

**OPENING SPEECH
GENERAL ASSEMBLY
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**SPEAKER
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
OF THE REPUBLIC OF INDONESIA**

**144th ASSEMBLY OF INTER PARLIAMENTARY UNION AND
RELATED MEETINGS**

NUSA DUA, 20-24 MARCH 2022

**Your Excellencies, Speakers of IPU Member State's Parliaments;
IPU President, H.E. Mr. Duarte Pachecho;
Distinguished Delegates from IPU Member States;
Honorable Secretary-General of IPU,
Mr. Martin Chungong;
Ladies and Gentlemen**

The 144th Assembly of the IPU is being held while the world is facing a multitude of crisis.

Virus mutation. Escalated geopolitical tension. And global warming that we are still unable to overcome.

Geopolitical tension has created a ripple of global effects that have reached emerging economies. The prices of cooking oil, food, and other essential items are rising.

They add to the strenuous challenges that we are all facing today. From the challenges against world peace, security, democracy, to the pandemic and climate change.

The world needs to come together and find solutions, reinforces commitment, and identify actions to address them.

We need to stand together...

- We need to build trust towards one another if we are to create perpetual peace.
- We need to strengthen our global solidarity if we are to stop the spread of virus.
- We need to bolster our partnership if we are to lower the global emission.

In this auspicious occasion of the 144th IPU Assembly, we are expected to reiterate IPU's goals of making parliaments stronger, to promote democracy, peace, and sustainable development.

The aim of the IPU when it was founded in 1889, which was to fight for world peace, remains relevant to this day.

As global peace and stability continue to be challenged, and conflicts are occurring as we speak in many parts of the world.

We must fight for and sustain peace.

We need to exercise diplomacy that seeks to prevent war and conflicts.

For that reason, the 144th IPU Assembly needs to be our momentum as parliaments to contribute to resolving various global challenges.

We need to make dialogue a habit and we need to put diplomacy first at all times.

All countries without exception needs to respect international law, the UN charter, and territorial integrity of other nations.

When our democracy is challenged in the middle of the pandemic, we need to show that parliaments are the guardians of democracy and that we can make democracy more resilient.

- Democracy that assures freedom, human rights, and governance.
- Democracy that delivers... that contribute to ending the pandemic, reducing poverty, and closing the gap of inequality.

Democracy also plays a role in maintaining peace. War does not come easily in a democratic country. Because there is check and balance that prevents the government from having absolute power.

Our efforts to end the pandemic also still require our utmost dedication. Parliaments are expected to accelerate equal vaccine distribution globally and help driving vaccine production in emerging economies.

We need to strengthen the Global Health Architecture to prevent and be ready to respond to any other threat of a pandemic in the future.

The pandemic has caused massive social impacts with an additional 120 million people falling into poverty, deepened inequality, and exacerbated malnutrition.

These problems will affect our attainment of the Sustainable Development Goals.

Given where we are in the world today, global recovery agenda cannot be focusing just on health and the economy.

We must also push for social recovery agenda and to get the support of the international community.

On women and youth, we must continue driving the participation of women and young people in the decision-making arena of various public agencies.

We also need to cement our commitment towards tackling the negative impacts of war, pandemic, and climate change for women. Women

account for 80% of displaced persons due to climate change. And women and girls are also the most vulnerable groups in a conflict situation.

The theme that this 144th IPU Assembly carries: *Getting to Zero: Mobilizing Parliaments to Act on Climate Change* is giving parliaments a chance to be in the frontline of achieving zero emission.

Parliaments need to play its role in mobilizing concrete actions to overcome climate change.

And parliaments are also demanded to lead by example in executing green work programs.

Climate change is the earth's existensial crisis.

Global warming its happening at an alarmingly faster rate than ever before.

Today, our planet is 1.1 degree centigrade hotter than than beginning of the century.

If we fail to reduce global emission by 7.6% per year, from 2020 to 2030, we will not be able to deliver our target of keeping the temperature rise at 1.5 degree centigrade.

- For this reason, we need to mobilize climate change mitigation and adaptation actions.
- We must realize our commitment to provide climate change financing of US\$ 100 billion per year.
- And we need to support transition towards clean energy through technology transfer and investment.

To make those goals a reality, this 144th IPU Assembly should emphasize on:

First, the importance of strengthening global partnerhsips and multilateralism in solving global problems.

Second, the need to translate international level commitments into tangible actions at the national level.

Third, the need to build a culture of peace, marked by dialogue and tolerance as the peaceful means of resolution, and abandoning violence.

Fourth, the need for parliaments to take an active role in bridging differences and building trust.

To close, I wish to reiterate my commitment of leading this 144th IPU Assembly in a transparent and inclusive manner. I look forward to your support, in making our Assembly and meetings fruitful and productive.

I believe that together, we can contribute in addressing various global challenges.

Let us demonstrate that we can be the example of making global solidarity even stronger.

Let us demonstrate that we can and are engaged in dialogues to resolve our differences.

Finally, let us demonstrate that parliaments can contribute to creating a world that is safer, fair, and prosperous.

Thank you.