



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Speech by Mr. Martin Chungong, IPU Secretary General

Capacity-building workshop for the Parliament of Zimbabwe on:
Foundations of climate action: NDCs and climate finance mobilization – Opening
remarks

13 September 2025

Honourable Speaker of the National Assembly,
Honourable Members of Parliament,
Ladies and gentlemen,

It is my great pleasure to address you today at the opening of this important workshop on climate change being held for Members of the Parliament of Zimbabwe. The Inter-Parliamentary Union is pleased to support the organization of this incredibly timely workshop, working in close collaboration with the Parliament.

Climate change is one of the greatest challenges of our time. It is already having profound consequences for economies, societies, and ecosystems across the world. Africa continues to be one of the most affected regions in the world. Droughts, floods, and other extreme weather events are causing food insecurity, undermining livelihoods and erasing development gains. Zimbabwe has felt these impacts directly, leaving communities vulnerable across the country.

Yet, Zimbabwe has also demonstrated strong, forward-looking climate leadership, with Parliament actively engaging in climate debates and ensuring that the nation's commitments are aligned with its development priorities. Zimbabwe is also paving the way on climate action on the global stage by being the first, and only, African nation to submit its revised Nationally-Determined Contributions, or NDCs, by the initial deadline earlier this year.

NDCs are not just technical documents. They are roadmaps that express a country's ambition and commitment to reduce greenhouse gas emissions, adapt to climate impacts, and build a sustainable future. For Zimbabwe, the updated NDC reflects both responsibility and opportunity. It offers a platform to expand renewable energy, enhance food security, and create green jobs while protecting people and nature.

However, we know that NDCs must be effectively implemented to create impact. Strong legislation and access to climate finance are essential to ensure that commitments on paper are translated into concrete action on the ground. Here, parliaments have a unique and powerful role. They can scrutinize budgets, approve legislation, demand transparency, and ensure the needs of their constituents are met.

This workshop is therefore a timely opportunity. It will allow Members of Parliament to deepen their understanding of NDCs, explore avenues for climate finance, and learn about best practices from the region and beyond. Most importantly, it will help ensure that the Parliament of Zimbabwe is fully equipped to lead, to legislate, and to hold government accountable in the fight against climate change.

The IPU stands with you in this collective effort. We are committed to strengthening parliamentary capacity on climate action, not only by creating spaces for dialogue and knowledge-sharing among parliaments, but also by ensuring the voice of parliaments is heard loud and clear in global climate forums. The IPU stands ready to support your Parliament so that it continues to drive forward a climate agenda that is ambitious, innovative and equitable.

I wish you very productive discussions and look forward to the outcomes of this important workshop.

Thank you.