

**SPEECH BY VIETNAM HEAD OF DELEGATION
AT THE IPU 144TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY DEBATE
(Nusa Dua, Indonesia, 20-24/3/2022)**

“Getting to zero: Mobilizing mobilize parliaments to act on climate change”

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished delegates

Ladies and Gentlemen,

On behalf of the delegation of the National Assembly of Viet Nam, I would like to convey my highest greetings and most sincere gratitude to the Speaker of the House of Representatives of Indonesia, the IPU President and the IPU Secretary General for inviting us to the 144th IPU General Assembly in Bali, Indonesia. I wish to thank the Parliament of Indonesia, as the host, for the warm hospitality extended to the delegations.

Ladies and gentlemen,

Climate change is now a red alert for humanity, to quote the UN Secretary General. The clear and dramatic impacts of climate change, such as sea-level rise, extreme weather and drought, are threatening global food security and bio-diversity, depleting natural resources and exacerbating poverty, social inequality, instability and conflicts across various countries and regions over the world.

These severe challenges require all countries to urgently strengthen their commitments, reduce greenhouse emission, and pursue a path of green, sustainable and inclusive economic recovery in the wake of the COVID-19 pandemic. The pledge of net-zero emission by 2050 is a great significance and a common goal for almost every country including Viet Nam. In the process of both responding to climate change and fighting against COVID-19, Viet Nam is determined to meet its economic development targets hand-in-hand with protecting the environment and taking climate action. We consider this a challenging but no less focal and urgent task. Viet Nam remains committed to cutting down on fossil fuels dependence, increasing the share of renewable energy, striving to chart a suitable transformation roadmap towards a green, circular and low-carbon economy, and realizing its international climate commitments, including at COP 26.

In 2020, the National Assembly of Viet Nam adopted the Law on Environmental Protection, containing one chapter on Climate Change Response. The Government established the National Steering Committee on implementing Viet Nam's commitments at COP 26 in 2021. In 2022, the National Assembly plans to conduct oversight to urge active implementation of the national commitments at the COP 26. In the efforts to fight climate change, both the National Assembly and Government of Viet Nam always put the

people at the center, as the subject, purpose and drivers of climate action, and endeavor to leave no one behind. We look forward to further cooperation and assistance from international partners, through programs and investment projects in climate action and sustainable development.

To advance parliamentary climate action towards net-zero, I wish make the following proposals:

First, Parliaments must urge the Governments to take strong and effective climate policies in line with the Paris Agreement, chart the course towards net-zero target as per COP 26 commitments, and enhance their oversight of SDG implementation, especially the SDG 13 on climate change.

Second, Parliaments should step up cooperation, based on the principles of fairness, shared but differentiated responsibilities, taking into account the capacities and circumstances of each country, especially between Member parliaments, the IPU and international organizations. This will enable our Parliaments to seek and call on additional resources, share experiences, provide technical and financial assistance, and build capacity for climate actions. Developed countries should continue to take the lead in realizing their pledges to reduce greenhouse emission and provide financial and technological assistance to developing countries in latter's efforts to respond to climate change.

Third, Parliaments should step up efforts on making, revising and updating laws; and strengthen their budgetary oversight and allocation capacity to ensure the successful realization of their national climate, emission reduction and net-zero targets, taking into account the capability and development level of each country.

Fourth, the IPU should cooperate with the UNFCCC Secretariat to work on a mechanism for oversight, and exchange of information, experience and best practices in the implementation of national commitments.

Fifth, Parliamentarians need to live up to their mandate as the people's representatives. It is important to inform the people and businesses of the long-term benefits stemming from engaging in global climate initiatives, encourage private-public partnership, foster business innovation, and call for public support and shared action.

I believe that with the strong political determination and efforts from all Member parliaments, we shall meet our important targets in climate action, recovery and development for the well-being of our peoples .

Thank you for your kind attention.