



Speech of

H. E. Mr. Muhammad Sadiq Sanjrani

Chairman,

Senate of Pakistan

At The

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(Virtual Session)

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- **Honourable Members of Parliaments;**
- **Excellencies;**
- **Distinguished Guests;**
- **Ladies and Gentlemen!**

A very good afternoon to you all!

It is once again a great honour for me to address the esteemed forum of the Inter-Parliamentary Union. For 130 long years, the IPU has brought together parliaments from around the world to steer democratic and parliamentary evolution towards betterment of humanity.

I therefore congratulate the IPU and all the parliaments in attendance for their utmost resolve, particularly in such difficult times of the COVID pandemic.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Parliamentary leadership is the reflection of the democratic will of the people. And there is no doubt that in a time of great global unrest, people want nothing more than peace and development for the people and the planet.

Therefore, conflict resolution and building trust must be the top priority towards our common goal of prosperity, wellbeing, safety and security of our peoples.

It is sad to note that many conflicts around the world stem from intolerance due to a lack of understanding of cultures and religions. I firmly believe that our efforts towards sustainable development will prove useless until we find permanent solution long-standing conflicts like in Kashmir, Palestine and the Middle East.

Pakistan urges the UN and inter-parliamentary organisations around the world to call out any double standards by member nations who are violating the international conventions of peace and human rights.

Parliaments must firmly stand against any conflict or disturbance of peace and security for the people of the world. As leaders, we must acknowledge our differences and backgrounds, and work together accordingly to ensure lasting peace at all costs.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Sustainable growth requires committed, credible, and capable governments ready for sincere cooperation. Growth does not “just happen.” It requires a decades-long commitment to the credible implementation of enabling policies that are designed by capable governments.

Today, there is a desperate need to ensure economic growth in environmentally sustainable ways, improve the economic performance of least developed countries and regions, and at the same time achieve significant reductions in the incidence of poverty, through increased economic cooperation.

Parliaments should be mindful of the fact that growth and market-based policies alone are not enough. They must be pursued with equity, complemented by policies that enable the poorest to fully participate in and benefit from the growth process.

To end income inequality and promote inclusive development, Parliaments must address the accumulation of wealth in few hands. This includes inequalities faced by the people at bottom in the form of inadequate access to education, health, housing, employment, and personal security.

To ensure an enabling institutional environment, Parliamentary Taskforces are operating in national and provincial assemblies of Pakistan, closely overseeing progress on the SDGs. All such efforts are expected to accelerate the pace of Pakistan’s progress on the SDGs.

Pakistan has also initiated actions to protect the environment and contribute to minimizing the adverse impacts of climate change. Both climate adaptation and mitigation are reflected in the country's policy and implementation approach.

Ladies and Gentlemen!

Parliamentary cooperation around the world relies on effective diplomacy and cordial relations between nations. And constructive collaboration between nations must always be built on mutual trust.

Pakistan parliament has been playing an active role to enhance multilateral linkages and synergies between both parliaments as well as legislators at key international parliamentary forums such IPU, CPA and APA etc.

We believe that by joining hands at this august forum, parliamentary leaderships can promote healthy multilateralism on principles of mutual respect, inclusivity and cooperation to open avenues of peace, prosperity and development for our peoples.

We look forward to our future engagements with the IPU fraternity.

Thank you!