



Inter-Parliamentary Union

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145th IPU Assembly

Kigali, Rwanda
11-15 October 2022



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2022 | Kigali, Rwanda

Standing Committee on
Sustainable Development

C-II/145/3-Inf.1
13 September 2022

Debate on the theme of the next resolution entitled *Parliamentary efforts in achieving negative carbon balances of forests*

Wednesday, 12 October 2022, 09:00 – 13:00
(Room MH4, ground floor, Kigali Convention Centre (KCC))

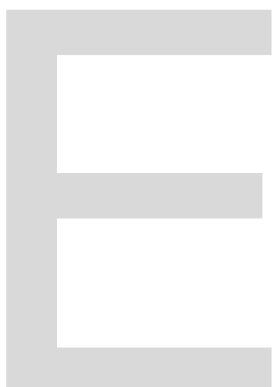
Concept note

The climate crisis is progressing. Temperatures and sea levels are rising. The global increase of CO₂ in the atmosphere is caused primarily by the burning of fossil fuels and deforestation. Yet, it is trees that bind CO₂.

In order to limit the temperature rise to 1.5 degrees and to achieve the Paris Agreement climate targets, the use of fossil fuels has to be limited as stated in the Agreement. CO₂ must be removed from the atmosphere and stored. We need more forests for this carbon sequestration which is one of the Paris Agreement's targets. Apart from reducing carbon emissions, afforestation is currently the only available and affordable means of winning the race against global warming. As a means of climate protection, more forests means binding atmospheric CO₂ and creating the basis for life, nutrition and income for millions of people in developing countries. We have to protect the rainforests and, to do so, negative carbon balances of forests must be achieved globally through legislation.

Forests are the Earth's lungs; they balance local climate and reduce climatic extremes.

Worldwide mankind has already lost 430 million hectares of arable land and is losing 10 to 20 million hectares of forest cover every year. As there is no sign of a decline in these tendencies, we need policies that will help sustain the forest cover.



#IPU145