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Addressing climate change

Draft resolution submitted by the drafting committee

Rapporteur: Mr. S. Patra (India)

The 141st Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Aware* of the role and importance of democratic governance for peace and development resonating in the vision and mission of the IPU, a global organization of 179 Member Parliaments, and recalling the commitments on climate change made by the IPU at its 139th and 140th Assemblies,
- (2) *Acknowledging* that global warming of anthropogenic origin is one of the major challenges facing the global community today,
- (3) *Recalling* the commitments made by the global community in the Paris Agreement, which builds on previous international cooperation regarding various facets of climate change in the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, Agenda 21, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), the Kyoto Protocol, the Cancun Agreements, the Johannesburg Plan of Implementation, the Warsaw Outcomes, the SAMOA Pathway, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction, the Addis Ababa Action Agenda, and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,
- (4) *Recalling also* the commitment of the Parties to the UNFCCC to tackle the challenge of global warming on the basis of equity and the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities,
- (5) *Acknowledging* that the Paris Agreement recognizes that sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production, with developed country Parties taking the lead, play an important role in addressing climate change,
- (6) *Recalling* that the Paris Agreement notes the importance of ensuring the integrity of all ecosystems, including oceans, and the protection of biodiversity, recognized by some cultures as Mother Earth, and the importance for some of the concept of "climate justice",
- (7) *Recalling also* the commitment of the Paris Agreement to holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5 degrees Celsius above pre-industrial levels, recognizing that this would significantly reduce the risks and impacts of climate change,
- (8) *Acknowledging* the implications of various reports based on the best available science that the consequences of even limited global warming of 1.5 degrees Celsius are likely to be extensive, serious and damaging, but could be mitigated considerably by immediate and focused action and active international collaboration and cooperation through multilateral processes,

(9) *Recalling* that the foremost priority for developing countries continues to be their rapid progress along the path of sustainable development to ensure the well-being of the majority of the population of the world, consistent with the commitment in the Paris Agreement to achieve sustainable development,

(10) *Appreciating* the work being done under the Marrakech Task Force on Sustainable Lifestyles and by other regional groupings on sustainable consumption and production,

(11) *Applauding* the efforts and initiatives of those local communities, the business and financial sectors, academic and research institutions, children and youth, media and governments in promoting an innovative mix of traditional and modern sustainable lifestyles at the individual and collective levels as their respective contributions to live within Earth's boundaries,

(12) *Recalling* the IPU's commitment in the Hanoi Declaration of 2015 to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) by 2030 and to ensure that parliaments hold governments to account in implementing effective measures to achieve these Goals while leaving no one behind,

1. *Urges* all Parties to implement the Paris Agreement in letter and spirit, and to invest in mitigation and adaptation resolutely and speedily, in keeping also with the provisions of the UNFCCC and the protocols and agreements under its aegis;
2. *Urges* countries to take strong and effective mitigation action, as per the Paris Agreement, that would enable the achievement of the temperature goals, and notes, inter alia, that any shortfall in mitigation would tremendously enhance the burden of adaptation for vulnerable communities, populations, regions and countries;
3. *Calls on* the developed country Parties to the Paris Agreement to implement in letter and spirit their commitments under the Convention to provide finance, technology and capacity-building assistance to developing countries;
4. *Stresses* the need for the enhancement of urgent action for adaptation in developing countries to preserve and enhance their natural resources, which are the source of livelihoods and well-being for millions;
5. *Urges* all Parties to move forward expeditiously towards the effective implementation of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage;
6. *Calls on* national parliaments to urge their governments to take a leading role in effective measures to counter global warming, raise awareness and provide extensive education on the causes and impact of climate change, and to actively encourage the adoption of sustainable lifestyles and sustainable patterns of consumption and production;
7. *Also calls on* national parliaments to urge their governments, in line with the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk Reduction 2015–2030, to support the development of comprehensive national resilience mechanisms, strengthen disaster risk reduction and prevention, enhance disaster preparedness for effective responses, and invest in risk-reduction measures and societal resilience for disasters including, inter alia, desertification, deforestation, sand storms and mass flooding;
8. *Further calls on* all parliamentarians to work with their governments in partnership with all stakeholders to implement the Paris Agreement by moving towards rapid implementation of the SDGs, thereby contributing to the enhancement of resilience and adaptation to climate change, and in particular calls on all parliamentarians to engage with youth to hear their voices and solutions to combat climate change and to open a dialogue with the younger generation;
9. *Strongly appeals* for a significant shift and enhancement in financial, technological and capacity-building assistance for developing countries towards adaptation rather than mitigation.