

PRELIMINARY AGENDA

Tying the Threads Together: Parliamentary Actions to Advance International Agreements on the SIDS and Gender Equality

 Virtual | Thursday, August 8, 2024

[REGISTRATION FORM](#)

Parliamentarians play critical roles in implementing the international agreements that are adopted by their countries and ensuring that the commitments made translate into tangible benefits for their populations. Following the recent conclusion of the 4th International Conference on Small Island Developing States and its [Gender Equality Forum](#), this virtual meeting will bring together parliamentarians and other actors to outline concrete actions parliamentarians can take to support the achievement of the [SIDS agenda](#). It will also highlight the interconnections between this agenda and two other prominent agreements - the [Bridgetown Initiative 3.0](#) and the [Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action](#) - to emphasize how specific parliamentary actions can contribute to progress on each of these frameworks.

Interpretation will be provided in English and French.

A. 14:00 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 15:00 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 16:00 (UTC – 04:00)		D. 17:00 (UTC – 03:00)
Belize	Jamaica	Antigua and Barbuda Barbados Dominica Grenada Guyana Haiti Ottawa, Canada	Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines The Bahamas Trinidad and Tobago	Suriname

Opening reflections on the SIDS Conference

A. 14:00 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 15:00 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 16:00 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 17:00 (UTC – 03:00)
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- Senator the Honourable **Lisa Jawahir** (Saint Lucia), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
- The Honourable Senator Dr. **Joyelle Clarke** (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Minister of Sustainable Development, Environment, Climate Action and Constituency Empowerment
- **L. Nana Oye Hesse-Bayne**, President of Caribbean Women in Leadership (CIWIL)

Parliamentary actions to advance sustainable development and gender equality in alignment with international agreements

A. 14:20 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 15:20 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 16:20 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 17:20 (UTC – 03:00)
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Opening with an interview between The Honourable **Alincia Williams Grant** (Antigua and Barbuda), President of the Senate, and **Tonni Brodber**, Representative of the UN Women Multi-Country Office for the Caribbean, this dialogue will facilitate exploration of the following questions:

- What are the core tenets of the SIDS agenda (drawing especially on outcomes from SIDS4), the Bridgetown Initiative 3.0, and the Beijing Declaration and Platform for Action?
- Why are the three frameworks being considered of particular relevance currently for the region and how do they overlap?
- What are some priority concrete actions that parliamentarians can take to support the implementation of these agreements and why?
- What are some strategies for communicating with our citizens about the importance and benefits of these agreements?

Open Dialogue: Hazel Brandy-Williams, Vice-President of CIWiL, will present on the value of multi-stakeholder collaboration for supporting inclusive and effective work by parliamentarians and other actors on the meeting’s themes by highlighting successful examples of these partnerships, before **Nana Oye Hesse-Bayne**, President of CIWiL, moderates a discussion on the themes of this section of the meeting.

Considering the regional context: Supporting peace and sustainability across the SIDS

A. 15:20 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 16:20 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 17:20 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 18:20 (UTC – 03:00)
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Understanding that the international frameworks being considered seek to ensure that the region as a whole advances towards gender equality and sustainable development, and that parliamentarians’ platforms provide an opportunity for diplomacy and advocacy that supports this collective achievement, the meeting will close with a focus on Haiti, the situation of women and girls, and concrete avenues for parliamentarians to support efforts by civil society to improve the lives of citizens in the country.

Closing reflections

A. 15:55 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 16:55 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 17:55 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 18:55 (UTC – 03:00)
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- **Nyaradzayi Gumbonzvanda**, Deputy Executive Director of UN Women



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Select sessions of this event will be recorded and turned into podcast episodes.



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