Inter-Parliamentary Union
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IPU Parliamentary Meeting at the 31st United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP31)

16 November 2026, Ethno Belek Hotel, Antalya, Türkiye

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Grand National Assembly of the Republic of Türkiye

PROGRAMME

Monday, 16 November

08:00–9:00 Registration and distribution of badges

09:00–09:30 **OFFICIAL OPENING**

Welcoming remarks:

- Mr. Murat Kurum, Minister of Environment, Urbanization and Climate Change of Türkiye and COP31 President
- Mr. Milton Dick, President of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Speaker of the House of Representatives of Australia.
- Mr. Numan Kurtulmuş, Speaker of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

09:30–10:00 **SPECIAL ADDRESSES TO THE GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY COMMUNITY**

- Ms. Inger Andersen, Executive Director of the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)
- Ms. Christine Adam, Director of Legal Affairs, United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), on behalf of Mr. Simon Stiell, Executive Secretary of UNFCCC

10:00–11:30 **SESSION 1 – TURNING CLIMATE COMMITMENTS INTO NATIONAL ACTION: WHAT DO TODAY'S CLIMATE REALITIES REQUIRE FROM POLITICAL LEADERS?**

This session will explore what today's climate realities and their impact on people's daily lives require from political leaders. Bringing together leading scientists, parliamentarians and community perspectives, the session will examine: how the latest scientific evidence can inform political decision-making; what these changing realities mean for governments, communities and the leadership; what must be done to strengthen resilience; and what the role of parliaments is in translating international climate commitments into effective national action.

Moderator: Ms. Petra Bayr, Member of the National Council of Austria and President of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe (PACE)

Panellists:

- Ms. Alina Averchenkova, Distinguished Policy Fellow and Lead for Governance and Legislation, Grantham Research Institute on Climate Change and the Environment, London School of Economics
- Ms. Cecilia Nicolini, Member of Parliament of MERCOSUR (PARLASUR)

- Ms. Joanna Post, Director of the Global Ocean Observing System (GOOS) and Head of the Ocean Observations and Services Section at the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC) of UNESCO
- Mr. Naisa Tuinaceva, Member of Parliament, Fiji

11:30–13:00 **SESSION 2 – FROM WASTE REDUCTION TO CLIMATE ACTION: BUILDING HEALTHIER COMMUNITIES THROUGH PARLIAMENTARY ACTION ON METHANE**

Reducing methane emissions from the waste sector is the fastest way to slow climate change while delivering improved public health and more sustainable resource management. As COP31 places greater emphasis on improving waste management and translating climate commitments into practical action through its Zero Waste agenda, this session will: strengthen parliamentarians' understanding of the links between waste and methane; explore the international frameworks and commitments shaping global action; and examine how parliaments can drive progress through legislation, budgetary decision-making, oversight and engagement with stakeholders.

Moderator: Ms. Meera Al Suwaidi, Member of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates and President of the IPU Standing Committee on Sustainable Development

Panellists:
- Mr. Henrique Bezerra, Regional Lead for Latin America, Global Methane Hub
- Mr. Charles Gyamfi Ofori, Policy Lead, Climate Change & Energy Transition, Africa Centre for Energy Policy (ACEP) & Member, CCAC-TEAP, Ghana
- Mr. Mevlüt Çavuşoğlu, Member of the Grand National Assembly and former Minister of Foreign Affairs of Türkiye
- Mr. Nadjo N'ladon, Chairperson of the Environment and Climate Change Committee, National Assembly of Togo

13:00–14:00 **LUNCH BREAK**

14:00–14:30 **SESSION 3 – A PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE ON THE FUTURE OF CLIMATE LEADERSHIP**

How can climate action remain a political priority in a rapidly changing world? In this session, two parliamentarians from different geographical contexts will share their experiences of advancing climate leadership and building support for ambitious climate action. Through an open exchange, they will explore how political narratives, public expectations, economic opportunities and national priorities are shaping the future of climate politics. The dialogue will highlight how parliamentarians can help sustain momentum, strengthen public trust and ensure that climate action remains high on political agendas for years to come.

Moderator: Mr. Thomas Fitzsimons, Director of Communications, IPU

Panellists:
- Mr. Moses Otieno Kajwang, Senator, Kenya
- Ms. Claudia Roth, Member of the German Bundestag

14:30–16:00 **SESSION 4 – THE CLIMATE FINANCE LANDSCAPE: ACCESS, MOBILIZATION AND PARLIEMENTARY OVERSIGHT**

Meeting the goals of the Paris Agreement demands a massive scale-up of investment in climate action. In line with COP31 priorities, this session will focus on three areas where

parliaments hold a decisive role: developing a strong pipeline of investment-ready climate projects; reducing risks to attract private investment in climate action; and strengthening climate-action related national budget systems. The session will equip parliamentarians with practical legislative and oversight tools to improve climate investment frameworks, support climate finance and ensure public climate funds are allocated, managed and monitored effectively through the budget process.

Moderator: Ms. Sena Nur Çelik Kanat, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye

Panellists:

- Mr. Benjamin Schachter, Coordinator, Environment and Climate Change Team, United Nations Office of the High Commissiner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
- Ms. Sahar Nasr, Senator and former Minister of Investment and International Cooperation of Egypt
- Ms Natalia Alonso Cano, Chief of the Regional Office for Europe and Central Asia, United Nations Office for Disaster Risk and Reduction (UNDRR)
- Mr. Alex Sobel, Member of Parliament of the United Kingdom

16:00–17:30 **SESSION 5 – STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS AND COALITIONS FOR PARLIAMENTARY CLIMATE ACTION**

Designed to support practical implementation, this session will explore how knowledge resources and partner ecosystems support domestic legislative progress on climate action through international cooperation. Designed as a complement to practical guides and analytical tools, it will highlight capacity-building initiatives, specialized workshops, and peer-to-peer exchanges. It will also help map key actors in the field and provide a practical platform that would consolidate synergies for continuous climate action.

Moderator: Ms. Aleksandra Blagojevic, Programme Manager for International Development, IPU

Panellists:

- Mr. Dickson Kyere-Duah, Member of Parliament of Ghana
- Mr. Pradyumna J.B. Rana, Manager, Global Engagements, International Centre for Integrated Mountain Development (ICIMOD)
- Ms. Camila Fernández Ibáñez, Chair of the Chilean Scientific Advisory Committee on Climate Change, Representative of the International Climate Councils Network (ICCN)

Special focus: Launch of *The Parliamentarians' Global Guide to Climate Change and Climate Solutions 2026-27*

- Ms. Amanda Ellis, Senior Director of Global Partnerships and Networks at the Arizona State University (ASU) Julie Ann Wrigley Global Futures Laboratory

17:30–18:15 **CLOSING: ADOPTION OF THE OUTCOME DOCUMENT AND MAPPING THE ROAD AHEAD FOR PARLIAMENTARY ACTION ON CLIMATE CHANGE**

- Adoption of the meeting Outcome Document led by the Co-Rapporteurs, Ms. Sally Sitou, Member of Parliament, Australia (recorded video), and Mr. Oğuz Üçüncü, Member of Parliament, Türkiye

- M&E Survey

- Closing remarks

- Ms. Meera Al Suwaidi, Member of the Federal National Council of the United Arab Emirates and President of the IPU Standing Committee on Sustainable Development

- Ms. Fatma Öncü, Member of the Grand National Assembly of Türkiye and Second Vice-President of the IPU Bureau of Women Parliamentarians

18:15–20:00 **RECEPTION**