



**WG3. Climate Change and the Environment**  
**30 August - 1 September, 2012. Panama City, Panama**  
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## **REPORT**

The Working Group “**Climate Change and Environment**” met during the 9th Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas in Panama City, Panama, on the 30<sup>th</sup> and 31<sup>st</sup> of August, 2012, with the participation of delegates from *Argentina, Canada, Chile, Colombia, Cuba, Jamaica, Suriname, and Panama*.

Ignacio Urrutia (Chile) chaired the sessions of the Working Group, which had as its objectives to:

- Analyze extractive industries policy issues such as fiscal regimes and health, safety, environment (HSE) oversight
- Analyze the impacts of extractive industries on the environment and climate change (the “clean energy”, “green jobs” debates)
- Study current best practices in capacity building (how to improve poorly equipped government institutions and bodies)

## **RECOMMENDATIONS**

1. Aim for the diversification of energy sources that are compatible with protecting the environment. Each State should adopt the most appropriate energy matrix, from the point of environmental, social, economic and energy security, so that a coherent energy policy exists.
2. Encourage the creation of public policies or the design of national strategies that stimulate energy savings.
3. Seek international support among countries, international and regional financial institutions and development agencies, incorporating the concept of a green economy through a more equitable and balanced distribution of the global carbon market.
4. Recommend to States that they increase their investment in research and technology in the energy sector as an engine of sustainable development through the exchange of technology and knowledge between developed and developing countries.
5. Improve, implement and monitor national and international environmental law (whether treaties, agreements, protocols or conventions) that has been approved and ratified by each State, abolishing subsidies, taxes and incentives that are unhelpful or counterproductive to the environment, and ensure its implementation.

**Ignacio Urrutia (Chile), Chair**