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Candidate to the Presidency of the Inter-Parliamentary Union

Work Plan 2017 - 2020

Goals

- To consolidate the Inter-Parliamentary Union as the most relevant parliamentary diplomacy organization in terms of the definition and the development of the global agenda.
- To develop a Presidency close to the parliamentarians and the geopolitical groups, with a constant interaction with the national and regional parliaments and with the global organizations.
- To implement the IPU's Strategy 2017-2021, with particular emphasis on the implementation of the 2030 Development Agenda and the advancement of democracy, respect for human rights and international humanitarian law.
- To strengthen mechanisms for the inclusion and representation of women, the youth and underrepresented countries in IPU decision-making processes.

Priorities and Actions

IPU in the XXI Century: transparent, efficient, inclusive and communicated

The IPU must be a relevant player in global governance, an organization with influence in the world and in multilateral decisions. It should work transparently and inclusively. Dialogue should be its main working instrument.

In order to develop the UIP Strategy 2017 - 2021 as well as these Objectives, it is necessary to strengthen some areas of the organization as well as to incorporate the membership in all its processes. To achieve this, the following is proposed:

- Transparent IPU:

- ✓ To make the application of the organization's resources more efficient according to the objectives defined in the 2017-2021 Strategy and the priorities defined by the committees, commissions and working groups.
- ✓ To make transparent the use of the resources and results of the management of the Presidency, secretariat, commissions, committees, forums and working groups.
- ✓ To implement a permanent policy of austerity in the use of the budget.

- Efficient IPU:

- ✓ As President of the IPU, being the political leader of the organization in accordance to the statutes, to prioritize the closest contact with the members in order to reflect their opinions when political statements are made or pronounced on behalf of the UIP.
 - ✓ To strengthen IPU commissions, committees, forums and working groups both in their budgetary capacities and in the implementation of their agreements.
 - ✓ To take advantage of the time periods between the assemblies to generate more dynamism and results from the work of the IPU's structure.
 - ✓ To improve links and cooperation with other multilateral parliamentary diplomacy organizations.
 - ✓ To promote missions and field work on relevant issues of global impact.
- **Inclusive IPU:**
- ✓ To recognize Spanish, Portuguese and Arabic as additional official languages of the IPU.
 - ✓ To implement, within the organization, the guide for gender-sensitive parliaments published by the IPU.
 - ✓ To develop an agenda for the inclusion and empowerment of young parliamentarians in the IPU.
- **Communicated IPU:**
- ✓ To build a directory of members of the organization that allows for better communication, coordination and exchange among parliamentarians.
 - ✓ To foster a more dynamic use of the UIP website and social networks to report on the work of the organization.
 - ✓ To transform the digital application used during the assemblies into a permanent one, constantly updated, which serves as a useful database for the parliamentary work and the IPU.
 - ✓ To develop a communication strategy for the IPU, through a closer relationship with news agencies and national and international media.

Parliamentarians are at the core of the work of the IPU, so strengthening their personal capacities will translate into better results for the organization, national parliaments and citizens. It is proposed to pay special attention to the following actions:

- Empowerment of women in national parliaments.
- Creation of a digital platform to serve as thematic space for interaction between parliamentarians, as well as to exchange information on model laws and legislative practices.
- Implementation of capacity-building programs for parliamentarians and their working teams:
 - ✓ Issues on the global agenda: international law, democracy, human rights, and open parliament, among many others.
 - ✓ Information and communication technologies: digital platforms, social networks and communication strategies.
 - ✓ To generate collaboration agreements with international universities, think tanks, agencies and civil society organizations in order to deliver seminars, training courses and online and classroom postgraduate studies.
- To edit a monthly newsletter about ongoing and upcoming multilateral processes so that parliamentarians can have a timely involvement.

An IPU Useful to National Parliaments

The IPU must put its capacities at the service of the institutionalization of the world's parliaments so that they can more effectively fulfill their responsibility for representation, legislation and control. That is why it is proposed:

- To support Member States in building strong and democratic parliaments.
- To integrate an open agenda that reflects the plurality of visions that stem from different realities around the world, nurtured from our joint work and imbued with a shared thrust and purpose.
- To intensify the communication of the Presidency of the IPU with the geopolitical groups, national and regional parliaments.
- To organize workshops and seminars on the implementation of international treaties in national legislations and budgets.
- To generate follow-up mechanisms with national parliaments for the implementation of IPU resolutions.
- To benefit from the network of academics and secretaries-general of parliaments of the IPU in order to build a database of academic texts, parliamentary processes and legislation, making available to national parliaments easy-to-consult information and providing an important source of comparative law.
- To edit parliamentary manuals according to the identification of thematic or regional needs.
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IPU as an Actor in the Global Agenda

Our organization has observer status at the United Nations. But this is not enough. The parliamentarians of the world must have a more powerful and relevant voice in the United Nations and participate in the definition of the global agenda.

The urgent defense of multilateralism and the proper implementation of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and international treaties - such as the Paris Agreement on Climate Change - require communication, coordination and joint work of the IPU with the United Nations System and international organizations. The following actions are proposed:

- To identify the most important multilateral processes in order to agree with the United Nations System and the regional international organizations on the required mechanisms for the timely participation of the IPU.
- To support national parliaments in their involvement in relevant multilateral processes.
- To synchronize the IPU's calendar with that of the UN and multilateral organizations, to carry out side events in those meetings whose agenda is strategic for the IPU.
- To position parliamentarians at the center of the UN debates and to consolidate a pluralistic, holistic and effective parliamentary diplomacy that transcends the presentation of reports and ensures that its work translate into concrete actions.
- To prepare the positions and organize the presence of parliamentarians in events, conferences, and summits of international organizations, especially at the UN meetings in which the IPU participates as an observer.
- To benefit from the process of preparation for the next Conference of Speakers of Parliaments with the UN in 2020, in order to achieve a better and closer cooperation between the world of parliaments and the IPU with the United Nations system.