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Standing Committee on  
Peace and International Security

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10 March 2022

## Rethinking and reframing the approach to peace processes with a view to fostering lasting peace

**Amendments to the draft resolution submitted within the statutory deadline by the delegations of Argentina, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Canada, China, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), South Africa, Switzerland, Thailand, Turkey and United Arab Emirates**

### PREAMBULAR

#### Preambular paragraph 1

Amend to read as follows:

- (1) *Recalling* the tenets and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations to save succeeding generations from the scourge of war, **and particularly the fundamental principles of international law, including the sovereign equality of all States and non-interference in the internal affairs of other States,** 1

(South Africa)

#### Preambular paragraph 2

Amend to read as follows:

- (2) *Recalling also* the Universal Declaration of Human Rights as well as the International Covenants on Human Rights and other human rights agreements **and affirming the importance for all member States parties to these agreements to implement them fully in order to promote international peace and security,** 2

(South Africa)

#### Preambular paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

- (3) *Recalling further* the international community's commitment to preventing conflict and achieving sustainable peace contained in the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to Sustainable Development Goal 16 on providing access to justice and promoting peaceful and inclusive societies in particular, **and stressing the importance for the international community to promote stronger, greener and healthier global development against the backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic,** 3

(China)

Preambular paragraph 4

Amend to read as follows:

(4) ~~Mindful of Security Council resolutions 1325 of 31 October 2000 on women, peace and security; 1612 of 26 July 2005 on children and armed conflict; and 2250 of 9 December 2015 on youth, peace and security, and documents~~ that address the inordinate impact of violent conflict and war on women, girls, and children, and highlight the crucial role that women, youth and children should and already do play in conflict prevention and peace building,

4

(Islamic Republic of Iran)

Amend to read as follows:

(4) *Mindful of Security Council resolutions 1325 of 31 October 2000 on women, peace, and security; 1612 of 26 July 2005 on children and armed conflict; and 2250 of 9 December 2015 on youth, peace, and security, that address the inordinate impact of violent conflict and war on women, girls, and children, and highlight the crucial role that women, youth and children should and already do play in conflict prevention and peace building, stress the importance of women's equal participation and full involvement in decision-making with regard to conflict prevention and resolution,*

5

(South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

(5) ~~Recalling the IPU resolutions *Promoting international reconciliation, helping to bring stability to regions of conflict, and assisting with post-conflict reconstruction* (adopted at the 110th IPU Assembly, April 2004), *Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development* (adopted at the 138th IPU Assembly, March 2018), and *Parliamentary strategies to strengthen peace and security against threats and conflicts resulting from climate-related disasters and their consequences* (adopted at the 142nd IPU Assembly, May 2021),~~

6

(India)

Amend to read as follows:

(5) *Recalling the IPU resolutions *Promoting international reconciliation, helping to bring stability to regions of conflict, and assisting with post-conflict reconstruction* (adopted at the 110th IPU Assembly, April 2004), **The role of parliament in respecting the principle of non-intervention in the internal affairs of States** (adopted at the 136th IPU Assembly, April 2017), *Sustaining peace as a vehicle for achieving sustainable development* (adopted at the 138th IPU Assembly, March 2018), and *Parliamentary strategies to strengthen peace and security against threats and conflicts resulting from climate-related disasters and their consequences* (adopted at the 142nd IPU Assembly, May 2021),*

7

(Thailand)

Preambular paragraph 6

Amend to read as follows:

(6) *Recalling also the Declaration of Presiding Officers of National Parliaments entitled **The parliamentary vision for international cooperation at the dawn of the third millennium**, adopted on 1 September 2000, and the St. Petersburg Declaration *Promoting cultural pluralism and peace through interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue* (endorsed by the 137th IPU Assembly, October 2017);*

8

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

- (6) *Recalling also the St. Petersburg Declaration Promoting cultural pluralism and peace through interfaith and inter-ethnic dialogue* (endorsed by the 137th IPU Assembly, October 2017), **and the Belgrade Declaration *Strengthening international law: Parliamentary roles and mechanisms, and the contribution of regional cooperation*** (endorsed by the 141st IPU Assembly, October 2019), 9
- (Thailand)

Preambular paragraph 7

New preambular paragraph 7bis

- (7bis) ***Mindful also of the use of tactics below the threshold of war, such as cyberattacks, information warfare, coercive trade and the targeting of critical infrastructure, that harm societies politically and socio-economically for strategic gain,*** 10
- (Canada)

Preambular paragraph 8

Amend to read as follows:

- (8) *Cognizant that peace is not synonymous with the absence of violent conflict and, therefore, that no society is immune to it; that the root causes of conflict are a combination of **inequalities, underdevelopment**, grievances, unresolved and protracted misunderstandings within societies as well as a society's capacity for organized violence; and that once armed conflict begins the costs to societies are enormous,* 11
- (South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 9

Amend to read as follows:

- (9) *Recognizing that resolved conflicts have a tendency to recur and that there are fewer ongoing peace processes than there are conflicts, **and stressing that effective and sustainable solutions to conflicts can only be achieved through negotiations, based on a spirit of justice, compromise, and mutual accommodation,*** 12
- (South Africa)

New preambular paragraph 9bis

- (9bis) ***Recognizing also the current complex and multidimensional nature of peace and security issues that need to be addressed through a holistic approach, and stressing the key role of parliaments and parliamentarians in the whole peace continuum process, in line with the peace and security architecture of the United Nations,*** 13
- (Indonesia)

New preambular paragraph 9bis

- (9bis) ***Recognizing also the importance of adherence to the Charter of the United Nations and international law, particularly the principles of sovereignty, independence, territorial integrity of States, and non-intervention in the internal affairs of States,*** 14
- (Thailand)

Preambular paragraph 10

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Deeply concerned* that future risks of conflict are expected to escalate, ~~for example, as a consequence of climate change and reaffirming that there is no development without peace, no peace without development, and that neither is possible without the promotion of human rights,~~ **the three pillars of the United Nations – peace and security, development and human rights – are interlinked and mutually reinforcing,**

15

(China)

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Deeply concerned* that future risks of conflict are expected to escalate, ~~for example, as a consequence of climate change and reaffirming that there is no development without peace, no peace without development, and that neither is possible without the promotion of human rights,~~

16

(India, Turkey)

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Deeply concerned* that future risks of conflict **arising from current and ongoing global issues** are expected to escalate, for example, as a consequence of climate change and reaffirming that there is no development without peace, no peace without development, and that neither is possible without the promotion of human rights,

17

(Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

(10) *Deeply concerned* that future risks of conflict are expected to escalate, for example, as a consequence of climate change **and pandemics**, and reaffirming that there is no development without peace, no peace without development and that neither is possible without the promotion of human rights,

18

(South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 11

Delete the paragraph.

(Germany)

19

Preambular paragraph 12

Delete the paragraph.

(Bahrain)

20

Amend to read as follows:

(12) *Recognizing*, in the light of current and future challenges, that the active promotion of peace and conflict prevention by more actors and organizations is needed, and that contributions of women, youth and indigenous peoples **local communities** are essential in this regard,

21

(Indonesia)

New preambular paragraph 12bis

(12bis) *Recognizing also* that, as the world continues to face humanitarian crises, human security, as an alternative paradigm for development cooperation, could be instrumental to address multidimensional and complex global challenges,

22

(Thailand)

Preambular paragraph 13

Amend to read as follows:

- (13) *Recognizing* the unique role of national parliaments and parliamentarians in **parliamentary diplomacy as a vital tool in** promoting **meaningful inter-parliamentary** dialogue while using their legislation, oversight and financial functions to determine the allocation of resources to areas of development considered national priorities; the need for effective and uninterrupted functioning of parliaments before, during and after conflicts; and parliaments' role in conflict prevention, 23
- (Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

- (13) *Recognizing* the unique role of national parliaments and parliamentarians in promoting dialogue **and mediation** while using their legislation, oversight, and financial functions to determine the **fair allocation and efficient use** of resources to areas of development considered national priorities; the need for effective and uninterrupted functioning of parliaments before, during and after conflicts; and parliaments' role in conflict prevention, 24
- (South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 14

- Delete the paragraph. 25
- (China)

Preambular paragraph 15

Amend to read as follows:

- (15) *Acknowledging* the IPU's unique ~~role as the parliamentary counterpart to~~ **partnership with** the United Nations and as a forum for informal negotiations on matters of international peace and security; and, in particular, its role in providing support to parliaments and parliamentarians in addressing threats to peace at the local, national, regional and international levels, 26
- (Canada)

Amend to read as follows:

- (15) *Acknowledging* the IPU's unique role as the parliamentary counterpart to the United Nations and as a forum for ~~informal negotiations~~ **dialogue and cooperation** on matters of international peace and security; and, in particular, its role in providing support to parliaments and parliamentarians in addressing threats to peace at the local, national, regional and international levels, 27
- (South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 16

Amend to read as follows and merge with the above paragraph:

- (16) ~~Cognizant of the IPU's unique role in any matter transcending national sovereignty and its ability to share~~ **and in sharing** lessons learned among its Member Parliaments and enabling vivid, mutually respectful exchanges among members of parliaments of different delegations in seeking solutions, 28
- (Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

(16) ~~Cognizant of the IPU's unique role in any matter transcending national sovereignty~~ and its ability to share lessons learned among its Member Parliaments and enable vivid, mutually respectful exchanges among members of parliaments of different delegations in seeking solutions, 29

(Egypt, India)

Amend to read as follows:

(16) ~~Cognizant of the IPU's unique~~ **valued** role in ~~any matter transcending national sovereignty~~ **parliamentary diplomacy** and its ability to share lessons learned among its Member Parliaments and enable vivid, mutually respectful exchanges among members of parliaments of different delegations in seeking solutions, 30

(Canada)

New preambular paragraph 16bis

(16bis) **Mindful of the IPU Strategy 2022–2026, particularly its objectives to “build effective and empowered parliaments”; “promote inclusive and representative parliaments”; and “catalyse collective parliamentary action”,** 31

(Canada)

Preambular paragraph 17

Amend to read as follows:

(17) ~~Recognizing that inclusive, representative, and~~ **accessible, accountable, and effective** legislatures **with the autonomy and capacity to act** can foster conflict resilience and sustainable peace if grievances, differences, and solution alternatives are articulated and decided upon in peaceful, transparent and respectful public debates in and outside of parliament, 32

(South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 19

Amend to read as follows:

(19) ~~Reaffirming the centrality of parliamentary representation in addressing the root causes of conflict and violence, including inequalities, exclusion, the lack of rule of law, injustice, illegal exploitation of natural resources, and discrimination among others,~~ 33

(South Africa)

Preambular paragraph 20

Delete the paragraph.

(Bahrain) 34

Preambular paragraph 22

Amend to read as follows:

(22) ~~Recognizing parliaments' role in the oversight of state security, public safety agencies, intelligence structures, and the legislative sector and military expenditures, in particular in ensuring that they operate accountably, transparently and with respect for the rule of law and human rights to meet the security needs of all parts of the population, including women, children and members of vulnerable groups,~~ 35

(Egypt)

Preambular paragraph 23

Delete the paragraph.

(Bahrain) 36

Preambular paragraph 24

Amend to read as follows:

(24) *Acknowledging* the essential role of parliaments in promoting conflict prevention through a focus on disarmament, socioeconomic, psychosocial, climate and ecological issues, and in post-conflict situations in preventing a relapse to large scale violence, including through promoting **enacting and overseeing** the implementation of **agreed** peace agreements **accompanied by adequate funding**, investing in psychosocial health, transitional justice, reintegration, and institutional reforms,

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

(24) *Acknowledging* the essential role of parliaments in promoting conflict prevention through a focus on disarmament, socio-economic, psychosocial, climate and ecological issues, and in post-conflict situations in preventing a relapse to large scale violence, including through promoting **and monitoring** the implementation of peace agreements, investing in psychosocial health, transitional justice, reintegration, and institutional reforms,

(Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

(24) *Acknowledging* the essential role of parliaments in promoting conflict prevention through a focus on disarmament, socio-economic, psychosocial, climate and ecological issues, and in post-conflict situations in preventing a relapse to large scale violence, including through promoting the implementation of peace agreements, investing in **psychosocial health basic healthcare service**, transitional justice, reintegration, and institutional reforms,

(Egypt)

Preambular paragraph 25

New preambular paragraph 25bis

(25bis) **Recognizing** that higher levels of financial resources are required in order to support the implementation of commitments to prevent conflict and sustain peace,

(Canada)

New preambular paragraph 25bis

(25bis) **Calling upon** parliaments to strengthen legislative and legal frameworks and discuss the various policies and mechanisms necessary to combat the phenomenon of terrorism and extremism and dry up its sources, and emphasizing parliaments' role in promoting the values of tolerance and peaceful coexistence in society,

(United Arab Emirates)

## OPERATIVE PART

### Operative paragraph 1

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Urges* actors engaged in peace processes to acknowledge and collaborate with national or local institutions and actors **and their respective parliaments**, and participate in activities focused on anchoring and sustaining peace efforts through national or local ownership and leadership; 42

(Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

1. *Urges* actors engaged in peace processes to acknowledge and collaborate with national or local institutions and actors **in the articulation, design, and implementation of transitional processes**, and participate in activities focused on anchoring and sustaining peace efforts through national or local ownership and leadership; 43

(South Africa)

### Operative paragraph 2

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Calls upon* parliaments and parliamentarians to intensify their efforts ~~for peace to address all structural root causes of conflict, including inequalities and underdevelopment, notably those affecting women, youth and girls, and for the non-violent resolution of differences before, during and after conflict; and if such efforts prove to be unsuccessful, to call upon international actors for assistance; and also calls upon parliaments to strengthen existing national mechanisms, and to those who are yet to do so, to establish these mechanisms in which citizens, especially women can register their grievances, perpetrators are held accountable, and victims are accorded justice;~~ 44

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Calls upon* parliaments and parliamentarians to intensify their efforts for peace and the non-violent resolution of differences before, during and after conflict; ~~and if such efforts prove to be unsuccessful, to call upon international actors for assistance and,~~ **in the conviction that, to build a truly just world, the democracy and equality parliamentarians are working for in parliaments must prevail in the international order, also calls upon parliamentarians to reiterate their irrevocable vocation to pursue diplomatic and peaceful paths to recover territorial integrity in the cases still pending before the United Nations Special Committee on Decolonization;** 45

(Argentina)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Calls upon* parliaments and parliamentarians to intensify their efforts for peace and the non-violent resolution of differences before, during and after conflict; ~~and if such efforts prove to be unsuccessful, to call upon international actors for assistance;~~ 46

(India, Indonesia)

Amend to read as follows:

2. *Calls upon* parliaments and parliamentarians to intensify their efforts for peace and the non-violent resolution of differences before, during and after conflict; and if such efforts prove to be unsuccessful, to call upon international ~~actors for~~ assistance; 47

(Thailand)



Amend to read as follows:

2. *Calls upon* parliaments and parliamentarians to intensify their efforts for peace and the non-violent resolution of differences before, during and after conflict, **paying due regard to tactics below the threshold of war that harm societies for strategic gain**; and if such efforts prove to be unsuccessful, to call upon international actors for assistance;

(Canada)

### Operative paragraph 3

Amend to read as follows:

3. *Encourages* parliaments, in their efforts to pursue peace, to ~~systematically partner with~~ **strengthen oversight of** the executive sector, ~~independent oversight bodies, and to engage~~ civil society organizations, faith-based movements, women's groups, community organizations, peace builders, academia, media, **and** the private sector, ~~and regional and international bodies, in their own countries; and internationally also encourages parliaments to contribute through parliamentary processes, to strengthen democracy, sustainable development and social progress;~~

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

3. *Encourages* parliaments, in their efforts to pursue **and reframe the approach to peace processes for a just and lasting** peace, to systematically partner with the executive sector, independent oversight bodies, civil society organizations, faith-based movements, women's groups, community organizations, peace builders, academia, media, the private sector, and regional and international bodies, in their own countries and internationally;

(Thailand)

### Operative paragraph 4

Amend to read as follows:

4. *Calls upon* parliaments to allocate time and resources to the identification **and eradication** of barriers that limit the participation of citizens in parliamentary decision-making based on their gender, age, geography, social identity group (such as ethnicity, religion, and race), and citizenship status;

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

4. *Calls upon* parliaments to allocate time and resources to the identification of barriers that limit the participation of citizens in parliamentary decision-making based on their gender, age, geography, social identity group (such as ethnicity, religion, and race), and citizenship status, **and to seek solutions to such issues**;

(Thailand)

### Operative paragraph 5

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Also calls upon* parliaments to explore and invest in mechanisms and modalities, such as the human security approach, for continuous and systematic engagement with citizens and residents, ~~and that are sensitive to the needs and realities of different population segments and contexts to be implemented through conventional and new means ranging from MP surgeries to consultations and online engagement with conflict affected groups;~~

(Azerbaijan)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Also calls upon* parliaments to explore and invest in mechanisms and modalities, such as the human security approach, for continuous and systematic engagement with citizens and residents, and that are sensitive to the needs and realities of different population segments and contexts to be implemented through conventional and new means ranging from ~~MPs surgeries~~ **practical actions or interventions** to consultations and online engagement with conflict affected groups;
- 54

(Bahrain)

Amend to read as follows:

5. *Also calls upon* parliaments to explore, ~~and invest in~~ **and engage with their governments to find optimal** mechanisms and modalities **based on proven evidence**, such as the human security approach, for continuous and systematic engagement with citizens and residents, and that are sensitive to the needs and realities of different population segments and contexts to be implemented through conventional and new means ranging from MP surgeries to consultations and online engagement with conflict affected groups;
- 55

(Thailand)

Operative paragraph 6

Delete the paragraph.

(Bahrain)

56

Operative paragraph 7

Amend to read as follows:

7. *Urges* parliaments, their members and political parties to form partnerships to address and reverse hate speech and disinformation, including those online, and to encourage more diverse and inclusive political participation and representation; **and also urges parliaments to review or reform legislation, policies, and practices that perpetuate incitement to violence and/or hatred that is based on race, ethnicity, gender, and religion;**
- 57

(South Africa)

Operative paragraph 8

Amend to read as follows:

8. *Strongly encourages* ~~further efforts at~~ **parliaments to reflect on whether their own parliament has policies and mechanisms** ensuring youth and women's equal participation in parliaments and at all levels of decision-making, and, in that regard, at acknowledging the critical role of support by male allies, while urging Member States to ensure a systematic engagement of parliaments in the implementation of the *Women, Peace and Security* and *Youth, Peace and Security* agendas;
- 58

(South Africa)

Split the existing paragraph into two paragraphs and amend it to read as follows:

8. *Strongly encourages* further efforts at ensuring women's equal participation in parliaments and at all levels of decision-making, and, in that regard, at acknowledging the critical role of support by male allies; ~~while~~
- 8bis. ***Urges*** ~~urging~~ Member States to ensure a systematic engagement of parliaments in the implementation of the *Women, Peace and Security* and *Youth, Peace and Security* agendas, **including the Elsie Initiative which seeks to increase the meaningful participation of women in peace support operations and the Vancouver Principles on Peacekeeping and the Prevention of the Recruitment and Use of Child Soldiers;**
- 59

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 9

Amend to read as follows:

9. *Calls upon* parliaments to strengthen legal frameworks and mechanisms to prevent and address **illegal extraction of natural minerals and** corruption through institutional measures and to develop codes of conduct committing members of parliament at the individual level; 60

(South Africa)

New operative paragraph 9bis

- 9bis. **Acknowledges** the increasing role of cyberspace for international politics and peace, and that cybersecurity presents increasing global challenges, and also affirms that in cyberspace, international law applies, that human rights and fundamental freedoms must be protected and respected, and that the internet must remain a free, open, interoperable, reliable and secure space for all; 61

(Germany)

New operative paragraph 9ter

- 9ter. **Recognizes** that respecting, protecting and promoting human rights and fundamental freedoms is essential to preventing violent conflict and ensuring peace and security; 62

(Germany)

Operative paragraph 10

Amend to read as follows:

10. *Urges* parliaments to promote transparency and accountability in the allocation of financial resources, budgets, policies, practices, and appointments within the military and security sectors through the establishment of oversight bodies, as well as to encourage disarmament efforts to restrict and destroy weapons, mines, and unexploded ordnance, and to support the creation of disarmament, demobilization and reintegration programmes; 63

(India)

New operative paragraph 10bis

- 10bis. **Strongly encourages** members of parliaments to ensure comprehensive funding for peacebuilding by reducing silos between different loans allowing Official Development Assistance funds to be used for peacebuilding activities; 64

(Switzerland)

Operative paragraph 11

Delete the paragraph.

(Bahrain, Egypt, India, Indonesia) 65

Operative paragraph 12

Amend to read as follows:

12. *Urges* parliaments to ensure that their oversight mechanisms and committee systems are structured, mandated, adequately resourced and equipped to consider security on a holistic, cross-sectoral basis, including from the point of view of human development and ecology; **and to provide citizens with the information needed to contribute constructively to the processes used to produce legislation relating to democratization and human development, both at home and abroad;** 66

(South Africa)

New operative paragraph 12bis

- 12bis. ***Calls upon* members of parliaments to encourage and support higher levels of investment of financial resources, including in programmes such as the United Nations Peacebuilding Fund, to assure appropriate financial support required to prevent conflict and sustain peace;** 67

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 13

Amend to read as follows:

13. ***Calls upon* parliaments to invest in the psychosocial well-being of people ~~and basic healthcare services~~ and in communities to build peace and prevent the recurrence of future cycles of violence; **including through mechanisms that enable dealing with the past;**** 68

(Switzerland)

Amend to read as follows:

13. ***Calls upon* parliaments to invest in ~~the psychosocial well-being of people~~ **basic healthcare services** and in communities to build peace and prevent the recurrence of future cycles of violence;** 69

(Egypt)

Amend to read as follows:

13. ***Calls upon* parliaments to invest in the ~~psychosocial~~ **general** well-being of people and communities to build peace and prevent the recurrence of future cycles of violence;** 70

(Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

13. ***Calls upon* parliaments to invest in **a multidimensional process including frameworks to protect and assist vulnerable groups, political mechanisms, and institutions to prevent and manage conflict through peaceful means and to institutionalize equitable participation in political socio-economic life** and in the psychosocial well-being of people and communities to build peace and prevent the recurrence of future cycles of violence;** 71

(South Africa)

Amend to read as follows:

13. ***Calls upon* parliaments to invest in the psychosocial well-being of people and communities to build peace and prevent the recurrence of future cycles of violence, **including through such mechanisms as transitional justice forums, truth and reconciliation investigations and criminal prosecutions;**** 72

(Canada)

Operative paragraph 15

Amend to read as follows:

15. ***Encourages* ~~inter-parliamentary~~ **increased** cooperation **of inter-parliamentary organizations around the world** to inspire collective ambition, enhance peer-to-peer learning, and to increase good practice sharing among parliamentarians on locally relevant pathways to sustainable peace and human development;** 73

(Thailand)

Amend to read as follows:

15. *Encourages* inter-parliamentary cooperation to ~~inspire collective ambition~~, enhance peer-to-peer learning, and to increase good practice sharing among parliamentarians on locally relevant pathways to sustainable peace and human development; 74  
(Bahrain)

Operative paragraph 16

Amend to read as follows:

16. *Reiterates* that parliaments and parliamentarians, as institutions and actors **who wield parliamentary diplomacy** for peaceful dialogue, legislation and oversight, have unique roles and capacities to provide tailor-made responses to conflict, and acknowledges their power to invite and convene concerned actors to take part in national peace processes; 75  
(Thailand)

New operative paragraph 16bis

- 16bis. **Emphasizes** that, as part of the international community pursuing the advancement of human rights, parliaments and parliamentarians must do all they can to alleviate the burden of external debt in developing countries and so complement the efforts of their governments to realize the economic, social and cultural rights of their peoples and move towards sustainable, equitable and inclusive development; also emphasizes that parliaments and parliamentarians are fully aware that the exponential increase in the indebtedness of developing countries is unsustainable in the context of a pandemic, and that parliamentarians must prevent having populations of indebted countries denied access to fundamental rights such as food, health, employment, education, housing, among others, by imposing on them structural adjustment policies; and it is to this end that parliamentarians support debates in relevant international forums aimed at examining the architecture of international debts and the international financial system; further emphasizes that parliaments and parliamentarians must increase their efforts to find peaceful, political, multilateral and negotiated solutions to conflicts and that, as part of the international community, they must also prevent economic and financial sanctions which often lead to profound economic recessions, thus further worsening the situation and causing incalculable humanitarian damage; 76  
(Argentina)

Operative paragraph 18

New operative paragraph 18bis

- 18bis. **Calls upon** parliaments to initiate and support all multilateral initiatives aimed at establishing a regulatory framework for the international prohibition of fully autonomous lethal weapon systems since such systems must be defined as a system of weaponry which, without human intervention: can select a human target or a target where a human is present (search/identify/detect), and can attack a human target or a target where a human is present; 77  
(Belgium)

New operative paragraph 18ter

- 18ter. **Encourages** parliaments to urge their governments to contribute to and finalize the international political declaration aimed at addressing the humanitarian impact of the use of wide-area explosive weapons in populated areas and, as recommended by the United Nations Secretary-General and the International Committee of the Red Cross, to commit not to resort to them given the very high probability of their disproportionate and indiscriminate effects. 78  
(Belgium)