



CONCEPT NOTE AND AGENDA

Parliaments as Allies to Accelerate Sustainable Development Progress and Strengthen Development Cooperation

A regional dialogue among UN Resident Coordinators and parliamentarians of Latin America and the Caribbean

 Virtual | October 28, 2025

11:30 am - 1:00 pm (Panama time) - 90 minutes

Interpretation will be provided in English and Spanish

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Background

Since the adoption of the 2030 Agenda countries have made significant advances in incorporating the SDGs into national development plans and monitoring and evaluation frameworks, including indicator frameworks to track progress. There have been continued efforts towards integrating the SDGs and their targets into sectoral policies and investment plans, and in strengthening national statistical systems. Furthermore, mechanisms, guides and partnerships have been developed to promote the engagement of diverse stakeholders – including women, young people and traditionally marginalized groups – in the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. However, much remains to be done.

Legislators are uniquely positioned to act as an interface between the people and state institutions, and to promote and adopt people-centered policies and legislation to ensure that no one is left behind. Parliamentarians in the Americas and the Caribbean have therefore an opportunity and at the same time a responsibility to play a protagonist role in supporting and monitoring SDG implementation.

The Development Coordination Office for Latin America and the Caribbean (DCO LAC) has been partnering with ParlAmericas since June 2024 through a Declaration of Intent to strengthen parliamentary engagement in advancing development cooperation.

Since the partnership began, DCO LAC and ParlAmericas have engaged in several high-level initiatives, including presentations by the DCO LAC Regional Director to ParlAmericas’ Board of Directors, highlighting opportunities for collaboration between UN Resident Coordinators and national parliaments, and follow-up dialogues with parliamentarians and ParlAmericas leadership focusing on multilateralism.

Across Latin America and the Caribbean, there are solid and inspiring examples of the UN’s collaboration with national parliaments, demonstrating that parliaments are natural and essential allies of the UN system, as they play a crucial role in translating global commitments into national action through legislation, oversight, and budget allocation. Building on these positive experiences, this dialogue seeks to further strengthen cooperation between the UN and parliamentary institutions to accelerate progress toward sustainable development in the region.

Objective

This session will convene invited parliamentarians with UN Resident Coordinators from Latin America and the Caribbean to deepen mutual understanding of their respective mandates and explore strategic avenues for collaboration in advancing sustainable development. The dialogue will highlight successful initiatives, emerging opportunities, and the critical role of parliaments in shaping inclusive, accountable, and coherent sustainable development policies. Through an interactive exchange, participants will identify concrete actions to strengthen parliamentary engagement, enhance alignment between sustainable development ambition and parliamentary action, and reflect on the common commitment to multilateralism.

A. 10:30 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 11:30 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 12:30 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 13:30 (UTC – 03:00)
Belize Costa Rica El Salvador Guatemala Honduras Mexico - Mexico City Nicaragua	Colombia Ecuador Jamaica Panama Peru	Antigua and Barbuda Barbados Bolivia Canada - Ottawa Dominica Dominican Republic Grenada Guyana Saint Kitts and Nevis Saint Lucia Saint Vincent and the Grenadines The Bahamas Trinidad and Tobago	Argentina Brazil - Brasilia Chile - Santiago Paraguay Uruguay Suriname

Opening Remarks

A. 10:30 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 11:30 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 12:30 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 13:30 (UTC – 03:00)
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- Senator **Ivan Flores** (Chile), President of ParlAmericas
- **Roberto Valent**, Regional Director for the United Nations Development Coordination Office for Latin America and the Caribbean

Dialogue - Parliaments as Allies to Accelerate Sustainable Development Progress

A. 10:40 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 11:40 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 12:40 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 13:40 (UTC – 03:00)
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This dialogue will highlight successful initiatives of parliamentary engagement in sustainable development acceleration and development cooperation. After brief initial presentations, a dialogue session will provide a space for participants to explore how multilateral actors and parliaments can co-create pathways that respond to urgent needs while advancing long-term sustainable development, sharing recommendations to better-involve Legislatures in shaping inclusive, accountable, and coherent sustainable development policies.

Moderator: **Alisha Todd**, Director General, ParlAmericas

- Senator **Ivan Flores** (Chile), President of ParlAmericas
- The Honourable **Alvina Reynolds** (Saint Lucia), President of the Senate and Vice-President of ParlAmericas
- Member of the Chamber of Deputies **Antares Vázquez Alatorre** (Mexico), President of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network for Gender Equality
- **Silvia Rucks del Bo**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Brazil
- Member of the Chamber of Representatives **Rodrigo Goñi** (Uruguay), Member of ParlAmericas Digital Caucus
- The Honourable **Dessima Williams** (Grenada), President of the Senate and member of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors
- **Raúl Salazar**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Belize
- Honourable Representative **Juan Carlos Losada** (Colombia), Co-Chair of the ParlAmericas Green Economy Caucus
- Mr. **Brian B. Caesar** (Trinidad and Tobago), Clerk of the House and Regional Coordinator for the Caribbean of ParlAmericas Parliamentary Staff Network on Climate Change and Sustainability
- Open Floor Reflections

Closing Reflections and Next Steps

A. 11:50 (UTC – 06:00)	B. 12:50 (UTC – 05:00)	C. 13:50 (UTC – 04:00)	D. 14:50 (UTC – 03:00)
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- The Honourable **Dessima Williams** (Grenada), President of the Senate and member of the ParlAmericas Board of Directors
- **Roberto Valent**, Regional Director for the United Nations Development Coordination Office for Latin America and the Caribbean



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Select sessions of this event will be recorded and turned into podcast episodes.



This activity is being undertaken with financial support from the Government of Canada through Global Affairs Canada.