



Inter-Parliamentary Union

For democracy. For everyone.

PEER REVIEW OF THE COMMON PRINCIPLES FOR PARLIAMENTARY DEVELOPMENT

12 June 2014

About the Common Principles for Parliamentary Development

In October 2014, the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) will present a set of Common Principles for Parliamentary Development and to its Members at its 131st Assembly for endorsement. These principles are the fruit of a series of discussions between Member Parliaments, the IPU and other parliamentary development organizations to provide guidelines to improve the coordination, cooperation and quality of parliamentary development assistance.

The drafting group¹ prepared the current draft set of principles on the basis of discussions at the October 2013 Parliamentary Development Practitioners Meeting. This draft is now being shared for broader consultation with parliaments and parliamentary development organizations – the aim being to gather input and revise the principles if necessary.

These principles are intended to help parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, parliament development organizations and other partners adapt development assistance to suit the parliament's specific context, thereby improving the suitability, efficacy and the coordination of assistance. Consequently, it is important that the rationale underlying the principles be clear, as well as the phraseology of the principles themselves. Moreover, the draft principles should mention the major implications of each principle's content and scope.

Guidelines for the commenting process

Receiving structured comments and feedback is important for revising the Common Principles for Parliamentary Development in preparation for endorsement by Member Parliaments, the IPU and other parliamentary development organizations. Your feedback should be critical and constructive input about the form and scope of the principles contained in this draft. You should decide whether the various topics, reflected in the introduction or in the body of the principles themselves, are handled substantively and accurately, with appropriate scope and in sufficient detail for the purposes of this text.

Your questions, constructive comments, and suggestions to the framers are meant both to challenge them to improve the text where necessary, and to highlight the issues and implications arising from the text. As a commentator, you should be professional and courteous in tone.

Commentators are invited to review the draft from the perspective of providing or receiving parliamentary development support. Please make special note of any points that you consider to be problematic or irrelevant.

¹ European Parliament, the French National Assembly, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the National Democratic Institute (NDI) and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

You are welcome to note any apparent typographic, grammar, or syntax errors, but you are not obliged to do so. The Common Principles will be carefully copyedited prior to publication.

Commentators are encouraged to submit comments in English using the format indicated below, comments will also be accepted in French.

Commentators are requested to send written comments using this form by **15 July 2014** to Ms. Norah Babic (nb@mail.ipu.org).

Name of commentator: _____

Date: _____

Telephone: _____

E-mail: _____

Assessment

Please answer the following questions on a scale of 1 - 3, where

1 = Did not meet criteria, major revision required;

2 = Partially met criteria, minor revision required;

3 = Fully met criteria, no revision required.

Is the writing clear and accessible?		
1	2	3
Are the intended uses and objectives clear?		
1	2	3
Is the product well organized?		
1	2	3
Does the product reflect your thinking within the area?		
1	2	3
Does the product add value to what already exists and contribute to the broader debate?		
1	2	3
Does the product address substantive concerns of target audience?		
1	2	3
Is the utility of the product clear and does it meet practical needs?		
1	2	3
Is the scope of the content commensurate with its objectives?		
1	2	3

Recommendation

- Submit for final approval by Member Parliaments, the IPU and parliamentary development organizations
- Send back for Minor Revision (see comments below)

- Send back for Major Revision and resubmission for commit (see comments below)
- Do not submit/Send back for Total Revision

General Comments

Please provide any general comments concerning a chapter or multiple chapters. Please clearly indicate the Section Number to which your general comments refer.

Specific Comments

Please provide specific comments in this section using the table below. Comments that refer to a table or figure should identify the Section Number (Introduction; Principle 1; Principle 2 etc.) and Line Number. Note that you may enter general comments using this table if you wish, by specifying Section 0 (general comments for the entire draft), or Line 0 (general comments for an entire Section).

Section	Line	Comment
3	2	Comment... (this is an example of a specific comment applying to line 2 of Principle 3)
Intro.	7	Comment... (this is an example of a specific comment applying to line 7 of the Introduction)
10	0	Comment... (this is an example of a general comment applying to Principle 10)
0		Comment... (this is an example of a general comment applying to entire report)
		To add additional rows, select "Table", "Insert", "Rows Below"