



Inter-Parliamentary Union
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PARLIAMENTARY MEETING ON THE OCCASION OF THE UNITED NATIONS CLIMATE CHANGE CONFERENCE (COP 25)

2 December 2019

Organized jointly by the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Chilean Senate

Preliminary draft outcome document

Prepared by the Meeting Rapporteur, Mr. Guido Girardi, member of the Chilean Senate

The Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP 25) will take place on 2 December 2019. The Meeting is expected to adopt an outcome document. The Meeting Rapporteur, Mr. Guido Girardi, appointed by the Chilean Senate, has prepared a preliminary draft of the outcome document, as presented below. IPU Members are invited to examine the preliminary draft and provide comments and observations on its form and content by 15 November 2019 at the latest. Participants of the 141st IPU Assembly will also have an opportunity to discuss the preliminary draft outcome document during the session of the IPU Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade. In view of the input provided through these channels, the Rapporteur will finalize the draft outcome document and the IPU will publish it on the IPU website ahead of the Parliamentary Meeting at COP 25. The draft outcome document will be presented to the closing session of the Parliamentary Meeting with a view to adopting it by consensus.

We, parliamentarians from throughout the world and Members of the Inter-Parliamentary Union participating in the Parliamentary Meeting of 2 December 2019, in Santiago, Chile, on the occasion of the 25th session of the Conference of the Parties (COP 25) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC),

Concerned because inclement climatic phenomena over the past decade have caused millions of deaths, the displacement of entire communities for lack of water or food, the waste of thousands of millions of tonnes of food resources resulting from red tides and vector-borne viruses, natural disasters in all regions of the world, the accelerated melting of glaciers, unprecedented air pollution levels in more than a hundred cities, the continual depletion of watersheds and a loss of biodiversity never before witnessed,

Convinced that the role of national and multilateral institutions – speaking on behalf of civil society; safeguarding the rights of future generations; adopting regulatory frameworks to stop or mitigate the effects of climate change on agriculture, natural resource availability, rural and island communities, indigenous peoples, senior citizens, and children and adolescents – is essential in this context,

Welcoming the mobilization of children and adolescents in every city on the planet, demanding concrete measures by States to limit use of the contaminants that cause climate change, regulate the extractive industries and adopt measures and technical innovations specifically designed to attack this phenomenon; determined to end the pollution of our oceans by industries on land, the over-exploitation of extractive resources and the extinction of plant and animal resources,

Recognizing the COP as a joint effort by the international community to advance the worldwide adoption of sustainable policies – allowing development on a planetary scale that will safeguard our environment and natural resources – that has led to progress and improvements in a wide range of areas,

Recalling the multiple resolutions approved in this area by the United Nations, including A/RES/70/1 of 25 September 2015, which adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development; that Agenda consists of 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and 169 targets to be achieved by signatory countries over the next 15 years,

Noting that several of the 2030 Agenda's goals and targets – including SDG 6, for clean water and sanitation; SDG 7, for affordable and clean energy; SDG 12, for responsible consumption and production; SDG 14, for life below water; SDG 15, for life on land; and especially SDG 13, for climate action – are directly or indirectly connected with the fight against climate change,

Trusting that the multilateral negotiations being conducted under COP 25 will lead to rapid and effective adoption of the measures agreed to under COP 21, in Paris, as repeatedly suggested by the international scientific community – the latter having alerted national governments to the devastating effects of a potential 2°C rise in global temperature relative to preindustrial levels, and having gone even further, urging all of humankind to join efforts in limiting the temperature rise to less than 1.5°C,

Aware of the role parliamentarians and parliamentary diplomacy can play as part of this global effort, and based on the points outlined above,

1. *Urge* the States Parties to the UNFCCC to implement policies to combat climate change, adapt their most climate-sensitive territories and mitigate gas and pollutant emissions by their industries;
2. *Exhort* the States Parties to discuss, design, promote and implement national and local laws, as well as sector programmes, plans and public policies, for adaptation to the now unstoppable effects of climate change; reduction of the greenhouse gases and short-lived climatic pollutants now affecting terrestrial and marine biodiversity, as well as the reliable availability of drinking water and other natural resources, so as to lessen their adverse impacts on the lives of thousands of millions of people who are in disadvantaged and vulnerable situations, affected by energy poverty, or living in environmental sacrifice zones or on islands at permanent risk of flooding;
3. *Call on* parliaments to encourage the design and implementation of national regulatory frameworks that include all the measures necessary – legislative, administrative or other, for industries, processes and productive chains – to promote transparency and establish accountability and oversight mechanisms that will ensure sustainable development based on the principles of the 2030 Agenda;
4. *Call for* the establishment, with due regard for constitutional and legal realities in each country, of an independent institutional framework equipped with modern and effective tools and systems for environmental management, sector planning and environmental impact evaluation, as well as environmental courts, to ensure rigorous procedures for project review and the equitable settlement of environmental disputes;
5. *Encourage* the adoption of bilateral, multilateral and regional agreements among States to foster sustainable growth and green job creation, dealing in particular with regulation of the extractive industries, zero-emission electricity systems and international cooperation to finance the fight against climate change;
6. *Urge* States to sign international agreements conducive to environmental protection, and parliaments to commit to supporting the ratification of such agreements when their governments have not yet done so;
7. *Exhort* the relevant authorities to take all measures necessary to ensure transparency as to each Party's compliance with its commitments – from those undertaken in the Paris Agreement to those contained in the Katowice Climate Package – which is fundamental to success in the fight against climate change;

8. *Urge* the COP 25 participants to resume consideration of critical issues raised during COP 24, such as the creation of rules on information for nationally determined contributions (NDC) and how countries report and account for their actions to combat climate change; adapt to and mitigate its effects; provide financial support for climate action in developing and least developed countries; evaluate progress in developing and transferring technologies between hemispheres; and commit to providing financial support for developing countries by contributing to the Green Climate Fund, establishing more precise commitments, targets and forms of measurement in each area;
9. *Urge* COP 25 to also address matters pending from the previous COP, such as improved management of cooperative solutions and the mechanisms for sustainable development referred to in Article 6 of the Paris Agreement, especially those pertaining to the carbon credit market;
10. *Encourage* national parliaments to adopt the regulations needed to abolish the so-called environmental sacrifice zones, whose residents have been relegated to lives of extreme vulnerability by pollution from landfills, the extractive industries or bad environmental management. Efficient regulation of the extractive industries (and especially all aspects of mining, from the opening to the closing of mines) and of environmental liabilities (including State commitments to promote the incorporation of clean technologies and innovative processes for the development of sustainable industry);
11. *Call on* national parliaments to promote the design and implementation of energy efficiency laws and programmes, including awareness campaigns to alter consumer habits and production chains, as well as initiatives for the development of zero-emission electricity systems, based on non-conventional, renewable forms of energy (photovoltaic, wind, wave and tidal) or run-of-the-river hydropower plants;
12. *Also call on* parliaments, in concert with relevant authorities, to raise environmental awareness at all educational levels, from pre-school on, disseminating such basic concepts as the circular economy and the importance of adapting to natural surroundings, training in waste management techniques (such as composting and recycling), and generating electric power from renewable sources;
13. *Urge* parliaments to create the conditions needed for technical and political debate on the wide-ranging evidence of climate change, as reported by forecasting studies, with a view to developing improved policies in the near future and replicating on a national or local scale the sustainable development and environmental protection models discussed;
14. *Request* the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in the same vein, to spearhead the organization of parliamentary debate at its next Assembly, taking a more active role in the development and implementation of sustainable policies;
15. *Encourage* transparency and effective monitoring in the implementation of new regional climate change policies to address the phenomenon holistically, which will require States Parties to adapt and improve local systems so that their citizens and the international community can depend on them.