

Canadian Group  
Inter-Parliamentary Union



Groupe canadien  
Union interparlementaire

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# **Report of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union**

## **150th IPU Assembly and Related Meetings**

**Tashkent, Uzbekistan**

**From April 5 to 9, 2025**

## Report

A delegation of the Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (UIPU) attended the [150th IPU Assembly and Related Meetings](#) in Tashkent, Uzbekistan, from 5 to 9 April 2025. The Canadian delegation comprised the following members:

- The Honourable Salma Ataullahjan, Senator, Vice-President of the Canadian Group and Head of Delegation;
- The Honourable Raymonde Saint-Germain, Senator;
- The Honourable Mohamed-Iqbal Ravalia, Senator;
- The Honourable Flordeliz (Gigi) Osler, Senator; and
- The Honourable Pierre Dalphond, Senator.

The delegation was assisted during the 150th Assembly by the association secretary of the UIPU, Ms. Erica Pereira, as well as its advisors from the Library of Parliament, Ms. Natalie Mychajlyszyn and Ms. Allison Goody.

Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) Assemblies are important fora for Canadian parliamentary diplomacy. Multilateral engagement occurs through the meetings of various committees and other IPU bodies, while bilateral engagement occurs through meetings that are held on the margins of an Assembly.

The Canadian delegation joined approximately 740 parliamentarians from 129 IPU member parliaments as well as eight associate members at the 150th Assembly to debate the overall theme, “Parliamentary action for social development and justice.” Canadian delegates also contributed to the Assembly’s adoption of a resolution on advancing a two-State solution in Palestine proposed by the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, as well as a resolution on mitigating the impact of conflicts on sustainable development proposed by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development. In addition, they marked the 40th anniversary of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians and endorsed amendments to the IPU’s Statutes and Rules.

Moreover, Canadian delegates actively participated in meetings of various subsidiary bodies focusing on women parliamentarians, democracy and human rights, United Nations (UN) affairs and health.

## THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

Established in 1889, the [IPU](#) is the international organization of national parliaments of sovereign states. The IPU is the focal point for global parliamentary dialogue, working for peace and co-operation as well as for the establishment of representative democracy. To this end, it:

- fosters contacts, co-ordination, and the exchange of experiences among parliamentarians of all member parliaments;
- considers questions of international interest and concern, and expresses its views on relevant issues in order to bring about action by parliaments and parliamentarians;
- contributes to the defence and promotion of human rights, which are essential aspects of parliamentary democracy and development; and

- contributes to better knowledge of the working of representative institutions, and to the strengthening and development of their means of action.<sup>1</sup>

At present, the IPU's activities are pursued in line with its Strategy 2022–2026, which was adopted in November 2021 at the 143rd Assembly in Madrid, Spain.

At the close of the 150th Assembly, 182 national parliaments were members of the IPU. The organization also has 15 associate members, including the European Parliament, the Parliamentary Assembly of La Francophonie and the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe.<sup>2</sup>

## **THE 150th ASSEMBLY OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION<sup>3</sup>**

The Assembly is the principal statutory body that expresses the views of the IPU on political issues.<sup>4</sup> Two statutory assemblies are normally held each year, bringing together parliamentarians from around the world to study international issues and make recommendations for action.

Delegations from 129 member parliaments and eight associate members took part in the 150th Assembly. They comprised some 700 parliamentarians, including 90 Presiding Officers and Deputy Presiding Officers. Of this number, 254 were women parliamentarians (37% of participating parliamentarians) and 98 were parliamentarians under the age of 40 (14.4% of participating parliamentarians).

### **A. AGENDA AND OUTCOMES**

The agenda for the 150th Assembly included various items and its outcomes included:

- the adoption of the Tashkent Declaration on the overall theme of the general debate, “Parliamentary action for social development and justice;”
- the adoption of a resolution entitled, “The role of parliaments in advancing a two-State solution in Palestine” submitted by the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security;
- the adoption of a resolution entitled, “Parliamentary strategies to mitigate the long-lasting impact of conflicts, including armed conflicts, on sustainable development” submitted by the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development; and
- amendments to the IPU's Statutes and Rules.

Canadian delegates played prominent roles in advancing these agenda items.

### **1. GENERAL DEBATE**

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<sup>1</sup> See: IPU, “[About us](#)”; and IPU, [Statutes and Rules](#).

<sup>2</sup> IPU, [Members](#).

<sup>3</sup> Detailed reports and information on the 150th IPU Assembly and Related Meetings are available on the IPU website. See IPU, “[Outcomes](#),” 150th IPU Assembly.

<sup>4</sup> IPU, [Statutes and Rules](#).

**Senator Ataullahjan** joined 125 parliamentarians from 114 member parliaments in deliberating the overall theme of the Assembly and contributing to the Tashkent Declaration:

In her remarks, **Senator Ataullahjan** underscored that challenges such as growing inequalities, persistent poverty, and barriers to social mobility are further exacerbated by ongoing conflicts, economic instability, climate change, and humanitarian crises. Accordingly, she explained, they require not only policy responses, but also a firm commitment from parliamentarians in all countries to ensure that institutions, laws, and democratic processes work in the service of all people—particularly the most vulnerable. In this respect, as representatives of the people, she continued, parliamentarians have a unique responsibility to translate aspirations for social development and social justice into concrete legislative actions.

Drawing on the debate, the Tashkent Declaration – endorsed at the end of the Assembly – emphasizes the need for renewed efforts on social development to address ongoing and emerging challenges.

The declaration underscores that global social development has only been partially realized. It calls for policies that balance market demands with the needs of the people, focusing on three key areas:

- investing in people to lift them from poverty to prosperity;
- democratizing the economy to benefit those who have been underrepresented, particularly women and youth; and
- strengthening institutions, including through broad participation in the regulation of digital technologies such as artificial intelligence.

## 2. EMERGENCY ITEM

According to the [IPU Statutes](#), one emergency item, or resolution, that pertains to “a recent major situation of international concern on which urgent action by the international community is required” may be included on the Assembly’s agenda.<sup>5</sup>

At the 150th Assembly, delegations were asked to vote on the following emergency item proposals:

- “Advancing global economic cooperation: Reducing tariffs and combating protectionism,” submitted by the delegations of Chile and Peru;
- “Parliamentary diplomacy to promote peace and address the humanitarian crisis in Myanmar,” submitted by the delegations of the Philippines and Thailand;
- “The need for urgent action on the recent violation of the ceasefire agreement by Israel in Palestine, the escalating conflicts in the Democratic

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<sup>5</sup> IPU, [Statutes and Rules](#). Proposed emergency items together with explanatory memoranda are circulated by the IPU Secretariat in advance of the Assembly if available, or at the time of the Assembly. They are also typically discussed within the geopolitical groups and among parliamentarians more generally to coordinate support. The Assembly votes to select an emergency item from among those proposed, with the one garnering two-thirds of the favourable votes cast as being selected. Canada has 15 votes to allocate any number of ways for and against the proposed emergency items.

Republic of Congo and Sudan, and the compounding effects of global warming,” submitted by the delegations of Seychelles, Zimbabwe, Jordan and Egypt with the support of the Arab Group and the African Group (see below for discussion of IPU groups)

No proposal obtained the required two-thirds majority of the votes cast, meaning that no emergency item was added to the agenda for the 150th Assembly. This was the third of the most recent four Assemblies that did not have an emergency item.

### 3. STANDING COMMITTEES

#### a. STANDING COMMITTEE ON PEACE AND INTERNATIONAL SECURITY

The Standing Committee on Peace and International Security considered two items of business: a draft resolution entitled, “The role of parliaments in advancing a two-State solution in Palestine,” and approval of the subject for the next resolution.

Regarding the draft resolution on a two-State solution, the Committee reviewed 156 amendments proposed by 26 member parliaments. The Canadian Group submitted 18 proposed amendments for consideration by the co-rapporteurs. These amendments addressed substantive and technical aspects of the text and aimed to support the shared goal of realizing the two-state solution and a comprehensive, just and lasting peace in the Middle East, in accordance with international law, previous agreements reached during the peace process, and UN Security Council resolutions.

**Senator Saint-Germain** and **Senator Dalphond** represented the Canadian delegation at the Committee and actively participated in its deliberations. Following intense debate held over three sittings, and with the view to ensuring a balanced text, the Committee agreed to revert to the initial draft resolution, unamended, which had been prepared by six co-rapporteurs from all the geopolitical groups. This proposal was agreed by acclamation. The Assembly then adopted this resolution by consensus.

As [described](#) by the IPU, the resolution

emphasizes the role of parliaments in promoting a peaceful resolution to the Israeli-Palestinian conflict based on international law. It calls for an immediate ceasefire in Gaza, the lifting of blockades, and the release of hostages, as well as urging support for humanitarian efforts and compliance with international law. It also urges parliaments to use their legislative powers to reinforce support for a two-State solution, ensuring the recognition of both Israel and Palestine as independent sovereign States.

The delegation of Iran expressed its opposition to the entire text of the resolution. The delegations of Germany, Hungary and Switzerland expressed reservations to the resolution. The delegation of Austria expressed a reservation on certain preambular and operative paragraphs.

The Committee endorsed “The role of parliaments in establishing robust post-conflict management mechanisms and restoring a just and lasting peace” as the subject item for its next resolution, with Mr. A. Al-Zu’bi (Jordan), Ms. F. Belhirsch (Netherlands) and Mr. B. Kalu (Nigeria) as co-rapporteurs. The topic will be debated at the 151st IPU Assembly in

October 2025, following which the co-rapporteurs will circulate a draft text to member parliaments for consideration at the 152nd IPU Assembly in March 2026.

#### b. STANDING COMMITTEE ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

The Standing Committee on Sustainable Development considered a draft resolution entitled, “Parliamentary strategies to mitigate the long-lasting impact of conflicts, including armed conflicts, on sustainable development.” The Committee reviewed over 225 amendments proposed by 29 member parliaments.

**Senator Osler** presented the five amendments proposed by the Canadian delegation and invited fellow delegates to support their adoption. These amendments emphasized the inclusion of women and youth in peacebuilding processes and proposed specifically listing certain population groups in the resolution, such as people with disabilities, ethnic and religious minorities and Indigenous peoples, who are disproportionately affected by conflict. They also proposed language that calls for the strengthening of existing mechanisms in support of lasting and just peace rather than the creation of new ones. All of Canada’s proposed amendments were adopted or aligned closely with amendments proposed by other delegations, which were themselves adopted. In other respects, the Committee omitted specific references to certain population groups as proposed by Canada and other delegations, and chose the more general phrasing of “marginalized or vulnerable groups.”

**Senator Osler** actively participated in the Committee’s deliberations. The amended resolution was adopted by consensus by the Committee and later by the Assembly. It highlights the role of parliaments in mitigating the negative effects of conflicts, promoting peace, and ensuring the protection of infrastructure and humanitarian principles. The resolution stresses the importance of human rights, environmental considerations, and inclusive governance in post-conflict reconstruction.

The delegation of India expressed a reservation to the operative paragraph that recognizes the links between climate change and security. Iran and Russia expressed reservations to several preambular and operative paragraphs, notably in the latter case regarding the call for the funding of post-war reconstruction from compensation by the States that caused the destruction.

The Committee endorsed “Building a fair and sustainable global economy: The role of parliaments in combating protectionism, reducing tariffs and preventing corporate tax evasion” as the subject item for its next resolution, with Ms. D. O’Neill (Australia), Mr. J.M.R. Edwards (Chile) and Ms. J. Sabao (Zambia) as the co-rapporteurs. The topic will be debated at the 151st IPU Assembly in October 2025, following which the co-rapporteurs will circulate a draft text to member parliaments for consideration at the 152nd IPU Assembly in March 2026.

#### c. STANDING COMMITTEE ON DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

The Standing Committee on Democracy and Human Rights held a preparatory debate on the theme of its next resolution, “Recognizing and supporting the victims of illegal international adoption and taking measures to prevent this practice.” Its agenda also included follow-ups on the implementation of the two resolutions most recently adopted by the Standing Committee: “Orphanage trafficking: The role of parliaments in reducing

harm” (2023); and “The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law” (2024).

**Senator Dalphond** attended sittings of this Standing Committee. He also took the chair to preside over the follow-up on the implementation of the resolution on artificial intelligence.

#### d. STANDING COMMITTEE ON UNITED NATIONS AFFAIRS

The agenda for the meeting of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs included a panel presentation of the UN’s field presence in Uzbekistan in support of national development as well as a panel discussion on the impact on the UN of the BRICS.

**Senator Ataullahjan** represented the Canadian delegation at the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs. She participated in its discussions, notably asking panelists for their views on the implications for UN development programs generally of cuts to United States international assistance, including USAID.

At the 150th Assembly, **Senator Ataullahjan** was confirmed as the Canadian Group’s representative for the remaining two-year mandate on the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs representing the Twelve Plus Group. In this capacity, she attended the meeting of the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs and participated in its discussions of recent IPU meetings at the UN, including those she had attended such as the Annual Parliamentary Meeting at the Commission on the Status of Women, as well as of the Committee’s future workplan. During an exchange of information about how delegations are implementing the Committee’s motions on advancing gender equality at the UN General Assembly and on UN Security Council reform, she shared with fellow Bureau members that the Canadian Group has brought these motions to the attention of selective Canadian government and parliamentary leaders, as well as chairs of relevant committees from the Senate and the House of Commons.

## B. GOVERNING BODIES OF THE INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

The IPU’s governing bodies, such as the Governing Council, and subsidiary bodies also meet during assemblies.

### 1. GOVERNING COUNCIL

The Governing Council is the plenary policy-making body of the IPU.<sup>6</sup> It is composed of three representatives from each IPU member parliament, provided that its representation includes both men and women parliamentarians (single-gender delegations are limited to one member).

All members of the Canadian delegation attended sittings of the Governing Council. Among its many actions and outcomes, the Governing Council:

- accepted Belize as the 181st member of the IPU;
- amended the IPU’s Statutes and Rules; and

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<sup>6</sup> IPU, [Statutes and Rules](#).

- elected parliamentarians from Qatar and Indonesia to fill two vacancies from the Arab and Asia–Pacific geopolitical groups (see below) on the IPU’s Executive Committee.

The Governing Council also received reports or updates on:

- the activities of the IPU President and the impact of the IPU;
- the IPU’s financial situation;
- the establishment of IPU regional offices in Uruguay and Egypt;
- preparations for the quinquennial World Conference of Speakers of Parliament and the Fifteenth Summit of Women Speakers of Parliament taking place in July 2025; and
- the IPU’s activities pertaining to its 2025 priority theme, “Advancing gender equality.”

The Governing Council also reviewed and took note of the situation of certain parliaments, specifically: those with non-functioning parliaments (Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Guinea-Bissau, Haiti, Kuwait, Myanmar, Niger, Sudan and Syria); those with transitional parliaments (Burkina Faso, Chad, Gabon, Guinea, Libya, Mali, South Sudan); or parliaments whose functioning was at risk due to domestic political instability (Palestine, Venezuela, Yemen). It made the following decisions:

- to suspend Niger;
- to maintain its previous decisions to suspend Sudan and Haiti
- to allow members of the dissolved parliaments of Afghanistan and Myanmar to attend IPU Assemblies as non-voting observers; and
- to remove Chad from the list of parliaments being monitored following the re-establishment of its parliament and the organization of elections.

The following specialized bodies fall under the Governing Council’s responsibility and meet at IPU Assemblies. Their reports were presented to the Governing Council and subsequently endorsed:

- Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (in camera)
- Forum of Women Parliamentarians (open session)
- Forum of Young Parliamentarians (open session)
- Task Force on the peaceful resolution of the war in Ukraine (in camera)
- Committee on Middle East Questions (in camera)
- Committee to Promote Respect for International Humanitarian Law (in camera)
- Gender Partnership Group (in camera)
- Advisory Group (now “Committee”) on Health (in camera)
- High-Level Advisory Group on Countering Terrorism and Violent Extremism (HLAG) (in camera)
- Group of Facilitators for Cyprus (in camera)
- Working Group on Science and Technology (in camera)

Members of the Canadian delegation attended meetings of the following specialized bodies:

#### a. FORUM OF WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS



The [Forum of Women Parliamentarians](#) meets at IPU assemblies to find ways to redress the gender imbalance in national parliaments and within the IPU, and to ensure that gender perspectives are included in decisions adopted by the IPU membership.

The Forum's agenda at the 150th Assembly included the following items:

- a briefing on recent activities undertaken by the IPU to advance gender equality; and
- an exchange of views from a gender perspective on the two draft resolutions being considered at the 150th Assembly: "The role of parliaments in advancing a two-State solution in Palestine," of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security, and, "Parliamentary strategies to mitigate the long-lasting impact of conflicts, including armed conflicts, on sustainable development," of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development.

Notably, the Forum commemorated its 40th anniversary with a video presentation of its milestones and key figures who influenced its establishment and evolution over the years. These figures included **former Canadian parliamentarians** Sheila Finestone and Joan Fraser. The commemoration continued with a panel discussion and contributions from delegates on the topic, "Women shaping politics – Women's global networking."

**Senator Ataullahjan, Senator Saint-Germain and Senator Osler** attended sittings of the Forum of Women Parliamentarians. **Senator Ataullahjan** and **Senator Saint-Germain** joined other delegates in the working group considering the draft resolution of the Standing Committee on Peace and International Security. In participating in the working group considering the draft resolution of the Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, **Senator Osler** highlighted the disproportionate impact of conflict on women and other marginalized groups and stressed that post-conflict peacebuilding efforts must integrate gendered perspectives as well as women's voices in order to be long-lasting.

**Senator Ataullahjan**, a former member of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians (see below), participated in the 40th anniversary panel discussion. She drew from her experiences in the Canadian Senate, the IPU and other parliamentary associations to underscore the importance of acting on opportunities to inspire and support each other as women parliamentarians to narrow the gender gap across institutions. **Senator Osler** also participated in this panel discussion. In her remarks, she noted that gender parity in politics can only be achieved when the barriers to women's political participation, including as elected representatives, are addressed. She encouraged the Forum to continue supporting efforts to share tools and strategies to combat the verbal, psychological and physical violence that prevents women from fully exercising their power.

**Senator Osler** stood for the Hon. Michelle Rempel Garner, P.C., M.P. as a representative of the Twelve Plus Group at meetings of the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians.<sup>7</sup> In this capacity, she participated in elections for the presiding officers of the Bureau for a two-

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<sup>7</sup> The Hon. Michelle Rempel Garner, P.C., M.P. was elected for a four-year term to the Bureau of Women Parliamentarians at the 146th Assembly in March 2023 in Manama, Bahrain. She was unable to attend the 150th Assembly due to the 45th federal election in Canada.

year term. She also participated in a social media self-defence training session for women. As part of the session's feedback segment, she observed that the value of such training would be enhanced for women parliamentarians if it better took into consideration the specific context and environment they face. She also noted the limitations of such training given the variations of social media personal and criminal thresholds across national jurisdictions.

## **ADVISORY GROUP ON HEALTH**

The Advisory Group on Health provides a global parliamentary focal point for health-related legislative work, particularly regarding HIV/AIDS, sexual and reproductive health and rights, universal health coverage, health security, and emerging epidemics. Its sessions are held in camera. While not members, Senator Osler and Senator Ravalia, as physicians, were invited to participate as observers of the Group in light of their medical expertise. The Group discussed issues related to its mandate. They also considered the shifting global health funding landscape and its implications for immunization programs and health emergencies, among others.

The Advisory Group on Health has been transformed into an IPU Committee. The Governing Council elected 13 of the 15 members of the Committee on Health at the 150th Assembly, which will hold its inaugural meeting at the 151st Assembly.

## **C. MEETINGS OF THE GEOPOLITICAL GROUPS**

Article 27 of the [IPU Statutes](#) permits IPU members to form geopolitical groups; there are six such groups formally recognized by the IPU. The groups play an important role in the functioning and activities of the IPU. Each group determines its own working methods, and informs the IPU Secretariat of its composition, officers and rules of procedure.

Canada is a member of two geopolitical groups within the IPU:

- the 47-member [Twelve Plus Group](#), which includes members from Europe, as well as Australia, Israel, New Zealand and Turkey; and
- the 36-member [Asia-Pacific Group](#).

While Canada participates in the activities of both groups, it only submits candidatures for vacant positions within the IPU through the Twelve Plus Group.

### **1. TWELVE PLUS GROUP**

The meetings of the Twelve Plus Group at the 150th Assembly were chaired by its president, Mr. Laurent Wehrli of Switzerland. The Group's agenda included discussion on various issues pertaining to its priorities, such as proposed amendments to the IPU's rules and statutes, the ongoing Russian war of aggression against Ukraine and the rapidly deteriorating situation in the Middle East. Notably, the Group considered proposals submitted by other geopolitical groups on an Emergency Item and opposed the IPU's proposal to allow for two Emergency Items to be placed on the agenda of the 150th Assembly, as a trial, on the ground that to do so would contravene the IPU's existing Statutes and Rules. The Group also reviewed its financial situation, with the President

raising the possibility for future discussion of contribution fees being doubled. Finally, it heard briefings from its members on the IPU Executive Committee and other bodies.

The Group also filled vacancies in various positions across several IPU bodies allocated to its members. Accordingly, **Senator Ataullahjan** was confirmed as the Canadian Group's remaining two-year mandate on the Bureau of the Standing Committee on United Nations Affairs representing the Twelve Plus Group. As noted above, her nomination was accepted by the Committee.

All Canadian delegates attended meetings of the Twelve Plus Group.

- During the discussions on Emergency Item proposals, **Senator Ataullahjan** called for the Twelve Plus Group to support the proposal submitted by some delegations from the Asia-Pacific Group on the humanitarian situation in Myanmar especially in the aftermath of the 28 March 2025 earthquake. She noted that such an Emergency Item would draw attention to the ongoing human rights violations taking place in that country particularly since the 1 February 2021 coup.
- During a briefing provided by the representatives of the Twelve Plus Group on the Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians, **Senator Ataullahjan** asked for an update on the situation facing parliamentarians in Bangladesh since the dissolution of its legislature in August 2024 after a period of social-political unrest. The Group heard that the Committee regrettably has not been able to establish any contacts to follow-up on the situation.
- As part of the Group's assessment of the 150th Assembly's failure to select an Emergency Item for the third time in four Assemblies, **Senator Ataullahjan** remarked that, in the almost 15 years that she has been attending Assemblies, she has been seeing a growing division in the IPU between the Twelve Plus Group and other geo-political groups. She encouraged Twelve Plus Group delegations to hold more bilateral meetings with those of other geo-political groups.
- **Senator Saint-Germain** shared her observations that the Statutes and Rules of the IPU need to be more diligently followed in order to facilitate the work of Committees as well as the IPU more generally.

## 2. ASIA-PACIFIC GROUP

The meeting of the Asia-Pacific Group (APG) was chaired by its current chair, Mr. Tian Xuejun of China. Its agenda included a briefing on recent meetings of the IPU Executive Committee by the APG representatives to that committee and a briefing of the most recent meeting of the ASEAN+3 Group.<sup>8</sup> Delegates also conducted elections to fill vacancies on the various bodies of the IPU allocated to the Group. Delegations are allocated only one vote.

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<sup>8</sup> The [Association of Southeast Asian Nations \(ASEAN\) +3 Group](#) comprises the 10 members of the Association of Southeast Asian Nations, the People's Republic of China, Japan and the Republic of Korea.

**Senator Ataullahjan** and **Senator Saint-Germain** attended the meeting.

## **OTHER MEETINGS AND SIDE EVENTS**

- **Senator Ravalia** was an invited panelist at the workshop, “Beliefs and social norms: What impact on women’s health.” His remarks focused on contraception and the passage of Canada’s Pharmacare Act in October 2024 that aims to help expand public coverage of this form of birth control while recognizing that barriers other than cost continue to exist. He also highlighted the experience of menopause across different communities and identities, as well as the disproportionate impact of forced sterilization on Indigenous women and other racialized and marginalized groups. **Senator Osler** also attended this workshop.
- In light of their activities with the Bureau of UN Affairs and the Advisory Group on Health, **Senator Ataullahjan**, **Senator Ravalia** and **Senator Osler** participated in a joint visit to a family health polyclinic in Tashkent organized by the IPU and the 150th Assembly hosts.
- **Senator Ataullahjan**, **Senator Saint-Germain** and **Senator Ravalia** had several interviews with Uzbekistan media over the course of the 150th Assembly.
- Canada’s ambassador to Uzbekistan (based in Astana, Kazakhstan) briefed the Canadian delegation in person on the political and economic situation in Uzbekistan, regional dynamics in Central Asia and its neighbours, and Canada–Uzbekistan relations.

## **D. BILATERAL MEETINGS**

Members of the Canadian delegation held bilateral meetings and informal discussions with parliamentary delegates from countries including:

- Afghanistan, notably parliamentarians in exile;
- Australia;
- Denmark;
- Israel;
- Mexico;
- Myanmar, notably parliamentarians in exile;
- New Zealand;
- Nigeria;
- Turkey; and
- The United Kingdom.

These exchanges provide a strategic opportunity for the Canadian Group to engage in parliamentary diplomacy, to increase its understanding of other countries and regions, to discuss key bilateral and international issues, and to work towards shared multilateral goals, including in the context of the work of the IPU. Topics discussed included:

- Developments in bilateral, regional and global trade and the rise of protectionism;
- Canada’s sovereignty;

- Gender parity in parliaments and barriers faced by women politicians;
- Respect for human rights; and
- global peace and security, including Arctic security.

## **E. DOMESTIC FOLLOW-UP ON ASSEMBLY OUTCOMES**

Article 7 of the [IPU Statutes](#) requires that members take appropriate domestic action to inform their parliaments and governments of IPU resolutions in order to “stimulate their implementation.”<sup>9</sup> In furtherance of this requirement, and in addition to the presentation of this report in Parliament, correspondence will be sent on behalf of the Canadian Group to relevant parliamentarians and officials informing them of the resolutions adopted by the IPU at its Assemblies in 2025 and encouraging them to engage with the Canadian Group regarding their domestic implementation. Letters will be sent to:

- The Prime Minister and Deputy Prime Minister
- Ministers of:
  - Environment and Climate Change;
  - Energy and Natural Resources;
  - Jobs and Families
  - Foreign Affairs;
  - International Development (Secretary of State);
  - National Defence;
  - Women and Gender Equality.
- The Speaker of the Senate;
- The Speaker of the House of Commons;
- The Chairs and Deputy Chairs of Standing Senate Committees on:
  - Energy, the Environment and Natural Resources;
  - Foreign Affairs and International Trade;
  - Human Rights;
  - National Security, Defence and Veterans Affairs;
  - Social Affairs, Science and Technology.
- The Chairs and Vice-Chairs of House of Commons Standing Committees on:
  - Environment and Sustainable Development;
  - Foreign Affairs and International Development, and its Sub-Committee on International Human Rights;
  - Human Resources, Skills and Social Development and the Status of Persons with Disabilities;
  - National Defence;
  - Natural Resources;
  - Status of Women.

## **Travel Expenses**

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<sup>9</sup> IPU, [Statutes, Article 7](#).

Travel expenses associated with this activity can be found in the delegation's financial report. This report is available in the [Financial Disclosure](#) section of the Parliamentary Diplomacy website.

Respectfully submitted,

Hon. Rob Oliphant, P.C., M.P.

President, Canadian Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union