



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

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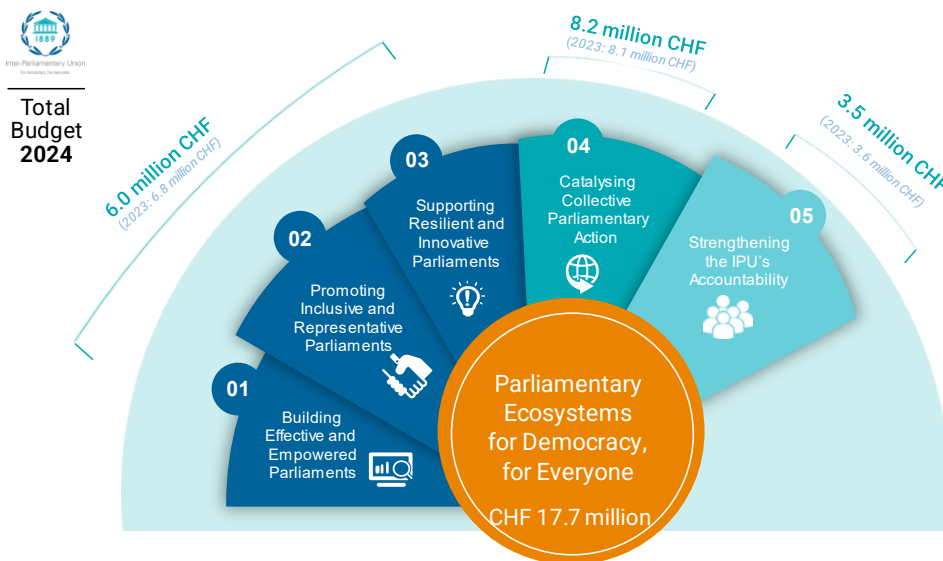
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Item 8

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2024 Consolidated Budget

Building peace by investing in parliamentary dialogue and development

The IPU is the global organization of parliaments. It was founded in 1889 as the first multilateral political organization in the world, encouraging cooperation and dialogue between parliaments of all nations. Today, the IPU comprises 179 national Member Parliaments and 14 regional parliamentary bodies. It promotes democracy and helps parliaments become stronger, younger, gender-balanced and more innovative. It also defends the human rights of parliamentarians through a dedicated committee made up of MPs from around the world.



The IPU's vision is a world where parliaments and parliamentarians work “for democracy, for everyone” in a manner that is inclusive, collective, forward-looking, resilient, and responsive to the ever-evolving set of actors and dynamics that contribute to parliamentary ecosystems.

The 2024 consolidated budget is a financial translation of the plan to implement the IPU’s Strategy for 2022-2026 in its third year. The budget anticipates gross operating expenditure for the year of CHF 17.7 million. The bulk of the budget is funded by the contributions of Members. These contributions are projected for 2024 at CHF 11.6 million. Voluntary income from a range of donors to carry out programme activities will supplement the regular budget income by an expected CHF 4.1 million, accounting for 23% of the total consolidated budget.

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1. Introduction

1.1 Secretary General's summary

1. Under the plan and budget for 2024, the IPU will implement the third year of its Strategy for 2022-2026. The strategic approach brings five interconnected objectives together to consolidate the IPU's action and deepen its impact. Its ultimate goal is to develop parliamentary ecosystems for democracy that works for and delivers for everyone, taking a wider view of the full range of actors that engage with parliaments and their members. The challenges and uncertainty facing the world and the parliamentary community continue to be of concern. Progress towards all the IPU's Strategic Objectives will be attained through integration between programmes alongside the ongoing digital transformation of the IPU's working practices to supplement its regular in-person meetings and a monitoring and evaluation framework that tracks and measures results and impact.
2. The total amount of Members' assessed contributions in 2023 remained below the level that it was in 2008. After many years of considerable reductions in contributions during the past decade, the Governing Council has agreed that it is now important to rebalance the level of IPU contributions in order to meet the challenges of future needs and rising costs. The IPU's agenda has expanded in the context of its Strategy for 2022-2026 and requires a long-term funding commitment. The Governing Council has therefore agreed to continue to bring the IPU gradually back to its contribution level of 2010 by the end of the current Strategy period, by adding 3% per year to total contributions for each of the years 2024 to 2026 inclusive and thereafter maintaining a long-term commitment to growth of 2% per year from 2027 onwards. In 2024, the total amount of assessed contributions will still remain well below the level of 2009. The IPU scale of contributions is patterned on the United Nations (UN) scale of assessment for 2022-2024, with some mathematical adjustment for the difference in membership (see pages 28-31).
3. Now that the transition into the 2022-2026 Strategy is complete, the IPU's parliamentary ecosystems approach will be applied to a world that is faced with a range of persistent and developing crises. As the war in Ukraine stretches into a longer conflict, energy price rises and a return to high inflation worldwide continue to add to the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic, the climate emergency and growing levels of inequality. The IPU's work will be responsive to demands arising from developing crises, with a focus on resilience and the broader inclusion of marginalized groups. Programme outputs will continue to be driven by the commitment and demand from parliaments to mobilize around the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (including the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, and the Paris Agreement on climate change and the subsequent commitments at the various Conferences of the Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the latest of which was in Sharm el-Sheikh in 2022 and the next in Dubai in November 2023). The IPU will continue to support parliamentarians in implementing these key international agreements and in identifying ways to develop response strategies that are in line with environmental and sustainable development objectives. The IPU's foundational aspirations for peace and security have never been more relevant and will be supplemented by active parliamentary diplomacy to build peace. By breaking down silos by working across programmatic boundaries, the IPU Strategy is giving the Organization the capacity to deliver on expectations and to promote political dialogue, cooperation and parliamentary action. Mobilization of resources from a diverse range of partners will allow the IPU to maintain a stable level of activities while keeping Members' contributions at low levels, comparable to those of over a decade ago.
4. The first Assembly of 2024 will take place in Geneva and the second may be hosted by a Member Parliament, to be confirmed. These two statutory Assemblies are planned to be held as full in-person meetings, along with the regular meetings of the Governing Council, the Executive Committee and other statutory bodies and committees. Investment in new technologies and services will enable virtual sessions of other events to be held if needed. The IPU's programme objectives have been realigned under the Strategic Objectives with greater focus on identified priority areas to demonstrate the impact of the work in developing parliamentary ecosystems. The Secretariat continues to seek cost savings across all divisions and work areas and to maintain a stricter control environment for regulating all expenditure, despite increasing costs of electricity as a result of the war in Ukraine.

5. Funding for 2024 will be used to bolster the priorities highlighted by the governing bodies in the Strategy. In terms of policy goals, the IPU will integrate work across its different programmes in achieving greater impact, specifically in democracy, peace and security, development, and climate change. The levels of funding allocated to the main areas of long-term IPU engagement are slightly lower than 2023 due to the fact that some voluntary income sources are yet unconfirmed. While the heart of the IPU remains grounded in political dialogue during in-person meetings, the digital transformation of working practices includes a range of tools for enabling more effective and inclusive remote participation, coordinated by the ICT team and the new digital events coordinator. The management and maintenance of new collaboration infrastructure (including SharePoint) has also been established as an external service to enable the IPU digital environment to remain at the forefront of available technologies in future. A sum of CHF 60,000 has been set aside for the mid-term Strategy review and for further developing the IPU's monitoring and evaluation capacity to track results chains and measure the impact of the Strategy over its five-year span (with further funds expected to be allocated in future annual budgets, according to need).
6. The IPU's digital footprint, especially its websites and social media channels, are central to the IPU's Communications Strategy. Funds must be allocated each year to update and populate them, to keep them dynamic and relevant, and to showcase good parliamentary practice from around the world. Funds are included for this purpose in the budget for communications and capital projects. Investment in development work on Parline will be assigned in 2024 to maintain it as the primary source of global parliamentary data.
7. Gender and human rights will continue to be mainstreamed and scaled up through the IPU's Strategy for 2022–2026. To improve the functioning and effectiveness of the IPU, the gender mainstreaming policy will continue to be applied to all aspects of the IPU's work to ensure that a gender perspective is present through all activities. The IPU is also applying a rights-based approach throughout its work and is ensuring cohesion between this approach and gender mainstreaming.
8. Voluntary funding for the IPU programmes in 2024 is projected to decrease from 2023 due to the expiry of some major grants, with further sources anticipated but not yet confirmed. Existing funding from long-standing partnerships, including the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) and the National People's Congress of the People's Republic of China, have been supplemented by agreements with parliaments and the European Commission, Canada, Ireland, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates, among others. The major multi-year grant from Sida, which was renewed in April 2022, will run until the end of 2024, representing the IPU's largest external grant agreement. Under this partnership with the IPU, Sida is supporting the implementation of the IPU Strategy across its objectives, particularly in building effective, resilient, representative and innovative parliaments. The IPU's programmatic links with the United Nations remain strong in areas including health, gender and peacebuilding, as well as through the IPU/United Nations partnership to help parliaments contribute effectively to global efforts to combat terrorism and violent extremism.
9. Other partnership initiatives are under discussion, although the full outcome of those proposals will remain unknown by the time the 2024 budget is approved. In preparing this budget we have only included those resources that are already quantifiable and committed or where there is a strong likelihood of their materializing. In any event, no funds will be spent or committed until donations are formally approved by a signed agreement. At present, voluntary contributions are expected to represent approximately one quarter of the total consolidated budget for 2024, with the majority of the IPU's funding still being derived from Members' assessed contributions in order to preserve the independence of the Organization. If the IPU is successful in mobilizing additional funds for more activities, the Secretariat will of course be responsive in notifying the Sub-Committee on Finance and Executive Committee and deploying the additional resources.
10. The balance of the Working Capital Fund (WCF) was CHF 10.5 million at the beginning of 2023, of which CHF 8.2 million represented available/liquid funds and the balance represented International Public Sector Accounting Standards (IPSAS) accounting adjustments, which cannot be realized in cash. The liquid portion of the WCF stands at 91% of the target level set by the Executive Committee in 2006.

11. In 2012, IPSAS compliance increased the asset value of the Headquarters building, which in turn directly increased the WCF. In 2013, implementation of an IPSAS standard required the amortization of the long-term Foundation for Buildings for International Organizations (FIPOI) loan from the Swiss Confederation and raised the WCF value yet further. These increases in value have the effect of raising the depreciation charges, which must be serviced through the annual budget. The Governing Council has historically opted to cover these accounting entries from reserves in order to avoid reducing the IPU's budgeted activities. As decided for the 2014-2023 budgets, the Governing Council is invited to authorize the use of the WCF in 2024 and beyond to cover the incremental annual depreciation charges on the building (CHF 60,000 in 2024), the FIPOI loan (CHF 60,000) and the capitalized website development (CHF 110,000).
12. Following the discussions of the Executive Committee and its Sub-Committee on Finance, it is proposed that the 2024 budget be balanced by using up to CHF 498,400 of the liquid WCF, supporting the investments in the IPU's digital transformation, and the monitoring and evaluation framework. The amount will be partly covered by expected savings in expenditure during 2023 and, as in previous years, this offset will only be applied if needed at the end of the 2024 budget period.
13. While the Governing Council has decided to rebalance total Members' assessed contributions towards their level of 2010, careful efforts will be made to manage the 2024 regular budget and the voluntary budget, keeping operational costs to a minimum while including the additional expenditure required for a complete programme of work and support to key priorities. Based on the experience garnered during the Covid pandemic period, interpretation services are being retendered to obtain the best available value for money, with anticipated future savings that will help to offset other meeting costs. Sourcing a reliable flow of voluntary income and appropriate partnership opportunities also requires continual management efforts along with a careful appraisal of the potential risks to the IPU's independence and ability to deliver the Strategic Objectives defined by its Members. The Secretariat will persist in its efforts to seek new Members.
14. The parliamentary ecosystem as a whole continues to feel the impact of the various sources of global instability, whether climate change, conflict, inflation or pandemics. Despite these crises, Member Parliaments have maintained their strong commitment to funding the core budget of the IPU through regular payment of their statutory contributions. The IPU will need to act with dynamism, imagination and flexibility in 2024 to support Member Parliaments in implementing the Strategy, to respond to new demands and to ensure that inter-parliamentary dialogue and cooperation can continue, both in person and virtually. As the IPU seeks to build parliamentary ecosystems that are resilient, it must demonstrate its own capacity to be resilient. The IPU will continue to position itself as an organization that espouses the values inherent in democracy and multilateralism, including openness, transparency, accessibility and accountability. It will continue efforts to ensure that these values work for the well-being of the people parliaments represent.

1.2 Sub-Committee on Finance

15. As usual, the Sub-Committee on Finance of the Executive Committee has been engaged throughout the process of budget preparation, advising the Secretary General and providing guidance and oversight. During the course of its online meetings, the Sub-Committee framed the core budget in broad terms based on the identified pillars of the Strategy and provided guidance on specific elements to be prioritized as well as continuing to identify opportunities for cost savings. Its guidance and direction have ensured scrutiny and quality control ahead of subsequent review by the Executive Committee and Governing Council. The Sub-Committee on Finance has stressed that the 2024 budget will strengthen the IPU's capacity to deliver during the strategic period while managing organizational risks. It sends a clear signal to encourage more Member Parliaments to step up their engagement for multilateralism, democracy and human rights in an efficient, modern and flexible manner. The IPU is the international organization for parliamentarism, built on active and strong Member Parliaments. The Secretary General is grateful to the Sub-Committee on Finance for its strong leadership in the preparation of this budget and looks forward to its ongoing support in the coming year.

Estimates, by Strategic Objective, by source of funds (CHF)

	2023 Budget	2024 Budget		
		Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
Assessed contributions	11,248,400	11,585,700		11,585,700
Working Capital Fund (IPSAS)	230,000	230,000		230,000
Working Capital Fund (liquid)	382,400	498,400		498,400
Staff assessment	1,158,500	1,159,400		1,159,400
Interest	100,000	100,000		100,000
Programme support costs	0	305,000	(305,000)	0
Other revenue	16,000	16,000		16,000
Voluntary contributions	5,386,800		4,116,900	4,116,900
TOTAL REVENUES	18,522,100	13,896,500	3,811,900	17,708,400
1. Building effective and empowered parliaments	4,806,900	2,206,800	1,541,200	3,748,000
2. Promoting inclusive and representative parliaments	1,116,100	675,300	665,100	1,340,400
3. Supporting resilient and innovative parliaments	1,044,900	361,800	462,800	824,600
4. Catalysing collective parliamentary action	8,209,700	6,843,200	1,399,200	8,242,400
5. Strengthening the IPU's accountability	3,635,900	3,704,800	48,600	3,753,400
Other charges	107,600	104,600		104,600
Eliminations	(399,000)		(305,000)	(305,000)
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	18,522,100	13,896,500	3,811,900	17,708,400

1.3 Medium-term economic outlook

16. Markets have been grappling with the consequences of the ongoing war in Ukraine and striving to recover from the disruptions caused by the pandemic. While some countries are gradually regaining their pre-pandemic output levels, signalling a positive market trend, global growth remains modest. Additionally, the repercussions of the monetary policy tightening initiated in 2022 are expected to continue to influence growth in the latter half of 2023 and in 2024. The latest projections from the OECD suggest that the global GDP will grow by 2.7% in 2023 and 2.9% in 2024. Emerging market and developing economies (EMDEs) are anticipated to face inflationary pressures due to the potential rise of commodity prices. However, global GDP growth is expected to eventually pick up throughout 2024 as inflation slowly declines.

17. For the remainder of 2023, Asian economies are expected to play a significant role in leading global growth. This can be attributed to the resumption of economic activities previously disrupted by the pandemic and relatively low inflation levels compared to other regions. China, India and Southeast Asia are anticipated to be the primary drivers of positive long-term growth in Asia. East Asia and Pacific is projected to achieve a growth rate of 4.3% in 2023, followed by 4.9% in 2024. The deceleration in global growth is accompanied by uncertainty surrounding the situation in Ukraine, which contributes to the fragility especially of European economies. Careful monitoring and proactive measures will be required to foster stability and sustainable growth in Europe. In the coming years, North America and Western Europe are expected to experience slower growth due to aging demographics and productivity challenges, particularly in the US and Germany. The Euro area's GDP growth is projected to rise from 0.8% in 2023 to 1.4% in 2024, while the US is expected to achieve a GDP growth rate of 1.1% in 2024, down from 1.6% in 2023. EMDEs are expected to experience growth rates of 4.0% in 2023 rising to 4.2% in 2024. Inflation is forecast to remain stable during this period, fostering a favourable environment for long-term growth. However, EMDEs face persistent challenges and risks, including uncertainties in global trade dynamics and geopolitical tensions. Additionally, the potential volatility in commodity prices adds further uncertainty to their economic prospects.

18. The Swiss economy is undergoing a deceleration in 2023, with a forecasted growth rate of 0.8% compared to 2.1% in 2022. Several factors contribute to this slowdown, including the tightening of monetary policies by the Swiss National Bank (SNB) and the ongoing war in Ukraine. While the impact of these factors will persist in 2024, the growth rate is projected to rise to 1.8%. Inflation is anticipated to remain above the SNB's desired price stability range of 0-2% until 2024, primarily due to tight labour markets, wage pressures, and rent increases associated with higher mortgage rates. These challenges collectively shape Switzerland's economic outlook, emphasizing the importance of addressing and sustaining stable growth and price levels in the years ahead.
19. In 2024, the Governing Council has agreed to a 3% increase in the total level of Members' assessed contributions. If further voluntary income is raised, the services and programmes under the relevant Strategic Objectives will be expanded. Meanwhile a conservative outlook has continued to be taken on revenues from interest and investments in 2024.

1.4 Towards a carbon neutral IPU

20. The IPU has long been committed to contributing to global efforts to tackle climate change. The Strategy for 2022-2026 takes this commitment to a new level by scaling up climate change activities and introducing a target for the Organization to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030. A plan to achieve this target will be developed and steps will be taken towards the goal in 2024. The Secretariat will calculate its carbon emissions in order to track progress and identify priority areas for action. Although travel was reduced during the pandemic, official travel will continue to be a necessary component of IPU work and emissions from travel are to be monitored and offset in full.
21. The new initiative will build on ongoing efforts by the IPU to reduce its emissions. The Organization obtains its electricity entirely from hydroelectric sources on offer by the local utility company. The Headquarters has a state-of-the-art heating system and controls, thus limiting the options for further reducing energy consumption. However, the IPU continues to seek and employ environmentally sustainable sources for all required office materials and supplies. It systematically sets its printers/copiers to produce double-sided printouts, recycles paper, cardboard, glass, iron and aluminium, and restricts the amount of documents that are printed through its PaperSmart initiative. The Organization has been presented with an environmental certificate from PET-Recycling Schweiz for recycling all of its PET plastic waste, thereby saving the related impacts on the environment in terms of greenhouse gases and fuel.
22. This budget includes a provision of CHF 29,600 to offset carbon emissions from regular activities in 2024. The provision offsets the IPU's carbon emissions by paying for activities aimed at reducing the impact of climate change.
23. For 2024, the Governing Council is requested to appropriate funds from the reserve for offsetting carbon emissions to pay for climate change activities undertaken by the IPU, supplementing the funds which it expects to receive from voluntary sources for climate change activities. At present, the reserve of funds that had been set aside and accumulated from previous years is being fully expended on parliamentary involvement in climate change activities each year and is replenished annually through the above provision.
24. The scaled-up work on climate change will inform the IPU's work across all policy areas and Strategic Objectives, and primarily SOs 1, 3 and 4 in 2024. Support from extrabudgetary funds will allow the IPU to continue its work to enhance knowledge and capacities in parliaments so that they can more robustly engage in the topic of climate change through legislation, representation and oversight, and promote implementation of the Paris Agreement. The IPU will also support parliaments in efforts to reduce their own carbon footprint. Furthermore, by focusing on MPs' representation and outreach functions, the IPU will continue to provide platforms for dialogue between parliamentarians and citizens, as well as between parliamentarians and key stakeholders at international forums and specifically the annual UNFCCC negotiations.

1.5 Gender analysis

25. The Strategy prioritizes the long-term focus and high profile of the IPU's gender programme, as it works to promote and support the participation of women in politics, to protect and promote women's rights in general and to support the empowerment of women. This work is captured and reported across the IPU's Strategic Objectives 1, 2, 4 and 5.
26. Voluntary funding for gender partnership/equality activities includes funding from donors including Global Affairs Canada, Irish Aid, Qatar, Sida and the United Arab Emirates. As and when additional funds are secured, they will be programmed in 2024.
27. Together, the estimates of combined regular budget resources and voluntary funding for gender-specific activities represent 8% of the total consolidated budget.

2. Income

2.1 Assessed contributions

28. The bulk of the IPU’s income budget derives from its Members’ assessed contributions. In 2024, the Governing Council has decided on a 3% increase in the total level of Members’ assessed contributions. Up until 2011, contributions grew at an average of 3% annually in order to absorb inflationary increases and provide for adequate maintenance and reserves. Since then, the IPU has experienced a series of substantial cuts in Members’ contributions due to the internal budget restrictions of many Members. Between 2011 and 2016, the IPU reduced its annual assessed contributions by over 17%, representing CHF 7.5 million in cumulative savings for IPU Members, and bringing the rates of their contributions back to 1990s levels. Total assessed contributions were reduced by over CHF 2 million per annum coupled with a steady increase in the number of IPU Members from 150 to 179 during the period 2006-2023, which further relieved the burden on existing Members. In real terms, this brought the IPU’s regular income down to levels that were last seen at the turn of the century. In 2024, the total amount of assessed contributions will still remain well below its level in 2009.

YEAR	ACTUAL CONTRIBUTIONS ASSESSED*	CHANGE OVER PRIOR YEAR
2007	CHF 11,060,266	4.9%
2008	CHF 11,354,900	2.7%
2009	CHF 11,756,000	3.5%
2010	CHF 12,046,100	2.5%
2011	CHF 12,202,390	1.3%
2012	CHF 10,939,900	-10.0%
2013	CHF 10,950,800	0%
2014	CHF 10,952,900	0%
2015	CHF 10,601,676	-3.2%
2016	CHF 10,056,000	-5.1%
2017	CHF 10,238,600	1.5%
2018	CHF 10,443,400	2.0%
2019	CHF 10,515,200	0%
2020	CHF 10,959,200	4.1%
2021	CHF 10,920,800	0%
2022	CHF 10,920,800	0%
2023	CHF 11,248,400	3%
2024	CHF 11,585,700	3%

**IPU membership grew from 150 to 179 Members during the period 2006–2023*

29. In 2011, the Governing Council decided to update the IPU scale of assessment automatically in line with changes to the UN scale. The IPU scale presented with this budget reflects the most recently published UN scale for 2022–2024.

2.2 Staff assessment and other revenues

30. As international civil servants, IPU staff members pay a staff assessment or internal income tax to the IPU. The staff assessment rate is established by the International Civil Service Commission. This internal taxation system will generate gross returns of CHF 1,159,400 in 2024 to the benefit of all Member Parliaments. To prevent double taxation, the Organization is obliged to refund the portion of the staff assessment which is related to the national income tax levied on some staff members that live in France and Canadian citizens.

31. The supplementary revenues from observer fees, room rentals, souvenir sales and other related sources are expected to amount to CHF 16,000 in 2024. Interest and investment revenues are estimated at CHF 100,000, although they are difficult to forecast in the current uncertain financial environment.

2.3 Voluntary contributions

32. Resource mobilization is estimated to generate voluntary contributions amounting to 23% of the total consolidated budget for 2024 (CHF 4.1 million). Renewed multi-year funding from the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida) has been secured amounting to a total of SEK 40 million (CHF 3.7 million) for 2022-2024. The 2022–2024 funding agreement with Sida continues Sweden’s commitment to long-term grants to support the work of the IPU, particularly in the fields of democracy and development. During the calendar year 2024, the grant will provide SEK 15 million (CHF 1.5 million) for support across the programme spectrum. The multi-year funding of CAD 2 million (CHF 1.5 million) from the Canadian Department of Foreign Affairs, Trade and Development (DFATD) to support the gender partnership programme concludes in 2024 and discussions will begin with a view to securing future funding. Generous contributions have been made by a number of parliaments as support to the joint programme on countering terrorism and violent extremism, which is being implemented in cooperation with the United Nations. Previous support includes China (USD 1 million / CHF 1.0 million), Bangladesh (USD 200,000 / CHF 186,000) and Benin (EUR 15,000 / CHF 15,000). The 2021 grant from the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates provided CHF 494,000, split between the counter-terrorism programme (83%) and the gender partnership programme (17%).

33. Implementation of the SDGs is supported by the latest grant from the People's Republic of China with a five-year donation of USD 1.5 million (CHF 1.4 million) which allows the IPU to provide capacity-building support to parliaments in developing countries to contribute to the implementation of the SDGs. In 2021, the Shura Council of Qatar provided a grant of CHF 2 million that will roll over into 2024 for a range of activities across several of the IPU's Strategic Objectives. The IPU continues to generate interest from a range of potential donors and several of the existing donors are expected to renew their grants upon completion. As always, the Executive Committee will be kept informed of any resources mobilized after the 2024 budget has been approved.
34. The IPU will continue in 2024 to collaborate with the UN family including the UN Development Programme (UNDP) on a range of country-based programmes including a multi-year agreement for the Lao People's Democratic Republic. The IPU and the World Health Organization (WHO) will continue to cooperate closely and a new global memorandum of understanding will be discussed to cover collaboration in the coming years. The WHO-hosted Partnership for Maternal Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH) provided a separate grant for CHF 82,000 to the IPU to cover activities specifically promoting positive health outcomes for women, adolescents and children.
35. A new grant of USD 100,000 has been secured from the Julie Ann Wrigley Foundation, working through the Arizona State University, to support the IPU's climate change campaign. Further cooperation and funding is anticipated through the Foundation in the coming years. As always, efforts are underway to fundraise from a wider range of other partners. Recently, the IPU has reached out to the Bertelsmann Foundation, a German philanthropy to identify funding for IPU youth activities

3. Expenditures

3.1 Strategic objectives

Objective 1 – Building effective and empowered parliaments

Rationale

Parliaments and parliamentarians that are able to effectively exercise their mandates, deliver for the people, represent and defend the rights and interests of the community in all its diversity, make evidence-informed decisions and exercise oversight of their governments, are essential to democracy.

Overview of activities in 2024

Ensuring MPs can exercise their mandates freely

The IPU will pursue its efforts to ensure that MPs are able to exercise their mandates freely and safely in response to the growing threats and challenges that they face. The IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (CHRP) will manage its growing caseload by meeting regularly, carrying out on-site missions, holding hearings with victims, authorities and experts, mandating the observation of trial proceedings, and following up with Members and other stakeholders to ensure action on decisions taken.

The IPU will present a new regional study on violence against women MPs in Asia Pacific and how to address it. This study will complement the series of three studies published since 2016 (Global, Europe and Africa). The IPU will produce research on public intimidation of MPs to better understand the trends and identify gaps and effective responses. It will also carry out awareness-raising activities and assist national parliaments in addressing challenges faced with regard to the exercise of freedom of expression – a prerequisite for democracy.

Building overall institutional capacity and action in key policy areas

The IPU will continue its support for parliaments to enhance their institutional capacity in carrying out their constitutional mandate to legislate, oversee and represent the interests of the public. IPU support will aim to build their effectiveness, representativity, transparency, accountability and accessibility – key elements of SDG 16 and democratic parliaments.

Building on the new set of indicators for democratic parliaments, which were formally launched in 2023, as well as previous self-assessment tools, the IPU will support parliaments in making use of these frameworks to improve institutional functioning and ensure effective delivery of their mandate. The IPU will provide tailored capacity-building support for the institution as well as for MPs and parliamentary staff in a number of parliaments, with an emphasis on building oversight capacity of parliaments and building new partnerships to assist Parliament in its work (State Audit Institutions, civil society organizations and research institutions). In countries in transition, the IPU will pay special attention to dialogue, public engagement and outreach to citizens.

The IPU will complement institutional capacity building with national targeted assistance to parliaments in priority policy areas. These include thematic areas such as human rights, gender equality, violence against women and girls and the elimination of discrimination in the law, youth empowerment, climate change adaptation and response, universal health coverage and global health security, human security, sustainable development and countering terrorism.

The IPU will support parliaments in following up on recommendations resulting from UN review processes such as the Human Rights Universal Periodic Review, United Nations treaty body processes (Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, Committee on the Rights of the Child, etc.), Paris Agreement on climate change and the High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, SUN Movement follow up, etc. It will do so in collaboration with key institutional partners.

Climate change will remain a cross-cutting theme in all of the IPU's work, addressing for example climate change and human rights, the gender and youth dimensions of climate change, and the links to migration and displacement, and to peace and human security.

2024 will mark the 10th anniversary of the Common Principles for Support to Parliaments, which strive to ensure that support to parliaments is driven by parliaments and tailored to national needs and objectives. The IPU will organize several anniversary activities and facilitate exchanges on good practices and lessons learned on implementing the Common Principles as well as looking forward to the future of parliamentary development.

Developing standards and guidelines for parliaments

The IPU will place emphasis on dissemination of the Indicators for Democratic Parliaments, as well as recently launched guidelines and tools including the IPU-OHCHR Handbook for MPs on CEDAW, the IPU-UN Women Handbook on Gender-responsive lawmaking, the 2023 *Guide to digital transformation in parliaments*, SDG legislative scrutiny tools and the 10 actions for greener parliaments. It will also launch new research on the welcoming of new MPs, an inventory of tools for MPs in conflict prevention and online tools on freedom of expression.

Key deliverables

Ensuring MPs exercise their mandates freely

- Support to MPs at risk through the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians complaint procedure and follow-up
- Research on public intimidation of members of parliament
- Research on sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament in Asia-Pacific
- Capacity building on freedom of expression
- Raising awareness of violence against MPs, either by state-sponsored or public intimidation, through specific communication campaigns and support of IPU research products.

Building institutional capacity

- Support to parliamentary self-assessment and needs assessments on institutional capacity building and select IPU policy priorities
- Capacity development for core functions of parliament for MPs and parliamentary staff, including women and young MPs, covering: legislative drafting, monitoring and evaluation, research services, internal rules and procedures, budgeting, public engagement in the work of parliament, law-making and oversight, including on the IPU's policy priorities
- Support for the digital transformation of parliaments
- Advisory services including on parliamentary functioning, legislation, internal rules and procedures, national reconciliation
- Parline research on Parliaments and their functioning

Supporting action on national and global policy priorities

- Capacity development for thematic areas for MPs, including women and young MPs, and parliamentary staff, in areas such as: freedom of expression, preventing public intimidation of members of parliament, SDGs, gender equality in the law, violence against women, health, climate change, green COVID-19 recovery, disarmament, weapons of mass destruction, security sector oversight and governance, military spending, counter-terrorism legal instruments, science and technology, trade, and economic growth, with all capacity development grounded in the Common Principles for Support to Parliaments
- Capacity building for implementation of UN human rights recommendations and other UN processes and legally binding agreements
- Promoting good practice that can be replicated in other parliaments through the IPU's communications

Development and use of standards and guidelines for parliaments

- Promotion and dissemination of the indicators for democratic parliaments, standards and guidelines for enhancing parliamentary capacity and practice.
- Marking the 10th anniversary of the Common Principles for Support to Parliaments
- Dissemination of Handbooks on CEDAW, gender-responsive legislation, greening parliaments and digital transformation in parliaments
- Production of new guidelines and tools on welcoming of new MPs, conflict prevention and freedom of expression
- Research and data collection on parliaments and work on the IPU's policy priorities
- Overall data collection and documentation of good practice on: gender equality, youth engagement, climate change, common and human security, effective counter-terrorism legislation, prevention of violent extremism, SDGs, health, implementation of the IPU's human rights cases-related recommendations
- Showcasing good practice that can be replicated in other parliaments.

Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	2,206,800	1,541,200	3,748,000
• Salaries	1,698,800	371,000	2,069,800
• Services	328,500	899,900	1,228,400
• Travel	145,500	174,800	320,300
• Material	34,000	95,500	129,500

Objective 2 – Promoting inclusive and representative parliaments

Rationale

A key element to strong parliaments is the degree to which their members represent and articulate the concerns of society at large, paying particular attention to less represented groups, and the extent to which inclusive parliamentary practices create access and influence pathways for all members of the community.

Overview of activities in 2024

Enhancing gender and youth representation and participation

Representation of women and youth has been part of the IPU's core work for several decades. The IPU will enhance its data-collection activity and research on women and youth representation and participation in parliament, monitoring developments and emerging trends, identifying good practices and drawing lessons from parliaments' various experiences.

The IPU will support national efforts to increase representation of women and youth in parliament (including technical support and expertise on positive measures and other initiatives that facilitate access). Particular focus will be placed on supporting parliaments where women account for less than 10% of membership.

The IPU will pursue the work around the *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* campaign to transform pledges into real actions to increase the numbers of young MPs and support them in their political careers.

Building inclusive parliamentary processes

The IPU will build on the initiatives which marked the 10-year anniversary of the IPU's *Plan of Action for Gender-sensitive Parliaments* in 2022, including the outcome of the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, to transform parliaments into gender-sensitive institutions which drive gender equality.

Research will delve deeper into processes, mechanisms and strategies within parliaments to enhance women's and young MPs' participation in decision-making and influence and ensure that parliament as an institution mainstreams gender and youth considerations and interests.

The IPU will also support parliaments in building a conducive environment for women's and youth participation and their capacity to mainstream gender and youth issues in their work. This will be done through the implementation of gender-sensitive self-assessments, targeted support to women and youth parliamentary caucuses and initiatives to address sexism, harassment and violence against women in parliament.

The IPU will seek to apply lessons learnt from its work on the representation and inclusion of women and youth to other marginalized and vulnerable populations and examine ways to achieve this objective. IPU work will emphasize the impact of parliamentary action on vulnerable groups in the areas of sustainable development, health and climate change.

Support to public engagement

Public engagement in the work of parliament will remain a focus, following up on the findings of the 2022 *Global Parliamentary Report*. The IPU will focus on public engagement in key policy areas, in particular climate change. It will implement initiatives to facilitate exchange of experience and provide support at national level to Parliaments in their outreach and public engagement efforts.

Key deliverables

<p>Enhancing gender and youth representation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Research and data collection on women and youth in parliament; production of awareness-raising tools (infographics and other communication tools) • Promoting all IPU gender products that generate the most media attention for the IPU, especially the annual review of women in parliament • Provision of support to parliaments in enhancing women’s access to parliament, with a particular focus on parliaments where women account for less than 10% of MPs • Build on the success of the <i>I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!</i> campaign to support parliamentary action to enhance youth participation and empower young MPs <p>Building inclusive processes within parliament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for national gender-sensitive self-assessments and follow-up • Support for the establishment, work and impact of caucuses of women MPs • Support for the establishment, work and impact of caucuses of young MPs • Collection of good practices on gender-sensitive parliaments • Provision of leadership training and other capacity-building sessions for women and young MPs, including online • Awareness-raising and capacity-building activities on child participation • Development of a strategy to identify under-represented and marginalized groups and better map out their access to and participation in parliament • Capacity development for stronger parliamentary action in support of vulnerable groups in the policy areas of sustainable development, health and climate change <p>Enhancing public engagement efforts</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dissemination of findings of the Global Parliamentary Report and support to public engagement initiatives in parliaments • Organization of webinars to share good practices and lessons learned on public engagement • Support to parliaments’ national public engagement initiatives, in particular with regard to climate change

Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	675,300	665,100	1,340,400
• Salaries	637,300	97,000	734,300
• Services	29,000	543,800	572,800
• Travel	3,000	14,800	17,800
• Material	6,000	9,500	15,500

Objective 3 – Supporting resilient and innovative parliaments

Rationale

The COVID-19 pandemic, the climate crisis and cyberthreats are some of the key developments that have highlighted the need for parliaments and parliamentarians to be forward-looking, resilient, and able to evolve, adapt and manage risk as circumstances change. They have also brought to the fore the importance for parliaments to continue to modernize parliamentary strategies and business processes.

Overview of activities in 2024

Facilitating innovation in parliament

In 2024, the IPU will pursue and enhance its work providing support to Parliaments in integrating innovation and leveraging in particular technology to become more efficient and resilient. The IPU will build on existing work on innovation in parliament that has proven to be instrumental for parliaments in these times of crisis.

Through the Centre for Innovation in Parliament, the IPU will pursue its work of supporting parliaments to learn from each other's innovations, including through an effective use of digital technology. The aim is to build more resilient and reactive institutions in tune with the needs of the people and the constantly changing environment in which parliaments evolve. Leveraging research, data and discussion, the work will aim at strengthening parliaments' ability to absorb, adapt and transform in the face of external shocks, and help manage emerging risks. Digital transformation is a challenge and an opportunity for all organizations. The lessons learnt from helping parliaments to modernize their processes and culture through digital tools will also guide the IPU's own digital transformation.

The IPU will also organize the global e-Parliament Conference and produce the results of its latest research on e-Parliaments.

The IPU will furthermore support parliaments nationally in expanding on their digital and technological capacities.

Greening parliaments and emerging priorities

The IPU will furthermore develop a strategy to support parliaments in addressing forward-looking priorities, turning towards the future (preparing for the impact of climate change, cyberthreats, artificial intelligence, science and ethics, etc.). A particular focus will be placed on supporting parliaments in transforming their way of work and functioning to become "greener" institutions, and this within the framework of the IPU *Parliaments for the Planet* campaign.

Key deliverables

<p>Facilitating innovation in parliament</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for the Centre for Innovation in Parliament, which includes building communities of parliamentary expertise in regional and thematic hubs; development of tools, sharing of good practices, including on digital transformation of parliaments • Production of the World e-Parliament Report and organization of the associated Conference • Capacity building for parliaments to enhance use of IT and innovation to better exercise their functions, including in the areas of IPU’s policy priorities • Development of a methodology and workplan to define and enhance parliamentary resilience, mapping out actors that influence and impact the work of parliament <p>Supporting parliaments in addressing forward-looking policy priorities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support to parliaments in implementing the 10 actions for greener parliaments • Support to parliaments in addressing forward-looking/future oriented policy issues, including science and ethics • Giving visibility to case studies of innovative and resilient parliament success stories, especially focused on future-looking initiatives and Artificial Intelligence. • Building on the successes of the 2023 launch of the IPU’s climate campaign <i>Parliaments for the Planet</i>.
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Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	361,800	462,800	824,600
• Salaries	291,800	15,500	307,300
• Services	28,000	366,200	394,200
• Travel	35,000	76,100	111,100
• Material	7,000	5,000	12,000

Objective 4 – Catalysing collective parliamentary action

Rationale

A key strength of the IPU since its founding has been its ability to connect parliaments and parliamentarians to each other, serve as the focal point for worldwide parliamentary dialogue, exchange, solidarity and diplomacy, and leverage the collective political strength of its Members at the global level and with regard to the United Nations and the World Trade Organization. The global convening power of the IPU is unique. Harnessing this collective power and transforming it into political action is particularly needed in the face of growing challenges to the multilateral system and the risk of critical agendas such as the Sustainable Development Goals being derailed.

Overview of activities in 2024

Convene and facilitate inter-parliamentary engagement

The IPU will use its convening power to provide platforms for political mobilization and exchange, both online and in person. The objective is to accelerate national, regional and multilateral policy solutions to key global issues by catalysing inter-parliamentary cooperation and action.

In 2024, the IPU will hold annual global events including its flagship Assemblies, Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians, the Parliamentary Hearing at the United Nations, the Parliamentary Conference on the WTO and the G20 Speakers' Summit (P20). The IPU's integrated approach under its Strategy for 2022-2026 will be evident at these events.

Support inclusion of parliamentary perspectives in key UN processes

It will furthermore organize global gatherings to address key thematic issues (SDGs, climate change, countering terrorism and prevention of violent extremism, cyberthreats, human rights, gender equality and combating violence against women etc.) and open spaces for parliamentary contribution to UN processes by organizing parliamentary meetings on the occasion of major UN initiatives (Commission on the Status of Women, High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development, COP29 on climate change, World Health Assembly, UN Summit of the Future, Internet Governance Forum, ECOSOC Youth Forum etc.). It will also support parliaments through capacity-building events to contribute and take part in key UN review processes such as the Universal Periodic Review, the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women, the Convention of the Rights of the Child and the voluntary national review of implementation of the SDGs, as well as support parliaments in acceding to and implementing major UN treaties and agreements on counter-terrorism.

The IPU will continue its efforts in building bridges between policy and science with the aim of fostering good governance and trust through the Science for Peace Schools, its work in science diplomacy, and on the International Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology. Building on the success of the Parliamentary Conference on Interfaith Dialogue in 2023, the IPU will prepare Part 2 of the related Parliamentary Report and seek to mainstream interfaith dialogue into its peace-building initiatives. It will also examine possible related standing mechanisms within the statutory structures of the IPU. It will continue to support the Call of the Sahel, with a view to spurring collective parliamentary action to raise awareness and address the deterioration of the situation in the Sahel region.

The IPU will build on its strategic presence and partnership with the United Nations, through its offices in New York and Vienna and its Headquarters in Geneva to bridge the gap between international commitments and multilateral decision-making and national priorities and implementation.

The IPU will continue to pursue its campaigns to support parliaments in acceding to and implementing major UN treaties and agreements, including the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW), statelessness conventions and the WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies.

Better connect MPs to each other and to a wider ecosystem of stakeholders, enhancing solidarity and strengthening parliamentary diplomacy

The IPU will also step up its efforts to encourage solidarity between MPs in follow-up to IPU recommendations to address violations of the human rights of parliamentarians. It will also promote parliamentary diplomacy, seeking to facilitate political dialogue between the two Koreas, on Cyprus, and between MPs from Israel and Palestine, as well as in terms of carrying out the provisions of the IPU emergency item resolution on the peaceful resolution of the war in Ukraine.

In all of its work, the IPU will build on its parliamentary ecosystem approach, which places IPU Members and parliamentarians at the centre while also engaging with other relevant stakeholders including issue area experts, media, civil society and academia. This approach, which has shown valuable results in the context of the 2022 Interfaith Conference and of the IPU's involvement in the annual Geneva Peace Week, will be expanded to other IPU events and activities.

Key deliverables

Convene and facilitate inter-parliamentary engagement

- IPU Assemblies in March (Geneva) and October 2024
- P20 Speakers' Summit
- Annual Global Conference of Young Parliamentarians
- Regional seminars on the SDGs

Provide and advocate for parliamentary perspective into UN and WTO processes

- Parliamentary Hearing at the UN, Parliamentary Forum at the HLPF, annual meeting at the Commission on the Status of Women, Parliamentary Meeting in the context of the COP on climate change, Parliamentary Track at the Internet Governance Forum
- Parliamentary Conference on the WTO
- Events in conjunction with the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the UN Development Programme, the World Health Assembly, UN Environment Programme and UNFCCC, the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, the Conference of States Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption, etc.
- Support participation of MPs in UN meetings of direct relevance to the IPU, such as the ECOSOC Youth Forum, the ECOSOC Science and Technology Forum, as well as relevant high level meetings of the UN, including the landmark Summit of the Future
- Briefings for MPs on UN affairs, highlighting key reform issues
- Ensuring a parliamentary contribution to the finalization and ratification of the new UN convention on cybercrime; linking up with international efforts to address crimes against the environment
- Promoting IPU-relevant activities at the United Nations in New York, Vienna and Geneva
- Mobilizing Member Parliaments in communication and social media campaigns on International Women's Day (8 March), International Day of Parliamentarism (30 June), International Day of Democracy (15 September) and International Human Rights Day (10 December)

Enhance parliamentary engagement on key policy issues and engagement in global processes

- Coordination of parliamentary inputs and tracking of parliamentary participation in: Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women (CEDAW), Universal Periodic Review (UPR) processes, Committee on the Rights of the Child, regional UN Economic Commission forums on sustainable development, Partnership for Maternal, Newborn and Child Health (PMNCH), UN Summit of the Future.
- Global or regional advocacy and awareness-raising events on: human rights sensitive parliaments, legislation that supports freedom of expression, gender equality, gender-sensitive parliaments, youth participation, climate change, SDGs, health, nutrition and food security, disarmament, science and technology for peace, counter-terrorism, prevention of violent extremism
- Science for Peace Schools, science diplomacy, International Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology

- Campaigns in support of accession to and implementation of major UN treaties: ATT, CTBT, TPNW, Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, statelessness conventions, WTO Agreement on Fisheries Subsidies

Strengthen MPs' and Member Parliaments' connections to each other and a wider ecosystem of stakeholders

- Promotion of solidarity for MPs at risk
- Strengthening of relationships with Member Parliaments, other parliamentary organizations and geopolitical groups
- Advancement of universal IPU membership
- Promoting the use of tools available in the counter-terrorism and prevention of violent extremism programme, including the interactive map and the mobile application for parliamentarians. These tools enable communication between parliamentarians and give access to first-hand information.
- Targeted engagement through campaigns and newsletters
- Enhanced content strategy which emphasizes case studies and good practices from parliaments and a wider ecosystem of stakeholders to inform, learn and inspire

Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	6,843,100	1,399,200	8,242,300
• Salaries	4,725,600	15,500	4,741,100
• Services	1,221,300	934,500	2,155,800
• Travel	314,400	398,200	712,600
• Material	581,800	51,000	632,800

Objective 5 – Strengthening the IPU’s accountability

Rationale

Reinforcing and sustaining a culture of mutual accountability on all levels – for and between Member Parliaments, between Member Parliaments and the IPU Secretariat, and within the Secretariat – is both a key organizational value and a critical factor in ensuring that progress towards all Strategic Objectives is sustained and occurs in a transparent and democratic manner.

Overview of activities in 2024

Strengthen processes that require action by Members and enhance accountability

The Strategy emphasizes the need to enhance existing accountability efforts within the IPU, engaging both Member Parliaments and the Secretariat itself. The IPU will expand its outreach and engagement with Members throughout the year, and with particular attention on those regions that face more difficulty taking part in the IPU. The opening of a first IPU Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean will very much contribute to this effort. The IPU will seek to discuss and clarify further with Members responsibilities and expectations with regard to engagement in the IPU’s work, implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions, and possible review of the IPU Statutes and Rules. The objective will be to further strengthen processes that require action by Member Parliaments, enhance the impact of IPU interventions at national, regional and global levels, and facilitate the sharing of progress and good practices.

Develop and approve priority policies identified by the Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness

Following the Comprehensive Transparency Report endorsed in March 2021 by the Governing Council, the Executive Committee established a Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness in November 2021 to implement the recommendations of the report. Priorities for 2023 include the approval and implementation of an IPU Data Protection policy, establishment of a policy on whistleblowers, review of Secretariat staff rules and regulations, development of a code of conduct for IPU governance, and support for the continuing digitalization of the IPU both at Secretariat and governance levels. These mechanisms will be put in place to reinforce transparency, accountability and openness both at governance and Secretariat levels and will be underpinned by comprehensive risk management.

Digital transformation of the IPU

The IPU will step up its digital transformation with the key objective of improving its service to Members as well as modernizing the way the Organization conducts its business. This includes reviewing the model of communication between the Secretariat and its Members, studying the creation of a possible extranet, enhancing contact management and enriching the IPU’s database.

Gender, human rights and green transformation of the IPU

The IPU will continue to lead the way in terms of gender sensitivity by implementing its Gender Mainstreaming Strategy and working towards targets identified for effective gender mainstreaming and achieving gender parity within the Organization. It will furthermore continue its efforts to systematically mainstream human rights in its work.

Similarly, the IPU will aim to be a role model by becoming a truly green organization. It will develop a comprehensive strategy to achieve carbon neutrality by 2030.

Create and sustain Organization-wide monitoring, evaluation and learning system

The IPU will boost its monitoring, evaluation and learning capacity. An enhanced system will be adapted to better measure implementation of the Strategy and the results achieved while facilitating continuous learning throughout the year for enhanced efficiency and overall transparency.

Key deliverables

Strengthen processes that require action by Members and enhance accountability

- Monitoring and tracking of Member implementation of IPU resolutions and other decisions, including on individual human rights cases
- Implementation of accountability framework for the 2019 resolution on universal health care, the 2022 resolution on gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments, and for IPU work on climate change
- Identification of other Member actions to be monitored and shared with the broader parliamentary community
- Marking the 10th anniversary and further strengthening implementation of the IPU Common Principles for Support to Parliaments
- Continuing implementation of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Transparency Report pertaining to the IPU governing bodies

Create and sustain Organization-wide monitoring, evaluation and learning system

- Enhancement of system-wide organizational framework for monitoring and tracking progress against Strategic Objectives
- Development of regular internal accountability mechanisms to track progress and for joint learning

Develop and approve priority policies identified by the Working Group on Transparency, Accountability and Openness

- Approval and implementation of an IPU Data Protection policy
- Establishment of a policy on whistleblowers
- Review of Secretariat staff rules and regulations
- Development of a Code of Conduct for IPU governance

Digital transformation of the IPU

- Implementation of the digital transformation road map
- Reviewing the model of communications between the Secretariat and Members
- Enhancing cybersecurity of IPU data and platforms
- Increased digitalization of processes and records (including IPU archives)
- Building of internal capacity for digital formats, events and projects
- Development of system-wide project management tools
- Using SharePoint to build team sites, both intranet and possibly extranet

Gender, human rights and green transformation of the IPU

- Developing and working towards milestones for a gender-sensitive IPU within the Secretariat and follow-up to the gender audit
- Building human rights mainstreaming internal capacity and mechanisms
- Completion of research to determine Secretariat-wide milestones to achieve carbon neutrality

Enabling daily running of the IPU

- Financial accounting, reporting and support
- Recruitment, compensation and benefits services
- Legal contracts and agreements
- Building management and security
- Staff capacity building and evaluation
- Maintenance of in-house IT infrastructure and security
- Adaptation of the current Secretariat structure to match the needs of the Strategy
- Implementation of the recommendations of the Comprehensive Transparency Report pertaining to the Secretariat

Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	3,704,800	48,600	3,753,400
• Salaries	2,184,100	0	2,184,100
• Services	274,100	48,600	322,700
• Travel	161,300	0	161,300
• Material	558,300	0	558,300
• Financial charges	30,000	0	30,000
• Amortization	497,000	0	497,000

3.2 Provisions and grants

Overview of 2024

Provisions and grants are budgeted to provide adequate funding for present and future liabilities in accordance with prudent financial management practice.

Financial provisions and payments need to be made in appropriate amounts and in accordance with clear and approved policies.

The IPU sets aside funds to be used to offset carbon emissions from its activities, primarily travel. The amount of the contribution is currently determined by an online calculator, which estimates the investment that is required to compensate for emissions from travel reported by the Secretariat.

A reserve has been established for major repair work on the IPU Headquarters building. The reserve is being used to cover the depreciation cost of the work required to double-glaze and protect the windows of the IPU Headquarters. As of 1 January 2023, this reserve held a balance of CHF 383,000. As the reserve is depleted, the Governing Council will need to consider replenishing it in future years.

The reserve for doubtful accounts is a provision that comes into effect in the event that certain Members' rights are suspended or they cease to participate and their contributions, which have already been recognized as revenue, are never received. Based on historical payment performance, the expected 2024 contribution to the provision has been set at CHF 37,000.

The IPU provides an annual grant to the ASGP. The amount is determined each year at a level that is sufficient to meet expenses not funded from other sources. The grant was increased to a maximum of CHF 38,000 in 2017–2018 to enable the ASGP to reach out to more language groups through additional interpretation and translation services, and will remain at this level in 2024.

The IPU is contractually bound to guarantee the payment of the pensions of 9 former employees of the Secretariat. The closed pension fund has been consolidated into the accounts of the IPU and its reserves are invested in a flexible mutual fund that is specifically designed for Swiss pension funds.

Estimates, by nature of expenditure (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	104,600	0	104,600

2024 estimates, by objective and source of funds (CHF)

Objective	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
1. Statutory reserves and liabilities (net)	37,000	0	37,000
2. Assist the ASGP	38,000	0	38,000
3. Offset carbon emissions	29,600	0	29,600
➤ Grand total	104,600	0	104,600

3.3 Capital expenditures

Overview of 2024

The IPU makes prudent capital expenditures that will enhance asset values, or improve productivity or quality of work, while ensuring that future capital charges are sustainable.

In addition to the regular replacement of computers, a SharePoint server has been installed at the Secretariat which will enable the development of secure extranet access to the IPU file system in 2024. The IPU websites and Parline data platform will continue to require development in specific areas in 2024 and beyond, with the scope established within the Communications Strategy. Costs that are not covered through external donations will be capitalized and depreciated over four years.

Estimate of capital expenditures (CHF)

	Regular budget	Other sources	All funds
2024	150,000	0	150,000

Estimates of capital expenditures by class, by year for 2024–2026

Item	2024	2025	2026
1. Replacement of computers and servers	35,000	35,000	35,000
2. Furniture	15,000	15,000	15,000
3. Website development	100,000	100,000	100,000
➤ Grand total	150,000	150,000	150,000

3.4 Staffing

36. The 2024 budget includes a staff establishment of 45.3 full-time equivalent positions. The table below shows the distribution of posts by strategic objective, category and grade, and the proportion of occupied posts currently filled by women.

Strategic Objective	2023	SG	2024 Budget					General services	Total
			Director	5	4	3	2		
1. Effective parliaments	10		0.3	1.5	2.2	2	2.5	1.5	10
2. Representative parliaments	3.8		0.3		0.5	1.5	0.5	1	3.8
3. Innovative parliaments	1.2		0.4		0.8				1.2
4. Collective parliamentary action	19.8	0.5	2	1.5	4.5	1.5	4	5.8	19.8
5. IPU accountability	9.5	0.5	1	1			1	7	9.5
Total	44.3	0	4	4	8	5	8	15.3	45.3
<i>Per cent Women</i>	59%	0%	75%	25%	50%	60%	50%	74%	58%
<i>Number Women</i>	26.3	0	3	1	4	3	4	11.3	26.3

N.B. Responsibility for gender mainstreaming lies with the Secretary General, supported by the Director of Programmes

37. Grades are established in accordance with the UN common system of job classification. Two thirds of the Secretariat staff are women. Three out of the four director-level positions are currently held by women. The heads of both the New York and Vienna offices are women.
38. Annual adjustments to salaries are determined by the International Civil Service Commission (ICSC). The budget for Secretariat staff salaries in 2024 from regular sources is CHF 6,653,300. There is a further appropriation of CHF 326,200 for the salaries of project personnel paid from other sources.
39. Benefits such as pensions, dependency allowances and child education allowances are provided to staff in accordance with the UN common system. Some other benefits, such as health and accident insurance, are defined internally by the IPU. The budget for staff benefits from regular sources is CHF 2,306,600. In addition, the staff benefits charged to voluntary-funded project budgets amount to CHF 107,700.

4. Assessed contributions

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2024 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Afghanistan	0.006%	0.110%	12,700
Albania	0.008%	0.110%	12,700
Algeria	0.109%	0.240%	27,800
Andorra	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Angola	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Argentina	0.719%	0.940%	108,800
Armenia	0.007%	0.110%	12,700
Australia	2.111%	2.470%	285,800
Austria	0.679%	0.890%	103,000
Azerbaijan	0.030%	0.140%	16,200
Bahrain	0.054%	0.170%	19,700
Bangladesh	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Belarus	0.041%	0.150%	17,400
Belgium	0.828%	1.060%	122,700
Benin	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Bhutan	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Bolivia (Plurinational State of)	0.019%	0.120%	13,900
Bosnia and Herzegovina	0.012%	0.120%	13,900
Botswana	0.015%	0.120%	13,900
Brazil	2.013%	2.370%	274,200
Bulgaria	0.056%	0.170%	19,700
Burkina Faso	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Burundi	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Cabo Verde	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Cambodia	0.007%	0.110%	12,700
Cameroon	0.013%	0.120%	13,900
Canada	2.628%	3.030%	350,600
Central African Republic	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Chad	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Chile	0.420%	0.600%	69,400
China	15.254%	11.750%	1,359,600
Colombia	0.246%	0.400%	46,300
Comoros	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Congo	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Costa Rica	0.069%	0.190%	22,000
Côte d'Ivoire	0.022%	0.130%	15,000
Croatia	0.091%	0.220%	25,500
Cuba	0.095%	0.220%	25,500
Cyprus	0.036%	0.150%	17,400
Czech Republic	0.340%	0.510%	59,000
Democratic People's Republic of Korea	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Democratic Republic of the Congo	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Denmark	0.553%	0.750%	86,800
Djibouti	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Dominican Republic	0.067%	0.190%	22,000
Ecuador	0.077%	0.200%	23,100
Egypt	0.139%	0.270%	31,200
El Salvador	0.013%	0.120%	13,900
Equatorial Guinea	0.012%	0.120%	13,900
Estonia	0.044%	0.160%	18,500
Eswatini	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Ethiopia	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Fiji	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Finland	0.417%	0.600%	69,400

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2024 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
France	4.318%	4.820%	557,700
Gabon	0.013%	0.120%	13,900
Gambia (the)	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Georgia	0.008%	0.110%	12,700
Germany	6.111%	6.630%	767,200
Ghana	0.024%	0.130%	15,000
Greece	0.325%	0.490%	56,700
Guatemala	0.041%	0.150%	17,400
Guinea	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Guinea-Bissau	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Guyana	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Haiti	0.006%	0.110%	12,700
Hungary	0.228%	0.380%	44,000
Iceland	0.036%	0.150%	17,400
India	1.044%	1.300%	150,400
Indonesia	0.549%	0.750%	86,800
Iran (Islamic Republic of)	0.371%	0.540%	62,500
Iraq	0.128%	0.260%	30,100
Ireland	0.439%	0.620%	71,700
Israel	0.561%	0.760%	87,900
Italy	3.189%	3.630%	420,000
Japan	8.033%	8.490%	982,400
Jordan	0.022%	0.130%	15,000
Kazakhstan	0.133%	0.270%	31,200
Kenya	0.030%	0.140%	16,200
Kuwait	0.234%	0.390%	45,100
Kyrgyzstan	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Lao People's Democratic Republic	0.007%	0.110%	12,700
Latvia	0.050%	0.160%	18,500
Lebanon	0.036%	0.150%	17,400
Lesotho	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Liberia	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Libya	0.018%	0.120%	13,900
Liechtenstein	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Lithuania	0.077%	0.200%	23,100
Luxembourg	0.068%	0.190%	22,000
Madagascar	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Malawi	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Malaysia	0.348%	0.520%	60,200
Maldives	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Mali	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Malta	0.019%	0.120%	13,900
Marshall Islands	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Mauritania	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Mauritius	0.019%	0.120%	13,900
Mexico	1.221%	1.500%	173,600
Micronesia (Federated States of)	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Monaco	0.011%	0.110%	12,700
Mongolia	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Montenegro	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Morocco	0.055%	0.170%	19,700
Mozambique	0.004%	0.100%	11,600
Myanmar	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Namibia	0.009%	0.110%	12,700
Nepal	0.010%	0.110%	12,700

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2024 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Netherlands	1.377%	1.670%	193,200
New Zealand	0.309%	0.470%	54,400
Nicaragua	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Niger	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Nigeria	0.182%	0.320%	37,000
North Macedonia	0.007%	0.110%	12,700
Norway	0.679%	0.890%	103,000
Oman	0.111%	0.240%	27,800
Pakistan	0.114%	0.240%	27,800
Palau	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Palestine		0.100%	11,600
Panama	0.090%	0.210%	24,300
Paraguay	0.026%	0.130%	15,000
Peru	0.163%	0.300%	34,700
Philippines	0.212%	0.360%	41,700
Poland	0.837%	1.070%	123,800
Portugal	0.353%	0.520%	60,200
Qatar	0.269%	0.430%	49,800
Republic of Korea	2.574%	2.970%	343,700
Republic of Moldova	0.005%	0.110%	12,700
Romania	0.312%	0.480%	55,500
Russian Federation	1.866%	2.210%	255,700
Rwanda	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Saint Lucia	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Samoa	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
San Marino	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Sao Tome and Principe	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Saudi Arabia	1.184%	1.460%	168,900
Senegal	0.007%	0.110%	12,700
Serbia	0.032%	0.140%	16,200
Seychelles	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Sierra Leone	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Singapore	0.504%	0.700%	81,000
Slovakia	0.155%	0.290%	33,600
Slovenia	0.079%	0.200%	23,100
Somalia	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
South Africa	0.244%	0.400%	46,300
South Sudan	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Spain	2.134%	2.500%	289,300
Sri Lanka	0.045%	0.160%	18,500
Suriname	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Sweden	0.871%	1.110%	128,400
Switzerland	1.134%	1.400%	162,000
Syrian Arab Republic	0.009%	0.110%	12,700
Tajikistan	0.003%	0.100%	11,600
Thailand	0.368%	0.540%	62,500
Timor-Leste	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Togo	0.002%	0.100%	11,600
Tonga	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Trinidad and Tobago	0.037%	0.150%	17,400
Tunisia	0.019%	0.120%	13,900
Türkiye	0.845%	1.080%	125,000
Turkmenistan	0.034%	0.140%	16,200
Tuvalu	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Uganda	0.010%	0.110%	12,700

Country name	UN 2022–2024	Approved 2024 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Ukraine	0.056%	0.170%	19,700
United Arab Emirates	0.635%	0.840%	97,200
United Kingdom	4.375%	4.870%	563,500
United Republic of Tanzania	0.010%	0.110%	12,700
Uruguay	0.092%	0.220%	25,500
Uzbekistan	0.027%	0.140%	16,200
Vanuatu	0.001%	0.100%	11,600
Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of)	0.175%	0.320%	37,000
Viet Nam	0.093%	0.220%	25,500
Yemen	0.008%	0.110%	12,700
Zambia	0.008%	0.110%	12,700
Zimbabwe	0.007%	0.110%	12,700

Associate Member	UN 2022-2024	Approved 2024 scale	
	Per cent	Per cent	CHF
Andean Parliament		0.020%	2,300
Arab Parliament		0.020%	2,300
Central American Parliament		0.020%	2,300
East African Legislative Assembly		0.020%	2,300
European Parliament		0.060%	6,900
Interparliamentary Assembly of Member Nations of the Commonwealth of Independent States		0.020%	2,300
Inter-Parliamentary Committee of the West African Economic and Monetary Union		0.020%	2,300
Latin American and Caribbean Parliament		0.020%	2,300
Pan-African Parliament		0.020%	2,300
Parliament of the Central African Economic and Monetary Community		0.020%	2,300
Parliament of the Economic Community of West African States		0.020%	2,300
Parliamentary Assembly of the Black Sea Economic Cooperation		0.020%	2,300
Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe		0.040%	4,600
Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie		0.020%	2,300
Total		100%	11,585,700