

Draft 19 Nov 2021

THE SECRETARY-GENERAL

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**VIDEO MESSAGE TO THE ASSEMBLY OF THE
INTER-PARLIAMENTARY UNION**

To be recorded on 19 November 2021 for use on 26 November 2021

As a former parliamentarian and member of the Interparliamentary Union, it is a great pleasure to greet this Assembly of the IPU.

Parliaments have a vital role in addressing the many serious challenges we face, from the climate emergency to yawning inequalities and continued conflict around the world. Your efforts are essential, if we are to keep the 1.5-degree target of the Paris Agreement alive.

I welcome your focus at this Assembly on ways to increase parliamentary engagement at the United Nations.

My recent report on Our Common Agenda stresses the importance of building a more inclusive and networked multilateralism that is fit for our times.

That means bringing parliaments, civil society, the private sector and others into our deliberations, to reflect the full spectrum of people who are affected by global decision-making.

I also welcome your plans to discuss efforts on gender equality, public engagement, and promoting interfaith dialogue, which are all essential to peaceful, resilient communities and societies.

The partnership between the Interparliamentary Union and the United Nations is a strong foundation for enhanced collaboration.

Please accept my best wishes for a successful Assembly.