



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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Geneva, 14 May 2019

Dear Madam Speaker,
Dear Mr. Speaker,

The 140th IPU Assembly held in April in Doha adopted an emergency resolution that calls for *urgent international action to support Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe hit by Cyclone Idai*- <https://www.ipu.org/sites/default/files/documents/item-9.pdf>.

Since early March 2019, tropical Cyclone Idai has brought death and destruction to Malawi, Mozambique and Zimbabwe, affecting nearly 3 million people and killing more than 1,000. It has brought a range of problems such as safe water shortages as well as cholera and other diseases. It has also destroyed hundreds of thousands of acres of crops, which will significantly impact food security in the months ahead.

To complicate matters further, on 24th April, Tropical Cyclone Kenneth hit northern areas of Mozambique. It made landfall at the end of the rainy season, when river levels were already high, increasing the risk of river flooding.

Measures are being taken by countries and aid organizations to provide relief. However, long-term support will be necessary to these countries, which are among the world's poorest states with weak infrastructure. Moreover, special focus is needed to support the most vulnerable in the flood-ravaged areas, especially women, children, people with disabilities and the elderly. Attention should also be paid to children and women at risk of trafficking and sexual exploitation in the ensuing chaos.

The resolution invites IPU Member Parliaments to encourage their governments to contribute to the United Nations appeals for Mozambique, Malawi and Zimbabwe.

We are hereby appealing to your parliament to take this matter up with the relevant government departments with a view to securing urgent financial contribution. There are many emergency situations around the world, which all require our attention. We wish however to appeal for additional support to the three affected countries. Needless to say, any financial help, even the most modest, is important and appreciated. This is not an issue of charity but one of human dignity.

We would be very grateful if you could let us know of any initiative your Parliament will have taken in response to this appeal. We will be pleased to give visibility to such action as a means of encouraging others to do same. Of course, we will report on this campaign at the 141st IPU Assembly in October 2019.

Yours sincerely,

Gabriela Cuevas Barron
President

Martin Chungong
Secretary General