



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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## Remarks by Ms. Paddy Torsney Permanent Observer of the IPU at the United Nations

76<sup>th</sup> General Assembly of the United Nations  
High-Level Thematic Dialogue on “Delivering on climate action for  
people planet and prosperity”

New York, 26 October 2021

Excellences  
Ladies and gentlemen,

On behalf of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the global organization of national parliaments and its 179 Member Parliaments, I am honored to speak at this high-level event today.

For over a decade, the IPU has worked to strengthen parliamentary involvement in climate action and to support parliaments and parliamentarians to tackle climate change as a top priority.

The IPU facilitates the exchange of good practices and lessons learned on addressing the climate emergency through bilateral, regional and international parliamentary engagement.

Over the years, IPU Members have adopted resolutions unanimously urging all Parties to implement the Paris Agreement and to implement strategies to strengthen peace and security, acknowledging the concrete and existential threat to humanity caused by climate change and climate-related disasters.

Furthermore, the Declaration of the 5<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers of Parliament in September 2021 reiterated the critical importance of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) and the actions and targets set out in the Paris Agreement, expressing strong support for an ambitious and collaborative outcome from the

COP26 in Glasgow next month.

The IPU has long supported the engagement of parliaments in annual Conferences of the Parties (COP) organizing concurrent parliamentary meetings. This year, the IPU, in collaboration with the Italian Parliament and the British Group of the IPU, has organised parliamentary events in Rome and in Glasgow to bring together parliamentarians from around the world, providing them a platform to discuss ways to advance parliamentary action on climate change at the national, regional and international level, in the context of COP26. The IPU expects to adopt an outcome document charting a course for increased parliamentary action on climate change.

The importance of parliamentary engagement in promoting coherent national legislative responses aligned with the Paris Agreement, cannot be stressed enough. As the peoples' representatives, parliamentarians are uniquely positioned to lead the path towards decarbonisation and sustainability in the post-pandemic era and to transform the climate commitments into realities on the ground.

On behalf of the IPU, I thank you for this opportunity and look forward to helping parliaments engage further on tackling climate change.