



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

# 136<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly

Dhaka, Bangladesh, 1- 5 April 2017



Assembly  
Item 2

A/136/2-P.1  
15 March 2017

## Consideration of requests for the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda

### Request for the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of Mexico

On 14 March 2017, the President received from the delegation of Mexico a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Tougher migration policies around the world and the risk of human rights violations".

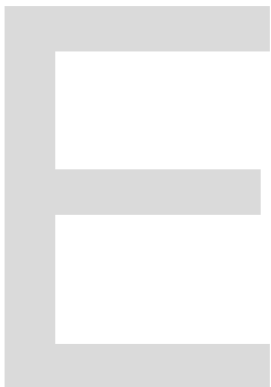
Delegates to the 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly will find attached the text of the communication submitting the request ([Annex I](#)), as well as an explanatory memorandum ([Annex II](#)) and a draft resolution ([Annex III](#)) in support thereof.

The 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of Mexico on Sunday, 2 April 2017.

Under the terms of Assembly Rule 11.1, any Member of the IPU may request the inclusion of an emergency item in the Assembly agenda. Such a request must be accompanied by a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution which clearly define the scope of the subject covered by the request. The Secretariat shall communicate the request and any such documents immediately to all Members.

Furthermore, Assembly Rule 11.2 stipulates that:

- (a) A request for the inclusion of an emergency item must relate to a major event of international concern on which it appears necessary for the IPU to express its opinion. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted;
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted;
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject;
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.



#IPU136

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT BY THE DELEGATION OF MEXICO**

Mexico City, 9 March 2017

Dear Mr. President,

In accordance with Rule 11.1 of the Rules of the Assembly, the Mexican Congress has the honour to request the inclusion of an emergency item in the agenda of the 136<sup>th</sup> Inter-Parliamentary Union Assembly which will be held in Dhaka, Bangladesh, from 1 to 5 April 2017:

"Tougher migration policies around the world and the risk of human rights violations".

You will find herewith a brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed) Senator Marcela GUERRA CASTILLO  
Member of the delegation of the Mexican  
Congress to the Inter-Parliamentary Union

**TOUGHER MIGRATION POLICIES AROUND THE WORLD AND  
THE RISK OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

***Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of Mexico***

The delegation of the Mexican Congress to the Inter-Parliamentary Union requests the inclusion in the 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly agenda of an emergency item entitled “Tougher migration policies around the world and the risk of human rights violations”, for the reasons stated below.

The United Nations recently estimated that international migrants figures stood at nearly 244 million in 2015. Economic, social and environmental factors, as well as political instability and armed conflict, affect global migration trends.

Migration is a global phenomenon and there is no global system on regulating the movement of people. States retain the sovereign right to decide who they allow to enter their territory and to remove any non-nationals, including those in an irregular situation. Even so, they should exercise this prerogative in accordance with their human rights obligations and with any relevant agreements, including those pertaining to regional mobility.

Over the past few years, migration flows from Africa and the Middle East have increased significantly. Given this situation, countries have adopted tough measures to halt the influx of migrants, in the absence of a comprehensive policy on how to handle the crisis in compliance with human rights obligations. As such, large numbers of people who are fleeing their countries because of war, hunger, lack of employment and political instability end up in extremely impoverished areas without any prospect of rebuilding their lives.

This is also happening in North America, specifically in the United States. Since Donald Trump became president, tougher policies have been adopted to combat irregular immigration. That involves actions which could be in direct violation of human rights. Moreover, the executive orders issued by President Trump are discriminatory in nature, whereas their purported purpose is to ban immigration from seven Muslim-majority countries (Iran, Iraq, Libya, Somalia, Sudan, Syria and Yemen). Furthermore, his proposed construction of a physical wall on his country’s southern border will adversely affect not only the environment but also the social dynamics of a border that has a unique character.

Considering the foregoing and the need to denounce those policies, the delegation of the Mexican Congress urges the Inter-parliamentary Union to ensure that States take a stand against all divisive and discriminatory policies that run counter to human rights and good relations between countries, and that any such policies are thwarted and not allowed to thrive.

**TOUGHER MIGRATION POLICIES AROUND THE WORLD AND  
THE RISK OF HUMAN RIGHTS VIOLATIONS**

***Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of MEXICO***

The 136<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter – Parliamentary Union

- (1) *Recalling* the Sustainable Development Goals,
- (2) *Also recalling* the Addis Ababa Action Agenda (annex of UN General Assembly Resolution 69/313),
- (3) *Referring to* the International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of Their Families,
- (4) *Also referring to* the Migrant Workers Convention (Revised), 1949,(No. 97); the Migrant Workers Convention (Supplementary Provisions), 1975 (No. 143); and the Domestic Workers Convention, 2011 (No. 189),
- (5) *Acknowledging* that international migration is linked in many ways to human mobility and human development, which are key to sustainable development,
- (6) *Stressing* that the United Nations Member States have committed to strengthening international cooperation in order to ensure security, order and regularity of migrations, with full respect for human rights and humanitarian standards for migrants, irrespective of their immigration status, as well as refugees and displaced persons,
- (7) *Underlining* that walls and unilateral border security measures, far from solving the problems they seek to overcome, are sources of countless additional conflicts arising from division, autarchy and isolation,
- (8) *Endorsing* its responsibility for maintaining international peace and security and full respect for human rights,
- (9) *Expressing its concern* at the toughening of migration policies around the world,
- (10) *Considering* that resolving common problems requires open communications channels for constructive dialogue and cooperation among nations,
- (11) *Renewing* its commitment to international law and international human rights standards,
- (12) *Reaffirming* the intrinsic value of parliamentary diplomacy and relevant parliamentary structures to foster negotiation, build coalitions to defend fundamental values and to facilitate entente and agreements between democratic pluralist societies,
  1. *Rejects vigorously* the toughening of migration policies in various countries around the world which criminalize migration, impair the rights of migrant workers and their families, cause social fragmentation, violate human rights and target minorities, religious groups or particular groups within a nation;
  2. *Condemns* the proposed construction of a wall along the border between Mexico and the United States, as it is an ineffective way to stop irregular migration flows, and will have an adverse social and environmental impact, as well as because it will create a physical barrier with all of Latin America;
  3. *Regrets* the setback in the regional integration agenda, multilateral cooperation, human mobility and the creation of a framework of shared responsibilities and comprehensive solutions to intractable transnational problems;

4. *Calls upon* States to adopt migration and human mobility policies in strict compliance with human rights and international agreements;
5. *Urges* all States to address the root causes of migration flows;
6. *Calls upon* all governments to denounce any and all policies and practices which promote and incite racial segregation, discrimination and isolation;
7. *Declares* its intention to prioritize solidarity actions and support between all parliaments around the world in upholding international law, human rights and international humanitarian law in order to protect migrants, refugees, and members of ethnic and religious minorities;
8. *Strongly urges* all parliamentarians to promote constructive bilateral and multilateral relations so as to resolve common problems through dialogue.