



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
For democracy. For everyone.



## 2017 South Asian Speakers' Summit on Achieving the Sustainable Development Goals

***Strengthening regional cooperation and resources for the SDGs***

Organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)  
and the Parliament of India

18-20 February 2017, Indore (India)

### PROGRAMME

**Friday**                      **17 February 2017**

**Arrival and registration of delegates**

**Saturday**                      **18 February 2017**

9.50 a.m.                      **Guard of Honour for the President of the Summit**  
*[Venue: Pre-Function Area of Grand Summit I & II, Hotel Radisson Blu]*

10.00 a.m.                      **Inaugural ceremony**  
*[Venue: Grand Summit I & II, Hotel Radisson Blu]*

- Mr. Saber Chowdhury, IPU President
- Ms. Sumitra Mahajan, Speaker, Lok Sabha
- Mr. Sitasharan Sharma, Speaker, Madhya Pradesh State Legislature

11.10 a.m.                      **Group photo**

11.20 a.m.                      **Tea break**

12.00 a.m.                      **Plenary Session: Identifying resources for SDG implementation in South Asia:  
Opportunities for parliamentary cooperation**  
*[Venue: Summit I & II, Hotel Radisson Blu]*

The session will inform the participants about implementation of the SDGs in the region and will discuss ways in which parliaments can ensure that adequate financial and other resources accompany implementation of national and regional SDG strategies. The session will also discuss opportunities for cooperation among parliaments and between parliaments and other stakeholders in order to advance progress in SDG implementation.

- Mr. Arvind Pangariya, Vice Chairperson, National Institution for Transforming India, Government of India
- Mr. Yuri Afanasiev, UN Resident Coordinator and UNDP Representative in India

- 
- 1.00 p.m.      **Follow up to the Dhaka Declaration**
- In this session the participants will be invited to present and discuss what their parliaments have done to advance the issues identified in the Dhaka Declaration adopted by the South Asian Speakers in 2016
- 
- 1.30 p.m.      **Lunch hosted by the Hon. Speaker, Madhya Pradesh State Legislature**  
*[Venue: The Creative Kitchen Restaurant, Ground Floor, Hotel Radisson Blu]*
- 
- 3.30 p.m.      **Session I: Gender equality as a critical factor for sustainable development**  
*[Venue: Summit I & II, Hotel Radisson Blu]*
- In South Asia, as in many other regions, gender-based disparities disadvantage women and girls, impede their development and that of their societies. The session will discuss opportunities that the SDGs present to strike a better gender balance in sustainable development decision-making and determine the gender impact of sustainable development policies. The session will also aim to identify the resources needed to advance work in this area.
- Dr. Åsa Torkelsson, Deputy Representative, UN Women India
  - Ms. Nirmala Buch, Chairperson, National Centre for Human Settlements and Environment, Bhopal
- 
- 4.35 p.m.      **Tea break**
- 
- 5.00 p.m.      **Discussion on regional cooperation and interconnectedness amongst South Asian countries**
- Mr. Saber Chowdhury, IPU President
- 
- 5.30 p.m.      **Launch of the IPU Self-Assessment Toolkit for Parliaments on the SDG by Mr. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, IPU President**
- The IPU toolkit is designed to help parliaments to assess how “fit for purpose” they are in helping implement the SDGs in their country context. It is relevant to all parliaments and can be used to identify the means and processes available to them, as well as the institutional gaps that need to be filled to support the SDG implementation.
- 
- 7.00 p.m.      **Cultural Programme**  
*[Venue: Grand Hall, Ground Floor, Brilliant Convention Centre, Indore]*
- 
- 8.00 p.m.      **Dinner to be hosted by the Hon. Speaker, Lok Sabha [By invitation]**  
*[Venue: Orion Hall, Ground Floor, Brilliant Convention Centre]*
- 

**Sunday**

**19 February 2017**

- 10.00 a.m.      **Session II: Dealing effectively with the challenge of climate change and natural disasters: Opportunities for regional parliamentary cooperation**  
*[Venue: Summit I & II, Hotel Radisson Blu]*
- Climate change has emerged as a major challenge for the humanity and is an area of critical concern in South Asia where it has become a serious threat to human security. The participants will be briefed about the impact of climate change and natural disasters in the region and projected trends. The session will discuss how parliaments of the region can cooperate and share resources in order to address the challenges.
- Dr. Balakrishna Pisupati, Vice Chancellor, Trans Disciplinary University, Bengaluru
  - Prof. Santosh Kumar, Executive Director, SAARC Disaster Management Centre, Delhi

|                |   |
|----------------|---|
| 11.30 a.m.     | <b>Tea break</b>  |
| 12.00 p.m.     | <b>Closing ceremony</b><br><i>[Venue: Grand Summit I &amp; II, Hotel Radisson Blu]</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Mr. Sachin Chaturvedi, Director General, Research and Information System for Developing Countries, India</li> <li>• Ms. Sumitra Mahajan, Speaker, Lok Sabha</li> <li>• Mr. Saber Chowdhury, IPU President</li> <li>• Mr. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh</li> <li>• Mr. Sitasharan Sharma, Speaker, Madhya Pradesh State Legislature</li> </ul> |
| 1.30 p.m.      | <b>Lunch</b><br><i>[Venue: The Creative Kitchen Restaurant, Ground Floor, Hotel Radisson Blu]</i>   |
| 3.00 p.m.      | <b>Field visit to Lal Bagh Palace, Rajwada and Mrignayani, Indore</b>   |
| 7.00 p.m.      | <b>Cultural program</b>   |
| 8.00 p.m.      | <b>Dinner hosted by Mr. Shivraj Singh Chouhan, Chief Minister, Madhya Pradesh</b>   |
| <b>Monday</b>  | <b>20 February 2017</b>   |
| 8.00 a.m.      | <b>Departure and visit of Mandu, The City of Joy</b>  |
| 11.00 a.m.     | <b>Visit to Jahaz Mahal [Ship Palace], Jami Masjid and Rani Roopmati Pavillion</b>  |
| 1.30 p.m.      | <b>Lunch</b>  |
| 3 p.m.         | <b>Return to Indore</b>   |
| 8 p.m.         | <b>Dinner in the hotel</b>  |
| <b>Tuesday</b> | <b>21 February 2017</b>   |
|                | <b>Departure of delegates</b>   |