



# General Assembly

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## Seventy-sixth session

Agenda items 16, 20 and 128

### Culture of peace

### Sustainable development

### Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union

## Letter dated 16 May 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General

I have the honour to transmit herewith the Ashgabat Declaration issued by the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation, which met in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan, on 12 May 2022 (see annex).

I would be very grateful if you could kindly circulate the present letter and its annex as a document of the General Assembly under agenda items 16, 20 and 128.

(Signed) Aksoltan Ataeva  
Ambassador  
Permanent Representative



## **Annex to the letter dated 16 May 2022 from the Permanent Representative of Turkmenistan to the United Nations addressed to the Secretary-General**

[Original: Russian]

### **Ashgabat Declaration of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation**

We, the participants of the Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation, held in the city of Ashgabat on 12 May 2022;

*Representing* the parliaments of the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Russian Federation, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan and the Republic of Uzbekistan;

*Welcoming* the initiative of His Excellency Gurbanguly Berdimuhamedov, Chair of the Halk Maslahaty (People's Council) of the Milli Gengesh (National Council) of Turkmenistan, to hold the first ever Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation;

*Committed* to upholding the Charter of the United Nations and the generally recognized principles and rules of international law;

*Noting* the role of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) as a multilateral forum for dialogue and cooperation between parliaments around the world on pressing issues of the day;

*Taking into account* the IPU 2022–2026 Strategy, especially its strategic objectives, in particular building effective and empowered parliaments, promoting inclusive and representative parliaments, and catalysing collective parliamentary action;

*Recalling* General Assembly resolution [74/304](#) of 9 September 2020 on “Interaction between the United Nations, national parliaments and the Inter-Parliamentary Union”,<sup>1</sup> which recommends the continued active involvement of IPU in promoting the enhanced contribution of parliaments at the national, regional and global levels, including through multi-stakeholder partnerships, in support of the accelerated implementation and achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals by 2030;

*Giving importance* to the growing role of interparliamentary relations to enhance the principles of equality and pluralism in consolidating efforts to address the global challenges of our time, both in the region and in the world;

*Recognizing* the unique role of national parliaments and parliamentarians in using the tools of parliamentary diplomacy as an important instrument for promoting constructive interparliamentary and international dialogue to overcome the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, ensure public health and rebuild the world economy in the post-pandemic period;

*Recognizing also* the role of parliaments, with their core legislative, oversight, budgetary and representative functions, in ensuring the implementation of the climate change goals contained in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, the Paris Agreement and the climate change-related components of the Sustainable Development Goals;

<sup>1</sup> [A/RES/74/304](#).

*Noting* the importance of the global initiative entitled “Dialogue – a guarantee of peace”. aimed at establishing a culture of peace, dialogue and trust in international relations, which was supported in the outcome document of the Peace and Trust Forum held in Ashgabat on 11 December 2021;<sup>2</sup>

*Emphasizing* the need to develop active interparliamentary relations between the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation in order to consolidate interregional and global efforts to strengthen peace and stability and ensure sustainable development;

1. Confirm that one of the priorities of interparliamentary partnership is to develop effective ways of cooperation for the fullest realization of the potential of the legislative bodies of the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation to collaborate in the following areas:

- “The legislative branch of Government: current experience and cooperation”;
- “Medical diplomacy: sharing experiences - a reliable way forward”;
- “Regional cooperation for environmental well-being and sustainable development”.

2. Support and shall provide all possible assistance to increase the measures taken in recent years by the Heads of the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation to develop parliamentarism, democratic progress and parliamentary diplomacy;

3. Advocate expanding ties and contacts through interparliamentary commissions and/or friendship groups of the countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation to further strengthen centuries-old ties, good-neighbourliness, mutual trust and partnership;

4. Reaffirm our commitment to the joint implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development;

5. Note the readiness for close cooperation and the exchange of experience on advanced innovations in parliamentary activities in the law-making process;

6. Consider it important to continue law-making to improve the quality of medical services and to promote medical diplomacy in addressing such contemporary issues as the prevention and treatment of infectious and non-infectious diseases, tobacco control and minimization of the factors negatively affecting human health;

7. Express our support for the World Health Organization, particularly in its work on research, rapid response and pandemic preparedness through increased cooperation among countries, and note the need to promote initiatives by countries in the region on primary health care and on the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of acute infectious diseases;

8. Welcome collaboration in areas such as combating climate change and protecting the environment;

9. Emphasize the particular importance of holding the first Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation as a mechanism for cooperation between the legislative bodies of these countries and support the holding of such forums on a regular basis, based on the initiatives of the Forum’s participating countries;

<sup>2</sup> A/76/611.

10. Support the proposals to declare a new form of interparliamentary cooperation between Central Asia and Russia (the Ashgabat format) and to establish its secretariat with headquarters in the capital city of Turkmenistan, Ashgabat;

11. Express our gratitude to the President, to the Milli Gengesh and to the Government of Turkmenistan for holding the first Inter-Parliamentary Forum of the Countries of Central Asia and the Russian Federation at a high organizational level and for the warm hospitality provided.

Ashgabat, Turkmenistan  
12 May 2022

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