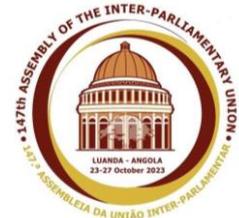




Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

147th IPU Assembly

Luanda, Angola
23–27 October 2023



Assembly
Item 4

A/147/4-Inf.2
5 September 2023

Annual reporting exercise by Members

Reporting by IPU Members of actions taken to follow up on IPU resolutions, Assemblies and other initiatives

Executive summary

Each year, a number of parliaments from every geopolitical group are selected on a rotational basis to respond to a questionnaire and share their follow-up to IPU declarations, resolutions, and other initiatives. The impact of IPU decisions largely hinges on how Member Parliaments translate stated objectives into concrete measures and policies. In response to an IPU outcome, a parliament may take several initiatives, including circulating it to relevant bodies, holding debates, incorporating it into its legislative, budgetary and oversight processes, etc. Additionally, IPU decisions may inspire political will for further action, impact public opinion on a particular subject, and place a given issue on a parliament's agenda. Each parliament's actions are distinctly shaped by its context and members.

This document contains data sourced from IPU Member Parliaments in 2023, when 45 IPU Members scheduled to report were surveyed on actions taken to follow up on IPU decisions and initiatives. All other Members were invited to participate voluntarily. Participation in this exercise improved from previous years, with a majority (71%) of parliaments scheduled to report meeting their statutory obligation. Nonetheless, while many parliaments offered extensive details and in-depth responses, others did not provide concrete examples of actions taken at the national level.

A significant 85% of the surveyed Members relayed IPU Assembly outcomes to their respective parliaments. The data suggests that nearly half undertook additional steps, enacting or revising legislation and/or decisions influenced by IPU outcomes on climate change, democracy, human rights, gender equality, youth participation, peace and security, and sustainable development. Examples of good practices collected for this 2023 Annual reporting exercise include actions taken by the parliaments of Bhutan, Germany, Guyana, India, Israel, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Latvia, Lithuania, Maldives, and Morocco, among many others.

The IPU reporting process is continually evolving and necessitates frequent discussion among Member Parliaments. This exercise is particularly relevant in the context of the 2022-2026 IPU Strategy, which intends to bolster IPU accountability at all levels. Most parliaments engaged positively with the 2023 reporting survey, which was restructured and streamlined. Acknowledging that Members are ultimately in the driving seat for implementing the resolutions, decisions, and initiatives they adopt, the IPU Secretariat will continue to support them in reporting on actions undertaken. This effort includes further strengthening engagement with all IPU reporting tools, such as this very annual exercise, the special accountability segments at Assemblies, follow-up work performed by the Bureaux of the Standing Committees, and assistance mainstreamed in the IPU's programme work.

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#IPU147

Annual reporting exercise by Members

Reporting by IPU Members of actions taken to follow up on IPU resolutions, Assemblies and other initiatives

According to the IPU Statutes, all Members and Associate Members of the IPU are required to send an annual report of actions taken to follow up on IPU resolutions and decisions (Article 6).

It is also the duty of the Members of the IPU to submit the IPU resolutions to their respective Parliaments, in the most appropriate form; to communicate them to their Governments; to stimulate their implementation and to inform the IPU Secretariat, as often and as fully as possible, particularly in their annual reports, of the steps taken and the results obtained (cf. Assembly Rule 39.2). To this end, all heads of delegations to IPU Assemblies should submit, in accordance with national laws, a report to their national parliaments with a copy to the IPU Secretary General as soon as possible following the closure of the Assembly (Article 7).

Since 2017, the Governing Council has decided to pursue an approach based on a predictable rotational cycle. A number of parliaments from each geopolitical group are designated to report each year, with each Member expected to submit a report every four years. This is intended to allow sufficient time to prepare a submission and reduce the burden of annual reporting.

In addition, the IPU Strategy for 2022-2026, as endorsed by the full IPU membership, has identified the strengthening of accountability at all levels as one of the core strategic objectives of the Organization. As noted under this strategic objective, the IPU “will enhance existing accountability efforts both at the level of Member Parliaments and within the Secretariat itself. It will: clarify, standardize and strengthen processes that require follow-up action by Member Parliaments on key issues; expand Member engagement (in particular between events); streamline and enhance parliamentary tracking and reporting mechanisms by Members; and more consistently track, consider and apply Member feedback”.

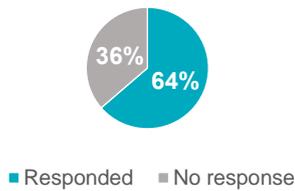
This edition of the annual reporting exercise presents relevant information shared by Member Parliaments in 2023, when 45 IPU Members scheduled to report were invited to complete a survey. All other Member Parliaments were welcomed and encouraged to participate on a voluntary basis. The survey's objective was to collect comparative, standardized quantitative data, as well as concrete qualitative examples of how Member Parliaments follow up on IPU declarations, resolutions, decisions and other initiatives. Questions in the survey were multiple choice, with a blank space to include examples of actions taken by the Member Parliament.

The 2023 survey was restructured and streamlined to focus on measures related to the IPU impact policy areas outlined in the [IPU 2022-2026 Strategy](#),¹ as well as on parliaments' interaction with the United Nations (UN). The questionnaire was administered both in an online and paper format. All completed surveys that the Secretariat received are available to the IPU Membership for consultation at the following [link](#).

Of the 45 Member Parliaments designated to report in 2023, 32 responded, representing a 71% response rate. Although this constitutes an improvement over the 2022 response rate (46%), it remains below the expected outcome. Responses were received from parliaments in all six geopolitical groups:

¹ (1) climate change, (2) democracy, human rights, gender equality, youth participation, (3) peace and security, and (4) sustainable development for all.

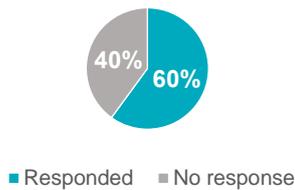
African Group



64% of the African Group Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (7):** Burundi, Gabon, Gambia (The), Ghana, Guinea, Kenya and Lesotho.
- **No response (4):** Djibouti, Equatorial Guinea, Ethiopia and Guinea-Bissau*.
- **Voluntary contributions (1):** Rwanda.

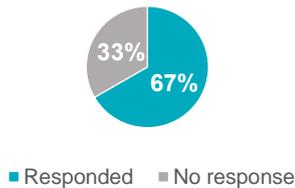
Arab Group



60% of the Arab Group Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (3):** Libya, Morocco and Oman.
- **No response (2):** Lebanon and Mauritania.
- **Voluntary contributions (1):** Bahrain.

Asia-Pacific Group



67% of the Asia-Pacific Group Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (6):** Fiji, India, Indonesia, Japan, Malaysia and Maldives.
- **No response (3):** Iran (Islamic Republic of), Lao People's Democratic Republic and Marshall Islands.
- **Voluntary contributions (1):** Bhutan.

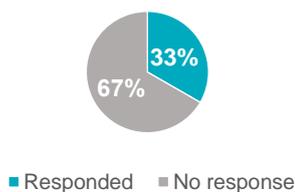
Eurasia Group



100% of the Eurasia Group Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (2):** Kazakhstan and Kyrgyzstan.

Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)



33% of the GRULAC Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (2):** Dominican Republic and Guyana.
- **No response (4):** Ecuador*, El Salvador, Guatemala and Haiti*.
- **Voluntary contributions (1):** Suriname.

* Parliament was dissolved and/or not functioning at the time of the surveying exercise.

Twelve Plus Group



100% of the Twelve Plus Group Member Parliaments scheduled to report in 2023 responded to the survey.

- **Responded (12):** Finland, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Latvia, Liechtenstein and Lithuania.
- **Voluntary contributions (4):** Monaco, Romania, Sweden and United Kingdom.

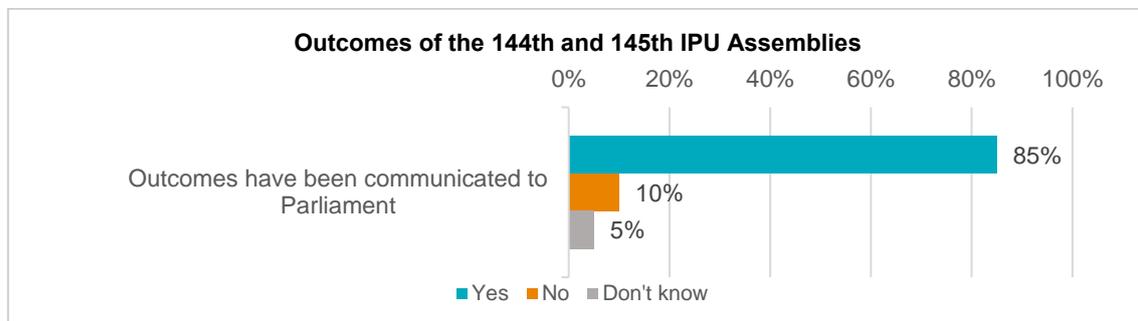
Additional information contained in the 2023 reporting exercise was gathered from the annual reports received (Andorra, British Group of the IPU, India, Kenya and Maldives) as well as from the formal statements made during the Special accountability segment of the General Debate at the 145th IPU Assembly, in Kigali and the 146th IPU Assembly, in Manama.

Special thanks are due to the eight Member Parliaments that submitted voluntary contributions (Bahrain, Bhutan, Monaco, Romania, Rwanda, Suriname, Sweden, and United Kingdom), as well as the British Group of the IPU and the Parliaments of Bahrain, Kazakhstan, Latvia, Suriname and Sweden for completing the annual reporting survey for three consecutive years.

Survey findings

1. Outcomes of the 2022 IPU Assemblies

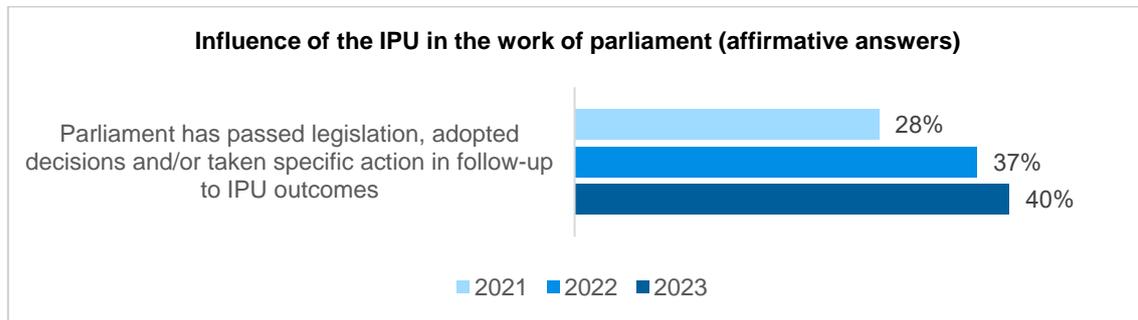
Regarding the outcomes of the [144th IPU Assembly](#) (Nusa Dua, March 2022) and the [145th IPU Assembly](#) (Kigali, October 2022), 85% of respondents report having communicated them to their Parliaments.



The following examples can be highlighted as good practices in the dissemination of IPU Assembly resolutions, decisions and results:

- In **Japan**, reports on the 144th and 145th IPU Assemblies were submitted to the Speakers' offices, were posted on the Parliament's internal network, and sent to the National Diet's Library. All IPU resolutions were forwarded to the relevant ministries. Furthermore, MPs participating in IPU Assemblies reported that questions had been raised on the IPU outcomes at their respective committee meetings.
- In the **Maldives**, IPU resolutions are translated into Dhivehi and distributed to the relevant Standing Committees of the People's Majlis, ministries and independent institutions. The [2022 IPU Kigali Declaration](#), for example, was translated and shared with the Gender and Human Rights Committee and the Ministry of Gender, Family, and Social Services. The Declaration was thus connected to the launch of the Maldives' Gender Equality Action Plan (2022-2026), which includes measures such as mandatory quotas to enhance women's participation in Parliament.

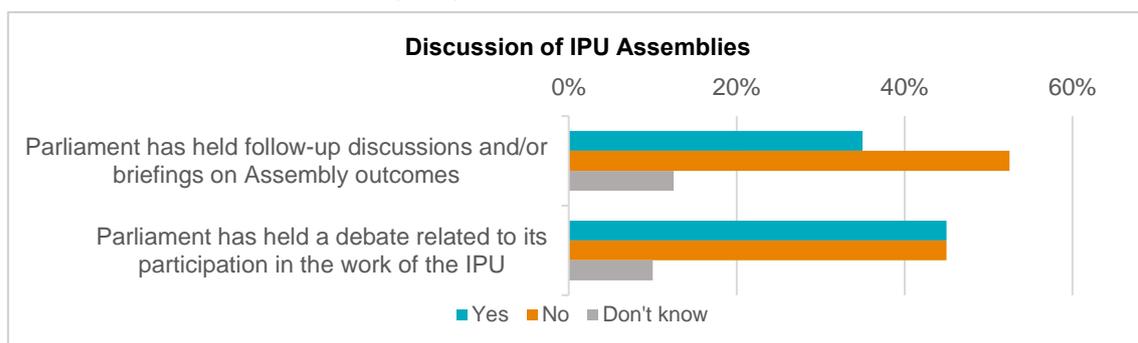
Indeed, the 2023 survey results show that IPU resolutions and decisions have inspired concrete action in parliaments, with an incremental increase in the proportion of parliaments that account for passing and amending legislation and/or adopting decisions influenced by IPU Assemblies (40% in 2023, compared to 37% in 2022 and 28% in 2021).



Some examples include:

- The Parliament of **Morocco** reports enacting climate change-related legislation in follow-up to the declarations and resolutions adopted at the 144th IPU Assembly (Nusa Dua), with a view to regulate the energy sector and promote renewable energies.
- Likewise, the Parliament of **Fiji** reports approving the 2022-2023 National Budget, which dedicated 7.4% of the total expenditure to climate action initiatives. Significant investments in transportation infrastructure, climate-related water and sanitation projects, irrigation and flood management, renewable energy, and energy efficiency initiatives are now part of Fiji's climate plan.
- The Parliament of **Lithuania** also refers to legislation in follow-up to the outcomes of the 2022 IPU Assemblies. The Seimas adopted amendments to the Law on the Management of Packaging and Packaging Waste in November 2022, prohibiting packaging sellers and distributors from providing plastic carrier bags. The following month, the Law on Energy from Renewable Resources and the Law on Electricity were passed, paving the way for the second phase of Lithuania's offshore wind park development project.
- Additionally, the **United Arab Emirates** highlighted that the [2022 IPU Nusa Dua Declaration](#) enhanced the understanding of climate change issues among Emirati parliamentarians and informed their review of the country's Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative.

There is however still a potential for growth when mainstreaming the work of the IPU within parliaments. Indeed, respondents who hold debates about their participation in the IPU remain at 45% at most, with only a relatively small percentage of parliaments conducting briefings and discussions after IPU Assemblies (35%).



Good practices in this regard include:

- The Senate of **Kenya** reports holding a debate on the outcomes of the 145th IPU Assembly, during which members of its IPU delegation shared results in plenary and urged colleagues to: *[G]o through the reports and adopt them because, from them, we will understand that no country is an island. No parliament is an island. We all need to work together*²

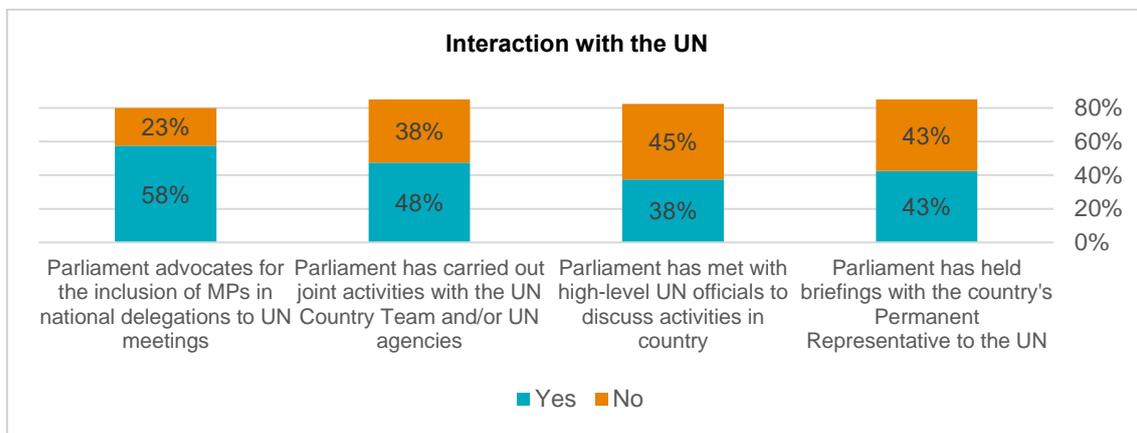
² Parliament of Kenya, Senate, the Hansard (Thursday, 9 March, 2023).

- In **Latvia**, members of the IPU Group systematically participate in Parliament’s annual foreign policy debate. The debate begins with a report from the Minister of Foreign Affairs, an address by the Speaker, and a presentation by the heads of Latvian delegations to interparliamentary organizations, including the IPU. In addition, the Latvian IPU Group holds regular annual debates on Latvia’s tasks and achievements in implementing the IPU resolutions – the last debates were held in January 2022 and January 2023.

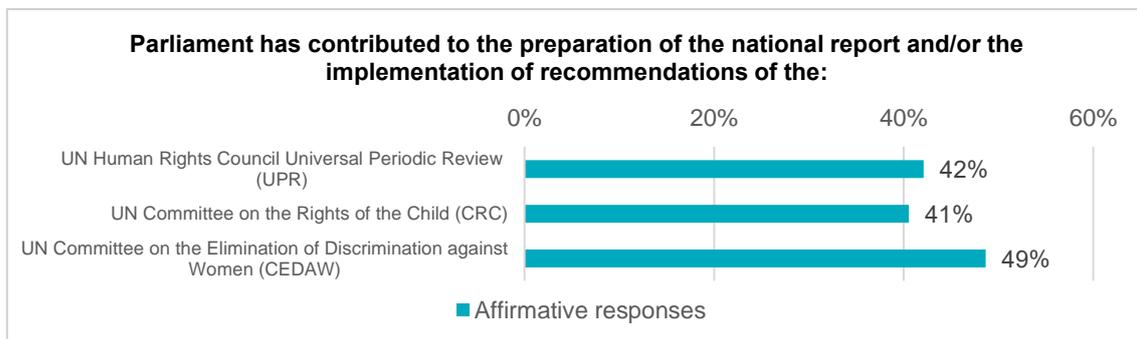
2. Interaction with the United Nations

The IPU political project at the United Nations seeks to open UN processes to parliamentary scrutiny and input, which is best done through the intervention of national parliaments vis-à-vis their respective governments. In that regard, most respondents (58%) replied positively to advocating for the inclusion of parliamentarians in national delegations to major UN meetings, such as the UN Conference on Climate Change (COP) and the UN High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF).

There has also been some development in terms of the percentage of respondents who refer to their cooperation with their UN Country Teams (48% in 2023, 40% in 2022, and 34% in 2021). However, only a limited proportion of respondents hold briefings with their country’s Permanent Representative to the UN (43%), with fewer indicating meeting the UN Resident Coordinator and/or other in-country high-level UN officials (38%).



There is also room for improvement regarding parliaments’ contribution to preparing national reports and implementing recommendations of the UN Human Rights Council UPR and the UN human rights treaty bodies (CRC and CEDAW). Less than half of the surveyed parliaments responded affirmatively to the questions pertaining to this subject.

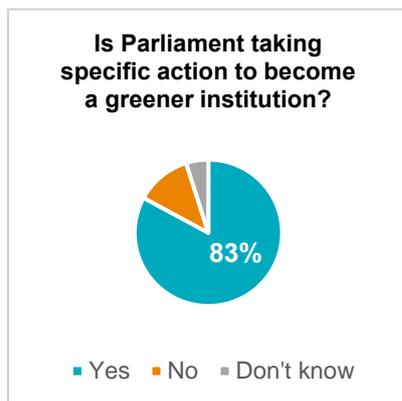


The following practices can be highlighted as good examples of parliaments’ engagement in UN processes and/or with UN representatives:

- In **Ghana**, MPs from the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Gender and Children, and Environment, Science, and Technology usually participate in the national delegations to UN meetings that relate to these subjects. Similarly, parliamentarians of **Italy’s** Chamber of Deputies regularly attend UN meetings alongside national delegations, including the UN General Assembly (UNGA), the COP, and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW).

- The Chamber of Deputies of the **Dominican Republic** reports meeting with representatives of the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and UN Women to coordinate efforts against child marriage. Parliament has also met with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to discuss actions to combat hunger in the Dominican Republic. Furthermore, the Speakers of both chambers met with the UN Resident Coordinator in the country to discuss the issue of corruption.
- In **Bhutan**, Parliament has instituted a Committee to review the 2023 report to the CEDAW, and an MP from that Committee is scheduled to form part of the national delegation that will present the report in October 2023.
- In 2022, the Legal Affairs and Human Rights Committees of the Parliament of **Romania** contributed to preparing the country’s national report for the UN Human Rights Council’s UPR (4th cycle – 2023). Both committees offered feedback on Parliament’s activities in adopting the UPR’s third cycle recommendations (2018). These actions included: (1) revising laws and legislative amendments to the judiciary system; (2) the criminalization of acts of incitement to violence, hatred, or discrimination against an individual or group of individuals; and (3) the introduction of a parliamentary code of conduct regarding the use of offensive, indecent, or defamatory language.

3. Climate change



The [2022-2026 IPU Strategy](#) emphasizes the need for urgent action to tackle climate change as the Organization’s top policy priority.

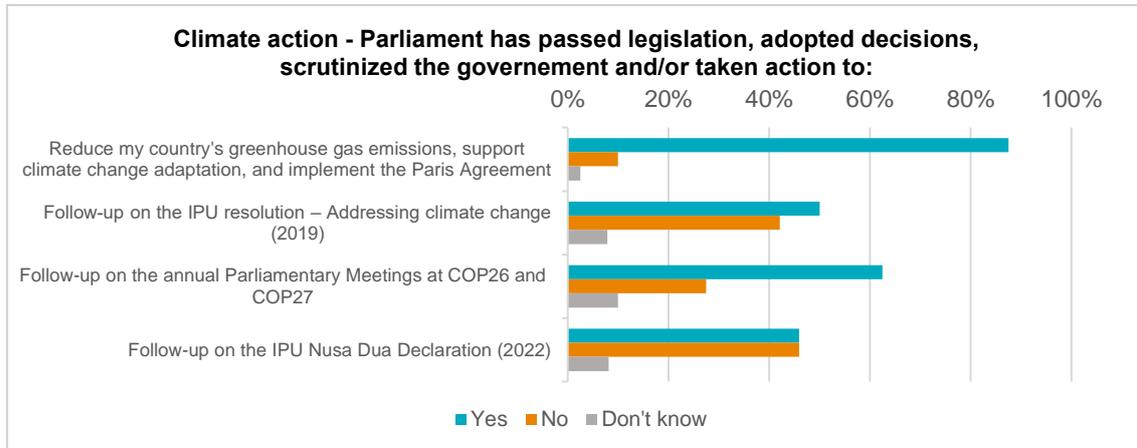
In line with this objective, as well as with the recently launched [Parliaments for the Planet](#) campaign and its [10 actions for greener parliaments](#), it is worth noting that a substantial majority of respondents (83%) have taken significant steps to reduce emissions and render their parliaments greener institutions.

In this regard, examples of Member Parliaments describing practices that embrace a culture of sustainability include:

- In **Israel**, the Knesset launched the “Green Knesset” initiative, through which it began a digitalization process, optimizing energy usage, acquiring solar panels, and encouraging green travel policies. Recent initiatives comprise the use of electric vehicles and charging stations in the Parliament’s parking lot, as well as a programme to decrease the use of single-use plastics, which has resulted in a 90% reduction rate.
- Initiatives to reduce the environmental footprint of the Parliament of **India** encompass phasing out single-use plastics, promoting the use of e-vehicles, and transitioning to paperless work with the introduction of e-office and digital Parliamentary Library Services, among others. Furthermore, the new Parliament Building has been certified as a green building: its design and structure focus on energy-saving measures like the efficient utilization of water resources and a sustainable building management system.
- The Seimas of **Lithuania** improved the efficiency of its cooling-ventilation systems and acquired a remote solar power plant with a generation capacity of 328.28 kW. Heating substations were renovated and the hot water temperature in the plumbing system was minimized to the permissible limit. An electric car charging station has been installed in the building’s courtyard, and the Parliament is currently planning to upgrade its car fleet with electric vehicles within three years. Other measures include the digitalization of processes and the removal of plastic water bottles from the Plenary Chamber.

Furthermore, several parliaments report taking steps to reduce their country’s carbon emissions, support climate change adaptation and implement the Paris Agreement (88%). The majority (63%) of respondents note climate-related actions as a follow-up to the annual Parliamentary Meeting at

COP, and about half (50% and 46%, respectively) have taken measures in view of the [2019 IPU resolution – Addressing climate change](#) and the [2022 IPU Nusa Dua Declaration – Getting to zero: Mobilizing parliaments to act on climate change](#).



Good practices in this regard include:

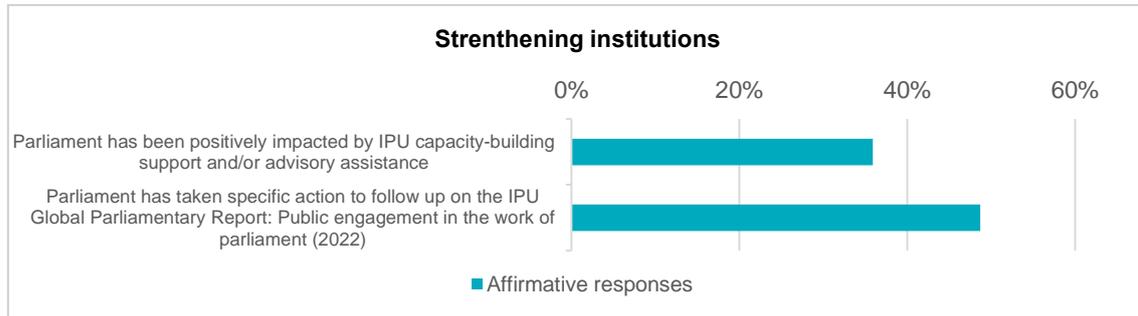
- In **Uruguay**, a comprehensive national energy policy has been enacted, yielding positive results: about 98% of the country's energy comes from renewable sources, particularly solar and wind. Parliament has also passed the Forest Act, which seeks to maintain 100% of the current area of native woodland, and a Law on Integrated Waste Management, which promotes the circular economy. In keeping with the Nusa Dua Declaration on mobilizing parliaments to act on climate change and promoting stronger regional cooperation, in 2022, the Parliament of Uruguay jointly organized with the IPU a regional seminar on climate change for parliaments of Latin America and the Caribbean.
- The Parliament of **Finland** passed a new Climate Act in 2022, which lays down provisions on climate change policy planning and monitoring and sets the national climate objectives. The Act includes targets to reduce gross emissions by at least 60% by 2030, at least 80% by 2040 and 90 to 95% by 2050. In addition, Finland is now legally required to reach carbon neutrality by 2035.
- In 2022, the Parliament of **India** passed the Energy Conservation (Amendment) Bill. This legislation includes provisions that specify energy efficiency norms, a trading mechanism for domestic carbon credits, incentives for using green energy (including promoting green hydrogen) and energy conservation standards. The Bill's overarching goal is to facilitate meeting India's Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) by reducing fossil-fuel consumption, minimizing the country's carbon footprint, developing its carbon market, and boosting the adoption of clean technologies.
- The Parliament of **Ghana** reports that following its participation at the Parliamentary meeting at COP27, its delegation facilitated the formation of the African Parliamentary Network for Climate Action. The network has organized a capacity-building workshop for African parliamentarians to enhance their support for the energy transition and their role in the climate action agenda leading up to COP28. Furthermore, Parliament supported the development of a National Climate Change Policy (NCCP) that seeks to integrate climate change issues into all aspects of national development planning and decision-making.

4. Democracy, human rights, gender equality and youth participation

Technical assistance and strong parliaments

The IPU firmly upholds that strong parliaments are the cornerstone of democracy and essential for development. Thus, the Organization provides technical support, capacity building and advisory assistance based on specific requests. In 2023, 36% of surveyed parliaments report receiving such

technical support. Furthermore, 49% declare taking action in follow-up to the [2022 Global Parliamentary Report](#), which examined best practices in how parliaments across the world were engaging with the communities they represented.

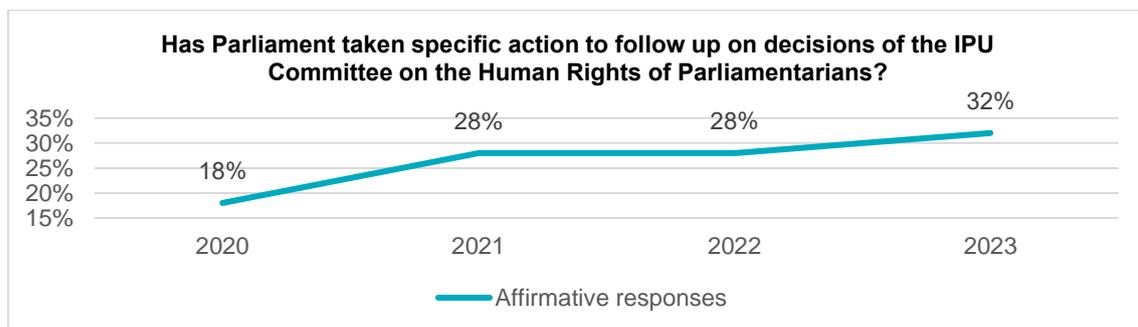


Good examples include:

- In **Djibouti**, legislative elections took place in February 2023. The IPU worked with the Parliament’s administration to plan and prepare the induction of new MPs. A welcome kit was distributed on the day of the first sitting of the new legislature in March, and an orientation training took place in May 2023.
- Similarly, in **Chad**, the IPU supported welcoming new members after the establishment of the National Transitional Council. At the meeting of the Association of Secretaries General of Parliaments (ASGP) during the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, the Secretary General of the Chadian Transitional National Council (CNT) spoke of the usefulness of trainings on good practices to welcome new MPs.
- The Parliament of **Fiji** reports bolstering public engagement by establishing a dedicated Civic Education and Media Unit. The Unit’s mission is to educate the general public on the role of Parliament in the democratic process and strengthen people’s engagement and interaction with Parliament and parliamentarians.
- The parliamentary committees of the **Kenyan** Senate are responsible for conducting public participation when considering legislative matters. When a bill is introduced, the relevant committee is mandated to ensure public involvement is facilitated and that the opinions and suggestions of the public are considered in a report, as stated in Senate Standing Order 145(5).

Human rights of parliamentarians

According to the 2023 survey, the number of respondents reporting specific action to follow up on decisions of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians (CHRP) remained relatively low (32%). Although this rate has been increasing since 2020 (18%), there is a need for improvement vis-à-vis actions taken by parliaments and parliamentarians to support the Committee’s decisions. These could include sending reports to Prime Ministers/Presidents, conducting bilateral meetings and visits to countries involved, and developing parliamentary friendship groups.

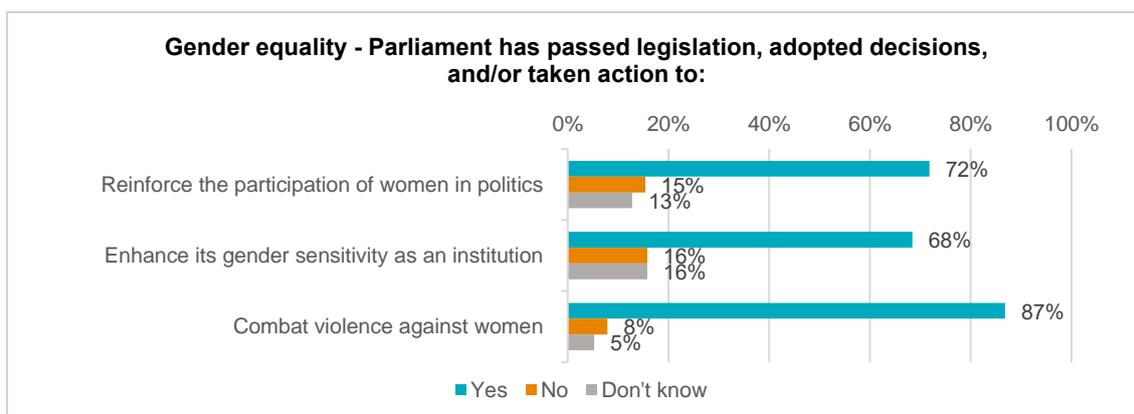


Examples of good parliamentary practices regarding the human rights of parliamentarians include:

- The Bundestag of **Germany** initiated a programme to defend persecuted parliamentarians and human rights defenders called *Parliamentarians Protect Parliamentarians*. The Campaign aims to draw attention to threatened and detained parliamentarians, urging their protection and release. Thus, German MPs have met with threatened parliamentarians, visited them in prison, advocated for a fair trial, and attended court proceedings. Around 90 German MPs from almost all parliamentary groups are sponsoring and defending nearly 200 politicians and human rights activists from 43 countries.
- In the **United Kingdom**, all decisions of the IPU CHRP are routinely conveyed to the Foreign Secretary and the human rights sections of the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office. They are also brought to the attention of relevant committees and the All-Party Parliamentary Groups for human rights.
- In **Greece**, decisions of the IPU CHRP are communicated in reports to the members of the Greek delegation to the IPU, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the competent Parliamentary Friendship Group. The Hellenic Parliament has 84 Friendship Groups, establishing bilateral contacts and relations with parliaments in Europe, the Americas, Asia, Africa, and Australia - Oceania.

Gender equality

In line with the [Kigali Declaration – Gender equality and gender-sensitive parliaments as drivers of change for a more resilient and peaceful world](#), the 2023 reporting survey showed a positive trend in the area of gender equality. A majority of reporting Members (72%) declared having taken measures to reinforce the participation of women in politics, while 68% indicated they were implementing measures to enhance their gender sensitivity. Furthermore, 87% of surveyed parliaments responded positively to taking specific action to combat violence against women.

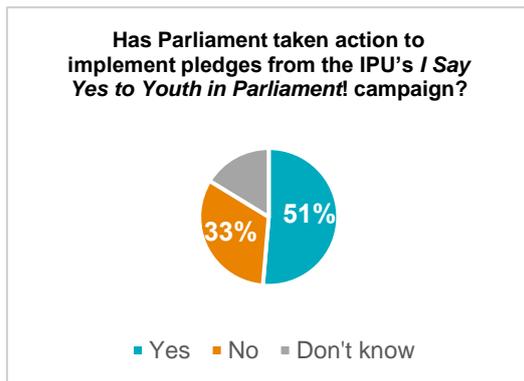


In this regard, several good practices are worth highlighting:

- The Parliament of **Japan** recently adapted the [IPU self-assessment toolkit](#) in order to survey its members and evaluate its gender sensitivity. In addition, the Act on the Promotion of Gender Equality in the Political Field was amended to strengthen gender equality in politics. The National Diet has also recently amended the Act on the Prevention of Spousal Violence and Protection of Victims as well as the Anti-Stalking Act.
- In **Kazakhstan**, constitutional amendments to strengthen women’s participation in politics were adopted in 2022, requiring at least 30% of candidates on party lists for election to the Mazhilis and local parliaments to be women. Similarly, **Mongolia** passed a new quota law in 2023, mandating at least 30% female candidates in the 2024 parliamentary elections and up to 40% in 2028. **Sierra Leone** approved its Gender Equality and Women’s Empowerment Act in 2023, establishing a 30% women’s quota in Parliament and similar quotas in the government, local councils, the diplomatic corps and the civil service. Following the recent elections, women now account for 30.4% of the elected seats in Sierra Leone’s Parliament, up from 14.5% in the previous election.

- In 2022, the Parliament of **Malaysia** adopted a Sexual Harassment Act, which provides a right of redress for any person who has been sexually harassed, establishes an anti-harassment tribunal, and seeks to raise awareness and prevent the occurrence of sexual harassment. Parliament has also formed a Special Select Committee on Women, Children, and Human Development to scrutinize government efforts to empower women and accelerate gender equality.
- The Parliament of the **Maldives** recently amended the Sexual Offences Act to ensure the removal of discriminatory gender stereotypes that delay reporting. The Act requires hospital staff to undergo victim-centred and trauma-informed training. It also redefines rape, sexual injury, and sexual assault to extend the offences to married couples, criminalizing marital rape in all circumstances.

Youth participation



Since the inauguration of the [I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!](#) campaign, over 1,400 “Changemakers” have committed to its cause. This includes about 660 MPs from over 130 countries, nearly 60 Speakers of Parliament, and 14 high-level Heads of State or organizations.

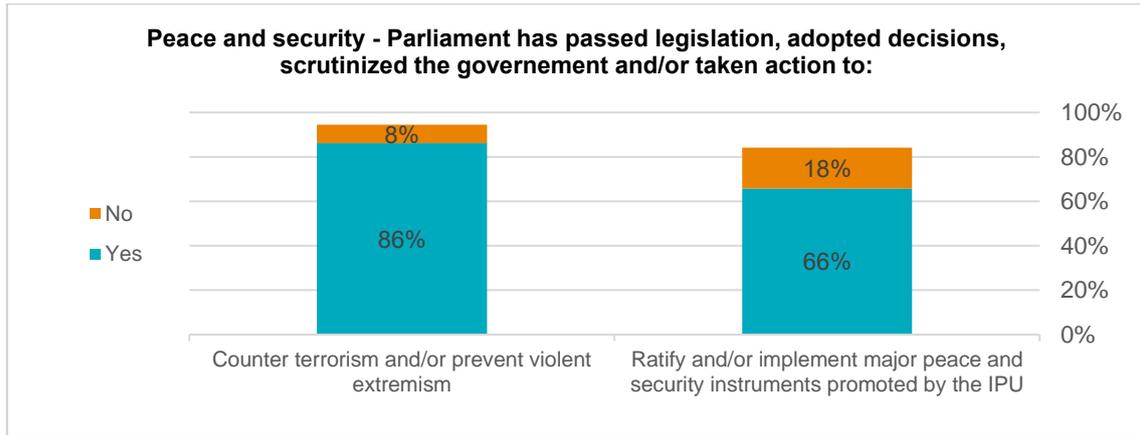
The 2023 reporting exercise shows that 51% of parliaments have taken action to implement the [campaign's pledges](#).

Some practices worth highlighting comprise:

- In 2023, the age of eligibility to run for office in **Mexico** was reduced from 21 to 18 years of age thanks to an initiative sponsored by an IPU *I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!* Mexican Changemaker and former Member of the IPU Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians. **Paraguay** followed suit and as a result of the initiative led by a then-IPU Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians Paraguayan member, the age to be eligible for municipal elections was lowered to 20 years of age in 2022.
- In **Greece**, the Hellenic Parliament Foundation promotes youth inclusion through guided school tours, experiential learning programmes, workshops for pupils and a Youth Parliament programme. The programme aims to strengthen citizenship and historical education, contributing to the development of active citizens who participate in Greece's democratic process. Furthermore, there is a proposal to reduce the minimum age of eligibility, which is currently 25.
- In **Guyana**, the Speaker of Parliament holds regional and national youth debate competitions, which feed into the annual Youth Parliament. Parliament also actively encourages youth's awareness of political life by conducting outreach educational programmes in schools, promoting its activities on social media, and live streaming all sittings of the National Assembly and its various committees.
- Several parliaments have created new caucuses of young parliamentarians, especially in Africa. Following their Speakers signing up for the IPU youth campaign, new caucuses were created in **Zambia** in September 2022 and **Zimbabwe** in December 2022.

5. Peace and security

The IPU lobbies hard for the ratification and implementation of major international peace and security instruments, such as the Treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons (NPT), the Anti-Personnel Mine Ban Convention, the Arms Trade Treaty (ATT), the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT), and the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons (TPNW). It also provides a parliamentary response to combating terrorism and violent extremism.



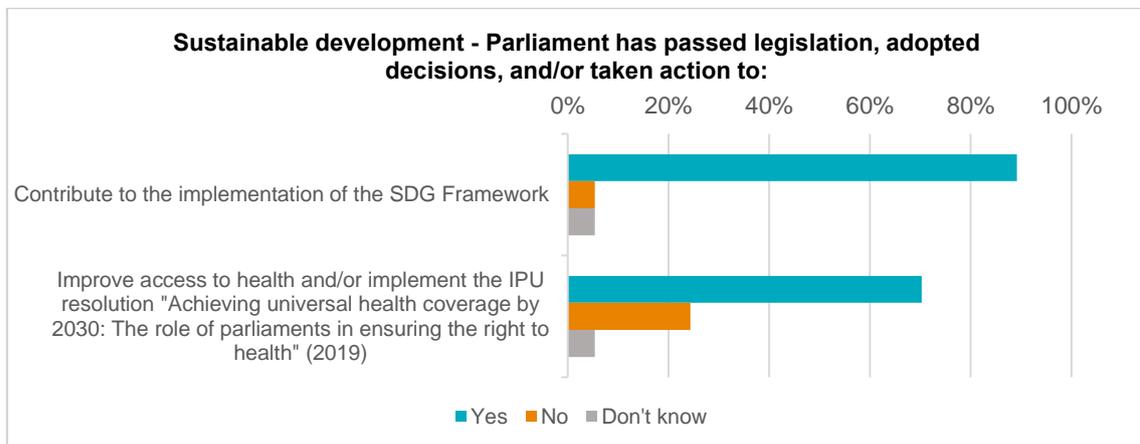
In this regard, a majority of respondents declare having taken action to ratify and/or implement the abovementioned treaties (66%), as well as taking measures to counter terrorism and prevent violent extremism (86%)

Recent positive developments in these areas include:

- As a result of discussions held at the 143rd IPU Assembly in Madrid and the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, the Senate of **Gabon** lobbied both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Assembly to accept the ATT. The Law allowing its ratification was promulgated on 5 August 2022, and the Treaty entered into force for Gabon on 20 December 2022. **Andorra** and the **Philippines** also ratified the ATT in 2022.
- As part of the 25th anniversary of the adoption of the CTBT, the IPU launched a campaign to help promote its ratification. In 2022, **Comoros, Cuba, Equatorial Guinea, Gambia, Sao Tome and Principe, Timor-Leste** and **Tuvalu** ratified the CTBT, with **Sri Lanka** becoming the latest country to ratify in July 2023.
- Furthermore, several countries also ratified the TPNW in 2022. These include **Cabo Verde, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Dominican Republic, Guatemala, Malawi** and **Timor-Leste**. The Parliaments of **Ghana** and **Indonesia** reported through the 2023 survey that work and deliberations to ratify the TPNW were underway.

6. Sustainable development for all

Most respondents to the 2023 survey report are contributing to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) Framework (89%), as well as to improving access to health coverage (70%), in line with the 2019 IPU resolution [Achieving universal health coverage by 2030: The role of parliaments in ensuring the right to health](#). Nonetheless, with the current UN Sustainable Development Goals Progress Report estimating that just 12% of the SDG objectives for 2030 are on track, additional collaboration and coordinated efforts are urgently required.



Good examples include:

- In **Uzbekistan**, Parliament established a Commission on the Sustainable Development Goals, which serves as a key mechanism for integrating and overseeing the country's commitments to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development (2030 Agenda). The Commission collaborates with various entities to align national legislative initiatives with SDG targets. Its specific focus includes the effective implementation of sectoral reforms, public engagement and accountability mechanisms. The Commission also contributes to the capacity building of MPs and parliamentary staff. During the preparation of Uzbekistan's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2020, it identified gaps and challenges in achieving the SDGs and formulated them as recommendations for future legislation and policies.
- In **Hungary**, Parliament established the National Council for Sustainable Development (NFFT) as a conciliatory, consultative and advisory body for all issues concerning sustainable development. The Speaker chairs the NFFT, which has roughly 30 members representing different sectors such as the government, civil society and academia. It oversees the development of the national framework strategy for sustainable development and issues biennial progress reports on its execution.
- In **China**, the National People's Congress (NPC) and the IPU jointly organize yearly inter-parliamentary seminars on parliamentary capacity-building for the SDGs. These events provide an opportunity for MPs to share experiences and good practices for accelerating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The 2023 edition of the seminar included discussions on promoting economic recovery, trade, and investment in green and sustainable growth.

Conclusion

The impact of IPU resolutions, decisions and other initiatives depends significantly on how Member Parliaments translate stated objectives into practical steps, policies, programmes or actions. This requires commitment and cooperation from a wide array of relevant stakeholders, as underscored by the ecosystems approach of the 2022-2026 IPU Strategy (e.g., by the government, civil society, United Nations partners).

The current process for reviewing and supporting the implementation of IPU outcomes comprises several pillars, including this Annual reporting exercise, the special accountability segments at Assemblies, follow-up work performed by the Bureaux of the Standing Committees, follow-up and assistance mainstreamed in the IPU's programme work, and increased use of social media to showcase good practices among parliaments.

In line with the IPU's 2022-2026 strategic objective of reinforcing accountability at all levels, IPU Members are encouraged to engage further and strengthen these mechanisms, including in-between Assemblies. Furthermore, in the spirit of parliamentary solidarity, parliaments are also invited to assist each other in delivering on their commitments and share good practices, fostering collaborative exchanges and engagement among the entire Membership.

All IPU Members, individual MPs, and particularly office holders are encouraged to undertake the following measures:

- Make sure that delegations submit a report to parliament after Assemblies. Take the initiative to contribute to the drafting of the report or provide substantive input to the report.
- Share copies of resolutions adopted during Assemblies with all parliamentarians and refer to these resolutions in relevant parliamentary sessions.
- Make sure that copies of IPU resolutions are sent to the government and relevant State agencies, and invite them to take action when required.
- Put questions to the government on topics discussed and resolutions adopted at IPU Assemblies.

- Promote plenary or committee debates on the topics discussed at IPU Assemblies.
- Submit draft legislation or amendments to draft legislation in line with IPU resolutions and recommendations.
- Quote IPU resolutions in communications outreach activities, including press conferences, social media messages and interviews.
- Send copies of IPU resolutions and relevant web links to the relevant unit of parliament so that these can be translated, if need be, and posted on the parliament's website.
- Exercise the relevant parliamentary powers, including parliamentary budgetary and oversight authority, to ensure that IPU recommendations are effectively implemented.
- Make use of IPU publications that include checklists for parliamentarians with concrete examples of how to follow up on IPU recommendations.
- Systematically engage in the IPU reporting exercise and submit voluntary reports about work undertaken in follow-up to IPU initiatives.

The following Member Parliaments are scheduled to report in 2024 and will be surveyed in the context of the 2024 reporting exercise:

2024

African Group

Madagascar, Malawi, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe.

Arab Group

Palestine, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Sudan.

Asia-Pacific Group

Micronesia (Federated States of), Mongolia, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, Palau, Papua New Guinea, Philippines.

Eurasia Group

Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation.

Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC)

Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru.

Twelve Plus Group

Luxembourg, Malta, Monaco, Montenegro, Netherlands, New Zealand, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, San Marino, Serbia

Examples of practices by IPU Members in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Bahrain	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parliament of the Kingdom of Bahrain approved the government work programme for 2023-2026, which includes numerous policies linked to the outcomes of the 144th and 145th IPU Assemblies. Water efficiency, waste management, afforestation, free essential health services and community awareness programmes are specific areas covered in the programme. Regarding climate change policy, the Parliament approved Bahrain's accession to the Minamata Convention on Mercury, the Arab Federation of Natural Reserves, and the Nagoya Protocol. Additionally, Parliament proposed stricter controls over emissions from factories and industrial facilities and suggested a mechanism for water-saving agriculture. Parliament also focused on enhancing Bahraini women's participation in national development by developing gender-sensitive policies. A legislative amendment was also proposed to protect women from domestic violence. On the issue of sustainable development, parliamentary questions were raised regarding the government's plans for achieving the SDGs, and proposals were made for health care improvements like mobile cars for blood donation and special care departments for senior citizens.
Bhutan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliament has actively engaged with the IPU's resolutions and policy focus areas. On climate change, the Bhutanese Parliament passed a Tax Bill in 2022, significantly reducing electric vehicle taxes to encourage import and use. Parliament has also backed initiatives to reduce paper use and promote online document-sharing during its sessions. In terms of peace and security, the National Assembly ratified the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) and the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Particularly Women and Children (TIP Protocol) in June 2022, with reservations on specific articles. On gender equality, Parliament has instituted a Committee to review the 2023 report to the CEDAW, and an MP from that Committee is scheduled to form part of the national delegation that will present the report in October 2023.
China	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the issue of sustainable development, the National People's Congress and the IPU work together to host annual inter-parliamentary seminars on parliamentary capacity-building for the SDGs. Participation in these events offers MPs the chance to discuss and compare methods that have proven successful in advancing the goals outlined in the 2030 Agenda. Topics such as fostering green and sustainable growth through investment, trade and economic recovery were among those that were discussed during the 2023 edition.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Djibouti	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Legislative elections in Djibouti were held in February 2023. The IPU collaborated with the administration of the Parliament to organize and prepare for the induction of new MPs. A welcome kit was issued on the first day of the new legislature's first session in March, and an orientation programme was held in May 2023.
Dominican Republic	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> To coordinate efforts against child marriage, the Dominican Republic's Chamber of Deputies met with representatives from the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) and UN Women. The Dominican Parliament has also convened with the Food and Agriculture Organization (FAO) to consider ways to reduce hunger in the country. In addition, the Speakers of both chambers met with the UN Resident Coordinator in the country to discuss corruption.
Fiji	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In July 2022, the Parliament of Fiji approved the 2022-2023 National Budget, dedicating 7.4% of total expenditure to climate action. This encompasses investments in transport infrastructure, water and sanitation projects, irrigation, flood management, and renewable energy. Fiji's Parliament also enacted its Climate Change Act in 2021, providing the legal framework for climate response and aligning with the Paris Agreement. Additionally, the Parliament has actively engaged with IPU publications on climate change and has made progress in its e-parliament initiative, reducing paper use by over 80%. Concerning gender equality, the Parliament's Standing Orders mandate that gender equality be considered in bill reviews and oversight work, supported by a practical guide for MPs to adopt a gender-sensitive approach.
Finland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following IPU Assemblies, declarations and resolutions are delivered to the Finnish Parliament, keeping MPs up to date. Parliamentary delegations to UN meetings frequently include MPs and meet with the Finnish Permanent Representative to the UN. To combat climate change, Finland recently enacted a Climate Act requiring the country to achieve carbon neutrality by 2035. In March 2023, the Parliament also passed legislation to reduce emissions in the construction sector, promote digitalization, and implement energy-saving measures within its premises. In terms of human rights, gender equality, and youth participation, an MP usually participates in the Universal Periodic Review (UPR) process. Parliament also reviews the national Ombudsmen's report on children's rights and gender equality. Recent improvements in gender equality within Parliament have also been noted, especially regarding the distribution of Committee seats. Finally, the Parliament plays a role in the country's sustainable development, as represented in the Sustainable Development Committee chaired by former Prime Minister Sanna Marin. The 2019-2023 government programme has also made sustainable development a central focus.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Gabon	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Due to discussions held at the 143rd IPU Assembly in Madrid and the 145th IPU Assembly in Kigali, the Senate of Gabon lobbied both the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the National Assembly to accept the ATT. The Law allowing its ratification was promulgated on 5 August 2022, and the Treaty entered into force for Gabon on 20 December 2022.
Gambia (The)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> At the end of each IPU Assembly, a report is drafted and brought before the plenary to examine concerns and decisions adopted by the IPU, as well as how best a follow-up might be made. Parliament has multiple Committees that meet to review resolutions, particularly those that come under their authority, and offer recommendations. In the area of peace and security, Parliament ratified the CTBT in 2022.
Germany	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After each IPU Assembly, the German Bundestag receives written reports detailing the meeting's outcomes, which are published online and referred to the relevant Committees for discussion. Assembly results are also systematically shared with the Federal Foreign Office. In the area of climate change, legislative measures were taken to amend the Federal Climate Protection Act, focusing on new targets for national climate protection and greenhouse gas emissions. Another bill to accelerate renewable energy expansion was enacted to achieve greenhouse gas neutrality in electricity production by 2035. To advance dialogue on these issues, German MPs regularly participate in international climate conferences, such as COP26 and COP27. Regarding the human rights of MPs, the Bundestag initiated a programme called "Parliamentarians Protect Parliamentarians", aiming to defend persecuted parliamentarians and human rights activists. On gender equality, several laws have been passed to increase the participation of women in politics and combat gender-based crimes like stalking and forced prostitution. Legislation has also been enacted to improve the professional independence of the Federal Anti-Discrimination Agency.
Ghana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parliament of Ghana has proactively engaged with international and national climate change efforts. Although the country lacks a comprehensive climate law, Parliament has taken multiple steps to bridge this gap. It supported the government in developing a National Climate Change Policy and a National Adaptation Strategy and Action Plan. It ratified the Paris Agreement, committing Ghana to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 30% by 2030. Additionally, the Parliament has initiated a Private Members Bill on Climate Change and is forming a Parliamentary Caucus on Climate Change. Ghanaian MPs were also active in COP26 and COP27, with the delegation facilitating the formation of the African Parliamentary Network for Climate Action.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the area of democracy and public engagement, the Parliament of Ghana has created a Department of Public Engagement and appointed a director to oversee it. In the area of peace and security, while Ghana has ratified the Comprehensive Nuclear-Test-Ban Treaty and the Treaty of Pelindaba, it is still in the process of ratifying the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons. • Regarding sustainable development, the Parliament's Select Committee on Health critically assessed the Ministry of Health's budget estimate, gauging its alignment with the Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Framework, specifically with SDG 3 targets.
Greece	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parliament of Greece has undertaken several initiatives aligned with the IPU resolutions and focus areas. Notably, Parliament passed the National Climate Law 4936/2022, setting a net-zero carbon target for 2050 and establishing intermediate emission reduction targets for 2030 and 2040. Additionally, the building of the Hellenic Parliament has reduced its energy footprint and carbon dioxide emissions by 40%, in line with the IPU's focus on greener parliaments and the Nusa Dua Declaration. • Decisions of the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians are communicated to relevant bodies and Friendship Groups within the Hellenic Parliament. Regarding gender equality, a 40% quota for women candidates in parliamentary and European Parliament elections has been established under Article 15 of Law 4604/2019. Furthermore, draft laws submitted to Parliament must include a report on their impact on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), per Article 85 paragraph 3 of the Standing Orders of the Hellenic Parliament.
Guinea	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Transitional National Council has taken many measures to combat climate change, which include decisions against mining companies, the reforestation of hundreds of hectares, and the establishment of an "eco-guard corps" in all prefectures. • Actions taken by Parliament to advance sustainable development include approval of the construction of university hospital centres in the four natural regions of the country, a ban on the sale of medicines by non-specialists, setting up epidemiological response centres in the areas, and sponsoring the treatment of specific pathologies.
Guyana	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parliament of Guyana has actively engaged with resolutions and declarations of IPU Assemblies, circulating them to its MPs for feedback and discussion. In alignment with the IPU's policy focus on climate change, Parliament passed the Radiation Safety & Security Bill (No.8 of 2022) and developed a Low Carbon Development Strategy (LCDS) for 2030. Additionally, an effort has been made to become a paperless institution, significantly reducing the use of physical documents.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On democracy, human rights and gender equality, the Parliament has established a domestic violence act to combat violence against women. In addition, the Representation of the Peoples Act ensures that at least one-third of election candidates from political parties are women. For youth participation, the Parliament has implemented programmes like the Speaker's regional and national youth debating competitions, outreach programmes, and live streaming of National Assembly and Committee Meetings to engage the public. Concerning peace and security, the Parliament ratified the treaty on the Non-Proliferation of Nuclear Weapons and passed the Anti-Money Laundering and Countering the Financing of Terrorism (Amendment) Act. For sustainable development, Parliament enacted legislation to scrutinize government measures, including the Fiscal Management and Accountability Act and the Audit Act No.5. Budgets have been passed to enable education grants and other social programmes, aligning with the SDGs.
Hungary	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Following each IPU Assembly, reports and Hungarian translations of IPU resolutions are systematically shared with the multiparty Executive Board of the Hungarian IPU Group, the leadership of the National Assembly, and the government. Among legislative actions linked to the IPU's work, Act V of 2020 was adopted to combat human trafficking, specifically to protect minors from sexual exploitation. The Hungarian National Assembly also maintains a close relationship with the United Nations. When Hungarian UN Ambassadors visit the country, they have briefings with the President of the IPU Group. Another example of this cooperation is the bilateral meeting between the President of the 77th UN General Assembly and the Hungarian IPU delegation, resulting in a parliamentary session addressing sustainable development and water issues. Parliament also advocates for including parliamentarians in national delegations to UN meetings, and representatives of the Hungarian IPU Group usually attend IPU-UN Hearings and HLPF sessions and participate in COP meetings. In response to climate change, Parliament has taken steps to reduce emissions by limiting printing and reducing heating and lightning. The National Assembly also published a Hungarian version of the IPU Green Approaches to COVID-19 Recovery policy note. Finally, concerning sustainable development, the Committee on Sustainable Development recently received a briefing on the state of implementation of the National Sustainable Development Framework Strategy.
Iceland	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Parliament of Iceland actively engages with international organizations and addresses areas of global concern. For example, Members of the Icelandic Parliament are consistently included in the national delegation to the UNFCCC COPs. Regarding climate change, the Parliament is also involved in Iceland's Green Steps Programme, designed to raise environmental awareness among public sector employees and minimize the sector's environmental impact.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
<p>India</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> On the climate front, the Parliament of India has taken several initiatives to reduce its environmental footprint. These include phasing out single-use plastics, promoting the use of e-vehicles, and transitioning to paperless work with the introduction of e-office and digital Parliamentary Library Services, among others. Furthermore, the new Parliament Building has been certified as a green building: its design and structure focus on energy-saving measures like the efficient utilization of water resources and a sustainable building management system. Furthermore, in 2022, Parliament passed a Bill to amend the Energy Conservation Act. This legislation includes provisions defining energy efficiency standards, a domestic carbon credit trading mechanism, incentives for using green energy (including promoting green hydrogen), and energy conservation standards. The Bill's overarching goal is to make it easier for India to meet its NDCs by reducing fossil-fuel consumption, reducing its carbon footprint, developing its carbon market, and increasing the adoption of clean technologies. Regarding gender equality, India has set a target of one-third female representation in the Lok Sabha and the State Legislative Assemblies. As a result, a Bill was introduced in Parliament to reserve 33% of the seats for women. The Rajya Sabha has passed it, and the process of reaching an agreement in the Lok Sabha is ongoing. This follows the success of the 33% quota for women in all elected bodies in rural and urban areas, as envisioned in the Constitution's 73rd and 74th amendments.
<p>Indonesia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Indonesian Parliament actively engages with resolutions and initiatives set forth by the IPU and participates in other international forums like the P20, Mikta, AIPA, and PUIC. On the human rights front, Parliament collaborates closely with various institutions to implement decisions from the IPU Committee on the Human Rights of Parliamentarians, as exemplified by a recent meeting with the UN Special Rapporteur focused on human rights conditions in Myanmar. Regarding peace and security, Indonesia has ratified the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) and the Comprehensive Nuclear Test Ban Treaty (CTBT). The Parliament has also enacted laws to prevent terrorism and violent extremism after deliberation with national stakeholders.
<p>Ireland</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Parliament passed the Climate Action and Low Carbon Development Act in 2021, which legally mandates the country to achieve net-zero emissions by 2050 and a 51% reduction by 2030. The Environment and Climate Action Committee has also actively debated and published thorough reports on climate-related matters such as biodiversity and carbon budgets. Furthermore, to become a greener institution, the House of Oireachtas has undertaken several efforts, such as eliminating single-use plastics and promoting sustainability campaigns.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Regarding gender equality, the gender quota for party candidates at general elections increased to 40% in 2023, based on legislation passed in 2012. Various committees and task forces have been established to further women's political leadership and make the Parliament a more family-friendly and inclusive institution. In 2022, the Oireachtas Committee on Gender Equality published a report named <i>Unfinished Democracy: Achieving Gender Equality</i>. The report contains recommendations to improve women's leadership in politics, public life and the workplace, including legislation providing statutory gender quotas for local, Seanad and European Parliament elections. • On peace and security, the Dáil Éireann has approved a series of treaties, including those related to anti-personnel mines, arms trade and nuclear weapons, with a recent motion approving the Treaty on the Prohibition of Nuclear Weapons in 2020. Lastly, in alignment with the IPU's emphasis on sustainable development, the Dáil and Seanad have passed motions requiring their respective Departmental Committees to integrate the UN Sustainable Development Goals into their work programmes.
Israel	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Summary reports of the 144th and 145th IPU Assemblies have been submitted to key parliamentary figures for review and action, including the Speaker of the Knesset and the Secretary General. In line with the IPU's focus on climate change, the Knesset has embraced an environmental policy, which includes frequent debates on Israel's role under the Paris Agreement. Parliament has also launched initiatives to reduce its carbon footprint, including the installation of solar panels, the use of electric vehicles, and a drastic reduction in the use of single-use plastics. • The IPU Global Parliamentary Report: Public engagement in the work of Parliament has been distributed widely within the Knesset. Parliament has taken many actions in recent years to further engage with the public through its website, tours and different programmes to expand outreach. Furthermore, there are periodic lectures to staff about gender sensitivity and the prevention of sexual harassment, with dedicated committees to address these matters. The formation of a Special Committee on Young Israelis aims to engage the youth on political issues and has also taken on the objective of overseeing Sustainable Development Goals.
Italy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliamentarians of Italy's Chamber of Deputies regularly attend UN meetings alongside national delegations, including the UN General Assembly (UNGA), the COP, and the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW). In recent years, gender budgeting experimentation has continued in the drafting and reporting the State budget. In 2021, the Research Department of the Chamber of Deputies launched a Gender Impact Analysis as part of the documentation prepared on bills tabled by MPs and under consideration at the Chamber.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
<p>Japan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The National Diet of Japan has actively followed up on resolutions and initiatives from the 144th and 145th IPU Assemblies, with reports submitted to the Speakers, shared on the Parliament’s internal network, and communicated to the relevant ministries. MPs who attended these Assemblies have also raised questions in committee meetings. • The Diet has passed various laws focusing on climate change, such as the Act on Promotion of Global Warming Countermeasures and the Climate Change Adaptation Act. Oversight of government activities related to these laws is a regular responsibility of several committees. The Diet has adopted paper-saving policies and energy-efficient practices to further environmental sustainability, closely following the Act on Rationalizing Energy Use. Monthly reports on energy consumption are also disseminated to raise awareness among parliamentarians. • In the area of human rights and gender equality, the Diet has enacted legislation like the Children’s Basic Law and has amended the Civil Code following UN recommendations. Furthermore, Parliament conducted a gender sensitivity survey in 2022, using the IPU’s self-assessment toolkit as a guide. Laws concerning sustainable development and universal health coverage have been enacted to align with the Sustainable Development Goals, and oversight committees regularly monitor the government’s compliance with these initiatives. • The Parliament of Japan has also undertaken a number of initiatives to assess its capacity to deliver on the SDGs through a deliberative and participatory process. For example, Parliament has attempted to strengthen parliamentarians' capacity for SDG implementation through special SDG discussions and regular conferences/workshops/seminars.
<p>Kazakhstan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the area of climate change, a new Ecological Code of the Republic of Kazakhstan went into effect in 2021. It addresses all concerns about environmental protection, the transition to a green economy, and State regulation of greenhouse gas emissions. Furthermore, environmental offences and vandalism were also amended by legislators in the Administrative Code. • Constitutional amendments to strengthen women’s participation in politics were adopted in 2022, requiring at least 30% of candidates on party lists for election to the Mazhilis and local parliaments to be women. Regarding sustainable development, a Parliamentary Commission for monitoring the execution of national goals and objectives in the sphere of sustainable development was established in 2022. The Speaker of the Senate chairs it and focuses on monitoring the implementation of the SDGs, developing the necessary legal frameworks for their realization, and representing citizens' interests in SDG implementation and regional development.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Kenya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parliament has introduced numerous motions and statements geared towards mitigating climate change. These include integrating climate education into the national education curriculum, working towards achieving the Green Climate Fund uptake, and striving for the Nationally Determined Contributions targets set for greenhouse gas emissions. Intelligent water management systems have also been incorporated into building plans for sustainability. • In terms of democracy and governance, the Kenyan Parliament emphasizes public participation as stipulated by the national Constitution. Parliamentary Committees are charged with facilitating public input when considering legislative matters, and this public feedback is required to be incorporated into committee reports. For sustainable development, particular focus has been given to the National Health Insurance Fund (NHIF). Legislative discussions aim to make healthcare services accessible to all, including residents of remote areas. This includes incorporating dental and optical healthcare and focusing on enrolling underserved regions.
Latvia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Saeima's Foreign Affairs Committee frequently receives updates on IPU resolutions, especially those concerning Latvia's foreign policy objectives. In annual debates, the Parliament reviews the country's tasks and achievements in implementing these resolutions, the most recent of which were conducted in January 2022 and January 2023. A particular focus in 2022 and 2023 has been the IPU emergency resolutions related to the war in Ukraine. Parliament has adopted numerous statements and declarations condemning the aggression. Financial support to Ukraine approved by the Saeima surpassed 1% of Latvia's GDP in 2022. • The Saeima has organized various high-level international conferences and seminars on climate change, on topics such as energy and climate policy, the role of culture in solving climate change, and the stability of the EU's ecology in view of the war in Ukraine. The Parliament of Latvia has also joined the IPU Parliaments for the Planet campaign. To become greener as an institution, the Parliament has achieved the complete digitalization of documents circulated and gone paperless. It has also reduced its energy use by saving on lighting and heating during holidays. • Regarding democratic governance and civil society engagement, non-governmental organizations are deeply integrated into the Parliament's legislative processes, providing evaluations and proposals. Each permanent Committee in the Saeima has a coordinator for NGO collaboration. Parliament also promotes gender equality and youth participation. Established in January 2023, the Group for Parliamentary Advocacy of Women's Interests comprises 22 members and is slated to participate in international forums. Meanwhile, youth participation is fostered through educational programmes, and a Youth Parliament to engage young people in Latvia's political processes.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Lesotho	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> As per the Local Government Act, there is a 30% gender quota requirement for election to local councils. At the national level, the National Assembly Electoral Act requires that when political parties submit lists for the purposes of proportional representation seats, the names must alternate between those of men and women. This is known as the “zebra list” policy.
Libya	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Libyan House of Representatives has been actively engaged with the United Nations, meeting with high-ranking officials such as the Representative of the United Nations Support Mission in Libya (UNSMIL). Additionally, Libyan parliamentarians have been part of national delegations, attending various UN sessions. The results of the Parliamentary Meeting at COP26 were communicated to Parliament, and IPU publications on climate change were disseminated to the relevant National Committees. Parliament issued a decision to form a National Committee to Combat Climate Change and has sponsored the establishment of projects to use cleaner energy, for example, by promoting the use of solar panels. In terms of youth inclusion, the thirteenth amendment to the Libyan interim Constitutional Declaration, issued by the Parliament, emphasized the need for the participation and representation of young people in the next Parliament.
Liechtenstein	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Declarations and resolutions of the 144th and 145th IPU Assemblies were made accessible for legislative examination on the Parliament’s internal network. Members of the IPU Committee have held follow-up conversations, and a yearly debate or agenda item has been organized to further explore IPU outcomes, with the most recent one taking place in April 2023. In line with the IPU’s policy focus on climate change, Parliament approved the country’s climate policy and laws to reach carbon neutrality by 2050. New legislation has been approved to prohibit the installation of new gas or oil heating systems, and a bill requiring the use of solar panels on both private and commercial rooftops is being debated. Furthermore, Parliament has established a heating limit of 19 degrees Celsius on its premises and is undergoing a process of digitalization. Concerning gender equality and youth participation, Parliament has expressed support for the cross-party campaign “Vielfalt in der Politik,” which aims to increase women’s political participation. Furthermore, Liechtenstein has a well-established Youth Parliament, with the Parliament making its facilities available to youth political organizations. The Youth Parliament’s resolutions are made public following each session.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Regarding sustainable development, Parliament has pledged to include the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in new draft laws and international treaties. These objectives are now included in all consultation reports and government measures presented to Parliament.
Lithuania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Seimas of the Republic of Lithuania has been actively involved in the implementation of the resolutions and declarations adopted at the 2022 IPU Assemblies. Documents were shared with legislators, the Speaker of the Seimas, and key Committees such as Foreign Affairs, Health Affairs and Human Rights. In response to the Nusa Dua Declaration, the Seimas passed environmental legislation, including a ban on the free distribution of lightweight plastic carrier bags and support for the second phase of Lithuania's offshore wind park development project. Parliament established a Commission for Energy and Sustainable Development in 2019 and approved the Green Energy Breakthrough Package in 2022, allocating nearly €1 billion for the development of green energy. Lithuania aims to meet all its domestic energy needs from green sources by 2030. In 2022, Parliament also voted on a number of resolutions condemning Russia's offensive against Ukraine and advocating the establishment of an international criminal tribunal. The Seimas has also worked on gender equality. In January 2023, the Law on Fundamentals of Protection of the Rights of the Child was amended to ensure favourable working conditions and equal opportunities for employees of State and municipal enterprises, agencies and organizations. The Law states that organizations with at least 100 employees must have hourly childcare rooms. Furthermore, in March 2022, the Law on the Protection against Domestic Violence was amended, introducing a provision requiring a decision on whether to issue a protection order against violence to be made as soon as feasible but no later than 12 hours after receiving a report on a possible domestic violence event. Finally, the Parliament has embedded the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into the country's development strategy through its National Progress Plan for 2021-2030, impacting various sectors, including health care, mental health and overall quality of life.
Malaysia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In alignment with the IPU resolutions and initiatives, Malaysia's Parliament has undertaken various actions across key policy areas. The country is formulating a carbon trading policy to support its commitments under conventions such as the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement. This policy complements Malaysia's Fourth Biennial Update Report to the UNFCCC, which outlines greenhouse gas inventory and emission trends. Additionally, Malaysia has joined 111 countries in the Global Methane Pledge, aiming to reduce methane emissions by at least 30% by 2030.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On gender equality, Parliament established a Special Select Committee focused on women, children and human development. This Committee scrutinizes the government's initiatives to empower women and accelerate gender equality. Furthermore, the Parliament passed the Sexual Harassment Act of 2022, which provides redress for harassment victims and establishes an anti-harassment tribunal. • In terms of sustainable development, the Parliament has incorporated all 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into its 12th Malaysia Plan. Specific action has also been taken to improve access to universal health coverage by 2030, monitored by a Special Select Committee on Health, Science and Innovation.
Maldives	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • IPU resolutions are translated into Dhivehi and distributed to the relevant Standing Committees of the People's Majlis, ministries and independent institutions. • The Human Rights and Gender Committee of the People's Majlis has the mandate to oversee the implementation of international conventions related to Human Rights. In 2022, the Committee started the work of monitoring and engaging in the implementation of the international conventions. A technical staff member of the Human Rights and Gender Committee has been appointed to the Maldives' National Mechanism for Implementation, Reporting and Follow-up (NMIRF) Committee to oversee its work, reporting, follow-up, and implementation of the Universal Periodic Review (UPR). • Further addressing gender equality, the People's Majlis amended the Sexual Offences Act in 2021, eliminating discriminatory gender stereotypes that could hinder reporting and aiming to stop practices that further victimize women. Notably, the amendment has criminalized marital rape under all circumstances.
Mexico	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The age of eligibility to run for office in Mexico was reduced from 21 to 18 years of age thanks to an initiative sponsored by an IPU <i>I Say Yes to Youth in Parliament!</i> Mexican Changemaker and former Member of the IPU Board of the Forum of Young Parliamentarians.
Monaco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information about IPU decisions is disseminated to elected members and discussed in meetings of the Foreign Relations Commission. The Council also has a policy of involving elected members in Monaco's delegations for international trips whenever possible. • In the area of climate change, the Parliament of Monaco is ISO 14001 certified, which defines the criteria for an environmental management system. The Council is also a signatory to the National Pact for Energy Transition, aiming to contribute to Monaco's energy transition.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • On human rights, gender equality and youth participation, the Council was involved in drafting Monaco's 4th periodic report in 2023 and has organized events for the Day of the Girl and the International Day for the Elimination of Violence Against Women. Additionally, the Council passed law n°1.523 to promote and protect women's rights and to repeal obsolete and unequal provisions. Youth engagement is also prioritized, with an edition of the National Youth Council held in 2022/2023. • In addition, the National Council has taken a number of specific actions to combat terrorism and violent extremism. These actions include voting on legislation relating to money laundering, terrorism financing and corruption, as well as legislation governing the seizure and confiscation of criminal instruments and proceeds. Other legal changes and projects have been implemented to strengthen Monaco's overall strategy against financial crime and to enhance international judicial cooperation.
Mongolia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In 2023, Mongolia established a new quota law requiring at least 30% female candidates in parliamentary elections in 2024 and up to 40% in 2028.
Morocco	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • In the area of climate change, the Moroccan Parliament has taken specific legislative measures to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, support climate change adaptation, and implement the Paris Agreement. This includes legislation related to renewable energies, electricity regulation, aquaculture development, waste management, support for climate change adaptation, and the creation of the National Water and Forest Agency, among others. • A parliamentary delegation from the Justice, Legislation and Human Rights Committee of the House of Representatives and the House of Councillors took part, with the official delegation of the Kingdom of Morocco, in the interactive dialogue at the 41st session of the 4th cycle of the Universal Periodic Review mechanism, from 8 to 12 November 2022 at the Human Rights Council headquarters in Geneva. • For sustainable development, a landmark framework law was passed to improve access to health care, aiming to make the system more robust, equitable, efficient and human-centred.
Oman	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Parliament of Oman always discusses its participation in the work of the IPU. It refers detailed reports of IPU Assemblies to the Council's Bureau to discuss and take necessary follow-up actions. Oman has taken several initiatives to preserve the environment and reduce emissions. Most importantly, through its Vision 2040, Oman aims to preserve the environment and support climate-related efforts by investing in green energy.

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
Romania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In 2022, the Romanian Parliament's Legal Affairs and Human Rights Committees assisted in the preparation of the country's national report for the UN Human Rights Council's UPR (4th cycle - 2023). Both committees commented on Parliament's activities in adopting the UPR's third-cycle recommendations (2018). These actions included (1) revising laws and making legislative changes to the judiciary system; (2) criminalizing acts of incitement to violence, hatred or discrimination against an individual or group of individuals; and (3) establishing a parliamentary code of conduct for the use of offensive, indecent or defamatory language.
Rwanda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> After each IPU Assembly, the delegation of Rwanda presents a report to the Parliament's plenary, which then decides how to implement different resolutions taken during IPU Assemblies. Resolutions are also sent to Committees that follow their implementation. Additionally, the Parliament collaborates with UN agencies in Rwanda to host seminars and workshops that discuss matters initially raised in IPU Assemblies, such as climate change and gender equality. Regarding climate change, Parliament has been instrumental in enacting various laws and ratifying international treaties. These include the Paris Agreement and laws such as Law n° 17/2019, which relates to the prohibition of manufacturing, importation, use and sale of plastic carrier bags and single-use plastic items, and Law n° 64/2021, which governs biological diversity. In the area of human rights and democracy, the Senate of Rwanda invites annually the Minister of Justice to review the implementation status of the UN Human Rights Council Universal Periodic Review (UPR) with the Committee on Political and Governance Affairs. This is part of the Parliament's efforts to maintain an ongoing dialogue on human rights issues. Concerning peace and security, the Parliament enacted Law n° 75/2019 of 29/01/2020, focusing on the prevention and punishment of money laundering, the financing of terrorism, and the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
Sierra Leone	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Women's Empowerment Act was passed in 2023, establishing a 30% women's quota in Parliament and similar quotas in the government, local councils, the diplomatic corps and the civil service. Women now account for 30.4% of elected seats in Sierra Leone's Parliament, up from 14.5% in the previous election.
Sweden	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The Swedish Riksdag has decided on three steps in order to become greener as an institution and reduce its carbon emissions. These are an Environmental policy for the Riksdag administration, an Instruction for the Riksdag

Country	Practices in follow-up to IPU Assemblies, decisions and other initiatives
	<p>administration's environmental management system, and central routines in the Riksdag administration's environmental management system.</p>
<p>United Arab Emirates</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The 2022 IPU Nusa Dua Declaration enhanced the understanding of climate change issues among Emirati parliamentarians and informed their review of the country's Net Zero 2050 strategic initiative.
<p>United Kingdom</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> The British Group of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (BGIPU) has been actively engaged in a variety of issues aligned with the outcomes of the 2022 IPU Assemblies. One significant focus has been the Russian invasion of Ukraine, with the BGIPU hosting multiple visits and exchanges involving Ukrainian parliamentary counterparts. Climate change is another key priority, demonstrated by the BGIPU's facilitation of interactions with representatives from climate-vulnerable countries such as Madagascar, Gabon and Tuvalu. In addition to climate change, gender equality and women's empowerment have been high on the BGIPU's agenda. Through BGIPU and other bodies, the UK Parliament has participated in numerous events and delegations related to this issue, often referencing IPU norms and the Kigali Declaration. On the topic of sustainable development, the UK Parliament has been proactive in supporting the UN's Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and has completed an inquiry on this issue through its International Development Committee.
<p>Uruguay</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> A thorough national energy policy has been implemented, with encouraging results: around 98% of the country's energy comes from renewable sources, notably solar and wind. Parliament also passed the Forest Act, which aims to preserve 100% of the current area of native woodland, as well as the Law on Integrated Waste Management, which encourages the circular economy. In accordance with the Nusa Dua Declaration on mobilizing parliaments to act on climate change and creating better regional cooperation, the Uruguayan Parliament organized a regional seminar on climate change for Latin American and Caribbean parliaments in 2022 in collaboration with the IPU.
<p>Uzbekistan</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> In the area of sustainable development, Parliament established the Commission on the Sustainable Development Goals, which acts as a primary framework for integrating and monitoring the country's obligations to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The Commission works with various organizations to integrate national legislative measures with SDG aspirations, focusing on effective sectoral reform implementation, public participation, and accountability measures. The Commission also helps to develop the capability of MPs and parliamentary staff. While preparing Uzbekistan's first Voluntary National Review (VNR) in 2020, gaps and challenges in achieving the SDGs were discovered and formulated as recommendations for future legislation and policies.