



PARLIAMENT
Republic of Trinidad and Tobago

Levels G - 7, Tower D
The Port-of-Spain International Waterfront Centre
1A Wrightson Road, Port-of-Spain

REPORT

131ST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION



131ST ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

OCTOBER 13 TO 16 2014

Introduction

The Inter-Parliamentary Union is the international organization of Parliaments and was established in 1889.

The Union is the focal point for world-wide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and co-operation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy.

To that end, it:

- ✓ Fosters contacts, co-ordination, and the exchange of experience among parliaments and parliamentarians of all countries;
- ✓ Considers questions of international interest and concern and expresses its views on such issues in order to bring about action by parliaments and parliamentarians;
- ✓ Contributes to the defence and promotion of human rights - an essential factor of parliamentary democracy and development;
- ✓ Contributes to better knowledge of the working of representative institutions and to the strengthening and development of their means of action.

The IPU supports the efforts of and works in close cooperation with the United Nations, whose objectives it shares. The Union also co-operates with regional inter-parliamentary organizations, as well as with international intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which are motivated by the same ideals¹. The Assembly of the IPU meets twice per year.

¹ <http://www.ipu.org/english/whatipu.htm>

Delegation

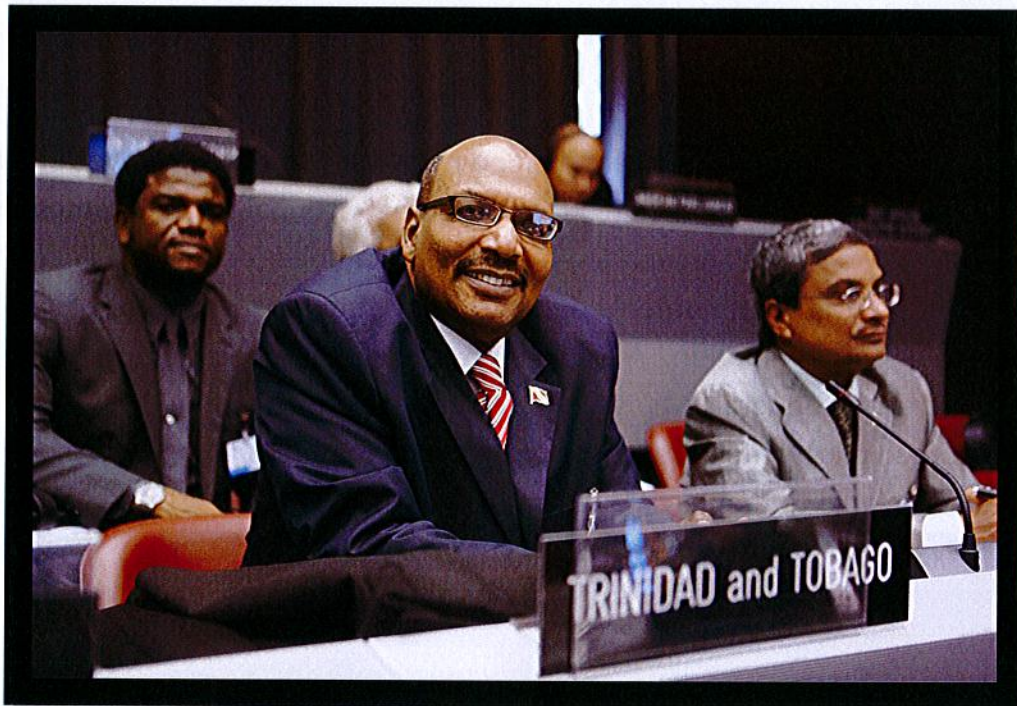
The delegation comprised –

Hon. Wade Mark, MP	Speaker of the House
Dr. Delmon Baker	MP for Tobago West
Mr. Terrence Deyalsingh	MP for St. Joseph
Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir	Independent Senator
Ms. Chantal La Roche	Legal Officer

131ST ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Opening of the Assembly

The 131st Assembly opened on Monday, 13 October 2014, at the International Conference Centre in Geneva (CICG) and proceedings were chaired by Mr. A. Radi (Morocco), President of the IPU. Delegations from the parliaments of 147 countries, including four non-Members attending as Observers with a view to future affiliation, took part in the work of the Assembly.



General Debate: Achieving gender equality, ending violence against women

The General Debate was commenced with a short video message from the United Nations Secretary-General, Mr. Ban Ki-moon, who congratulated President Radi on his excellent service and applauded the IPU's focus on achieving gender equality and ending violence against women.

For three days, the representatives of 116 Member Parliaments, four regional parliamentary organizations and five other Permanent Observers spoke on the theme. The General Debate provided an opportunity for parliamentarians to exchange views on fundamental questions in order to strengthen their national activities and to prepare a joint message from parliaments and the IPU.

Members described the strategies and actions that had been implemented in their countries in order to achieve gender equality and combat violence against women and vowed to become agents of change. Both Speaker Wade Mark and Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir made contributions during the debate.

The Outcome Document of the General Debate on the theme Achieving gender equality, ending violence against women is attached at Appendix I.

"HeForShe" Campaign

On October 13 2014, the Assembly heard a video message from Ms. Emma Watson, UN Women Goodwill Ambassador, launching the "HeForShe" Campaign. The Campaign was an effort to create a widespread movement of support for gender equality by encouraging men and boys to advocate for women's rights, support the movement towards gender equality and combat discrimination. After her statement, the IPU President, Mr. A. Radi, and the IPU Secretary General, Mr. M. Chungong, announced their support for the Campaign and urged all the men present to follow their lead by signing the pledges that had been made available to the participants.

Other addresses at the Assembly

Ms. P. Mlambo-Ngcuka, Executive Director of UN Women, addressed the Assembly during an interactive debate held on October 14 2014, during which she called on Members to continue to adopt and implement policies aimed at empowering women. Following her statement, she replied to delegates' questions on the contribution of the IPU and parliaments to the work of the UN Commission on the Status of Women.

Mr. M. Paymar, Member of the Minnesota House of Representatives (USA), addressed the Assembly on the "Duluth Model", which called for a coordinated community response to domestic violence based on the need to ensure the victims' safety and prosecute the perpetrators.

Ms. Chantal Compaoré, First Lady of Burkina Faso, who had received on behalf of her country a World Future Policy Award the previous day for exemplary policies to combat violence against women, addressed the Assembly on the morning of October 15 2014. Her statement focused on the elimination of female genital mutilation, a harmful practice that violates the sexual and reproductive health of many young girls.

This was followed by addresses by the Governor-General of New Zealand, Lt Gen the Rt. Hon. Sir Jerry Mateparae, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Rt. Hon David Carter. Addresses took place in the Legislative Council Chamber of the Parliament House. The Opening plenary, which took place after the opening ceremony, saw presentation of the draft agenda, election of vice-chairpersons, discussion of venues for Standing Committee and future conferences and of items from the Standing Committee meeting.

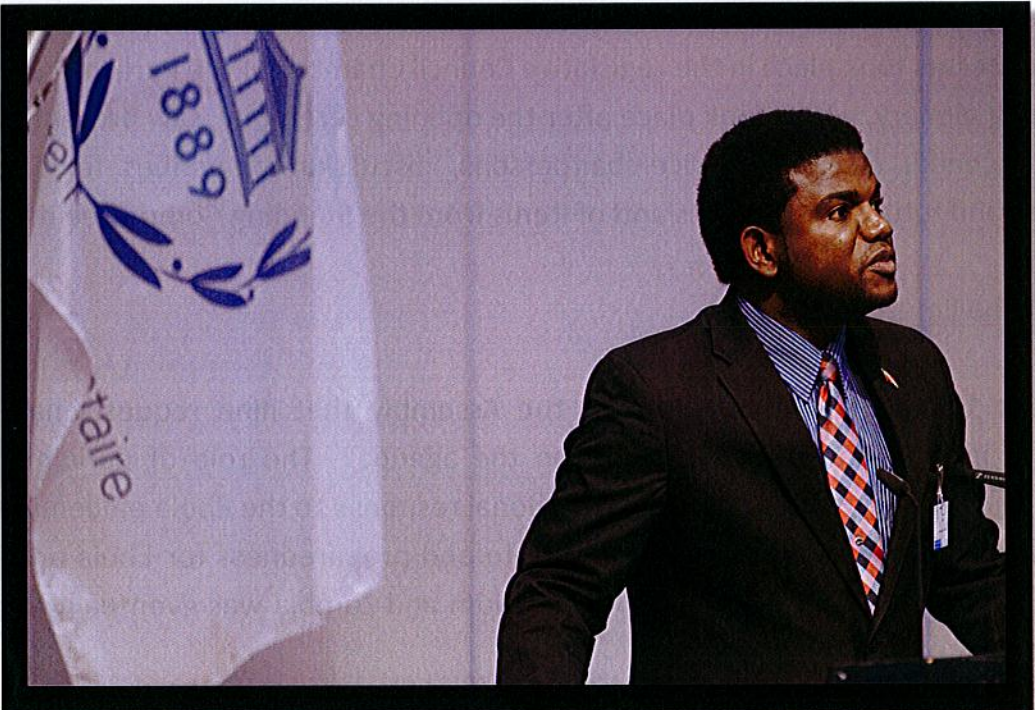
Debate on the Emergency Item

On October 13, the President informed the Assembly that nine requests had been received to include an emergency item on the agenda. The role of parliaments in supporting an immediate and robust international response to the Ebola epidemic and in enacting laws ensuring an effective response to and preparedness for Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks, proposed by Belgium and Zambia was eventually adopted and added to the agenda.

The debate was held on October 14, 2014 with the IPU President, Mr. A. Radi, in the chair. Sixteen speakers took the floor during the debate each expressing deep concern over what was one of the worst health disasters in recent history, affecting not only five countries in West Africa (Guinea, Liberia, Nigeria, Senegal and Sierra Leone) but also several countries in Europe and North America.

Many speakers reiterated the need for immediate and coordinated action to support the countries affected, especially those with limited resources for fighting the epidemic effectively. They raised concerns about the Ebola patients in poverty-stricken communities and deplored the fact that many were dying even before being treated. Several participants underscored the need to isolate the Ebola virus rather than the countries affected, and urged other countries not to impose travel bans.

Dr. Delmon Baker was a participant in this debate on the emergency item and during his contribution he emphasized the need for developed countries to help the countries affected develop effective health care infrastructure. At the end of the debate, the Assembly referred the emergency item to a drafting committee and on October 15 2014, the Assembly adopted the resolution unanimously. The resolution is attached at Appendix II.



STANDING COMMITTEES

Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights

On October 13, 2014, Mr. Terrence Deyalsingh and Dr. Delmon Baker attended the first meeting of the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights. At that sitting, the draft resolution on International Law as it relates to national sovereignty, non-intervention in the internal affairs of States and human rights was presented to the Committee.



Standing Committee meeting on UN Affairs

Speaker Wade Mark and Mr. Terrence Deyalsingh participated at the meeting of the Standing Committee meeting on UN Affairs on October 14, 2014. Discussions were held on the promotion of a democratic and equitable international order.



195TH SESSION OF THE GOVERNING COUNCIL

Election of the President of the IPU

Four candidates ran for the post of IPU President: Ms. Nurhayati Ali Assegaf (Indonesia), Ms. Bronwyn Bishop (Australia), Mr. Saber H. Chowdhury (Bangladesh) and Mr. Abdulla Shahid (Maldives).

Following two rounds of voting by secret ballot, the Governing Council elected Mr. Saber Chowdhury (Bangladesh) as IPU President for a three-year term ending in October 2017.

Future inter-parliamentary meetings

The Governing Council confirmed the decision to hold the 132nd IPU Assembly in Hanoi (Viet Nam), from 28 March to 1 April 2015. The expected discussion and adoption of a resolution will be on the item Cyber warfare – A serious threat to peace and global security.

FORUM OF YOUNG PARLIAMENTARIANS OF THE IPU

The Forum of Young Parliamentarians met on October 13 2014. The meeting was chaired by Mr. K. Dijkhoff (Netherlands), who handed over the presidency to the newly elected President of the Forum, Mr. F. Al-Tenaiji (United Arab Emirates) at the end of the meeting.

Approximately 60 participants attended the Forum with the average age of attendees being 35 years. It was noted that the Forum was attended by more men than women and an appeal was made to Member Parliaments present to include young women in their delegations to the Forum in future.

Discussions focused on the Forum's contribution to the work of the 131st Assembly, in particular the subject item being discussed by the Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights, which was considered from the point of view of young people. Dr. Baker, as the second delegation's youngest member, participated in this forum.

BILATERAL MEETINGS

During the visit the delegation participated in several informal bilateral meetings with the delegations of other countries including India, Uganda, Suriname and Germany. The topics discussed included parliamentary autonomy, the development of strong research units for Parliamentarians, and improvement and strengthening of the position of the Caribbean countries within the geo-political Group of Latin America and Caribbean Countries (GRULAC) within the IPU.

SIDE EVENTS

On October 14 2014 the Cluster Munition Coalition and the Parliamentary Forum on Small Arms and Light Weapons hosted a side event titled *“Protecting Civilians from Cluster Munitions - The Role of Parliamentarians”*. This event was attended by Speaker Mark and Mr. Deyalsingh. Discussions focused on the humanitarian impact that cluster munitions have on civilians in Iraq and worldwide, and what parliamentarians can do to prevent any further harm. Panelists at the event included individuals with first-hand experience of the consequences of cluster munition use and with expertise on the 2008 Convention on Cluster Munitions that bans them.

GENEVA, SWITZERLAND

Geneva is located at the south-western end of Lake Geneva and is surrounded by two mountain chains, the Alps and the Jura. It is the capital of the Republic and Canton of Geneva with a population of approximately 479,000.

Geneva is a global city, a financial centre, and worldwide centre for diplomacy due to the presence of numerous international organizations, including the headquarters of many of the agencies of the United Nations and the Red Cross. Geneva is the city that hosts the highest number of international organisations in the world. It is also the place where the Geneva Conventions were signed which chiefly concern the treatment of wartime non-combatants and prisoners of war².



² <http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Geneva>

CULTURAL AND LEISURE ACTIVITIES

Mr. John C.E. Sandy, Ambassador, Permanent Representative, Permanent Mission of Trinidad and Tobago in Geneva graciously hosted all delegates on the evening of Saturday October 11, 2014 for dinner at the Hotel Kempinski, Geneva.



For the duration of the visit the staff of the Mission made very kind arrangements for the conference participants to visit several tourist attractions around Geneva, including Geneva's ancient Old Town, the Jet d'Eau and Lake Geneva.

Hon. Wade Mark, leader of the delegation, conveyed appreciation to Ambassador Sandy on behalf of the delegation, for the very exceptional hospitality and kind assistance extended to the members of the delegation by staff of the Mission during the visit.

On the evening of October 14, 2014 Speaker Mark and Dr. Mahabir were hosted by Australia's House Speaker Bronwyn Bishop at a reception at the Australian Permanent Mission and Consulate-General in Geneva, Switzerland.



Wade Mark, MP
Leader of the delegation
November 7, 2014

APPENDIX I

Outcome Document of the General Debate on the theme *Achieving gender equality, ending violence against women*

*Endorsed by the 131st IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 16 October 2014)*

In October 2014, we members of parliament gathered at the 131st IPU Assembly on the theme: *Achieving gender equality, ending violence against women.*

Gender equality is at the heart of progress, peace and development. If we are committed to achieving peace and security in the world, ending poverty and achieving sustainable development, we must tackle this issue head-on.

No country today can claim to have achieved gender equality. Women account for half the world's population, yet they make up only 21.8 per cent of parliamentarians worldwide, they continue to earn systematically less than men for the same work, and over 31 million girls are prevented from attending primary school. Gender inequality holds all our countries back, and the struggle to overcome it must therefore be a priority for each and every one of us, both men and women.

Today, the scourge of violence against women is a key issue in every country and internationally. No nation is spared; the latest global and regional estimates by the World Health Organization show that one out of every three women worldwide has experienced intimate partner violence or sexual violence by someone other than a partner.

Whether in the public or the private sphere, violence against women and girls in all its forms and manifestations robs them of their dignity, violates their fundamental rights, damages their health, reduces their productivity and prevents them from achieving their full potential. It also has significant consequences for peace and security and a negative impact on development. We strongly condemn all forms of violence against women and girls.

Gender inequality and violence against women feed on each other. On the one hand, it is impossible to achieve equality between men and women without putting an end to violence against women; on the other, women's vulnerability to violence is heightened by unbalanced power relations between men and women. In order to address this problem, we must take into account the broader context of women's lives and the need to secure respect for all their fundamental rights.

Addressing violence against women is a complex issue that requires profound change. It means looking at power relations; confronting patriarchy, which permeates all aspects of our societies; changing mentalities; and challenging the social roles and stereotypes that we have internalized, including those related to men. It also means enabling women to take ownership of their lives, their bodies and their destinies since women who are empowered, including economically, are less vulnerable to abuse.

There is no one solution for achieving gender equality and putting an end to violence against women; instead, there are a variety of approaches that reflect the diversity of situations and national experiences. It is nevertheless within the reach of parliaments to develop key strategies and responses. If we have the commitment and the will, progress is an achievable goal.

The commitment to achieving gender equality and eradicating violence against women must first translate into the development of strong, comprehensive legislation that is non-discriminatory, supports women's empowerment and addresses all forms of discrimination. This means a legal framework with no loopholes, one that provides for the implementation of temporary special measures to level the playing field and facilitates gender mainstreaming. It also means a framework that is consistent with States' commitments under the international instruments on human rights and gender equality to which they are parties, such as the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women.

We need comprehensive legislation that criminalizes all forms of violence against women and includes provisions on prevention, protection and support for the survivors and prosecution and punishment of the perpetrators. It must also take into account and meet the needs of different groups of women, especially the most vulnerable, including girls, migrant women and refugee women. This is an area in which progress has been achieved; for example, two thirds of the world's countries now have laws criminalizing domestic violence.

Putting laws into practice remains the key challenge. Appropriate mechanisms must be envisaged in domestic law and budgets must be scrutinized to ensure that adequate financial and human resources are allocated to the effective implementation of legislation.

In order for laws to meet the needs of the survivors of gender-based violence, easily accessible services are fundamental. Several States have established women's shelters, hotlines and "one-stop crisis centres" that provide survivors of gender-based violence with legal, medical and counselling services. Investment in a justice system based on the protection of women survivors and their rights is vital; specialized courts on domestic violence and sexual offences are invaluable in that regard. In addition, law enforcement agencies must be trained to focus on the protection and dignity of the survivors and to secure criminal evidence so that more women will feel that it is safe for them to report violence and seek justice.

Enhanced implementation requires a coordinated community-based response to violence in which all stakeholders – including governments, parliaments, police, prosecutors, judges, health-care providers, social workers, women's organizations and religious and community leaders – have a role to play.

Awareness of the laws is also crucial. Legislation must be disseminated and made easy for people to obtain and understand, including through education, translation into local languages and public debates. For policies to be successful, sustained and effective awareness-raising campaigns are vital. All citizens, whether men or women, boys or girls, must understand that there is nothing private about violence and that it cannot be truly eliminated without an understanding that its tolerance in any form is unacceptable. In some countries, the support, cooperation and understanding of traditional leaders will be key to the success of any awareness-raising campaign.

It is essential to monitor the implementation of laws and policies. The oversight role of parliamentarians is key and must be strengthened, including by building partnerships across parties and with civil society movements. Information is also essential to the drafting and enactment of effective laws and the assessment of their impact. To that end we, as legislators, need to build our national statistical capacities and gather sex-disaggregated data and to focus particularly on the number of reported cases of violence against women and on the implementation of household surveys.

The specific situation of vulnerable groups should be taken into account and addressed as a priority. In particular, women's vulnerability to abuse and violence rises sharply in times of crisis. Women and girls are the main victims of situations of armed conflict, which, together with terrorist acts, insecurity and violence linked to drug trafficking, heighten their vulnerability and place them at greater risk of gender-based violence and abuse in the form of rape, kidnapping, forced and early marriage, exploitation and sexual slavery. Women's bodies are directly targeted by these horrifying crimes and by the increasing use of sexual violence as a weapon of war.

In light of the alarming reports of current violations of women's rights in conflict situations, we must condemn such acts publicly and denounce the use of religion and culture to justify them. We must also take urgent action at the national, regional and international levels to protect women and ensure that the survivors are given support, that they have access to justice and reparation and that the perpetrators are prosecuted. In this context, States must continue to fulfil their international obligations under the relevant human rights instruments and must implement in full United Nations Security Council resolution 1325 (2000), the Council's other resolutions on women, peace and security and general recommendation No. 30 of the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women.

Girls constitute another vulnerable group and face additional forms of violence, including female genital mutilation and other harmful practices, forced and early marriage, and murder in the name of so-called "honour". In developing countries, one third of all girls will be married before they turn 18 and 3.3 million girls are at risk of genital mutilation. In 50 per cent of cases, sexual attacks target girls aged 15 or even younger. Tailored responses to the specific needs of girls must be developed. As parliamentarians, we have the obligation to speak on their behalf and defend their right to a childhood free from fear and violence.

Change starts at birth. Education is a powerful equalizer; it is the key to transforming mentalities, addressing stereotypes and discrimination and building a culture of equality and tolerance. Girls' access to education is essential for their social and economic empowerment and security. Educating boys and girls on human rights and gender equality from an early age – for example, through the use of appropriate games, plays and stories – would help to instil non-violence and respect in relations between the sexes. Teaching and learning materials used in the schools must also be reviewed in order to remove stereotypes, and families must be engaged in order to raise awareness about women's rights and challenge social stereotypes. Parental education on women's rights and gender equality is also needed.

The media, including social media, can be major allies in educating and raising awareness. They must not perpetuate stereotypes and gender inequalities or appear to condone violence against women. With today's media reporting on acts of violence against women around the world, more and more people are becoming outraged by these crimes and calling for an end to impunity.

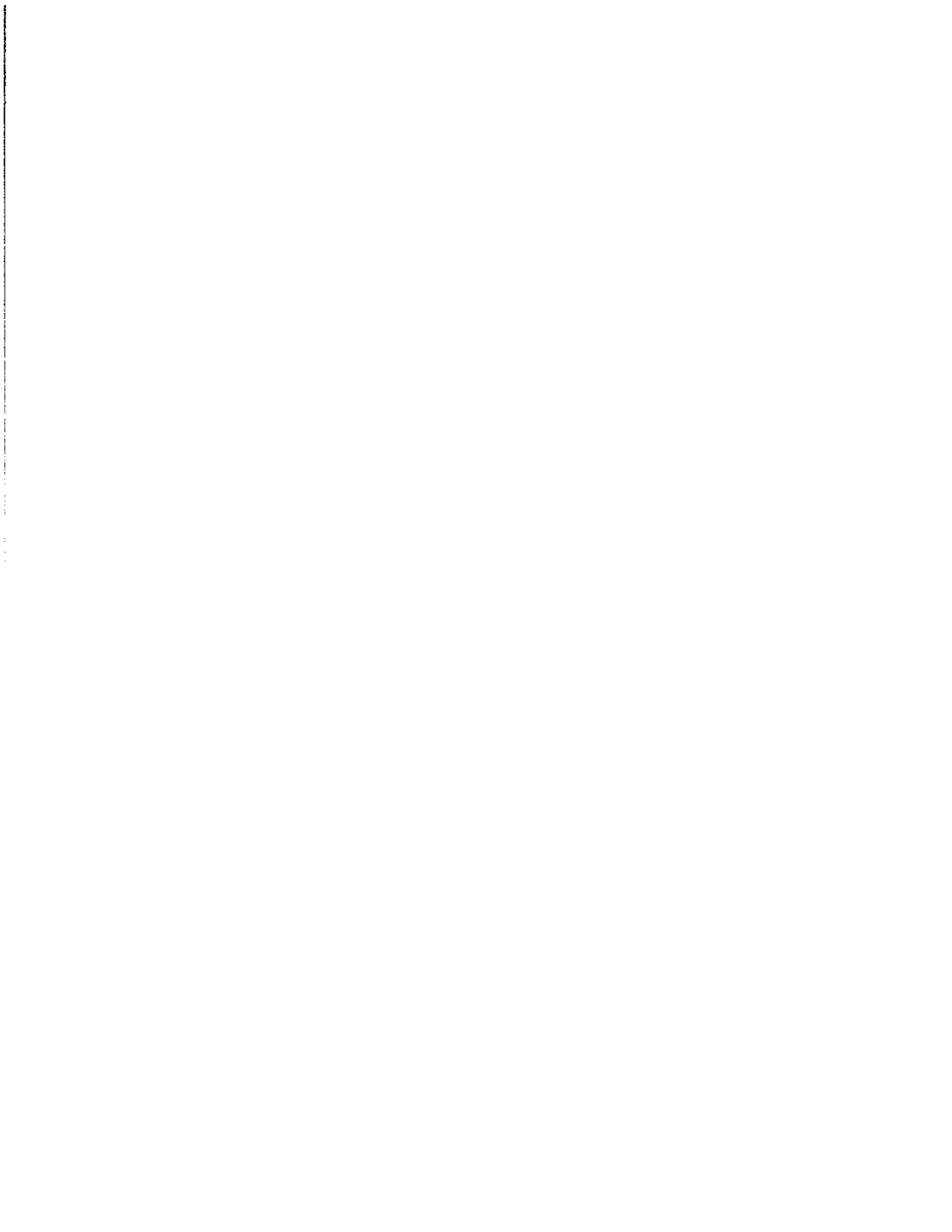
Achieving gender equality and ending violence against women is the responsibility of both men and women. The potential is there, and men are part and parcel of the solution; they should take an active part in the debate and stand up for women's rights. The silent majority of non-violent men must speak out now and assume their responsibilities alongside women.

Women's voices must also be heard. Women in leadership positions have the power to take specific action in response to the interests of and challenges faced by other women whose voices are not being heard or taken into account. However, women are still poorly represented in leadership positions and their presence in decision-making bodies must be increased; to that end, the adoption of temporary special measures should be considered.

Effective change requires both a strong institutional framework and national bodies with the power to take action. We must build our parliaments' capacity to put an end to violence against women and to achieve gender equality. Implementation of the IPU Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments should serve as a reference as we introduce reforms and strengthen our institutions.

In 2015, we will turn the page on the Millennium Development Goals and celebrate the twentieth anniversary of the Beijing Platform for Action. The period 2015 to 2030 must be the final battle in the centuries-old fight for gender equality, and we must meet the challenge. As members of parliament, we vow to make that goal a reality.

APPENDIX II



The role of parliaments in supporting an immediate and robust international response to the Ebola epidemic and in enacting laws ensuring an effective response to and preparedness for Ebola and other infectious disease outbreaks

*Resolution adopted unanimously by the 131st IPU Assembly
(Geneva, 16 October 2014)*

The 131st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

Expressing concern at the unprecedented Ebola outbreak that has affected West Africa in the past months, and *alarmed* at the numerous deaths that have resulted, especially of multiple members of the same family and in the most vulnerable groups, such as health-care workers and women,

Also expressing concern at the high risk that the virus will spread around the world,

Aware that the Ebola outbreak in West Africa may, according to the United Nations, become a humanitarian disaster with immeasurable consequences,

Recalling that the Ebola outbreak in West Africa has been designated a Public Health Emergency of International Concern by the World Health Organization (WHO) and declared a threat to international peace and security by the United Nations Security Council,

Also recalling that, on 19 August 2014, the African Union Peace and Security Council invoked Article 6(f), on humanitarian action and disaster management, of the Protocol Relating to the Establishment of the Peace and Security Council of the African Union, and authorized the immediate deployment of ASEOWA (African Union Support to Ebola Outbreak in West Africa),

Further recalling that, on 18 September 2014, the United Nations General Assembly adopted resolution 69/1 approving the establishment of the United Nations Mission for Ebola Emergency Response (UNMEER) to stop the outbreak, treat the infected, ensure essential services, preserve stability and prevent further outbreaks,

Aware that the non-governmental organizations at the forefront of the fight against Ebola, such as Doctors Without Borders and the International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, deem the international response dangerously insufficient,

Acknowledging nevertheless that many countries have already increased their funding and material support for the countries affected in West Africa and deployed personnel on the ground to help contain the outbreak,

Noting the measures taken by the States affected in response to the Ebola epidemic, but *aware* that the means that the governments concerned are able to mobilize may be insufficient, and that the shortcomings brought to light by the Ebola epidemic have revealed an urgent need for support,

Concerned that many countries continue to have poorly funded and weak health systems, outdated or inadequate health laws and regulations, and insufficient capacity under the International Health Regulations, and that this hampers national and international efforts to respond to outbreaks of infectious disease,

Bearing in mind that the countries concerned are already suffering shortages of food and drinking water and that their economies are collapsing as a result of disruptions to trade, commercial flights and agricultural activity,

Expressing concern that, as a result of inadequate investment in research, there is as yet no vaccine or effective specific treatment against the Ebola virus,

Taking into consideration that the achievements of the worst affected countries in terms of consolidating peace and development risk being wiped out by the Ebola epidemic, and *underscoring* that the epidemic is compromising the stability of those countries,

Noting the WHO advisory opinion on the negative consequences of the Ebola response, namely the isolation and stigmatization of the countries and region affected, and on the need for all countries, especially neighbouring States, to keep their borders open to goods and people, maintain air routes, strengthen national and regional preparedness, increase the exchange of information and reinforce their health systems,

Stressing that national, regional and international action and cooperation are required to check epidemics of serious infectious diseases and that a coordinated international response to the Ebola epidemic is therefore a vital and immediate need,

1. *Deplores* all loss of life in the Ebola epidemic;
2. *Expresses support* for the governments and populations concerned in West Africa and the Democratic Republic of the Congo, which have been severely affected by the Ebola outbreak;
3. *Demands* that all political parties in the countries concerned work together in unity and harmony to facilitate, without delay, free and safe access for humanitarian organizations and their staff to areas where the population needs them;
4. *Recognizes* that national leadership and ownership of the Ebola response in the countries concerned remains the guiding principle for international support, in keeping with their right to self-determination under the Charter of the United Nations;
5. *Applauds* the commitment and contribution of those battling the epidemic on the front lines, notably national and international humanitarian relief workers;
6. *Deeply regrets* the international community's slow and generally insufficient response and the time lost in drawing up an effective and coordinated strategy, while *acknowledging* that a number of States and international organizations have already provided critical assistance;
7. *Urges* the relevant United Nations bodies, especially WHO, which must play a lead role, to take all necessary emergency measures to reinforce their contribution to local, national, regional and international efforts to halt the outbreak of the Ebola virus;
8. *Welcomes* the establishment of UNMEER, which must work in close coordination with regional organizations such as the African Union and the Economic Community of West African States;
9. *Calls on* the countries affected, responding countries and the international organizations active on the ground to work together closely and share information so as to enhance coordination and ensure effective control of the current outbreak;
10. *Calls on* the States that have the requisite means and on international donors to mobilize without delay essential financial resources and capacities, including medical and logistical means that can be deployed on the spot (personnel, supplies, means of transport), paying particularly close attention to the protection of women and children and of health workers entering into contact with infected persons;
11. *Vigorously condemns* the stigmatization of the countries concerned and their citizens, as this may exacerbate their humanitarian plight and have a negative impact on their economies;
12. *Appeals* to States, in particular those in the region, and all competent stakeholders providing the assistance required to deal with the Ebola epidemic to redouble their efforts to heighten public awareness, apply security and health protocols, and correct the misinformation circulating about the disease's transmission and the scope of the epidemic;
13. *Invites* parliaments to promote effective policies to combat the Ebola epidemic at national and international level;
14. *Also invites* parliaments to enact the legislation needed to improve health systems and emergency preparedness, with a view to boosting the capacity to deal with the serious public health and humanitarian crises that may result from an infectious disease outbreak;

15. *Urges* the pharmaceutical industry, the private sector, research institutions, philanthropic organizations and governments to invest in research on viable treatment options and vaccines to treat and prevent Ebola and to make them available at an affordable cost to affected populations, especially the poorest victims;
16. *Recommends* that plans be drawn up to help the countries affected recover quickly from the negative effects of the Ebola crisis based on the lessons currently being learnt;
17. *Also recommends* that the international community set up a rapid health response unit to cope with health crises of this kind and *urges* it to learn from the management of earlier epidemics/pandemics;
18. *Urges* States and the international community to conduct worldwide awareness campaigns to prevent fresh outbreaks of Ebola;
19. *Suggests*, with regard to international development cooperation, that public health – and the prevention of health crises – be added as a core priority to cooperation programmes.

