



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.

148th IPU Assembly

Geneva, 23–27 March 2024

Workshop on *Strengthening climate legislation: Practical tools for parliamentarians*

Monday, 25 March 2024, 13:00–14:30

Concept note

Background

Strong climate legislation is essential for effective climate action. It helps set into motion international agreements on climate change at the national level. As Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement are not legally binding, they must be backed by laws that mandate emissions reductions and support adaptation. Climate legislation also provides an opportunity to ensure that the needs of underrepresented groups, including women, youth, indigenous peoples and minorities, are met in the face of climate change. Despite recent strides in advancing climate laws, legislative gaps persist in many countries.

The first-ever global stocktake, concluded at the 28th United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP28) in Dubai, confirmed that the world is not on track to achieve the goals set out in the Paris Agreement. While many countries have focused their legislative efforts on mainstreaming net-zero targets, climate-related laws still largely fail to capture all the pledges made in the NDCs and are insufficient to limit global warming to 1.5°C, or even to 2°C.¹

The global parliamentary community has recognized the need for stronger climate legislation. The Parliamentary Meeting at COP28 resulted in the adoption of an [outcome document](#) that emphasizes the importance of innovative legislation to strengthen the alignment of national policies with international climate goals. It also calls on parliaments to use their legislative roles to support the updating and enhancing of NDCs, and establish mechanisms for forward-looking and evidence-informed monitoring and reporting of climate-related legislation.

A range of practical climate change tools exist and are an important resource for parliaments seeking to strengthen climate legislation, particularly in low-resource settings. The IPU and the Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory at Arizona State University are organizing this workshop to raise awareness among parliamentarians of leading climate tools that are readily available to enhance legislative efforts related to climate change.

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www.lse.ac.uk/granthaminstitute/explainers/what-is-climate-change-legislation

Objectives

This interactive workshop will bring together parliamentarians and climate experts to identify key legislative gaps in the context of climate change and explore how existing tools can help address them. In particular, the workshop aims to:

- Familiarize parliamentarians with practical climate tools and identify how they can be used in national contexts to strengthen climate legislation
- Provide an opportunity for inter-parliamentary dialogue on legislative opportunities and challenges related to the implementation of the Paris Agreement
- Support the implementation of legislation-related actions highlighted in the Outcome Document of the Parliamentary Meeting at COP28
- Identify capacity-building needs

Practical arrangements

This 90-minute session will be open to all delegates at the 148th IPU Assembly. It will be organized in an interactive manner and participants are encouraged to actively contribute to the discussion.

Interpretation will be provided in English, French, Spanish and Arabic.