In follow-up to the launch of the Parliamentary Staff Network on Climate Change (PNCC–Staff) in December 2022, this meeting served as the first occasion to convene parliamentary staff of the region and subject matter experts in alignment with the objectives of the Staff Network, which include facilitating knowledge exchanges that help promote the uptake of good practices on parliamentary climate action. Through expert presentations and a round table discussion, the meeting explored the ways parliamentary staff can provide support to parliamentary work to oversee efforts to meet national and international climate commitments, institutional actions to build capacity of parliamentary actors to engage on these topics, and initiatives to promote citizen participation in related decision making processes to ensure no one is left behind.

2nd Meeting of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Staff Network on Climate Change

This activity aligned with SDGs 5, 13, 16, and 17.
MAIN TAKEAWAYS FROM THE MEETING:

- Parliamentary staff offer a wealth of expertise to the parliament through technical support on addressing priority topics of the region and contribute to the overall longevity and effective implementation of environmental efforts in both internal and external parliamentary work due to their institutional roles, which benefits each different legislature. They also have the potential to apply their knowledge in other positions in political governance throughout their career.

- Parliamentary staff can be key actors in the nexus of science and decision-making to promote the alignment of national plans with international climate commitment through the technical support provided to parliamentary oversight committees with regard to conducting research and offering recommendations to monitor the implementation of environmental plans.

- Considering that climate change has differential impacts on women and girls, such as in their access to water and food and exposure to disaster risk, the availability of data that illustrates gender inequalities, as well as capacity building in gender analysis by technical officers, are both essential for ensuring parliamentary climate work is gender-responsive.

- Parliaments can lead by example through institutional efforts to measure and reduce their carbon footprint, as well as on the front of inclusivity by ensuring committee work is participatory and a diversity of organizations are invited to contribute to decision making on environmental matters.
PARTICIPATING PARLIAMENTS

Argentina  Costa Rica  Mexico
Belize  Dominica  Peru
Bolivia  Grenada  Saint Lucia
Canada  Guatemala  Saint Kitts and Nevis
Chile  Honduras  Trinidad and Tobago
Colombia  Jamaica  Uruguay

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ParlAmericas is composed of the 35 NATIONAL LEGISLATURES of the countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean.

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

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 organizes consultations and builds MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS with young leaders and civil society organizations.

ParlAmericas promotes policies and legislative measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of CLIMATE CHANGE.

ParlAmericas is headquartered in OTTAWA, CANADA.

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