



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.



THIRD WORLD SUMMIT OF THE COMMITTEES OF THE FUTURE

For innovative anticipatory governance that brings the future into parliamentary work

Santiago (Chile), 13-14 January 2025

Outcome document

14 January 2025

We, parliamentarians gathered in Santiago, Chile at the Third World Summit of the Committees of the Future, jointly organized by the Senate of Chile and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU),

Affirming our shared commitment to embedding anticipatory governance in parliamentary practices worldwide,

Noting the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) definition of “anticipatory governance” that reads “governing in the present to adapt to or shape uncertain futures”,¹

Concerned by the range of emerging issues that could have critical impact on the well-being of our planet and our societies, including artificial intelligence, nanotechnology, genetic modification and quantum computing, and noting the need to address these issues in a systematic and sustainable manner,

Emphasizing the critical need to include forward-thinking and innovative ideas in governance to address the needs of today's and tomorrow's societies,

Underscoring the critical role that parliaments play in shaping the future through their constitutional mandates of legislation, oversight and representation,

Convinced of the need to embed strategic foresight and future-oriented thinking into parliamentary processes to ensure that all aspects of governance consider long-term implications and sustainability, while recognizing the challenges of a rapidly evolving world,

Affirming that anticipatory governance is essential in addressing the complexity of today's challenges and preparing for the uncertainties of tomorrow, and recognizing the value of anticipatory governance in guiding policy development and implementation,

Welcoming the United Nations Pact for the Future, the Global Digital Compact and the Declaration on Future Generations, and reaffirming our commitment to the Sustainable Development Goals,

Welcoming also the IPU's 2024 resolution *The impact of artificial intelligence on democracy, human rights and the rule of law*, the *IPU Charter on the Ethics of Science and Technology*, and the IPU Geneva Declaration *Harnessing science, technology and innovation (STI) for a more peaceful and sustainable future*,

¹ See in: openlearning.unesco.org/courses/course-v1:RWP+01+2021_01/about; <https://www.unesco.org/en/futures-literacy>.

Guided by our commitment to empowering future generations and dedicated to fostering anticipatory governance in decision-making processes shall endeavour to:

1. *Build* national capacity for anticipatory governance, by:
 - a. Establishing or strengthening government agencies or institutions specialized in anticipatory governance;
 - b. Allocating funding and resources to research initiatives that explore the implications of emerging technologies and that can inform policy-making;
 - c. Promoting inclusive stakeholder engagement by actively and systematically engaging with a range of stakeholders including the scientific community, the private sector and civil society;
2. *Integrate* anticipatory governance into national development strategies by:
 - a. Ensuring medium- and long-term strategic plans are established, and reviewed at regular intervals, with an emphasis on the immediate actions that will impact future outcomes;
 - b. Identifying the issues that are critical to future well-being in each country's context and that adequate planning for the development of relevant sectors is in place;
 - c. Creating an obligation for government to report to parliament on a regular basis on medium- and long-term strategic plans and holding government to account for progress and setbacks;
3. *Ensure* that anticipatory governance contributes to fairer and more inclusive societies by:
 - a. Placing human rights and ethical principles at the centre of legislative responses to emerging policy challenges;
 - b. Ensuring that anticipatory governance institutions and methodologies are gender-sensitive and inclusive by design;
 - c. Investing in public participation in future planning, and ensuring that the voices of all people, including women, young people and marginalized groups, such as rural dwellers, indigenous peoples, ethnic minorities, people with disabilities, and migrants, among others are taken into account;
4. *Strengthen* parliaments' own capacity to effectively make use of anticipatory governance by:
 - a. Establishing or strengthening committees of the future or similar structures to systematically address future-oriented challenges;
 - b. Creating capacity-building programmes for parliamentarians and parliamentary staff to enhance their ability to understand and use anticipatory governance methodologies;
 - c. Investing in the capacity of parliamentary research services to carry out non-partisan anticipatory and future-oriented research and analysis;
5. *Take parliamentary action* on issues that have the potential to shape the future significantly by:
 - a. Establishing a legislative framework for fast-evolving technologies, such as artificial intelligence, that is grounded in human rights and supports innovation, while limiting risks to individuals and societies;
 - b. Ensuring that parliament has the capacity to understand emerging technologies such as quantum computing, nanocomputing and neuro-computing;
 - c. Exploring new, flexible forms of legislative processes that can anticipate future needs and create necessary conditions, while adapting to changing circumstances as new evidence becomes available;
 - d. Developing tools and frameworks to monitor and evaluate the impact of legislative initiatives;

6. *Promote* inter-parliamentary cooperation by:
 - a. Sharing the results of parliamentary work, good practices and lessons learned;
 - b. Encouraging exchange and networking among committees of the future;
 - c. Inviting interested Parliaments (Kenya and Morocco) to submit to the IPU a formal proposal to host the Fourth World Summit on the Committees of the Future;
 - d. Requesting the IPU and a host parliament to jointly convene the next Summit of Committees of the Future to evaluate progress and address new anticipatory governance challenges, in collaboration with other parliamentary organizations.

As parliamentarians, *we pledge to be champions of anticipatory governance*. We commit to leading efforts that prepare our societies for the challenges and opportunities of the future