

Statement by

Rt. Hon'ble Ganesh Prasad Timilsina, Chairperson
National Assembly of the Federal Parliament of Nepal

on

Getting to Zero: Mobilizing Parliaments to Act on Climate
Change

at

144th IPU Assembly, (Nusa Dua, Bali Indonesia 20-24 March
2022)

H.E. President of the 144th Session of the IPU Assembly,

H.E. Speakers of the Parliaments,

H.E. President of the Inter-Parliamentary
Union,

Members of the Parliaments,

Distinguished Participants and Observers,

1. First of all, on behalf of the delegation of the Federal Parliament of Nepal, I would like to thank the Parliament of Indonesia and the IPU for the invitation to attend the 144th Assembly of IPU. I extend my sincere appreciation to the Government, Parliament, and the people of Indonesia for the successful arrangement of the Assembly during the Covid-19 pandemic. I would also like to express my heartfelt gratitude for the warm hospitality extended to me and my delegation ever since our arrival in this beautiful city.
2. The theme of this assembly "Getting to Zero: Mobilizing parliaments to act on Climate Change", is highly relevant in the context of emerging challenges of climate change. Combating climate action requires strong political will and, in many cases, legislative action. In this regard, dialogue and sharing of best practices among legislatures of different

countries will go a long way.

3. Parliaments play a crucial role in enhancing the transition to a green economy. Green economic policies and laws are vital to build a resilient economy. Strong ties among parliamentarians and private sector, development partners, and civil society organizations will be crucial in the fight against climate change. It is essential that the adverse impacts of climate change on mountain ecosystems catch the attention of the global community. Mountaineous countries like Nepal are facing the brunt of it. Rising temperature and pollution has led to melting of snow in high mountains, creating the threat of glacier bursts. The disasters following this are dangerous even for lower altitudes. Which ever country or region such disasters hit, the severest effect falls on the most vulnerable and marginalised populace. Hence it is imperative that not only entire world work hand in hand for the conservation of the mountain ecosystem. It is necessary that all of our esteemed friends, especially the developed countries, provide additional assistance in Nepal's efforts for risk reduction and climate change. Nepal is the country that is elilgible to sell carbon to developed countries those want to offset emissions under the Reducing emission through Deforestation & Degradation(REED) Program. The Emission reduction purchase is one pillar of stratrgic program on forest landscapes and clilmate action in Nepal. Its supports new oppourunities to consume and regenerate landscape and biodiversity while simultaneously support most resilient inclusive, sustainable and efficient economic growth key for Nepal to build back better and greener.

Your Excellencies,

I take this opportunity to share Nepal's role in tackling climate change issues:

4. Nepal is one of the most vulnerable countries regarding climate change,

water induced disasters and hydro-meteorological extreme events such as droughts, storms, floods, inundation, landslides, debris flow, soil erosion and avalanches. Our efforts are geared at reducing emissions from the forest and increasing the carbon reserve. In this connection, it may be worthwhile to recall that Nepal's community forest program has won international praise for the restoring the country's green area.

5. In COP 26 in Glasgow, the Government of Nepal made three significant commitments with regards to net-zero emissions. First, Nepal has committed to increasing its forest cover to 45% by 2030 and halt deforestation completely. Second, we have also announced our goal of attaining net-zero Green House Gases emissions by 2045. Third, we are committed to protecting the life and livelihoods of people from climate-induced disasters and loss and damage.
6. To ensure the accountability of the policies and plans towards the most at risk and vulnerable population, and to address climate change's impact, risk, and vulnerability, the parliament of Nepal has laid emphasis on policy and legal reform to ensure compliance with environmental and climate-resilient codes, as well for the adoption of climate-resilient pathways and the integration of climate change into sectorial development policies and plans, including local government planning and budgeting. All these require a major strong political will and commitments. The parliament will ensure that Nepal meets its international and national commitments on net-zero and climate resilience.
7. In order to meet the goals set by the Paris Agreement, Nepal will adopt climate change policies and targets as per the Gender Equality & Social Inclusion targets outlined in the Nationally Determined Contributions (NDC), National Adaptation Plan (NAP), and other policy targets.

Focusing on budgets and programs aimed at improving governance systems so that climate money reaches women, indigenous groups, low-income households, and communities will remain high on our priority.

Excellencies,

8. The IPU Assembly is an extraordinary forum that brings together the legislators and policy makers from across the globe to discuss contemporary issues of global significance. I am fully confident that our combined efforts through IPU Assembly will complement the work of political leaderships towards net zero goals, and concrete actions towards the innovative solutions to emerging climate challenges required to fulfilling sustainable goals. I assure you all support and solidarity of my delegation for the successful outcome of this Assembly.

Thank you.