



Agenda

16th Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas

Accelerating Progress on Agenda 2030: Good Practices for Parliamentary Action

October 30th – November 1st | Asuncion, Paraguay



#ParlAmericas2019

#ParlAmericasSDG



In order to reduce our ecological footprint, the gathering documents, resources and publications are available at www.parlamericas.org. For easy access through your mobile phone, we invite you to download a QR reader application.

Tuesday, October 29, 2019: Arrival

All day *Arrival of participants / transfer from the airport to the official hotel*

Wednesday, October 30, 2019: Arrival, Board of Directors meeting and workshop

All meeting will take place in the Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay, unless otherwise specified.

All day *Arrival of participants / transfer from the airport to the official hotel*

08:30 – 13:00 **49th Meeting of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas**

Closed-door meeting for ParlAmericas Board Members

13:00 – 13:15 **Official Photograph of the Board of Directors**

12:00 – 12:45 **Registration of participants in the hotel lobby**

12:45 *Transportation of participants to the Chamber of Senators of Paraguay*

13:15 – 14:20 **Lunch offered by the Chamber of Senators of Paraguay**

Location: Room Acosta Ñu, Chamber of Senators

14:20 – 18:00 **Workshop: Monitoring Progress towards SDGs through Public Spending**

(a [separate agenda](#) is available for this workshop)

18:00 *Transportation of participants to official hotel*

Dinner at leisure

Thursday, October 31, 2019: 16th Plenary Assembly

- 08:00 ***Participants registration in the hotel lobby***
- 08:30 – 09:00 *Transportation of participants to National Congress*
- 09:00 – 09:40 **Inauguration and Opening Remarks**
Location: National Congress of Paraguay
- H.E. **Blas Llano**, President of the Chamber of Senators, National Congress of the Republic of Paraguay
 - H.E. **Pedro Alliana**, President of the Chamber of Deputies, National Congress of the Republic of Paraguay
 - Member of the National Assembly **Ana Belén Marín**, 2nd Vice-President of ParlAmericas and President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change
 - Senator **Blanca Ovelar**, 2nd Vice-President of ParlAmericas and President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network
 - Senator **Patrick Kemper**, ParlAmericas Board Member and Host of the 16th Plenary Assembly
- 09:40 – 10:00 **Keynote Address**
Location: National Congress of Paraguay
- **Achim Steiner**, Administrator of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)
- 10:00 – 10:20 **Official photograph and break**
Location: Entrance of the Congress of Paraguay
- 10:20 – 11:30 **Opening Plenary Session**
Location: Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay
- Motion to designate the President of the Plenary Assembly
 - Motion to approve the Plenary Assembly agenda
 - Annual report to the members of ParlAmericas
 - a. Report from the ParlAmericas Board
 - b. Report from the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
 - c. Report from the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change
 - d. Report from the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network
 - e. Report from operations and finances
 - Announcement of the election procedures
- 11:30 – 13:15 **Working session 1: Examining regional progress in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals from the parliamentary perspective**
Location: Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay

This session will present a general overview of the current state and progress in implementing the SDGs in the hemisphere four years after the adoption of Agenda 2030. The participant's discussion will revolve around the important role that parliaments play in implementing the SDGs and the opportunities to contribute to this process. Similarly, parliamentarians will be invited to explore the links between Goals

5, 13, and 16, and the rest of the SDGs, as well as the necessity for these to be addressed holistically by parliaments and other related actors

Moderator: Member of the Legislative Assembly **Cristina Cornejo** (El Salvador), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality for Central America and ParlAmericas Board Member

Panellists:

- **Emanuele Sapienza**, Policy Advisor, UNDP Regional Hub in Panama
- Member of the Legislative Assembly **María Inés Solís** (Costa Rica), ParlAmericas Board Member

13:15 – 14:45 **Lunch offered by the Chamber of Senators of Paraguay**

Location: Room Acosta Ñu, Chamber of Senators

14:45 – 17:00 **Working session 2: From words to action – Case studies on how parliaments have adapted and are making progress to achieve the 2030 Agenda**

Location: Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay

The parliaments of the Americas and Caribbean have undertaken significant efforts to strengthen their structures, strategies and mechanisms to contribute to the effective implementation of the SDGs. This session will provide a space for parliamentary delegations to share their experiences, advancements, achievements and the obstacles they have faced in response to the demands required to significantly contribute to the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs in their respective countries, as well as internal compliance to the objectives and goals of sustainable development.

Moderator: **Juliet Cuthbert Flynn**, Member of Parliament (Jamaica), ParlAmericas Board Member

Panellists:

- Senator **Mario Martín Arévalo Fernández** and Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay)
- Member of the Legislative Assembly **Nielsen Pérez** (Costa Rica)
- Senator **Antares Vásquez** (México), ParlAmericas Board Member

17:00 Transportation of participants to official hotel

19:00 Transportation of participants to reception

19:30 – 21:00 **Welcome Reception**

Location: "Casa Bicentenario del Teatro Edda de los Rios"

Friday, November 1, 2019: 16th Plenary Assembly

All meetings of the day will take place in the Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay, unless otherwise specified.

08:30 Transportation of participants to the Archives and Library of the Congress of Paraguay

09:00 – 10:30 **Working session 3: Gender equality: an essential condition for achieving the 17 Sustainable Development Goals**

Parliaments have a key role in the adoption and the implementation of legislative frameworks and national strategies to promote gender equality, which is a prerequisite and an accelerator for the achievement of all SDGs. This session will assess the region's standing on SDG 5 on gender equality and women's empowerment, and its linkages to other sustainable development priorities. The panellists will share knowledge on different SDG 5 targets and highlight the data required for monitoring progress.

Facilitator: Senator **Rosa Gálvez** (Canada), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change for North America

Panellists:

- **Ayesha Constable**, Advisor to FRIDA - The Young Feminist Fund and Caribbean Representative of the Sustainable Development Solutions Youth Network
- **Dosia Calderón**, Senior Officer for Latin America and the Caribbean Engagement of Girls Not Brides
- **Melania Canales Poma**, President of the National Organization of Andean and Amazonian Indigenous Women of Peru (*ONAMIAP as abbreviated in Spanish*)

10:30 – 10:45 **Health Break**

10:45 – 12:15 **Working session 4: Encouraging partnerships and collaborative work for a sustainable future**

Cooperation and significant participation of diverse public actors and civil society is essential to advance the achievement of the goals and the objectives of sustainable development. This session will present strategies and best practices for promoting the work of parliaments with the Executive, civil society, private sector, academia, and traditionally marginalized groups, and leveraging the effectiveness of the actions directed towards making progress on implementing the SDGs. Furthermore, the session will explore the funding mechanisms directed towards facilitating the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and how updating how taxation systems and fiscal policies can be adapted to respond to the implementation needs and to contribute to *effective development*.

Moderator: Senator **Ranard Henfield** (The Bahamas), Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network for the Caribbean

Panelists:

- **Jessica Domínguez**, Sustainable Development Division of Allcot

- Dr. **Camilo D. Benítez Aldana**, Comptroller General of the Republic of Paraguay
- **Mario Samaja**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in the Republic of Paraguay

12:15 – 12:30 **Evaluations**

12:30 – 13:15 **Closing Plenary Session**

- Reading of the declaration
- Announcement of the host country for the 17th Plenary Assembly
- Announcement of the next ParlAmericas meetings
- Election results
- Closing remarks

13:15 – 14:30 **Lunch offered by the Chamber of Senators of Paraguay**

Location: Room Acosta Ñu, Chamber of Senators

14:30 Return to hotel and end of official program



Please note that meeting sessions will be audio-recorded to become podcast episodes. Find ParlAmericas on iTunes and Google Play to listen to sessions and presentations from our past gatherings held across the hemisphere.



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