YEAR IN HIGHLIGHTS
2017
In memory of the Honourable Tobias C. Enverga, Jr. (1955 - 2017), a valued contributor to the ParlAmericas community and a devoted voice for his constituents and for Canada.
# TABLE OF CONTENTS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4</td>
<td>About ParlAmericas</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5</td>
<td>Message from the President</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>6</td>
<td>National Legislatures Represented on our Board of Directors</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>7</td>
<td>Operations and Finances</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>8</td>
<td>Partners</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>2017 at a Glance</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>ParlAmericas in the Inter-American System</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>13</td>
<td>New Communications Tools</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>15</td>
<td>Message from the President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>Gender Equality in Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>19</td>
<td>Message from the President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>Open Parliament in Action</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>25</td>
<td>Message from the President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>26</td>
<td>Climate Change in Action</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes parliamentary diplomacy in the Inter-American System.

ParlAmericas is composed of the National Legislatures of the member States of the OAS from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

ParlAmericas facilitates the exchange of parliamentary best practices and promotes cooperative political dialogue.

ParlAmericas mainstreams gender equality by advocating for women’s political empowerment and the application of a gender lens in legislative work.

ParlAmericas promotes policies and legislative measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of climate change.

ParlAmericas fosters open parliaments by advancing the principles of transparency, accountability, citizen participation, ethics and probity.

ParlAmericas works towards strengthening democracy and governance by accompanying electoral processes.

ParlAmericas is headquartered in Ottawa, Canada.
Dear colleagues,

ParlAmericas has been advancing resolutely, reaffirming its commitment to inter-parliamentary diplomacy and cooperation in the Americas and the Caribbean; fostering spaces for productive dialogue in search of concrete answers to common concerns; and recognizing the role we as legislators have in strengthening the democratic model.

In 2017 we have continued to position our platforms for action as hemispheric reference points on gender equality, open parliament, and climate change. Each of these pillars has been institutionalized in order to coordinate regional efforts on these agendas.

In 2017 we have continued to position our platforms for action as hemispheric reference points on gender equality, open parliament, and climate change. Each of these pillars has been institutionalized in order to coordinate regional efforts on these agendas.

Within this context, we have established important and growing ties with various international bodies. In September, the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change recognized ParlAmericas as an official observer organization. In October, ParlAmericas and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction signed a Letter of Cooperation as a first step in a joint work plan to update and promote a parliamentary protocol that will serve as a guide for national parliaments in updating legislation related to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.

In the pages that follow, we share the achievements we have made over the past year, which have involved the active participation of more than 600 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, renowned experts, and civil society representatives.

I take this opportunity to reiterate to you my commitment and dedication to ParlAmericas, and invite you to continue working with the same vigour in 2018.

With my best wishes,

Marcela Guerra

MARCELA GUERRA
Senator, Mexico
President of ParlAmericas

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NATIONAL LEGISLATURES REPRESENTED ON OUR BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Executive Committee of the Board of Directors (as of November 2017; 14th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly):

MARCELA GUERRA, President. Senator, Mexico

ROBERT D. NAULT, 1st Vice-President. Member of Parliament, Canada

KARINA BANFI, 2nd Vice-President and President of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality. Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Argentina

HERNÁN LARRAÍN, 2nd Vice-President and President of the Open Parliament Network. Senator, Chile

JAVIER ORTEGA, 2nd Vice-President and President of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change — ParlAmericas. Member of the National Assembly, Panama

ParlAmericas is run by parliamentarians for parliamentarians, with a Board of Directors composed of 19 legislators who are elected by their peers and represent 14 countries from North, South and Central America, and the Caribbean. In addition, the Board of Directors has ex-officio representation from the ParlAmericas International Secretariat and the OAS General Secretariat.
ParlAmericas’ operations and activities in the 2017 fiscal year were financed through the support of our member parliaments, our partners, and the generous contributions of the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.

**Note:** The in-kind contributions included in ParlAmericas’ financial statements are recorded when fair values can be reasonably estimated and supporting documentation is provided by the member parliament. We recognize that the amount shown is a fraction of the overall value of in-kind support provided by member parliaments and partners in the normal course of ParlAmericas’ operations. ParlAmericas therefore also tracks and records an indicative value of the total contributions to ParlAmericas’ programming. ParlAmericas wishes to acknowledge with sincere appreciation the invaluable support, expertise, time, and travel contributed by member parliaments, individual parliamentarians, and partners to ensure the successful implementation of ParlAmericas’ programming throughout the year.

**Source:** The following information represents ParlAmericas’ audited financial statements as of September 30, 2017, and the corresponding annual financial report presented at the ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly.
PARTNERS

In addition to our member parliaments, ParlAmericas regularly partners with multilateral and civil society organizations with a view to maximizing impacts through complementary programming efforts. We are grateful for their contributions of subject-matter expertise and resources to our project activities over the past year, and look forward to building on these collaborations in support of strengthened democracy, legislative openness, gender equality, and sustainable development in the Americas and the Caribbean.

ParlAmericas and the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) signed a Letter of Cooperation as the first step in a joint work plan to update and promote a parliamentary protocol that will guide national parliaments in updating legislation related to disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation.
2017 AT A GLANCE

Women and the Media | ParlAmericas Meeting: 3rd Parliamentary Forum on Beijing 20 Years Later (Santiago, Chile)

Maximizing the Use of Social Networks to Promote Citizen Participation | ParlAmericas Workshop (San Jose, Costa Rica)

Building Trust between Parliaments and Citizens | ParlAmericas Workshop on fiscal transparency (Bogota, Colombia)

Parliamentary Forum on Beijing 20 Years Later (Santiago, Chile)

Meeting of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Men as Allies in Parliamentary Work for Gender Equality | ParlAmericas Workshop (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participation at the Inter-American Commission of Women (CIM) Ministers Dialogue on Women’s Leadership in the Americas on the occasion of the sixty-first session of the United Nations Commission on the Status of Women (New York, United States)

Strengthening the Ties Between Citizens and Legislatures | 2nd Gathering of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network (San Jose, Costa Rica)

Participation in Rutgers University’s international conference on resistance to women’s political leadership (New York, United States)

Meeting of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors (Buenos Aires, Argentina)

Participation in the Global Legislative Openness Conference (Kiev, Ukraine)

In order to reduce our ecological footprint, the Year in Highlights 2017 publication, activity reports and resource publications are available at www.parlamericas.org. For easy access through your mobile phone, we invite you to download a QR code reader application.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JUNE</th>
<th>AUGUST</th>
<th>SEPTEMBER</th>
<th>OCTOBER</th>
<th>NOVEMBER</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Delegation to the 47th General Assembly of the Organization of American States (Cancun, Mexico)</td>
<td>Strengthening Accountability through Fiscal Transparency Practices</td>
<td>Development of a Citizen Participation Toolkit for Parliaments</td>
<td>Meeting of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors (Medellin, Colombia)</td>
<td>Parliament’s role in the Open Government Partnership</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Renewable Energies</td>
<td>Participation in the 33rd General Assembly of Parlatino (Panama City, Panama)</td>
<td>Participation in the II Inter-American Congress on the Environmental Rule of Law (Santiago, Chile)</td>
<td>Participation in the 137th Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (St. Petersburg, Russian Federation)</td>
<td>ParlAmericas and the Office of the United Nations for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNISDR) sign a Letter of Cooperation to advance the Sendai Framework in parliaments across Latin America and the Caribbean</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in ECLAC’s 56th meeting of the Presiding Officers of the Regional Conference on Women in Latin America and the Caribbean (Havana, Cuba)</td>
<td>Navigating Information: Online Research Practices to Support Parliamentary Work</td>
<td>ParlAmericas Co-Creation Meeting (Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago)</td>
<td>Participation in a United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) dialogue on carbon pricing instruments for the Caribbean region (St George’s, Grenada)</td>
<td>Participation in the Experts Meeting on Democratic Governance Against Corruption in preparations for the Summit of the Americas (Lima, Peru)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Participation in the XI Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum (Mexico City, Mexico)</td>
<td></td>
<td>ParlAmericas becomes an official Observer Organization of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)</td>
<td></td>
<td>ParlAmericas becomes an official Observer Organization of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
ParlAmericas 14th Plenary Assembly

**THEME:** Parliamentary Actions to Promote Responsible Political Discourse

**LOCATION:** Medellin, Colombia

**DATES:** November 16-17, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 50 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from 21 countries

ParlAmericas Delegation at the General Assembly of the OAS

**THEME:** Strengthening Dialogue and Concerted Action for Prosperity

**LOCATION:** Cancun, Mexico

**DATES:** June 19-21, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** Delegation of 12 parliamentarians from 6 countries

Title: Election Observation: Aide Memoire for Parliamentarians

**DESCRIPTION:** This publication shares key information on election observation missions, how they are conducted, and the principles and norms that guide them, as well as how ParlAmericas contributes to and accompanies electoral processes.
NEW COMMUNICATIONS TOOLS

This year ParlAmericas launched new online tools for parliamentarians to access specialized information and resources. These include:

ParlAmericas Podcast

A series of audio recordings that feature key panel discussions and sessions from ParlAmericas activities. These can be listened to directly online through the resources tab on our website at www.parlamericas.org. They can also be downloaded through applications like iTunes and Google Play, where you can subscribe to automatically receive new podcast episodes on your iPhone or Android device.

Toolkit on “Male Allies for Gender Equality”

Part of the ParlAmericas interactive learning portal for parliamentarians in the Anglophone Caribbean, developed with UN Women—Multi-country Office—Caribbean. This toolkit contains resources on the importance of men’s involvement in gender equality work and practical ways to take action as an ally in parliament and in everyday life. Available at www.parlgendertools.org/male-allies-gender-equality.

For any general inquiries about accessing ParlAmericas’ resources and tools, please contact: communications@parlamericas.org
“I am looking forward to working with the OAS to reinforce the important role of parliaments in governance and law-making throughout the hemisphere. The OAS provides a great forum to gain a better understanding of global issues like climate change and gender equality, while also emphasizing Canada’s focus on developing inclusive and open democratic societies.”

“Participating in these instances allows us to present the ways in which parliaments can play a role to support the resolution of difficulties between and within States.”

“First, to understand more precisely the dynamics of these Assemblies, to hear firsthand the positions of each country, and to identify possible legislative solutions to the problems Member States face to help to avoid fundamental themes like democracy, the division of power, and respect for human rights, among others, being setback in any of our countries.”

“The presence of parliamentarians legitimizes our role in regards to diplomatic decisions taken by the Executive, allowing us to do the necessary lobbying to position our parliamentary work.”

“These meetings were important for promoting the values of inclusive, democratic governance; these values are shared by the legislative branch.”

“President of the Senate, Vice-President of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality for the Caribbean, CHESTER HUMPHREY (Grenada)

“Member of Parliament, Vice-President of ParlAmericas, HON. ROBERT NAULT (Canada)

“Representative, Host of the 14th ParlAmericas Plenary Assembly, GERMÁN BLANCO (Colombia)

“Member of the Chamber of Deputies, TERESA LIZÁRRAGA (Mexico)
Dear colleagues,

In 2017 we undertook a series of activities dedicated to promoting women’s political leadership and gender mainstreaming in our respective legislative agendas.

We held our 9th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality (PNGE), Women’s Empowerment: Social and Political Responses, in Buenos Aires with these objectives in mind. The occasion convened more than 70 legislators, former legislators, and social movement activists who participated in productive working sessions on themes such as the opportunities and challenges facing social movements dedicated to gender equality and women’s economic autonomy. For the PNGE, collaborative work with women’s organizations and movements is of central importance, and we hope to continue strengthening our ties to civil society in our next activities.

I wish to also highlight the launch of two publications on promoting and strengthening women’s political participation: Promoting Women’s Candidacies and Multi-Party Caucuses for Gender Equality. Both of these documents are available for download on ParlAmericas’ webpage. Additionally, in partnership with the UN Women Multi-Country Office—Caribbean, we have launched an online portal for our Anglophone membership which includes a toolkit on men’s engagement as allies in gender equality work. All of these resources have been developed with the aim of providing specialized material to enrich our legislative work.

I wish to also take the opportunity to thank Gina Godoy of Ecuador who was the president of the Network from 2015 until May of this year. Under Gina’s dedicated leadership, the PNGE affirmed its hemispheric importance in advancing the gender equality agenda in the legislatures of the Americas and the Caribbean. Her commitment inspires us as we continue and persevere in our efforts.

In 2018 we will continue our work towards the advancement of women’s rights and the achievement of gender equality, with diverse activities and initiatives. We hope that you will be able to join us, and I invite you to follow our calendar of activities and to encourage the participation of your colleagues.

I thank you for your continued participation and support in the work towards our common objective of achieving gender equality and parity in politics.

Sincerely,

Karina Banfi

KARINA BANFI
Member of the Chamber of Deputies, Argentina
President of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality

FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER @KBANFI
GENDER EQUALITY IN ACTION

9th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality

**THEME:** Women’s Empowerment: Social and Political Responses

**LOCATION:** Buenos Aires, Argentina

**DATES:** May 23-24, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 70 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from 25 countries and territories

3rd Parliamentary Forum on Beijing 20 Years Later

**THEME:** Women and the Media

**LOCATION:** Santiago, Chile

**DATES:** January 12-13, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 27 parliamentarians from Central and South America, along with Chilean journalists and communications professionals

Title: Equal Media Treatment of Women Politicians

**DESCRIPTION:** This publication provides recommendations to promote balanced media coverage and communication free of gender stereotypes for parliamentarians and journalists.
Title: Promoting Women’s Candidacies

DESCRIPTION: ParlAmericas presents this brief review of the obstacles related to electoral systems and their respective mechanisms, political campaign financing, and the role of political parties, with the objective of summarizing the principal—but not the only—filters that discourage and limit women’s political participation.

Title: Multi-Party Caucuses for Gender Equality

DESCRIPTION: The handbook has three sections. The first outlines five key considerations to address when designing a gender caucus. Accompanying these considerations are questions to prompt discussion with potential caucus members, as well as recommended strategies to help ensure success. The second section features three case studies of gender caucuses from across the hemisphere to showcase the different forms these groups can take. The final page suggests additional resources that can help support the creation of a gender caucus.

For any information related to ParlAmericas’ work on Gender Equality, please contact: parlamericasgen@parlamericas.org
Senator, Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality for North America, **MOBINA JAFFER** (Canada)

"When we talk about political representation we have to look at education, but also where are we in economic empowerment and who we are speaking for. Are we speaking for women who look like us, for women we went to school with, or are we speaking for all women?"

Member of Congress, **SANDRA MORÁN** (Guatemala)

"As parliamentarians, the great challenge is to receive the demands of social movements and organizations, give them a space that is complementary to the space in which we work, and advance collectively in order to resolve the serious problems that affect women in the Americas."

"If this is a battle, the adversaries are within our own selves, men and women. Only a deep reflection on our actions and everyday sayings that reveals what is behind each of us—and on the reasons that lead us to unconsciously uphold centuries of discrimination—will allow us to win this battle."

Member of Congress, **ALBERTO BELAUNDE** (Peru)

"Social discontent is a motor for change. It is precisely activism’s demands and social movements that allow us to make progress."

Member of Congress, **GUERDA BENJAMIN** (Haiti)

"I am the daughter of social movements in Haiti, locally and nationally, and I pledge to continue to collaborate with the grassroots organizations in my community to advance their claims before the central State."

This year, ParlAmericas’ Gender Equality programming aligned with SDGs 5 and 16
MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT OF THE PARLAMERICA OPEN PARLIAMENT NETWORK

Dear colleagues,

In 2017 we have undertaken many activities aimed at moving forward on the topics outlined in the Road Map towards Legislative Openness. Citizen participation, one of the pillars of our Road Map, was the main topic this year. It was addressed during our 2nd annual gathering, which took place in Costa Rica with the participation of more than 70 parliamentarians and civil society representatives. This gathering was steered towards reflection and sharing experiences, to set in motion initiatives that seek to facilitate interactions between citizens and the parliament. Following this activity, a toolkit was co-created and systematized at meetings held in Colombia and Trinidad and Tobago. This toolkit presenting practices and mechanisms currently being applied to involve citizens in parliamentary work will be launched during the 3rd gathering of the Network in 2018. Furthermore, in cooperation with several legislatures that are members of the Network, we produced a publication on good practices for transparency and citizen participation allowing interested countries to replicate these practices.

To strengthen accountability, transparency, and ethical standards in our legislatures, we also worked on topics related to fiscal transparency and technical units for budgetary support to parliaments, as well as on developing standards for lobbying regulation. These topics were examined during our activities in Colombia, Trinidad and Tobago, and Peru. Additionally, we had the opportunity to learn about Canada’s experience in these areas in our most recent study visit. Finally, at our meeting in Argentina, we explored the importance of open government and parliament efforts being transversal across all branches of the State, taking into account the role we bear as parliamentarians. Our goal must be to create open States, and the legislative actions we undertake should also aim to bolster and strengthen reforms in our governments based on the principles of the Open Government Partnership.

In the upcoming year, we will continue to develop the pillars of our Road Map keeping in mind that implementing open parliament action plans, working with civil society, creating tools, and sharing experiences between countries are critical as we pave the way for good government and the fight against corruption. This is a task that falls to all of us, that will result in greater citizen trust in the parliament, and along with that, greater legitimacy for our democratic systems. I encourage you to continue to support these initiatives and to involve more colleagues from your respective legislatures.

I thank you for your support and commitment to the activities of ParlAmericas’ Open Parliament Network and hope that you will participate in the upcoming meetings of our Network.

Sincerely,

Hernán Larraín

Senator, Chile
President of the Open Parliament Network

FOLLOW ME ON TWITTER @HERNANLARRAINF
OPEN PARLIAMENT IN ACTION

2nd Gathering of the Open Parliament Network

**THEME:** Strengthening the Ties between Citizens and Legislatures
**LOCATION:** San Jose, Costa Rica
**DATES:** March 16-17, 2017
**PARTICIPANTS:** More than 70 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from 25 countries

Citizen Participation Co-Creation Meeting

**THEME:** Citizen Participation
**LOCATION:** Bogota, Colombia
**DATES:** April 19, 2017
**PARTICIPANTS:** 15 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from Latin America

Workshop: Building Trust Between Parliaments and Citizens

**THEME:** Fiscal Transparency
**LOCATION:** Bogota, Colombia
**DATES:** April 20-21, 2017
**PARTICIPANTS:** 24 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from 10 countries
Co-Creation Meeting: International Standards for Lobbying Regulation

**THEME:** Lobby Regulation

**LOCATION:** Lima, Peru

**DATES:** May 29, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 13 parliamentarians and civil society representatives from Latin America

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Workshop: Strengthening Accountability Through Fiscal Transparency Practices

**THEME:** Transparency and Accountability

**LOCATION:** Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

**DATES:** September 6, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 28 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and civil society representatives from 11 countries

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2nd Citizen Participation Co-Creation Meeting

**THEME:** Citizen Participation

**LOCATION:** Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago

**DATES:** September 7, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 24 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and civil society representatives from 11 countries
Study Visit on Legislative Openness

**THEME:** Legislative Openness

**LOCATION:** Ottawa, Canada

**DATES:** October 16-17, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 36 parliamentarians, public servants, and civil society representatives from 8 countries

The Role of Parliaments in the Open Government Partnership

**THEME:** Open Governance

**LOCATION:** Buenos Aires, Argentina

**DATES:** November 21-22, 2017

**PARTICIPANTS:** 47 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and civil society representatives from 16 countries

Title: The Open Government Partnership: An Overview for Parliamentarians in the Americas and the Caribbean

**DESCRIPTION:** This handout introduces parliamentarians to the Open Government Partnership (OGP) and how it functions. It then discusses how open government reforms can facilitate the work of parliaments and how parliamentarians can contribute to advancing the open government agenda.

For any information related to ParlAmericas’ work on Open Parliament, please contact: parlAmericasopn@parlamericas.org
Given the transversal character of gender issues, the challenges and exposure facing women politicians need to be made visible, need to be addressed, and need to be the target of awareness-raising efforts, within the framework of the Open Parliament initiative. These efforts should be led by all those engaged in politics, whether they are men or women.

We are very committed to open data. We have already held a meeting with civil society and journalists where we chose the data, we performed an in-person survey with them to identify the information which was most valuable to them.

One of the key takeaways from this workshop is that in order to build political will to overcome these challenges, we need to focus on public education and make this relatable to the everyday person on the street and ensure they understand how this impacts their lives... education is critical.

Our legislatures are entrusted with the responsibility of monitoring and overseeing the executive in the achievement of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) identified by Agenda 2030, by which no one shall be left behind... This workshop focuses our attention on our roles as parliamentarians and members of civil society respectively in the identification of mechanisms and tools to improve accountability and transparency in the budgetary cycle... [which is critical] to our role of holding our executives to its international obligation to achieve sustainable development.

This year, ParlAmericas’ Open Parliament programming aligned with SDG 16

Senator, Vice-President of the Open Parliament Network for South America, MAURICIO LIZCANO (Colombia)

Senator, Vice-President of the Open Parliament Network for the Caribbean, DR. SAPHIRE LONGMORE (Jamaica)

Speaker of the House of Representatives, ParlAmericas Board Member, BRIDGID ANISSETTE-GEORGE (Trinidad and Tobago)

Member of the Legislative Assembly, Vice-President of the Open Parliament Network for Central America, KARLA PRENDAS (Costa Rica)
"I think most importantly, once the citizens have the access to information, it increases trust. It dispels any perception of wrong-doing on part of the government. So you can see how this [access of information legislation] is an effective tool to not only engage the citizens but to have them participate in the actual decision-making process."

"Public participation improves the distribution of resources and the provision of services, generates a better response to the specific preferences of the electorate, (and it) gives opportunities for marginalized groups to have a certain influence over the decisions that affect them."

"Citizens see the world from a different perspective than politicians, and for this reason, their vision is fundamental to ensure an effective, participative, transparent and democratic exercise."

LEMARQUE CAMPBELL, Chairman, Citizens for a Better Bahamas

JUAN PABLO GUERRERO, Director of GIFT

CECILIA RODRÍGUEZ, Representative of Costa Rica Íntegra
Dear colleagues,

The ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC) has made significant progress in 2017. At the 2nd gathering of the PNCC, Renewable Energies, co-organized with Parlatino, we explored the commitments made by national governments under the Paris Agreement. During this gathering, ParlAmericas presented two publications developed in conjunction with the Organization of American States (OAS): *A Comparative Overview of Legislative and Executive Responses in the Americas* and *A Comparative Overview of the Rights Based Approach in the Americas*, both of which can be found on our website.

Since then, parliamentarians from the PNCC have actively participated in various forums, including the Inter-American Congress on the Environmental Rule of Law held in Santiago, Chile, where our delegation had the opportunity to share the legislative perspective on the state of the environmental rule of law in the region. In Grenada, a parliamentary delegation participated in a dialogue convened by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) to explore the possibility of creating a carbon market for the Caribbean, which would be critical to developing financial mechanisms for countries in the region. That same month, Mexico hosted the Latin American and Caribbean Carbon Forum, where we presented on the important role of parliaments in advancements and innovation related to mitigating carbon emissions. One of the most significant achievements of the year was the recognition of ParlAmericas as an observer organization to the UN’s Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). This designation will allow us to continue working actively in defining the global climate change agenda. Finally, in November, we signed a cooperation agreement with the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction with the objective of updating the legal frameworks of countries in the region to assist in improving national disaster risk reduction mechanisms.

As legislators we face complex challenges within the climate change agenda, and, through the PNCC, we are committed to identifying best practices and learning from the most successful experiences. Further, we are seeking to support coordinated actions, incorporating the vision of social actors in order to provide a parliamentary perspective on the various objectives of this agenda.

I send you my warmest regards and invite you to continue actively participating in our activities.

Sincerely,

Javier Ortega

*JAVIER ORTEGA*

*Member of the National Assembly, Panama*

*President of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change—ParlAmericas*
**2nd Gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change**

**THEME:** Renewable Energies  
**LOCATION:** Panama City  
**DATES:** August 3-4, 2017  
**PARTICIPANTS:** 46 parliamentarians from 23 countries and territories, 7 international organization specialists, and representatives of 2 networks of non-governmental organizations

**Title: A Comparative Overview of the Legislative and Executive Responses in the Americas**

**DESCRIPTION:** This publication provides a comparative analysis of trends in the development of legislation and policy instruments to address climate change in OAS Member States. It looks at the implementation of legal principles by legislative and executive branches and their contribution to defining how climate change is addressed at a national level.

**Title: A Comparative Overview of the Rights Based Approach in the Americas**

**DESCRIPTION:** This publication provides a regional perspective on climate change and rights for OAS Member States. It is intended to brief policymakers and parliamentarians on current knowledge and understanding of climate change the Inter-American agenda.
In December 2015, at COP 21 in Paris, Parties to the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) reached a historic agreement to combat climate change and accelerate actions needed for a zero-carbon and climate resilient future. The agreement establishes a common cause of keeping global temperature rise in this century to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit even further to 1.5 degrees Celsius. The signatory countries outlined their respective commitments to reducing carbon emissions and undertaking adaptation efforts through Intended Nationally Determined Contributions (INDCs).

This interactive map provides summary information for parliamentarians on the INDCs originally submitted by the signatory countries of the Americas and the Caribbean, which have since been ratified. These will be updated as countries submit new contributions and report on progress towards achieving their goals.
Speaker of the National Assembly, Vice-President of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change for South America, **JENNIFER SIMONS** (Suriname)

“Given the real and immediate danger of climate change for the peoples and economies of the region, the initiative of ParlAmericas to address this issue in a structural and permanent way through the Network on Climate Change, will prove to be of great importance for the hemisphere.”

Member of the National Assembly, Alternate Vice-President of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change for South America, **ANA BELÉN MARÍN** (Ecuador)

“We have to focus on consumption patterns that are currently unsustainable. We see the climate variations and have many objectives to achieve. Each adaptation and mitigation activity, action and policy must adjust to the reality of each country, territory, or region, and we must work in accordance with these differences.”

Researcher, Climate Change, **ORLANDO REYES**, ECLAC

“The Nationally Determined Contributions describe the national efforts towards low emissions and climate resilient development, but preliminary analysis suggests that these will not be sufficient to achieve the goal of maintaining climate change below 2 degrees with current consumption and production patterns. We therefore need measures that modify these patterns to ensure that climate change policies are implemented.”

This year, ParlAmericas’ Climate Change programming aligned with SDGs 7, 9, 11, 13 and 17
“Parliamentarians can utilize indicators as useful tools for the oversight and supervision of renewable energy projects to take corrective measures, find value for money, and understand the effects of new projects on vulnerable populations.”

“Adaptation and mitigation are addressed separately and have not seen the adoption of an integrated approach. They are in fact two sides of the same coin, but there are different priorities for planning and implementation; specific options operate at different scales and institutional levels, in addition to country priorities providing more support for mitigation.”

“This type of event is about best practices and understanding the struggles across the region. We really will not get the type of action that we need and deserve without going forth as a group… this type of forum moves the agenda forward.”

For any information related to ParlAmericas’ work on Climate Change, please contact: parlamericascc@parlamericas.org
Thank you for being part of ParlAmericas in 2017. We look forward to building on these successes with your continued support!

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