



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

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Speech by Dr. Tulia Ackson, IPU President

High Level Segment remarks - COP 28

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Ladies and gentlemen, as President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union, I'm honoured to share key outcomes from the joint IPU and Federal National Council Parliamentary Meeting held at COP28. This was the first-ever parliamentary meeting held within the COP Green Zone and contributes to solidifying the recognition of Parliaments as key players in the global climate discourse and efforts. We hope that this is the first of a practice that will be consolidated in the future COPs and we thank COP28 and the UAE for their support.

By convening in the Green Zone, we underscored the indispensable role that parliaments play in shaping policies, advocating for change, overseeing implementation of commitments made, and ensuring that the voices of constituents are heard.

With nearly 500 participants from 60 countries, discussions focused on urgent climate challenges, such as scaling up adaptation efforts, financing, and sustaining the loss and damage mechanisms. A constant focus remained on the most vulnerable nations, communities, and groups on the front lines of climate change, and the urgent need to support them.

An additional meeting, we held in the COP Blue Zone highlighted the leadership of women and young parliamentarians in climate action, showcasing their often-under-recognized role.

Given the clear deviation from the Paris Agreement goals, parliamentarians doubled down on their commitment to climate action. The call for midcourse corrections coming from the stocktake exercise was viewed as an acknowledgment of the dynamic nature of our climate challenges and a further opportunity to realign global efforts with the Paris Agreement.

Parliamentarians are acutely aware that climate action does not end with the conclusion of COP28. The Parliamentary Outcome Document adopted by the meeting serves as a solid road map for action and calls on parliaments to encourage ambitious Nationally Determined Contributions, promote international cooperation, and ensure equitable climate strategies.

I express gratitude to the UAE and the FNC for hosting COP28 and the parliamentary meeting. Their commitment to inclusivity reflects a commendable step forward in addressing climate challenges with a participatory approach, crucial for effectively responding to the Global Stocktake outcomes.

Thank you.