



Concept Note & Agenda

Parliamentary Leadership for the 2030 Agenda Webinar Series

Climate Leadership: Preparing for COP26

March 22, 2021 | 8:00 am to 10:00 am EDT | 1:00 pm to 3:00 pm CET | [Other Time Zones](#)

Climate change is now increasingly moving from abstract, hypothetical scenarios by materializing into an ever-growing number of climate hazards that threaten to upend the way of life in communities across the world. There is still a lack of immediate action, as shown by the UN Climate Change's Nationally Determined Contribution (NDC) Synthesis Report published in late February. The report underlines that even though several countries have increased their commitments in terms of NDCs, this will only achieve a reduction of emissions of less than one percent.

2020 was supposed to be the 'super year' for climate and environment. But due to the COVID-19 pandemic, both the 26th UN climate conference (COP26) and the 15th UN biodiversity conference (COP15) were postponed to 2021 – and the same can be said for the political action that is well overdue to meet the Paris Agreement.

It is critical that governments and legislators around the world now focus on Action and Delivery. Parliamentarians play a crucial role in designing and adopting the necessary policies and holding governments accountable for delivering on the Paris Agreement. As representatives of the interests and needs of their constituents and their key role in approving laws and budgets, parliamentarians are pivotal in addressing the climate crisis.

In this webinar, parliamentarians from all over the world will convene to discuss **Climate Leadership: Preparing for COP26**. This is the second session in the "**Parliamentary Leadership for the 2030 Agenda**" webinar series to support parliamentarians with scientific evidence for decision making by the Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN), Parliamentarians for the Global Goals (PfGG), and the International Health Partnership for UHC 2030 (UHC2030). This discussion-focused event seeks to foster an engaging dialogue between decision-makers in parliament and experts to determine how to best rise to the challenges posed by climate change.

In this session, we have asked leading experts and Members of Parliament to reflect on what strategies can be followed by parliamentarians to address the climate crisis. What are examples of successful measures that can be undertaken to reduce emissions and put the world on track for net-zero carbon emissions? How can these policies be enacted within a gender-responsive framework? More importantly, how can parliamentarians play a role in the implementation of climate mitigation and adaptation strategies? And how can parliaments utilize the framework of the COP to inspire each other across borders?

These are the questions that will be guiding this lively and engaging conversation between parliamentarians and climate action experts.

[Please register here to attend online.](#)

Agenda

7:45 am EDT

Virtual meeting room opens

8:00 am EDT

Opening Remarks

- Prof. Jeffrey Sachs, President, Sustainable Development Solutions Network (SDSN)

8:10 am EDT

Expert Presentations

- Ambassador Luis Alfonso de Alba, Special Envoy of the United Nations Secretary-General for the 2019 Climate Summit
- Ms. Claudia Roth, Vice President of the Bundestag (TBC)
- Ms. Laurence Tubiana, CEO of the European Climate Foundation (TBC)
- Mr. Rasmus Nordqvist, Member of the Danish Parliament
- Mr. David Smith, Director of the Center for Environmental Management at the University of the West Indies

8:45 am EDT

Discussion

- Moderated by Ms. Gabriela Cuevas, Co-Chair, UHC2030 Steering Committee

Questions may be asked directly to the presenters or Parliamentarians may comment on their own initiatives in this area.

Statements will be kept strictly to 2 minutes to maximize the number of speakers.

9:45 am EDT

Closing Remarks

- Ms. Kirsten Brosbøl, Founder, Parliamentarians for the Global Goals (PfGG)

10:00 am EDT

Adjourn