

#### **ParlAmericas at COP26**

The ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC) was represented by Senator, the Honourable Rosa Galvez, President of the PNCC and Senator Raul Bolaños, Vice-President for North America of the PNCC. To learn more about their participation consult the following:

- Press Release: <u>ParlAmericas participates in COP26, the GLOBE COP26</u>
  Legislators Summit, and the IPU COP26 Parliamentary Meeting
- Press Release: ParlAmericas launches its interactive resource which maps the environment and climate change strategies and plans of the Americas and the Caribbean during COP26

In case you missed any of the activities, visit our COP26 <u>activity box</u> on the ParlAmericas website to view the recordings of events and good resources to consult.

## Action points for parliamentarians after COP26

COP26 has concluded, and the message was clear: **to combat climate change, and save the world from** <u>catastrophic impacts</u>, words must be put into action.

As legislators and representatives of your communities, you can ensure that the climate commitments made in the past two weeks by your government are fulfilled, **the following are some recommended legislative actions the parliaments can take post-COP26:** 

- Examine if your country has submitted an <u>updated Nationally Determined</u> <u>Contribution</u>, <u>Long-Term Climate Strategy</u>, and <u>National Adaptation Plan</u>, and if it is compatible with the goals of the Paris Agreement and how it contributes to meeting national development priorities.
  - Consult the ParlAmericas <u>repository</u> to view if your country has a plan in place on these topics, as well as other environmental issues.
- Request that government officials, national negotiation team, and/or parliamentary delegation to COP26 present the diverse commitments made at COP26 to the appropriate committees (e.g., those responsible for environmental matters, finance, gender, among others), remembering that climate change should not be addressed in silos.
- Hold public hearings to gather inputs and reflections from experts and civil society
- representatives on climate change commitments. Request progress reports on the environmental and climate commitments made at COP26. Consider:
  - assigning a committee(s) the responsibility to follow-up on the commitments;
  - creating a working group to follow the climate commitments made at COP;
  - organizing periodic meetings with the responsible parliamentary committee(s) and Ministry to follow up on the implementation of policies necessary to comply with what was agreed in the framework of COP26.
- Examine how the commitments made at COP26 can be cemented and promoted through existing or new legislation and adequate budget allocation.
- Examine how the commitments made at COP26 can be integrated in the country's plan to recover from the COVID-19 pandemic.
- In preparation for COP27 in Egypt work on creating mechanisms to favour parliamentary involvement. Consider working within the framework of the designated working group or committee to collaboratively contribute to the national position that will be taken to the COP, by for example, holding working spaces between negotiators and legislators.

For more guidance on how you can help support the implementation of the Paris Agreement and environmental commitments access the <u>executive summary</u> of the publication, *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement*.

### Main outcomes of COP26

The <u>Glasgow Climate Pact</u>, as well as a number of other decisions and commitments, as seen below, were adopted.

- Parliamentary action: Adoption of the <u>IPU outcome document</u> of the COP26 Parliamentary Meeting; delivery of <u>high-level statement at COP26</u> on behalf of the UNFCCC parliamentary informal group.
- Health and climate change: Commitment to the <u>COP26 Health Programme</u> aiming to build climate resilient health systems and strengthen health priorities in climate commitments.
- Forest conservation and land use: Commitment to the <u>Glasgow Leaders</u> <u>Declaration on Forest and Land Use</u> aiming to halt and reverse forest loss and land degradation by 2030, as well as commit to change agricultural practices to be more sustainable and protect food supplies against climate change.
- Methane emission reductions: Commitment to the <u>Global Methane Pledge</u> aiming to cut global methane emissions by 30% by 2030.
- Fossil fuel financing and coal phase out: Commitment to the <u>Global Coal to</u> <u>Clean Power Transition Statement</u> aiming to <u>phase-out coal and ensure a just</u> <u>transition</u>, as likewise advocated by the <u>Powering Past Coal Alliance</u>. Financial institutions and countries commit to end international support of the unbated fossil fuel energy sector and form the <u>Beyond Oil and Gas Alliance</u>.
- Youth and climate change: Commitment to the <u>Climate Education Pledge</u> aiming to promote net-zero schools and put climate change into national curriculums. Furthermore, youth call for countries to abide by their demands in the Youth Climate Manifesto.
- Ocean protection: Pacific-facing Latin American nations <u>create the Eastern</u>
  <u>Tropical Pacific Marine Corridor</u>. Commitment to the <u>Global Ocean Alliance</u>:

<u>30by30</u> initiative aiming to protect 30% of the world's ocean by 2030.

• Loss and damage: Antigua and Barbuda and Tuvalu <u>sign an accord</u> that establishes the Commission of Small Island States on Climate Change and International Law, creating a body for the development and implementation of fair and just global environmental norms and practices.

For a complete list of the high-level outcomes from COP26 visit the <u>Presidency</u> <u>outcome webpage</u>, as well as the <u>UNFCCC outcome webpage</u> for the decisions made under <u>COP26</u> (oversees the implementation of the UNFCCC and any other legal instruments), <u>CMP</u> 16 (oversees the implementation of the Kyoto Protocol), and <u>CMA</u> 3 (oversees the implementation of the Paris Agreement).

# New resources to support parliamentary climate and environmental action

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Executive Summary: Parliaments and the Paris Agreement: This executive summary serves as an overview of the key points and recommendations provided in the complete publication, *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement*, and includes guiding questions for parliamentarians to strengthen the alignment of parliaments' oversight, legislative, and budgetary efforts to these national climate commitments and broader objectives of the Paris Agreement.

Environment and Sustainability: Mapping the Strategies and Plans in the Americas and the Caribbean: This resource systemizes and compiles the most recent strategies and plans developed by countries from the Americas and the Caribbean in a centralized location, to provide easy access to parliamentarians as they work to to ensure national legislation and parliamentary initiatives reinforce the objectives of environmental multilateral agreements.

