

**Speech by**

**Hon. Abdul Raheem Abdulla MP, Speaker of the People's Majlis  
at the 6<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers Conference**

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**“A WORLD IN TURMOIL: PARLIAMENTARY  
COOPERATION AND MULTILATERALISM FOR  
PEACE, JUSTICE AND PROSPERITY FOR ALL”**

بِسْمِ اللّٰهِ الرَّحْمٰنِ الرَّحِیْمِ

*Honourable President of the IPU*

*Honourable Secretary General of the IPU*

*Honourable Speakers of Parliaments, and Distinguished Delegates.*

*Ladies and Gentlemen.*

Assalaam Alaikum, Good morning

It is a profound honor to address the 6<sup>th</sup> World Conference of Speakers here in Geneva.

Though the Maldives is one of the smallest island nations in the world, our commitment to cooperation and multilateralism remains unwavering. We believe that no nation stands alone and that our strength lies in unity, dialogue and shared purpose.

**Madam President,**

We are gathered here today at a time when the world faces immense challenges. The theme of today's debate—“*A world in turmoil: Parliamentary cooperation and multilateralism for peace, justice and prosperity for all*”—could not be more urgent.

From Gaza to Ukraine, from widening inequality to rising seas, people are anxious, and institutions are under strain. For small states like the Maldives, we often feel the shockwaves first. That is why we rely on a strong, rules-based international order.

**Madam President,**

In 1989, the Maldives brought forward a UN resolution on the security of small states, reminding the world that no nation is safe until every nation is safe. Last April, on the International Day of Multilateralism, President Dr. Mohamed Muizzu renewed that call—stressing that justice must be a right for all, not a privilege of the powerful.

As a developing small island nation, we strongly believe in the importance of cooperation and multilateralism. We believe that lasting peace and shared prosperity can only be achieved through dialogue and collective action.

**Madam President,**

Like many others, we believe that climate security is peace. The Maldives is working tirelessly to overcome the effects of climate change.

Our Climate Emergency Act of 2021 commits us to achieving net zero emissions by 2030. But we cannot do this alone. We need multilateral support and climate justice that recognizes the needs of the most vulnerable.

**Madam President,**

Parliamentary diplomacy plays an important role in our efforts to promote peace and cooperation. The Maldives Parliament has established over 25 parliamentary friendship groups with various parliaments across the globe reflecting its commitment to building strong bilateral ties. We also engage actively with international parliamentary bodies such as IPU and CPA.

Yes, the world is in turmoil. But parliaments, rooted in the will of the people, can offer hope.

**Madam President,**

The suffering of civilians in Gaza is a painful reminder of why parliamentary cooperation and multilateral action are urgently needed. Silence and inaction are not options when lives are at stake.

**Madam President,**

Let us choose dialogue over division, cooperation over conflict, and unity over isolation — for peace, justice, and prosperity must belong to all. As the Speakers under the IPU, let us work closely with UN to ensure the people's voice shapes global decisions.

I thank you.

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