



#ParlAmericasGEN #ParlAmericasCC

-  **TITLE:** A food secure future: Building people and planet-centred strategies
-  **THEMES:** Food security and sovereignty; the right to food; sustainable, inclusive, and resilient agri-food systems; empowerment of rural and indigenous women and youth
-  **DATES:** September 28 and 29, 2023
-  **LOCATION:** Mexico City, Mexico
-  **PARTICIPANTS:** More than 60 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff and representatives of civil society organizations from over 18 countries in the Americas and the Caribbean
-  **HOST:** Senate of the Republic of Mexico



This activity aligned with SDGs 1, 2, 5, and 13.



15th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality (PNGE) of ParlAmericas - 7th Gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC)

The joint gathering of the PNGE and the PNCC provided a space for the exchange of legislative actions to guarantee the right to food by promoting innovative, multi-sector good practices that foster sustainability, inclusion, and resilience.

The discussions focused on the state of food security and sovereignty in the hemisphere and their relationship with climate change, taking into consideration the gender and intersectionality perspective. In this regard, specialists and women's organizations made contributions that enriched the methodology of the different sessions.



AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

Opening remarks:

- Senator **Checo Pérez** (Mexico), Vice-President of the General Committee of the Senate of the Republic
- Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay), President of ParlAmericas
- Senator **Verónica Noemí Camino Farjat** (Mexico), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and host of the gathering
- Senator **Rosa Galvez** (Canada), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change

Keynote speaker:

- **Guadalupe Valdez**, Special Ambassador for Zero Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean

Specialists:

- **Eduardo Benítez**, assistant representative for Programs, FAO Office in Mexico
- **Chenille Humes**, agricultural youth ambassador for Jamaica
- **Benjamín López Velásquez**, Co-founder of Flor de Tierra and representative of the Network of Rural Youth of Guatemala
- **Diego Montenegro Ernst**, representative of the Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) in Mexico
- **Matteo Perrone**, resident representative of the World Food Program in Ecuador
- **Nadia Manning-Thomas**, Planning and Coordination Specialist, UN Women - Caribbean Multi-Country Office
- **Medalith Rivera Maquera**, representative of the Union of Aymara Indigenous Youth of Peru "Wayna Wila Ujia" and member of the Children and Youth Committee of the Continental Network of Indigenous Women of the Americas (ECMIA)

Dialogues moderated by:

- The Honourable Member of the National Assembly of Panama **Kayra Harding Bart**, Vice-President for Central America of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
- Senator **Lilia Margarita Valdez Martínez** (Mexico), representative of the Mexico Chapter of the Parliamentary Front against Hunger
- **Sulma Campos Mata**, Head of the Technical Unit for Gender Equality of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico and general coordinator of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Staff Network on Gender Equality
- **Jatziri Pando Medina**, technical secretary of the Environment, Natural Resources and Climate Change Committee of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico and regional coordinator for North America of the Parliamentary Staff Network on Climate Change
- Member of Parliament **Tamika Davis** (Jamaica)

Closing remarks:

- **Joel Hernández**, Undersecretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights of Mexico



[FULL AGENDA](#)



[PRESS RELEASE](#)



[PRESENTATIONS](#)



[VIDEO RECORDING](#)



[PODCAST EPISODE](#)



DECLARATION

During the Gathering, parliamentarians adopted a declaration that includes the following commitments:

- Adopt approaches in our legislative work that acknowledge the urgency of addressing the crisis of food insecurity in our region, and promoting measures grounded in principles of food sovereignty to make our food systems more sustainable and climate resilient.
- Establish spaces for the substantive participation of women, the rural poor, Indigenous, Afrodescendent, and Indo-descendent peoples, smallholder farmers and fisherfolk, migrants and other traditionally marginalized groups in decision-making processes to build more sustainable food systems.
- Promote the use of gender analysis in legislative undertakings aimed at the food crisis that include issues such as equal access to agricultural technologies, technical assistance, productive resources, tenure security and control over land.
- Call on relevant authorities to collect disaggregated data, especially by gender, race and ethnicity, and by geographic zones (rural-urban), and develop a national information system that includes food insecurity and vulnerability.
- Develop new legislation or reform existing laws, incorporating principles of circular economy, to reduce and eliminate food loss and waste in all sectors in the value chain and connected food systems, promoting the involvement of all stakeholders including producer organizations, the private sector, distributors and retailers, and consumers.
- Promote investments towards rural communities with the objective of improving their transportation infrastructure and strengthening their access, especially for women, to basic services, capital goods, and microcredit.
- Promote community-based food production models grounded in principles of food sovereignty that recognize and promote traditional cultural practices aligned with local experiences and knowledge, so that communities may contribute to the meaningful definition and development of food policies that are appropriate from a cultural, ecological, social, and economic perspective.
- Work through ParlAmericas, the Parliamentary Front Against Hunger, and multilateral bodies and in coordination with civil society organisations, women's organisations, and youth to share good legislative practices and successful experiences in the fight against hunger and fulfilling the right to food.



Senator **Blanca Ovelar** (Paraguay), President of ParlAmericas

"Despite the abundant wealth of our fertile lands, the diversity of our ecosystems, and decades of gradual progress in the fight against hunger, four out of every ten people in our hemisphere suffer from moderate to severe food insecurity. [...] A suitable and healthy diet, along with basic health and education services, is an essential component of human dignity and the right of every person to participate fully in the life of a society."



Senator **Rosa Galvez** (Canada), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change

"We need to understand the interconnections between gender, food, technology, science, and anti-corruption strategies so that the solutions we propose address the root causes and have a long-term impact."



Senator **Verónica Noemí Camino Farjat** (Mexico), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality and host of the gathering

"Empowering women and closing gender gaps in agri-food systems improves not only individual but also collective well-being, reducing hunger through economic autonomy and by strengthening resilience."



Guadalupe Valdez, Special Ambassador for Zero Hunger in Latin America and the Caribbean

"Food security is an achievable goal if we recognize its intricate relationship with the health of the planet and if we design strategies that ensure the improvement of people's lives and their sustainability. It is essential for parliamentarians to have an ethical commitment toward the production of legislative frameworks that generate more efficient and sustainable food production systems, reduce food loss and waste, and promote equity and access to food resources."



ELECTIONS RESULTS

The Executive Committee of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality is conformed as follows:

President

- Senator **Verónica Noemí Camino Farjat** (Mexico)

Vice-President - North America

- Member of the Parliament **Stephanie Kusie** (Canada)

First Vice-President - Central America

- Member of the National Assembly **Kayra Harding Bart** (Panama)

Second Vice-President - Central America

- Member of Congress **Andrea Villagrán** (Guatemala)

First Vice-President - South America

- Senator **Carmen Gloria Aravena** (Chile)

Second Vice-President - South America

- Senator **Daniella Velloso Borges Ribeiro** (Brazil)

Vice-President - The Caribbean

- Senator **Lisa Jawahir** (Saint Lucia)

The Executive Committee of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change and Sustainability is conformed as follows:

President

- Senator **Rosa Galvez** (Canada)

Vice-President

- Senador **Raúl Bolaños-Cacho Cué** (México)

Vice-President - Central America

- Member of the Legislative Assembly **Óscar Izquierdo Sandí** (Costa Rica)

First Vice-President - South America

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Margarita Stolbizer** (Argentina)

Second Vice-President - South America

- Member of the National Assembly **Radjendrekoemar Debie** (Suriname)

First Vice-President - The Caribbean

- Senator **Anthony Vieira** (Trinidad and Tobago)

Second Vice-President - The Caribbean

- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Nelsa Shoraya Suárez Ariza** (Dominican Republic)

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED



6



This activity was made possible with the generous support of the Senate of Mexico and the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.



Subscribe to the ParlAmericas Podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#), [Google Podcasts](#), or [Spotify](#), where you can listen to sessions from ParlAmericas activities.



ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes **PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY** in the **INTER-AMERICAN SYSTEM**



ParlAmericas mainstreams **GENDER EQUALITY** by advocating for women's political empowerment and the application of a gender lens in legislative work



ParlAmericas works towards strengthening democracy and governance by accompanying **ELECTORAL PROCESSES**



ParlAmericas is composed of the **35 NATIONAL LEGISLATURES** of the countries of North, Central and South America and the Caribbean



ParlAmericas fosters **OPEN PARLIAMENTS** by advancing the principles of transparency, accountability, citizen participation, ethics and probity



ParlAmericas organizes consultations and builds **MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS** with young leaders and civil society organizations



ParlAmericas facilitates the exchange of parliamentary **GOOD PRACTICES** and promotes **COOPERATIVE POLITICAL DIALOGUE** in pursuit of the Sustainable Development Goals



ParlAmericas promotes policies and legislative measures to mitigate and adapt to the effects of **CLIMATE CHANGE**



ParlAmericas is headquartered in **OTTAWA, CANADA**

International Secretariat of ParlAmericas

703-155 Queen Street, Ottawa, Ontario, K1P 6L1 Canada

Telephone: +1 (613) 947-8999

Email: info@parlamericas.org

