



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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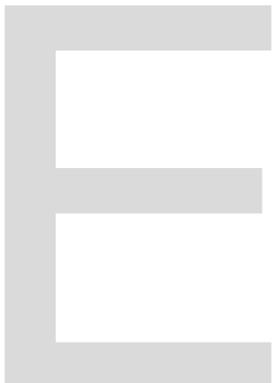
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Reports on recent IPU specialized meetings

(d) Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP20/CMP10)

8 December 2014 – Lima (Peru)

1. For a number of years, the IPU has been leading the way in enhancing parliamentary oversight of the intergovernmental negotiations carried out under the auspices of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC). Annual sessions of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP) and meetings of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP) attract tens of thousands of participants, including representatives of government, parliament, business, academia, the scientific community and non-governmental organizations. The most recent session, COP20/CMP10, took place in Lima, Peru, from 1 to 12 December 2014.
2. The IPU invited all parliaments to see to it that their members specializing in questions of environment and climate change were included in their country's official national delegation to the UN Conference in Lima. The IPU organized, together with the Congress of the Republic of Peru, a Meeting for all parliamentarians present in Lima for COP20/CMP10. The Meeting took place on 8 December and was attended by 354 participants from 40 countries and 19 international organizations, including 142 members of parliament.
3. The inaugural session was addressed by Ms. A.M. Solórzano Flores, President of the Congress of the Republic of Peru; Mr. S. Chowdhury, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union; and Mr. R. León, President of the IPU Group of Latin America and the Caribbean. Immediately after the inaugural, Mr. M. Pulgar-Vidal Otálora, Minister of the Environment of Peru and President of COP20/CMP10, briefed legislators on the intergovernmental talks.
4. The programme of the Parliamentary Meeting included a series of interactive panel discussions and keynote presentations dealing with climate-induced inequalities as a new political challenge; the rising costs of inaction on climate change; and the need for concerted action on climate change by national legislators and local authorities.
5. Following the presentation of an oral report by the Meeting Rapporteur, Mr. S.F. Tejada Galindo, MP (Peru), the participants adopted by consensus an outcome document setting out several recommendations for action by national parliaments and the IPU (see [Annex](#)). The text of the outcome document was subsequently transmitted to the President of COP20/CMP10.



6. In addition to the Parliamentary Meeting held on 8 December, the IPU and ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability jointly organized a panel discussion on the theme "From vision to action plan - Raising the global level of ambition through national and local action", on 9 December, on COP20/CMP10 premises. The panel was addressed by the IPU President. As an official side event included in the programme of the UN Conference, the panel received wide video coverage and was also webcast to 125,000 subscribers of the Climate-L channel.

Recommendations

7. The Parliamentary Meeting in Lima reaffirmed that legislators were a central element of any successful strategy for tackling climate change and that they bore their own share of responsibility for its effective implementation. They were responsible for developing, enacting and amending legislation, approving national budgets and holding governments to account. Unless transposed into national legislation, no international agreements on climate change and disaster risk reduction could be credible or effective. In order to give the necessary momentum to such work, the Meeting recommended that national parliaments set up standing committees on climate change.

8. The Meeting in Lima emphasized the importance for parliaments and the IPU to seek broad partnerships and coordinate climate-related efforts with those of other stakeholders, including subnational authorities, businesses and civil society. The Meeting invited the IPU to adopt a parliamentary action plan on climate change, thereby laying the groundwork for legally effective results in 2015 and beyond. Particular attention should be paid to deepening climate-related cooperation between the IPU and such institutions as the World Meteorological Organization, the Parliamentary Assembly of the Mediterranean, ICLEI-Local Governments for Sustainability, R20 Regions of Climate Action, the Environmental Law Centre of the International Union for the Conservation of Nature, and the Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, all of which partnered with the IPU in connection with the Lima session.

9. The current stage of the UNFCCC process should culminate in December 2015 in Paris, where COP21/CMP11 is expected to adopt a universal and legally binding climate change agreement. The IPU Secretary General has already started consultations with the French Parliament with a view to holding a Parliamentary Meeting in connection with COP21/CMP11, tentatively on 6 December 2015. In the meantime, IPU Members are invited to take timely steps in order to ensure that parliamentarians are included in their country's official national delegation to the UN Climate Change Conference in Paris.



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PARLIAMENTARY MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE

Lima (Peru), 8 December 2014

*Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Congress
of the Republic of Peru, with the support of the GRULAC*



Outcome Document

Adopted by consensus on 8 December 2014

1. We, parliamentarians from around the world, gathered in Lima (Peru) on the occasion of the 20th session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP20) and the 10th Meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP10), remain concerned that climate change continues to pose a grave threat to all forms of life on our planet and to the very survival of humanity.
2. We recognize that the scientific evidence for global warming presented by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change is comprehensive and incontrovertible: since the 1950s, the global climate system has undergone unprecedented change, on a scale unknown in previous decades or millennia. A warmer atmosphere and oceans, decreasing snow and ice cover, and rising sea levels are only some of the consequences of the increase in greenhouse gas emissions, while the growing magnitude of this warming augments the likelihood of a severe and irreversible impact. It is therefore extremely important for us to work together and step up our efforts to stabilize greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere, in accordance with the ultimate objective of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC).
3. We reaffirm the urgent need to reduce global greenhouse gas emissions and limit global temperature rise to less than 2°C from pre-industrial levels, as agreed by governments in the Copenhagen Accord of 18 December 2009, and to enact national legislation to that end. While recognizing the need to cooperate in capping global and national carbon emissions, we support the call for national actions consistent with a 1.5°C pathway as proposed by the most vulnerable countries on the basis of the best available scientific knowledge.
4. We are convinced that the ultimate UNFCCC objective cannot be attained without a general strengthening of the multilateral rules-based regime under the Convention. We pledge to support the process begun at COP17, held in Durban in 2011, with the declared intention of signing a global climate change agreement in Paris in 2015. This means that a core agreement duly reflecting the will, capacity and circumstances of the Parties in terms of specific commitments to address climate change must be drawn up in Lima during COP20/CMP10. The essential elements of that agreement, including mitigation, adaptation, finance, technology development and transfer, capacity-building and transparency of action and support, must be treated in a balanced manner.
5. We reiterate our belief that the principles of equity, common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities are fundamental for multilateral action to address climate change and should be incorporated into the core agreement.
6. We undertake to create the political space needed to facilitate the determination of national commitments, so that they can be communicated well in advance of COP21 (during the first quarter of 2015 by the Parties that are ready to do so and well before COP21 by all other Parties). The aim is to make these commitments clear, transparent and understandable without undermining their legal character and to allow *ex ante* expert assessments of the adequacy of the commitments, while creating conditions conducive to their implementation, including through targeted international support measures.
7. We note a troubling disconnect between the global commitments to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and the objective of limiting the global average rise in temperature. Countries should be required to enact climate legislation with clear and ambitious short-term and rolling targets and with ratcheting-up mechanisms by 2020 at the latest so as to reduce greenhouse gas emissions progressively by 2030 and report to the United Nations in accordance with the legally binding

portion of the future agreement. We undertake to support the tracking of emission levels and to develop the legal provisions needed to implement greenhouse gas mitigation policies and instruments at the national, regional and global levels while paying special attention to activities associated with energy efficiency and generation, including from renewable and carbon-neutral sources.

8. Concerned with the gap between aggregate pledges to reduce greenhouse gas emissions and pathways to limit global temperature rise to less than 1.5-2°C from pre-industrial levels, we undertake to contribute to the effective acceleration of the pre-2020 climate ambition. We also pledge to urge our respective governments to ratify the Doha Amendment to the Kyoto Protocol.

9. We reaffirm the urgent need to support the efforts of developing countries, and particularly the most vulnerable among them, especially the Small Island Developing States, Africa and the Least Developed Countries, to implement their adaptation plans. We therefore recognize the importance of striking a balance between adaptation and mitigation. Resolute action is also needed with a view to the implementation of commitments to support adaptation plans and actions in the countries most vulnerable to climate change and to promote research and use of ancestral practices that have demonstrated sustainable management of resources. We call on governments to give high priority to reviewing and verifying the adaptation support received and to monitoring risks and implementation measures designed to improve resilience in addressing the consequences of climate change. We also undertake to give greater attention to cross-border adaptation activities, as well as the provision and use of climate-related scientific services and information.

10. We stress that financing, technology transfers and capacity-building support for developing countries are crucial aspects of climate change adaptation and mitigation. Technological and financial resources must be managed transparently and efficiently to ensure that countries are treated equitably with regard to the administration of climate finance and technology flows. We also stress the need to accelerate fund-raising for the Green Climate Fund.

11. We consider it essential to develop an overall normative framework, including appropriate data policies, for the various monitoring, reporting and verification systems, so that they have the level of effectiveness and transparency required to ensure the credibility of the new climate change agreement. An annual review of national pledges and action in support of implementation measures should be instituted in the respective parliaments to ensure that national legislation is both equitable and aligned with global emission reduction targets and support provisions.

12. We urge governments to invest in much closer bilateral co-operation with key countries, together with their national parliaments, so as to help advance national climate legislation, disseminate best practices, build capacities among legislators and promote common or complementary approaches.

13. Recognizing the importance of environmental governance in the design and implementation of public environmental policies, we reaffirm our commitment to seek broad partnerships and coordinate our climate-related efforts with those of other stakeholders, including local authorities, businesses and civil society.

14. We acknowledge that, as legislators, we are a central element of any successful strategy for tackling climate change and that we bear our own share of responsibility for its effective implementation. We are responsible for developing, enacting and amending legislation, approving national budgets and holding governments to account. Unless it is transposed into national legislation, no international agreements on climate change and disaster risk reduction will be credible or effective. For this, parliamentary participation in official delegations in charge of negotiations is crucial.

15. We are determined to assume our responsibilities and to provide the requisite leadership. Parliaments should exercise their constitutional authority more vigorously and should press forward with the national commitments made by developed countries and the actions taken by developing countries with a view to minimizing greenhouse gas emissions and strengthening adaptation measures. In order to give the necessary momentum to this work, we call on national parliaments to set up standing committees on climate change and the Inter-Parliamentary Union to adopt a parliamentary action plan on climate change, thereby laying the groundwork for legally effective results in 2015 and beyond.