

**PRESS RELEASE**  
*For immediate release*

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**ParlAmericas and Parlatino hold 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change, *Renewable Energies***

ParlAmericas and Parlatino will hold the 2<sup>nd</sup> gathering of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC), *Renewable Energies*, on August 3 and 4, 2017, in Panama City, Panama. The gathering will bring together legislators from more than 20 countries of the Americas and the Caribbean to exchange good legislative practices and engage in dialogue with international experts on parliamentary action to contribute to achieving the commitments undertaken in the COP21 Paris Agreement.

The keynote address will be delivered by Dr. Gisela Alonso, member of the High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda and President of the Cuban Environmental Agency (1999-2016). The working sessions will feature the participation of experts from international organizations including the Organization of American States (OAS), the Global Environment Facility (GEF), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC), the International Union for the Conservation of Nature (IUCN), and civil society representatives working in areas related to climate change.

Senator Marcela Guerra (Mexico), President of ParlAmericas, highlighted that “parliamentary work on the climate change agenda must seek to create synergies and cooperation between various economic sectors and social and political actors to generate significant progress.” Further, Member of the National Assembly Elías Castillo (Panama), President of Parlatino, noted that “legislative harmonization to combat climate change can be informed by the model laws on various environmental, economic, and social topics; these serve as references for national parliaments.” Member of the National Assembly Javier Ortega (Panama), President of the PNCC – ParlAmericas, emphasized that “science plays a critical role in informing legislative work to ensure that decision-making is based on evidence.” Member of Congress Oscar Argueta Mayén (Guatemala), President of the Parlatino Commission on the Environment and Tourism, added that “national legislation on climate change must consider citizens’ diverse experiences in order to design inclusive and just laws for mitigation and adaptation.”

For further information, consult the gathering’s [agenda](#) and follow [@ParlAmericas](#) and [@sedeparlatino](#) on social media.

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ParlAmericas is the institution that promotes parliamentary diplomacy in the inter-American system. Composed of the national legislatures of the member States of the OAS from North, Central and South America and the Caribbean, ParlAmericas facilitates the exchange of parliamentary best practices and promotes cooperative political dialogue. For more information, visit [www.parlamericas.org](http://www.parlamericas.org) or write to [communications@parlamericas.org](mailto:communications@parlamericas.org).

Parlatino is a regional body composed of the national parliaments of the countries of Latin America and the Caribbean responsible for promoting and harmonizing integration in the region. For more information, visit [www.parlatino.org](http://www.parlatino.org).