



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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Regional seminar: *African parliaments for climate action. Reducing methane, promoting development*

**Nairobi, Kenya
15-16 May 2026**

Outcome statement

We, members of parliament and parliamentary representatives from African countries, gathered in Nairobi, Kenya on 15 and 16 May 2026 for the regional seminar on climate action and methane reduction, organized by the Parliament of Kenya and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in collaboration with Climate Parliament, the Climate Vulnerable Forum, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, International Livestock Research Institute, World Agroforestry Centre and the Stockholm Environment Institute:

Recognizing that climate change is already severely affecting countries across Africa impacting livelihoods, ways of life, food systems, health and economic development, with vulnerable groups facing the most severe consequences, and that addressing these challenges urgently requires integrated and context-specific responses,

Noting that methane is a powerful greenhouse gas with a significant short-term warming effect, and that emissions from the agriculture, waste and energy sectors contribute to climate change while also affecting air quality and public health,

Noting also that reducing methane emissions can deliver short-term climate benefits while supporting improved health outcomes and economic opportunities,

Taking note of existing international frameworks and initiatives, including the Paris Agreement and the Global Methane Pledge, whose objectives are to limit global temperature increase and reduce methane emissions, as reference points that may inform national discussions and priorities,

Acknowledging the diversity of national circumstances across African countries, including differences in emissions profiles, development priorities and institutional capacities, and consequently the importance of tailoring approaches accordingly,

Welcoming the exchange of experiences and practices among parliaments during the seminar, including on the role of legislation, budget oversight and parliamentary engagement in advancing climate and methane action, and *noting* the growing interest in strengthening parliamentary engagement on methane and climate action,

Recognizing that methane emissions are a global challenge requiring collective action, and *encouraging* all countries, in line with their national circumstances and development priorities, to consider opportunities to reduce methane emissions as part of their broader climate and sustainable development efforts,

Highlighting the importance of addressing methane emissions in key sectors discussed during the seminar, including agriculture, waste management and energy systems, in ways that also support food security, access to services and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring that efforts to address methane emissions in Africa support food security, resilient livelihoods and sustainable development while also recognizing the opportunities that methane abatement actions can bring for innovation, productivity improvements, resilience and locally appropriate sustainable development approaches,

Underscoring the role that national parliaments and continent-wide parliamentary bodies can play in:

- promoting informed and inclusive policy development on climate and methane action,
- supporting enabling legal and regulatory frameworks,
- contributing to budget processes, including the approval of budgets and oversight of public expenditure,
- exercising oversight of government action,
- facilitating dialogue among all stakeholders in methane action, including at the local level,
- supporting adequate investment in national statistical systems to produce high-quality, timely, reliable and, where relevant, disaggregated data,
- promoting continuous learning and evidence-based decision-making, including through scientific data and cooperation with relevant government ministries, academia, civil society and other stakeholders, and through the use of publications and knowledge products tailored for parliamentary audiences,

We commit to:

1. *Encourage* continued collaboration, cooperation and knowledge exchange among African parliaments, including through regional platforms and parliamentary networks, building on the discussions initiated at this seminar;
2. *Call for* enhanced dialogue among African parliaments, governments and regional institutions to promote a strong and united African voice in global climate and methane-related negotiations, ensuring that international frameworks, financing

mechanisms and policy approaches fully reflect Africa's development priorities, food security needs and national circumstances;

3. *Emphasize* the importance of global inter-parliamentary cooperation and solidarity in addressing climate change and methane emissions, with a view to promoting knowledge exchange, strengthening policy frameworks, reducing emissions and mitigating impacts on the most vulnerable populations;
4. *Also emphasize* that Africa's methane mitigation efforts have both adaptation and mitigation co-benefits and require adequate, predictable and accessible climate finance from developed countries, and *call for* the fulfilment of the COP29 climate finance goal and operationalization of loss and damage funding;
5. *Further emphasize* the importance of access to reliable data, technical expertise and capacity-building opportunities to support evidence-based parliamentary decision-making, as well as the expedited transfer of affordable and locally adapted technologies, including low-emissions livestock systems, biogas, waste-to-energy solutions and methane measurement tools;
6. *Affirm* that policies and measures aimed at reducing methane emissions must not compromise sustainable development or efforts to eradicate poverty;
7. *Reaffirm* our interest in continuing engagement and cooperation on climate and methane reduction through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, including through future regional exchanges and global events, such as the annual Parliamentary Meeting at the United Nations Climate Change Conferences, and in engaging in national and regional capacity-building in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other partners and stakeholders.

We also extend our warm gratitude to the Parliament of Kenya for facilitating and ensuring the success of this regional seminar.