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COMMISSION ON HUMAN RIGHTS
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FURTHER PROMOTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT OF HUMAN RIGHTS AND FUNDAMENTAL FREEDOMS,
INCLUDING THE QUESTION OF THE PROGRAMME AND METHODS OF WORK
OF THE COMMISSION

STATUS OF THE INTERNATIONAL COVENANTS ON HUMAN RIGHTS

Written statement submitted by the Inter-Parliamentary Union, a non-
governmental organization in category I consultative status

The Secretary-General has received the following communication, which is
circulated in accordance with Economic and Social Council resolution 1296 (XLIV).

[12 January 1978]

Resolution adopted by the 64th Inter-Parliamentary Conference

At its sixty-fourth session (Sofia, 21-30 September 1977), the Inter-Parliamentary
Conference adopted the following resolution on the "Thirtieth anniversary of the
adoption of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights":

The 64th Inter-Parliamentary Conference,

Bearing in mind that the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal
Declaration of Human Rights will be commemorated on 10 December 1978,

Recalling the efforts of the Inter-Parliamentary Union to promote the
realization of the rights contained in the Universal Declaration,

Convinced of the importance of the International Covenants on Human Rights
which constitute the first all-embracing and legally binding international treaty
in the field of human rights,

Reaffirming its faith in the dignity and worth of the human person, in the
equal rights of men and women and of nations large and small,

Conscious of the high responsibility of Parliaments to ensure that human rights and fundamental freedoms are fully enjoyed in their respective countries,

∴ Desirous of making 1978 a year of special efforts to secure the effective realization of the principles, goals and objectives contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenants on Human Rights,

1. Recommends that each national Parliament commemorate the thirtieth anniversary of the adoption of the Universal Declaration and give special consideration to appropriate measures to further the promotion of mutual understanding and international peace and co-operation and the effective enjoyment of human rights by all persons, without distinction of any kind;
2. Recommends that national Parliaments in countries which have not yet ratified the International Covenants on Human Rights take appropriate steps to ensure the early ratification of these instruments by their respective Governments;
3. Calls upon national Parliaments in countries where ratification of the Covenants is pending to consider the enactment of legislation giving effect, as far as possible, to the principles contained in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and in the International Covenants on Human Rights.