



#ParAmericasCC #GlobalPlasticsTreaty

 **THEMES:** Circular economy, plastic pollution

 **DATE:** May 24, 2023

 **LOCATION:** Virtual

 **PARTICIPANTS:** More than 100 parliamentarians, parliamentary staff, women's organizations, youth leaders, and representatives of civil society and multilateral organizations

 **CO-ORGANIZERS:** The Latin American and the Caribbean Circular Economy Coalition, EMF, UNEP, WRAP, and the WWF



This activity aligned with SDGs 3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 12, 13, 14, and 15.



Historic Opportunity: The Role of Parliaments in Ending Plastic Pollution

The adoption of the United Nations [resolution](#) in 2022 to create a legally binding international agreement to end plastic pollution by 2024 created positive momentum across the globe. To sustain this momentum and advance regional cooperation on ending plastic pollution, parliamentarians and specialists from the hemisphere were convened to examine how parliaments can address the unsustainable production and consumption of plastics and promote the transition to a circular economy. The discussions held also acknowledged that through the revision and redesign of current take-make-waste practices there is also a renewed opportunity to better-address the systemic inequalities faced by women and historically marginalized communities.



AGENDA HIGHLIGHTS

Opening remarks:

- The Honourable Senator **Rosa Galvez** (Canada), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC)
- **Piedad Martín**, Deputy Regional Director for Latin America and the Caribbean, United Nation Environment Programme (UNEP)

Panellists:

- Honourable Member of the Chamber of Representatives **Juan Carlos Losada** (Colombia)
- Senator **Paulina Nuñez** (Chile)
- The Honourable **Orlando Habet** (Belize), Minister of Sustainable Development, Climate Change and Disaster Risk Management
- **Jordi Pon**, Regional Chemicals & Waste Sub-Programme Coordinator, UNEP Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean
- **Andrea Cino**, International Partnerships Manager, Waste and Resources Action Programme (WRAP)
- **Luisa Santiago**, Executive Director for Latin America, Ellen MacArthur Foundation (EMF)

Moderators:

- The Honourable Senator **Dessima Williams** (Grenada), President of the Senate
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Graciela Camaño** (Argentina)

MAIN TAKEAWAYS FROM THE MEETING:

- The development of a global treaty on plastics can provide a legal framework for strengthening the legislative efforts of parliaments across the globe.
- Parliament can promote the reduction of plastic production and consumption through provisions in legislation that incentivize the development of nature-based solutions to replace plastics, extend producer responsibility, and impose import restrictions on plastic products. These were among the good practices shared during the roundtable presentations given by [Colombia](#), [Belize](#), and [Chile](#).
- It is imperative that the measures taken towards a circular economy to eliminate plastic pollution are based on intersectoral and intersectional considerations and that the impacts on small businesses, individuals living in situations of poverty, women and marginalized groups are assessed.
- Parliament can utilise gender responsive stakeholder consultations and gender analyses to address specific concerns and provide opportunities for women and girls to act as agents of change on the plastics agenda.
- Parliament has a role in promoting clear communication of the standards and definitions of the plastics agenda including but not limited to the terms reusable, biodegradable, and recyclable, and then employing targeted communication strategies when disseminating this information to the public.



[FULL AGENDA](#)



[PRESS RELEASE](#)



[PRESENTATIONS](#)



[VIDEO RECORDING](#)

PARTICIPATING PARLIAMENTS



Argentina



Costa Rica



Nicaragua



Belize



Grenada



Panama



Bolivia



Guatemala



Peru



Canada



Honduras



Suriname



Chile



Jamaica



Trinidad and Tobago



Colombia



Mexico



Uruguay

PARTNERS



**CIRCULAR
ECONOMY
COALITION**

Latin America and the Caribbean



**ELLEN MACARTHUR
FOUNDATION**



In partnership with

Canada

This meeting was made possible with the generous support of the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.



Subscribe to the ParlAmericas Podcast on [Apple Podcasts](#) and [Google Podcasts](#), where you can listen to sessions from this and other 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

