



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.

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## Speech by Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General

Side event on: Addressing methane emissions: Urgent priority for climate action  
against global boiling

Luanda, 25 October 2023

Distinguished parliamentarians,

It is a privilege for me to address you today in my capacity as the Secretary General of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, and I would like to offer a heartfelt greeting to each of you here to today.

Our shared commitment to addressing climate change is captured in the IPU Strategy 2022-2026 where climate action remains a core priority and your presence here today is a clear indicator of the ongoing political determination to combat this issue.

The science is undeniable, we must reduce methane emissions if we are to keep the goal of limiting global warming to 1.5°C alive. Mitigating methane emissions is not just an option; it's a necessity.

To echo the words of the IPU President, Parliaments' role is pivotal, involving legislation and budget allocation, oversight of policy implementation, advocacy for methane targets, and fostering collaboration with various stakeholders. This multifaceted engagement is essential to combat climate change and achieve international climate goals.

The IPU Secretariat is fully prepared and dedicated to collaborating with our key technical partners, including UNEP and the UNFCCC, to offer comprehensive assistance to parliaments. This support includes the provision of direct, customized guidance and resources aimed at empowering parliaments to address climate change, including the urgent matter of methane emissions, and to advance national climate action. Please approach my colleagues at the IPU Secretariat if this is of interest to your parliament.

Additionally, I am pleased to announce that the IPU will be organizing a parliamentary meeting within the Green Zone at COP28 in partnership with the Federal National Council (FNC) of the UAE. This meeting will provide a unique platform for parliamentarians to exchange insights, share best practices, and contribute to the global efforts to combat climate change.

Today's discussions on how to incorporate methane emissions into nationally defined contributions, the legislative measures needed for their reduction, and the promotion of effective waste management policies are invaluable steps toward a more sustainable and resilient future for our planet and its inhabitants.

Together, with resolute commitment and collective action in implementing these strategies, we can make significant strides in combatting climate change and achieving our shared global goals. Thank you for your invaluable contributions and engagement in this critical endeavour.

Thank you