



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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# 137<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly

St. Petersburg, Russian Federation  
14–18 October 2017



Assembly  
Item 2

A/137/2-P.6  
5 October 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 137<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union submitted by the delegation of the United Arab Emirates

On 5 October 2017, the Secretary General received from the Secretary General of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates, a request and accompanying documents for the inclusion in the agenda of the 137<sup>th</sup> Assembly of an emergency item entitled:

"Parliamentarians' role in ending the persecution of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar: A call for urgent international action to protect human rights".

Delegates to the 137<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 137<sup>th</sup> Assembly will be required to take a decision on the request of the delegation of the United Arab Emirates on Sunday, 15 October 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 IPU 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 recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required and on which it is appropriate for the IPU to express its opinion and mobilize a parliamentary response. Such a request must receive a two-thirds majority of the votes cast in order to be accepted;
- (b) The Assembly may place only one emergency item on its agenda. Should several requests obtain the requisite majority, the one having received the largest number of positive votes shall be accepted;
- (c) The authors of two or more requests for the inclusion of an emergency item may combine their proposals to present a joint one, provided that each of the original proposals relates to the same subject;
- (d) The subject of a proposal that has been withdrawn by its authors or rejected by the Assembly cannot be included in the draft resolution submitted on the emergency item, unless it is clearly referred to in the request and title of the subject adopted by the Assembly.

**COMMUNICATION ADDRESSED TO THE SECRETARY GENERAL BY THE SECRETARY  
GENERAL OF THE FEDERAL NATIONAL COUNCIL OF THE UNITED ARAB EMIRATES**

2017/1164/5/3/i/i  
05/10/2017

Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I would like to take this opportunity to express my highest esteem for your significant leadership and tremendous achievements.

In accordance with Article 14(2) of the IPU Statutes and Rule 11(1) of the IPU Rules, I would like to inform you that the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates hereby submits for inclusion in the agenda of the 137<sup>th</sup> Assembly in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, an emergency item entitled:

"Parliamentarians' role in ending the persecution of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar:  
A call for urgent international action to protect human rights ".

Attached please find the brief explanatory memorandum and a draft resolution.

Yours sincerely,

(Signed)

Ahmed SHABEEB AL-DHAHERI  
Secretary General  
Federal National Council of  
the United Arab Emirates

**PARLIAMENTARIANS' ROLE IN ENDING THE PERSECUTION OF THE ROHINGYA MINORITY  
IN MYANMAR: A CALL FOR URGENT INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO PROTECT  
HUMAN RIGHTS**

***Explanatory memorandum submitted by the delegation of the United Arab Emirates***

The Parliamentary Division of the UAE Federal National Council hereby submits the emergency item titled: *Parliamentarians' role in ending the persecution of the Rohingya minority in Myanmar: A call for urgent international action to protect human rights*.

Bearing in mind the following:

**1. Violations of the basic principles of human rights**

The worsening human tragedy of the Rohingya minority and the ethnic persecution and discrimination they are subject to, in addition to the crimes against humanity, are considered grave violations of the basic principles of human rights as well as of international conventions and covenants, particularly the UN Charter which calls for the respect of human rights. Moreover, these acts are considered violations of the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights adopted by the UN General Assembly in 1966. Furthermore, these practices are contrary to the principles and basics of the Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide of 1948 and the International Convention on the Elimination of All forms of Racial Discrimination of 1965.

**2. The crisis feeds extremism and hatred, as well as international terrorism**

This crisis, which has escalated, is threatening to undermine the joint international and regional efforts to fight terrorism and extremist groups. The UAE Parliamentary Division considers that this crisis feeds terrorism and warns that it can lead to an outbreak of religious struggles and wars that would threaten the international efforts committed to the coexistence of cultures and civilizations.

**3. Clear violations of the principles of international law and the UN General Assembly Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Intolerance and of Discrimination Based on Religion or Belief**

Whereas the basic principles of international law and the UN General Assembly Declaration are the elimination of all forms of intolerance and discrimination based on religion, creed, gender or race, pursuant to international law, the protection of the rights of communities and minorities is considered a responsibility of governments to safeguard the civil rights of communities and minorities and put an end to all forms of violence against them. In this context, this crisis has to do with the principle of "responsibility to protect" and its three pillars as laid down in the UN 2005 World Summit Outcome document (paras 138–40) and as formulated in the Secretary General's 2009 report *Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*. Moreover, the UAE Parliamentary Division considers that it is necessary that the UN play its role and admit responsibility.

**4. Application of IPU principles and objectives**

The UAE Parliamentary Division considers that the IPU has an ethical and humanitarian commitment towards the situation of the Rohingya minority in light of its basic principles and objectives which entail the defense and upholding of human rights, in addition to efforts to spread the culture of tolerance and communal coexistence in compliance with the provisions of the IPU resolution adopted at the 116<sup>th</sup> IPU Assembly held in Bali in 2007 entitled *Ensuring Respect for and Peaceful Co-existence between all Religious Communities and Beliefs in a Globalized World*. The resolution places emphasis on tolerance and acknowledgement of cultural, ethnic, religious and language diversity, hence the acceptance of this diversity. It further stresses the obligation of the IPU Member Parliament's to defend and promote the rights of the members of ethnic, cultural and religious minorities. It also encourages members of law enforcement bodies and military personnel, when asked to carry out their official duties, to respect the rights of those who are followers of different religions and beliefs and not to discriminate against persons who follow other religions or beliefs.

## **5. Worsening international refugee crisis**

In addition to the UAE's concern regarding the confrontation with and challenges of terrorism and the eradication of its roots, the provision of assistance, support and necessary humanitarian aid to refugees, the UAE is also concerned about international cooperation in dealing with the reasons for fleeing and displacement in various regions due to conflicts and violations of human rights. The UAE Parliamentary Division notes that the UN Secretary General described the Rohingya minority crisis as the world's fastest developing emergency and a humanitarian and human rights "nightmare". The number of Rohingya refugees is estimated to be more than half a million and such a crisis adds to the refugees' crisis in the world. There were about 65 million refugees and displaced persons last year.

Speaker of the UAE Parliamentary Division  
Dr. Amal Al Qubaisi

DXB01V1710-91

**PARLIAMENTARIANS' ROLE IN ENDING THE PERSECUTION OF THE ROHINGYA MINORITY  
IN MYANMAR: A CALL FOR URGENT INTERNATIONAL ACTION TO PROTECT HUMAN RIGHTS**

***Draft resolution submitted by the delegation of the UNITED ARAB EMIRATES***

The 137<sup>th</sup> Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Taking into account* the UN Charter (1945), the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (1948), the UN Declaration on the Elimination of All Forms of Racial Discrimination (1963), the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights (1966) and the first Optional Protocol (1966),
- (2) *Referring* to the UN Convention on the Prevention and Punishment of the Crime of Genocide (1948),
- (3) *Also referring* to the Protocols Additional to the Geneva Conventions of 1949 related to the victims of international and non-international armed conflicts,
- (4) *Emphasizing* UN General Assembly resolution 3074 (XXVIII) of December 1973 on the Principles of international cooperation in the detection, arrest, extradition and punishment of persons guilty of war crimes and crimes against humanity, and UN resolutions 233/70 and 238/64 which call upon Myanmar to grant citizenship to the individuals of Rohingya ethnic minority,
- (5) *Recalling* the Declaration on Fact-finding by the United Nations in the Field of the Maintenance of International Peace and Security (annex to UN resolution 46/59 of 1991),
- (6) *Emphasizing* UN General Assembly Declaration on the Rights of Persons Belonging to National or Ethnic, Religious and Linguistic Minorities (UN resolution 47/135 of 1992),
- (7) *Also emphasizing* the IPU resolution *Respect for international humanitarian law and support for humanitarian action in armed conflicts* (Canberra, 1993),
- (8) *Recalling* the Basic Principles and Guidelines on the Rights to a Remedy and Reparation for Victims of Gross Violations of International Human Rights Law and Serious Violations of International Humanitarian Law (UN resolution 60/147 of 2005),
- (9) *Referring* to three pillars of the responsibility to protect principle laid down in the UN 2005 World Summit Outcome document and as formulated in the UN Secretary-General's 2009 report *Implementing the Responsibility to Protect*,
- (10) *Also referring* to the risk of worsening the refugees crisis in the world and the risk of the Rohingya Refugees crisis potentially having a negative consequence on the international terrorism phenomenon and the necessity of attaining security and stability in the international community by confronting these dangerous phenomena,
  1. *Condemns* the violence, oppression, ethnic cleansing, displacement and murder practiced against the Rohingya minority and condemnation of exploitation of this crisis by some groups as a justification of launching attacks against police stations in Rakhine State;
  2. *Stresses* the need for commitment by the Myanmar Government, given its responsibility and international obligations, of providing the necessary protection to the Rohingya minority and taking all necessary and immediate measures to guarantee the criminal and judicial accountability of whoever is proved to be violating the principles and laws of human rights as well as international humanitarian law;

3. *Calls upon* the Myanmar Parliament to endeavor to enforce the recommendations provided for in the resolutions of the UN and competent international organizations of human rights which have confirmed that the Rohingya minority of Myanmar is the most oppressed minority in the world;
4. *Also calls upon* the Myanmar authorities to take urgent and immediate measures to put an end to all the violence and to confront all practices that are in violation of human rights, international law and the international covenants;
5. *Calls upon* the United Nations Security Council, Human Rights Council and all regional and governmental competent bodies to urgently interfere in order to halt the human tragedy of the Rohingya minority and to deal with this crisis as it represents a threat to international security and peace;
6. *Calls upon* the international community to provide the necessary human assistance to Myanmar neighboring countries to assist them in providing a safe shelter for those who flee ethnic cleansing, to alleviate their suffering and enforce international covenants for their protection and to manage their repatriation to their homeland;
7. *Calls upon* all countries of the world, international, regional and humanitarian organizations to provide urgent aid to the Rohingya minority and urges Myanmar to facilitate the access of such aids;
8. *Calls upon* Myanmar authorities to allow entry of fact-finding committees and the UN, humanitarian organizations' employees and media representatives to Rakhine State without any obstructions;
9. *Calls upon* the Myanmar Parliament to amend the citizenship law of 1982 and grant the Rohingya minority full citizenship rights in accordance with the principles of international law, to review naturalization laws and to take measures to prevent the destruction of the life role and infrastructure in Rakhine State, to provide all necessary facilities to hand over those persons to the international court in accordance with the international rules;
10. *Calls upon* the UN Security Council to refer all those involved in crimes against humanity such as: genocide, murder, slaughter and displacement against the Rohingya minority to the International Criminal Court, or to pursue them internationally and hold them accountable for their violations of international conventions and agreements and *also calls upon* the Myanmar Government to provide all necessary facilities for the extradition of these persons to the International Criminal Court in accordance with international rules and regulations;
11. *Calls upon* the United Nations and all relevant international organizations to impose international sanctions against the Myanmar authorities for violations of the UN Charter and international humanitarian law;
12. *Calls upon* the IPU Secretary General to take the necessary measures as provided for in the resolution for enforcement of the same.