

PRESS RELEASE

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ParlAmericas participates in the regional launch of the initiative "Making Cities Resilient 2030" in the Americas and Caribbean

On February 24th, 2021 the Honourable Bridgid Annisette-George (Trinidad and Tobago), Speaker of the House of Representatives and Vice-President of ParlAmericas provided welcoming remarks for the regional launch of the initiative "<u>Making Cities Resilient 2030</u>" (MCR2030) in the Americas and Caribbean, organized by the United Nations Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRR) and ICLEI – Local Governments for Sustainability.

This event brought together representatives of UNDRR, youth leaders, local government officials, academia, national governments, and MCR partners to discuss the importance of improving urban resilience and sustainability in the region, as well as the manner in which the newly launched initiative, MCR2030, could help achieve this. MCR2030 is a global partnership that aims to strengthen local resilience by improving cities' understanding of risk and strengthening their capacity to develop and implement inclusive local strategies to manage disaster risk, all while promoting vertical and horizontal integration between different levels of government and strategic partners.

Speaker Annisette-George highlighted during her intervention the critical role that parliaments have within this endeavour, sharing that "as MCR2030 highlights, climate governance is essential. In order to build the overall resilience of our countries, our communities must have the proper tools and resources to understand disaster risk and create holistic disaster management plans. As parliamentarians, we are the elected representatives of our people, and we have the responsibility to ensure that our actions and decisions are reflective and responsive to the diverse needs of our constituents. This naturally calls on us to work with our local government institutions, legislatures and members of the community."

For more information on the work carried out by ParlAmericas, go to <u>www.parlamericas.org</u> and follow @ParlAmericas on social media.

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