



Parliamentary leadership for more effective multilateralism that delivers peace and sustainable development for the people and the planet

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Statement by

H.E. Mr. Chuan Leekpai

President of the National Assembly of Thailand

Sawasdee Krub

Greetings from Thailand.

Honourable Speakers of Parliament,

Dear Colleagues,

As the world continues to struggle with a global pandemic, we cannot deny that this crisis has hit the poorest and the vulnerable hardest.

Each Parliament must, in its own way, support measures to help save lives, protect public health and put economies back on track.

I sympathize with those seriously affected by COVID-19 and commend those who extended their helping hands. COVID-19 will be with us for the foreseeable future, and we all must learn to live with it accordingly.

We should not while away our time.

As legislators, we must not let COVID-19 stop us from performing our duties.

Now, more than ever, we must explore how new technologies and innovations can be incorporated into our response. Unwavering adherence to preventive measures can ultimately turn crises into opportunities.

The tireless effort, commitment and devotion of our healthcare professionals and volunteers are also critical to our success.

Excellencies, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thailand supports the IPU's call for closer international cooperation on vaccines to promote the expansion of manufacturing facilities to all regions, thereby ensuring that they become global public goods.

If we are to position ourselves for the best post-COVID-19 recovery, we have to prioritize resilience and sustainability.

Parliaments must share our knowledge and align our policies with the UN's Sustainable Development Goals.

To that end, multilateralism remains the best approach.

By proving that the interest of the people comes first, we can restore trust in multinational cooperation.

Only then, can we achieve a recovery that leads to a more sustainable and more resilient post-pandemic world.

I am confident that this conference will be a critical step towards that world. I look forward to fruitful discussions and hope to see the outcomes implemented.

I wish you all great success.

Thank you. Khob Khun Krub.