist*, said that it was clear from the many interventions that tangible and intangible cultural heritage was an important issue not only for experts but also for countries and communities. It was clear that the protection of cultural heritage should form part of development, humanitarian and security policy.

He advised the Committee that it would be too difficult to merge UNESCO Conventions or change their terminology. They had each been ratified by many States and it would not be realistic or possible to start over with a consolidated text. Responding to comments by Kuwait, he said that UNESCO reported on 180 heritage sites annually. Those reports often provoked heated debate by Member States as discussed the status of those sites and what States were doing to protect them. Responding to other comments, he said that UNESCO had been exploring the concept of safe havens for cultural heritage items and some countries had made provisions for that in their legislation. Switzerland, for example, was permitted by law to receive objects from those countries that made such a request in order to protect them from risk of damage or destruction during times of significant upheaval or conflict. Responding to Sudan, he said that UNESCO did concern itself with intangible cultural heritage. Its Convention for the Safeguarding of the Intangible Cultural Heritage had been ratified by more than 160 countries, although Sudan was not among them. He encouraged all countries that had not done so to ratify that Convention so that the world could better protect its intangible cultural heritage. He agreed with the representative of the Syrian Arab Republic that the destruction of heritage was a war crime. He urged all countries to ratify the Conventions that would help to protect that heritage during periods of armed conflict and to ratify the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court so that prosecutors could take action against those who were responsible for the intentional destruction of cultural heritage.

The MODERATOR welcomed the consensus among Committee members that the issue of protecting cultural heritage was of the utmost importance. As representatives of the people and as legislators, they needed to share that message at home with their governments and constituents. All States should ratify all international conventions and treaties on protecting cultural heritage as well as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court, which provided a crucial way to fight against terrorists, looters and others who destroyed heritage across the world. Based on all the comments received, he confirmed that he would be preparing a draft resolution for consideration by the Committee at its next session at the 134th Assembly.

The sitting rose at 6.30 p.m.

Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

SITTING OF TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.45 p.m. with Mr. M. El Hassan Al Amin (Sudan), Vice-President of the Standing Committee, in the Chair.

The VICE-PRESIDENT said that the Bureau had nominated a new President of the Standing Committee, as the former President was no longer a member of parliament. According to the Rules of the Standing Committees, the Twelve Plus Group was invited to put forward a candidate. The Group proposed Mr. A. Avsan (Sweden) and the Bureau approved him unanimously.

The Committee approved the Bureau's decision.

Mr. A. Avsan (Sweden), President of the Standing Committee, took the Chair.

Adoption of the Agenda (C-IV/133/A.1)

The agenda was adopted

Approval of the summary record of the Committee's session held on the occasion of the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (March-April 2015)

The summary records of the last session were approved.

Elections to the Bureau

The PRESIDENT said that the Eurasia Group wished to nominate Mrs. A. Bimendina (Kazakhstan) and Mr. I. Dodon (Republic of Moldova) to serve on the Bureau and the Twelve Plus Group wished to nominate Ms. A. Trettebergstuen (Norway).

The Committee approved the nominations.

Future work programme

The PRESIDENT said that the Bureau had decided on the Standing Committee's future work programme. It had decided that, at the 134th Assembly in Lusaka, the Committee would hold a hearing with the candidates who had been announced for the post of United Nations Secretary-General. In addition, the Committee would either consider the mid-term review of implementation of the Istanbul Programme of Action for the Least Developed Countries for the Decade 2011–2020 or discuss the modalities of reviewing progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

Review of the work of the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission

The PRESIDENT said that the discussion would focus on how effective the Peacebuilding Commission had been in stabilizing post-conflict countries since it was established 10 years previously. A recent review had found that the Commission was doing all it could but that some adjustments were needed. Its effectiveness was compromised more generally because peacebuilding was not fully integrated into the work of the United Nations as a whole. He hoped that the panel would bear those matters in mind during the discussion.

He introduced the four panellists: Ms. Y. Stevens, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in Geneva and a member of the Human Rights Council; Mr. A. Correia, Deputy Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Guinea-Bissau; Mr. S. Weber, Director-General of Interpeace, an independent peacebuilding organization; and Mr. O. Jütersonke, Head of Research at the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding at the Graduate Institute, Geneva.

He asked Mr. Jütersonke to provide some background on the Peacebuilding Commission, including why it had been established and how it helped post-conflict countries to stabilize.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, said that, in 2005, the United Nations General Assembly had decided to create what had become known as the United Nations peacebuilding architecture: a set of UN institutions, consisting of the Peacebuilding Commission, the Peacebuilding Support Office, and the Peacebuilding Fund. The architecture was designed to focus on specific target countries where peacebuilding work could be carried out. The first two countries chosen were Burundi and Sierra Leone. Importantly, peacebuilding was not an invention of the peacebuilding architecture. Former UN Secretary-General, Boutros Boutros-Ghali had spoken in his 'Agenda for Peace' in 1992 of the need to incorporate peacebuilding into the peace and security portfolio of the United Nations. However, the term 'peacebuilding architecture' became institutionalized within the United Nations when the architecture itself was established. A recent independent review of the peacebuilding architecture had highlighted that peacebuilding went beyond the activities of the United Nations and indeed beyond the limited mandate and powers of the peacebuilding architecture itself.

The PRESIDENT said that the Peacebuilding Commission had been active in Burundi but that the country was now in turmoil again: the President had insisted on remaining in office and violent protests had broken out in the streets. He asked whether that was an exceptional situation or an indication that the Peacebuilding Commission could not effectively deliver what it had intended.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, said that the Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding had been involved in the recent evaluation of peacebuilding activities in Burundi. In his view, Burundi exemplified how complex the situation could be when several United Nations bodies and other international organizations were present. Ten years previously, the international community had been optimistic that the situation in Burundi was improving. However, consolidating peace, which was the objective of the peacebuilding architecture, had turned out to be much more difficult than anticipated. When the Peacebuilding Commission decided to work in Burundi, the majority of United Nations agencies were already operating there with established mechanisms for collaboration and coordination. It could be difficult when new institutions arrived: the additional funds they brought did not always mean that actions on the ground were more effective. More agencies meant that the dynamics of collaboration and coordination had to change. Efforts had to be redoubled to ensure each entity's actions did not cancel each other out.

Peacebuilding had taken on a very precise meaning in the United Nations. It filled the gap between the moment after peacekeeping forces had left a country and before traditional development and reconstruction had begun. The UN Development Programme called it the 'early recovery phase'. The peacebuilding architecture sought to bridge the institutional and budgetary gaps of that period. But that mandate had proved to be somewhat limiting, as the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations had noted in its review. Peacebuilding went beyond filling such gaps and its work should not be limited to post-conflict periods alone. However, a wider peacebuilding agenda would again give rise to the challenge of inter-agency coherence and coordination.

Mr. S. WEBER (Interpeace), *panellist*, recalled that the United Nations was both an actor and a forum for the dynamics of Member States' politics. The United Nations was sometimes criticized for being ineffective as an actor, but the reasons for that ineffectiveness were often the result of the politics of a Member State. In the case of Burundi, there had been warning signs, but the case had only been placed on the agenda of the Security Council when the crisis had reached such a level that it was hard to walk it back from the edge. The High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations had stated in its review that the Peacebuilding Commission was the least effective part of the United Nations peacebuilding architecture. That was because of the geopolitical fighting of its 31 Member States. In Burundi, the Commission had been blocked from playing an effective role because Members could not agree on the direction of its work.

Peacebuilding happened on the ground in the countries concerned, not in offices in New York. Therefore the effectiveness of UN peacebuilding could be measured in terms of how it worked on the ground. In Burundi, the Government had expelled the UN Secretary-General's Special Representative four times. That had clearly limited the effectiveness of the Peacebuilding Commission's work.

Ms. Y. STEVENS (Sierra Leone and Human Rights Council), *panellist*, said that it was important to bear in mind that, as far back as 1998, the UN Secretary-General had written a report on the causes of conflict and the promotion of durable peace and sustainable development in

Africa. It demonstrated that it was unfair to blame the peacebuilding architecture when countries fell back into crises and conflict. The work of the peacebuilding architecture needed to be seen in the context of all other factors that contributed to the promotion of peace and sustainability in a country, including actions undertaken by others.

The PRESIDENT asked the panellists whether they agreed with the experts' analysis in the report that peacebuilding needed to be better integrated into the United Nations system as a whole and whether they had additional ideas on how to enhance the functioning of the Peacebuilding Commission.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, noted that there were number of parallel discussions in other forums, as referred to in the report of the Advisory Group of Experts on the 2015 Review of the United Nations Peacebuilding Architecture. That report included input from the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations and the High-level Advisory Group for the Global Study on the Implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325, and might also include a discussion of the Sustainable Development Goals. It was an extremely busy time in United Nations circles. The Advisory Group of Experts had noticed a lack of interaction between the various panels and groups, despite a number of ongoing reviews and discussions. Ensuring better links between agencies in post-conflict peacebuilding efforts was a major challenge. Peacebuilding should also be cross-cutting, which required it to have better links with the human rights, peace and security agendas.

Mr. A. CORREIA (Guinea-Bissau), *panellist*, said that, since gaining independence, Guinea-Bissau had suffered much instability, unrest and conflict with very few years of peace. A national reconciliation commission had been established in 2007, but could not start its work immediately. Its mandate was to increase understanding of the underlying causes for the conflict and ongoing crises, and to find solutions to stop them in the future. The Commission had spent three years gathering information. A national conference had been planned to consider and adopt the outcome document of that work. However, the conference did not take place due to the illness and death of the President in 2012, after which another military coup took place. The Commission had recently taken up its work again and had received contributions from several sectors of society, including the Catholic, Protestant and Muslim communities. There had also been significant international support for the Commission, including from the UN Development Programme and the Japan Social Development Fund.

Various small-scale peacebuilding efforts had been carried out in the country, involving non-governmental organizations, the defence and security forces and others. It was vital that the national parliament prioritized and led that work, ensuring that all sectors and State agencies were involved. The support of the Peacebuilding Commission was also essential. The Constitution had been identified as a major factor of political instability. It had been agreed that the Constitution should be revised as a matter of priority and work was due to begin in the coming weeks.

The work of the Peacebuilding Commission in Guinea-Bissau had been valuable in helping the country to avoid falling back into a cycle of crises. The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) had also played an important role in resolving problems in the country. The former President of Nigeria had travelled to Guinea-Bissau as an ECOWAS envoy and had contributed to the establishment of a new government. The Parliament ran an initiative called Voice of Peace, in which it was hoped all parts of society, non-governmental organizations and others would participate. If stakeholders were not united in their efforts to address the root causes of the crises and to build peace and stability, those objectives would not be achieved. Clear reform of the military and public administration was needed. Much greater resource mobilization was also needed globally, in order to stimulate development and employment in Guinea-Bissau and to support the victims of the various conflicts and crises. It was also essential that more work be done in the area of crisis prevention.

Mr. S. WEBER (Interpeace), *panellist*, said that the importance of the United Nations in peacebuilding was often exaggerated. The definition of peacebuilding was the process of strengthening the capacity of countries and societies to manage their own conflicts. At best, the United Nations role was to support action to make that to happen. Those with the primary responsibility for peacebuilding were actors in the country itself: the government, parliament, citizens, and civil society groups. They needed to work together to address the issues that had divided their society and then turn to the United Nations to establish how the organization could best support their peacebuilding efforts.

Mr. C. FROLICK (South Africa) said that the second review of the Peacebuilding Commission was underway. The first review had made a number of recommendations. He was concerned that nothing had been done to ensure that the outcomes and recommendations of that first review had been effectively implemented before embarking on the second.

Governments had a responsibility to facilitate peace processes in their countries: the Peacebuilding Commission had been created specifically to address the incapacity of some countries to do so. It was clear that the Peacebuilding Support Office needed to run at full capacity and to have the necessary level of predictable funding to enable that. To further assist the process, regional parliamentary forums should develop an appetite to discover and monitor what was happening with regard to peacebuilding across their regions.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, agreed that there needed to be enough time and institutional capacity to ensure that reviews and recommendations could be reflected upon and implemented before additional reviews were started. Reviewing the peacebuilding architecture was itself a challenge: it tried to establish the level of success that various institutional arrangements had had in certain countries as well as to assess how the institutional dynamics of the peacebuilding architecture functioned in relation to the broader United Nations system. That could encompass the issue of understaffing in the Peacebuilding Support Office in New York and also the way in which issues discussed there could quickly become politicized as a result of the presence of the Security Council.

He agreed with speakers on the importance of regional approaches to peacebuilding. Many threats around the world transcended State boundaries: the involvement of regional organizations and institutions would certainly strengthen the peacebuilding process.

Mr. D. CHAUTALA (India) said that India had been one of the largest contributors to the peacebuilding process, particularly by providing military personnel and civilian police for peacebuilding operations. Experience had shown that the Peacebuilding Commission was not, on its own, sufficient for establishing lasting, secure peace. Local authorities should also be tasked with implementing peace: peace could not be established without understanding the local culture and how the country had dealt with such matters in the past.

Mr. A. CHIBAYA (Zimbabwe) agreed that it was not the responsibility of the Peacebuilding Commission alone to build peace in societies, but also that of countries themselves. Peacebuilding had a wide scope including, for example, mitigating risk brought about by disease outbreaks. He wanted to know what the Peacebuilding Commission had done to mitigate the risk to peace during the recent outbreak of Ebola virus disease. He also asked: what the Commission had done to mainstream gender into its activities, given that women often suffered the most in conflicts; whether the Commission had engaged people in affected communities or countries before recommending what measures should be taken; and how the Commission coordinated with regional organizations in the peacebuilding and consolidation process.

Mrs. S.M. MAZARI (Pakistan) said that full international support for both peacekeeping and peacebuilding was essential. National resources also needed to be properly utilized so that countries could support themselves once the peacebuilding architecture left, and so as to avoid the risk of the situation deteriorating again.

She was deeply concerned about the current trends towards privatizing the peacebuilding process, including through hiring private security companies. For many countries, including Pakistan, that was not acceptable. Iraq and Pakistan had suffered as a result of bad experiences with private security companies. Rather than assisting peacekeeping and peacebuilding processes, privatization created new areas of conflict. It was a controversial issue that required serious reconsideration.

For the process to secure a lasting peace and to prevent the conflict from re-emerging, peacebuilding needed to focus on the root causes of a conflict. There should also be coherence and coordination between the various actors, including the Peacebuilding Commission; otherwise attention and resources would not be effectively channelled towards nationally identified priorities. All peacebuilding actors should take proper note of those national priorities, as it was the countries and communities themselves who best understood the problems that they faced.

Ms. Y. STEVENS (Sierra Leone and Human Rights Council), *panellist*, responding to comments made by the representative of Pakistan, said that the Peacebuilding Commission should address root causes or run the risk of countries relapsing into conflict. In particular, it was essential

to ensure the protection of human rights, as many of the conflicts that the world faced were either directly or indirectly linked to human rights violations. When the Peacebuilding Commission had worked in Sierra Leone it had effectively addressed a number of the nationally identified priorities but had not focused enough on human rights issues. Parliamentarians could take on a clear role in that area. Indeed, one issue discussed by the Human Rights Council was that parliamentarians were sometimes not sufficiently informed to give priority to human rights-focused legislation, despite their duty to scrutinize legislation more widely. Parliaments should also fulfil their oversight responsibilities from the beginning of the process.

Mr. S. WEBER (Interpeace), *panellist*, said that the speaker from Pakistan had raised some important issues. She had prompted the question of what made the role of the United Nations successful and how that success could be measured. The best way would be to assess whether greater trust had been established between different groups in society or between the people and the State, and whether there was greater capacity in place once the Peacebuilding Commission had left the country. The United Nations tended to be seen as the solution, when in fact its role should be as a capacity-builder: doing less and enabling more.

He did not think that lessons about resource utilization had been learned from the 2010 review process. That review had stated that the United Nations should not channel all its funding through its own agencies on the ground: the agencies often divided the funds between themselves and largely used them to continue whatever they were already doing. That did not lead to enhanced strategic peacebuilding. With the most recent review, understanding had increased about the need for the United Nations to take on an enabling role and to partner with other entities (national entities first and then international ones). Fulfilling that role would allow technical capacities to be improved and would enable funds to be used more widely across peacebuilding efforts. Addressing root causes was a fundamental part of the process and needed to be done primarily by local actors, as they were the ones who best understood the issues at the heart of the conflicts. With the right support from the United Nations, they should be the ones to find the solutions.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, echoed the view that local actors on the ground had the most important role in peacebuilding processes. Turning to comments made by Pakistan, he said that his institution had been looking carefully at the issue of the privatization of peacekeeping operations and peacebuilding and the way in which it had become something of a commodity.

He underscored the importance of prevention. It was evident that, from both institutional and financial perspectives, prevention was better than having to reconstruct after a conflict. However, the challenge of prevention was the difficulty in quantifying, monitoring and evaluating. If prevention efforts were successful, then nothing tangible could be pointed to as a successful outcome. It was difficult to pinpoint how any additional resources that had been allocated to prevention had made a difference.

Mrs. C. NABWALA MUKIITE (Kenya) said that Kenya was a key supporter of all United Nations peacekeeping efforts and had sent observers to different countries. Most recently Kenyan observers had been in Somalia to participate in the mission to combat the terrorist group Al-Shabaab. Owing to Kenya's involvement in those operations, Somali insurgents had launched several retaliatory attacks, including the killing of 147 students at a university in April 2015, the murder of 67 people in an attack on a shopping centre in 2013, and other sporadic attacks on churches, mosques and public transport. Kenya's economy was suffering as a result of the insecurity caused by the Al-Shabaab insurgents. She asked whether there was anything more the United Nations could do mitigate the impact. The United Nations should also give greater attention to tackling the root causes of conflict, in particular in Somalia.

Baroness HOOPER (United Kingdom) recalled two debates that had been held recently in her country's Parliament. The first had been on practical steps to consolidating peace in post-conflict zones. It had included a proposal for a draft United Nations resolution on the protection of civilian translators and interpreters in conflict situations. They played a vital role in times of conflict and were often targeted and discriminated against in post-conflict situations. The Peacebuilding Commission should consider addressing the issue. The second debate had been on the principle of the responsibility to protect. She hoped that responsibility guided the activities of the Peacebuilding Commission, as it could be an important part of prevention programmes.

Ms. L. ROJAS (Mexico) said that Mexico had begun to participate in peacebuilding operations and the two reports were therefore of great interest. As noted in the reports, the first task was to push for greater action in the areas of prevention and mediation in order to ensure more rapid and effective peacebuilding. If a lasting peace was to be built, it was important to rely first on the primacy of politics and only turn to military action at a later stage.

Although peacebuilding should be a clear priority, it was insufficiently resourced. The IPU could both play its part by following the recommendations of the Advisory Group and also assist by annually contributing a proportion of the necessary basic funding to the UN peacebuilding budgets. The IPU could further promote peacebuilding by organizing awareness-raising campaigns and developing programmes to strengthen parliamentary institutions in countries affected by conflicts.

Mr. A.K. AZAD (Bangladesh) said that, while Bangladesh was not a member of the Peacebuilding Commission, it was the largest participant in the peacekeeping forces and had lost many soldiers and police officers in countries around the world. He wondered whether any studies had been carried out about the proportion of conflicts that had arisen for political or for economic reasons. Noting the financial constraints on the mission of peacebuilding, he asked if any proposals had been made about how to improve resource mobilization and so enable the Commission to fulfil its duties more effectively and efficiently. Local actors had an important role in peacebuilding processes. He asked whether members of the Commission had personally visited communities or organized meetings with parliamentarians and civil society representatives in the countries where the Commission worked.

Mr. F. NVO OLUY (Equatorial Guinea) said that United Nations personnel should visit without delay areas where conflicts had broken out. They should engage with all stakeholders, including parliaments, to find out what was happening to the people and to be as effective as possible in their actions.

Ms. Y. STEVENS (Sierra Leone and Human Rights Council), *panellist*, agreed with other comments made about the need to focus on prevention. But she also noted that it was hard for any institution or organization to state categorically that actions they were taking were preventing conflict. The peacebuilding architecture was geared towards countries emerging from conflict and, in that context, successful prevention should be understood as preventing countries from relapsing into conflict. More consideration was needed about what effective action could be taken in countries that were not in conflict. Responding to a question asked by a representative of Bangladesh, she said that the reasons for conflicts varied between countries, depending on their individual situations. It was important for the Peacebuilding Commission to address the root causes in each country.

Mr. S. WEBER (Interpeace), *panellist*, responding to comments from a representative of the United Kingdom about translators and interpreters, said that all those who worked in the field in peacebuilding were targets. It was an important issue to raise, as interpreters were often needed more than anyone else to ensure that dialogue and discussions could take place; yet they were easy targets. They certainly needed special protection, as did all peacebuilders. Responding to other comments, he said that the Peacebuilding Commission had particular problems regarding its responsibility to protect. That was because the Commission had to be formally invited by national governments in order to work in countries. The Commission thus worked in countries where the government has already recognized its responsibility to protect. Any country that was not fulfilling its responsibility to protect its own people would therefore never invite the Commission.

Regarding the funding of the Peacebuilding Commission, he said that the primary issue was not a lack of financial resources but a question of how effectively those resources were being used. Sometimes, US\$ 30–40 million could be spent in countries with very few results.

It was important to remember that, if the present situation in the Syrian Arab Republic were removed from the equation, 80 per cent of violent deaths globally occurred in countries that were not in conflict situations. The issue was not limited to less developed countries. It was a global issue and all countries needed to reduce tensions within their societies by ensuring that they were inclusive for everyone. Particular attention was needed to ensure that women were included in societies. A lack of women posed one of the greatest challenges to development worldwide. Women and girls needed to be able to participate in and contribute to societies and economies.

Mr. O. JÜTERSONKE (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, reiterated that the peacebuilding architecture had a very specific mandate within the United Nations system relating to the post-conflict period. It was therefore counterproductive to try to place responsibility on the

peacebuilding architecture for all peace operations, including peacekeeping and everything that occurred in countries during conflicts. Responding to the comments made by a representative of the United Kingdom, he said that he did not believe that the Peacebuilding Commission was the right forum in which to address the issue of translators and interpreters being targeted in post-conflict settings. The issue was wider than that, as translators and interpreters also died during conflicts and in other humanitarian settings.

A key challenge for parliamentarians was going to be how to stay abreast of the parallel reviews and other processes, including the review of the High-level Independent Panel on Peace Operations and the review of implementation of Security Council Resolution 1325 on women, peace and security. Parliamentarians needed to assess how best to generate appropriate dialogue across the institutional silos within the United Nations in order to effectively respond to those separate but related processes.

Discussion on the role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the settlement of international disputes

The PRESIDENT gave a brief summary of the history of the International Court of Justice (ICJ), noting in particular that the majority of United Nations Member States that were party to the ICJ did not recognize its jurisdiction as compulsory. In an effort to promote universal recognition of the ICJ's jurisdiction, a group of Member States had produced a handbook for decision-makers and the general public.

He introduced the two panellists: Mr. M. Kohen, Professor of International Law at the Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, who had also worked as a counsellor and advocate in contentious and advisory cases before the ICJ; and Mr. J. Lindenmann, Deputy Director of the International Law Directorate at the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, DFAE, Switzerland. He asked Mr. Kohen what his experience of the ICJ had been and how well he believed the court worked.

Mr. M. KOHEN (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, said that his experience of working on various contentious and advisory cases at the ICJ had been very positive. He saw the ICJ as a powerful mechanism for the settlement of international disputes, particularly when negotiations were at an impasse. Rather than the long continuation of disputes and the risk of damaging bilateral or multilateral relations, the option of recourse to the ICJ was vital.

The PRESIDENT asked whether the court settlements and decisions were of any benefit for local jurisdictions.

Mr. M. KOHEN (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, said that the jurisdiction of the ICJ was very broad; any international legal dispute could be submitted to the Court. Disputes that might be discussed in domestic forums were increasingly taking on an international character. There was therefore interest in discussing particular matters at both national and international levels. An interesting prospect would be for all States to have general declarations of acceptance of the jurisdiction of the ICJ.

The PRESIDENT asked Mr. Lindenmann what his impressions of the ICJ were, whether it worked well and what more could be done to encourage States to recognize its jurisdiction.

Mr. J. LINDENMANN (DFAE, Switzerland), *panellist*, said that he believed the ICJ fulfilled its important role, but that it would certainly be advantageous for more States to accept the compulsory jurisdiction of the court, and so further extend that jurisdiction. The United Nations Charter allowed for war only for reasons of self-defence and only with the authorization of the Security Council. That meant that States were obliged to resort to the peaceful settlement of disputes. The Charter also provided for a forum for that peaceful settlement in the form of the ICJ. All States could go to the court, on the basis of sovereign equality, to present their legal arguments. Going to the court was a peaceful act, not one of unfriendly relations, as it showed a State's willingness to settle a dispute and remain in good, peaceful relations with another State.

One weakness in the provisions of the Charter was that, although all Member States were automatically members of the ICJ, they were still required to separately accept the jurisdiction of the court. To date, only 72 States Parties had made declarations accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the court. It was important that as many States as possible were encouraged to make similar declarations accepting that jurisdiction.

The PRESIDENT asked the extent to which States do or do not find it convenient to go to the ICJ for various reasons.

Mr. J. LINDENMANN (DFAE, Switzerland), *panellist*, said that there were various paths that States could take in the event of a dispute including negotiations or arbitration. Turning to the ICJ was another important option. By choosing to settle through the ICJ, the States involved could maintain normal relations while the matter was being dealt with by the court, concentrating on their common interests that went beyond, for example, their border dispute or diplomatic impasse. He believed that it was an important symbolic statement when States declared that they accepted the jurisdiction of the ICJ. They were declaring their intention to base their actions on international law, and declaring their confidence in doing so.

Mr. L. BARREDO MEDINA (Cuba) said that the ICJ encountered the same challenges as those of the United Nations system as a whole, which needed reform and greater democratization in order to ensure fairness and equity for Member States in all United Nations bodies. The court seemed to suffer the same limitations as the Security Council, which struggled to resolve certain issues because of the existence of the veto for the five permanent members. The permanent members were able to appoint five of the 15 ICJ judges, but the judges should not be dependent on the goodwill of those permanent members on whether or not a judgement was implemented.

Mr. A. CHIBAYA (Zimbabwe) first asked whether the principle of the ICJ having a consent-based jurisdiction compromised its effectiveness and what the panellists thought should be done to enhance its effectiveness further. Second, he asked what options were available if the United Nations Security Council vetoed a judgement of the ICJ and refused to enforce it. Third, he asked how the independence of ICJ judges could be ensured.

Mr. EL HASSAN AL AMIN (Sudan) said that he was concerned that the decisions and judgements of the ICJ could not be implemented following a veto from one of the permanent members of the Security Council. For example, when the ICJ handed down its decision on the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territories the decision was not implemented as a result of the United States' support for Israel. He was also concerned that States that had agreed to appear before the ICJ could withdraw and refuse to accept the judgement of the court. It seemed that the court was therefore only effective when dealing with disputes between two countries that had cordial relations, which was rare. The scope of the powers of the ICJ needed to be broadened to ensure that the Security Council – particularly the permanent members, could not hinder the implementation of the court's judgements.

Mr. M. KOHEN (Graduate Institute, Geneva), *panellist*, responding to the comments made by the representative of Cuba, said that he did not believe the ICJ encountered similar problems to the United Nations in general. There was a considerable difference between the Security Council and the court. While the former was composed of Member States, the ICJ was composed of 15 independent judges. Within the court, all parties were on an equal footing, whether they were big or small States, powerful or less powerful. It was also important to note that no veto could be exercised over the decisions of the ICJ. All decisions were made independently and needed to be implemented. However, that was where the problem lay: States did not always implement the decisions.

There was an unwritten rule that each of the five permanent members of the Security Council have a judge appointed to the ICJ. It was not in the Charter or the court regulations but it had become an accepted practice. It was not a problem in itself, as long as the independence of all of the judges continued to be guaranteed.

Turning to the question from the representative of Zimbabwe, he said that the court's effectiveness was not compromised by the fact that its jurisdiction was on the basis of consent. All decisions taken by the ICJ, with only one or two exceptions, had been implemented by the States concerned. That showed how successful the judicial settlement of international disputes had become.

Turning to the question from the representative of Sudan, he said that the matter of the construction of a wall in the Occupied Palestinian Territory had been an advisory opinion; there had not been a contentious case and therefore no judgement was handed down. However, the advisory opinion was the legal opinion of the highest judicial body in the world and it had had a significant impact. He reiterated that it was not possible for permanent Security Council members to veto a decision of the ICJ.

Once a State had accepted the jurisdiction of the court in a given dispute with another State that had done the same, it was not possible to withdraw. The case would proceed and both parties would be required to respect the judgement. There could, however, be discussions over whether a State had given its consent to the jurisdiction of the ICJ. In such situations, the State could not decide to withdraw unilaterally. The State could argue before the court that the court lacked the jurisdiction to make a decision. It was for the court to determine whether that was the case.

Mr. J. LINDENMANN (DFAE, Switzerland), *panellist*, underscored that the United Nations System as a whole was only as strong as the Member States wanted it to be. Any weaknesses in the system, whether real or perceived, should not be blamed wholly on the individual organs of the United Nations. In the case of the ICJ, its effectiveness depended on Member States opting to implement its decisions and to resort to the court when disputes arose. It was also important to consider the alternatives. The ICJ's very capacity to resolve disputes between States meant that it was better to have such a court than not to have any such institution – even if it was, or was perceived to be, weak in some instances –. It was the responsibility of both the executive and legislative branches in each State to commit to supporting the ICJ.

Mr. A. WARE (PNND)) said that, in 1973, New Zealand had lodged a case with the ICJ against the atmospheric testing of nuclear weapons by France in the South Pacific. The case was successful in ending that atmospheric testing and, in 1995, New Zealand again lodged a case against France to end its underground testing. The second case resulted in France closing its nuclear test site, demonstrating the success that States could have in taking their cases to the ICJ to achieve particular policy objectives.

He drew attention to the current case before the ICJ that had been lodged by the Marshall Islands against the nuclear weapon States. Of those States, only India, Pakistan and the United Kingdom accepted the compulsory jurisdiction of the court and the case was therefore proceeding in regard of the nuclear weapons policies of only those three States. The ICJ had advised all States Parties to the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT) that had a stake in that case. He wanted to know if the case would carry additional legal weight if more States chose to intervene on that case.

Mr. M.V.R. GOWDA (India), noting that India had long been a strong supporter of the peaceful resolution of international disputes, said that he was keen to know more about the ICJ's advisory opinions and their impact. In particular he wanted to know the extent to which Member States treated them as binding judgements, even though they were not.

Mr. C. FROLICK (South Africa) said that South Africa very much supported the role of the ICJ in resolving disputes, even though the country had not made a declaration accepting the compulsory jurisdiction of the court but instead considered matters on a case-by-case basis.

South Africa was strongly in favour of reform of the United Nations Security Council. While acknowledging what had been said about there being no formal preference given to the permanent members of the Security Council, he believed that, as any reform process unfolded, the operations of the court and its membership, whether formal or informal, were important matters to consider. It was important that the decisions taken were executed fully.

The representative of PALESTINE asked what measures could be taken to make the advisory opinions of the ICJ binding for all Member States.

Mr. M. KOHEN (Graduate, Geneva), *panellist*, said that the case referred to by the representative of PNND was very interesting, as it showed the significance of the ICJ. The very fact of New Zealand and Australia bringing a case against France, arguably a more powerful State and permanent member of the Security Council, was enough for France to change its nuclear policy, even before the proceedings reached their conclusion within the ICJ.

Responding to the representative of Palestine, he said that although advisory opinions were, by their very nature, advisory and non-binding, they still carried considerable legal weight among States. It was still worth using the advisory procedure of the ICJ, as States could not ignore the position of court as the highest legal entity.

He agreed with the representative of South Africa that there was room for all organs of the United Nations to be reformed and improved, including the ICJ. In the case of the court, any changes should relate to procedure and ensure that the court could work efficiently, with the necessary level of funding.

Mr. J. LINDENMANN (DFAE, Switzerland), *panellist*, responding to the PNND, said that the legal weight of a decision was not increased if a larger number of States intervened in the process. However, the arguments that States submitted certainly informed the judges. The better informed they were, the better their judgement would be.

It was important to remember that although advisory opinions were not binding, they constituted an authoritative statement from the highest adjudicating body within the United Nations, and States inevitably paid attention to them. Advisory opinions of the ICJ had, for example, stated that international human rights continued to apply even in armed conflict, which was an important judgement that States could not disregard later on.

The PRESIDENT, in summing up, welcomed the fact that the ICJ was much more independent than some had thought and that its decisions carried such strong legal weight. He hoped that more countries would choose to recognize the compulsory jurisdiction of the court.

The sitting rose at 5.35 p.m.

Forum of Young Parliamentarians of the IPU

SITTING OF SUNDAY, 18 OCTOBER

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 10.10 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 from the Eurasia Group to the Board of the Forum

Ms. Z. HILAL, *Secretary of the Forum*, said that there were two vacant seats on the Board. They were to be filled by a man and a woman from the Eurasia Group but no nominations had been received. Currently, there were 10 members of the Board who would serve until March 2017.

Contribution to the work of the 133rd Assembly

a) *The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration* *(subject of the General Debate)*

The SECRETARY observed that young people made up a significant proportion of migrants and faced a number of challenges, including access to employment and education. According to data from 2010, common reasons for youth migration included the search for alternative livelihoods, education and employment opportunities, marriage, family reunification, and protection from conflict or persecution. It was therefore essential that a youth perspective was incorporated into any discussions on migration, including the General Debate.

Participants said that it was important for migration flows and processes to be choice-based, rights-based and humane. Countries had a moral duty to protect migrants in their territory. Moreover, it should be recognized that migrants could contribute to the development of both countries of origin and destination. Cooperation between countries of origin, transit and destination was crucial in order to address irregular migration and to ensure that the rights of all migrants were respected. A global framework on migration was needed in that regard. It was important to differentiate between voluntary and forced migration, as the latter was a violation of human rights. Addressing the root causes of migration, such as conflict, terrorism and poverty was also essential. Countries had a responsibility to create opportunities for their citizens so that migration was not necessary. The international community could play its part in that area, for example by supporting developing countries to make better use of their resources. Countries that supported terrorist groups should be identified and diplomatic pressure applied. The international community needed to work together to resolve the current crisis.

The particularly difficult situation faced by young migrants and refugees was highlighted; migration measures and legislation should respond to the needs of those groups. Host countries often required skilled workers to satisfy their employment needs, and young migrants often had the skills that were in demand; countries should therefore change their policies regarding young migrants. The tough visa procedures of many countries, particularly in the European Union, meant that only young people from privileged backgrounds had a chance to migrate for educational purposes, leaving less privileged migrants no alternative but to enter countries illegally. More action was needed on migrant smuggling and human trafficking, given that they disproportionately affected young people.

Participants outlined the measures their countries had taken to support migrants and refugees passing through and settling in their territories, including the construction of shelters, the improvement of social integration policies for migrants, and activities to address human trafficking. The challenge of hosting large numbers of migrants was noted with regard to housing, education, jobs, and health care, as was the often negative public perception of migrants. One participant drew attention to the particular situation in Palestine, where the activities of an occupying country had deprived many young people of their homeland, subjected them to discrimination and forced them to migrate.

It was suggested that the Forum of Young Parliamentarians should issue recommendations encouraging Member Parliaments to strengthen their policies on youth empowerment and improve women's living conditions. One representative also questioned how parliamentarians and the Forum could respond to migration issues; proactivity was key.

The PRESIDENT encouraged participants to share the results of the discussion with their delegations in order to highlight youth perspectives on migration.

b) *Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms (subject item for the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights)*

The PRESIDENT said that the Forum was able to submit youth overview reports to the co-Rapporteurs for items under consideration by the Standing Committees at the beginning of the drafting process. For the current resolution before the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights, the Board of the Forum had appointed Mr. V. Gapsys (Lithuania) to draft the youth overview report. The co-Rapporteurs for the draft resolution had acknowledged a number of observations from the report in their explanatory memorandum, some of which had been included in the draft resolution. Nevertheless, the majority of the points integrated into the draft resolution had been of a general nature. The Board had decided that it would review the process through which the Forum contributed to the drafting process.

Mr. V. GAPSYS (Lithuania) said that the scope of the draft resolution was broad, focusing mainly on surveillance and cyber security issues. Although it did not contain specific references to young people, it did take into account the Forum's concerns. The youth overview report had concentrated on digital tools for democracy in general as well as the importance of teaching young people how to use those tools and protect their privacy. The Forum should be able to submit amendments to the resolutions of the Standing Committees.

Participants welcomed what had been achieved and stressed the importance of legislative action in areas such as raising awareness of online issues within education systems and communicating with the technology sector to ensure that new tools could be used to enhance democracy. Legislation should be adopted on access to information in order to enable young people to exercise their democratic rights. Regarding data collection related to minors, many countries had taken the important step of adopting child protection legislation.

c) *Incorporating a youth perspective into the debates of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security and the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade*

The PRESIDENT explained that the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade was considering the issue of climate change, in light of the 21st meeting of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, to be held in Paris, France in December 2015. A Parliamentary Meeting was being organized in conjunction with that conference. Climate change was a crucial topic for young people and he urged delegates to join in the deliberations of the Standing Committee to highlight youth perspectives on the matter.

Update and discussion on the Forum's workplan and activities (2015–2016)

The SECRETARY outlined the meetings and events during the current Assembly that might be of interest to the Forum, including the deliberations of the Standing Committees, the parity debate and the panel discussion on parliamentary action in meeting international commitments to counter terrorism. In 2015 the IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians had taken place in Tokyo, Japan. The meeting had focused on democracy, peace and prosperity and the links between them. Creative solutions, focusing on addressing socio-economic challenges had been discussed. The two key issues to emerge had been the need to encourage young people to become more politically active and to take a human rights-based approach to addressing terrorism and violent extremism. A further meeting of young parliamentarians organized after the Conference on development cooperation had been open to the public: more than 1000 young Japanese attended. During the meeting, the need for development cooperation to empower young people was highlighted, together with the need for more investment in training, education and computer technologies. Under the auspices of the International Day of Democracy, the IPU organized a session attended by young people from Geneva and young parliamentarians to discuss how to

foster youth participation in democracy. It was suggested that the civic education offered in school curricula was too theoretical and that there should be more focus on real life issues and debate. Regarding activities of members of the Forum, the Nigerian Parliament had established the Nigerian Chapter of the IPU Forum of Young Parliamentarians as a parliamentary caucus. She encouraged other Member Parliaments to do the same; the IPU could provide support if needed. The Board Members from the African Group had also met with the President of the Pan-African Parliament to highlight the need for more youth representation. In addition, the British Group to the IPU had held discussions with young parliamentarians, in which the importance of engaging young people in politics was underscored.

There were a number of events planned for 2016, such as the next IPU Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians. A report on youth participation in politics would be launched at the next meeting of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians during the 134th Assembly. She encouraged delegates to ensure that their respective parliaments completed the questionnaire that the IPU had distributed to facilitate the development of the report.

Preparations for the 134th Assembly

The PRESIDENT said that the General Debate during the 134th Assembly would be on the topic *Rejuvenating democracy, giving voice to youth*. The debate was an important opportunity for the Forum to play a leadership role in the work of the Assembly. He encouraged his fellow parliamentarians to consult with young people in their countries and contribute to their countries' statements on the issue. The Forum could also contribute by issuing youth overview reports on items being considered by the Standing Committees, including the draft resolution of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security entitled *Terrorism: the need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights* and the draft resolution of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade entitled *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*. It had been decided that one Board member and one member of the Forum should work on the youth overview reports.

The SECRETARY said that the Board had appointed Mr. R. Igbokwe (Nigeria) to draft the youth overview report on the resolution of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security. Ms. L. Cameron (United Kingdom) had volunteered to work with him. Ms. T. Alriyati (Jordan) had agreed to draft the report related to the work of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade, in collaboration with Mr. K. Kiyingi Bbosa (Uganda). The youth overview reports would be completed by the end of 2015.

Question and answer session with Mr. A.S El-Dawla Chief of Section, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate

Mr. A.S. EL-DAWLA, Chief of Section, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED), introduced the work of the Committee, which had been established by UN Security Council resolution 1373 after the terrorist attacks on 11 September 2001. The Committee comprised 40 experts, the majority of whom were counter-terrorism practitioners or former law enforcement or border control officers. The Committee was empowered to carry out monitoring visits to Member States in order to engage in dialogue and help countries to identify issues and shortfalls in their counter-terrorism approach. The Committee issued recommendations across a number of areas and worked with countries to develop a roadmap to implement those recommendations. Some Member States required technical assistance: that was not the Committee's responsibility, although it could broker assistance between donors and Member States. A number of UN Security Council resolutions addressing terrorism, including resolutions 1624, 1963 and 2178, addressed different aspects of the fight against terrorism.

Responding to questions from the floor, he explained that UN Security Council resolution 1963 did not list the factors that contributed to terrorism; rather it called on Member States to investigate those factors. Occupation was therefore not mentioned in the resolution. The issues identified as relevant to counter-terrorism policy included the need to tackle human rights violations, social and economic challenges and political instability. The extent to which those issues should be incorporated into counter-terrorism policies in practical terms was not defined. There were clear criteria for the listing of individuals on 'blacklists' if they were suspected of having links to international terrorism; countries needed to present proof in order to include people on those lists. There was an ombudsperson to enable delisting. A definition of a terrorist act was included in

UN Security Council resolution 1373 and relevant international instruments. Member States were requested to have clear definitions in their national legislation that respected and agreed with the definitions that had been debated and accepted by the international community. Regarding the role of women, the UN Security Council had adopted a resolution on women in international peace and security, which called on Member States to include all stakeholders, including women, young people, civil society, academia and the media in the development of counter-terrorism strategies.

A number of resolutions highlighted the importance of enhancing cultural and social dialogue with regard to the use of the Internet by terrorists, while State-organized Internet monitoring raised a separate set of issues relating to freedom and privacy. The Committee was working with Member States to collect best practices based on monitoring-related case law. In the context of UN Security Council resolution 1624, whose aim was to criminalize terrorism and enhance cultural dialogue, the United Nations had clearly stated that there was no link between terrorism and faith. In response to a question on funding and arming terrorist groups, it was explained that the issue was complicated, and Member States did not have the capacity to stop such action. As terrorist groups increasingly gained territory and resources, a multidisciplinary approach was required, including the cooperation of stakeholders such as law enforcement bodies, oil companies, border controls, customs and supply chains. The Committee was looking particularly at measures to block the movement of goods and arms. It was difficult to quantify the Committee's success and every organization or system had its pitfalls. Nevertheless, one example of the Committee's impact was reflected in the number of States parties to the International Convention for the Suppression of the Financing of Terrorism, which had increased from five in 2001 to more than 180 in 2015.

The sitting rose at 1.10 p.m.

Panel Discussion on *Parliamentary action in meeting international commitments to counter terrorism*

Tuesday, 20 October

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 9.20 a.m. with Mr. M. Chungong, Secretary General of the IPU, in the Chair and acting as Moderator.

The MODERATOR said that terrorism was the burning issue of the day: it was a global phenomenon and no country was immune from its effects. It was therefore vital that parliaments, as representatives of the people, came together to turn words into action and to identify the specific steps that should be taken to counter terrorism. He hoped that the panel discussion would lead to consensus on what the global parliamentary community could do to forge stronger partnerships with, and to effectively support, the efforts of the United Nations and other partners to combat terrorism. He invited participants to focus first on evaluating the threat posed by terrorism, including the emerging phenomenon of foreign terrorist fighters. Second, there were several international conventions and other legislation on counter-terrorism: had the implementation of those instruments been effective and were there any gaps in that implementation? Third, there was the question of what it would take for parliaments to increase their capacity to deal with the issue.

He introduced the panellists: Mr. Y. Fedotov, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC); Mr. J.-P. Laborde, Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED); Mr. K. Koser, Executive Director of the Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF); Mr. M.R. Rabbani, Speaker of the Senate of Pakistan and member of the Executive Committee of the IPU; Mrs. C. Guittet, member of the French National Assembly and member of the IPU Committee on Middle East Questions; and Mrs. G. Tjoes, Deputy Speaker of the Senate of Cameroon. He also wished to recognise the presence of Mr. F.M. Amoruso, Honorary President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean (PAM), which was an organization that had grown out of the IPU and had been robust in its efforts to assist the worldwide effort to combat the scourge of terrorism.

He asked Mr. Fedotov what legislation existed on terrorism and related issues, to what extent the United Nations had implemented that legislation and what parliaments could do to support the United Nations in that regard.

Mr. Y. FEDOTOV (UNODC), *panellist*, said that parliamentarians could do a lot to address the issue, including by legislating on specific ways to target terrorism and to strengthen international cooperation, especially as terrorism was evolving and becoming more complex and violent. The involvement of foreign terrorist fighters was of increasing concern: more than 25,000 had travelled from more than 100 countries to join groups such as Daesh. They posed a clear threat to both their destination and home countries. Often, they travelled to conflict zones, became further radicalized and received training in terrorist activities, increasing the risk that they might carry out further terrorist acts when they returned home.

Terrorist groups had also become much more adept at financing themselves. They had developed links with transnational organized crime networks and raised revenue through crimes such as kidnapping for ransom, smuggling oil and other natural resources, and trafficking illicit drugs, arms and cultural property.

It was vital that the international community, including parliaments, worked together to build national capacities and strengthen legal frameworks to counter terrorism. Strong deterrents could be created by criminalizing involvement in any terrorist activities, such as financing terrorism or incitement to commit terrorist acts. Without those strong legal frameworks, prosecuting terrorists would be impossible. Counter-terrorism policies also needed to disrupt terrorist financing by combating illicit financial flows, corruption and money-laundering. Achieving that would require strong regulatory frameworks for banks and other financial institutions and strengthened public-private partnerships.

Many States had taken decisive action to address the challenges they faced but there were still gaps in the global, collective response. There was a particularly urgent need to stem the flows of foreign terrorist fighters. That required enhanced regional and international cooperation, with coordinated border management and information sharing. Many countries faced issues of limited

resources, a lack of training and technical capacity and, for some, corruption. Those factors hampered countries' capacity to mount effective investigations and prosecutions of foreign terrorist fighters. There were also gaps in some States' legislation for countering terrorist financing and freezing the assets of terrorists.

Parliamentarians had a clear and important role to play in strengthening that collective response to terrorism. They should enact appropriate legislation and ensure that relevant international conventions and resolutions were incorporated into national legislation. Parliamentarians could also ensure that law enforcement agencies and security services were granted the powers that they required to conduct effective intelligence work and investigations, making sure that the appropriate accountability mechanisms were in place.

The MODERATOR asked Mr. Laborde to provide the perspective of CTED and to comment on how parliamentary action might be linked to norm-setting, for which the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee was responsible.

Mr. J.-P. LABORDE, (CTED), *panellist*, said that the only way to fight terrorism, to stop its continued growth and evolution and to prevent the increase in foreign terrorist fighters was for all countries, supported by the United Nations and the IPU, to redouble their efforts to work together. Compatible – not necessarily harmonized – legislation between countries was vital to ensuring better international cooperation at all levels. In some countries, legislation could be extensive but not particularly rigorous, while in others it could be highly limited and restrictive. There should be clear benchmarks set for the level of compatibility and normative frameworks that were required. While there was not yet an internationally agreed single definition of terrorism, there were definitions in 19 existing agreements and in resolutions of the UN Security Council. The provisions of those instruments had to be incorporated into national legislation. Parliaments should therefore ensure that the common references and definitions of terrorism in those instruments were effectively brought into all countries' national legislation, and so allow for greater complementarity and compatibility between them.

Three separate Security Council resolutions had been adopted that were designed to combat the particular threat posed by Daesh and its continued development as a terrorist group. Resolution 2170 categorized Daesh as a terrorist organization; resolution 2178 sought to tackle the threat of foreign terrorist fighters and provide for their prosecution within the rule of law; and resolution 2199 was adopted to eliminate terrorist organizations' sources of financing. By taking the necessary measures to ensure the implementation of those resolutions and to establish compatible legislation, all countries, together with the United Nations and the IPU, could move further and faster towards eliminating the terrorist threat posed by Daesh. Without effective laws, it would not be possible to prosecute and convict terrorists, so that they accounted for their crimes and their violations of all the fundamental rights of humanity.

The MODERATOR reiterated the importance of the compatibility of legislation: without it, it would be considerably harder to bring to trial those who were guilty of terrorist acts. He asked Mr. Rabbani to describe the experience of terrorism in his country and how the international community could help in dealing with that threat.

Mr. M.R. RABBANI (Pakistan), *panellist*, said that he had some concerns about the very proposition of “parliamentary action in meeting international commitments to counter terrorism”. He would have preferred to discuss “parliamentary action to counter terrorism”. Although the tenor of the discussion was that everyone should do more, he in fact wanted the world to do more for Pakistan. His country and society had been torn apart: the people were bleeding and mothers were losing their children.

He believed that very careful consideration was needed before trying to ensure that laws were uniform across countries. There was no one-size-fits-all solution to countering terrorism. The conditions in his country might vary greatly compared to those in Africa or the Middle East. Countries should not choose to participate in expansionist or internationalist agendas, and no country should be required to barter its national sovereignty in the name of fighting terrorism. The use of drones, for example, which violated territorial sovereignty and airspace, could not be justified.

The entire question should be viewed from a different perspective. Before taking action, the appropriateness of the various UN resolutions and international law should be determined. No instrument would be effective if it had limited relevance to the realities on the ground. Much more

attention should be given to the root causes of terrorism. Terrorism would continue to increase until those causes were systematically addressed. The primary issues that should be addressed were: the Islamization of terrorism; the failure to settle long-standing disputes among nations and territories; regime change and its consequences, especially when sponsored by external actors; the reporting methods of the Western media; the rise in racist and extremist movements in Western society; migration and internal displacement; double standards exercised when occupying States sponsored or perpetuated terrorism against occupied people and territories; continued conflict situations; and the lack of justice in societies which attracted young people in particular to terrorist groups. There was no easy response to those issues. Any counter-narrative needed to ensure that no single religion, ethnicity or nationality was singled out. All forms and manifestations of terrorism needed to be condemned, whether in the Middle East, Africa, Asia or the West.

Pakistan's parliament had sought to create a broad national consensus on the fight against terrorism. It had held parliamentary sessions with all relevant stakeholders, including the military and intelligence services. A 14-point national strategy to combat terrorism had been adopted and a parliamentary committee on national security had been established. The committee had then formulated 64 practical recommendations on action that should be taken. Pakistan also placed great emphasis on monitoring the human rights situation and on addressing the issue of migration and rehabilitating internally displaced persons.

Mr. M. Miedico (Chief of Section, Terrorism Prevention Branch, UNODC), replaced Mr. M. Chungong in the Chair as Moderator.

The MODERATOR said that, as a representative of UNODC, it was a privilege to participate in the panel discussion and to reflect the strong cooperation that existed between his organization and the IPU.

Mrs. C. GUITTET (France), *panellist*, said that there had been a high threat of terrorism in France in recent months, with reports of attacks and the distribution of terrorist propaganda. The threat continued to grow as jihadists moved to join terrorist groups in Syria and Iraq and came back to France, further radicalized. As a result, parliamentarians had worked to strengthen and modify national legislation to ensure that it could effectively face the ever-evolving terrorist threat.

In full cognizance of the need for a careful balance between security and freedoms, the French parliament had adopted two separate legislative acts, on combating terrorism, and on intelligence. The responsibilities of the secret services had been defined in legislation for the first time. Seven missions had been set out, one of which was the prevention of terrorism. At first glance, the missions could seem broad or vague, but they were limited by various principles, such as the respect for private life, proportionality, or the traceability of intelligence-gathering techniques. Any measures taken that interfered with a person's private life needed to be clearly defined, time-limited and proportionate to the danger they sought to tackle. To ensure that was the case, adequate controls were in place, and an independent committee had been given responsibility for ensuring those principles were followed. Legislation also now permitted judges to have access to defence secrets in France when their work required it. Common structures were in place in both the French National Assembly and the Senate to ensure full parliamentary oversight of the secret services.

The recent anti-terrorism legislation had for the first time included provisions on prevention. For example, action could be taken by the police and law enforcement agencies to prohibit people from leaving France, if it was believed that they were travelling to Syria or elsewhere to join terrorist groups or to carry out terrorist activities. Anyone subject to such a ban could contest it before a judge and go to an administrative tribunal for a final decision on whether the ban could be upheld.

The legislation created a new offence of individual terrorist undertaking. Previously, only terrorist acts linked to an organized group or cell could be prosecuted. The new offence made it possible to prosecute so-called "lone wolves" when there was evidence that an individual had planned or committed an act of terrorism without being linked to a terrorist group. The legislation also strengthened the State's capacity to combat the dissemination of terrorist propaganda online. Internet service providers could be banned from providing services to certain clients and could be asked to report instances of online promotion of terrorist ideologies or actions.

The legislation enacted had been hotly contested. Parliamentarians had worked to ensure that the texts upheld the rule of law and struck a careful balance between ensuring basic rights and freedoms on the one hand, and national security and the ability to deal with emerging new terrorist threats on the other.

The MODERATOR said that the legislation enacted in France was an interesting example of how national legislation could evolve to counter the terrorist threat. It was important not to simply legislate in the wake of an emergency but to take the time to ensure the correct balance between the right to security and the security of rights. They were complementary principles and formed the foundation of the rule of law and democracy.

Mrs. G. TJOUES (Cameroon), *panellist*, said that her country had grave concerns about the negative impact of terrorism on development and the future of mankind. Cameroon was itself confronting the barbaric terrorist group Boko Haram and the violence and fear that the group spread throughout the country. The Parliament of Cameroon, under the guidance of the country's President, who was also the head of the armed forces, had decided to take action against Boko Haram in order to safeguard the sovereignty, integrity and security of the State and to protect the lives of the people it represented. Cameroon hoped that international efforts could be increased to help the country eliminate that terrorist threat.

The Parliament had also ratified a number of relevant African Union conventions and adopted various Acts aimed at improving the capacity for and the effectiveness of national and regional counter-terrorism activities. Cameroon believed that the fight against terrorism was not just a military war but also an ideological one. The country therefore called upon the IPU, the United Nations and other partners first, to assist in raising greater awareness among the population of the threat posed by groups such as Boko Haram and Daesh; and second, to provide increased political and military support for eliminating those groups and the threat they posed to peace and security.

The MODERATOR said that the proliferation of terrorism undoubtedly threatened development, especially in light of the recent adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals. It was clear that neither security nor development could exist without the other.

Mr. K. KOSER, (GCERF), *panellist*, commended the focus that the IPU had maintained on countering terrorism and the Organization's emphasis on the important role that parliamentarians could play by developing and enacting national legislation and policies. Given the urgency of the issue, he also welcomed the emphasis on the need to move from dialogue to action.

As a funding mechanism designed to support local, grassroots initiatives and to build resilience against violent extremist agendas, GCERF's primary focus was on prevention. GCERF believed it was well placed to support and complement the United Nations global counter-terrorism strategy. It could complement military, security and intelligence-led responses with its focus on communities, and so ensure a comprehensive approach. It was important to ensure community development and to provide creative alternatives – particularly for young people – through employment and other initiatives, so that they were not tempted by extremist agendas. GCERF could also bring other actors into the fight against terrorism and extremism. It worked with both security and development partners and, as a public-private partnership, had already seen strong engagement by the private sector. There was a clear business case to be made for countering violent extremism, as the private sector wanted to ensure opportunities for investment and access to talent pools and did not want to see disruptions in supply chains.

GCERF believed that parliamentarians needed to assist efforts to counter terrorism and violent extremism. That could be achieved by first developing robust national frameworks and policies that took account of international guidance and second, by ensuring that their governments were allocating appropriate financial resources to countering terrorism, both nationally and internationally. Parliamentarians also had an important role as shapers of opinion and needed to use that role to ensure that debates on terrorism were objective and evidence-based.

The MODERATOR welcomed the arrival of GCERF in the field of countering terrorism and violent extremism. It was vital to promote prevention and to build resilience through community engagement and that was the basis of GCERF's mandate.

Mr. F.M. AMORUSO (PAM), recalling Mr. Fedotov's comments on the need to strengthen legal frameworks, said that parliamentarians needed to add value to the global fight against terrorism. They should ensure that the law enforcement agencies in their countries had the necessary powers to investigate, prosecute and sentence terrorists. Violent extremist groups were a growing threat to national and international security. Foreign terrorist fighters were increasingly joining ISIL in conflict zones and systematically violating the universal values of peace, security and human dignity. Collaboration and cooperation was required among all countries and international organizations to identify and implement effective common responses to threats from which no one

was immune. The Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean was therefore working in close collaboration with various United Nations entities. For example, the Assembly and UNODC had recently organized a joint regional workshop on the challenges posed by a preventive criminal justice response to terrorism and foreign terrorist fighters. The Assembly was also sharing its experiences with the IPU in the area of strengthening regional and international parliamentary mechanisms for fighting terrorism.

Ms. S. TAQAWI (Bahrain) said that more than 62,000 terrorist acts had occurred in the previous 15 months alone and many thousands of people had been displaced across the world. Around 17 million children had their rights violated every day and many were unable to live with their families because of terrorism. Governments did not do enough to ensure that national budgets allocated adequate funding to counter-terrorism. Non-governmental and intergovernmental organizations did not have the necessary resources to deal with terrorism and its related issues.

The IPU needed to ensure that its resolutions and decisions were not just the result of discussions to which States paid no heed. All governments needed to fulfil their obligations to implement IPU resolutions and decisions. A range of additional measures were needed to effectively counter terrorism, including: combating any attempt to link terrorism to a specific ethnic group or religion; developing a global strategy with a balanced set of actions for the international community to undertake; enhancing regional coordination to prevent illicit drug trafficking; concluding additional bilateral and multilateral agreements; implementing counter-terrorism laws more robustly; and moving more decisively beyond dialogue and discussions towards clear, effective action.

Mr. A. JASIM (United Arab Emirates) said that terrorism had not been well-defined internationally. The first step to meeting international commitments to counter terrorism must be to reach an international consensus on a single, clear definition. Other actions that were needed included: providing the necessary technical and financial support to vulnerable countries; ensuring effective exchange of information between States; pushing States that were transit countries for foreign terrorist fighters to do everything possible to stop those fighters; identifying and eliminating the sources of funding for terrorist groups, including electronic fund transfers; establishing specialized courts for prosecuting terrorists; and ensuring that humanitarian organizations could play their full part in assisting the people who had suffered as a result of terrorist acts and violence.

Mr. B. NEMATİ (Islamic Republic of Iran) said that he agreed that compatible laws were needed. But it would be counterproductive if countries sought to institute identical legislation. The international community also needed to be careful of taking urgent action to deal with immediate crises, such as those posed by ISIS, without taking due care. It was not always possible to wait for legislation to be adopted before taking action, but any action taken should be well thought out and effective. There was an urgent need to find a universal definition of terrorism and to address the root causes of terrorism. His country had made particular efforts to cut off the funding sources of terrorist groups and to clamp down on money-laundering.

Mr. J.-P. LABORDE (UNCTED), *panellist*, said that he wholly agreed with the need to address the root causes of terrorism and that terrorism was not linked to any religion. In the near future, the United Nations Secretary-General intended to submit to the UN General Assembly a comprehensive plan of action to prevent violent extremism. The plan would seek to address the root causes of terrorism, such as those that had been mentioned by other speakers. Terrorism could not be dealt with through conventions and legislation alone. The State, civil society and the private sector should all be involved in combating terrorism and violent extremism, with parliaments ensuring that terrorist acts did not go unpunished.

Mr. P. RUDDOCK (Australia) expressed dismay that the discussion had failed to provide participants with a tangible message that they could share with fellow legislators at home about what parliaments were being asked to achieve. He had wanted to know what specific measures he should propose for implementation by his own parliament and how he could identify whether his parliament had been addressing the issues that the United Nations believed should be addressed.

Mr. K. MEISTER (Student, Graduate Institute, Geneva) asked about what progress there had been in agreeing a general definition of terrorism in the United Nations. Had any agreement had been reached on whether acts committed during armed conflicts should be included?

Recalling earlier comments about “terrorist fighters”, he also asked how it might be possible to reconcile the concepts of a fighter or combatant under international humanitarian law and that of a terrorist under national legislation and international law. When talking about terrorism, there was often a focus on Daesh and other extremist groups, but members of other armed groups were also involved in those armed conflicts.

Mr. J.-P. LABORDE (CTED), *panellist*, responding, said that, from a political point of view, it would be better to have one comprehensive convention on terrorism and its definition. Instead, there were, at that time, 19 agreements that defined various acts of terrorism. They were sufficient for the principle of legality at the international level but in order to ensure unity in counter-terrorism efforts, it was important to have a single agreed definition.

He said that the concepts of terrorist and fighter or combatant were different, but with groups such as Daesh, the distinction was blurred, as the terrorists were often carrying out military actions.

The sitting rose at 11.20 a.m.

Parity Debate on *Parliamentary oversight and political will*

Tuesday, 20 October

(Morning)

The sitting was called to order at 9.40 a.m. with Ms. M.N. Mensah-Williams (Namibia), President of the Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians, in the Chair.

The PRESIDENT (Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians) explained that the idea of a parity debate was to have equal numbers of men and women attending and contributing to the discussion. For debates to be truly representative, it was important for the voices of both men and women to be heard. Although the debate was not specifically on gender equality, gender issues should be borne in mind throughout the deliberations. She introduced the Moderator, Ms. M. Lugiarić, Member of the Croatian Parliament.

The MODERATOR said that the objective of the debate was to consider in depth the subjects of oversight and political will, to consider the obstacles faced and to look for ways to overcome them. Consideration should also be given to which areas were subject to more oversight than others, why that was, and whether women and men members of parliament had different approaches to oversight, particularly on gender equality policies. She introduced the panellists: Ms. P. Cayetano, Member of the Senate of the Philippines; Ms. F. Koofi, Member of the House of the People of Afghanistan; Mr. P. Katjavivi, Speaker of the National Assembly of Namibia; Mr. J.P. Letelier, Member of the Senate of Chile; and Mr. P. Mahoux, Member of the Senate of Belgium.

Mr. P. KATJAVIVI (Namibia), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that parliaments had a responsibility to hold governments to account. The Namibian parliament had a bipartisan approach to oversight to ensure that the actions of the Executive were open and transparent. The bipartisan approach had been developed through a committee structure. It had been agreed that one of the key parliamentary committees would be chaired by a member of the opposition party, so as to ensure a balanced and inclusive approach.

Ms. F. KOOFI (Afghanistan), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that overseeing a government whilst in the opposition presented a number of challenges. For example, the Executive conducted some oversight activities, regardless of their validity. In many countries, oversight was not systematic, and there were no defined roles for parliament and the Executive. Moreover, there was often a lack of oversight coordination, especially when the Executive was trying to hide things. Blackmail was sometimes used to attack parliamentarians carrying out oversight. Nevertheless, parliaments had an obligation to their constituents to hold governments to account, and the Executive should understand that role.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), *panellist*, suggested that it was easier to express one's views when in opposition and that it was part of the role of the opposition to comment constructively on government activities. Belgium used a proportional representation system, meaning that the government and the opposition could comprise multiple parties. Parliamentary rules of procedure were important tools in terms of oversight. In Belgium, for example, members of parliament were allocated a specific speaking time on agenda items. The times allocated were proportional to a party's representation in parliament. It was therefore important to have clear rules of procedure to prevent the majority and more powerful parties from abusing the speaking time allocations. The plurality of the media was essential so that different views could be expressed.

Ms. P. CAYETANO (Philippines), *panellist*, explained that in her country, citizens played a significant role in demanding oversight. Non-governmental organizations were a strong presence. Along with individuals, they were actively involved in encouraging parliamentary oversight and oversight of cases before the Supreme Court. It had also been necessary to review legislation that had already been enacted.

Mr. J.P. LETELIER (Chile), *panellist*, observed that the form of oversight differed based on the political system in place. Chile had a presidential system. That resulted in numerous obstacles to oversight, as there was no adequate control mechanism in place. Citizens valued oversight when it affected their lives or was related to scandal, but had limited interest at other times. That meant that oversight was not necessarily sufficiently valued.

Mr. P. KATJAVIVI (Namibia), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, observed that in young democracies, such as Namibia, the media enabled parliaments to explain their oversight role to the general public. It was thus important for parliaments to reach out and ensure that the media accurately reflected the work they did. For example, some Namibian newspapers featured columns in which parliamentarians responded to issues chosen by the public.

The MODERATOR asked whether men and women parliamentarians had the same responsibility to perform oversight on gender equality and related issues.

Ms. F. KOOFI (Afghanistan), *panellist*, opined that in many countries, there was the misconception that gender was synonymous with women. That led to limited engagement from men on relevant topics. According to the law, all members of parliament were required to carry out oversight on any matter that required it. Gender equality was a key subject, which was technically the responsibility of all. However, in practice, gender equality was usually regarded as an area for women parliamentarians. Some male colleagues took an interest, but they could be subject to insults from other male parliamentarians as a result. As a woman parliamentarian, oversight was often more difficult, although there was a view in some countries that women parliamentarians were more honest and less corrupt than their male counterparts. She had faced considerable personal and political difficulties when she had raised the issue of sexual violence against women in prisons. Many colleagues refused to believe that it was a problem. Thanks to the support of civil society, she had been able to provide proof that such abuses occurred and measures had been introduced to address the problem.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), *panellist*, observed that, although it should be possible to say that there was no difference, that was not necessarily the case in practice. Unfortunately stereotypes persisted in the allocation and distribution of labour in society and politics. Progress was noticeable in the distribution of political tasks, with women becoming more active in areas such as defence. But it continued to be common for women to be given portfolios such as youth, education and health. Consequently, more should be done to fight against gender stereotypes. Belgium had a number of laws and initiatives on gender equality in politics. However, it appeared that there was more equality in some areas than others.

Ms. P. CAYETANO (Philippines), *panellist*, said that the answer to that question should be yes, but in practice it depended on a country's circumstances and on personal priorities. The Philippines had a small Senate, with only 24 members. As a result, she was seen as the Senate's gender champion. Ultimately, who initiated oversight was less important than having full and equal participation of all parliamentarians in finding solutions.

Mr. J.P. LETELIER (Chile), *panellist*, observed that oversight of gender issues was a shared responsibility. However, the extent to which parliamentarians played their part was highly dependent on an individual's personal interests. Some members of parliament were more active on oversight than others. In many cases, the area being overseen made it more difficult for women to participate. The institutional framework also had an effect. For example, in Chile's bicameral system, one chamber played more of an oversight role than the other.

Ms. S. KOUSANTINI (Tunisia) stated that, since the political changes in her country and the adoption of a new Constitution in 2014, the role of women had become increasingly significant, particularly in the area of national dialogue, which was a key driver of progress. In recognition of the efforts made in Tunisia, the National Dialogue Quartet had been awarded the Nobel Peace Prize 2015. Efforts were also being made to increase confidence in parliamentary oversight. Oversight was essential: it should ensure respect for laws and enable the monitoring of government activities. However, different parliamentarians had experience in different areas: it was not always possible to play a personal role in some areas. As rapporteur of an oversight committee, she had organized meetings to review the national counter-terrorism strategy, but had not had the necessary experience to participate in the deliberations. It was important to strengthen political will, which in turn strengthened oversight.

Ms. B.M. TSHIRELETSO (Botswana) said that when discussing gender issues, there should be a greater focus on the needs of lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex persons. However, some people did not want to address the matter.

Baroness HOOPER (United Kingdom) agreed that the form of oversight depended upon the parliamentary system in place. Her country was a parliamentary democracy, in which all ministers were also members of parliament. The UK's select committee system was a valuable tool for oversight and a new committee had recently been established on women and equalities. The constituency-based system in the UK meant that members of parliament were representatives of all of their constituents, not just the members of their own party. The opposition in many countries was very fragmented and unwilling to work together. If women were willing to work together across party divides, depending on interests and experience, a lot could be achieved. She also asked the panellists for their opinion on the role of social media in oversight.

Mr. M.V.R. GOWDA (India) said that his country had a robust committee system that facilitated oversight. A number of committees had successfully identified and exposed corruption in certain areas. It was vital that once an issue was raised, there was sufficient capacity to follow up adequately. Furthermore, responses and actions taken should be shared publically so that interested parties could keep track of what had happened after a subject had been raised. Oversight capacity should be bolstered to strengthen parliaments institutionally.

Mrs. A. VICUÑA (Ecuador) drew attention to measures used by her country to achieve gender parity in politics. She said that oversight was difficult when a parliamentarian was a member of a party with a large majority. It was important to ensure links with the public and civil society in order to consolidate the people's power. The role of the media in oversight was also vital. But equally, democratic processes were needed to ensure that people's voices were heard in the media.

Ms. J. ABU ZNEID (Palestine) said that it's the occupation of Palestine by another country limited parliamentary activity and oversight. Women played a significant role in fostering peace and justice and the women's movement was particularly strong in Palestine. Women had been members of parliament since 1996 and numbers were increasing. Although measures such as quotas had led to progress, there was still a long way to go. As a result of the occupation, the Legislative Council had recently been unable to meet or carry out its parliamentary work. Oversight was a key function of parliament and women were involved in all of the oversight committees that had been established. Palestinian women had proved their effectiveness. It was time for the occupation to end to enable women to play their role more fully.

Ms. C. NISHIMURA (Japan) explained that during her political career, her party had been both in government and in opposition. Oversight was not merely the responsibility of the opposition parties. During her party's period in office, it had begun a budget screening process to make the budget development approach more transparent. Now that her party was in opposition, it was extremely active in budgetary oversight and was endeavouring to raise awareness of the budget among the public.

The representative of EQUATORIAL GUINEA said that the Executive generally accepted parliamentary oversight. But despite efforts to stress the importance of cooperation, not all members of the Government collaborated effectively. The image of a radical opposition was not always accurate and the parties of both government and opposition had a crucial role to play in oversight. The citizens of Equatorial Guinea attached great importance to the work of parliamentarians. There were a number of issues, such as labour rights, where parliament had been very effective in developing solutions. The media worked with parliament to disseminate information to the public about the work being undertaken.

Mr. J. FAKHRO (Bahrain) said that parliamentary oversight differed from country to country and depended upon the powers given to parliament. Oversight was affected by the strength of opposition parties and tended to be strong and effective in countries with a long history of parliamentary democracy. His country had only been a democracy for 13 years and so oversight remained limited. The approach to oversight did not differ between male and female parliamentarians. In order to enhance transparency, social oversight was also needed and the media had a key role to play in that regard.

Mrs. A. DE LA PEÑA GÓMEZ (Mexico) observed that the structure of spaces of power must reflect the fact that parliamentarians were representatives of society. Structural changes were needed to provide women with a space to fully exercise their role. Civil society organizations must also continue to insist that women had full rights. Often the conservatism of men, particularly with regard to sexual and reproductive rights, was the main barrier in that regard. It was essential to maintain efforts to achieve progress. The recognition of men and women as equals was a key challenge for humanity.

Mrs. A. ALGARAGERE (Jordan) said that in her country, parliamentary oversight was usually carried out through question and answer sessions in parliament and during debates. However, there were a number of challenges that made effective oversight of the Government's plans and activities more difficult: opposition parties were weak and the party of government significantly stronger. Moreover, the Government did not recognize the importance of parliamentary oversight.

Mrs. O. ASOKAWATI (Indonesia) stressed the importance of increasing women's engagement with political issues. Political will and information campaigns were particularly useful in that respect. Indonesia had a number of affirmative action policies to foster women's participation in politics, but the aim of 50 per cent of candidates being women had not yet been achieved. Parliaments were an excellent forum for women to raise their interests for the public benefit.

Mrs. A. NYIRAGWANEZA (Rwanda) said that there were a large number of women parliamentarians in her country and that they played a key role. Rwanda had legislation in place on parliamentary oversight of government activities. Most oversight activities took the form of written and oral questions or parliamentary enquiries. The Prime Minister was also required to provide information to Parliament every year on the activities and performance of each Ministry and to report on ministerial decisions within eight days of their being taken, providing explanations where required.

Ms. S. LINES (Australia) observed that some men found it difficult to relate to women's and gender issues. In general, women parliamentarians tended to focus on social issues. It was, however, essential that there were women active in all areas – including 'hard' portfolios – in order to ensure effective oversight.

Mr. H. KALEMZAI (Afghanistan) said that in his country, war and conflict had limited women's opportunities to gain an education or employment. However, progress was being made and there were growing numbers of women in parliament. Women were generally seen as kinder and less corruptible than men. Social media was important but its control was also necessary. Support for the UN-Women initiative HeForShe was also very important.

Ms. R.A. MANNAN (Bangladesh) said that it was important for parliaments to have adequate skills, resources and capacity to fulfil their oversight function. Useful tools to achieve that were the provision of training and capacity-building on specific subjects and a formal mechanism for interaction between members of parliament and civil society.

Ms. B. JAGGER (Namibia) said that there was a high number of women in the Namibian parliament but that more women should occupy decision-making positions. Namibia had a number of parliamentary standing committees to carry out oversight. All stakeholders were able to offer their opinions to those committees, which then submitted reports to parliament and recommendations to the Executive. Representation of different parties in the committees was not a problem. There was an awareness of the important role of oversight and the committees were therefore united in their actions.

Ms. T.M. DZIVA (Zimbabwe) said that the growing number of women in parliament, including women leading parliamentary committees, was helping to increase the amount of oversight carried out. There was sufficient political will among all parties on quotas for women candidates and gender budgeting was also used. However, challenges remained. They included a lack of resources, slow alignment of legislation, a lack of awareness of gender laws among women and a lack of implementation of international and regional gender-related instruments.

Mrs. A. BECHIR (Chad) explained that parliamentary oversight was conducted through written questions to government and the work of standing committees. Steps were also being taken to establish a parliamentary enquiry committee. Women occupied a number of high-level positions in Chad, which contributed to oversight.

Mrs. C. NABWALA MUKIITE (Kenya) stated that in her country, oversight activities were performed through a committee system. Members of the committees were selected based on their experience. Committees were seen as effective tools for oversight but could be ineffective if they did not have sufficient capacity. On critical matters, the relevant cabinet secretary was summoned to the committee to answer questions. Audit reports and field visits were also used. Parliamentary debates were broadcast live so that the public could follow them and there was close collaboration with parliamentary reporters, who disseminated real-time information to the public.

Ms. V. KALIMA (Zambia) said that, although oversight was the collective responsibility of all members of parliament, opposition members generally initiated it and government members toed the party line. Men and women, however, had an equal responsibility to conduct oversight and civil society and the media also had a key role to play in prompting it. Gender issues were generally viewed as women's issues as women were often the most active in those areas.

Ms. P. CAYETANO (Philippines), *panellist*, said that in her country, civil society provided substantial input into oversight activities. She had found social media to be an essential tool for communication with constituents. There had been times when civil society and individuals had used social media to highlight oversight issues that they felt parliament should consider. However, social media use was more prevalent among younger members of parliament; there was often resistance among older members to listening to comments made on social media until these were taken up by the traditional media.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), *panellist*, said that some governments had a tendency to bypass parliaments because they felt powerful or because they did what they had to do simply to get through the oversight. Anti-discrimination laws were not solely related to gender equality: they covered all forms of discrimination, including for reasons of gender, disability, sexual orientation or religion. To believe or not to believe in a religion was a fundamental right, and yet people who chose to change their religion were often subjected to violence. He congratulated Tunisia for the progress that it had made and acknowledged the fight of women in Palestine; there was a pressing need for democracy to be exercised and to do so, people needed to be free in their own country.

Ms. F. KOOFI (Afghanistan), *panellist*, said that oversight was the most important part of parliamentary power, as the majority was not always right. However, simply raising an issue was not enough: commitment was needed to follow it through to the end. The presidential system of government made oversight more difficult as it was quite closed, whereas in other systems of government, individuals were more accessible.

Mr. P. KATJAVIVI (Namibia), *panellist*, said that social media could play a useful role and its value as an oversight tool had been recognized in Namibia. All citizens, regardless of their sexual orientation or gender identity, required equal protection. The role of parliaments was constantly evolving and should respond to the changing needs and aspirations of citizens.

The sitting rose at 11.30 a.m.

Open Session of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law

TUESDAY, 20 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.40 p.m. with Mr. P. Taran, Global Migration Policy Associates, Moderator, in the Chair.

The humanitarian dimension of forced migration – asylum-seekers and refugees: from emergency responses to comprehensive approaches

The MODERATOR said that the discussion should consider three main aspects of international law: humanitarian law, the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol, and human rights instruments. There were also three questions to be addressed: what were the current challenges to protecting refugees? What were the potential solutions? What could parliamentarians do to ensure sustained protection for refugees? He introduced the panellists: Mr. M. Zerai, Chairman of Habeshia Agency Cooperation for Development; Mr. J. Riera, Senior Adviser, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR); Mrs. T. Alriyati, Member of Parliament of Jordan; and Mr. J. Bingham, International Catholic Migration Commission; Coordinator, Civil society activities of the Global Forum on Migration and Development (ICMC).

Mr. J. RIERA, Senior Adviser, UNHCR, *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that the current crisis included both refugees and migrants. Although a large proportion of the migrants entering Europe were fleeing the conflict in the Syrian Arab Republic, some were also from other countries. Drawing attention to the UNHCR Global Initiative on Protection at Sea, an action plan developed in 2014, he was concerned at the alarming rates of forced displacement due to armed conflict. In 2010, 11,000 persons per day had been displaced by armed conflict. That figure had risen to 42,500 per day in 2015. Those fleeing conflict were desperate: they often resorted to entering countries in an irregular manner. He asked what the international community could do to address the root causes of the issue.

Mrs. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan), *panellist*, observed that it was important to differentiate between voluntary and forced migration. Forced migration was more likely to be temporary as forced migrants were migrating to save their lives. Her country was hosting a large number of refugees from Iraq, Libya, Palestine, Syrian Arab Republic and Yemen. Jordan had limited resources: the large numbers of refugees were competing with Jordanians for access to services and infrastructure. A political solution to the Syrian conflict was vital: but even when that happened, refugees were unlikely to return to the country immediately, or even within a decade, given the significant reconstruction work that would be needed. And although Europe was experiencing significant migrant flows, that situation could have been foreseen and more should have been done to help neighbouring countries, such as Jordan, which were already hosting refugees.

Mr. M. ZERAI, Chairman of Habeshia Agency Cooperation for Development, *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, explained that his organization received daily calls from refugees from the Horn of Africa and sub-Saharan Africa. They were waiting in North Africa to travel via illegal routes to Europe as they did not have legal rights to apply for asylum there. Such migrants often fell victim to traffickers. If migrants were given a minimum of safety and dignity in a neighbouring country, then they would be more likely to stay there for a period and consider the risks of travelling to another destination. In order to ensure safe migration, humanitarian corridors and increased security in refugee camps were both required. Security in camps was of particular importance. At present, smugglers and traffickers could enter the camps at will: that made people feel unsafe and led them to move on sooner than they would have done. Jobs for refugees living in camps were also crucial to enable them to develop prospects for the future.

Mr. J. BINGHAM, (ICMC), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that family unity and jobs were the main reasons that migrants reported for their decision to migrate. Both were seen as critical to self-protection. They did not wait for others to provide solutions or legal channels and were aware of the risks of their choices. However, hope was decreasing among many refugees and migrants as a result of cuts in international aid. Moreover, migrants often had a particular destination in mind. Although many refugees and migrants were young people, increasing numbers of entire families were migrating. Providing protection was becoming difficult in light of the continuous movement of people and their unwillingness to stop.

The MODERATOR noted that the key words emanating from the panellists' statements were survival, desperation, solutions and protection. He asked whether the current institutional protection and assistance responses were adequate and for more details on what they entailed.

Mr. J. RIERA, (UNHCR), *panellist*, explained that there were a number of frameworks in place, including the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and its 1967 Protocol. The European Union had been working on its Common European Asylum System, but the current situation had highlighted a number of flaws and weaknesses in it. Many of the refugees arriving on European shores had a particular destination in mind, whereas the System dictated that they had to claim asylum in the first country of arrival. That had led to the System breaking down and Member States giving different signals as to their willingness to accept refugees. Given the differing views across the region, the European Union's endeavours to develop a comprehensive approach was facing many difficulties as large numbers of people continued to arrive daily. The European Union and the African Union were to participate in the Valletta Summit on Migration due to be held in November 2015. In a globalized world, no country could decide to dictate who entered their territory.

He recalled that during the 1980s, the situation of the so-called Vietnamese boat people had led to an outpouring of support from more than 60 countries and an action plan to support return and resettlement. As such, the world had shown that it was able to address a complex situation. Mixed movements of refugees and migrants would only continue. Without dialogue and consultations, it would be impossible to address the phenomenon. However, regions could not dictate the responses of other regions. There had been reports from the African Union that the European Union was placing conditions of the provision of aid, such as linking Official Development Assistance to return agreements. And little was being done regarding legal channels for migration, such as issuing visas. He welcomed the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, which had recognized for the first time that migrants could enable development. It was essential to stop demonizing migrants and refugees and to stop using the two terms interchangeably, which politicians and the press often did. Nevertheless, both groups deserved to be treated humanely and with respect.

Mr. M. ZERAI, Chairman of Habeshia Agency Cooperation for Development, *panellist*, said that his organization mainly dealt with people looking for protection after having fled war, conflict or dictatorship. It was crucial to consider protection in parallel with prevention, particularly with regard to the international community's capacity to find a solution to situations such as conflict or dictatorship. To stop the flow of refugees, it was important to change the political situation in affected countries and so enable all people to live in peace and security in their own country. More should also be done to ensure that people had the opportunity to enjoy peace and adequate living conditions in neighbouring countries. Humanitarian corridors to enable safe migration were also vital in the fight against trafficking and smuggling, together with legal resettlement programmes in the European Union and other countries. Opportunities for smugglers could also be reduced by ensuring the costs of visas were not prohibitively expensive.

Mr. J. BINGHAM, (ICMC), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that there was no magic solution to the crisis. Civil society organizations had recently met in Istanbul, Turkey, to discuss potential solutions. They had heard from a migrant that had spent 14 days adrift while crossing the Mediterranean Sea. He had said that, to solve the crisis a solution to the problems in the country of origin should be found. Most people did not want to migrate, but did so out of necessity. It was vital to address the root causes of migration, which would be facilitated by work to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. Nevertheless, it was also vital to respond to the existing situation. The action plan adopted to help the Vietnamese boat people in the 1980s had contained a set of solutions that harnessed global support. Such an approach was needed today. There was no single solution and one region or country would be able to take effective action alone. Steps to improve the situation could include: rescue programmes, such as

the Italian Mare Nostrum programme; respect for the principle of non-refoulement; careful determination of refugee status; adequate resettlement and relocation programmes; proper legal channels for migration; and humanitarian visas. It was important to draw on the lessons learned from past situations.

Mrs. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan), *panellist*, responding to a question from the MODERATOR, said that her country had been providing emergency support to Syrian refugees for five years. The situation of both refugees and citizens in host countries should be considered, as citizens could also suffer. In Jordan, the large numbers of refugees put significant pressure on the labour market, with Syrian refugees being seen as more qualified and cheaper than their Jordanian counterparts. The 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees should be amended to take into account the situation of the modern world regarding the international protection of economic rights.

Speakers agreed that there was a need to develop a comprehensive action plan to respond to the crisis, with special attention on addressing the root causes of migration in general and the current crisis in particular. Root causes included poor governance, war, conflict, terrorism, and differing levels of development in developing and developed countries. It was also necessary to consider the impact on host societies of welcoming large numbers of refugees. One speaker stressed the importance of all European countries sharing responsibility for housing refugees and providing more and improved legal avenues for migration, such as quota systems. A number of speakers added that international solidarity was crucial. Countries such as Jordan that bordered the Syrian conflict required support to develop their infrastructure and enable them to help the large numbers of refugees in their territory. Additional funding should also be allocated to organizations such as the International Committee of the Red Cross. It was important to focus on the positive sides of migration, rather than fixating on the negative aspects. Dialogue with countries of origin was vital to address migration in a holistic manner. Other speakers expressed a variety of opinions, including that: calls to amend international instruments on migration and refugee protection could be used as an excuse not to respect international law; such instruments should make specific reference to citizens fleeing armed conflict; it was surprising that the panellists had not referred much to the migration corridor in the Americas -- significant support was needed there as similar rates of migration occurred in comparison to Europe; approaches should not differentiate between refugees and economic migrants, as economic migrants could also be fleeing a serious situation; although it was vital to ensure decent living conditions for both refugees and economic migrants, each group required a different approach; a number of countries were failing to observe the legal protection mechanisms provided for by the 1951 Convention and other international humanitarian law instruments; the IPU IHL Committee should focus on forced migration.

Mr. J. RIERA, (UNHCR), *panellist*, agreed that caution should be exercised in amending existing international instruments on migration and refugee protection. The climate surrounding refugees had become toxic and he applauded countries, such as Germany and Sweden, which were standing up for the core values of the Charter of the United Nations and the values on which the European Union had been founded. Standing up for 'the other' was becoming an increasingly courageous act and it was in parliamentary constituencies that global actions and local actions came together; actions at the local level helped countries to live up to their international obligations. The housing of refugees should be seen as a responsibility rather than a burden. Moreover, development should be for the benefit of all. More legal pathways for migrants and refugees were needed, such as humanitarian visas, asylum, family reunification laws, and private sponsorship. It was time to look beyond fear and embrace values such as solidarity, and to work together to find solutions.

Mr. M. ZERAI, Chairman of Habeshia Agency Cooperation for Development, *panellist*, stressed the importance of not using refugee issues for political ends, such as to obtain agreements or bilateral concessions from other countries. It was essential that international law was respected, which was not always happening at present. A number of developing countries had willingly opened their doors to refugees, despite the challenges that caused. Others in the developed world were not shouldering their responsibilities. Conflict resolution should be the primary focus of the international community. Existing international instruments should not be changed. However, reform of the United Nations system was vital. Although some countries had welcomed refugees, he was concerned that refugees were not being permitted to seek employment and were therefore dependent upon hand-outs.

Mrs. N. ASSEGAF (Indonesia), exercising the right of reply, said that her country was not yet a party to the 1951 Convention relating to the Status of Refugees and was reliant on assistance from UNHCR to support refugees in Indonesia. Although the country's Constitution contained provisions on helping those in need, it did not include specific legislation on the right of refugees to work.

Mrs. T. ALRIYATI (Jordan), *panellist*, stressed the need for the entire international community to be involved in finding a solution to the refugee crisis.

Mr. J. BINGHAM, (ICMC), *panellist*, said that it was important to take measures to both address the current crisis and to prevent future crises at the same time. Civil society was committed to protecting all forced migrants, regardless of their location or reason for migrating. It was important to fully implement existing instruments and frameworks on migration rather than revising them or creating new ones. It was important to find a proper balance of solutions and political input to ensure that both were sustainable. To do so, a global response was needed, involving all countries and other stakeholders, such as international and civil society organizations. A mixture of solutions should be used based on the capacity and competence of each actor.

The MODERATOR observed that the discussion had raised a number of key points, including the challenges faced in upholding values and existing laws; the need to resolve the root causes of forced migration; recognition of the global nature of the crisis and the need for cooperation and shared responsibility; the need for legal avenues for migrants and refugees to obtain protection; and the importance of respecting the right of mobility.

The sitting rose at 4.45 p.m.

**Panel discussion jointly organized by the IPU and the
Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) on
*Powerful parliaments: Building capacity for effective
parliamentary oversight***

WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 2.40 p.m. with Mr. G.J. Hamilton, Secretary General of the Senate of the Netherlands, Moderator, in the Chair.

The MODERATOR said that in his country, the Senate focused more on legislative work, leaving the oversight work to the House of Representatives; that arrangement was common in many bicameral systems. However, oversight was an important function of all parliaments around the world and building capacity in that regard was crucial. He introduced the panellists: Mr. D. Pkosing Losiaku, Member of the National Assembly of Kenya, Mr. A. Pocij, Member of the Senate of Poland, and Mr. C. Robert, Director of the Senate of Canada.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKU (Kenya), *panellist*, observed that parliamentarians derived their power from the people that elected them and, in many countries, from the Constitution. In his country, there was a clear separation of powers between Parliament and the Executive. For example, MPs were now unable to serve as ministers. Previously, when parliamentarians had been ministers and members of the Executive, the oversight capacity of Parliament had been limited. By contrast, the current system prevented party allegiances from compromising oversight activities. The most common method of oversight was through parliamentary committees: effective oversight required an adequate number of committees in relation to the number of government departments. In addition, the Kenyan National Assembly had control over the budget and had the final say over appointments to the Executive, both of which increased its oversight capacity and power. A key challenge was exercising its oversight activities; in Kenya, the Constitution granted parliament the ability to use the powers of the high court. That allowed Parliament to censure ministers and other members of the Executive for refusing to appear before parliamentary committees, for example.

Mr. A. POCIEJ (Poland), *panellist*, said that during the Communist era of his country, although there had been a Parliament that had had the tools to exercise oversight, in reality those tools had been an ineffective façade. In a democratic State, it was general principles rather than the model or structure of the democracy that was important. Although a set of institutions that worked together effectively was necessary, a free press, an independent legal system and opposition parties to exercise oversight were also crucial. Despite the need for powerful parliaments, it was important that the Judiciary was equally strong and that parliaments respected it.

Mr. C. ROBERT (Canada), *panellist*, focusing on the Westminster system used by his country, stated that the main elements of effective oversight were accountability, responsibility and scrutiny. There were two forms of oversight: formal and informal. Informal oversight was generally used by parliaments to challenge laws and budgets, but had no immediate consequences. The consequences of formal oversight included the fall or replacement of the government. Informal actions included opportunities for the opposition to pose questions to ministers and the Prime Minister (question time), debates prompted by adjournment motions or debates asking MPs for their views on an aspect of public policy (“take note” debates). Some measures had a degree of both informality and formality, such as committee studies, reviews of legislation and days set aside for the opposition to ask questions that challenged government policy (“supply days”). Formal measures included voting against the budget or against the speech given at the beginning of each session of parliament that set out the Government’s legislative programme (known in Canada as the “Speech from the Throne”). If a government lost those votes, it had no option but to resign. As government was now extremely complex, and parliamentarians very busy, parliamentary officers had been appointed in Canada to report to the Government on activities that Parliament regarded as important. There were currently eight parliamentary officers: the Auditor General, the Chief

Electoral Officer, the Commissioner of Official Languages, the Information Commissioner, the Privacy Commissioner, the Public Sector Integrity Commissioner, the Commissioner of Lobbying and the Parliamentary Budget Officer. The latter complemented the work of the Auditor General by analysing economic forecasts and expenditure policies in real time.

Speakers drew attention to the different oversight tools available and the challenges faced in using them. There was general agreement on the need to build the capacity of parliaments to exercise their oversight functions, including in terms of training for support staff and an increased capacity to generate information. Limited resources were a key challenge for many Member Parliaments, particularly those whose countries were experiencing political instability. The importance of an independent Judiciary, an independent Speaker and independent parliamentary clerks could not be underestimated.

One speaker drew attention to the effectiveness of his country's committee system, and stressed how important it was that committees had sufficient support to be able to follow up on issues. Another speaker said that, when ministers attended parliamentary sessions, parliaments could form an idea of the work that the ministries were carrying out. Examples of oversight activities and tools included debates broadcast live on television, parliamentary research departments, parliamentary enquiries, field visits, and government reports which parliaments reviewed and then accepted or rejected. In many cases, the Executive was required to present its programmes and budget to parliament for approval. Question and answer sessions were also a common tool that which facilitated interaction between governments and the opposition. There were a number of approaches to budgetary oversight: some used the committee system to audit and monitor budgets, while others relied on written and oral questions and plenary debates, or a specific office to analyse and review government budgets and spending. Some countries had a specific audit committee to oversee government spending and ensure compliance with the approved budget. The Organisation of Economic Cooperation and Development had developed guidelines to help parliaments strengthen their budgetary oversight and could provide assistance in that regard.

One delegate highlighted procedures used to hold the Executive to account, which included a committee with the power to remove officials from office if they did not comply with their mandate. If a decision was taken to remove the President from office, then all Members of Parliament would also lose their seats and new elections would be held. Another delegate observed that oversight was mainly the responsibility of minority parties. If the majority had control over his parliament's oversight function, the effectiveness of that oversight would diminish. That country also had legislation in place enabling all citizens to request information from the Government. On receiving a request, the Government had 30 days to provide the information or justify why it would not do so. As the Government could be taken to court for refusing to comply with requests, citizens often had a stronger oversight role than parliamentarians.

Mr. D. PKOSING LOSIAKU (Kenya), *panellist*, stressed that there was no single approach to oversight. Each parliament was unique and had different approaches, constraints and challenges. Responding to a question from the floor, he said that in Kenya, there had been a marked improvement in his Parliament's oversight role after the adoption of the new Constitution which included provisions on a clear separation of powers. It enabled oversight to be carried out in the name of the people rather than political parties. One way to assess the effectiveness of oversight activities would be to consider for whom they were being carried out: if it was for the people, and they were satisfied with the results, then the activities could be considered to be effective.

Mr. A. POCIEJ (Poland), *panellist*, responding to questions from the floor, said that a lawful and transparent electoral system, civilian oversight of the army, exclusion of the army from politics, and a procedure for the transfer of power were vital for democracy. His country had a tribunal to oversee elections, which was the only body that could release election results. A country's democratic experience was also important: the longer that democracy had been in place, the more developed were a country's respect for and public awareness of democratic customs and traditions. In newer democracies, including Poland, a disputed election result, such as the one that had occurred in the United States of America in 2000, could have led to civil war. But as the United States was a long-term democracy with a strong Judiciary, it had been possible to resolve the situation through the Supreme Court.

Mr. C. ROBERT (Canada), *panellist*, observed that there were a number of different oversight methods, all of which had different impacts. Responding to a question from the floor, he explained that he used the terms formal and informal activities to grade the actions in question. In Canada, formal mechanisms had consequences for the Government and included MPs voting against the budget or against the Speech from the Throne. If that happened, it meant that the one or both houses of parliament no longer had confidence in the Government and that the Government had to resign. Informal mechanisms had no tangible consequences, but were a way for parliamentarians to criticize the Government. Actions such as voting for amendments to legislation had both formal and informal elements, but did not have consequences for the Government.

The MODERATOR outlined a process in his country whereby, every year, on the third Wednesday in March, all government departments were required to report to parliament on how they had used and managed their budget for the previous year.

The sitting rose at 4.30 p.m.

Adoption of resolutions, final documents and reports

SITTING OF WEDNESDAY, 21 OCTOBER

(Afternoon)

The sitting was called to order at 3.05 p.m. with Mr. S. Chowdhury (Bangladesh), President of the IPU, in the Chair.

Item 4 of the agenda

Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms
(Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights)
(A/133/4-DR)

The PRESIDENT drew attention to the draft resolution which had been submitted by the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights (document A/133/4-DR).

Mrs. B. JÓNSDÓTTIR (Iceland), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that the Standing Committee had unanimously approved its resolution after valuable input from many Committee members at all stages. In putting forward the subject item, she had intended to have an informative debate about the issues addressed by the resolution. She believed the approved text represented a strong new standard on human rights in the digital world.

The Standing Committee had considered 113 amendments. It had been a challenging task but one that had greatly improved the quality of the text. The resolution first highlighted several issues and violations of human rights and subsequently offered a number of solutions. If the Assembly chose to adopt the resolution, she urged all parliamentarians to ensure that their national parliaments quickly began to implement it.

The draft resolution was adopted unanimously.

Item 6 of the agenda

Approval of the subject item for the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights at the 135th IPU Assembly and appointment of the Rapporteurs
(A/133/6-R.1)

The PRESIDENT said that the Standing Committee's Bureau had put forward two possible subject items. The Standing Committee had voted to choose the proposal of Australia entitled *The freedom of women to participate in political processes without interference: partnerships between men and women to ensure their free and safe participation in all aspects of the political process*. Mrs. L. Markus (Australia) had been appointed as one co-Rapporteur. He would consult with the geopolitical groups to identify a second co-Rapporteur.

He proposed that the Assembly approve the subject item and appointment of the first co-Rapporteur.

It was so decided.

Item 5 of the agenda

Reports of the Standing Committees on Peace and International Security; Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade; and on United Nations Affairs

(a) *Standing Committee on Peace and International Security*

Mr. R. TAU (South Africa), President of the Standing Committee, said that the Bureau had discussed the outcome of the Joint Meeting of Chairpersons of the Geopolitical Groups and Presidents of the Standing Committees, in particular the issue of non-attendance and the commitment and ability of bureau members to consistently attend bureau meetings. As a result, the members of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security had committed to consistently attending Bureau meetings and to ensure that the work of the Committee responded to the challenges set by the Secretary General and President of the IPU.

The Standing Committee had decided to devote its time at the 134th Assembly, to continuing discussions and finalizing its resolution entitled *Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights*.

Other points discussed by the Bureau had included the possibility of partnerships with organizations that had similar interests to the Committee such as *Parliamentarians for Nuclear Non-Proliferation and Disarmament (PNND)*, which worked to promote global security and peace. Bureau members had attended a recent PNND event in Prague and had received invitations to other events as a result.

(b) *Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade*

Mrs. S. TIOULONG (Cambodia), Rapporteur of the Standing Committee, said that the Committee had discussed the preliminary draft outcome document that would be adopted at the Parliamentary Meeting to be held on the occasion of the United Nations climate change conference (COP21) in Paris in December 2015. Mr. H. Maurey (France), the Rapporteur of that meeting and author of the document, had taken note of the Standing Committee's various comments on the text. He would incorporate them into a new draft to be presented at the Parliamentary Meeting. The Standing Committee had heard a presentation on the 2015 Global Climate Legislation Study, to which the IPU had contributed. It had been made aware of the draft Parliamentary Action Plan on Climate Change, which was being developed under the leadership of the IPU President.

The Committee had also debated the subject of its next resolution, *Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity*. After introductions from a UNESCO representative and one of the resolution's co-Rapporteurs, 20 parliamentarians had participated in the debate. They had highlighted the importance of cultural heritage and the need to ratify and implement conventions and other agreements on that subject. The Committee had also held elections to fill the vacancies on its Bureau.

(c) *Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs*

Mr. A. AVSAN (Sweden), President of the Standing Committee, said that three new members had been elected to the Bureau and that he had been confirmed as Committee President. The Committee had held two panel discussions, the first of which was on the United Nations Peacebuilding Commission and had marked its 10th anniversary. The discussion had focused on the expectations and shortcomings of United Nations peacebuilding. Peacebuilding should not be addressed by the Peacebuilding Commission alone but should form part of decision-making and operations across the United Nations system. The United Nations should also avoid leading peacebuilding work in post-conflict countries; it should instead focus on capacity-building and enabling national institutions and actors to manage peacebuilding processes.

The second panel discussion had looked at the role of the International Court of Justice in resolving international disputes. The Court had been deemed to be a force for good that should be better utilized. The Court helped countries to resolve disputes when political negotiations were at an impasse. Bringing a case before the Court was an act of peace, signalling that the parties wished to respect international law.

Following the meeting of the Bureau of the Standing Committee, it had been agreed that, at the 134th Assembly, the Committee would hold a hearing with the candidates for the post of United Nations Secretary-General and would also hold a discussion on how to review progress on the Sustainable Development Goals.

The PRESIDENT proposed that the Assembly took note of the reports of the three Standing Committees.

It was so agreed.

Item 3 of the agenda

General debate

The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration

The PRESIDENT said that the Assembly had had a rich and substantive debate in the previous few days on what was undoubtedly one of the most burning issues that the world faced at that time. The high-level speakers from the United Nations and other organizations had shared

valuable and informative insights on the subject. The Assembly had tried to identify possible solutions with a particular focus on the role that parliamentarians could play and how the parliamentary dimension could add value to the debate on migration.

The Assembly had also seen the launch of a new handbook for parliamentarians, *Migration, human rights and governance*, which had been jointly produced with the International Labour Organization and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights. He hoped that the handbook would be an important tool for parliamentarians in navigating migration-related issues.

He introduced the outcome of the General Debate, a Declaration entitled *The imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration*. The text sought to capture the essence and spirit of the Assembly's debate and to provide a set of practical measures that parliaments could undertake relating to: building and implementing a protective legal framework; ensuring fairness, non-discrimination and respect for the human rights of migrants; and working for social cohesion and peaceful and inclusive societies.

He proposed that the Assembly endorse the Declaration *The imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration*.

The Assembly unanimously endorsed the Declaration.

Closure of the Assembly

Ms. A. ALQUBAISI (United Arab Emirates), speaking on behalf of the Arab Group, welcomed the many rich discussions that had been held in the Assembly, the Standing Committees and other meetings. She expressed particular appreciation for adoption of the emergency item proposed by the United Arab Emirates and Sudan and for the considerable discussion that it had generated. All the parliamentarians that had participated in the Assembly should do everything in their power to ensure that the resolutions and decisions that had been adopted were implemented nationally, especially those regarding the protection of migrants.

Mrs. L. MARKUS (Australia), speaking on behalf of the Asia-Pacific Group, commended the rich and diverse discussions that had been held on the various subjects. Many parliamentarians had contributed their own ideas and practical solutions for addressing the issues raised. The challenge now was to ensure that they translated those discussions into effective actions. She thanked the Secretary General and his team for all their hard work before and during the Assembly.

Mr. P. MAHOUX (Belgium), speaking on behalf of the Twelve Plus Group, said that the Assembly's discussions on migration and refugees had been an important reminder of the moral obligation to come to the aid of those who needed to escape from difficult situations. Importantly, it was also an obligation under international conventions. The Declaration on the subject of the general debate and the resolution on the emergency item were both welcome outcomes. It was vital that they were now circulated as widely as possible and effectively implemented in parliamentarians' home countries.

The Assembly and its related meeting had highlighted the excellent working relations that the IPU had with the United Nations, with representatives from the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights participating in debates on refugees and migrants, from the World Health Organization on health matters, and from UNESCO on cultural heritage. Their inputs had contributed greatly to the discussions.

He welcomed the attention that the Governing Council had given to the report of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians and the contribution of Mr. M. Sidibé, Executive Director of UNAIDS, on the subject of HIV treatment.

Ms. V. PETRENKO (Russian Federation), speaking on behalf of the Eurasia Group, said that, in the short time since the IPU President and the Secretary General had been elected, there had been significant changes in the work of the IPU, which were to be commended. The Eurasia Group looked forward to their continued input on how to further enhance the organization and its work.

Many important, topical issues had been discussed during the Assembly. Exchanging views, even strongly divergent views, was essential to reaching decisions on and devising solutions to those issues. All those who had participated should ensure that they worked to improve the lives and social and economic situations of people all over the world, not least those facing hardship and difficulties at that time.

It was a time of organizational change for the IPU. The Eurasia Group hoped that consideration would be given to enhancing the organization's work in other ways, including through creating greater opportunities for interaction between the geopolitical groups and by ensuring that in all debates, countries could exercise their full right of reply to comments or issues raised by others.

Mrs. G. CONDORI JAHUIRA (Peru), speaking on behalf of the Group of Latin America and the Caribbean, and its President, said that the Group shared many of the concerns that had been raised during the meetings of the previous few days and believed that the Assembly was a valuable forum for formulating mutually-agreed solutions through democratic dialogue. The Group hoped that, at the 134th Assembly, the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade would be able to dedicate some time to discussing the issue of public safety, or the lack of it, which was of great concern to many countries in her region.

Latin American and Caribbean parliamentarians were committed to working in their individual parliaments to put the agreements reached at the Assembly into practice and to rally others to the important agenda of the IPU, with regard to human rights, youth, gender, migrants and refugees.

Mrs. S. MOULENGUI MOUÉLÉ (Gabon), speaking on behalf of the African Group and its President, said that the Assembly had provided a valuable opportunity for parliamentarians to exchange ideas on major global issues in an open and convivial atmosphere. The general debate in particular had produced a rich debate on the issue of migration; much had been learned about the particular challenges faced by countries of origin, transit and destination. Parliamentarians needed to use their position to ensure that the rights of migrants and refugees were protected and that the rule of law was fully respected wherever migration occurred. The new handbook would be a valuable tool for parliamentarians as they carried out that work.

The IPU was in good hands under the leadership of its Secretary General and President; they were to be commended for the smooth running and success of the Assembly. The Group looked forward to working with all colleagues again in Lusaka, Zambia, for the 134th Assembly, where they would enjoy all that traditional African hospitality had to offer.

Mr. P. MATIBINI (Zambia) said that the Government, National Assembly and people of Zambia were pleased and honoured to be hosting the 134th Assembly in March 2016. The preparations were already well under way and every effort was being made to ensure the best possible conditions for participants during their stay in Lusaka.

He hoped that many would be able to extend their trips in order to sample the rich array of cultural attractions and natural sites that Zambia had to offer, such as the celebrated Victoria Falls, one of the seven natural wonders of the world, or the numerous national parks and game reserves.

A video was screened, which highlighted Zambia's rich cultural and natural heritage.

The PRESIDENT said that, when he had been elected in 2014 he and the then recently-appointed Secretary General had talked about their aspirations for the IPU and how it performed and functioned. Since then, his aim had been to enhance engagement between the membership and the Secretariat, so that the Secretariat was better informed about what the members were thinking and how they wanted to see the Organization evolve. He hoped that the coming years would be a defining time for the IPU as it looked ahead to the future and its potential. Nevertheless, the IPU could only fulfil its objectives to the extent that the membership engaged with the Organization. He therefore urged all Member Parliaments to enhance their engagement with the organization, as it would benefit individual parliamentarians, the institutions of parliaments and, most importantly, the people that they represented.

The SECRETARY GENERAL OF THE IPU said that he and the rest of the Secretariat remained committed to working with Member Parliaments in order to deliver the global mandate of the organization.

The PRESIDENT urged all parliamentarians who had participated in the 133rd Assembly to share the resolutions that had been agreed with other parliamentarians in their home countries, in accordance with Article 7 of the Statutes of the IPU. They should endeavour to spread the word about the work of the IPU and the good practices that it promoted.

He looked forward to seeing everyone again in Lusaka and declared the 133rd Assembly closed.

The sitting rose at 4.30 p.m.

Declaration from the General Debate on *The imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration*

*Endorsed by the 133rd IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 21 October 2015)*

We, parliamentarians from over 135 countries gathered in Geneva at the 133rd IPU Assembly, debated *The moral and economic imperative for fairer, smarter and more humane migration*.

International migration in today's world presents multi-faceted challenges and opportunities. It has become an increasingly complex global phenomenon, which involves mixed migration flows comprising migrant workers, asylum-seekers and individuals who move for a combination of reasons, as well as those who are known as "survival migrants".

The root causes of forced migration are often foreseeable. These include armed conflict, violent extremism, extreme poverty, food insecurity, climate change, forced enrolment in State and non-State armies and militias, harmful traditional practices and gender-based violence. These complex and sometimes novel challenges result in additional risks, especially human trafficking and migrant smuggling, with more and more people found in distress at sea and in deserts. Girls are subjected to particular risks, such as torture, sexual slavery, forced labour and other forms of abuse, both in transit and in destination countries.

This situation calls for action. This action must be guided by the principle that migrants are not numbers, but human beings. As rights-bearers, they are to be treated with dignity and with respect for their human rights, regardless of their motive for leaving their homes or their status as regular or irregular migrants.

We recall that the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development urges us to ensure that migration is regulated in an "orderly, safe, regular and responsible" manner. For this purpose, governments must adopt well-managed migration policies that enable migrants to fully develop their potential to contribute to human and economic development.

Migration is an opportunity. We recognize that migration yields significant benefits for host countries and countries of origin, as well as for individuals, families and communities. Destination countries benefit from the diversity that migrants bring: new skills, a much-needed workforce, new contributions to their economies and the opportunity to counter the economic challenges posed by ageing populations. But host societies also face challenges in ensuring fair working conditions for all, as well as social cohesion through appropriate schemes of integration. As far as countries of origin are concerned, they benefit from remittances, investments from diaspora networks and from the newly-acquired skills and experiences of returning migrants, but they also have to cope with the challenges of "brain drain" and separated families, which may result in children being left without proper care.

Migration should be safe. Persons fleeing persecution require special legal protection as refugees. In a context of mixed migration, it is important to ensure that asylum-seekers have an opportunity to lodge their claims and be duly heard. The return of persons whose asylum claims have been rejected after a full and fair hearing, and of irregular migrants, must be conducted in a safe and humane manner, with due respect for the principles of *non-refoulement* and prohibition of torture and cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment, while also upholding the best interests of the child and the right to respect for private and family life.

Similarly, migrant women and children require particular attention and protection from abuse, exploitation and violence. Migrants working in the informal sector require particular social and legal protection, given their vulnerability to exploitation and abuse in such situations.

Migration must be constructive. The social integration of migrants and refugees is best ensured when host countries provide children and young adults with unhindered access to education, and ensure access to employment, health and social services to all, while authorizing family reunification is made possible. Mutual respect for cultural differences is a shared responsibility of

host societies and migrants, on the understanding that everyone is bound to respect the laws of the land and is entitled to enjoy his or her human rights. We must recognize the contribution of migrants to our societies, and must enact specific legislation to prohibit discrimination and combat xenophobia.

Migration is a reality. An understanding of the push and pull factors of migration calls for expanding safe and regular channels of migration. In addition, the current situation in the Mediterranean and in other parts of the world and the prevalence of migrant smuggling and human trafficking, as well as xenophobia, call for urgent, coordinated and robust action to save lives, show solidarity and mitigate the effects of sudden and large migration flows.

We parliamentarians have a particular responsibility in this area. We must demonstrate political leadership, listen to and voice the concerns of our constituents, raise awareness, oversee government action and support it, inter alia, by adequately resourcing the responsible bodies. We must also promote the common interest and respect for human dignity and rights above all considerations. This will require redoubling efforts and commitments, and working together across regions, countries, political parties and communities to ensure fair and concerted responses to this global phenomenon.

As parliamentarians, we commit to working towards fairer, smarter and more humane migration, including through the following action:

Building and implementing a protective legal framework

- è Ratify, and ensure the implementation of, conventions protecting the rights of migrants and refugees. These include:
 - The International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,
 - The Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967),
 - The United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, and its Protocols on trafficking in persons and the smuggling of migrants,
 - The Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women,
 - The International Convention for the Protection of All Persons from Enforced Disappearance,
 - The Migration for Employment Convention, 1949 (ILO Convention No. 97),
 - The Migrant Workers (Supplementary Provisions) Convention, 1975 (ILO Convention No. 143),
 - The Private Employment Agencies Convention, 1997 (ILO Convention No. 181),
 - The Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (ILO Convention No.189),
 - as well as other relevant regional and international instruments;
- è Encourage legal responses, whether globally or nationally, to address gaps and grey areas in the legal protection of migrants and refugees. These can include, inter alia, the law of the sea on the responsibility for searching and rescuing persons found in distress at sea, and the laws on responsibility for persons fleeing environmental disasters;
- è Oversee the implementation of laws and policies and their impact on migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees from a human-rights perspective, with a particular focus on refugee protection, gender equality and the rights of the child;

Ensure fairness, non-discrimination and respect for the human rights of migrants

- è Revise existing legislation so as to remove any obstacles to access to basic services such as education, health care and social benefits for all migrants, asylum-seekers and refugees, regardless of their status;

- è Promote and monitor coordination among States in the areas of migration and asylum through bilateral, regional and international procedures, including through consultation mechanisms on responsibility-sharing in hosting refugees, ensuring that migration agreements comply with human rights and international labour standards, and the prosecution of human traffickers;
- è Design and implement effective regulation of recruitment, particularly of low-skilled migrant workers, and promote fair recruitment practices;
- è Promote safe, regular channels for migration, including legal entry and residence schemes for study, work, humanitarian and family reunification purposes in a fair and responsible manner that does not discriminate against unskilled or low-skilled migrants, women and young men, and that aims to benefit all concerned, i.e. migrants themselves, the host country's population and the economy of both the country of origin and the country of destination;
- è Ensure the right to decent work for all, and in particular that non-discriminatory labour standards and the rights enshrined in fundamental ILO Conventions, as well as effective labour inspections, apply to sectors of the economy employing mainly migrant workers, and in particular migrant women, such as domestic work and caring services;
- è Protect all migrant workers from discrimination and abuse, such as sexual and other forms of gender-based violence and forced organ-harvesting;
- è Revise legislation so as to ensure access to justice for any person on our territory, regardless of nationality and migration status;
- è Seek alternatives to the administrative detention of undocumented migrants, and especially of unaccompanied or separated children or entire families, and refrain from criminalizing irregular migration;

Work for social cohesion, and peaceful and inclusive societies

- è Lead by example, by speaking out against xenophobia and racism, recognizing the contribution of migrants to society and refraining from referring to migrants in an irregular situation as “illegal” or “clandestine”; challenge and combat stereotypes relating to migrants, in particular migrant young men;
- è Build empirically-based knowledge and foster balanced public debate on the causes, challenges and benefits of migration, so as to inform national policies; promote the inclusion of migrant perspectives in political and public fora, including the participation of migrants, civil society groups and social partners in parliamentary discussions, inter alia in public and committee hearings;
- è Take the lead in communicating rationally and factually on migration, while bearing in mind the human dimension of the issue;
- è Promote anti-discrimination legislation, including the prohibition of discrimination on the basis of nationality and migration status, as well as criminal legislation against hate speech in line with the UN-led Rabat Plan of Action on the prohibition of advocacy of national, racial and religious hatred that constitutes incitement to discrimination, hostility or violence, aiming to strike a proper balance between freedom of expression and the vital need to protect individuals and communities from discrimination and violence, as enshrined in international law;
- è Support and enhance the contributions of the diaspora, inter alia by facilitating their remittances and investments and by ensuring their participation in national decision-making;
- è Promote implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and the existing migration-specific goals (target 8.8 on the protection of the rights of migrant workers, in particular women and those in vulnerable situations, and target 10.7 on planned and well-managed migration policies), and the systematic disaggregation of data by migration status.

Democracy in the digital era and the threat to privacy and individual freedoms

Resolution adopted unanimously by the 133rd IPU Assembly (Geneva, 21 October 2015)

The 133rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Recalling the guiding principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Also recalling the human rights and fundamental freedoms enshrined in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and relevant international human rights treaties, including the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights and the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights,

Further recalling the resolution *The role of parliaments in striking a balance between national security, human security and individual freedoms, and in averting the threat to democracy* adopted by the 118th IPU Assembly (Cape Town, April 2008),

Noting United Nations General Assembly Resolution 69/166 *The right to privacy in the digital age* of 18 December 2014,

Also noting the report of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights on the right to privacy in the digital age,

Recalling the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and *bearing in mind* that civil society and business entities can play an important role in either enhancing or diminishing the enjoyment of human rights, including the right to privacy and freedom of expression in the digital era,

Considering that fundamental rights also apply in cyberspace,

Acknowledging the interdependence between democracy and the right to privacy, freedom of expression and information and an open and free Internet, and in view of the universal recognition of the right to privacy, its protection in international law and the expectations of citizens around the world that the right to privacy is safeguarded both in law and in practice,

Also acknowledging that, in the area of digital surveillance, it is not enough simply to adopt and enforce legislation and that procedural safeguards are sometimes weak and oversight ineffective,

Expressing concern that mass surveillance programmes regarding digital communications and other forms of digital expression constitute violations of the right to privacy, including when conducted extraterritorially, and endanger the rights to freedom of expression and information, as well as other fundamental human rights, including the rights to freedom of peaceful assembly and of association, thus undermining participative democracy,

Acknowledging the need for capacity-building, for the empowerment of parliamentarians and parliamentary specialized bodies in the identification of legislative gaps, for the enactment of legislation dealing with the protection of human rights, including the right to privacy, and for the prevention of the violation of such rights,

Affirming the responsibility of parliaments to establish, in line with international principles and undertakings, a comprehensive legal framework to exercise effective oversight of the actions of government agencies and/or surveillance agencies acting on their behalf, and to ensure accountability for all violations of human rights and individual freedoms,

Expressing the need to engage and consult with all relevant stakeholders, including civil society groups, academia, the technical community and the private sector on policy-making related to the digital era,

Acknowledging the importance and expertise of national human rights institutions, non-governmental organizations and human rights advocates, and their role in monitoring, policy-making, consultation and awareness-raising, and welcoming greater cooperation between these organizations and advocates, parliaments and parliamentarians worldwide,

Taking note of the work and contribution of these entities, such as the International Principles on the Application of Human Rights to Communications Surveillance (the Necessary and Proportionate Principles), endorsed by more than 400 non-governmental organizations and the Global Network Initiative,

Affirming the need for secure and uncompromised systems of communication for the public good and the protection of basic rights,

Considering the findings of the report of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, on the use of encryption and anonymity,

Recognizing the contribution of parliaments to, and their impact on, decisions facilitating the national and international consensus needed for concerted and effective action on these issues,

1. *Calls on parliaments to take part in the development and implementation of an overall strategy to enable in the long run the whole population to enjoy the considerable benefits that the Internet can bring to economic, social, cultural and environmental life in order to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals adopted by the United Nations;*
2. *Underlines that this overall strategy should aim both legally and ethically to build a digital ecosystem that is capable of guaranteeing the same rights to all citizens and ensuring that their freedom is effectively protected, particularly in terms of educating all people in digital know-how, and ensuring an equity between actors that will avoid any abuse of a dominant position;*
3. *Underscores that all legislation in the field of surveillance, privacy and personal data must be based on the principles of legitimacy, legality, transparency, proportionality, necessity and the rule of law;*
4. *Calls on parliaments to review their national frameworks and State practices with a view to promoting and increasing public participation and involvement in the digital era, free exchange of information, knowledge and ideas and equal access to the Internet and, with a view to enhancing democracy in the 21st century, encourages parliaments to remove all legal limitations on freedom of expression and the flow of information and to uphold the principle of Net neutrality;*
5. *Urges parliaments to carefully review national laws and the practices of government agencies and/or surveillance organizations acting on their behalf so as to make sure that they comply with international law and human rights, especially as they relate to the right to privacy, and calls on parliaments to guarantee, as part of that review, that private and public companies will not be forced to cooperate with the authorities on practices that impair their customers' human rights, with the exceptions provided for in international human rights law;*
6. *Calls on parliaments to ensure that national legal frameworks comply fully with international human rights law when applied to interception, analysis, collection, storage and commercial use of data and to share reviews and information from individual States and the IPU on related cases;*
7. *Urges parliaments to review their legislation in order to prohibit the interception, collection, analysis and storage of personal data, including when those actions are of an extraterritorial or bulk nature, without the informed consent of the individuals concerned or a valid order granted by an independent court on grounds of reasonable suspicion of the targets' involvement in criminal activity;*
8. *Underscores that privacy protections must be consistent across domestic and international borders and calls on parliaments to make sure that privacy protections in national law cannot be bypassed by reliance on secretive and informal data-sharing agreements with foreign States or multinationals;*

9. *Calls on* parliaments to enact comprehensive legislation on data protection, for both the public and private sectors, providing, at the minimum, for strict conditions regarding permission to intercept, collect, analyse and store data, for clear and precise limitations on the use of intercepted and collected data, and for security measures that ensure the safest possible preservation, anonymity and proper and permanent destruction of data; and *recommends* the establishment of independent and effective national data-protection bodies with the necessary power to review practices and address complaints, while further urging parliaments to ensure that their national legal frameworks on data protection are in full compliance with international law and human rights standards, making sure that the same rights apply to both offline and online activities;
10. *Also calls on* parliaments to ensure through legal means that all collaboration on various surveillance programmes between governments and companies, entities and all other organizations is subject to parliamentary oversight, insofar as it does not hamper the conduct of criminal investigations;
11. *Further calls on* national parliaments and governments to encourage the private technology sector to honour its obligations to respect human rights, bearing in mind the Guiding Principles on Human Rights and Business, as customers of these companies must be fully informed of how their data is being gathered, stored, used and shared with others, and *further calls on* parliaments to promote both global norms on user agreements and more development of user-friendly data-protection techniques which counter all threats to Internet security;
12. *Urges* parliaments to reject the interception of telecommunications and espionage activities by any State or non-state actor involved in any action, which negatively affects international peace and security, as well as civil and political rights, especially those enshrined in Article 12 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and Article 17 of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, which states that "no one shall be subjected to arbitrary or unlawful interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence" and that "everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks";
13. *Recognizes* the need for parliaments to specify, in relative detail, the circumstances under which any interference with the right to privacy may be permitted, to establish strict judicial procedures for the authorization of communications surveillance and to monitor the implementation of those procedures, limits on the duration of surveillance, security and storage of the data collected, and safeguards against abuse;
14. *Emphasizes* that while national security arguments will invariably be advanced that diverse digital technology tools may threaten the security and well-being of a State, parliaments need to review their capacity to oversee all executive action and ensure that a balance is struck between national security and individual freedoms so as to ensure that measures taken in the name of national security and counter-terrorism comply strictly with human rights, and avert any threats to democracy and human rights;
15. *Strongly urges* parliaments to review and establish effective, independent and impartial oversight mechanisms where needed and include them in the legal framework; *stresses* that parliaments must investigate any shortcomings in their oversight function and the reasons behind them, making sure that their oversight bodies, such as parliamentary committees and parliamentary ombudsmen, have sufficient resources, proper authorizations and the requisite authority to review and publicly report on the actions of government agencies and/or surveillance agencies acting on their behalf, including actions in cooperation with foreign bodies through the exchange of information or joint operations;
16. *Calls on* parliaments to acknowledge that civil society and public participation can play a vital role in monitoring the executive branch and encourages parliaments and parliamentarians to promote and engage in consultation and to welcome assistance from all stakeholders, including national human rights institutions, the private sector, civil society, the technical community, the academic community and users, in their monitoring, policy-making and policy implementation efforts;

17. *Strongly urges* parliaments to ensure that attempts to restrict democratic voices online, including journalists, other media actors and human rights defenders, through imprisonment, harassment, censorship, hacking, illicit filtering, blocking, monitoring and other repressive means are strictly forbidden in national legislation in accordance with international human rights law, treaties and conventions;
18. *Strongly recommends* that parliaments, as part of their oversight function, enact coherent and comprehensive legislation on the protection of whistleblowers in line with international standards and best practices;
19. *Calls on* parliaments to uphold both governmental and corporate accountability for violations of human rights, such as the right to physical and psychological integrity, the right to privacy, freedom of expression and other individual freedoms, so that such accountability includes adequate sanctions to ensure justice and to act as a deterrent, including criminal prosecution, administrative fines, suspension or withdrawal of business licences, and the payment of reparation to individuals for harm caused;
20. *Also calls on* parliaments to ensure that the necessary legal and administrative measures are taken to combat trafficking in persons perpetrated through the Internet, and to combat gender-based harassment and cyber-violence that targets, in particular, women and children;
21. *Underscores* the right to effective remedy for victims of violations of the right to privacy and other individual freedoms and *calls on* parliaments to provide for procedural safeguards in law, thereby facilitating access to duly implemented remedies;
22. *Strongly urges* parliaments to enable the protection of information in cyberspace and associated infrastructure, so as to safeguard the privacy and individual freedom of citizens by developing formal as well as informal cooperation and relationships among nations to exchange information and share experiences; *further calls on* parliaments to carry out technical and procedural cooperation as well as to collaborate in order to mitigate the risk of cyber-crimes and cyber-attacks and, in this context, to modernize mutual legal agreements so as to address the multidimensional challenges of the digital era, including speed of response;
23. *Welcomes* the appointment of the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the right to privacy and *calls on* the IPU to initiate a dialogue with him as well as the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders and the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, and to work with them to produce a compilation of best legislative practices in this field;
24. *Calls on* Parliaments to ensure that their respective governments cooperate fully with the United Nations Special Rapporteurs on the right to privacy, on the promotion and protection of the right to freedom of opinion and expression, on the situation of human rights defenders and on the promotion and protection of human rights and fundamental freedoms while countering terrorism, including in relation to challenges arising in the digital age; *invites* parliaments to keep themselves informed of the Rapporteurs' recommendations, and to provide the necessary legislative framework for their implementation, as appropriate;
25. *Invites* the IPU to develop – in cooperation with relevant stakeholders, including international and regional organizations, civil society and human rights experts – capacity-building programmes for parliamentary bodies tasked to oversee observance of the right to privacy and individual freedoms in the digital environment.

Report of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security

*Noted by the 133rd IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 21 October 2015)*

The Standing Committee on Peace and International Security held one sitting on 18 October 2015 with its President, Mr. R. Tau (South Africa), in the Chair.

During this sitting, the Committee held an experts hearing *Terrorism: The need to enhance global cooperation against the threat to democracy and individual rights*, the topic of a resolution that is expected to be adopted by the 134th IPU Assembly in Lusaka (Zambia). The purpose of the discussion was to give Committee members an opportunity to learn about current issues in cooperation relating to counter-terrorism, and to exchange views with experts in the field.

Having dealt with procedural items, the Chair opened the meeting and introduced the experts, Mr. A.S. El Dawla, Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) and Mr. K. Koser, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF).

Mr. El Dawla began by explaining the role of the Counter-Terrorism Committee and its Executive Directorate, and its work in assessing threats and devising standards on counter-terrorism. He explained that while successful, efforts to counter terrorism could also increase threats, as they forced groups to transform their activities, shortened time-frames and changed the methods of recruitment. Nowadays, many fighters were young people or women. This created many challenges at the policy, legal and operational levels, such as increased difficulties in exchanging information and transposing measures to create standards and norms, or the need for close cooperation and coordination at all levels. Mr. El Dawla underlined that the responsibility for creating new legislation or adapting existing laws lay with parliaments. He added that executive branches should then apply that legislation, and that parliaments would then have the additional responsibility of overseeing its implementation.

Mr. Koser was then given the floor. He began by presenting the newly established Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF) which sought to support local community-level initiatives aimed at strengthening resilience against violent extremist agendas, and to be a new means of countering terrorism. He analysed the strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats of this tool.

The new approach was a truly global effort which focussed on communities and helped understand why people turned to violent agendas. However, it was working in a vacuum as there was no clear definition of violent extremism. It aimed to bring together security and development communities, which were often divided while having counter-terrorism right in the middle. With regard to threats, Mr. Koser highlighted that since the tool was new, there was a difficulty in demonstrating results that would only appear in the long term. Moreover, the approach of preventing terrorism was still fragile; and needed to be action-oriented and sustainable so that countries did not revert back to military responses. Based on that analysis, he then made the following recommendations: Supporting and funding efforts to counter violent extremism was everybody's duty. Parliaments should adopt a comprehensive, action-oriented, counter-terrorism approach, engaging with all relevant stakeholders. Such an approach should deal with development as well as military intelligence. Parliaments should also work to ensure that a robust human rights framework was in place.

Further to the experts' interventions, a total of 33 speakers, including two observer organisations, took the floor during the discussion. All the participants had an opportunity to express their views on the various aspects of the issue at stake.

Many of the interventions referred to acts of terrorism that had occurred in some countries, and the nature of the legislation that had been put in place or the actions taken to counter such acts. Some speakers also pointed out that there was no definition of the concept of terrorism, and that there was a need to come up with a commonly-held notion. They also addressed the issue of terrorism financing, through money laundering or drugs, and the need for economic and social development to be at the heart of international assistance, so as to deter young people from being encouraged to engage with terrorism.

Speakers commented on how to strike a balance between security and individual rights, including the capacity to use new technologies and social media, which are now resorted to by terrorists to recruit people. Many of the comments dealt with young people, often emphasizing that they should be supported and provided with a better future, and that organisations should be provided with a means to combat poverty and promote employment opportunities.

Finally, speakers called for acts to replace words, and for stakeholders to go beyond diplomacy and be more proactive in tackling the roots of terrorism. They felt the need to address more effectively sensitive matters such as the issue of weapons used by terrorists, and how the suppliers should be punished. Several speakers spoke about the need to strengthen cooperation to counter terrorism.

In their concluding remarks the two experts referred to the fact that although terrorist acts were still being committed, counter-terrorism actions had been successful. They highlighted the need for those actions to be in accordance with the rule of law. With regard to definition, they supported the existing framework, which defined 19 actions. They also emphasized the need for prevention.

The Bureau of the Standing Committee met on 18 October 2015. 8 members out of 18 were present. Two had excused themselves.

The President of the Committee began by informing the Bureau members of the discussions held during the Joint Meeting of Chairpersons of the Geopolitical Groups and Presidents of the Standing Committees and their outcomes, especially the reshuffling of leadership positions that was expected to take place in March 2016 during the 134th Assembly in Lusaka (Zambia).

The Bureau established the Committee's work programme for the 134th IPU Assembly. Keeping to existing practice, it decided to propose that the whole time allocated to the Committee be devoted to the resolution, i.e., 3 to 4 hours of debate on the resolution itself and some explanation of amendments, the remaining time being used for negotiating the resolution in plenary. That proposal was subsequently approved by the Committee plenary.

There was some lively discussion of the methods of work of the Bureau of the Committee, and the topics to be studied by the Committee. Bureau members felt that better means of communication should be put in place, and that the Bureau should meet more often. Two members of the Bureau stated that they would like to host additional Bureau meetings, including with the co-Rapporteurs, to discuss at length the resolution and other topics of interest.

Report of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade

*Noted by the 133rd IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 21 October 2015)*

The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade held its sitting on 19 October 2015 with its Vice-President, Mr. O. Hav (Denmark), in the chair.

Parliamentary contribution to the 2015 United Nations Climate Change Conference

The Committee dealt with four subjects:

- (a) Presentation of the 2015 Global Climate Legislation Study;
- (b) Information about the Parliamentary Meeting to be organized by the IPU in Paris, in December, on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference;
- (c) Exchange of views on the preliminary draft outcome document of the Parliamentary Meeting in Paris; and
- (d) Presentation of the draft Parliamentary Action Plan on Climate Change.

The IPU President addressed the Committee at the beginning of the debate. He expressed the hope that an agreement on climate change would be made in Paris. However, he highlighted that members of parliament had to push their governments to come up with higher ambitions to combat climate change. Another important role of parliaments was to ensure a clear, long-term pathway to achieve the national and global goals, such as the net zero emissions/climate neutrality target by 2050.

The IPU President also stressed that there was an overlap between climate change and many other Sustainable Development Goals which should be looked at and explored as countries prepared their national strategies. Such an approach would reduce the cost of countries' engagement in the Goals and would increase effectiveness.

After the President's address, the Committee heard a presentation about the 2015 Global Climate Legislation Study which had published its fifth edition this year. The study was a uniquely comprehensive review of climate change legislation throughout the world and as such, was of immense importance for parliamentarians. The IPU was closely associated with the preparation of the study and the Secretariat had sent copies to each parliament.

One of the authors of the study, Ms. A. Averchenkova (Grantham Research Institute, London) presented the study to the Committee. The study covered 98 countries plus the European Union, which taken together, produce 93 per cent of world emissions. Among other things, the study found that, since 1997, the number of climate change laws and policies had doubled every five years. Approximately half of those (398) were passed by the legislative branch, and half (408) by the executive branch (e.g. by decree). Forty-six new laws and policies were adopted in 2014, compared with 82 in 2013.

Ms. Averchenkova informed the Committee that the study included detailed country chapters with a full list of laws for each country covered, a set of country fact sheets with key indicators, and a complete database of over 800 climate-related laws. The study was intended as a source of information for legislators, researchers and policy-makers. It was hoped that parliaments considering climate change legislation would benefit from the growing body of experience reflected in the study.

After this presentation, the chair gave the floor to Mr. S. Tchelnokov (IPU Secretariat) to brief the Committee on the Parliamentary Meeting that the IPU would organize in Paris in conjunction with the United Nations conference on climate change. Mr. Tchelnokov explained that a two-day Parliamentary Meeting would be organized jointly by the IPU and the French Parliament as the only official parliamentary activity held in conjunction with the United Nations conference. A practical information note on the Meeting, its registration form and provisional programme were posted on the IPU website. The Parliamentary Meeting would be open to parliamentarians attending the United Nations session as members of official national delegations or in any other capacity, such as observers representing civil society organizations.

One of the outcomes of the Parliamentary Meeting should be the adoption of a declaration. Its preliminary draft was prepared by the rapporteur of the Parliamentary Meeting, Mr. H. Maurey (France). The chair invited Mr. Maurey to explain to the Committee the main concepts and ideas behind his text. He then invited the Committee to provide the rapporteur with comments and ideas that he could use in his further work on the text.

Mr. Maurey highlighted that parliamentarians had an essential role to play in contributing to the success of policies to combat climate disruption. Among other things, his draft document tried to encourage parliamentarians to search for innovative solutions in all areas concerning climate change – adaptation, mitigation and financing. Improving the level of knowledge of climate change among parliamentarians, including through peer education, should be promoted. Finally, the draft document committed to ensure that questions related to climate disruption were systematically included on the agenda of inter-parliamentary meetings and that the outcome document of the Parliamentary Meeting would be attached to the Final Acts of the United Nations conference.

Fifteen delegations took the opportunity to comment on to Mr. Maurey's presentation. They largely expressed agreement with the current text but highlighted that the outcome should be more action-oriented. The chair encouraged everyone to submit additional input and amendments by 15 November so that they could be incorporated and presented to the Parliamentary Meeting in Paris.

The chair then invited Mr. Tchelnokov to present the draft Parliamentary Action Plan on Climate Change that the IPU is preparing under the leadership of its President. Mr. Tchelnokov explained that the Parliamentary Meeting in Paris would also be an opportunity to advance consultations on this strategic document that should guide IPU's climate-related work after Paris. Due to lack of time it was not possible to make a full presentation of the action plan to the Committee. Mr. Tchelnokov therefore invited everyone to consult the draft on the IPU website and provide comments, reflections and input. The action plan would be finalized after the Paris conference and presented to the 134th IPU Assembly in Lusaka for adoption.

Debate on Ensuring lasting protection against destruction and deterioration for the tangible and intangible cultural heritage of humanity

This debate was organized around the theme of the future Committee resolution, expected to be adopted at the 134th Assembly in Lusaka. The purpose of the debate was to provide the Committee with an opportunity to exchange views about challenges that stand in the way of ensuring lasting protection of the tangible and intangible heritage of humanity. The debate would also provide the co-rapporteurs with initial information about how IPU Member Parliaments might approach this issue.

The debate was chaired by Mr. A. Destexhe (Belgium), co-rapporteur. Mr. G. Boccardi (Culture Sector Chief of Unit, UNESCO), also made a presentation to the Committee.

Mr. Boccardi provided background information about the definition of cultural heritage and how it had evolved over time. He pointed out the importance of community engagement in deciding what is heritage and how to preserve it. Mr. Boccardi briefed the Committee about the status of some heritage sites in current conflict areas and warned that the situation was deteriorating. He also stressed the critical link between cultural heritage and sustainable development for communities and societies at large.

Mr. Boccardi drew the Committee's attention to existing conventions and other instruments of cooperation in the area of cultural heritage. While instruments of implementation were well developed, effective implementation itself was lacking in some areas. He called the Committee to work towards a resolution that would call for further ratifications and implementation of these instruments, highlighting the specific roles that parliaments played in this process.

Mr. Destexhe took the floor after Mr. Boccardi and presented to the Committee his vision about the content and recommendations of the resolution. He identified nine challenges to the protection and preservation of cultural heritage: mass tourism, armed conflict and terrorism, looting and illicit trade, population growth and urbanization, lack of awareness, restoration, globalization, climate change, and lack of sufficient documentation by some countries. In each of these areas, he developed a number of recommendations on how parliaments could help overcome the current obstacles to better protection of cultural heritage. Mr. Destexhe invited the Committee to consult his preliminary note on the subject, which was posted on the IPU website.

In the debate that followed, 20 delegations took part. Most of them shared the good practices that their countries had put in place to protect cultural heritage. Several delegations provided concrete examples of laws and policies that their parliaments had developed in this area. Some pointed out that attempts to impose a way of life on communities and societies should also be viewed as a threat to cultural heritage.

Several parliamentarians argued that the resolution should encourage countries to include new generations in the protection of cultural heritage through educational programmes in schools and other settings. The role of parliaments in ensuring support to relevant institutions and cooperation across sectors was raised. Strong references were made to the importance of seeing identities and belonging as part of cultural heritage.

Elections to the Bureau

The Committee also held elections to fill the existing vacancies on the Committee Bureau. Five vacant posts were filled by the African Group, Asia-Pacific Group and GRULAC, respectively. The Committee was informed that one Bureau member from the Arab Group and one from the Twelve Plus Group would no longer be able to participate in the work of the Bureau and those members were therefore replaced by other parliamentarians from the same countries who would serve the remainder of the former members' terms. Two vacant posts for the Eurasia Group remained unfilled. In accordance with the decision made at the Joint Meeting of Chairs of the Geopolitical Groups and Standing Committee Presidents on 17 October, the Committee President will be elected at the next IPU Assembly in Zambia.

The Committee approved the Bureau's proposal to dedicate time to discussing the resolution. Should time allow, a panel debate could also be organized.

Report of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs

*Noted by the 133rd IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 21 October 2015)*

The Vice President of the Committee, Mr. M. El Hassan Al Amin (Sudan) opened the session welcoming participants and inviting them to adopt the decision of the Bureau, at its Hanoi session (132nd Assembly), to elect Mr. A. Avsan (Sweden) as President of the Committee. The Vice President then invited Mr. Avsan to take over the chairmanship of the meeting.

Mr. A. Avsan continued with the announcement that three new members had been nominated by their geopolitical groups to the Bureau of the Committee: Mr. I. Dodon (Republic of Moldova), Ms. A. Bimendina (Kazakhstan), and Ms. A. Trettebergstuen (Norway). With no objection from the floor the President declared these appointments adopted.

After announcing a number of UN meetings that will be high on the agenda next year, the President drew attention to a Handbook on the United Nations published by the government of New Zealand. Ms. A. King from the parliament of New Zealand formally introduced the handbook as a practical manual to United Nations bodies and processes. She noted the first edition of the handbook was dated 1961.

The President announced the two sessions on the programme, which he moderated in interview style.

Session 1: **Review of the UN Peace-building Commission on its 10th anniversary**

Dr. O. Jütersonke, Head of Research, Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), Graduate Institute, Geneva;

Hon. A. Correia, Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Guinea-Bissau;

Mr. S. Weber, Director General, Interpeace;

Ambassador Y. Stevens, Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations, Geneva

The PBC was instituted 10 years ago to help consolidate the peace in post-conflict countries. A resolution of the General Assembly subsequently invited the PBC to work closely with the national parliaments of the countries involved. Taking the cue from a review of an independent expert commission of the United Nations, issued in June, the session considered how effective the PBC has been in stabilizing post-conflict countries. The discussion that ensued confirmed some of the experts' conclusion that peace building needs to be better integrated throughout the UN system.

A key point that emerged centred on the need to re-define the UN role in peace building. Peace building is not a new mission for the UN and draws its origin in the Charter. The novelty of the PBC is that it was created specifically to manage the sensitive period between the immediate end of conflict and the moment when a post-conflict country is able to get back on its feet to manage its own development.

Expectations of the PBC and of the UN's peace building mandate are often too high. In part, the UN itself is responsible for raising expectations when it tries to lead the peace building process instead of limiting itself to enabling actors on the ground to find their own solutions. In the final analyses, parliamentarians and other decision-makers in each country are responsible for creating the conditions for peace.

There was consensus amongst discussants that the UN and all peace-seeking actors should invest more in conflict prevention. On the other hand, it was acknowledged that it is not always possible to determine when a country is at risk of conflict and whether a conflict is imminent. It is a lot easier to talk about prevention in theoretical terms than to practice it in concrete scenarios. In a sense, the PBC could be considered a conflict prevention tool whenever it manages to prevent a post-conflict country from falling back into conflict.

Addressing the root causes of conflict should be the main objective of peace building. When this fails then conflict is likely to return, as the case of Burundi illustrates. Most conflicts are rooted in some form or other of social, economic, or political exclusion. These conditions in turn undermine the trust of vulnerable groups in the institutions of government.

The PBC and indeed the broader peace building architecture of the UN (which consists of the Commission, a Fund, and an Office in charge of operations) is often conflated with the peace keeping work of the UN. It was important to distinguish between the two. Similarly, the PBC cannot be seen as an enforcer of the relatively new principle of Responsibility to Protect (R2P). This principle only comes into play when governments commit atrocities against some of their own citizens or refuse to protect people from violent persecution. The PBC can only operate with the consent of the concerned governments.

As illustrated in Guinea Bissau, a country where the PBC is active, parliaments can take the lead in the peace building effort by constituting a reconciliation commission. Such a commission has been in place in Guinea Bissau for some time and has helped different groups articulate their grievances. The IPU, for its part, should invest more in strengthening the capacities of parliaments in post-conflict countries to take on a stronger peace building role.

Session 2: The role of the International Court of Justice (ICJ) in the resolution of international disputes.

Professor M. Kohen, Professor of international law, Graduate Institute of International and Development Studies, Geneva.

Ambassador J. Lindenmann, Deputy Director of the Directorate of International Law, Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland.

The ICJ is one of the six principal organs of the United Nations. The Court was designed to facilitate the peaceful resolutions of disputes through recourse to international law. Despite a strong record (about 144 cases adjudicated in the last 70 years), many countries who are parties to the ICJ do not recognize the jurisdiction of the Court as compulsory. This session looked closely at the consequences of this in terms of the Court's overall effectiveness as a conflict prevention tool. In the process, a number of misconceptions and misunderstandings about the Court were clarified.

Contrary to what some people may believe, the Court is not subject to political influence by the Security Council or other bodies of the United Nations. The custom that five of the fifteen justices must come from the permanent members of the Security Council has not resulted in undue political influence on the Court. Court decisions cannot be vetoed by the Security Council.

Overall, the Court is a force for good. It helps countries resolve a dispute where political negotiation has deadlocked. The Court is paid for entirely through UN assessed contributions. All states are equally sovereign before the Court regardless of their wealth or power. While it is true that, technically speaking, Court judgments cannot be enforced, virtually every case in which parties agreed to the jurisdiction of the Court have complied with the Court's decision.

Bringing a case before the Court is an act of peace. It signals to the international community that the parties are respectful of international law. In fact, it was noted, the UN Charter makes it clear that States have an obligation to seek a peaceful settlement to their disputes.

The Court's formal decisions should not be confused with its advisory opinions. These come from instances when countries ask the Court to clarify a point of international law in the course of a political negotiation. By definition, advisory opinions are not binding and do not entail an obligation to act. They always matter however because they help extend the field of international law.

The role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and socio-economic situations, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions

Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegations of the United Arab Emirates and Sudan for the inclusion of an emergency item

R e s u l t s

Affirmative votes.....	751	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	962
Negative votes	211	Two-thirds majority.....	641
Abstentions	286		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	10			Ghana	<i>absent</i>			Palestine	11		
Albania	<i>absent</i>			Greece	13			Panama	<i>absent</i>		
Algeria	15			Guinea	<i>absent</i>			Peru	<i>absent</i>		
Andorra			10	Guinea-Bissau			11	Philippines	<i>absent</i>		
Angola	10			Haiti	<i>absent</i>			Poland	<i>absent</i>		
Argentina	<i>absent</i>			Hungary	13			Portugal			13
Armenia	<i>absent</i>			Iceland		10		Qatar	8		
Australia		14		India	23			Republic of Korea	17		
Austria	<i>absent</i>			Indonesia	22			Republic of Moldova			10
Bahrain	10			Iran (Islamic Republic of)	12		6	Romania		14	
Bangladesh	20			Iraq	14			Russian Federation			20
Belarus			13	Ireland	11			Rwanda	<i>absent</i>		
Belgium		6	6	Italy		17		San Marino	7		3
Benin	12			Japan	20			Sao Tome and Principe	10		
Bhutan			10	Jordan	12			Saudi Arabia	14		
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>absent</i>			Kazakhstan	<i>absent</i>			Senegal	12		
Botswana	11			Kenya	10			Serbia	12		
Brazil	10			Kuwait	11			Singapore			12
Burkina Faso	<i>absent</i>			Lao People's Dem. Republic	8		4	Slovenia			11
Burundi	<i>absent</i>			Latvia			11	South Africa	17		
Cabo Verde			10	Lebanon	<i>absent</i>			South Sudan	<i>absent</i>		
Cambodia	13			Lesotho	11			Spain		15	
Cameroon	13			Liechtenstein	<i>absent</i>			Sri Lanka	<i>absent</i>		
Canada		10		Lithuania			10	Sudan	15		
Chad			13	Madagascar			14	Suriname	10		
Chile	13			Malaysia	<i>absent</i>			Sweden		12	
China	23			Maldives	<i>absent</i>			Switzerland		10	
Costa Rica	10			Mali	8		2	Syrian Arab Rep.		13	
Croatia	10			Mauritania	11			Thailand			
Cuba	13			Mauritius	<i>absent</i>			Timor-Leste	6		12
Cyprus	10			Mexico			20	Togo	<i>absent</i>		
Czech Republic	10		3	Micronesia (Fed. States of)	<i>absent</i>			Tunisia	<i>absent</i>		
DR of the Congo	<i>absent</i>			Monaco	<i>absent</i>			Turkey			18
Denmark	<i>absent</i>			Mongolia	<i>absent</i>			Uganda	13		
Djibouti	<i>absent</i>			Morocco	15			Ukraine	17		
Dominican Rep.	<i>absent</i>			Myanmar	10			United Arab Emirates	11		
Ecuador	13			Namibia	11			United Kingdom		18	
El Salvador	<i>absent</i>			Netherlands	<i>absent</i>			Uruguay		11	
Equatorial Guinea	<i>absent</i>			New Zealand			11	Venezuela		15	
Estonia	<i>absent</i>			Nicaragua	10			Viet Nam	19		
Ethiopia	<i>absent</i>			Niger	<i>absent</i>			Zambia	13		
Fiji			10	Nigeria	20			Zimbabwe	13		
Finland			12	Norway	3	9					
France		18		Oman	<i>absent</i>						
Gabon	11			Pakistan	21						
Georgia	<i>absent</i>										
Germany		19									

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 countering the terrorism and extremism of Islamic State in Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), Al-Nusra Front (ANF) and other terrorist groups associated with them

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.....	250	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	650
Negative votes	400	Two-thirds majority.....	433
Abstentions	598		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	10			Ghana	<i>absent</i>			Palestine	11		
Albania	<i>absent</i>			Greece			13	Panama	<i>absent</i>		
Algeria	15			Guinea	<i>absent</i>			Peru	<i>absent</i>		
Andorra		10		Guinea-Bissau			11	Philippines	<i>absent</i>		
Angola			10	Haiti	<i>absent</i>			Poland	<i>absent</i>		
Argentina	<i>absent</i>			Hungary			13	Portugal	13		
Armenia	<i>absent</i>			Iceland		10		Qatar		8	
Australia		14		India			23	Republic of Korea			17
Austria	<i>absent</i>			Indonesia	3		19	Republic of Moldova	10		
Bahrain		10		Iran (Islamic Republic of)	18			Romania		14	
Bangladesh			20	Iraq	14			Russian Federation	20		
Belarus	13			Ireland			11	Rwanda	<i>absent</i>		
Belgium		12		Italy		17		San Marino		10	
Benin			12	Japan			20	Sao Tome and Principe			10
Bhutan			10	Jordan			12	Saudi Arabia		14	
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>absent</i>			Kazakhstan	<i>absent</i>			Senegal			12
Botswana		11		Kenya			10	Serbia	12		
Brazil			10	Kuwait		11		Singapore			12
Burkina Faso	<i>absent</i>			Lao People's Dem. Republic	6		6	Slovenia			11
Burundi	<i>absent</i>			Latvia			11	South Africa		17	
Cabo Verde			10	Lebanon	<i>absent</i>			South Sudan	<i>absent</i>		
Cambodia			13	Lesotho			11	Spain		15	
Cameroon	13			Liechtenstein	<i>absent</i>			Sri Lanka	<i>absent</i>		
Canada		10		Lithuania			10	Sudan		15	
Chad			13	Madagascar			14	Suriname		10	
Chile	3		10	Malaysia	<i>absent</i>			Sweden		12	
China	10		13	Maldives	<i>absent</i>			Switzerland		10	
Costa Rica	10			Mali			10	Syrian Arab Rep.	13		
Croatia			10	Mauritania			11	Thailand			18
Cuba	13			Mauritius	<i>absent</i>			Timor-Leste			11
Cyprus	10			Mexico			20	Togo	<i>absent</i>		
Czech Republic	3		10	Micronesia (Fed. States of)	<i>absent</i>			Tunisia	<i>absent</i>		
DR of the Congo	<i>absent</i>			Monaco	<i>absent</i>			Turkey		18	
Denmark	<i>absent</i>			Mongolia	<i>absent</i>			Uganda			13
Djibouti	<i>absent</i>			Morocco		15		Ukraine		17	
Dominican Rep.	<i>absent</i>			Myanmar			10	United Arab Emirates		11	
Ecuador			13	Namibia		11		United Kingdom		18	
El Salvador	<i>absent</i>			Netherlands	<i>absent</i>			Uruguay		11	
Equatorial Guinea	<i>absent</i>			New Zealand			11	Venezuela	15		
Estonia	<i>absent</i>			Nicaragua			10	Viet Nam	15		4
Ethiopia	<i>absent</i>			Niger	<i>absent</i>			Zambia			13
Fiji			10	Nigeria		20		Zimbabwe			13
Finland		18		Norway		12					
France			11	Oman	<i>absent</i>						
Gabon			11	Pakistan			21				
Georgia	<i>absent</i>										
Germany		19									

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.

Protecting human rights in the fight against terrorism and violent extremism

Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of Mexico for the inclusion of an emergency item

R e s u l t s

Affirmative votes.....	430	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	614
Negative votes	184	Two-thirds majority.....	409
Abstentions	634		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	5		5	Ghana	<i>absent</i>			Palestine	5		6
Albania	<i>absent</i>			Greece	13			Panama	<i>absent</i>		
Algeria	15			Guinea	<i>absent</i>			Peru	<i>absent</i>		
Andorra			10	Guinea-Bissau	11			Philippines	<i>absent</i>		
Angola			10	Haiti	<i>absent</i>			Poland	<i>absent</i>		
Argentina	<i>absent</i>			Hungary			13	Portugal	13		
Armenia	<i>absent</i>			Iceland		10		Qatar		8	
Australia			14	India			23	Republic of Korea			17
Austria	<i>absent</i>			Indonesia	5		17	Republic of Moldova			10
Bahrain			10	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	18			Romania			14
Bangladesh			20	Iraq	8		6	Russian Federation			20
Belarus			13	Ireland		11		Rwanda	<i>absent</i>		
Belgium			12	Italy		17		San Marino	6		4
Benin			12	Japan	20			Sao Tome and Principe	10		
Bhutan			10	Jordan			12	Saudi Arabia			14
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>absent</i>			Kazakhstan	<i>absent</i>			Senegal			12
Botswana		11		Kenya			10	Serbia			12
Brazil	10			Kuwait		11		Singapore			12
Burkina Faso	<i>absent</i>			Lao People's Dem. Republic	6		6	Slovenia			11
Burundi	<i>absent</i>			Latvia	11			South Africa			17
Cabo Verde	10			Lebanon	<i>absent</i>			South Sudan	<i>absent</i>		
Cambodia			13	Lesotho			11	Spain	15		
Cameroon	13			Liechtenstein	<i>absent</i>			Sri Lanka	<i>absent</i>		
Canada			10	Lithuania			10	Sudan		15	
Chad			13	Madagascar	14			Suriname	10		
Chile	13			Malaysia	<i>absent</i>			Sweden		12	
China	10		13	Maldives	<i>absent</i>			Switzerland		10	
Costa Rica	10			Mali	10			Syrian Arab Rep.			13
Croatia			10	Mauritania	5		6	Thailand		18	
Cuba	13			Mauritius	<i>absent</i>			Timor-Leste	11		
Cyprus			10	Mexico	20			Togo	<i>absent</i>		
Czech Republic			13	Micronesia (Fed. States of)	<i>absent</i>			Tunisia	<i>absent</i>		
DR of the Congo	<i>absent</i>			Monaco	<i>absent</i>			Turkey	18		
Denmark	<i>absent</i>			Mongolia	<i>absent</i>			Uganda	3		10
Djibouti	<i>absent</i>			Morocco	15			Ukraine			17
Dominican Rep.	<i>absent</i>			Myanmar			10	United Arab Emirates			11
Ecuador	13			Namibia		11		United Kingdom		18	
El Salvador	<i>absent</i>			Netherlands	<i>absent</i>			Uruguay	11		
Equatorial Guinea	<i>absent</i>			New Zealand			11	Venezuela	15		
Estonia	<i>absent</i>			Nicaragua			10	Viet Nam	15		4
Ethiopia	<i>absent</i>			Niger	<i>absent</i>			Zambia			13
Fiji			10	Nigeria		20		Zimbabwe			13
Finland	12			Norway		12					
France		18		Oman	<i>absent</i>						
Gabon			11	Pakistan			21				
Georgia	<i>absent</i>										
Germany			19								

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 taking urgent action to protect the climate

Results of roll-call vote on the request of the delegation of New Zealand for the inclusion of an emergency item

R e s u l t s

Affirmative votes.....	646	Total of affirmative and negative votes ..	811
Negative votes	165	Two-thirds majority.....	541
Abstentions	437		

Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.	Country	Yes	No	Abst.
Afghanistan	5		5	Ghana	<i>absent</i>			Palestine			11
Albania	<i>absent</i>			Greece	13			Panama	<i>absent</i>		
Algeria			15	Guinea	<i>absent</i>			Peru	<i>absent</i>		
Andorra	10			Guinea-Bissau	11			Philippines	<i>absent</i>		
Angola			10	Haiti	<i>absent</i>			Poland	<i>absent</i>		
Argentina	<i>absent</i>			Hungary	10		3	Portugal			13
Armenia	<i>absent</i>			Iceland	10			Qatar		8	
Australia	14			India			23	Republic of Korea			17
Austria	<i>absent</i>			Indonesia	5		17	Republic of Moldova		10	
Bahrain			10	Iran (Islamic Republic of)	9		9	Romania	14		
Bangladesh	20			Iraq	9		5	Russian Federation			20
Belarus			13	Ireland		11		Rwanda	<i>absent</i>		
Belgium	12			Italy	17			San Marino	10		
Benin	12			Japan	20			Sao Tome and Principe			10
Bhutan	10			Jordan	5		7	Saudi Arabia			14
Bosnia and Herzegovina	<i>absent</i>			Kazakhstan	<i>absent</i>			Senegal	12		
Botswana		11		Kenya			10	Serbia			12
Brazil			10	Kuwait		11		Singapore	12		
Burkina Faso	<i>absent</i>			Lao People's Dem. Republic	7		5	Slovenia	11		
Burundi	<i>absent</i>			Latvia	11			South Africa			17
Cabo Verde	10			Lebanon	<i>absent</i>			South Sudan	<i>absent</i>		
Cambodia	10		3	Lesotho			11	Spain	15		
Cameroon			13	Liechtenstein	<i>absent</i>			Sri Lanka	<i>absent</i>		
Canada	10			Lithuania	10			Sudan		15	
Chad	13			Madagascar	14			Suriname		10	
Chile	6		7	Malaysia	<i>absent</i>			Sweden	12		
China			23	Maldives	<i>absent</i>			Switzerland	10		
Costa Rica	10			Mali	10			Syrian Arab Rep.			13
Croatia	5		5	Mali	5		6	Thailand	18		
Cuba			13	Mauritania				Timor-Leste			11
Cyprus			10	Mauritius	<i>absent</i>			Togo	<i>absent</i>		
Czech Republic	13			Mexico		20		Tunisia	<i>absent</i>		
DR of the Congo	<i>absent</i>			Micronesia (Fed. States of)	<i>absent</i>			Turkey	18		
Denmark	<i>absent</i>			Monaco	<i>absent</i>			Uganda	7		6
Djibouti	<i>absent</i>			Mongolia	<i>absent</i>			Ukraine	17		
Dominican Rep.	<i>absent</i>			Morocco	15			United Arab Emirates		11	
Ecuador	13			Myanmar	10			United Kingdom	18		
El Salvador	<i>absent</i>			Namibia		11		Uruguay		11	
Equatorial Guinea	<i>absent</i>			Netherlands	<i>absent</i>			Venezuela			15
Estonia	<i>absent</i>			New Zealand	11			Viet Nam	19		
Ethiopia	<i>absent</i>			Nicaragua	10			Zambia			13
Fiji	10			Niger	<i>absent</i>			Zimbabwe		13	
Finland	12			Nigeria		20					
France	18			Norway	9	3					
Gabon			11	Oman	<i>absent</i>						
Georgia	<i>absent</i>			Pakistan			21				
Germany	19										

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, parliaments, parliamentarians, and international and regional organizations in providing necessary protection and urgent support to those who have become refugees through war, internal conflict and social circumstances, according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions

***Resolution adopted unanimously by the 133rd IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 20 October 2015)***

The 133rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Expressing its utmost concern about the humanitarian tragedies caused by the recent worsening of the refugee crisis, which has itself led to a rise in the number of refugees to over 30 million, a significant increase which makes this refugee crisis, in the wake of the deterioration of the political and military situations in some Middle Eastern and African countries, the worst since the Second World War,

Deeply troubled by the deaths and the suffering recently endured by thousands of refugees from some Middle Eastern and African countries from exposure to severe weather or lack of food or shelter,

Noting with concern that the United Nations estimates that many thousands of refugees and forced migrants from some Middle Eastern and African countries have been registered daily over the last three months of this year and that a significant portion of the population of those countries are at risk of becoming refugees, particularly those from the Syrian Arab Republic, Yemen, Somalia and Libya, a situation which exacerbates the humanitarian disaster for refugees even further,

Cognizant of the fact that a lasting solution to the problem of refugees is to be found through negotiation, and particularly through the peaceful settlement of internal conflicts,

Emphasizing the vital role of regional organizations in helping countries and warring factions to reach peaceful settlements to internal conflicts,

Underlining the seriousness of the conditions reported by the International Labour Organization with respect to the social and economic pressures arising from the deterioration of the refugee crisis over the last three months in host countries and in view of rising levels of unemployment in those countries, of refugee child labour, of the lower chances of benefiting from public services, and of their worsening quality, as well as of lower social cohesion between refugees and local communities,

Stressing the responsibility of regional organizations and the international community, in particular donor and neighbouring countries, to render support in order to help increase the capacity of host countries to deal with refugees, provide a humanitarian environment and solve the problems associated with refugees,

Taking into consideration the United Nations Charter and Universal Declaration of Human Rights, which acknowledge that all people, without discrimination, should be able to enjoy their basic rights and freedoms, and which advocate the enhancement of international cooperation for the resolution of humanitarian problems,

Recalling the Convention relating to the Status of Refugees (1951) and its Protocol (1967), which provide that refugees shall enjoy their fundamental rights and freedoms, and which emphasize the social and humanitarian nature of issues relating to refugees, without any discrimination based on ethnicity, religion, gender, age or country of origin,

Also recalling the four Geneva Conventions of 1949 and their additional protocols of 1977, particularly as regards the preferential treatment of refugees,

Emphasizing the need to protect refugees from persecution and fear, as well as to provide the necessary protection to women and child refugees and to other vulnerable groups,

Referring to the Statute of the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (1950) and United Nations General Assembly Resolution 51/73 (1996) concerning the exploitation of women and child refugees and their use as soldiers or human shields in armed conflicts, as well as of other actions which endanger their safety or threaten their personal security,

Stressing that children, adolescents and young people constitute particularly vulnerable groups and are over-represented among migrants and refugees, and face specific challenges that include isolation, exclusion, discrimination and insecurity,

Recognizing that women refugees are especially vulnerable to trafficking, abuse, exploitation, discrimination, unpaid work and gender-based violence, including sexual violence,

Renewing its commitment to the principles of international humanitarian law, international law on refugees and international human rights law to ensure international protection for refugees, whether through provisional or permanent measures, so as to safeguard their legal and social rights,

1. *Calls on* parliaments to cooperate with governmental and non-governmental national organizations, as well as with regional and international organizations, to identify the reasons for refugee flows;
2. *Also calls on* parliaments to cooperate with the relevant national organizations and regional and international parliamentary organizations, and with the regional and international governmental organizations, in the preparation of work programmes and projects for spreading the culture of tolerance and moderation and the principles of common international values, and for combating backwardness, illiteracy and fanaticism of any kind whatsoever;
3. *Regrets* that efforts made by a number of developing countries are hampered by the policy of imposing sanctions through unilateral measures, and *considers* that such a policy directly affects the welfare of ordinary people and contributes to the escalation of the flow of refugees;
4. *Re-emphasizes* the compliance of United Nations Member States with the principle of non-interference in the domestic affairs of other nations, respect for national sovereignty, peaceful settlement of disputes and the non-use of force or threats of force, so that the peoples of the world may escape the ordeals of combat and war and the movement of populations from their home countries;
5. *Acknowledges* the principle of the “common international responsibility” of the United Nations and other regional and international organizations to protect refugees from harm through providing urgent humanitarian aid and support by host countries, ensuring that refugees enjoy their internationally recognized human rights, thereby expediting the implementation of international and regional programmes on international cooperation for sustainable economic development;
6. *Calls on* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and national and international non-governmental organizations to bear their responsibility and provide humane conditions for refugees;
7. *Invites* Member Parliaments, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community to cooperate with the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and all other international and regional organizations concerned with refugee affairs, in order to facilitate the task of monitoring the application of international rules for protecting refugees and providing them with accommodation and in order to ensure that the rights granted to them under international conventions are guaranteed;
8. *Reminds* all countries hosting refugees of the need to comply with the principles of international humanitarian law and international law on refugees with respect to providing them with the necessary care and prohibiting hostilities against their lives or any abuse offensive to their dignity, or the handing down of judgments without trial, while taking all precautionary measures to save the lives of refugees, and being mindful that every refugee must comply with the legal obligations and measures to preserve public order to which they are subject in the host country;

9. *Calls on* parliaments and governments to develop and implement special measures and gender-sensitive policies for women refugees, especially mothers who must take care not just of themselves but whole families, as well as young women and girls;
10. *Also calls on* parliaments and governments to address the special needs of young refugees, especially those separated from their families and without parental guidance, to take special action to tackle xenophobia, stereotypes and discrimination, and to give children and young people access to age-appropriate information on safe migration and the dangers of trafficking;
11. *Calls for* full respect for the principle of “international relief” contained in international conventions concerning the protection of refugees and emergency and long-term support for health care, food and other supplies, as well as education for children and young people;
12. *Calls on* countries which are occupying territories to undertake not to deport or displace civilian populations to other territories, and to ensure the safety and security of civilians according to the principles of international humanitarian law and international conventions;
13. *Also calls on* host countries not to deport refugees or expel them to the border of another country in which their life would be threatened for ethnic, religious or nationality reasons, membership of a certain social category or political opinions; and *notes that* States are required to enable refugees to obtain the right of temporary residence in the event that they are not able to obtain permanent residence pending resettlement in another country;
14. *Invites* Member Parliaments, regional and international parliamentary organizations and the international community to cooperate in sharing the burden of refugees and associated costs with host countries;
15. *Calls on* the United Nations and all countries that are active at the international and regional levels both to settle military conflicts in the Middle East in compliance with resolutions adopted by the international community in order to establish political and military stability in the region and also to avoid threats to international peace and security, drawing attention to the fact that the failure of the international community to deal with the problems of refugees results in other problems of migration and human trafficking;
16. *Also calls on* the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, the IPU, the international community and national and international non-governmental organizations, to declare a year of refugees.

Presidential Statement

*Noted by the Governing Council at its 197th session
(Geneva, 18 October 2015)*

The Fourth World Conference of Speakers of Parliaments was held at United Nations Headquarters in New York from 31 August to 2 September 2015 as part of the series of high-level meetings leading up to the UN Summit on the post-2015 development agenda.

It is a matter of deep regret that the Speaker of the Council of the Federation of the Federal Assembly of the Russian Federation could not participate in either the World Conference or the 10th Meeting of Women Speakers of Parliament that preceded it, due to restrictive visa conditions imposed by the authorities of the United States of America.

I reiterate the IPU's firm belief in the value of open and unrestricted dialogue between parliamentarians from different political, economic and social systems as a means of promoting understanding and resolving differences and cannot agree with the use, by any country, of political visa sanctions aimed at MPs duly designated by their parliaments to attend IPU meetings.

The IPU reaffirms its commitment to the principle and policy of holding its statutory meetings only in those countries where all IPU Members and Observers are invited, and where their representatives are certain to be granted the entry visas required for participation.

I take this opportunity to welcome the significant progress that has been made in the cooperation between the IPU and the United Nations. Nonetheless, I am sure all Members will agree much more remains to be done. The IPU looks forward to the conclusion of a new Cooperation Agreement that would place the institutional relationship on a stronger footing and further enhance the strategic partnership between the two organizations. As welcomed by the UN General Assembly, the IPU is providing a parliamentary component to major UN processes.

As such, joint events such as the World Conference of Speakers of Parliament and the annual Parliamentary Hearings at the United Nations should be formally recognized as official UN meetings, for which all MPs duly designated by the parliaments of the UN Member States are entitled to receive visas, in accordance with UN-Host Country Agreements.

I invite the IPU Governing Council to join me in taking note of this Statement.

LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ***LISTE DES PARTICIPANTS***

Mr./M. Saber Chowdhury

President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
Président de l'Union interparlementaire

President of the 133rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union
Président de la 133^{ème} Assemblée 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 Chairs Committee <i>Président de la Chambre du peuple</i> <i>Commission des présidents</i>
QARALQ, Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Elders Martyrs and Disabled Committee <i>Membre du Conseil des anciens</i> <i>Commission des martyrs et des personnes</i> <i>handicapées</i>
AKHLAQI, Mohammad Ali (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People Committee on Higher Education <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple</i> <i>Commission de l'enseignement supérieur</i>
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KALEMZAI, Hasibullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Elders International Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Conseil des anciens</i> <i>Commission des affaires internationales</i>
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ALBANIA – ALBANIE

IDRIZI, Shpetim (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Parliament <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (LSI)</i>
RAMA, Luan (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
GIYLAMETI, Blerina (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>

KODRA, Filloreta (Ms./Mme)
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Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent

(LSI: Socialist Movement for Integration / Mouvement socialiste pour l'intégration)

ALGERIA - ALGERIE

DRIF BITAT, Zohra (Mrs./Mme)
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Leader of the Delegation
Membre du Comité exécutif
Chef de la délégation

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Membre du Conseil de la Nation

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Committee on Middle East Questions
Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient

Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Nation
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Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH

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ANDORRA - ANDORRE

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Committee on Health and Environment
Committee on Internal Affairs
Membre du Conseil général (PLA)
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budget
Commission de la santé et de l'environnement
Commission des affaires intérieures

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Deputy Chair, Committee on Health and Environment
Economy Committee
Membre du Conseil général (PS)
Présidente de la Commission de l'aménagement du territoire
Vice-Présidente de la Commission de la santé et de l'environnement

PALMITJAVILA, Meritxell (Mrs./Mme)

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Deputy Chair of the Committee on Land-Use Planning
Committee on Social Affairs
Committee on Education, Culture, Research and Sport
Membre du Conseil général (DA)
Vice-Présidente de la Commission de l'aménagement du territoire
Commission des affaires sociales
Commission de l'éducation, de la culture, de la recherche et des sports

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Secrétaire général, Conseil général

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(DA: Democrats for Andorra / Démocrates pour Andorre)

(PLA: Liberal Party / Parti Libéral)

(PS: Social Democratic Party / Parti Social-démocrate)

ANGOLA

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Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation
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(MPLA: Popular Movement for the Liberation of Angola / Mouvement populaire pour la libération de l'Angola)

(Casa-CE: Convergence Angola Salvation Wide-Electoral Coalition / Convergence ample de sauvetage de l'Angola-Coalition électorale)

(UNITA: National Union for the Total Independence of Angola / Union nationale pour l'indépendance totale de l'Angola)

ARGENTINA - ARGENTINE

URTUBEY, Rodolfo (Mr./M.)

Leader of the Delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the Senate
Chair of the Committee on Agreements
Membre du Sénat (FV)
Président de la Commission des approbations

CREXELL, Lucila (Mrs./Mme)

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Women's Bank Committee
Membre du Sénat (MPN)
Commission des relations extérieures et du culte,
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(FV: Victory Front / Front pour la victoire)	
(MPN: Neuquino Popular Movement / Mouvement populaire Neuquino)	
(U-FSF: Union for Federal Santa Fe / Union pour Santa fédéral)	
(PJ: Justicialist Party / Parti justicialiste)	

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PETROSYAN, Eduard (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
MURADYAN, Tigran (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
TOLMAJIAN, Hasmik (Mrs./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
MARGARIAN, Mher (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(HHK: Republican Party of Armenia / Parti républicain arménien)	

AUSTRALIA - AUSTRALIE

MARKUS, Louise (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (LPA)</i>
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RUDDOCK, Philip (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
HALLETT, Brien (Mr./M.) Delegation Secretary <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseiller, Sénat</i>
(LPA: Liberal Party of Australia / Parti libéral australien)	
(ALP: Australian Labor Party / Parti travailliste australien)	

AUSTRIA - AUTRICHE

AMON, Werner (Mr./M.)
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Chef de la délégation

Member of the National Council
Membre du Conseil national (ÖVP)

KARLSBÖCK, Andreas (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council
Membre du Conseil national (FPÖ)

MOSER, Gabriela (Ms./Mme)

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Membre du Conseil national (Mpg)

WINTONIAK, Alexis (Mr./M.)
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Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, International Relations, National Council
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(ÖVP: Austrian People's Party / Parti populaire)
(FPÖ: Freedom Party of Austria / Parti de la liberté)
(Mpg: Greens / Les Verts)

BAHRAIN - BAHREIN

ALMULLA, Ahmed (Mr./M.)
Leader of the Delegation
Chef de la délégation

Speaker of the Council of Representatives
Président du Conseil des représentants

FAKHRO, Jamal (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the Shura Council
Vice-Président du Conseil Consultatif

ALMOSAWI, Sayed Dheya (Mr./M.)

Member of the Shura Council
Membre du Conseil Consultatif

NASAIIF, Jameela (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Shura Council
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TAQAWI, Sawsan (Ms./Mme)
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*Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix
et de la sécurité internationale*

Member of the Shura Council
Membre du Conseil Consultatif

ALARADI, Ali (Mr./M.)
Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians
Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires

Member of the Council of Representatives
Membre du Conseil des représentants

ALKOOHEJI, Isa (Mr./M.)

Member of the Council of Representatives
Membre du Conseil des représentants

ALSAMMAK, Jameela (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 Council of Representatives
Membre du Conseil des représentants

ABDULHUSSAIN, Adel (Mr./M.)

Member of the Council of Representatives
Membre du Conseil des représentants

ALJOWDER, Mohammed (Mr./M.)
Advisor / *Conseiller*

Member of the Council of Representatives
Membre du Conseil des représentants

ALDOSERI, Abdulla (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, Council of Representatives
Secrétaire général, Conseil des représentants

ALGHATHITH, Saleh (Mr./M.)

Secretary General, Council of Representatives
Secrétaire général, Conseil des représentants

ALMAHMEED, Mahmeed (Mr./M.)

Director, Council of Representatives
Directeur, Conseil des représentants

ALASAM, Yaser (Mr./M.)

Adviser, Protocol, Shura Council
Conseiller, Protocole, Conseil Consultatif

YUSUF, Wafa (Ms./Mme)

Adviser, Research Office, Council of Representatives
*Conseillère, Service de recherche, Conseil des
représentants*

BANGLADESH

RABBI, Fazle (Mr./M.) Vice President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation <i>Vice-Président du Groupe, 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>
ERSHAD, Raushan (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament Business Advisory Committee Standing Committee on Privileges <i>Membre du Parlement (JP) Comité consultatif sur les affaires Commission permanente des privilèges</i>
AZAD, Abul Kalam (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of Parliament Chairman of the Standing Committee on Ministry of Planning Library Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (AL) Président de la Commission permanente du Ministère de la planification Commission de bibliothèque</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 Standing Committee on Ministry of Railways Standing Committee on Ministry of Railways Standing Committee on Ministry of Public Administration <i>Membre du Parlement (AL) Président de la Commission permanente du Ministère des chemins de fer Commission permanente du Ministère des chemins de fer Commission permanente du Ministère de l'administration publique</i>
BADAL, Mayeen Uddin Khan (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament Business Advisory Committee Committee on Petitions Standing Committee on Public Accounts <i>Membre du Parlement (JSD) Comité consultatif sur les affaires Commission des pétitions Commission permanente des comptes publics</i>
BADSHA, Fazle Hossain (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament House Committee Standing Committee on Ministry of Local Government, Rural Development and Cooperatives <i>Membre du Parlement (WPB) Comité de la Chambre Commission permanente du Ministère du gouvernement local, du développement rural et des coopératives</i>
SALIM, Mohammad (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament Standing Committee on Ministry of Food <i>Membre du Parlement (Ind) Commission permanente du Ministère de l'alimentation</i>
NAYEEM, Shirin (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament Standing Committee on Ministry of Food <i>Membre du Parlement (AL) Commission permanente du Ministère de l'alimentation</i>
UDDIN, Salim (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament Standing Committee on Ministry of Foreign Affairs <i>Membre du Parlement (JP) Commission permanente du Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
SUJAN, Md. Nurul Islam (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>

MANNAN, Rowshan Ara (Ms./Mme) Advisor / <i>Conseillère</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement</i>
MOQBUL, Md. Ashraful (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement</i>
ZILANE, Abdul Quader (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, Parliament <i>Directeur adjoint, Parlement</i>
HASAN, Mohammad Mamun (Mr./M.)	Officer, Parliament <i>Fonctionnaire, Parlement</i>
ISLAM, Md. Taufiqul (Mr./M.)	Officer, Parliament <i>Fonctionnaire, Parlement</i>
BEGUM, Farhana (Ms./Mme)	Assistant Secretary <i>Secrétaire adjointe</i>
BASHAR, Mohammad Khairul (Mr./M.)	Private Secretary to Mr. Abdullah <i>Secrétaire particulier de M. Abdullah</i>

(AL: Bangladesh Awami League / Ligue Awami du Bangladesh)
(JP: Jatiya Party / Parti Jatiya)
(JSD: Jatiyo Samajtantrik Dal)
(WPB: Bangladesh Workers Party / Parti des travailleurs du Bangladesh)
(Ind: Independent / Indépendant)

BELARUS

GUMINSKY, Viktor (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Vice-Président de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
SENKO, Vladimir (Mr./M.) Member of the Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif</i>	Member of the Council of the Republic Chairman of the Foreign Affairs and National Security Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la République</i> <i>Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i> <i>et de la sécurité nationale</i>
YAKAULEU, Andrei (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre</i> <i>des Représentants</i>
AMBRAZEVICH, Yury (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
OPIMAKH, Alexander (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
BOGOMAZ, Vladimir (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	

BELGIUM - BELGIQUE

VAN DEN DRIESSCHE, Pol (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Senate (N-VA) Chairman of the Committee on Transversal Matters: Community Competences Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat (N-VA)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des matières transversales :</i> <i>compétences communautaires</i> <i>Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes</i>
VIENNE, Christiane (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate (PS) Committee on Transversal Matters: Community Competences Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat (PS)</i> <i>Commission des matières transversales : compétences</i> <i>communautaires</i> <i>Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes</i>
DESTEXHE, Alain (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate (MR) Committee on Transversal Matters: Regional Competences Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat (MR)</i> <i>Commission des matières transversales : compétences</i> <i>régionales</i>

BATTHEU, Sabien (Mrs./Mme)	<i>Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes</i> Member of the House of Representatives (Open VLD) 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 <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (Open VLD)</i> <i>Commission de l'Intérieur, des affaires générales et de la Fonction publique</i> <i>Commission spéciale du Règlement et de la réforme du travail parlementaire</i> <i>Commission de l'Infrastructure, des communications et des entreprises publiques</i>
MAHOUX, Philippe (Mr./M.) President of the Twelve Plus Group <i>Président du Groupe des Douze Plus</i>	Member of the Senate (PS) Co-chairman of the Federal Advisory Committee on European Affairs Committee on Institutional Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat (PS)</i> <i>Co-président du Comité d'avis fédéral chargé des questions européennes</i> <i>Commission des affaires institutionnelles</i>
GRYFFROY, Andries (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate (N-VA) Committee on Transversal Matters: Regional Competences <i>Membre du Sénat (N-VA)</i> <i>Commission des matières transversales : compétences régionales</i>
FORET, Gilles (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives (MR) Committee on Infrastructure, Communications and State Enterprises Justice Committee Parliamentary Committee on the Legislative Follow-up <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (MR)</i> <i>Commission de l'infrastructure, des communications et des entreprises publiques</i> <i>Commission de la justice</i> <i>Comité parlementaire chargé du suivi législatif</i>
HONDEQUIN, Hugo (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, 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, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général adjoint de la Chambre des représentants</i>
DE ROUCK, Marc (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, Senate <i>Directeur, Sénat</i>
PELEMAN, Martin (Mr./M.) Deputy Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire adjoint du Groupe</i>	Deputy Director, House of Representatives <i>Premier conseiller de direction, Chambre des représentants</i>
MICHAUX, Anne (Mrs./Mme) Adviser to the Twelve Plus Group <i>Conseillère au Douze Plus</i>	Senior Adviser, Senate <i>Première Conseillère, Sénat</i>
LANGENHAECK, Sonja (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Senior Adviser, Senate <i>Première Conseillère, Sénat</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)

HOUNGBEDJI, Adrien (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	BENIN Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
AGBELESSESSI, Alexis (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
BAKO ARIFARI, Nassirou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
YAROU SINATOKO, Kiaré (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
KOUSSONDA, Adjibadé (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
YOUSSOUFOU, Bida (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
HOUETOGNANKOU, Jude (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer to the Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Chargé du protocole du Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
PATINVOH, Hugues (Mr./M.)	Press Officer to the Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Attaché de presse du Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
	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, Chimi (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly Legislative Committee <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (PDP)</i> <i>Commission législative</i>
PHUNTSHO, Tashi (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Council Social and Cultural Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Conseil national</i> <i>Commission des affaires sociales et culturelles</i>
WANGMO, Tashi (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Council Chairperson of the Good Governance Committee <i>Membre du Conseil national</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission de la bonne gouvernance</i>
WANGYAL, Tashi (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Council Economic Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Conseil national</i> <i>Commission des affaires économiques</i>
CHHETRI, Ritu Raj (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Parliamentary Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDP)</i> <i>Commission des affaires parlementaires</i>
CHHETRI, Madan Kumar (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Vice Chair of the Social and Cultural Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDP)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires sociales et culturelles</i>
ZIMBA, Yeshey (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Environment and Urban Development Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (DPT)</i> <i>Commission de l'environnement et du développement urbain</i>
DUBA, Sangay (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
WANGMO, Tshering (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, Information / Media, National Council <i>Conseillère, Informations / Médias, Conseil national</i>
JAMTSHO, Karma (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
PHUNTSHO, Sonam (Mr./M.) Assistant to the Speaker <i>Assistant du Président</i>	
(PDP: People's Democratic Party / Parti populaire démocratique) (DPT: Druk Phunsum Tshogpa)	

BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA - BOSNIE-HERZEGOVINE

LALIC, Nenad (Mr./M.)
Leader of the Delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (SDS)

KOZUL, Predrag (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (HDZ)

BECIROVIC, Damir (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (DF)

NINKOVIĆ, Bojan (Mr./M.)

Secretary General, House of Peoples
Secrétaire général, Chambre des Peuples

LIKOKUR, Milena (Ms./Mme)

Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

House of Peoples
Chambre des Peuples

ZUJO, Amila (Mrs./Mme)

Interpreter / *Interprète*

(SDS: Serb Democratic Party / Parti démocratique serbe)

(HDZ: Croatian Democratic Union of Bosnia and Herzegovina / Union démocratique croate de Bosnie-Herzégovine)

(DF: Democratic Front - Zeljko Komsic / Front démocratique - Zeljko Komsic)

BOTSWANA

MOLATLHEGI, Kagiso P. (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Portfolio Committee on Wildlife, Tourism, Natural Resources and Climate Change
Portfolio Committee on Governance and Oversight
Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (BDP)
Comité du portefeuille de la faune, du tourisme, des ressources naturelles et du changement climatique
Comité du portefeuille de la gouvernance et de la surveillance

BOKO, Duma G. (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs
Bureau de la Commission permanente des Affaires des Nations Unies

Member of the National Assembly
Portfolio Committee on Labour and Home Affairs
Portfolio Committee on Governance and Oversight
Committee of Selection
Business Advisory Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UDC)
Comité du portefeuille du travail et des affaires internes
Comité du portefeuille de la gouvernance et de la surveillance
Comité de sélection
Comité consultatif sur les affaires

GAOLATHE, Ndaba N. (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Portfolio Committee on Trade, Finance and Economic Development
Finance and Estimates Committee
Public Accounts Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UDC)
Comité du portefeuille du commerce, des finances et du développement économique
Comité des finances et des prévisions budgétaires
Comité des comptes publics

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*
Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire générale, Assemblée nationale

DITHAPO, Barbara N. (Ms./Mme)

Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

SAUBI, Babui (Ms./Mme)

Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Officer, Research Office, National Assembly
Fonctionnaire, Service de recherche, Assemblée nationale

SEEMULE, Sissy V. (Ms./Mme)

Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(BDP: Botswana Democratic Party / Parti démocratique botswanais)

(UDC: Umbrella for Democratic Change / Collectif pour le changement démocratique)

BRAZIL - BRESIL

QUINTELLA LESSA, Mauricio (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 <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PR)</i>
CAMELI, Gladson (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal Senate <i>Membre du Sénat fédéral (PP)</i>
CHAVES, Pedro (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés</i>
NOGUEIRA, Ciro (Mr./M.)	Member of the Federal Senate <i>Membre du Sénat fédéral (PP)</i>
CAJADO, Claudio (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (DEM)</i>
LINS, Atila (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PSD)</i>
PASSARINHO, Joaquim (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés</i>
SANTOS, Soraya (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PMDB)</i>
BACELAR, João Carlos (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PR)</i>
DE SOUSA MESQUITA, Romulo (Mr./M.)	Director-General, Chamber of Deputies <i>Directeur général, Chambre des Députés</i>
ARAUJO, Silvia (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>

(PR: Party of the Republic / Parti de la République)
(PP: Progressive Party / Parti progressiste)
(DEM: Democrats / Démocrates)
(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)
(PMDB: Brazilian Democratic Movement Party / Parti du mouvement démocratique brésilien)

BURKINA FASO

SY, Moumina Cheriff (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
GNINKO, Christine Sougue (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
DICKO, Moussa Oumarou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
KONE, Ibrahima (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
OUEDRAOGO, Denis François (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
SORGHO, Evrard (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
SIENOU, Issa (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
OUEDRAOGO, Vincent de Paul (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	
MANTORO, Emma Zobilma (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire générale, Assemblée nationale</i>
YAMEOGO, Alban (Mr./M.)	Director, Protocol, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Protocole, Assemblée nationale</i>
SERE, Ibrahima (Mr./M.)	Director, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
TRAORE, Karamoko Jean Marie (Mr./M.)	Director, International Cooperation, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Coopération internationale, Assemblée nationale</i>
KOFFI, Amétépé (Mr./M.)	Technical Advisor, National Assembly <i>Conseiller technique, Assemblée nationale</i>

SANOU, Rock Fabien (Mr./M.)

Adviser, Security, National Assembly
Conseiller, Sécurité, Assemblée nationale

TEGRE, Arnaud (Mr./M.)

Security Officer
Agent de sécurité

OUERMI, Aymar Y. (Mr./M.)

Security Officer
*Agent de sécurité***BURUNDI**

NDIKURIYO, Révérien (Mr./M.)

President of the Group, Leader of the Delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Speaker of the Senate

Président du Sénat

NDUWIMANA, Edouard (Mr./M.)

Second Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Deuxième Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (CNDD-FDD)

BAREKEBAVUGE, Alexis (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Committee on Institutional and Legal Affairs and
Fundamental Rights and Freedom
Membre du Sénat (CNDD-FDD)
Commission en charge des questions institutionnelles,
juridiques et des droits et libertés fondamentaux

HAKIZIMANA, Gloriose (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the Senate
Chair of the Gender Committee
Membre du Sénat (CNDD-FDD)
Présidente de la Commission des questions de genre

NDIKUMANA, Pierre Célestin (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Deputy Chair, Finance Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Mizero y'Abarundi)
Vice-Président de la Commission Finance

NININHAZWE, Godeliève (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Social Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FDD)
Commission sociale

RWABAHUNGU, Marc (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP
*Membre de l'ASGP*Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

NIYONZIMA, Rénovat (Mr./M.)

Member of the ASGP
*Membre de l'ASGP*Secretary General, Senate
Secrétaire général, Sénat

NKUNZIMANA, Eric (Mr./M.)

Legal Adviser, Senate
Conseiller juridique, Sénat

GAHUNGU, Barthélémy (Mr./M.)

Protocol Officer
Chargé du protocole

MBONIMPA, Louise (Mrs./Mme)

Adviser, Protocol, Senate
Conseillère, Protocole, Sénat

AKIMANA, Arlette (Mrs./Mme)

Adviser, Information / Media, National Assembly
Conseillère, Informations / Médias, Assemblée nationale

NTAKARUTIMANA, Nestor (Mr./M.)

Aide de camp Senate
Aide de camp, Sénat

NTIRANDEKURA, Jean-Claude (Mr./M.)

Security Officer, Senate
Agent de sécurité, Sénat

(CNDD: National Council for the Defence of Democracy / Conseil national pour la défense de la démocratie)

(FDD: Front for the Defence of Democracy / Forces pour la défense de la démocratie)

(Mizero y'Abarundi: Hope for Burundians coalition / Coalition « Espoir des Burundais »)

CABO VERDE

LOPES CORREIA, Júlio (Mr./M.)

Leader of the Delegation
*Chef de la délégation*Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (PAICV)

ARCANJO LIVRAMENTO NOGUEIRA, Jorge (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on External Relations, Cooperation and Communities <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPD)</i> <i>Commission des relations extérieures, de la coopération et des communautés</i>
FONTES LIMA MONTEIRO, Sidónio (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on External Relations, Cooperation and Communities <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PAICV)</i> <i>Commission des relations extérieures, de la coopération et des communautés</i>
DAS DORES ANTUNES DE BRITO, Libéria (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
AUGUSTO GOMES, Joaquim (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>

(PAICV: Parti africain pour l'indépendance du Cap-Vert / African Party for the Independence of Cape Verde)
(MPD: Mouvement pour la démocratie / Movement for democracy)

CAMBODIA - CAMBODGE

YANG, Sem (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Senate Vice-Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights, Complaint Reception, Investigation <i>Membre du Sénat</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des droits de l'homme, de l'instruction des plaintes et des enquêtes</i>
CHHIT, Kimyeat (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate Vice Chair, Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Relations, Media and Information <i>Membre du Sénat</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, des relations internationales, des médias et de l'information</i>
PUM, Sichan (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate Vice-Chair, Commission on Public Health, Social Welfare and Labour, War Veterans, Vocational Training and Women Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission de la santé publique, de la prévoyance et du travail, des anciens combattants, de la formation professionnelle et des affaires féminines</i>
HUN, Many (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the National Assembly Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
TIOULONG, Saumura (Mrs./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the National Assembly Vice-Chairperson of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation, Information and Media <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale, de l'information et des médias</i>
SRUN, Dara (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Assemblée nationale</i>
CHHIM, Sothkun (Mr./M.)	Director, Senate <i>Directeur, Sénat</i>
KHLANG, Oudam (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Directeur adjoint, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>

BAN, Sreyneang (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Assemblée nationale</i>
DAV, Ansan (Mr./M.)	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Assemblée nationale</i>
HOK, Bunly (Mr./M.)	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
KOY, Malayvireak (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseiller, Sénat</i>
SOK, Pisey (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>
OUM, Sarith (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseiller, Sénat</i>
OUK, Thary (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Assemblée nationale</i>

CAMEROON - CAMEROUN

NIAT NJIFENJI, Marcel (Mr./M.) Leader of the Delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	President of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat (RDPC)</i>
TJOUES, Geneviève (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the Senate <i>Vice-Présidente du Sénat (RDPC)</i>
TSOMÉLOU, Jean (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (SDF)</i>
NGAYAP, Pierre Flambeau (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (RDPC)</i>
HAYATOU, Aïcha Pierrette (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (RDPC)</i>
FOTSO, Joséphine (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDPC)</i>
EMAH ETOUNDI, Vincent de Paul (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDPC)</i>
AHIDJO, Oumoul Koultchoumi (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UNDP)</i>
MEVA'A M'EBOUTOU, Michel (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
YENE OSSOMBA, Victor (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
NJOMATCHOUA, Justin (Mr./M.)	Director, Office of the President of the Senate <i>Directeur de Cabinet du Président du Sénat</i>
INDJECK, Daniel (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ESSEBA, Cyriaque (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary <i>Secrétaire administratif</i>	Director, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Assemblée nationale</i>
ETOGA, Ursule (Ms./Mrs.) Administrative Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire administrative du Groupe</i>	Administrative Secretary, Senate <i>Secrétaire administrative du Sénat</i>
NGUESSE EWANE, Guy Paulin (Mr./M.)	Office of the President of the Senate <i>Fonctionnaire au Cabinet du Président du Sénat</i>
NDOUMEN FONDJA, Bérénger (Mr./M.)	Office of the President of the Senate <i>Fonctionnaire au Cabinet du Président du Sénat</i>

(RDPC: Cameroon People's Democratic Movement / Rassemblement démocratique du peuple camerounais)

(SDF) Social Democratic Front / Front social démocratique)

(UNDP: National Union for Democracy and Progress / Union Nationale pour la démocratie et le progrès)

CANADA

HOUSAKOS, Leo (Mr./M.)
Leader of the Delegation
Chef de la délégation

Speaker of the Senate
Président du Sénat (CPC)

DAWSON, Dennis (Mr./M.)
Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs
Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies

Member of the Senate
Membre du Sénat (LPC)

FRASER, Joan (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Senate
Membre du Sénat (LPC)

LABRECQUE-RIEL, Collette (Ms./Mme)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Director, House of Commons
Directrice, Chambre des Communes

ROBERT, Charles (Mr./M.)

Director, Senate
Directeur, Sénat

GRAVEL, Line (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Adviser, Senate
Conseillère, Sénat

SANDOVAL, Marlene (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Adviser, House of Commons
Conseillère, Chambre des Communes

(CPC: Conservative Party of Canada / Parti conservateur du Canada)

(LPC: Liberal Party of Canada / Parti libéral du Canada)

CHAD - TCHAD

KADAM, Moussa (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Premier Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)

GATTA, Gali Ngotte (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Chair, Economy and Planning Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PR)
Président de la Commission de l'économie et du plan

BECHIR, Achta (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Economy and Planning Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)
Commission de l'économie et du plan

KODYA, Hamid (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)

MAÏNA, Tchari Madi (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Deputy Chair, Committee on Finance, Budget and Public Accounts
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RDP)
Vice-Président, Commission des finances, du budget et de la comptabilité publique

NEATOBEL, Bidi Valentin (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PAP-JS)

AYMADJI, Opportune (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Defence and Security Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MPS)
Commission de la défense et de la sécurité

HAROU, Gali Massa (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Deputy Secretary-General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général adjoint, Assemblée nationale

HAMIDI, Béchir Issa (Mr./M.)

Adviser, National Assembly
Conseiller, Assemblée nationale

(MPS: Patriotic Salvation Movement / Mouvement patriotique du salut)

(PR: Republican Party / Parti Républicain)

(RDP: Rally for Democracy and Progress / Rassemblement pour la démocratie et le progrès)

(PAP-JS: African Party for Peace and Justice / Parti africain pour la paix et la justice)

CHILE - CHILI

PASCAL ALLENDE, Denise (Ms./Mme) Committee on Middle East Questions Leader of the delegation <i>Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient</i> <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies Labour and Social Security Committee Family and Elderly Committee Internal Government and Administration Committee <i>Vice-Présidente de la Chambre des Députés (PS)</i> <i>Commission du travail et de la sécurité sociale</i> <i>Commission de la famille et des aînés</i> <i>Commission du gouvernement interne et de l'administration</i>
LEÓN, Roberto (Mr./M.) President of the GRULAC <i>Président du GRULAC</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies President of the Housing and Urban Development Committee National Defence Committee <i>Président de la Commission du logement et du développement urbain</i> <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDC)</i> <i>Commission de la défense nationale</i>
LETELIER, Juan Pablo (Mr./M.) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians / <i>Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	Member of the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee Transport and Telecommunications Committee President of the Labour and Social Welfare Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PS)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i> <i>Commission des transports et des télécommunications</i> <i>Président de la Commission du travail et de la prévoyance sociale</i>
COLOMA, Juan Antonio (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate President of the Public Works Committee Finance Committee First Special Joint Sub-Committee on Budget <i>Membre du Sénat (UDI)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des travaux publics</i> <i>Commission des finances</i> <i>Première Sous-commission spéciale mixte du budget</i>
JARPA, Carlos Abel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Internal Regime and Administration Committee Economy Committee Housing and Urban Development Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PRSD)</i> <i>Commission du régime interne et de l'administration</i> <i>Commission de l'économie</i> <i>Commission du logement et du développement urbain</i>
MORALES, Celso (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs Committee Interior Government and Regionalization Committee Sports and Recreation Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (UDI)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i> <i>Commission du gouvernement interne et de la régionalisation</i> <i>Commission des sports et loisirs</i>
LABBÉ, Mario (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
LANDEROS, Miguel (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary, Chamber of Deputies <i>Secrétaire, Chambre des Députés</i>
BUSTOS, Marcelo (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, Senate <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
OSES, Juan (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, Senate <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
PEILLARD, Jacqueline (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, Chamber of Deputies <i>Directrice, Relations internationales, Chambre des Députés</i>

FONTECILLA, Mariano (Mr./M.)
Ambassador / *Ambassadeur*

(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)
(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)
(UDI: Independent Democratic Union / Union démocratique indépendante)
(PRSD: Radical Social Democratic Party / Parti radical social-démocrate)

CHINA - CHINE

WANG, Xiaochu (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the National People's Congress
Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires
étrangères*

NI, Yingda (Mr./M.)

Member of the National People's Congress
Law Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
Commission des lois*

LIU, Li (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National People's Congress
Internal and Judicial Affairs Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
Commission des affaires internes et judiciaires*

QIAN, Fangli (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National People's Congress
Financial Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée populaire nationale
Commission des finances*

LI, Xiaobin (Mr./M.)

Director General, Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General
Office of the NPC Standing Committee
*Directeur, Bureau des affaires étrangères du Bureau
général de la Commission permanente de l'APN*

LU, Yuanjing (Mrs./Mme)

Deputy Director, Foreign Affairs Bureau of the General
Office of the NPC Standing Committee
*Directrice adjointe, Bureau des affaires étrangères du
Bureau général de la Commission permanente de l'APN*

HOU, Dong (Ms./Mme)

Principal Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the
General Office of the NPC Standing Committee
*Secrétariat du Bureau des affaires étrangères du Bureau
général de la Commission permanente de l'APN*

SHEN, Zheyi (Mr./M.)

Principal Staff of the Foreign Affairs Bureau of the
General Office of the NPC Standing Committee
*Secrétariat du Bureau des affaires étrangères du Bureau
général de la Commission permanente de l'APN*

HUO, Wenjun (Mr./M.)

Principal Staff of the Department of International Affairs
of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA)
*Secrétariat du Département des affaires internationales
du Ministère des affaires étrangères*

YANG, Xiaoting (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Department of Translation, MFA
Département de traduction

LU, Yuqi (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Department of Translation, MFA
Département de traduction

SHI, Jingru (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Department of Translation, MFA
Département de traduction

COSTA RICA

DÍAZ QUINTANA, Natalia (Ms./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the Legislative Assembly
Chair, International Relations and Foreign Trade
Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée législative
Présidente de la Commission des relations
internationales et du commerce extérieur (PML)*

(PML: Liberty Movement / Mouvement libertaire)

CROATIA – CROATIE

LUGARIĆ, Marija (Ms./Mme)
Leader of the delegation, Board of Forum
of Young MPs of the IPU
*Chef de la délégation, Conseil du Forum
des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP*

BAGARIĆ, Lidija (Ms./Mme)

PETEK-STUPAR, Martina (Ms./Mme)
Adviser to the Group
Conseillère du Groupe

DUNIĆ, Goranka (Ms./Mme)
Adviser to the Group
Conseillère du Groupe

Member of the Croatian Parliament
Legislation Committee
Committee on Family, Youth and Sports
Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation Committee
*Membre du Parlement de Croatie (SDP)
Commission de la législation
Commission de la famille, de la jeunesse et des sports
Commission de la Coopération interparlementaire*
Secretary General, Croatian Parliament
Secrétaire général, Parlement de Croatie
Head, International Affairs Department, Croatian
Parliament
*Chef, Département des affaires internationales,
Parlement de Croatie*
Adviser, International Affairs Department, Croatian
Parliament
*Conseillère, Département des affaires internationales,
Parlement de Croatie*

(SDP: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

CUBA

FERRER GÓMEZ, Yolanda (Mrs./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

MORLOTE RIVAS, Luis (Mr./M.)

NÚÑEZ BETANCOURT, Alberto (Mr./M.)

BARREDO MEDINA, Lázaro (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power
President of the Foreign Affairs Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire
Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères*

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power
Vice-President of the Education, Culture and
Environment Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire
Vice-Président de la Commission de l'éducation, de la
culture et de l'environnement*

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power
Foreign Affairs Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire
Commission des affaires étrangères*

Member of the National Assembly of the People's Power
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale du Pouvoir populaire

CYPRUS - CHYPRE

GAROYIAN, Marios (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

KOUKOUMA KOUTRA, Skevi (Mrs./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*

VARNAVA, George (Mr./M.)

CHRISTOU, Avgousta (Mrs./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PD)

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)
Présidente de la Commission permanente des réfugiés,
des personnes enclavées, disparues ou lésées*

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*

International Relations Officer A'
Chargée des Relations internationales A'

(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

HORSKÁ, Miluše (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the Senate Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Agenda and Procedure <i>Vice-Présidente du Sénat (Ind)</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission du programme et de la procédure</i>
GROSPÍČ, Stanislav (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-Chairperson, Committee on Constitutional and Legal Affairs Mandate and Immunity Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (KSCM)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires constitutionnelles et légales</i> <i>Commission des mandats et des immunités</i>
DOUBRAVA, Jaroslav (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on European Affairs <i>Membre du Sénat (S.cz)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires européennes</i>
ADÁMEK, František (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Public Administration and Regional Development <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (CSSD)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission de l'administration publique et du développement régional</i>
FISCHEROVÁ, Jana (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Vice-Chairperson of the Committee on Foreign Affairs Committee on Regional Development <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (ODS)</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i> <i>Commission du développement régional</i>
ŠARAPATKA, Milan (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (Ind)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
KYNSTETR, Petr (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
UKLEIN, Jiří (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
KOŠAŘÍKOVÁ, Kateřina (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
TUKOVÁ, Alena (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>

(Ind: Independent / Indépendant)

(KSCM: Communist Party of Bohemia and Moravia / Parti communiste de Bohême et de Moravie)

(S.cz: Severocesí.cz)

(ODS: Civic Democratic Party / Parti démocrate civique)

(CSSD: Czech Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO - REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE DU CONGO

MOKOLO WA MPOMBO, Edouard (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Senate <i>Vice-Président du Sénat</i>
NGALULA MULUMBA, Chantal (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
SHE OKITUNDU, Léonard (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>

DARUWEZI APENDEKI, Marceline (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Environment, Natural Resources and Tourism <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FC)</i> <i>Commission de l'environnement, des ressources naturelles et du tourisme</i>
EKOMBE MPETSI, Toussaint (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Social-Cultural Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDC)</i> <i>Commission Socio-culturelle</i>
MBUKU LAKA, Boris (Mr./M.) Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>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)</i> <i>Commission économique et financière et de contrôle budgétaire</i>
MUNUBO MUBI, Juvenal (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Defence and Security <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UNC)</i> <i>Commission de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
KANIKA SUMBAYI, Philibert (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser/Coordinator, Research Office of the National Assembly <i>Conseiller Coordonnateur du Bureau d'études de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MUTUMBE MBUYA, Crispin (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Parliamentarian Adviser, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Conseiller parlementaire du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
KATAKO MASUDI, Josué (Mr./M.)	Head of Cabinet to the First Vice-President of the Senate <i>Chef de Cabinet du Premier Vice-Président du Sénat</i>
KABANGU DIBA NSESE, François (Mr./M.)	Adviser/Coordinator, Research Office of the Senate, Administrative Secretary of the Group <i>Conseiller Coordonnateur du Bureau d'études du Sénat, Secrétaire administratif du Groupe</i>

(FC: Congo's Foundation / Fondation du Congo)
(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti des Démocrates Chrétiens)
(ARC: Alliance for Congo's Renewal / Alliance pour le renouveau du Congo)
(UNC: Union for the Congolese Nation / Union pour la Nation Congolaise)

DENMARK - DANEMARK

HAV, Orla (Mr./M.) 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 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>
NORDQVIST, Rasmus (Mr./M.)	Member of the Danish Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement danois</i>
SØNDERGAARD, Søren (Mr./M.)	Member of the Danish Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement danois</i>
BRAMSEN, Trine (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Danish Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement danois</i>
CALLESEN, Jan Rytikjaer (Mr./M.)	Member of the Danish Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement danois</i>
HANSEN, Flemming Kordt (Mr./M.)	Secretary <i>Secrétaire</i>
FINSEN, Kenneth (Mr./M.)	Secretary <i>Secrétaire</i>

(SD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

DJIBOUTI

MOHAMED DAOUD, Ali (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly Deputy Chair of the High Court of Justice Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FRUD)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Haute Cour de justice</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
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SAID GOUMANEH, Hassan (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Parliamentary Immunities, Legislation and General Administration <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSD)</i> <i>Commission des immunités parlementaires, de la législation et de l'administration générale</i>
BOULHAN HOUSSEIN, Nima (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
AHMED ELM, Deka (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Legislation and General Administration <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RPP)</i> <i>Commission de la législation et de l'administration générale</i>

(FRUD: Front for Restoration of Unity and Democracy / Front pour la restauration de l'unité et la démocratie)
(PSD: Djibouti Social-Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate de Djibouti)
(RPP: People's Rally for Progress / Rassemblement populaire pour le progrès)

DOMINICAN REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE DOMINICAINE

SUÁREZ DÍAZ, Víctor Valdemar (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Justice Committee Gender Committee Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PLD)</i> <i>Commission de la justice</i> <i>Commission de l'égalité entre les sexes</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
ARIAS MEDRANO, Orfelina Liseloth (Mrs./Mme) Co-ordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians / <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies International Affairs Committee Justice Committee Human Development Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PLD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires internationales</i> <i>Commission de la justice</i> <i>Commission du développement humain</i>
FERMÍN NUESÍ, Graciela (Mrs./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale</i>	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Human Rights Committee Education Committee Technology Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PLD)</i> <i>Commission des droits de l'homme</i> <i>Commission de l'éducation</i> <i>Commission de la technologie</i>

(PLD: Dominican Liberation Party / Parti de la libération dominicaine)

ECUADOR – EQUATEUR

BUSTAMANTE, Fernando (Mr./M.) Second Vice-President of the GRULAC, Leader of the delegation <i>Deuxième Vice-Président du GRULAC, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (AP)</i>
VICUÑA, Alejandra (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MACHUCA, Linda (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (AP)</i>
OCLES PADILLA, Alexandra (Ms./Mme) Coordinating committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (AP)</i>
RIVAS, Libia (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>

(AP: Alianza País)

EL SALVADOR

MATA, Guillermo (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly President of the Environment Committee Health Committee <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée législative (FMLN)</i> <i>Président de la Commission de l'environnement</i> <i>Commission de la santé</i>
MERINO, Jose Francisco (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Rapporteur of the Budget and Special Finance Committee Environment Committee Economy Committee <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée législative (CN)</i> <i>Rapporteur de la Commission du budget et de la finance spéciale</i> <i>Commission de l'environnement</i> <i>Commission de l'économie</i>
QUIJANO, Norman (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Legislative Assembly Health Committee Municipal Affairs Committee <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée législative (ARENA)</i> <i>Commission de la santé</i> <i>Commission des affaires municipales</i>
SOSA, Karina (Mrs./Mme) 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 Legislative Assembly President of the External Relations Committee Family, Children and Adolescents Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée législative (FMLN)</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des relations extérieures</i> <i>Commission de la famille, de l'enfance et de l'adolescence</i>
ROSALES, Iván (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director <i>Directeur</i>

(FMLN: Farabundo Marti National Liberation Front / Front de libération nationale Farabundo Marti)

(ARENA: National Republican Alliance / Alliance nationale républicaine)

(CN: Concertación Nacional)

EQUATORIAL GUINEA - GUINEE EQUATORIALE

MOHABA MESU, Gaudencio (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Président de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)</i>
NVO OLUY, Feliciano (Mr./M.)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)</i>
MANGUE ESIMI, Juliana (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PDGE)</i>
ELA NTUGU NSA, Atannasio (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
ESONO EKUA, Bienvenido (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Chamber of Deputies <i>Secrétaire général, Chambre des Députés</i>
NSUE NDONG, Basilio (Mr./M.) Aide de camp to the Speaker <i>Aide de camp du Président</i>	
NVE MBA, José Maria (Mr./M.) Press / Presse	

(PDGE: Democratic Party of Equatorial Guinea / Parti Démocratique de Guinée Equatoriale)

ESTONIA - ESTONIE

KÜTT, Helmen (Mrs./Mme) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Estonian Parliament Social Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Parlement estonien (PSD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires sociales</i>
TUUS-LAUL, Marika (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Estonian Parliament Social Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Parlement estonien (ECeP)</i> <i>Commission des affaires sociales</i>

ALAJÕE, Maria (Mrs./Mme)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, The Estonian Parliament
Secrétaire général, Parlement estonien

MÕTSLA, Anu (Ms./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, International Relations
Conseillère, Relations internationales

LUMISTE, Taavo (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

MONTONEN, Veikko (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

PUNG, Andre (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)
(ECeP: Estonian Centre Party / Parti estonien du centre)

ETHIOPIA - ETHIOPIE

GEBREHIWOT, Kassa (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the House of the Federation
Membre de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)

AYENEW, Worku (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of the Federation
Membre de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)

WAKO, Lemma (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of the Federation
Membre de la Chambre de la Fédération (EPRDF)

DERA, Debebe (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, House of the Federation
Secrétaire général, Chambre de la Fédération

GEBRE, Negus (Mr./M.)

Secretary General, House of Peoples' Representatives
Secrétaire général, Chambre des Représentants du Peuple

NEREA, Gebru (Mr./M.)

Secretary, House of the Federation
Secrétaire, Chambre de la Fédération

HAYMANOT, Gelaw (Mrs./Mme)

Secretary, House of Peoples' Representatives
Secrétaire, Chambre des Représentants du Peuple

(EPRDF: Ethiopian People's Revolutionary Democratic Front / Front populaire démocratique révolutionnaire de l'Éthiopie)

FIJI – FIDJI

LUVENI, Jiko (Mrs./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Speaker of Parliament
Présidente du Parlement

NADALO, Ruveni (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of Parliament
Vice-Président du Parlement

NAMOSIMALUA, Veniana (Mrs./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement

KHAN, Nazhat Shameem (Mrs./Mme)
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Ambassadeur/Représentante permanente

PRATAP, Agenda A. (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

FINLAND - FINLANDE

URPILAINEN, Jutta (Ms./Mme)
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PSD)

MATTILA, Pirkko (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PS)

RÄSÄNEN, Päivi (Mrs./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PDC)

YANAR, Ozan (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (Mpg)

TUOVINEN, Timo (Mr./M.)

Deputy Secretary-General, Parliament
Secrétaire général adjoint, Parlement

VUOSIO, Teemu (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseiller, Relations internationales, Parlement

HUTTUNEN, Marja (Ms./Mme)
Deputy Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire adjointe du Groupe

Adviser, Parliament
Conseillère, Parlement

KAIRAMO, Päivi (Ms./Mme)
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente

MUSTONEN, Juha (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(PS: The Finns Party / Parti des Finlandais)

(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)

(Mpg: Green Party / Les Verts)

FRANCE

ANDRÉ, Michèle (Mrs./Mme)
President of the Group, Co-ordinating Committee
of Women Parliamentarians, Leader of the
delegation
*Présidente du Groupe, Comité de coordination des
femmes parlementaires, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Senate
Chair of the Finance Committee
Membre du Sénat (PS)
Présidente de la Commission des finances

DURRIEU, Josette (Mrs./Mme)
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and
International Security
*Bureau de la Commission permanente
de la paix et de la sécurité internationale*

Member of the Senate
Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Membre du Sénat (PS)
*Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires
étrangères*

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
Member of the Senate
Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Armed Forces
Membre du Sénat (R)
*Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et des
forces armées*

DEL PICCHIA, Robert (Mr./M.)
Member of the Executive Committee
Membre du Comité exécutif

BONNETON, Michèle (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Economic Affairs Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (VEC)
Commission des affaires économiques

GUITTET, Chantal (Mrs./Mme)
Committee on Middle East Questions
Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient

Member of the National Assembly
Committee on Foreign Affairs
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PS)
Secrétaire de la Commission des affaires étrangères

JANQUIN, Serge (Mr./M.)

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 (R)
Commission des affaires étrangères

DUMONT, Laurence (Mrs./Mme)
Advisor / *Conseillère*

First Vice-President of the National Assembly
Law Committee
Première Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (PS)
Commission des lois

RAYNAL, Claude (Mr./M.)
Advisor / *Conseiller*

Member of the Senate
Finance Committee
Membre du Sénat (PS)
Commission des finances

PALLEZ, Christophe (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

LUQUIENS, Corinne (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire générale, Assemblée nationale</i>
KADI, Michèle (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, Senate <i>Secrétaire générale adjointe, Sénat</i>
EIFERMANN, Didier (Mr./M.) Executive Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire exécutif du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
VANCE, Loïc (Mr./M.) Executive Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire exécutif du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
ROUGÉ, Bénédicte (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseillère au Sénat</i>
FAUCONNIER, Inès (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
VELASCO, Karine (Mrs./Mme) Administrative Secretary of the ASGP <i>Secrétaire administrative de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
LAURIN, Elisabeth (Mrs./Mme) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente</i>	
DESRAMAUT, Sébastien (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(PS: Socialist Party / Parti Socialiste) (UDI: Union of Democrats and Independents / Union des Démocrates et Indépendants) (R: The Republicans / Les Républicains) (VEC: Europe-Ecology-The Greens / Europe-Écologie-Les Verts)	
GABON	
ONOUVIET, Richard Auguste (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	First Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Premier Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale (PDG)</i>
ONDO METHOGO, Emmanuel (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Senate Economic Affairs Committee <i>Vice-Président du Sénat (PDG)</i> <i>Commission des affaires économiques</i>
MOULENGUI MOUELE NEE NGOUAMASSANA, Sophie (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate Law Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PDG)</i> <i>Commission des lois</i>
NZE BEKALE, Emmanuel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate Chairman of the Economic Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PDG)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des affaires économiques</i>
NZE MOUENIDIAMBOU, Josephine (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Law Committee Finance Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDG)</i> <i>Commission des lois</i> <i>Commission des finances</i>
NZENGUE MAYILA, Philippe (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité</i>	Member of the National Assembly Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, International Cooperation and National Defence <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PDG)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération internationale et de la défense nationale</i>
OWANSANGO DEACKEN, Felix (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the Senate <i>Secrétaire général du Sénat</i>
ROSSATANGA, Lygie (Mrs./Mme)	Director <i>Directrice</i>

SOU MOUNA, Edmond (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP
Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP
BORNAVES, Philippe (Mr./M.)
Aide de camp

Adviser
Conseiller
Senate / *Sénat*

(PDG: Gabonese Democratic Party / Parti Démocratique Gabonais)

GEORGIA – GEORGIE

KOBAKHIDZE, Manana (Mrs./Mme)
President of the Group, Leader of the felegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (GD)

KATCHAKHIDZE, Merab (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Human Rights and Civil Integration Committee
Diaspora and Caucasus Issues Committee
Membre du Parlement (GD-C)
Commission des droits de l'homme et de l'intégration civile
Commission de la diaspora et des questions liées au Caucase

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

Adviser, International Relations
Conseiller, Relations internationales

(GD: The Georgian Dream / Rêve géorgien)

(GD-C: The Georgian Dream-Conservatives / Rêve géorgien-Conservateurs)

GERMANY - ALLEMAGNE

ERNSTBERGER, Petra (Ms./Mme)
Coordinating Committee of Women
Parliamentarians, Leader of the delegation
Comité de coordination des femmes
Parlementaires, Chef de la délégation

Member of the German Bundestag
Membre, Bundestag allemand (SPD)

FISCHER, Axel E. (Mr./M.)

Member of the German Bundestag
Budget Committee
Membre, Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU)
Commission du budget

UHL, Hans-Peter (Mr./M.)

Member of the German Bundestag
Committee on Foreign Affairs
Subcommittee on Civilian Crisis Prevention and
Integrated Conflict Management
Spokesman of the Subcommittee on Disarmament,
Arms Control and Non-Proliferation
Membre, Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU)
Commission des affaires étrangères
Sous-Commission de la prévention civile des crises,
et du règlement des conflits
Porte-parole, Sous-Commission du désarmement,
la maîtrise des armements et la non-prolifération

WINKELMEIER-BECKER, Elisabeth (Ms./Mme)

Member of the German Bundestag
Committee on Legal Affairs and Consumer Protection
Membre, Bundestag allemand (CDU/CSU)
Commission des affaires légales et de la protection
des consommateurs

SCHÖLER, Ulrich (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Deputy Secretary-General, German Bundestag
Secrétaire général adjoint, Bundestag allemand

BRAMMER, Claudia (Ms./Mme)
Assistant to the delegation,
Assistante de la délégation

Division of International Parliamentary Assemblies
Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales

TEPASSE, Nicole (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Adviser, German Bundestag
Division of International Parliamentary Assemblies
Conseillère, Bundestag allemand
Division des Assemblées parlementaires internationales

(SPD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(CDU/CSU: Christian Democratic Union/Christian Social Union / Union chrétienne démocrate/Union chrétienne sociale)

GHANA

ADJAHO, Edward Korbly Doe (Mr./M.)
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Speaker of Parliament
Président du Parlement (NDC)

BAFFOUR AWUAH, Ignatius (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Second Deputy Minority Whip
Finance Committee
Membre du Parlement (NPP)
Deuxième chef adjoint de la minorité parlementaire
Commission des finances

IBRAHIM, Ahmed (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Second Deputy Majority Whip
Membre du Parlement (NDC)
Deuxième chef adjoint de la majorité parlementaire

KYEI-MENSAH-BONSU, Osei (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Minority Leader
Membre du Parlement (NPP)
Chef de la minorité

SOWAH, Della (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Deputy Minister of State
Membre du Parlement (NDC)
Vice-Ministre d'Etat

ANYIMADU, Emmanuel (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Secretary General, Parliament
Secrétaire général, Parlement

BREFO BOATENG, Evelyn (Ms./Mme)

Director
Directrice

(NDC: National Democratic Congress / Congrès démocratique national)

(NPP: New Patriotic Party / Nouveau parti patriotique)

GREECE - GRECE

TRIANAFYLLOU, Maria (Mrs./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the Hellenic Parliament
Standing Committee on Cultural and Educational Affairs
Standing Committee on National Defence and Foreign Affairs
Membre du Parlement hellénique (SYRIZA)
Commission permanente des affaires culturelles et éducatives
Commission permanente de la défense nationale et des affaires étrangères

HATZIDAKIS, Konstantinos (Mr./M.)

Member of the Hellenic Parliament
Standing Committee on Economic Affairs
Membre du Parlement hellénique (ND)
Commission permanente des affaires économiques

KARAGIANNIS, Ioannis (Mr./M.)

Member of the Hellenic Parliament
Standing Committee on Production and Trade
Membre du Parlement hellénique (SYRIZA)
Commission permanente de la production et du commerce

ATHANASIOU, Konstantinos (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

KARTSAKLI, Aikaterini (Mrs./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

TSOUNI, Foteini (Mr./M.)
Adviser / *Conseiller*

(SYRIZA: Coalition for the Radical Left / Coalition de la gauche radicale)

(ND: New Democracy / Nouvelle démocratie)

GUINEA - GUINEE

FOFANA, Louceny (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 (RPG/AEC)</i>
SYLLA, El Hadj Dembo (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Political Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UFDG)</i> <i>Commission Politique</i>
TAATA BAH, Mariama (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Industries and Mines <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Commission de l'industrie et des mines (UFDG)</i>
DIAKITÉ, Bakary (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (RPG)</i>
YAYA, Barry Saïkou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
SAGNO, Jean Edouard (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Director, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>

(RPG/AEC: 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)

GUINEA-BISSAU - GUINEE-BISSAU

TONARES, Antonio Inacio (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the People's National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale populaire (PAIGC)</i>
CASSAMÁ, Almame (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's National Assembly Committee on Agriculture, Fisheries, Tourism and Environment <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale populaire (PAIGC)</i> <i>Commission de l'agriculture, de la pêche, du tourisme</i> <i>et de l'environnement</i>
INDEQUI, Matilde (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the People's National Assembly Women's Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale populaire (PAIGC)</i> <i>Commission des femmes</i>
DOS SANTOS, Nicolau (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's National Assembly Special Committee on Health <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale populaire (PRS)</i> <i>Commission spéciale de la santé</i>
RODRIGUES DA FONSECA, José Carlós (Mr./M.)	Secretary General, People's National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale populaire</i>
SANHÁ, Ansumane (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary <i>Secrétaire administratif</i>	Director, President's Executive Office, People's National Assembly <i>Directeur, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i> <i>populaire</i>

(PAIGC: African Party for the Independence of Guinea and Cape Verde / Parti africain pour l'indépendance de la Guinée et
du Cap-Vert)
(PRS: Party for Social Renovation / Parti de la rénovation sociale)

HAITI

ANDRIS, Riché (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat (OPL)</i>
DELACRUZ, Francisco (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (OPL)</i>
PIERRE ROCHETTE, Marie Myrtille (Mrs./Mme)	Advisor / <i>Conseillère</i>

(OPL: Organisation Peuple en Lutte)

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)</i> Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères
BARTOS, Mónika (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Foreign Affairs Committee on Sustainable Development <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (FIDESz)</i> Commission des affaires étrangères Commission du développement durable
GYÖNGYÖSI, Márton (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Vice Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Jobbik)</i> Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères
JÓZSA, István (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on European Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MSZP)</i> Commission des affaires européennes
SUCH, György (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
ÁDÁM SOMFAI, Katalin (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
(FIDESz: Hungarian Civic Union / Union civique hongroise) (Jobbik: Movement for a Better Hungary / Mouvement pour une meilleure Hongrie) (MSZP: Hungarian Socialist Party / Parti socialiste hongrois)	

ICELAND - ISLANDE

RÍKHARÐSDÓTTIR, Ragnheiður (Mrs./Mme) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (IP)</i>
DADASON, Asmundur Einar (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament First Deputy Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (PP)</i> Premier Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères
JÓNSDÓTTIR, Birgitta (Mrs./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (P)</i>
BERNÓDUSSON, Helgi (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement</i>
AMUNDARDOTTIR, Adalheidur (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, International Relations <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales</i>
BANG, Arna (Mrs./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Parliament <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Parlement</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>Présidente du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the House of the People <i>Présidente de la Chambre du peuple</i>
SHANKARLAL JAIN, Ishwarlal (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (NCP)</i>
RAMAKRISHNA, Rangasayee (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (BJP)</i>
SINGH, Nagendra (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>
SINGH, Raj Kumar (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale</i>	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>
HARI BABU, Kambhupati (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (BJP)</i>
KOTHAPALLI, Geetha (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (YSRCP)</i>
SATHYABAMA, V. (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (AIADMK)</i>
CHAUTALA, Dushyant (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of the People <i>Membre de la Chambre du peuple (INLD)</i>
GOWDA, M.V. Rajeev (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre du Conseil des Etats (INC)</i>
MISHRA, Anoop (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, House of the People <i>Secrétaire général, Chambre du peuple</i>
SHERIFF, Shumsher K. (Mr./M.) Executive Member of the ASGP <i>Membre exécutif de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Council of States <i>Secrétaire général, Conseil des Etats</i>
TATED, Sunil (Mr./M.)	Principal Secretary to the Speaker, House of the People <i>Secrétaire principal de la Présidente, Chambre du peuple</i>
JOHN, Cyril (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Joint Secretary, House of the People <i>Co-Secrétaire, Chambre du peuple</i>
JASON, S. (Mr./M.)	Director, Secretariat, Council of States <i>Directeur, Secrétariat du Conseil des Etats</i>
MUNSHI, Ajay Kumar (Mr./M.)	Director, Secretariat, House of the People <i>Directeur, Secrétariat de la Chambre du peuple</i>
RAMANA, L.V. (Mr./M.)	Additional Director, Secretariat, House of the People <i>Directeur supplémentaire, Secrétariat de la Chambre du peuple</i>
KSHIRSAGAR, Pankaj Vishnu (Mr./M.)	OSD to the Speaker, House of the People <i>Secrétaire de la Présidente de la Chambre du peuple</i>
KUMAR, Praveen (Mr./M.)	Assistant Director, Council of States <i>Directeur adjoint, Conseil des Etats</i>
ROY, Rashmi (Ms./Mme)	Protocol Officer, Secretariat, House of the People <i>Chargée du protocole, Secrétariat de la Chambre du peuple</i>
BIST, Umesh (Mr./M.)	Liaison Officer, Secretariat, House of the People <i>Attaché de liaison, Secrétariat de la Chambre du peuple</i>
MISHRA, Vijay (Mr./M.)	Liaison Officer, Secretariat, House of the People <i>Attaché de liaison, Secrétariat de la Chambre du peuple</i>

(NCP: Nationalist Congress Party / Parti du Congrès nationaliste)

(BJP: Bharatiya Janata Party / Parti Bharatiya Janata)

(YSRCP: Yuvajana Sramika Rythu Congress Party)

(AIADMK: All India Anna Dravida Munnetra Kazhagam)

(INLD: Indian National Lok Dal)

(INC: Indian National Congress / Parti du Congrès national indien)

INDONESIA - INDONESIE

ZON, Fadli (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Vice-Président de la Chambre des Représentants (Gerindra)</i>
ASSEGAF, Nurhayati (Mrs./Mme) Committee to Promote Respect for IHL <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Chairperson of the Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (Golkar) Présidente de la Commission de la coopération interparlementaire</i>
ASOKAWATI, Okky (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation/ Committee IX <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PPP) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire/Commission IX</i>
ABDULLAH, Alimin (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation/Committee I <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PAN) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire/Commission I</i>
HADIATIE, Dwie Aroem (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation/ Committee VI <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (Golkar) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire/Commission VI</i>
HAMDANI, Hamdani (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation/Committee I <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (NDP) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire/Commission I</i>
KIEMAS, Nazaruddin (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PDI-P)</i>
NURSANTY, Evita (Mrs./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des Affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation/Committee I <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PDI-P) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire/Commission I</i>
JUWAINI, Jazuli (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives Committee for Inter-Parliamentary Cooperation <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PKS) Commission de la coopération interparlementaire</i>
SWASANANI, Winantuningtyastiti (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général, Chambre des Représentants</i>
RETNOASTUTI, Endah Td (Mrs./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Secretary General, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire générale, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ALFIAH, Warsiti (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the ASGP delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ZAMRY, Hasby Muhammad (Mr./M.) Aide de camp to the Leader of the delegation <i>Aide de camp du Chef de la délégation</i>	Adviser, President's Executive Office, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Cabinet du Président, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ANGGORO, Heriyono Adi (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>

PURWANTO, Isnu (Mr./M.) Secretary to the Leader of the delegation <i>Secrétaire du Chef de la délégation</i>	Adviser, President's Executive Office, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Cabinet du Président, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ISWANTO, Andi (Mr./M.) Secretary to the ASGP delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP</i>	Officer, President's Executive Office, House of Representatives <i>Fonctionnaire, Cabinet du Président, Chambre des Représentants</i>
SETIADI, Bayu (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Chambre des Représentants</i>
SARTOMO, Sartomo (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>
TRIANA, Adek (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>
ILYAS, Muhammad (Mr./M.)	Parliamentary Staff / <i>Secrétariat du Parlement</i>
MULYONO, Pauline Theresa (Ms./Mme) Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	Adviser, House of Representatives <i>Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants</i>
MULYADI, Mohammad (Mr./M.) Secretary to the ASGP delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser, Research Office, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Service de recherche, Chambre des Représentants</i>
SOLIHIN, Nurman (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
HIDAYAT, Rahmat (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
(Gerindra: Great Indonesia Movement Party / Mouvement pour une grande Indonésie) (Golkar: Party of Functional Groups / Parti des groupes fonctionnels) (PPP: United Development Party / Parti du développement uni) (PAN: National Mandate Party / Parti du mandat national) (NDP: National Democratic Party / Parti national démocratique) (PDI-P: Indonesian Democratic Party-Struggle / Parti démocrate indonésien en lutte) (PKS: Prosperous Justice Party / Parti de la justice et de la prospérité)	

IRAN (ISLAMIC REPUBLIC OF) - IRAN (REPUBLIQUE ISLAMIQUE D')

DASTGHEIB, Seyed Ahmad Reza (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	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>
JALALI, Kazem (Mr./M.)	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>
HOSSEINI SADR, Moayed (Mr./M.) Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, Secretary General of the Group <i>Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale, Secrétaire général du Groupe</i>	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>
JAHANGIRZADEH, Javad (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 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>
RAHBAR, Fatemeh (Mrs./Mme)	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>
JALILI, Esmaeel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>

NEMATI, Behrouz (Mr./M.)	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
MANSOURI, Abbasali (Mr./M.)	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
BAGHERI, Mohammad (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Membre du Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
AFRASHTEH, Ali (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
SHEIKHOLESLAM, Hossein (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
GHASSEMPOUR, Amir Abbas (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary <i>Secrétaire administratif</i>	Deputy Director, International Relations, Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Directeur adjoint, Relations internationales, Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
GHASHGHAZI, Mehdi (Mr./M.)	Director, Protocol, Islamic Parliament of Iran <i>Directeur, Protocole, Parlement islamique d'Iran</i>
SHAKERIAN (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	
IRAQ	
ALI, Aram (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 (G)</i>
AL-ASADI, Dhiaa (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Foreign Relations Committee <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq (SM) Commission des relations étrangères</i>
AL-ISAWI, Salem (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Parliamentary Integrity Committee <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq (AAC) Commission de l'intégrité parlementaire</i>
TALABANI, Ala (Mrs./Mme) Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Human Rights Committee <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq (PUK) Commission des droits de l'homme</i>
ALIBRAHIMI, Fared (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of Representatives of Iraq Committee Clans <i>Membre du Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq (SLC) Commission des clans</i>
MAJID, Ayad (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Secrétaire général, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
MOHAMMED, Salam (Mr./M.)	Director, Protocol, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Directeur, Protocole, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
AL-RUBAYE, Saad (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Chargé du protocole, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
MOHAMED, Fawzi (Mr./M.)	Secretary, International Relations, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Secrétaire, Relations internationales, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
MOHAMMED, Aram (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
AL-FREDAN, Anahid (Mrs./Mme)	Secretary, Council of Representatives of Iraq <i>Secrétaire, Conseil des représentants de l'Iraq</i>
MAHDI, Muqdad (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	

(G: Gorran)
 (SM: Sadrist Movement / Mouvement sadriste)
 (AAC: Al-Arabiya Coalition / Coalition al-Arabiya)
 (PUK: Patriotic Union of Kurdistan / Union patriotique du Kurdistan)
 (SLC: State of Law Coalition / Coalition pour l'état de droit)

IRELAND - IRLANDE

BURKE, Paddy (Mr./M.)
 Group of Facilitators for Cyprus,
 Leader of the delegation
*Groupe de facilitateurs concernant Chypre,
 Chef de la délégation*

KITT, Michael (Mr./M.)

KEANE, Cait (Ms./Mme)

MCGINLEY, Dennis (Mr./M.)

WALL, John (Mr./M.)

KELLY, Paul (Mr./M.)
 Adviser and Secretary to delegation
Conseiller et Secrétaire de la délégation

MATHEWS, Bernadette (Ms./Mme)

(FG: Fine Gael Party)
 (FF: Fianna Fail Party)
 (L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

Speaker of the Senate
Président du Sénat (FG)

Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
Vice-Président de la Chambre des Représentants (FF)

Member of the Senate
Membre du Sénat (FG)

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FG)

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (L)

Adviser, International Relations, House of
 Representatives
*Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre
 des Représentants*

Secretary / *Secrétaire*

ITALY - ITALIE

MARTINO, Antonio (Mr./M.)
 President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

CASINI, Pier Ferdinando (Mr./M.)
 Honorary IPU President
Président honoraire de l'UIP

MONTEVECCHI, Michela (Ms./Mme)

FARINA, Gianni (Mr./M.)
 Committee on Middle East Questions
Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient

LOCATELLI, Pia Eida (Ms./Mme)

MIGLIORE, Gennaro (Mr./M.)

RADONI, Susanna (Ms./Mme)
 Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

REGAZZONI, Carlo (Mr./M.)

SORBELLO, Sandro (Mr./M.)
 Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

LASORSA, Antonella (Ms./Mme)
 Interpreter / *Interprète*

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Defence Committee

*Membre de la Chambre des Députés (FI-PL-BP)
 Commission de la défense*

Member of the Senate

Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee

Membre du Sénat (NCD-UDC)

Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères

Member of the Senate

Education and Culture Committee

Membre du Sénat (M5s)

Commission de l'éducation et de la culture

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Foreign Affairs Committee

Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PD)

Commission des affaires étrangères

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Foreign Affairs Committee

Membre de la Chambre des Députés (Misto)

Commission des affaires étrangères

Member of the Chamber of Deputies

Chair of the Migration Committee

Membre de la Chambre des Députés (PD)

Présidente de la Commission des migrations

Adviser, Protocol, Chamber of Deputies

Conseillère, Protocole, Chambre des Députés

Political Adviser to Mr. Casini

Conseiller politique de M. Casini

Protocol, Chamber of Deputies

Protocole, Chambre des Députés

Chamber of Deputies

Chambre des Députés

OLMEDA, Claudio (Mr./M.)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Senate
Sénat

(FI-PL-BP: Forza Italia - Il Popolo della Libertà - Berlusconi Presidente)
(NCD-UDC: Area Popolare)
(M5s: Five Stars Movement / Mouvement cinq étoiles)
(PD: Democratic Party / Parti démocrate)
(Misto: Partito Socialista Italiano - Liberali per l'Italia)

JAPAN - JAPON

SUZUKI, Shunichi (Mr./M.)
Member of the Executive Committee, Leader
of the delegation
Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (LDP)

KATO, Toshiyuki (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Councillors
Membre de la Chambre des Conseillers (DPJ)

NISHIMURA, Chinami (Ms./Mme)

Member of the House of Representatives
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (DPJ)

HAYASHIYAMA, Yasuhiko (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Director, House of Representatives
Directeur, Chambre des Représentants

NISHIKOBE, Natsuko (Ms./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

TATSUMI, Kenji (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseiller, Chambre des Représentants

KURATA, Yasuo (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Director, House of Councillors
Directeur, Chambre des Conseillers

OGAWA, Akiko (Ms./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

SHINOKUBO, Yoko (Ms./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

HIGUCHI, Mariko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

OYAMADA, Nana (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

SAWADA, Naoko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

KIKUCHI, Kyoko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

OKAMOTO, Ryoko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Chambre des Représentants

MURAKAMI (BOURGUIGNON), Setsuko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

FUJII, Keiko Graumann (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

DUGGAL-TAKAGI, Izumi (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

SHINOZAKI, Keiko (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Adviser, House of Councillors
Conseillère, Chambre des Conseillers

(LDP: Liberal Democratic Party / Parti libéral démocrate)

(DPJ: Democratic Party of Japan / Parti démocrate japonais)

JORDAN - JORDANIE

SROUR, Sa'ad (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</i>
KANAAN, Taher (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
BARHAM, Kamal (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
QARDAN, Samir (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
ALRIYATI, Tamam (Mrs./Mme) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Chair of the Youth and Sports Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission de la jeunesse et des sports</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 Agriculture and Water Committee Order and Conduct Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i> <i>Commission de l'agriculture et des ressources hydriques</i> <i>Commission de l'ordre et de la conduite</i>
ALGARAGERE, Amneh (Mrs./Mme) Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Rapporteur of the Youth and Sports Committee Member of the Education and Culture Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i> <i>Rapporteur de la Commission de la jeunesse et des sports</i> <i>Membre de la Commission de l'éducation et de la culture</i>
ALAZZEH, Najah (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
BOULAD, Merza (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
ALKHARABSHEH, Mahmoud (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
GHRIR, Hamad (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ALSHAWABKEH, Fayez (Mr./M.)	Adviser to the President of the Senate <i>Conseiller du Président du Sénat</i>
ALMASHAKBEEH, Adnan (Mr./M.)	Director, Public Relations, Senate <i>Directeur, Relations publiques, Sénat</i>
ALTARAWNEH, Hassan (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>
ZARMA, Othman (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>

KAZAKHSTAN

BIMENDINA, Assima (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Committee on Social and Cultural Development <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (Nur Otan)</i> <i>Commission du développement social et culturel</i>
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(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>	Speaker of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat</i>
K. MELLY, Isaac (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (JC)</i>

NABWALA MUKIITE, Catherine (Mrs./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>
MAKAU KINGOLA, Patrick (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MWADIME, Andrew (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
PAULATA KORERE, Sarah (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
PKOSING LOSIAKU, 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>
WA KABANDO, Kabando (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NA)</i>
M. NYEGENYE, Jeremiah (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général du Sénat</i>
KALAMA, Samuel (Mr./M.)	Secretary, International Cooperation, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire, Coopération internationale, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALI MOHAMED, Mohamed (Mr./M.)	Director <i>Directeur</i>
NJOROGE, Samuel (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, International Cooperation, National Assembly <i>Directeur adjoint, Coopération internationale, Assemblée nationale</i>
EDUNG, Edward (Mr./M.)	Personal Assistant <i>Assistant particulier</i>
MOGERE, Zakayo (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Cooperation, Senate <i>Conseiller, Coopération internationale, Sénat</i>
MUPUSI, Deborah (Ms./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
OSUNDWA, Lilian (Mr./M.)	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
(JC: Jubilee Coalition / Coalition Jubilé)	
(ODM: Orange Democratic Movement / Mouvement démocratique orange)	
(URP: United Republican Party / Parti républicain uni)	
(NA: The National Alliance / Alliance nationale)	

KUWAIT - KOWEIT

ALGHANIM, Marzouq (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALAZMI, Saif (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ABDULLAH ABUL, Khalil (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALHAJRI, Madhi (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSHAYA, Faisal (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALROWAIE, 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>
AL SABEEH, Hind (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly, Minister of Social Affairs, Labour and Planning <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Ministre des affaires sociales, du travail et de la planification</i>

ALKANDARI, Allam (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALHARBAN, Talal (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALMANAH, Saeed (Mr./M.)	Officer, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALENEZI, Meshal (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALEIDAN, Tariq (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALAWADHI, Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALAYYAR, Reham (Mrs./Mme)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALMONEEFI, Jamal (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSABTI, Abdulhakim (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
BOHAMDI, Ahmad (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
FARDAN, Amer (Mr./M.)	Officer, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
JAMAL, Hussain (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
BEHBEHANI, Ahmad (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSOBAIE, Meslet (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSAMHAN, Solaiman (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
ALSOBAIE, Sarah (Mrs./Mme)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
SHESHTRI, Bader (Mr./M.)	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
AL NUSF, Jassim (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ABDULKAREEM, Hana (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALMONAYIKH, Fahad (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALMOTAWWA, Amal (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALOTABI, Dana (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALFANDI, Rashid (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
OBAID, Reyad (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
BADDAH, Rabab (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
YOUSEF, Raed (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALNABHAN, Lafi (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
AMER, Mohyey (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MATER, Hamad (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALOMAR, Othman (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
ALDOWAIRI, Hind (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>
QAMBAR, Bader (Mr./M.)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale</i>

ALSANAD, Mohammad (Mr./M.)

Secretary, National Assembly
*Secrétaire à l'Assemblée nationale*ALFARIS, Solaiman (Mr./M.)
Press / *Presse*ALDOWAIHI, Nasser (Mr./M.)
Press / *Presse***LAO PEOPLE'S DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC - REPUBLIQUE DEMOCRATIQUE POPULAIRE LAO**AKHAMOUNTRY, Koukeo (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
*Chef de la délégation*Member of the National Assembly
Chairman of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP)
Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères

SENGSOULYYA, Thatsadaphone (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Vice-Chairperson of the Women Parliamentarians
Caucus
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LPRP)
Vice-Présidente du Forum des femmes parlementaires
Deputy Director, Foreign Affairs, National Assembly
Directeur adjoint, Affaires étrangères, Assemblée nationale

ANOTHAY, Khemphone (Mr./M.)

VICHITAVONG, Soukhsavanh (Mrs./Mme)
Adviser / *Conseillère*
SOUPHANOUVONG, Kalamoungkhoun (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(LPRP: Lao People's Revolutionary Party / Parti populaire révolutionnaire lao)

LATVIA - LETTONIEMIRSKIS, Sergejs (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
*Chef de la délégation*Member of Parliament
Foreign Affairs Committee
Citizenship, Migration and Social Cohesion Committee
Membre du Parlement (C)
Commission des affaires étrangères
Commission de la citoyenneté, de la migration et de la cohésion sociale

SUDRABA, Inguna (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Budget and Finance (Taxation) Committee
Public Expenditure and Audit Committee
Membre du Parlement (NsL)
Commission du budget et des finances (taxation)
Commission des dépenses publiques et d'évaluation

SICS, Martins (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Social and Employment Matters Committee
Public Expenditure and Audit Committee
Membre du Parlement (LRA)
Commission des questions sociales et de l'emploi
*Commission des dépenses publiques et d'évaluation*PAURA, Sandra (Mrs./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
*Secrétaire du Groupe*Director
Directrice

(C: Concord Parliamentary Group / Groupe parlementaire Concorde)

(NsL: For Latvia from the Heart / De tout cœur pour la Lettonie)

(LRA: Latvian Regional Alliance / Alliance des régions lettones)

LEBANON - LIBANBERRY, Nabih (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
*Chef de la délégation*Speaker of the National Assembly
Président de l'Assemblée nationale

ZOUËIN, Gilberte (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Chairwoman of the Women and Child Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
Présidente de la Commission de la femme et de l'enfant

JABER, Yassine (Mr./M.)
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable
Development, Finance and Trade
*Bureau de la Commission permanente du
développement durable, du financement et du
commerce*

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

EL-SHABB, Basem (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

DAHER, Adnan (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

BERRY, Mahmoud (Mr./M.)

Adviser to the Speaker of the National Assembly
Conseiller du Président de l'Assemblée nationale

CHARARA, Bilal (Mr./M.)

Secretary General, Foreign Affairs
Secrétaire général des affaires étrangères

HAMAD, Ali (Mr./M.)

Director General, Speaker's Affairs, National Assembly
*Directeur général des affaires de la Présidence,
Assemblée nationale*

FAWAZ, Fouad (Mr./M.)

Adviser, President's Executive Office, National Assembly
Conseiller, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale

BALLOUT, Mohamad (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

Head, Press Department, National Assembly
*Ched du Département de la presse de l'Assemblée
nationale*

FAWAZ, Ali (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

NOUREDDINE, Ali (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

MOHAMMAD, Issam (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

MARMAL, Imad (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

AKIL, Radwan (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

TARCHICHI, Tarek (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

NASSIF, Nicolas (Mr./M.)
Press / Presse

EL-CHEIKH ALI, Adnan (Mr./M.)
Security Officer
Agent de sécurité

CHEAIB, Youssef (Mr./M.)
Security Officer
Agent de sécurité

HAMZA, Khodr (Mr./M.)
Security Officer
Agent de sécurité

LESOTHO

MOTSAMAI, Ntlhoi (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*

Speaker of the National Assembly
Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (DC)

HOOHLO, Futho (Mr./M.)

Vice-President of the Senate, Chairperson of the
Millenium Development Goals Committee, Business
Committee, Committee on Standing Orders and Staff /
*Vice-Président du Sénat (ABC), Président de la
Commission des OMD, Comité directeur, Commission du
règlement et du personnel*

LINEO, Molise-Mabusela (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Chair of the Law and Public Safety Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des lois et de la sécurité publique</i>
THABANG, Pheko (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Economic Cluster Law and Public Safety Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (LCD)</i> <i>Commission de l'économie</i> <i>Commission du droit et de la sécurité publique</i>
FINE LEBOHANG, Maema (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
KATLEHO, Mabeleng (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Assistant, National Assembly <i>Aide de camp, Assemblée nationale</i>
PHOOKO, Marinah (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Head, Senate Hansard Section <i>Chef, Section du hansard du Sénat</i>

(ABC: All Basotho Convention (Kobo-Tata) / Convention des Basotho)

LIECHTENSTEIN

LANTER-KOLLER, Violanda (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Diet <i>Vice-Présidente, Diète (VU)</i>
BÜCHEL, Helmuth (Mr./M.)	Member of the Diet <i>Membre, Diète (FBP)</i>
WACHTER, Gabriele (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Officer, Diet <i>Fonctionnaire, Diète</i>

(VU: Patriotic Union / Union patriotique)

(FBP: Progressive Citizens' Party / Parti des citoyens progressistes)

LITHUANIA - LITUANIE

GAPSYS, Vytautas (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation, Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU <i>Chef de la délégation, Conseil du Forum</i> <i>des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of Parliament Committee on Legal Affairs <i>Membre du Parlement (L)</i> <i>Commission des affaires juridiques</i>
RAUDONIENE, Daiva (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire générale, Parlement</i>
SUMSKIENE, Laura (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Parliament <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Parlement</i>

(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

MADAGASCAR

RAZANAMAHASOA, Christine Harijaona (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly Legal Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission juridique</i>
TSABOTOKAY, Honoré (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Environment, Ecology and Forestry <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission de l'environnement, de l'écologie et des forêts</i>
RABEMANANJARA, Célestine (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Infrastructures and Equipment Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission de l'infrastructure et de l'équipement</i>

RANDRIA, Joseph Lucien (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Public Health Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission de la santé publique</i>
ANGELE, Solange (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Energy and Water Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Ind)</i> <i>Commission de l'énergie et de l'eau</i>
ZAFIMAHATRATRA, Abel (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Public Works Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission des travaux publics</i>
KATHY (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Public Health Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission de la santé publique</i>
RANDRIANASOLO, Jean Nicolas (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly National Defence Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MAPAR)</i> <i>Commission de la défense nationale</i>
BEFOUROUACK, William (Mr./M.) Coordinator of the delegation, Member of the ASGP <i>Coordonnateur de la délégation,</i> <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
(MAPAR: Miaraka Aminny Prezida Andry Rajoelina) (Ind: Independent / Indépendant)	

MALAYSIA - MALAISIE

WEE, Ka Siong (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 (MCA)</i>
MOHAMED, Khairiah (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PAS)</i>
KIM SEN, Chai (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
DATU MANSUR, Datu Nasrun (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (UMNO)</i>
TING HAN, Lee (Mr./M.)	Special Officer to Mr. Wee <i>Assistant spécial de M. Wee</i>
KONG YIT SIN, Lester Wyeth (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Adviser, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Chambre des Représentants</i>
SAMSURI, Zamrizam (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser, International Relations, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Chambre des Représentants</i>
MUHAMMAD, Mazlan (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
RASTAM, Zahid (Mr./M.) Deputy Permanent Representative <i>Représentant permanent adjoint</i>	
AHMAD TERMIZI, Maryam Masyitah (Ms./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
ADNAN, Syuhada (Ms./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(MCA: Malaysian Chinese Association / Association sino-malaisienne) (PAS: Pan Islamic Party / Parti islamique pan-malaisien) (UMNO: United Malays National Organisation / Organisation malaisienne nationale unie)	

MALDIVES

SOLIH, Ibrahim Mohamed (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the People's Majlis <i>Membre, Majlis du Peuple (MDP)</i>
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MOHAMED, Ahmed (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP
Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, People's Majlis
Secrétaire général, Majlis du Peuple

(MDP: Maldivian Democratic Party / Parti démocratique des Maldives)

MALI

CISSE, Amadou (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation, Bureau of the Standing
Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance
and Trade
*Chef de la délégation, Bureau de la Commission
permanente du développement durable, du
financement et du commerce*

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Vice-Président de l'Assemblée Nationale (VRD)

TIMBINE, Moussa (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Law Committee
*Vice-Président de l'Assemblée Nationale (RPM)
Commission des Lois*

DRAME, Maimouna (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Labour Committee
*Membre de l'Assemblée Nationale (RPM)
Commission de l'emploi*

DIALLO, Madou (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group, Member of the ASGP
Secrétaire du Groupe, Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée Nationale

(VRD: Republican and Democratic Vigilance / Vigilance républicaine et démocratique)

(RPM: Rally for Mali / Rassemblement pour le Mali)

MAURITANIA – MAURITANIE

MOCTAR, Moulaty (Ms./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale

AMAR CHEIN, Salma (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

ELY SALEM, Zeinebou (Ms./Mme)
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Development,
Finance and Trade
*Bureau de la Commission permanente du
développement, du financement et du commerce*

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

MAURITIUS – MAURICE

DUVAL, Adrien Charles (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale

RAMPERTAB, Rajcoomar (Mr./M.)

Member and Parliamentary Secretary, National Assembly
*Membre et Secrétaire parlementaire de l'Assemblée
nationale*

AMEER MEEA, Sayed Muhammad (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

HURREE, Anandrao (Mr./M.)
Deputy Permanent Representative
Représentant permanent adjoint

MEXICO - MEXIQUE

CUEVAS, Gabriela (Mrs./Mme)
President of the Committee to Promote Respect
for IHL, Leader of the delegation
*Présidente du Comité chargé de promouvoir le
respect du DIH, Chef de la délégation*

Member of the Senate
Chairperson of the International Affairs Committee
*Membre du Sénat (PAN)
Présidente de la Commission des affaires
internationales*

DE LA PEÑA GÓMEZ, Angélica (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the Senate
Chair, Human Rights Committee
*Membre du Sénat (PRD)
Présidente de la Commission des droits de l'homme*

GUERRA, Marcela (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, North America Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PRI)</i> <i>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)</i> <i>Président de la Commission juridictionnelle</i>
ROJAS, Laura (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate Chairperson of the Foreign Affairs, International Organizations Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PAN)</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des affaires extérieures, Organisations internationales</i>

HEREDIA, Raúl (Mr./M.)
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent

VARGAS, Raúl (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(PAN: National Action Party / Parti de l'Action nationale)
(PRI: Institutional Revolutionary Party / Parti révolutionnaire institutionnel)
(PAN: National Action Party / Parti de l'Action nationale)
(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)
(PRD: Democratic Revolution Party / Parti de la révolution démocratique)

MICRONESIA (FEDERATED STATES OF) - MICRONESIE (ETATS FEDERES DE)

SIMINA, Wesley (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Congress <i>Président, Congrès</i>
ALIK, Alik (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress Vice Chairman of the Resources and Development Committee <i>Membre, Congrès</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des ressources et du développement</i>
MOSES, Esmond (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress Vice Chairman of the Education Committee <i>Membre, Congrès</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission de l'éducation</i>
FIGIR, Isaac (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress Chairman of the Ways and Means Committee <i>Membre, Congrès</i> <i>Président de la Commission des finances</i>
DANG, Tung-Lam (Mr./M.)	Legislative Counsel, Congress <i>Directeur des services juridiques, Congrès</i>
CHOOR, Andy (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, Congress <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Congrès</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>
BARILARO, Christian (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national</i>
TAVASSOLI ZEA, Mariam (Mrs./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
(HM: Monaco Horizon / Horizon Monaco)	

MONGOLIA - MONGOLIE

TSOG, Logi (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Vice-Chairman of the State Great Hural <i>Vice-Président, Grand Khoural de l'Etat</i>
BOLD, Luvsanvandan (Mr./M.)	Member of the State Great Hural, <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat</i>
HURELBAATAR, Chimed (Mr./M.)	Member of the State Great Hural <i>Membre, Grand Khoural de l'Etat</i>
NARANTUNGALAG, Tserendorj (Mr./M.)	Head of the Foreign Relations Department <i>Chef du Département des relations étrangères</i>

MOROCCO - MAROC

TALBI EL ALAMI, Rachid (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</i>
BENMASSOUD, Rachida (Ms./Mme) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Vice-Présidente de la Chambre des représentants (USFP)</i>
ELGHALI, Kenza (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Vice-Présidente de la Chambre des représentants</i>
BOUANOU, Abdellah (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PJD)</i>
TAGHOUANE, Bouamar (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PI)</i>
FARAH, Naima (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (RNI)</i>
ABDI, Rachid (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (PAM)</i>
BALLAJI, Abdeslam (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PJD)</i>
EL KHADI, Najib (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
CHAQRI, Ahmed (Mr./M.)	Head of the Office of the Speaker of the House of Representatives / <i>Chef de Cabinet du Président de la Chambre des représentants</i>
ADENNOUN, Khalid (Mr./M.)	Adviser to the Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Conseiller du Président de la Chambre des représentants</i>
EL JAFFALI, Mounir (Mr./M.)	Diplomatic Adviser, House of Councillors <i>Conseiller diplomatique, Chambre des Représentants</i>
SATRAOUY, Said (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire administratif du Groupe</i>	Head, Multilateral Relations <i>Chef de Service des relations multilatérales</i>
DRIOUCHE, Abdelwahad (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	General Counsellor, Parliamentary Diplomacy, House of Councillors <i>Conseiller général chargé de la diplomatie parlementaire, Chambre des Conseillers</i>

(USFP: Socialist Union of Popular Forces / Union socialiste de forces populaires)

(PJD: Justice and Development Party / Parti de la justice et du développement)

(PI: Istiqlal Party / Parti de l'Istiqlal)

(RNI: National Rally of Independents / Rassemblement national des indépendants)

(PAM: Authenticity and Modernity Party / Parti Authenticité et modernité)

MYANMAR

OO, Hla Myint (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the House of Representatives
Chairman of the International Relations Committee
Membre de la Chambre des représentants (USDP)
Président de la Commission des relations internationales

MU, Aye Aye (Ms./Mme)

Adviser, Commission on Legal Affairs and Special
Issues, House of Representatives
Conseillère, Commission des affaires juridiques et des
questions spécifiques, Chambre des représentants

(USDP: Union Solidarity and Development Party / Parti de la solidarité et du développement de l'Union)

NAMIBIA - NAMIBIE

KATJAVIVI, Peter H. (Mr./M.)
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Speaker of the National Assembly
Chairperson of the Standing Rules, Orders
and Internal Arrangements
Président de l'Assemblée nationale
Président de la Commission du règlement,
de la procédure et des modalités internes

MENSAH-WILLIAMS, Margaret Natalie (Mrs./Mme)
Ex-officio Member of the Executive Committee,
President of the Coordinating Committee of Women
Parliamentarians, Committee on Middle
East Questions
Membre de droit du Comité exécutif, Présidente
du Comité de coordination des femmes
parlementaires, Comité sur les questions
relatives au Moyen-Orient

Deputy Speaker of the National Council
Standing Rules and Orders Committee
Vice-Présidente du Conseil national (SWAPO)
Commission du règlement et de la procédure

NAMWANDI, Barakias (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Council
Security, Constitutional and Legal Affairs Committee
Membre du Conseil national (SWAPO)
Commission de la sécurité et des affaires
constitutionnelles et juridiques

SHILENGA, Rosalia (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Council
Chairperson of the Security, Constitutional and
Legal Affairs
Membre du Conseil national (SWAPO)
Présidente de la Commission de la sécurité et
des affaires constitutionnelles et juridiques

JAGGER, Bernadette (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Chairperson of the Human Resources and
Community Development
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SWAPO)
Présidente de la Commission des ressources
humaines et du développement des communautés

SHIKONGO, Torka V. (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Gender Equality, Social Development and Family Affairs
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UDF)
Commission de l'égalité entre les sexes, du
développement social et de la famille

SHIXWAMENI, Ignatius (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
ICT and Innovation Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (APP)
Président de la Commission de l'ICT et de l'innovation

KANDJII, Ambrosius (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement

MKUSA, Emilia (Ms./Mme)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Council
Secrétaire générale, Conseil national

JACOBS, Jakes (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

TJITENDERO, Ripuree (Ms./Mme)

Assistant, National Assembly
Assistante, Assemblée nationale

SHIPIKI, Ndapandula (Ms./Mme)
Private Secretary to the Speaker

Assistant, National Assembly
Assistante, Assemblée nationale

ISAAK, Willem H. (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Officer, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
NDEUYEEKA, Norman (Mr./M.)	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Assemblée nationale</i>
THEOFELUS, Emma (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Assemblée nationale</i>
KAUKUNGUA, Ndahafa (Ms./Mme)	Officer, Information / Media, National Assembly <i>Fonctionnaire, Informations / Médias, Assemblée nationale</i>
NAKUTWIMA, Mirjam N. (Ms./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
SHALI, Auguste (Ms./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
SHILONGO, Shafodino (Mr./M.) Security Officer <i>Agent de sécurité</i>	

(SWAPO: South West Africa People's Organization / Organisation du peuple du Sud-Ouest africain)
(UDF: United Democratic Front / Front démocratique unifié)
(APP: All Peoples Party (APP) / Parti populaire pour tous)

NETHERLANDS - PAYS-BAS

ATSMA, Joop (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate Infrastructure and Environment Committee Economic Affairs Committee Health, Welfare and Sports Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (PDC)</i> <i>Commission des infrastructures et de l'environnement</i> <i>Commission des affaires économiques</i> <i>Commission de la santé, des affaires sociales et du sport</i>
SCHRIJVER, Nico (Mr./M.) Member of the Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif</i>	Member of the Senate Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Development Cooperation European Affairs Committee Security and Justice Committee <i>Membre du Sénat (L)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense</i> <i>et de la coopération pour le développement</i> <i>Commission des affaires européennes</i> <i>Commission de la sécurité et de la justice</i>
HAMILTON, Geert Jan (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General of the Senate <i>Secrétaire général du Sénat</i>
NIEUWENHUIZEN, Bas (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director <i>Directeur</i>
GRADENWITZ, Christward (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Senate / <i>Sénat</i>

(PDC: Christian Democratic Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)
(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

NEW ZEALAND - NOUVELLE-ZELANDE

KING, Annette (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation, Bureau of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights <i>Chef de la délégation, Bureau de la Commission</i> <i>permanente de la démocratie et des droits</i> <i>de l'homme</i>	Member of the House of Representatives Health Committee Parliamentary Service Commission <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (L)</i> <i>Commission de la santé</i> <i>Commission des services parlementaires</i>
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GRAHAM, Kennedy (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives Foreign Affairs, Defence and Trade Committee Privileges Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (Mpg)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et du commerce</i> <i>Commission des privilèges</i>
KURIGER, Barbara (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the House of Representatives Deputy Chairperson of the Health Committee Primary Production Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (PN)</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission de la santé</i> <i>Commission de la production primaire</i>
HART, Wendy (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Adviser, Parliamentary Relations <i>Conseillère, Relations parlementaires</i>
(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail) (Mpg: Green Party / Les Verts) (PN: National Party / Parti national)	

NICARAGUA

FIGUEROA AGUILAR, José Santos (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation / <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
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NIGER

SALIFOU, Amadou (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 (MNSD)</i>
ALI, Samaila (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Deputy Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs and Cooperation <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PNDS)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères et de la coopération</i>
AMADOU MAIZOUMBOU, Laouali (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Economic Affairs and Planning <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MNSD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires économiques et du plan</i>
IBRO NA ALLA, Aoua (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Foreign Affairs and Cooperation <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PNDS)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères et de la coopération</i>
NOUHOU, Daoudou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Finance and Budget <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Moden Fa Lumana)</i> <i>des finances et du budget</i>
HABIBOU, Aminatou (Mrs./Mme) Member of the Executive Committee <i>Membre du Comité exécutif</i>	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Rural Development and Environment <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PNDS)</i> <i>Commission du développement rural et de l'environnement</i>
MAÏGOCHI, Sani (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Committee on General and Institutional Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MNSD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires générales et institutionnelles</i>
MOUSSA, Nouhou (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Finance and Budget <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (Moden Fa Lumana)</i> <i>des finances et du budget</i>
TIÉMOGO, Boubacar (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>

ALIO, Issa (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Cooperation, National Assembly <i>Directeur, Coopération internationale, Assemblée nationale</i>
GARBA, Abdou (Mr./M.)	Director, Office of the Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Directeur du Cabinet du Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
LAOUALI, Ibrahim (Mr./M.) Adviser to the Group <i>Conseiller du Groupe</i>	Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>
GARBA, Abdoukarim Issoufou (Mr./M.)	Special Adviser to the Speaker <i>Conseiller special du Président</i>
NIANDOU, Harouna (Mr./M.)	Communication Adviser to the Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Conseiller en communication du Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
MOUSZETABA MUSTAPHA, Ousmane (Mr./M.)	Protocol Attaché to the Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Attaché de protocole du Président de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
SALEY, Adamou (Mr./M.) Aide de camp to the Speaker <i>Aide de camp du Président</i>	
YAHAYA, Moussa (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
MAHAMADOU RABIOU, Abdou Garo Yazi (Mr./M.) Press / <i>Presse</i>	
(MNSD: National Movement for the Development Society / Mouvement national pour la société du développement) (PNDS: Niger Party for Democracy and Socialism / Parti nigérien pour la démocratie et le socialisme) (Moden Fa Lumana: Niger Democratic Movement for an African Federation / Mouvement démocratique nigérien pour une fédération africaine)	

NIGERIA

YUSSUFF, Sulaimon (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives <i>Vice-Président de la Chambre des représentants (APC)</i>
EKWUNIFE, Lilian Uche (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PDP)</i>
FASEYI, Duro (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (APC)</i>
GAYA, Kabiru (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (APC)</i>
IBRAHIM, Rafiu (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (APC)</i>
OLASUPO, Abiodun (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (APC)</i>
BABANGIDA, Ibrahim (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (APC)</i>
FIJABI, Saheed (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants (APC)</i>
IGBOKWE, Raphael (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants</i>
OMBUGADU, Emmanuel David (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des représentants</i>
AKPAN, Basse (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
IKU OBIAGELI, Patience (Mrs./Mme)	Director, Table Duties, Senate <i>Directrice du dépôt de rapports, Sénat</i>
ESEKE, Augustine (Mr./M.) Deputy Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire adjoint de la délégation</i>	Chief Administrative Officer (IPU Desk), National Assembly <i>Chef du Service administratif, Assemblée nationale</i>

GARBA, Lawal (Mr./M.)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

AUDU, Rabi (Mrs./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

ASHIEKAA, Christopher (Mr./M.)

OKOH, Benard (Mr./M.)

DARAMOLA, Bimbo (Mr./M.)

OLADIMEJI, Wale (Mr./M.)

ABIODUN, Folorunso (Mr./M.)
Aide de camp to the Deputy Speaker
Aide de camp du Vice-Président

GREMA, Garba (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(APC: All progressives Congress / Congrès progressiste)
(PDP: Peoples Democratic Party / Parti démocratique populaire)

Director, Global Institutions, National Assembly
Directeur, Institutions globales, Assemblée nationale

Director, International Relations, National Assembly
Directrice, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale

Special Assistant to the Clerk, National Assembly
Assistant spécial du Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

Committee Clerk, Senate
Greffier de commission, Sénat

Chief of Staff to the Deputy Speaker
Chef du Secrétariat du Vice-Président

Chief Press Secretary to the Deputy Speaker
Attaché de presse principal du Vice-Président

NORWAY - NORVEGE

SVENDSEN, Kenneth (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

LØDEMEL, Bjoern (Mr./M.)

ELDEGARD, Gunvor (Ms./Mme)

LIADAL, Hege Haukeland (Ms./Mme)

FRASER, Thomas (Mr./M.)

STOCK, Lisbeth Merete (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

(PP: Progress Party / Parti progressiste)
(C: Conservative Party / Parti Conservateur)
(L: Labour Party / Parti du travail)

AL MAAWALI, Khalid (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

AL MAHROUQI, Ali (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

AL NA'IMI, Rashid (Mr./M.)

AL-OWAISI, Ayman (Mr./M.)

Deputy Speaker of Parliament
Committee on Scrutiny and Constitutional Affairs
Vice-Président du Parlement (PP)
Commission du scrutin et des affaires constitutionnelles

Member of Parliament
Committee on Local Government and
Public Administration
Membre du Parlement (C)
Commission du gouvernement local et de
l'administration publique

Member of Parliament
Committee on Scrutiny and Constitutional Affairs
Membre du Parlement (L)
Commission du scrutin et des affaires constitutionnelles

Member of Parliament
Committee on Family and Cultural Affairs
Membre du Parlement (L)
Commission de la famille et des affaires culturelles
Senior Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseiller principal, Relations internationales, Parlement
Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseillère, Relations internationales, Parlement

OMAN

Speaker of the Consultative Council
Président du Conseil consultatif

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

Deputy Director, President's Executive Office,
Consultative Council
Directeur adjoint, Cabinet du Président, Conseil consultatif
Adviser
Conseiller

RABBANI, Mian Raza (Mr./M.)
Member of the Executive Committee
Membre du Comité exécutif

ABBASI, Murtaza Javed (Mr./M.)
Acting President of the Group,
Leader of the delegation
*Président du Groupe ad intérim,
Chef de la délégation*

HARRAJ, Mohammad Raza Hayat (Mr./M.)
Committee to promote respect for IHL
Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH

BIJRANI, Shabbir Ali (Mr./M.)

BOKHARI, Makhdoomzada Syed Basit (Mr./M.)

MAZARI, Shireen Mehruunisa (Mrs./Mme)

IBADULLAH (Mr./M.)

LEGHARI, Sardar Awais Ahmad Khan (Mr./M.)

AYAZ, Sitara (Mrs./Mme)

ABBASI, Muhammad Javed (Mr./M.)

BILOUR, Ilyas Ahmed (Mr./M.)
Advisor / *Conseiller*

KHAN, Aurangzeb (Mr./M.)
Advisor / *Conseiller*

MALIK, Amjed Pervez (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

HASHMI, Syed Shamoon (Mr./M.)
Joint Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire adjoint du Groupe

PAKISTAN

Speaker of the Senate
Chairperson of the Business Advisory Committee
Chairperson of the Forum for Policy Research
Chairperson of the Finance Committee
*Président du Sénat (PPPP)
Président du Comité consultatif sur les affaires
Président du Forum pour la recherche politique
Président de la Commission des finances*

Speaker of the National Assembly (a.i.)
Président de l'Assemblée nationale (a.i.) (PML-N)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PPPP)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PTI)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PML-N)

Member of the Senate
Committee on Climate Change
Committee on Defence Production
Committee on Human Rights
Membre du Sénat (ANP)

*Commission sur le changement climatique
Commission sur la production d'armements
Commission des droits de l'homme*

Member of the Senate
Chairperson of the Committee on Law, Justice and
Human Rights

Committee on Defence
Committee on Federal Education and Professional
Training

*Membre du Sénat (PML-N)
Présidente de la Commission des questions juridiques, de
la justice et des droits de l'homme
Commission de la défense
Commission de l'éducation fédérale et de la formation
professionnelle*

Member of the Senate
Membre du Sénat

Member of the Senate
Committee on Industries and Production
Committee on Overseas Pakistanis and Human
Resources Development

Committee on Government Assurances
*Membre du Sénat (Ind)
Commission des industries et de la production
Commission des Pakistanais d'outre-mer et du
développement des ressources humaines
Commission des assurances gouvernementales*

Secretary General, Senate
Secrétaire général, Sénat

Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly
Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale

PATHAN, Muhammad Arshad Jan (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, Senate <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
RIAZ, Mohammad (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Assemblée nationale</i>
ZEB, Alam (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, Senate <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>

(PPPP: Pakistan People's Party Parliamentarians / *Parlementaires du Parti du peuple pakistanais*)
(PML-N: Pakistan Muslim League (Nawaz) / *Ligue musulmane pakistanaise (Nawaz)*)
(PTI: Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf / *Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf*)
(ANP: Awami National Party / *Parti national Awami*)
(Ind: Independent / *Indépendant*)

PALESTINE

AL-AHMAD, Azzam (Mr./M.) Committee on Middle East Questions, Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, Leader of the delegation <i>Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient, Bureau de la Commission permanente, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien (F)</i>
HAMED, Omar (Mr./M.)	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien (Ind)</i>
QASEM, Bilal (Mr./M.)	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien</i>
SANDUQA, Zuhair (Mr./M.)	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien (F)</i>
QAIS, Abdelkarim (Mr./M.)	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien</i>
ABU ZNEID, Jihad (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Palestinian National Council <i>Membre du Conseil national palestinien</i>
KHRISHI, Ibrahim (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Palestinian National Council <i>Secrétaire général, Conseil national palestinien</i>
AL-DEEK, Bashir (Mr./M.) Secretary of the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director, International Relations, Palestinian National Council <i>Directeur, Relations internationales, Conseil national palestinien</i>
DAWWAS, Dawwas (Mr./M.) Administrative Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire administratif de la délégation</i>	
(F: Fatah) (Ind: Independent / <i>Indépendant</i>)	

PANAMA

GOZAINÉ, Samir (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PRD)</i>
RÍOS, Juan Miguel (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PP)</i>
PRADO, Crescencia (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PRD)</i>
SANTANA, Carlos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PP)</i>
WEVER, Franz (Mr./M.)	Secretary General of the National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale</i>

(PRD: Democratic Revolutionary Party / *Parti révolutionnaire démocratique*)
(PP: Panameñista Party / *Parti panaméiste*)

PERU - PEROU

CONDORI JAHUIRA, Gladys Natalie (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of the Congress of the Republic Foreign Trade Committee <i>Vice-Présidente, Congrès de la République (DD)</i> <i>Commission du commerce extérieur</i>
LEÓN RIVERA, José Raguberto (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress of the Republic Foreign Trade and Tourism Committee Constitution and Rules Committee Standing Committee <i>Membre, Congrès de la République (PP)</i> <i>Commission du commerce extérieur et du tourisme</i> <i>Commission de la Constitution et du règlement</i> <i>Commission permanente</i>
PEREZ TELLO, María Soledad (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Congress of the Republic Vice-Chair, Committee on External Relations Committee on Family and Women Committee on Andean, Amazonian and Afro-Peruvian Peoples, the Environment and Ecology <i>Membre, Congrès de la République (PPC)</i> <i>Vice-Présidente de la Commission de la famille et de la femme</i> <i>Commission des peuples andins, amazoniens et afro-péruviens, de l'environnement et de l'écologie</i>

(DD: Dignidad y democracia)

(PP: Perú posible)

(PPC: People's Christian Party / Parti populaire chrétien)

PHILIPPINES

DRILON, Franklin (Mr./M.) Vice-President of the Executive Committee, Leader of the delegation <i>Vice-Président du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Senate <i>Président du Sénat</i>
FARIÑAS, Rodolfo (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
PIMENTEL III, Aquilino Koko (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
CAYETANO, Pia (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
LAPID, Manuel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
MENDOZA, Joselito (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Representatives <i>Membre de la Chambre des Représentants</i>
YABES, Oscar (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
BARUA-YAP, Marilyn (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire générale, Chambre des Représentants</i>
BANTUG Jr., Renato (Mr./M.)	Head of Staff, President's Executive Office, Senate <i>Chef du Secrétariat, Bureau du Président du Sénat</i>
UY-ANASTACIO, Denya Gracia (Ms./Mme)	Head of Staff, Senate <i>Chef du Secrétariat, Sénat</i>
ABRAJANO, Filmer (Mr./M.)	Head of Staff, Senate <i>Chef du Secrétariat, Sénat</i>
DE GUZMAN JR., Antonio (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, Senate <i>Directeur, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
ORTIZ, Romeo (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Director, International Relations, Senate <i>Directeur, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
DOROTAN, Maria Luwalhati (Ms./Mme)	Technical Staff, Senate <i>Secrétariat technique, Sénat</i>
JIMENEZ, Ma. Cecilia (Mr./M.)	Technical Staff, Senate <i>Secrétariat technique, Sénat</i>

GOMEZ, Teresita (Ms./Mme)	Technical Staff, Senate <i>Secrétariat technique, Sénat</i>
ACEDERA, Jericho (Mr./M.)	Technical Staff, Senate <i>Secrétariat technique, Sénat</i>
SANTOS, Tricia (Ms./Mme)	Technical Staff, Senate <i>Secrétariat technique, Sénat</i>
TORRES III, Anthony (Mr./M.)	Executive Assistant, President's Office, Senate <i>Assistant exécutif, Bureau du Président du Sénat</i>
SANTOS-ROA, Margarita (Ms./Mme)	House of Representatives <i>Chambre des Représentants</i>
Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
DALEON III, Benjamin Paolo (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Protocol, Senate <i>Conseiller, Protocole, Sénat</i>
Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	
REBONG, Cecilia (Ms./Mme)	
Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadrice/Représentante permanente</i>	
FOS, Enrico (Mr./M.)	
Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
TABISAYON, Arnel (Mr./M.)	
Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	

POLAND - POLOGNE

POCIEJ, Aleksander (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PO)</i>
Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
POLKOWSKA, Ewa (Ms./Mme)	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
CZAPLA, Lech (Mr./M.)	Secretary General, Sejm <i>Secrétaire général, Sejm</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
KARWOWSKA-SOKOLOWSKA, Agata (Ms./Mme)	Director <i>Directrice</i>
GRUBA, Wojciech (Mr./M.)	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	

(PO: Civic Platform / Plate-forme civique)

PORTUGAL

SILVA, Guilherme (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Vice-Président de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	
MATOS ROSA, José (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
ALBERNAZ, Rosa (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PS)</i>
CARDOSO, Paula (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
PACHECO, Duarte (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PSD)</i>
Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale</i>	
JESUS, Fernand (Mr./M.)	Member of the Assembly of the Republic <i>Membre de l'Assemblée de la République (PS)</i>
ARAÚJO, José Manuel (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General, Assembly of the Republic <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Assemblée de la République</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
ISIDORO, Ana Margarida (Ms./Mme)	International Relations, Assembly of the Republic <i>Relations internationales, Assemblée de la République</i>
Adviser to the delegation <i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	

(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)

(PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)

QATAR

AL-SULAITI, Mohammed (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the Advisory Council
Internal and External Affairs Committee
Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee
Membre du Conseil consultatif
Commission des affaires intérieures et internationales
Commission des affaires juridiques et législatives

AL-MEADADI, Rashid (Mr./M.)

Member of the Advisory Council
Legal and Legislative Affairs Committee
Cultural and Media Affairs Committee
Membre du Conseil consultatif
Commission des affaires juridiques et législatives

AL-MAJID, Abdulreda (Mr./M.)

Head of the Editing and Translation Section
Chef de la Section de la publication et de la traduction

AL-KHATER, Nasser (Mr./M.)

Legal Adviser / *Conseiller juridique*

REPUBLIC OF KOREA - REPUBLIQUE DE COREE

CHIN, Young (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the National Assembly
Chairman of the Security and Public Administration
Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SP)
Président de la Commission de la sécurité et de
l'administration publique

WOO, Yoon-keun (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Legislation and Judiciary Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NPAD)
Commission sur le droit et la justice

JHUN, Ha-jin (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Trade, Industry and Energy Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SP)
Commission du commerce, de l'industrie et de l'énergie

JANG, Jung-eun (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Health and Welfare Committee
Gender Equality and Family Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
Commission de la santé et de la prévoyance
Commission de la famille et de l'égalité des sexes

KIM, Choon-jin (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

KIM, Eul-dong (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

LEE, Chan-yeol (Mr./M.)

Member of the National Assembly
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale

PARK, Heong-joon (Mr./M.)
Head of ASGP delegation, Member of the ASGP
Chef de la délégation de l'ASGP, Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

YOON, Sung-min (Mr./M.)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Director, National Assembly
Directeur, Assemblée nationale

KIM, Hyun-sook (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Deputy Director, National Assembly
Directrice adjointe, Assemblée nationale

NAM, Sun-woo (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the ASGP delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP

Deputy Director, National Assembly
Directeur adjoint, Assemblée nationale

CHA, Yeun-kyeng (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Protocol Officer, National Assembly
Chargé du protocole, Assemblée nationale

KIM, Eui-jeong (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

Protocol Officer, National Assembly
Chargé du protocole, Assemblée nationale

PARK, Jung-duk (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the ASGP delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation de l'ASGP

Adviser, National Assembly
Conseiller, Assemblée nationale

LIM, Kyu-eun (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Programme Officer, National Assembly
Chargée de programme, Assemblée nationale

LEE, Min Yea (Ms./Mme)

Adviser, National Assembly
Conseillère, Assemblée nationale

OH, Nam-gyun (Mr./M.)

Programme Officer, National Assembly
Chargé de programme, Assemblée nationale

YOU, D. Doohee (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

JUNG, Su-young (Mr./M.)
Adviser / *Conseiller*

(SP: Saenuri Party / Parti Saenuri)

(NPAD: New Politics Alliance for Democracy / Alliance pour la démocratie)

REPUBLIC OF MOLDOVA – *REPUBLIQUE DE MOLDOVA*

GRECEANÎI, Zinaida (Mrs./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PSRM)

URSACHI, Tatiana (Mrs./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Chief Adviser, Foreign Affairs Division
Conseillère principale, Division des affaires étrangères

(PSRM: Party of Socialists / Parti des socialistes)

ROMANIA - *ROUMANIE*

BORBELY, Laszlo (Mr./M.)
Vice-President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Vice-Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Chairman of the Committee for Foreign Policy
Membre de la Chambre des Députés (DAHR)
Président de la Commission de la politique étrangère

PALĂR, Ionel (Mr./M.)
Vice-President of the Group
Vice-Président du Groupe

Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Committee for Public Administration and Territorial
Planning
Membre de la Chambre des Députés (NLP)
Commission de l'administration publique et de la
planification du territoire

OPREA, Dumitru (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Secretary, Committee for Education, Science,
Youth and Sports
Membre du Sénat (NLP)
Secrétaire, Commission de l'éducation, de la science,
de la jeunesse et des sports

OPREA, Mario-Ovidiu (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Committee on Budget, Finance, Banking and
Capital Markets
Committee on Investigation of Abuses, Corrupt
Practices and Petitions
Membre du Sénat (NLP)
Commission du budget, des finances, des banques
et des marchés de capitaux
Commission d'enquête des abus, des pratiques de
corruption et des pétitions

STERIU, Valeriu-Andrei (Mr./M.)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Agriculture,
Forestry, Food Industry and Specific Services
Committee on European Affairs
Membre de la Chambre des Députés (NUPR)
Vice-Président de la Commission de l'agriculture, des
forêts, de l'industrie alimentaire et des services
spécifiques
Commission des affaires européennes

CĂTĂNICIU, Steluța-Gustica (Ms./Mme)

Member of the Chamber of Deputies
Committee on Legal Matters, Discipline and Immunities
Membre de la Chambre des Députés (Ind/ALDE)
Commission des affaires juridiques, de la discipline et
des immunités

BUTNARU, Florinel (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate Vice-Chairman of the Committee on Human Rights, Cults and Minorities Committee on Transport and Energy <i>Membre du Sénat (SPD)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des droits de l'homme, des cultes et des minorités</i> <i>Commission des transports et de l'énergie</i>
IONESCU, Cristina (Ms./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire générale adjointe, Sénat</i>
DUMITRESCU, Cristina (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, Senate <i>Directrice, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
TEODOREL, Luminița (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation (ASGP) <i>Secrétaire de la délégation (ASGP)</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Senate <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Sénat</i>
BÂGNEANU, Ioana (Ms./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Chamber of Deputies <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Chambre des Députés</i>
VIERIȚA, Adrian Cosmin (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
FILIP, Traian (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(DAHR: Democratic Alliance of Hungarians in Romania / Alliance démocratique des Hongrois en Roumanie) (NLP: National Liberal Party / Parti national libéral) (NUPR: National Union for the Progress of Romania / Union nationale pour le progrès de la Roumanie) (Ind: Independent / Indépendant) (ALDE: Alliance of Liberals and Democrats / Alliance des libéraux et des démocrates) (SPD: Social democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)	

RUSSIAN FEDERATION - FEDERATION DE RUSSIE

MATVIENKO, Valentina (Ms./Mme) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Présidente du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Council of the Federation <i>Présidente du Conseil de la Fédération</i>
NARYSHKIN, Sergey (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the State Duma <i>Président, Douma d'Etat (UR)</i>
UMAKHANOV, Iliyas (Mr./M.)	Deputy Speaker of the Council of the Federation <i>Vice-Président du Conseil de la Fédération</i>
GAVRILOV, Sergey (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente du développement durable, du financement et du commerce</i>	Member of the State Duma Chairman of the Committee on Property <i>Membre, Douma d'Etat (CP)</i> <i>Président de la Commission de la propriété</i>
KLIMOV, Andrey (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité internationale</i>	Member of the Council of the Federation Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la Fédération</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
KOSACHEV, Konstantin (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 Council of the Federation Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la Fédération</i> <i>Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
PETRENKO, Valentina (Ms./Mme) Committee to promote respect for IHL, Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH, Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of the Council of the Federation Social Politics Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la Fédération</i> <i>Commission des politiques sociales</i>

KLISHAS, Andrey (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of the Federation Chairman of the Constitutional Legislation and State Building Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la Fédération</i> <i>Président de la Commission de la législation constitutionnelle et de la construction de l'Etat</i>
OZEROV, Victor (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of the Federation Chairman of the Defence and Security Committee <i>Membre du Conseil de la Fédération</i> <i>Président de la Commission de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
BABAKOV, Alexander (Mr./M.)	Member of the State Duma Member of the Committee on International Affairs <i>Membre, Douma d'Etat (UR)</i> <i>Membre de la Commission des affaires internationales</i>
PUSHKOV, Aleksey (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the State Duma Chairman of the Committee on International Affairs <i>Membre, Douma d'Etat (UR)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des affaires internationales</i>
MARTYNOV, Sergey (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Council of the Federation <i>Secrétaire général, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
POLLYEVA, Dzhakhan (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, State Duma <i>Secrétaire générale, Douma d'Etat</i>
GOLOV, Gennadii (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General, Council of the Federation <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
PETROV, Andrey (Mr./M.)	Director, Research Office, State Duma <i>Directeur, Service de recherche, Douma d'Etat</i>
PASHKOV, Mikhail (Mr./M.) Deputy Head of Staff of the Group <i>Chef adjoint du Secrétariat du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, State Duma <i>Directeur, Relations internationales, Douma d'Etat</i>
CHUGUNOVA, Evgenia (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Director, Information / Media, State Duma <i>Directrice adjointe, Informations / Médias, Douma d'Etat</i>
BAYEV, Anton (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, Information / Media, State Duma <i>Directeur adjoint, Informations / Médias, Douma d'Etat</i>
EFIMOVA, Elena (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, President's Executive Office, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Cabinet du Président, Douma d'Etat</i>
ISAKOVA, Anna (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, Protocol, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Protocole, Douma d'Etat</i>
KUCHEREVSKAYA, Anna (Ms./Mme) Secretary of Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser, International Relations, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Douma d'Etat</i>
ZHELEZOVA, Liubov (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, Protocol, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Protocole, Douma d'Etat</i>
BYKOV, Alexey (Mr./M.)	Adviser, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
ERMOSHIN, Pavel (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Eurasia Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe Eurasie</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
ZHOLOBOVA, Maria (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
FOLOMEEVA, Olga (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
TKACHENKO, Mikhail (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation, Secretary of the Eurasia Group <i>Secrétaire de la délégation, Secrétaire du Groupe Eurasie</i>	Adviser, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>

ALEKSEEV, Alexander (Mr./M.)	Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>
KALININ, Mikhail (Mr./M.)	Head, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Chef, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
LOSHCHININ, Valery (Mr./M.)	Advisor, President's Executive Office, Council of the Federation <i>Conseiller, Cabinet du Président, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
ERMAKOVA, Irina (Mrs./Mme)	Advisor, Public Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Conseillère, Relations publiques, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
BELOUSOVA, Veronica (Ms./Mme)	Assistant, Council of the Federation <i>Assistante, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
Interpreater, Member of the ASGP <i>Interprète, Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
SUVOROVA, Natalia (Mrs./Mme)	Advisor, Information / Media, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Informations / Médias, Douma d'Etat</i>
VOROBYEV, Oleg (Mr./M.)	Advisor, Information / Media, State Duma <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Douma d'Etat</i>
FOMENKO, Natalia (Ms./Mme)	Head, Public Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Chef, Relations publiques, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
UDALOVA, Natalia (Ms./Mme)	Head, President's Executive Office, Council of the Federation <i>Chef, Cabinet du Président, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
NOVIKOVA, Yulia (Mrs./Mme)	Officer, Protocol, Council of the Federation <i>Fonctionnaire, Protocole, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
SUMBAEV, Sergey (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, Information / Media, Council of the Federation <i>Directeur adjoint, Informations / Médias, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
AGALTSOV, Valery (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, International Relations, Council of the Federation <i>Directeur adjoint, Relations internationales, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
SHERBAKOV, Stanislas (Mr./M.)	Advisor, Ministry of Foreign Affairs <i>Conseiller au Ministère des affaires étrangères</i>
KHODYREV, Oleg (Mr./M.)	Political Advisor <i>Conseiller politique</i>
BUTAEVA, Angelica (Ms./Mme)	Assistant to Mr. Umakhov <i>Assistante de M. Umakhov</i>
DMITRIEVSKY, Aleksey (Mr./M.)	Advisor, International Relations, State Duma <i>Conseiller, Relations internationales, Douma d'Etat</i>
Interpreater / <i>Interprète</i>	
ANTIPOVA, Maria (Ms./Mlle)	Advisor, International Relations, State Duma <i>Conseillère, Relations internationales, Douma d'Etat</i>
Interpreater / <i>Interprète</i>	
BESSCHETOV, Vladimir (Mr./M.)	Head, Security, Council of the Federation <i>Chef, Sécurité, Conseil de la Fédération</i>
(UR: United Russia / Russie unifiée)	
(CP: Communist Party / Parti communiste)	

RWANDA

GAKUBA, Jeanne D'arc (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Speaker of the Senate <i>Vice-Présidente du Sénat (FPR)</i>
Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	
NYIRAGWANEZA, Athanasie (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the Chamber of Deputies Foreign Affairs, Cooperation and Security Committee <i>Membre de la Chambre des Députés Commission des affaires étrangères, de la coopération et de la sécurité</i>
CYITATIRE, Sosthene (Mr./M.)	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	
(FPR: Rwandan Patriotic Front - Inkotanyi / Front patriotique rwandais - Inkotanyi)	

SAN MARINO - SAINT-MARIN

TERENZI, Gian Franco (Mr./M.) President of the Group, Leader of the delegation <i>Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Great and General Council Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre, Grand Conseil général (PDCS)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
MORGANTI, Francesco (Mr./M.)	Member of the Great and General Council Institutional Affairs Committee <i>Membre, Grand Conseil général (PSD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires institutionnelles</i>
MUCCIOLI, Anna Maria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Great and General Council Justice Committee <i>Membre, Grand Conseil général (PDCS)</i> <i>Commission de la justice</i>
ZAVOLI, Mimma (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Great and General Council Council of the Twelve <i>Membre, Grand Conseil général (Civico 10)</i> <i>Conseil des douze</i>

(PDCS: Christian Democrats / Parti chrétien-démocrate)
(PSD: Socialists and Democrats / Socialistes et démocrates)
(Civico 10: Civic Movement / Mouvement civique)

SAO TOME AND PRINCIPE - SAO TOME-ET-PRINCIPE

NAZARÉ, Levy (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 (ADI)</i>
CEITA, Bilaine (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ADI)</i>
GUIVA, Vasco (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MLSTP)</i>
PRAZERES, Filomena (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PCD)</i>
BOA MORTE, Domingos (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
BANDEIRA MANDINGA, Bilma (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Directrice, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>

(ADI: Action démocratique indépendante / Independent Democratic Alliance)
(MLSTP: Mouvement de libération de Sao Tomé-et-Principe / Sao Tome and Principe Liberation Movement)
(PCD: Parti démocratique de convergence / Democratic Convergence Party)

SAUDI ARABIA - ARABIE SAOUDITE

ALSAMAAN, Yahya (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Second Deputy Speaker of the Consultative Council <i>Deuxième Vice-Président du Conseil consultatif</i>
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>
ALHARBI, Abdullah (Mr./M.)	Member of the Consultative Council <i>Membre du Conseil consultatif</i>
ALJOHAR, Khaled (Mr./M.)	Assistant, Consultative Council <i>Assistant, Conseil consultatif</i>
ALANGARI, Saad (Mr./M.)	Director <i>Directeur</i>
ALAJLAN, Abdulaziz (Mr./M.)	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
ALSAEED, Anas (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>

SENEGAL

SQUARE, Djimo (Mr./M.)
Acting President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président délégué du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

SECK DIENG, Penda (Ms./Mme)

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

GUEYE, Alioune Abatalib (Mr./M.)
Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians
Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires

CISSE, Baye Niasse (Mr./M.)
Administrative Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire administratif du Groupe

(BBY: Groupe Benno Bok Yakaar)
(BGG: Bokk Guis Guis)

GOJKOVIĆ, Maja (Ms./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

BERIĆ, Nebojša (Mr./M.)

BOGDANOVIĆ, Goran (Mr./M.)

MIJATOVIĆ, Milorad (Mr./M.)

FILIPOVIĆ, Vladimir (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

MILANOVIĆ, Ana (Ms./Mme)

MILANOVIĆ, Darko (Mr./M.)

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

Member of the National Assembly
First Vice-President of the 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

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

Member of the National Assembly
Defence and Security Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (BGG)
Commission de la défense et de la sécurité
Deputy Secretary-General
Secrétaire général adjoint

SERBIA - SERBIE

Speaker of the National Assembly
Chairperson of the Committee on the Rights of the Child
Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (SNS)
Présidente de la Commission des droits de l'enfant

Member of the National Assembly
Committee on the Diaspora and Serbs in the Region
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SNS)
Commission de la diaspora et des Serbes dans la région

Member of the National Assembly
Deputy Chairperson of the Committee on Kosovo-Metohija
Committee on the Diaspora and Serbs in the Region
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSD)
Vice-Président de la Commission du Kosovo-Metohija

Member of the National Assembly
Foreign Affairs Committee
Committee on Finance, State Budget and Control of Public Spending
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (SDPS)
Commission des affaires étrangères
Membre de la Commission des finances, du budget d'Etat et du contrôle des dépenses publiques

Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly
Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale

Adviser, International Cooperation, National Assembly
Conseillère, Coopération internationale, Assemblée nationale

Adviser, Security, National Assembly
Conseiller, Sécurité, Assemblée nationale

(SNS: Serbian Progressive Party / Parti progressiste serbe)
(PSD: Social Democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)
(SDPS: Social Democratic Party of Serbia / Parti social-démocrate serbe)

SINGAPORE - SINGAPOUR

TEO, Ho Pin (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PAP)

LIM, Wee Kiak (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (PAP)

SINGH, Pritam (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament
Membre du Parlement (WPS)

QUAH, Anne (Ms./Mme)

Secretary, Parliament
Secrétaire, Parlement

(PAP: People's Action Party / Parti d'action populaire)
(WPS: Workers' Party / Parti des travailleurs)

SLOVENIA - SLOVENIE

HORVAT, Jožef (Mr./M.)
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Member of the National Assembly
Chair of the Committee on Foreign Affairs
Deputy Chair of the Committee on EU Affairs
Committee on Finance and Monetary Policy
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NSi)
Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères
Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires
européennes
Commission chargée de la politique financière et
monétaire

MURGEL, Jasna (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
Deputy Chair of the Commission for the Rules of
Procedure
Commission for Public Office and Elections
Committee on Justice
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PMC)
Vice-Présidente du Comité des règles de procédure
Commission de la fonction publique et des élections
Commission de la justice

TAŠNER VATOVEC, Matej (Mr./M.)
Committee on Middle East Questions
Comité sur les questions relatives au Moyen-Orient

Member of the National Assembly
Chair of the Commission for the Rules of Procedure
Committee on Foreign Policy
Committee for Petitions, Human Rights and Equal
Opportunities
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ZL)
Présidente du Comité des règles de procédure
Commission de la politique étrangère
Commission des pétitions, des droits de l'homme et de
l'égalité des chances

PANDEV, Tanja (Ms./Mme)
Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire du Groupe

Director, International Relations, National Assembly
Directrice, Relations internationales, Assemblée
nationale

(NSi: New Slovenia-Christian Democrats / Nouvelle Slovénie - Parti chrétien-démocrate)
(PMC: Party of Modern Centre / Parti du centre moderne)
(ZL: United Left / Gauche Unie)

SOUTH AFRICA - AFRIQUE DU SUD

TAU, Raseriti (Mr./M.)
President of the Standing Committee on Peace and
International Security, Leader of the delegation
Président de la Commission permanente de la
paix et de la sécurité internationale, Chef de la
délégation

Deputy Chairperson of the National Council of
Provinces
Vice-Président du Conseil national des provinces
(ANC)

BOROTO, Mmatlala (Ms./Mme)

Member of the National Assembly
House Chairperson of the International Relations
Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC)
Présidente de la Commission des relations
internationales

DLAKUDE, Dorries (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Deputy Chief Whip <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC)</i> <i>Chef de file adjoint</i>
FROLICK, Cedric (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly House Chairperson, Committees Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ANC)</i> <i>Président de la Commission des commissions</i>
KOHLER-BARNARD, Dianne (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (DA)</i>
STEENHUISEN, John (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Chief Whip <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (DA)</i> <i>Chef de file</i>
MATEME, Hunadi (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Council of Provinces Chief Whip <i>Membre du Conseil national des provinces (ANC)</i> <i>Chef de file</i>
MNCWANGO, Mangaqa (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (IFP)</i>
MTHIMUNYE, George (Mr./M.) Advisor / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Council of Provinces <i>Membre du Conseil national des provinces (ANC)</i>
MGIDLANA, Gengezi (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement</i>
XASO, Masibulele (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Assemblée nationale</i>
KHUZWAYO, June (Ms./Mme)	Admin Officer, International Relations <i>Secrétaire administrative, Relations internationales</i>
MOLLOY-TITUS, Rosalind (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, National Council of Provinces (for Ms. Mateme) <i>Secrétaire, Conseil national des provinces (pour Mme Mateme)</i>
MONNAKGOTLA, Mpho (Ms./Mme)	Secretary, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire, Assemblée nationale</i>
PAULSE, Cheryl Ann (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group and to the delegation <i>Secrétaire du Groupe et de la délégation</i>	Acting Team Leader, International Relations <i>Chef d'équipe ad intérim, Relations internationales</i>
DE BRUYN, Zeenad (Ms./Mme) Secretary to Mr. Tau <i>Secrétaire de M. Tau</i>	
DLANAZANA, Mzwandile (Mr./M.) Advisor to Mr. Tau <i>Conseiller de M. Tau</i>	
TROUT, Belinda (Ms./Mme) Secretary to Mr. Frolick <i>Secrétaire de M. Frolick</i>	
MERCKEL, Jill (Ms./Mme) Secretary to Ms. Boroto <i>Secrétaire de Mme Boroto</i>	
THOMAS, Ruwayda (Ms./Mme) Secretary to Mr. Mgidlana <i>Secrétaire de M. Mgidlana</i>	

(ANC: African National Congress / Congrès national africain)
(DA: Democratic Alliance / Gauche démocratique)
(IFP: Inkatha Freedom Party / Parti de la liberté Inkatha)

SOUTH SUDAN – SOUDAN DU SUD

AJEO MOILING, Julius (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée législative nationale</i>
LORO, Alalla Younis Said (Mr./M.)	Member of National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée législative nationale</i>
MALOU, Mayen Majak (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	

SPAIN - ESPAGNE

GIL LÁZARO, Ignacio (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the Congress of Deputies Constitutional Committee Home Affairs Committee Committee on Rules of Procedure <i>Membre, Congrès des Députés (PP)</i> <i>Commission constitutionnelle</i> <i>Commission des affaires intérieures</i> <i>Commission du règlement intérieur</i>
PICÓ, Antoni (Mr./M.)	Member of the Congress of Deputies <i>Membre du Congrès des Députés (UDC)</i>
TORME PARDO, Ana (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat (PP)</i>
ROS MARTINEZ, Susana (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Congress of Deputies <i>Membre, Congrès des Députés (PS)</i>
CAVERO, Manuel (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Senate <i>Secrétaire général, Sénat</i>
GUTIERREZ VICEN, Carlos (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
BOYRA, Helena (Mrs./Mme) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Legal Adviser <i>Conseillère juridique</i>
GÓMEZ-BERNARDO, María Teresa (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group and to the delegation <i>Secrétaire du Groupe et de la délégation</i>	Congress of Deputies <i>Congrès des Députés</i>
(PP: People's Party / Parti populaire) (UDC: Union Democrática de Catalunya) (PS: Socialist Party / Parti socialiste)	

SRI LANKA

SUMATHIPALA, Thilanga (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Deputy Speaker of Parliament <i>Vice-Président du Parlement (UPFA)</i>
ALUWIHARE, Ranjith (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (UNP)</i>
GAMAGE, Anoma (Mrs./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (UNP)</i>
RATHNAYAKE, Bimal (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (JVP)</i>
SRISKANTHARAJAH, Shanthly (Mrs./Mme)	Member of Parliament <i>Membre du Parlement (TNA)</i>
DASANAYAKE, Dhammika (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement</i>

(UPFA: United People's Freedom Alliance / Alliance populaire unifiée pour la liberté)
(UNP: United National Party / Parti national unifié)
(JVP: Janatha Vimukthi Peramuna)
(TNA: Tamil National Alliance / Alliance nationale tamoule)

SUDAN - SOUDAN

MUSTAFA ALDAO, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of the National Assembly Chairperson of the Foreign Relations Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP)</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des relations étrangères</i>
HAMED FADLE ALLAH, Mubarak (Mr./M.)	Member of the Council of States <i>Membre, Conseils des Etats (Dem UP)</i>
HASSAB ALLAH SALIH, Ibrahim (Mr./M.) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
EL HASSAN AL AMIN, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Deputy Chair, Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Vice-Président du Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of the National Assembly Legal and Justice Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP)</i> <i>Commission de la justice et des questions juridiques</i>
HUSSAIN ADAM, Alamin (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Deputy Chairperson of the Economic Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NUP)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires économiques</i>
OSMAN GAKNON, Mrawa (Mrs./Mme) Committee to promote respect for IHL <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of the National Assembly Education Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NCP)</i> <i>Commission de l'éducation</i>
FADUL ABDELGADIR, Thana (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
BUKHEET, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
(NCP: National Congress Party / Parti du Congrès national) (Dem UP: Democratic Unionist Party / Parti démocratique unioniste) (NUP: UMMA Party for Reform and Development / Parti OUMMA pour les réformes et le développement)	

SURINAME

BOUVA, Melvin (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 (NDP)</i>
AFONSOEWA, Silvana (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NDP)</i>
BEE, Marinus (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ABOP)</i>
MISIEKABA, Andre Theodorus (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 (NDP)</i>
JOGI, Mahinderkoemar (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (VHP)</i>
RAMDASS, A. (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire générale adjointe, Assemblée nationale</i>
(NDP: National Democratic Party / Parti national démocratique) (ABOP: Algemene Bevrijdings- en Ontwikkelings Partij) (VHP: Progressive Reform Party / Parti progressiste et réformiste)	

SWEDEN - SUEDE

ÖRNFJÄDER, Krister (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member of Parliament Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Membre du Parlement (PSD)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
AVSAN, Anti (Mr./M.) Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs <i>Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies</i>	Member of Parliament Committee on Justice <i>Membre du Parlement (M)</i> <i>Commission de la justice</i>

GREEN, Monica (Ms./Mme)
Vice-President of the Committee on Middle
East Questions
*Vice-Présidente du Comité sur les questions
relatives au Moyen-Orient*

Member of Parliament
Committee on Finance
*Membre du Parlement (PSD)
Commission des finances*

KARLSSON, Ulrika (Ms./Mme)
Committee to promote respect for IHL, First Vice-
President of the Coordinating Committee of Women
Parliamentarians
*Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH,
Première Vice-Présidente du Comité de coordination
des femmes parlementaires*

Member of Parliament
Committee on European Affairs
*Membre du Parlement (M)
Commission des affaires européennes*

LINDBERG, Teres (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament
Committee on Transport and Communication
*Membre du Parlement (PSD)
Commission des transports et des communications*
Deputy Secretary-General, Parliament
Secrétaire général adjoint, Parlement

MÅRTENSSON, Claes (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

BAKER, Marit (Ms./Mme)

Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseillère, Relations internationales, Parlement
Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseillère, Relations internationales, Parlement

LUNDSTEDT, Helena (Ms./Mme)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

SONDÉN, Björn (Mr./M.)
Deputy Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire adjoint de la délégation

Adviser, International Relations, Parliament
Conseiller, Relations internationales, Parlement

(PSD: Social democratic Party / Parti social-démocrate)
(M: Moderate Party / Parti modéré)

SWITZERLAND - SUISSE

VEILLON, Pierre-François (Mr./M.)
Leader of the Delegation
Chef de la délégation

Member of the National Council
Membre du Conseil national (SVP/UDC)

BIERI, Peter (Mr./M.)

Member of the Council of States
Membre du Conseil des Etats (CVP/PDC)

MEIER-SCHATZ, Lucrezia (Mrs./Mme)

Member of the National Council
Membre du Conseil national (CVP/PDC)

MÜRI, Felix (Mr./M.)
Substitute Member of the Committee on Middle
East Questions
*Membre suppléant du Comité sur les questions
relatives au Moyen-Orient*

Member of the National Council
Deputy Chairman of the Committee on Science,
Education and Culture
*Membre du Conseil national (SVP/UDC)
Vice-Président de la Commission de la science,
de l'éducation et de la culture*

SCHWAB, Philippe (Mr./M.)
Deputy Chairman of the Executive Committee
of the ASGP
Vice-Président du Comité exécutif de l'ASGP

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

ZEHNDER, Daniel (Mr./M.)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

EQUEY, Jérémie (Mr./M.)
Deputy Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire adjoint de la délégation

GROSJEAN, Nicolas (Mr./M.)

Head, Parliamentary Control of the Administration
Chef du Contrôle parlementaire de l'administration

ALBRECHT, Christoph (Mr./M.)

Deputy Secretary to the Control Committees
Secrétaire suppléant des Commissions de gestion

(SVP/UDC: Swiss People's Party / Union démocratique du centre)
(CVP/PDC: Christian Democratic People's Party / Parti démocrate-chrétien)

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 (BAP)</i>
BAGDACHE, Ammar (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly Chair of the Financial Laws Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (SCP)</i> <i>Président de la Commission du droit financier</i>
DIB, Fadia (Mrs./Mme) 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 People's Assembly Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (BAP)</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
KAWRMA, Mahir (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly National Security Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (BAP)</i> <i>Commission de la sécurité nationale</i>
MAKHLOUF, Ali (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly Youth Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (SSNP)</i> <i>Commission de la jeunesse</i>
MERJANEH, Boutros (Mr./M.)	Member of the People's Assembly Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée du Peuple (Ind)</i> <i>Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
AL WAWI, Mhd. Nasser (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, International Relations, People's Assembly <i>Directeur, Relations internationales, Assemblée du Peuple</i>
DIAB, Abdul Azim (Mr./M.) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Adviser, Protocol, People's Assembly <i>Conseiller, Protocole, Assemblée du Peuple</i>
(BAP: Baath Arab Party / Parti Baath arabe) (SCP: Syrian Communist Party / Parti communiste syrien) (SSNP: Syrian Social Nationalist Party / Parti social nationaliste syrien) (Ind: Independent / Indépendant)	

THAILAND - THAÏLANDE

LIENGBOONLERTCHAI, Surachai (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	First Vice President of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Premier Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
SAMPATISIRI, Bilaibhan (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly Chairperson of the Standing Committee on Foreign Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
WASINONDH, Kitti (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
KRAIRIKSH, Sakthip (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>
YODMANI, Songsuda (Ms./Mme)	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 (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
PANMANEE, Sompol (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
TANABOONCHAI, Sakchal (Mr./M.) Adviser / <i>Conseiller</i>	Member of the National Legislative Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale législative</i>
PUTORNJAI, La-or (Mrs./Mme)	Deputy Secretary-General, Senate <i>Secrétaire générale adjointe, Sénat</i>
KHAMASUNDARA, Supasinee (Ms./Mme)	Deputy Secretary-General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général adjointe, Chambre des Représentants</i>

KUNKLOY, Chollada (Mrs./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>
THONGPRASOM, Andhika (Ms./Mme) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire adjointe de la délégation</i>	Supervisor, International Relations Group <i>Superviseur, Groupe des relations internationales</i>
NOPPAWONG, Monton (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	Director, IPU Division <i>Directeur de la Division de l'UIP</i>
CHEUJEDONGK, Worathep (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	Adviser, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Chambre des Représentants</i>
KHANTANIT, Russdy (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	Adviser, House of Representatives <i>Conseiller, Chambre des Représentants</i>
CHUNCHIT, Piyachat (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseiller, Sénat</i>
MOOKASOMBAT, Veerapan (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Chambre des Représentants</i>
CHAOVALITTAWIL, Saithip (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, House of Representatives <i>Secrétaire général adjointe, Chambre des Représentants</i>
THONGSAMRIT, Pилanthana (Ms./Mme) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
SIRIWONG, Kanjanat (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, Senate <i>Conseillère, Sénat</i>
SAEWONG, Saensak (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
RAKSAPOLMUANG, Pathomporn (Ms./Mme) Interpreter / <i>Interprète</i>	
WANABHUM, Chawin (Mr./M.) Assistant Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire assistante de la délégation</i>	
THONGPHAKDI, Thani (Mr./M.) Ambassador/Permanent Representative <i>Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent</i>	
PATARACHOKE, Kanchana (Mrs./Mme) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
JIVAMONGKOL, Smithi (Mr./M.) Diplomat / <i>Diplomate</i>	
TIMOR-LESTE	
DA SILVA GUTERRES, Vicente (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Parliament <i>Président du Parlement national (CNRT)</i>
ANGÉLICA RANGEL, Maria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Parliament Committee on Public Finance <i>Membre du Parlement national (FRETILIN) Commission des finances publiques</i>
L. MARÇAL, Leonel (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament Commission on Health, Education and Culture <i>Membre du Parlement national (FRETILIN) Commission de la santé, de l'éducation et de la culture</i>
ANTÓNIA CORREIA, Brígida (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Parliament Commission on Economy and Development <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT) Commission de l'économie et du développement</i>
F. DA CONCEIÇÃO COSTA, Osório (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament Commission on Infrastructure, Transport and Communications <i>Membre du Parlement national (FRETILIN)</i>

	<i>Commission des infrastructures, des transports et des communications</i>
DA COSTA GUTERRES, Manuel (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament Commission on Economy and Development <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT)</i> <i>Commission de l'économie et du développement</i>
NUNES, Duarte (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Parliament Vice-President of the Committee on Foreign Affairs, Defence and Security <i>Membre du Parlement national (CNRT)</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères, de la défense et de la sécurité</i>
XIMENES BELO, Mateus (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement national</i>
ALVES XIMENES, Isabel (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, National Parliament <i>Conseillère, Parlement national</i>
ALMEIDA, Alexandre (Mr./M.)	Adviser, National Parliament <i>Conseiller, Parlement national</i>
BETULAU R. PEREIRA, Jemmy (Mr./M.)	Adviser, National Parliament <i>Conseiller, Parlement national</i>
MESQUITA DO REGO MARTINS, Lilia (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, National Parliament <i>Conseillère, Parlement national</i>
SOUSA CORTE REAL, Marta (Ms./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
DE SÁ, Baltazar (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Security, National Parliament <i>Conseiller, Sécurité, Parlement national</i>
GOMES LOPES, Jacob (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Security, National Parliament <i>Conseiller, Sécurité, Parlement national</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)

TOGO

DRAMANI, Dama (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Président d'Assemblée nationale</i>
DAGBAN-ZONVIDE, Ayawavi Djigbodi (Mrs./Mme)	Third Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly <i>Troisième Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée nationale (UNIR)</i>
APEVON, Kokou Dodji (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly, Law Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale, Commission des lois (Arc-en-Ciel)</i>
WAGUENA, Fademba Madakome (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
IDOH, Agbeko (Mr./M.)	Director, Inter-Parliamentary and International Cooperation <i>Directeur de la coopération interparlementaire et internationale</i>
GOMINA, Yassimiou (Mr./M.) Aide de camp du Président <i>Aide de camp to the Speaker</i>	

(UNIR: Union for the Republic / Union pour la République)
(Arc-en-Ciel: Rainbow Coalition / Coalition Arc-en-ciel)

TUNISIA – TUNISIE

KOUSANTINI, Soulef (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 National Constituent Assembly, Committee on Energy and Production Sector <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale constituante</i> <i>Commission de l'énergie et des secteurs de production</i>
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TURKEY - TURQUIE

ALPAY, Şuay (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
AYDIN, Kemalettin (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
KAHVECİ, Osman (Mr./M.)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
NAZLIAKA, Aylin (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
ALTIOK, Zeynep (Ms./Mme)	Member of the Grand National Assembly of Turkey <i>Membre, Grande Assemblée nationale de Turquie</i>
ÇETİN, Recep (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>
ER AS, Hatice (Ms./Mme)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>
AĞAÇ, İsa Yusuf (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>
ÖNAL, Elif Esra (Ms./Mme)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>

UGANDA - OUGANDA

KADAGA, Rebecca (Ms./Mme) Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the delegation <i>Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of Parliament Chairperson of the Appointments Committee and Business Committee <i>Présidente du Parlement (NRMO)</i> <i>Présidente de la Commission des nominations et Commission des affaires</i>
AKELLO, Judith Franca (Ms./Mme)	Member of Parliament Finance Committee and Budget Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (FDC)</i> <i>Commission des finances et Commission du budget</i>
AMONGI, Betty (Ms./Mme) Coordinating Committee of Women Parliamentarians <i>Comité de coordination des femmes parlementaires</i>	Member of Parliament Committee on Agriculture <i>Membre du Parlement (UPC)</i> <i>Commission de l'agriculture</i>
DOMBO, Emmanuel (Mr./M.) Committee to promote respect for IHL <i>Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du DIH</i>	Member of Parliament Committee on National Economy <i>Membre du Parlement (NRMO)</i> <i>Commission de l'économie nationale</i>
KIYINGI BBOSA, Kenneth (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament Committee on Public Service and Local Government Committee on HIV/AIDS <i>Membre du Parlement (Ind)</i> <i>Commission des services publics et du gouvernement local</i> <i>Commission du Sida/VIH</i>
BALYEJJUSA, Sulaiman (Mr./M.)	Member of Parliament Finance Committee <i>Membre du Parlement (NRMO)</i> <i>Commission des finances</i>
KIBIRIGE, Jane (Mrs./Mme) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général, Parlement</i>
WABWIRE, Paul (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, Parliament <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Parlement</i>
ODEKE, Peter (Mr./M.)	Press Secretary to the Speaker of Parliament <i>Secrétaire de presse auprès du Président du Parlement</i>
TUMUKWASIBWE, Robert (Mr./M.) Secretary to the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Secretary, President's Executive Office, Parliament <i>Secrétaire, Cabinet du Président du Parlement</i>

NADUNGA, Esther (Ms./Mme)

Adviser, President's Executive Office, Parliament
Conseillère, Cabinet du Président du Parlement

(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

KLYMPUSH-TSINTSADZE, Ivanna (Ms./Mme)

Leader of the delegation

Chef de la délégation

Member of Parliament

First Deputy Chair of the Foreign Affairs Committee

Head of the Permanent Delegation to the NATO

Parliamentary Assembly

*Membre du Parlement**Première Vice-Présidente de la Commission des affaires étrangères**Chef de la délégation permanente auprès de**l'Assemblée parlementaire de l'OTAN*

HRYNEVYCH, Liliya (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament

Chair, Committee on Science and Education

*Membre du Parlement**Présidente de la Commission de la science et de l'éducation*

KATSER-BUCHKOVSKA, Nataliya (Ms./Mme)

Member of Parliament

Chair of Sub-Committee

Committee on Energy and Fuel Sector, Nuclear Policy and Nuclear Safety

*Membre du Parlement**Présidente de Sous-commission**Commission de l'énergie et du secteur des combustibles*

GERASYMOV, Artur (Mr./M.)

Member of Parliament

Committee on National Security and Defence

*Membre du Parlement**Commission de la sécurité nationale et de la défense*

KLYMENKO, Yurii (Mr./M.)

Ambassador/Permanent Representative

Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent

KOVALYSHYN, Volodymyr (Mr./M.)

Diplomat / *Diplomate***UNITED ARAB EMIRATES - EMIRATS ARABES UNIS**

ALQUBAISI, Amal (Ms./Mme)

Leader of the delegation

Chef de la délégation

Deputy Speaker of the Federal National Council

Vice-Présidente du Conseil national de la Fédération

ALNUAIMI, Ali (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

ALMANSOORI, Ahmed (Mr./M.)

Bureau of the Standing Committee on UN Affairs

Bureau de la Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

ALSAMAHI, Sultan (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

FAISAL, Faisal (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

AL SHURAIQI, Rashed (Mr./M.)

Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the delegation

Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

JASIM, Ali (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

ALSHAHEE, Abdulrahim (Mr./M.)

Member of the Federal National Council

Membre du Conseil national de la Fédération

AL MAZROOEI, Mohamed (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
AL SHAMSI, Abdulrahman (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Director <i>Directeur</i>
AL DHANHANI, Wadha (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, Research Office, Federal National Council <i>Conseillère, Service de recherche, Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
AL BLOUSHI, Hamda (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, Research Office, Federal National Council <i>Conseillère, Service de recherche, Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
AL SUWAIDI, Eman (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, Research Office, Federal National Council <i>Conseillère, Service de recherche, Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
AL SHIHHE, Roudha (Ms./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
ALSHEHHI, Abdulrahman (Mr./M.)	Adviser <i>Conseiller</i>
ALMUHAIRI, Juma (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Protocol, Federal National Council <i>Conseiller, Protocole, Conseil national de la Fédération</i>
ALSHEHHI, Salama (Ms./Mme)	Advisor <i>Conseillère</i>

UNITED KINGDOM - ROYAUME-UNI

EVANS, Nigel (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>
LIDDELL-GRAINGER, Ian (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (C)</i>
GAPES, Mike (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (L)</i>
Rt Hon CLWYD, Ann (Ms./Mme) Chair of the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians <i>Présidente du Comité des droits de l'homme des parlementaires</i>	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (L)</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>
CAMERON, Lisa (Ms./Mme)	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (SNP)</i>
HOOPER CMG, Gloria (Baroness)	Member of the House of Lords <i>Membre de la Chambre des Lords (C)</i>
PRITCHARD, Mark (Mr./M.)	Member of the House of Commons <i>Membre de la Chambre des Communes (C)</i>
KENNON, Andrew (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Clerk of Committees, House of Commons <i>Greffier des commissions, Chambre des Communes</i>
KEITH, Brendan (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Deputy Secretary-General, House of Lords <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Chambre des Lords</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>
OSTLER, Sophia (Ms./Mme)	International Project Manager <i>Chef de projets internationaux</i>
DAVIES, Emily (Ms./Mme)	International Project Manager <i>Chef de projets internationaux</i>
UNDERWOOD, Sheila (Ms./Mme)	Adviser / <i>Conseillère</i>

PICHE, Nicole (Ms./Mme)
Human Rights Adviser
Conseillère aux droits de l'homme

COMMANDER, Emily (Ms./Mme)
Joint Secretary of the ASGP
Co-Secrétaire de l'ASGP

MOELLER, Daniel (Mr./M.)
Assistant to the ASGP Secretariat
Assistant du Secrétariat de l'ASGP

BRAITHWAITE, Julian (Mr./M.)
Ambassador/Permanent Representative
Ambassadeur/Représentant permanent

URUGUAY

PASSADA, Ivonne (Mrs./Mme)
Member of the Executive Committee, Leader of the delegation
Membre du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation

First Vice-President of the Senate
Chair of the Labour Committee
Education and Culture Committee
Public Health Committee
Première Vice-Présidente du Sénat (FA)
Présidente de la Commission du travail
Commission de l'éducation et de la culture
Commission de la santé publique

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
Committee on Constitution, Codes, General Legislation and Administration
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FA)
Commission de la Constitution, des codes, de la législation générale et de l'administration

CARBALLO, Felipe (Mr./M.)

Member of the House of Representatives
Chair of the Transport, Communications and Public Works Committee
Membre de la Chambre des Représentants (FA)
Président de la Commission des transports, des communications et des travaux publics

HEBER, Luis Alberto (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Administrative Affairs Committee
Constitution and Legislation Committee
Treasury Committee
Membre du Sénat (PN)
Commission des affaires administratives
Commission de la Constitution et de la législation
Commission financière

LARRAÑAGA, Jorge (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Labour Committee
Livestock, Agriculture, and Fisheries Committee
Industry, Energy, Trade, Tourism and Services Committee
Membre du Sénat (PN)
Commission du travail
Commission de l'agriculture, de l'élevage et de la pêche
Commission de l'industrie, de l'énergie, du commerce, du tourisme et des services

COUTINHO, Germán (Mr./M.)

Member of the Senate
Deputy Chair of the Public Health Committee
National Defence Committee
Transport and Public Works Committee
Membre du Sénat (PC)
Vice-Président de la Commission de la santé publique
Commission de la défense nationale
Commission des transports et des travaux publics
Secretary General, Senate
Secrétaire général, Sénat

MONTERO, José Pedro (Mr./M.)
Member of the Executive Committee of the ASGP
Membre du Comité exécutif de l'ASGP

Director, International Relations
Directeur, Relations internationales

PIQUINELA, Oscar (Mr./M.)
Secretary of the Group and Secretary of the GRULAC
Secrétaire du Groupe et du GRULAC

GALVALISI, Carina (Mrs./Mme)
Assistant Secretary of the Group and of the GRULAC
Secrétaire assistante du Groupe et du GRULAC

GONZÁLEZ, Cristina (Mrs./Mme)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

(FA: Frente Amplio / Front élargi)
(PN: National Party / Parti national)
(PC: Partido Colorado / Parti Colorado)

VIVAS, Darío (Mr./M.)
Vice-President of the Executive Committee,
Leader of the delegation
Vice-Président du Comité exécutif, Chef de la délégation

ALEMAN, Juan Carlos (Mr./M.)

EL ZABAYAR SAMARA, Adel (Mr./M.)

MARTINEZ, Zulay (Mrs./Mme)

MATA, Victoria (Mrs./Mme)

ZAMBRANO, Edgar (Mr./M.)

ZERPA, Christian (Mr./M.)

GARCIA SEQUERA, Fenix (Mrs./Mme)

AVILA TORRES, Jose Gregorio (Mr./M.)

GALINDO, Jackson (Mr./M.)
Diplomat / *Diplomate*

URBANO, Nelson (Mr./M.)
Press / *Presse*

GOMEZ, Ruben (Mr./M.)
Press / *Presse*

GARAYCOA, Merlyn (Mrs./Mme)
Press / *Presse*

ALMEIDA, Claudia (Mr./M.)
Press / *Presse*

(PSUV: United Socialist Party of Venezuela / Parti socialiste uni du Venezuela)
(AD: Democratic Action / Action démocratique)

VENEZUELA

Member of the National Assembly
President of the Committee on Domestic Policy
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Président de la Commission de la politique intérieure

Member of the National Assembly
Committee on Domestic Policy
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Commission de la politique intérieure

Member of the National Assembly
Defence and Security Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Commission de la défense et de la sécurité

Member of the National Assembly
Committee on Family, Women and Youth
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Commission de la famille, de la femme et de la jeunesse

Member of the National Assembly
Culture and Recreation Commission
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Commission de la culture et des loisirs

Member of the National Assembly
Comptroller Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (AD)
Commission du contrôleur financier

Member of the National Assembly
Committee on Foreign Policy, Sovereignty and
Integration

Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (PSUV)
Commission de la politique étrangère, de la souveraineté et de l'intégration

Secretary General, National Assembly
Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale

Adviser, International Relations, National Assembly
Conseiller, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale

VIET NAM

TRAN, Van Hang (Mr./M.)
President of the Group, Leader of the delegation
Président du Groupe, Chef de la délégation

Member of the National Assembly
Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
Membre de l'Assemblée nationale
Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères

VU, Hai Ha (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Vice-Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Vice-Président de la Commission des affaires étrangères</i>
NGUYEN, Thanh Hai (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Vice-Chair of the National Assembly's Office <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale</i> <i>Responsable adjointe du Bureau de l'Assemblée nationale</i>
LE THU, Ha (Mrs./Mme) Adviser to the delegation <i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	Director General, Foreign Affairs Department <i>Directrice générale du Bureau des affaires étrangères</i>
PHAM THI, Ngoc Ha (Mrs./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	
DAO, Duy Trung (Mr./M.) Secretary to the delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</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>
BANDA, Esther M. (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NFSB - VMRO)</i>
ANTONIO, Carlos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Health, Community Development and Social Services Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UPND)</i> <i>Commission de la santé, du développement de la communauté et des services sociaux</i>
CHUNGU, Anne M. (Mrs./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Agriculture Committee on Communications, Transport, Works and Supply <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MMD)</i> <i>Commission de l'agriculture</i> <i>Commission des communications, des transports, des travaux et de l'approvisionnement</i>
KALIMA, Victoria (Ms./Mme)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Government Assurances Committee on Legal Affairs, Governance, Human Rights, Gender Matters and Child Affairs <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MMD)</i> <i>Commission des assurances gouvernementales</i> <i>Commission des affaires juridiques, de la gouvernance, des droits de l'homme, de l'égalité des sexes et de la protection de l'enfance</i>
KAZABU, Luxon (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Local Governance, Housing and Chief's Affairs Committee <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (NFSB - VMRO)</i> <i>Commission de la gouvernance locale, du logement et des affaires du chef</i>
MONDE, Greyford (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (UPND)</i>
MWINGA, Doris Katai (Mrs./Mme) President of the ASGP <i>Président de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
MBEWE, Cecilia N. (Mr./M.)	Deputy Secretary-General, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général adjoint, Assemblée nationale</i>
MPOLOKOSO, Anthony (Mr./M.)	Deputy Director, International Relations, National Assembly <i>Directeur adjoint, Relations internationales, Assemblée nationale</i>

CHELU, John (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Security, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Sécurité, Assemblée nationale</i>
CHEELO, Solistor (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Assemblée nationale</i>
BANDA, Naomi (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, Research Office, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Service de recherche, Assemblée nationale</i>
CHIKANWA, Gregory (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Assemblée nationale</i>
SOLOPI, Mwaula (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Information / Media, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Informations / Médias, Assemblée nationale</i>
NYIRENDA, Temwa (Mr./M.)	Adviser, Protocol, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Protocole, Assemblée nationale</i>
ZULU, Christine (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
MONGA, Pauline (Ms./Mme)	Adviser, Protocol, National Assembly <i>Conseillère, Protocole, Assemblée nationale</i>
NGULUBE, Roy (Mr./M.)	Adviser, President's Executive Office, National Assembly <i>Conseiller, Cabinet du Président, Assemblée nationale</i>
(NFSB - VMRO: Patriotic Front / Front patriotique)	
(UPND: United Party for National Development / Parti uni pour le développement national)	
(MMD: Movement for Multiparty Democracy / Mouvement pour une démocratie pluraliste)	

ZIMBABWE

MADZONGWE, Edna (Mrs./Mme) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker of the Senate <i>Présidente du Sénat (ZANU/PF)</i>
SIATABWA, Nkatanzo (Mr./M.)	Member of the Senate <i>Membre du Sénat</i>
CHIBAYA, Amos (Mr./M.)	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (MDC-T)</i> <i>Commission des services publics, du travail et de la protection sociale</i>
DZIVA, Tionei Melody (Ms./Mme) Board of Forum of Young MPs of the IPU / <i>Conseil du Forum des jeunes parlementaires de l'UIP</i>	Member of the National Assembly Committee on Youth Indigenization and Economic Empowerment <i>Membre de l'Assemblée nationale (ZANU/PF)</i> <i>Commission de l'indigénisation de la jeunesse et du renforcement du pouvoir économique</i>
CHOKUDA, Kennedy Mugove (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Clerk, National Assembly <i>Secrétaire général, Assemblée nationale</i>
MARIMO, Ndamuka (Mr./M.)	Manager, Clerk's Office <i>Directeur, Bureau du Secrétaire général</i>
DADIRAYI MAKONI, Roselyn (Ms./Mme) Secretary of the Group <i>Secrétaire du Groupe</i>	Director, President of the Senate's Office <i>Directrice, Bureau de la Présidente du Sénat</i>
MAVHURA, Patrick (Mr./M.) Security Aide to the President of the Senate <i>Agent de sécurité de la Présidente du Sénat</i>	
(ZANU/PF: Zimbabwe African National Union - Patriotic Front / Union nationale africaine - Front patriotique du Zimbabwe)	
(MDC-T: Movement for Democratic Change T / Mouvement pour un changement démocratique)	

II. ASSOCIATE MEMBERS - MEMBRES ASSOCIES**ARAB PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT ARABE**

ALJARWAN, Ahmed (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker <i>Président</i>
ALASOOMI, Adel (Mr./M.)	Member <i>Membre</i>
ALJAMANI, Falak (Mrs./Mme)	Member <i>Membre</i>

**EAST AFRICAN LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY (EALA)
ASSEMBLEE LEGISLATIVE EST-AFRICAINE**

KIDEGA, Daniel (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker Chair of the EALA Commission <i>Président</i> <i>Président de la Commission EALA</i>
NDIKURYAYO, Straton (Mr./M.)	Member <i>Membre</i>
ODIKO, Bobi (Mr./M.) Secretary to the Delegation <i>Secrétaire de la délégation</i>	Programme Officer <i>Chargé de Programme</i>
KALIBA, Winifred (Mrs./Mme) Adviser to the delegation <i>Conseillère de la délégation</i>	Adviser, President's Executive Office <i>Conseillère, Cabinet du Président</i>

**INTER-PARLIAMENTARY COMMITTEE OF THE WEST AFRICAN ECONOMIC
AND MONETARY UNION (WAEMU)
COMITE INTERPARLEMENTAIRE DE L'UNION ECONOMIQUE
ET MONETAIRE OUEST-AFRICAINE (UEMOA)**

YAHOUDEDOU, François Janvier (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Speaker, Chair, Inter-Parliamentary Committee <i>Président, Président du Comité interparlementaire</i>
BADJE, Halidou (Mr./M.)	Member <i>Membre</i>
ESSOU, Noudokpo Pascal (Mr./M.)	Member, Chair, Sub-Committee on Tax, Custom and Trade Policies <i>Membre, Président de Sous-Comité des politiques fiscales, douanières et commerciales</i>
PAYE/SECK, Marie Thérèse Aïda (Mrs./Mme)	Member <i>Membre</i>
FONGNI, Emile Rigobert (Mr./M.) Member of the ASGP <i>Membre de l'ASGP</i>	Secretary General a.i. <i>Secrétaire général a.i.</i>

**LATIN AMERICAN PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT LATINO-AMÉRICAIN**

ALCALA, Blanca (Mrs./Mme)	Speaker <i>Présidente</i>
GONZALEZ, Pablo (Mr./M.) Leader of the delegation <i>Chef de la délégation</i>	Member <i>Membre</i>
FERRER, Yolanda (Mrs./Mme)	Member <i>Membre</i>
GARCIA, Francisco (Mr./M.)	Member <i>Membre</i>
RODRIGUEZ, Angel (Mr./M.)	Member <i>Membre</i>
CALERO, Norma (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>
CARMONA, Mariana (Mrs./Mme)	Adviser <i>Conseillère</i>

PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE COUNCIL OF EUROPE
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DU CONSEIL DE L'EUROPE

BRASSEUR, Anne (Ms./Mme)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Speaker
Présidente

SAWICKI, Wojciech (Mr./M.)

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

KARPENKO, Artemy (Mr./M.)

Adviser
Conseiller

III. OBSERVERS – OBSERVATEURS**FOOD AND AGRICULTURE ORGANIZATION OF THE UNITED NATIONS (FAO)
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ALIMENTATION ET L'AGRICULTURE**

PIERRI, Francesco (Mr./M.), Head, Advocacy Unit / *Chef de l'Unité de plaidoyer*

**INTERNATIONAL LABOUR OFFICE (ILO)
BUREAU INTERNATIONAL DU TRAVAIL (BIT)**

HOVDA, Morten (Mr./M.), Special Adviser, Office of the Director-General / *Conseiller principal du Cabinet du Directeur général*

CHOLEWINSKI, Ryszard (Mr./M.), Migration Policy Specialist / *Spécialiste de la politique des migrations*

MARTINOT-LAGARDE, Pierre (Mr./M.), Special Advisor for Socio-religious Affairs / *Conseiller spécial pour les affaires socio-religieuses*

GRISEWOOD, Nickolas (Mr./M.)

**INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS UNION (ITU)
UNION INTERNATIONALE DES TELECOMMUNICATIONS (UIT)**

MALLOOR, Preetan (Mr./M.)

LICCIARDELLO, Carla (Ms./Mme)

SAREIDAKI, Despoina (Ms./Mme)

**OFFICE OF THE UNITED NATIONS HIGH COMMISSIONER FOR HUMAN RIGHTS (OHCHR)
HAUT-COMMISSARIAT DES NATIONS UNIES AUX DROITS DE L'HOMME (HCDH)**

OBEROI, Pia (Ms./Mme), Advisor on Migration and Human Rights / *Conseillère, Migration droits de l'homme*

SMITH, Bradford C. (Mr./M.), Secretary of the Committee on the Protection of the Rights of all Migrant Workers and Members of their Families / *Secrétaire du Comité pour la protection des droits de tous les travailleurs migrants et des membres de leur famille*

VALES, Hernán (Mr./M.), Human Rights Officer / *Chargé des droits de l'homme*

HUSZTI-ORBAN, Krisztina (Ms./Mme), Human Rights Officer / *Chargée des droits de l'homme*

SAUBERLI, Geneviève (Ms./Mme), Associate Human Rights Officer / *Spécialiste des droits de l'homme*

HERNÁNDEZ, Carolina (Ms./Mme), Consultant on Migration and Human Rights / *Consultante, Migration et droits de l'homme*

ALEXANDER, Ilona (Ms./Mme), Human Rights Officer / *Chargée des droits de l'homme*

**PARTNERSHIP FOR MATERNAL, NEWBORN AND CHILD HEALTH (PMNCH)
PARTENARIAT POUR LA SANTE DE LA MERE, DU NOUVEAU-NE ET DE L'ENFANT**

DE FRANCISCO SERPA, Andres (Mr./M.), Deputy Executive Director / *Directeur exécutif adjoint*

VERLICK, Veronic (Ms./Mme)

ORYA, Breshna (Ms./Mme)

**JOINT UNITED NATIONS PROGRAMME ON HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS)
PROGRAMME COMMUN DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE VIH/SIDA (ONUSIDA)**

SIDIBÉ, Michael (Mr./M.), Director / *Directeur*

**UNITED NATIONS CHILDREN'S FUND (UNICEF)
FONDS DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENFANCE**

VIVIANI, Marilena (Ms./Mme), Associate Director, Programme Partnerships / *Directrice adjointe, Programme des partenariats*

POWELL, James (Mr./M.), Coordinator, Global Innovation Centre / *Coordinateur, Centre d'innovation mondial*

KIRONGET, Lee (Mr./M.)

**UNITED NATIONS CONFERENCE ON TRADE AND DEVELOPMENT (UNCTAD)
CONFÉRENCE DES NATIONS UNIES SUR LE COMMERCE ET LE DÉVELOPPEMENT (CNUCED)**

ZHAN, James (Mr./M.), Director, Division on Investment and Enterprise / *Directeur de la Division de l'investissement et des entreprises*

MIROUX, Anne (Ms./Mme), Director, Division on Technology and Logistics / *Directrice de la Division de la technologie et de la logistique*

**UNITED NATIONS DEVELOPMENT PROGRAMME (UNDP)
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR LE DÉVELOPPEMENT (PNUD)**

CHAUVEL, Charles (Mr./M.), Parliamentary Advisor, Democratic Governance Group
Conseiller parlementaire, Groupe de la gouvernance démocratique

**UNITED NATIONS ENVIRONMENT PROGRAMME (UNEP)
PROGRAMME DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ENVIRONNEMENT**

DUSIK, Jan (Mr./M.), Regional Director / *Directeur régional*

ASNAKE KIBRET, Wondwosen (Mr./M.), Programme Officer / *Chargé de programme*

**UNITED NATIONS EDUCATIONAL, SCIENTIFIC AND CULTURAL ORGANIZATION (UNESCO)
ORGANISATION DES NATIONS UNIES POUR L'ÉDUCATION, LA SCIENCE ET LA CULTURE**

BOCCARDI, Giovanni (Mr./M.), Chief of the Emergency Preparedness and Response Unit
Chef de l'Unité des mesures et des interventions d'urgence

**UNITED NATIONS OFFICE ON DRUGS AND CRIME (UNODC)
OFFICE DES NATIONS UNIES CONTRE LA DROGUE ET LE CRIME (ONUDC)**

MIEDICO, Mauro (Mr./M.), Chief of Section / *Chef de section*

PERESADA, Sergey (Mr./M.), Programme Management Officer / *Spécialiste de la gestion des programmes*

LEPORE, Arianna (Ms./Mme), Programme Officer / *Chargée de programme*

**UN WOMEN
ONU FEMMES**

BALAMACI, Aida (Ms./Mme), Knowledge Management Specialist / *Spécialiste de la gestion du savoir*

BALLINGTON, Julie (Ms./Mme), Policy Advisor / *Conseillère politique*

**WORLD HEALTH ORGANIZATION (WHO)
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DE LA SANTÉ**

TEMMERMAN, Marleen (Mrs./Mme), Director / *Directrice*

BUSTREO, Flavia (Ms./Mme), Assistant Director General for Family, Women's and Children's Health
Directrice générale adjointe, Santé de la famille, de la femme et des enfants

SCOLARO, Elisa (Ms./Mme), Technical Officer / *Administratrice technique*

LAND, Mary-Anne (Ms./Mme), Executive Officer / *Chef de la direction*

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION OF SUPREME AUDIT INSTITUTIONS (INTOSAI)

SATTLER, Robert (Mr./M.), Director / *Directeur*

**WORLD BANK
BANQUE MONDIALE**

BATHILY, Nayé (Mrs./Mme), Lead, Global Parliamentary Relations / *Chef des relations parlementaires globales*

IVANOVA, Gergana (Ms./Mme), Programme Officer, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**WORLD TRADE ORGANIZATION (WTO)
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DU COMMERCE (OMC)**

EL HACHIMI, Said (Mr./M.), Adviser, Information and External Relations Division
Conseiller, Division de l'information et des relations extérieures

**AFRICAN UNION
UNION AFRICAINE**

EHOUZOU, Jean-Marie (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre*

**LEAGUE OF ARAB STATES
LEAGUE DES ETATS ARABES**

ABOULENEIN, Sameh (Mr./M.), Head of the Permanent Delegation of the League of Arab States
Chef de la délégation permanente de la League des Etats arabes

**AFRICAN PARLIAMENTARY UNION (APU)
UNION PARLEMENTAIRE AFRICAINE**

N'ZI, Koffi (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*
CHEROUATI, Samir (Mr./M.), Administrator / *Administrateur*

**ARAB INTERPARLIAMENTARY UNION (AIPU)
UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE ARABE**

BOUCHKOUJ, Nour Eddine (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

**ASIAN PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY (APA)
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE ASIATIQUE**

KHORRAM, Ali (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary-General / *Secrétaire général adjoint*
MOSHIRVAZIRI, Bijan (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary-General / *Secrétaire général adjoint*

**GLOBAL ORGANISATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION (GOPAC)
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES PARLEMENTAIRES CONTRE LA CORRUPTION**

ZON, Fadli (Mr./M.), Chair / *Président*
KYEI-MENSA-BONSU, Osei (Mr./M.), Vice-Chair / *Vice-Président*

**INTERPARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF MEMBER NATIONS OF THE COMMONWEALTH OF INDEPENDENT STATES (CIS)
ASSEMBLEE INTERPARLEMENTAIRE DES ETATS MEMBRES DE LA COMMUNAUTE DES ETATS INDEPENDANTS**

VLADIMIROVA, Yevgeniya (Ms./Mme), Advisor, Secretary to the Commission on Social Policy and Human Rights, Administrative Secretary, Board of Experts on Public Health / *Conseillère, Secrétaire de la Commission de la Politique sociale et des droits de l'homme, Secrétaire administrative du Comité d'experts de la santé publique*

**MAGHREB CONSULTATIVE COUNCIL
CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DU MAGHREB**

MOKADEM, Said (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire Général*

**PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR NUCLEAR NON-PROLIFERATION AND DISARMAMENT (PNND)
PARLEMENTAIRES POUR LA NON PROLIFÉRATION NUCLÉAIRE ET LE DÉARMEMENT (PNDN)**

WARE, Alyn (Mr./M.), Global Coordinator / *Coordinateur global*
ROBSON, Matt (Mr./M.), Coordinator, Pacific and South-East Asia / *Coordinateur, Pacifique et Asie du Sud-Est*
LEROY, Caroline (Ms./Mme), Desk Officer for Latina America / *Responsable pour l'Amérique latine*
SWANI, Simrat (Ms./Mme), Assistant for South Asia / *Assistante pour l'Asie du Sud*

**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 général adjoint*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE MEDITERRANEAN (PAM)
ASSEMBLÉE PARLEMENTAIRE DE LA MÉDITERRANÉE**

AMORUSO, Francesco Maria (Mr./M.), Honorary President / *Président honoraire*
KASEM, Belal (Mr./M.), Vice-President of the Third Standing Committee / *Vice-Président de la troisième Commission permanente*
SCHATZER, Peter (Mr./M.), Permanent Observer / *Observateur permanent*

**PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF TURKIC SPEAKING COUNTRIES (TURKPA)
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DES PAYS DE LANGUE TURCIQUE**ASANOV, Jandos (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*HASANOV, Emin (Mr./M.), Secretary of Commission / *Secrétaire de commission***PARLIAMENTARY ASSEMBLY OF THE UNION OF BELARUS AND RUSSIA
ASSEMBLEE PARLEMENTAIRE DE L'UNION DU BELARUS ET DE LA FEDERATION DE RUSSIE**LEYKAUSKAS, Audryus (Mr./M.), Head of Department, Secretary to the delegation / *Chef de département*SENKO, Vladimir (Mr./M.), Head of Committee, Head of Delegation / *Chef de commission***PARLIAMENTARY UNION OF THE OIC MEMBER STATES (PUIC)
UNION PARLEMENTAIRE DES ETATS MEMBRES DE L'OCI (UPCI)**KILIC, Mahmut Erol (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*MOHAMMADI SIJANI, Ali Asghar (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary General / *Secrétaire général assistant*SABRI, Soheila (Mrs./Mme), Expert / *Experte***WORLD SCOUT PARLIAMENTARY UNION (WSPU)
UNION PARLEMENTAIRE MONDIALE DU SCOUTISME (UPMS)**KIM CHOON JIN (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre*KIM EUL DONG (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre*LEE CHAN YEOL (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre*SHIN YEE JIN (Mr./M.), Member / *Membre***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 Specialist, Parliamentary Affairs / *Spécialiste principal, Affaires parlementaires***LIBERAL INTERNATIONAL**KIRJAS, Emil (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*WOODTHORPE BROWNE, Robert (Mr./M.), Treasurer / *Trésorier*PONTON, Noah (Mr./M.), Intern / *Stagiaire***SOCIALIST INTERNATIONAL**AYALA, Luis (Mr./M.), Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*PERRY, Latifa (Ms./Mme), Secretariat Coordinator / *Coordinatrice du Secrétariat***INTERNATIONAL COMMITTEE OF THE RED CROSS (ICRC)
COMITE INTERNATIONAL DE LA CROIX-ROUGE (CICR)**BOUVIER, Antoine (Mr./M.), Legal Adviser / *Conseiller juridique*PELLANDINI, Cristina (Ms./Mme), Head, Advisory Services Unit / *Cheffe d'Unité des Services consultatifs*HELLE, Daniel (Mr./M.), Diplomatic Advisor / *Conseiller diplomatique*LADOUCEUR, Laurianne (Ms./Mme), Legal Intern, Advisory Services / *Stagiaire juridique des Services consultatifs***INTERNATIONAL IDEA**MACHANGANA, Keboitse (Ms./Mme), Director, Global Programme / *Directeur du programme mondial*KANDAWASVIKA-NHUNDU, Rumbidzai (Ms./Mme), Senior Programme Manager, Democracy and Gender / *Fonctionnaire principale de programme, démocratie et égalité des sexes***INTERNATIONAL FEDERATION OF RED CROSS AND RED CRESCENT SOCIETIES (IFRC)
FEDERATION INTERNATIONALE DES SOCIETES DE LA CROIX-ROUGE ET DU CROISSANT-ROUGE (FICR)**KELLY, Tessa (Ms./Mme), Senior Disaster Law Officer / *Coordinatrice du droit relatif aux catastrophes*PEIRIS, Surein (Mr./M.), Senior Officer for Humanitarian Diplomacy / *Coordinateur de la diplomatie humanitaire*

**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**

COMOROS – COMORES

OUSSЕНИ, Abdou (Mr./M.), Speaker of the Assembly of the Union / *Président de l'Assemblée de l'Union*

MAOULANA, Carif (Mr./M.), First Deputy Speaker of the Assembly of the Union / *Premier Vice-Président de l'Assemblée de l'Union*

HARIBOU, Mohamadi (Mr./M.), Political Adviser / *Conseiller politique*

VANUATU

PIPITE, Marcellino (Mr./M.), Speaker of Parliament / *Président du Parlement*

TETER, Leon (Mr./M.), Deputy Clerk of the Standing Committee Office / *Greffier adjoint du Comité permanent*

**ADVISERS TAKING PART IN THE WORK OF THE 133rd ASSEMBLY
CONSEILLERS PARTICIPANT AUX TRAVAUX DE LA 133^{ème} ASSEMBLEE**

BULGARIA - BULGARIE

SLAVCHOV, Ivan (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

ALEXANDROVA, Stefka (Ms./Mme)
Administrative Secretary of the Group
Secrétaire administratif du Groupe

ILIEVA, Evgeniya (Ms./Mme)

Head, President's Office
Chef du Bureau du Président

IVANOVA, Stefka (Ms./Mme)
Interpreter / *Interprète*

MONTENEGRO

STANKOVIC, Sinisa (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General / *Secrétaire général*

MIJANOVIC, Irena (Ms./Mme)

Head of the Secretary General's Office
Chef du Bureau du Secrétaire général

SLOVAKIA - SLOVAQUIE

GUSPAN, Daniel (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Secretary General of the Chancellery of the National
Council
*Secrétaire général de la Chancellerie du Conseil
national*

UNITED REPUBLIC OF TANZANIA - REPUBLIQUE-UNIE DE TANZANIE

JOEL, John (Mr./M.)
Member of the ASGP
Membre de l'ASGP

Deputy Clerk
Secrétaire général adjoint

MWANDUMBYA, Owen (Mr./M.)

Information Officer
Chargé de l'information

**ANDEAN PARLIAMENT
PARLEMENT ANDIN**

CHILQUINGA MAZÓN, Eduardo (Mr./M.)
Leader of the delegation
Chef de la délégation

Secretary General
Secrétaire général

CHACÓN MONSALVE, Carlos Augusto (Mr./M.)
Secretary to the delegation
Secrétaire de la délégation

Secretary, Political Affairs
Secrétaire des questions politiques

**PARLIAMENT OF THE ECONOMIC COMMUNITY OF WEST AFRICAN STATES (ECOWAS)
PARLEMENT DE LA COMMUNAUTE ECONOMIQUE DES ETATS DE L'AFRIQUE DE L'OUEST (CEDEAO)**

JOHN, Azumah (Mr./M.)	Secretary General <i>Secrétaire général</i>
DUDUYEMI, Lawal (Mr./M.)	Director <i>Directeur</i>
M'PE, Moussa Traore (Mr./M.)	Committee Clerk <i>Greffier de commission</i>
FWANGDER, Ezekiel (Mr./M.)	Protocol Officer <i>Chargé du protocole</i>

**SPECIAL GUESTS TAKING PART IN ACTIVITIES FORESEEN ON THE OCCASION OF THE
133rd ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION
INVITES SPECIAUX PRENANT PART A DES ACTIVITES PREVUES
A L'OCCASION DE LA 133^{ème} ASSEMBLEE DE L'UNION INTERPARLEMENTAIRE**

LACY SWING, William (Mr./M.), Director General, IOM / *Directeur general de l'OIM*
 RYDER, Guy (Mr./M.), Director General, ILO / *Directeur général de l'OIT*
 KASHETU KYENGE, Cécile (Mrs./Mme), Vice-President, ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly
Vice-Présidente de l'Assemblée Parlementaire Paritaire ACP-UE
 CHAN, Margaret (Ms./Mme), Director-General, WHO / *Directrice générale de l'OMS*
 FEDOTOV, Yury (Mr./M.), Executive Director, UNODC / *Directeur exécutif, ONUDC*
 LABORDE, Jean-Paul (Mr./M.), Assistant Secretary-General, Executive Director of the United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED),
Sous-Secrétaire général, Directeur exécutif de la Direction exécutive du Comité des Nations Unies contre le terrorisme (CTED) du Conseil de sécurité des Nations Unies
 BEERLI, Christine (Ms./Mme), Vice-President, ICRC / *Vice-Présidente du CICR*
 TÜRK, Volker (Mr./M.), Assistant High Commissioner for Protection, UNHCR / *Haut Commissaire assistant du HCR en charge de la protection*

**Standing Committee on Peace and International Security
Commission permanente de la paix et de la sécurité**

KOSER, Khalid (Mr./M.), Executive Director, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)
Directeur exécutif, Global Community Engagement and Resilience Fund (GCERF)
 EL-DAWLA, Ahmed Seif (Mr./M.), Chief of Section, United Nations Counter-Terrorism Committee Executive Directorate (CTED) / *Chef de section, Comité des Nations Unies contre le terrorisme (CTED)*
**Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade
Commission permanente du développement durable, du financement et du commerce**
 AVERCHENKOVA, Alina (Ms./Mme), London School of Economics and Political Science

**Standing Committee on UN Affairs
Commission permanente des affaires des Nations Unies**

KOHEN, Marcelo (Mr./M.), Professor of International Law, GLIDS / *Professeur de droit international, IHEID*
 LINDENMANN, Jürg (Mr./M.), Federal Department of Foreign Affairs, Switzerland
Département fédéral des affaires étrangères, Suisse
 JÜTERSONKE, Oliver (Mr./M.), Head of Research, Graduate Institute's Centre on Conflict, Development and Peacebuilding (CCDP), Geneva / *Chef de la recherche, Centre d'étude des conflits, du développement et de la consolidation de la paix, Institut de hautes études internationales et du développement (IHEID), Genève*
 WEBER, Scott (Mr./M.), Director-General, Interpeace / *Directeur général, Interpeace*
 CORREIA, Carlos (Mr./M.), Deputy Speaker of the National People's Assembly of Guinea Bissau / *Vice-Président de l'Assemblée nationale populaire*
 STEVENS, Yvette (Ms./Mme), Ambassador and Permanent Representative of Sierra Leone to the United Nations in Geneva / *Ambassadrice et Représentante permanente de la Sierra Leone auprès des Nations Unies à Genève*

Panel debate on "Women's experiences as migrants and refugees: human rights and socioeconomic perspectives"**Débat intitulé "Ce que vivent les femmes en tant que migrantes et réfugiées : Droits fondamentaux et perspectives socioéconomiques"**

JAHAN, Ismat (Ms./Mme), UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Comité des Nations Unies sur l'Élimination de la Discrimination à l'égard des femmes

DE BOECK, Laurent (Mr./M.), International Organization for Migration (IOM) / *Organisation Internationale des Migrations*

Panel debate on "CEDAW and UNSCR 1325: Gender equality as an indispensable element of sustainable peace and security"**Débat intitulé "La CEDAW et la RCS 1325 : L'égalité entre hommes et femmes est indispensable à la paix et à la sécurité durables"**

NADARAIA, Lia (Ms./Mme), UN Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women
Comité des Nations Unies sur l'Élimination de la Discrimination à l'égard des femmes

Open session of the Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law on "The humanitarian dimension of forced migration – asylum-seekers and refugees. From emergency responses to comprehensive approaches"**Séance publique du Comité chargé de promouvoir le respect du droit international humanitaire sur le thème "La dimension humanitaire des migrations forcées – Demandeurs d'asile et réfugié. Des réactions d'urgence aux solutions globales"**

ZERAI, Mussie (Mr./M.), Chairman of Habeshia Agency Cooperation for Development / *Président de l'Agence Habeshia coopération pour le développement*

RIERA, José (Mr./M.) Special Adviser, United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees / *Conseiller principal, Haut Commissariat des Nations Unies pour les réfugiés*

BONGHAM, John (Mr./M.), International Catholic Migration Commission; Coordinator, Civil society activities of the Global Forum on Migration and Development / *Commission internationale catholique pour les migrations et coordinateur des activités de la société civile du Forum mondial sur la migration et le développement*

* * *

ARCHER, Colin (Mr./M.), Secretary General, International Peace Bureau
Secrétaire général du Bureau international de la paix

PALAZZOLO, Katya (Ms./Mme), Senior Board and External Relations Officer, GCERF
Chargée principale des relations extérieures, GCERF

PAPADATOS, George (Mr./M.), Representative in Geneva, European Peacebuilding Liaison Office (EPLO)
Représentant à Genève, Bureau européen de liaison pour la construction de la paix

TARAN, Patrick (Mr./M.), Global Migration Policy Associates

Von UEXKULL, Jakob (Mr./M.), Chairman, World Future Council (WFC) / *Président du World Future Council*

WINTERMEIER, Kristina (Ms./Mme), Associate, GCERF / *Collaborateur, GCERF*