



INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION

CHEMIN DU POMMIER 5
1218 LE GRAND-SACONNEX / GENEVA (SWITZERLAND)

TELEPHONE + 41 22 - 919 41 50 - FAX + 41 22 - 919 41 60 - E-MAIL postbox@mail.ipu.org

COMMITTEE ON THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF PARLIAMENTARIANS

CASE No. BGL/14 - SHAH AMS KIBRIA - BANGLADESH

Decision adopted by the Committee at its 132nd session (Geneva, 17 - 20 January 2011)

The Committee,

Referring to the case of Mr. Shah Ams Kibria, a member of the Parliament of Bangladesh who was assassinated in January 2005, and to the resolution adopted by the Governing Council at its 187th session (October 2010),

Recalling the following: the initial inquiry in this case proved to be an attempt by the investigating officers to divert the course of justice; since the investigation was reopened in March 2007, Islamist militants belonging to the Horkatul Jihad al Islami (Huji), including its leader Mufti Hannan Munshi, have been implicated; according to the Home Ministry's report of March 2010, seven persons have been arrested, including the two persons (Mizanur Rahman Mithu and Md Badrul Alam Mizan) who detonated the grenades; in addition, the former State Minister for Home Affairs, Mr. Lutfozzaman Babar, has been arrested in this case; according to the authorities, substantial evidence continues to be collected and efforts are being made to resolve the case without further delay; the report of the reopened investigation has been deferred many times to enable the investigating officers to "finish the job",

Recalling that the Standing Committee on the Ministry of Home Affairs is monitoring the case, that the Ministry has been directed to report on any progress made to the Standing Committee at each of the latter's meetings, and that, according to the parliamentary authorities, the Ministry has indeed been reporting regularly to the Standing Committee,

1. *Regrets* the absence of any official information on the current stage of the investigation, all the more so as the Standing Committee on Home Affairs is said to be regularly briefed by the Ministry of Home Affairs;
2. *Notes with concern* the contrast between the substantive progress rapidly achieved when the new investigators took over the case in March 2007, leading to the identification and arrest of suspected perpetrators and masterminds, and the stalemate that seems to prevail now, with the investigation being repeatedly prolonged so that the final report on the investigation, six years after Mr. Kibria was murdered, has still not been submitted;
3. *Acknowledges* that a crime of this nature and its possible links to the grenade attack of August 2004 requires time, and *expresses* the hope, therefore, that the investigation continues to be carried out with the same determination and diligence that enabled investigators to achieve such remarkable results, so that court proceedings can soon shed full light on the truth and establish accountability for the crime;
4. *Reiterates* its wish to receive official information on the current stage of the proceedings and *trusts* that, through its Standing Committee on the Ministry of Home Affairs, the parliament is paying particular attention to the need for swift and decisive action to

speed up the pursuit of justice in this case and to keep Mr. Kibria's family regularly informed of further developments;

5. *Requests* the Secretary General to convey the decision to the competent authorities inviting them to provide the requested information; *also requests* the Secretary General to convey the decision to the source;
6. *Decides* to continue examining this case at its next session, to be held during the 124th IPU Assembly (April 2011).