

PROPOSAL

CHAPTER XVI – STATUTES OF THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK ON CLIMATE CHANGE - PARLAMERICAS

1. The Parliamentary Network on Climate Change (PNCC) was created as a joint initiative between ParlAmericas and Parlatino in Panama City on August 5, 2016. PNCC-ParlAmericas was integrated into ParlAmericas' structure following the adoption of Resolution 41-01 by ParlAmericas members, who approved its establishment during the 13th Plenary Assembly which took place in Mexico City on December 6, 2016. These statutes govern how the Network will function within ParlAmericas. Parlatino will determine how it will engage with the Network according to its own institutional governance structures.
2. The purpose of the PNCC is to develop topics related to Climate Change and to encourage its discussion in order to initiate legislative action to mitigate its environmental, social and economic effects. It shall be led by a president elected during its Gathering.
3. **Mandate.** The PNCC has the following objectives:
 - (i) Serve as a hemispheric forum for legislative work and for the exchange of best practices to mitigate the environmental, social and economic effects of climate change, prioritizing the phenomena associated with global warming;
 - (ii) Encourage the application of a gender lens and the engagement of citizens, particularly the groups that are most vulnerable to the impacts of climate change, in the development of legislation and the supervision of governmental and parliamentary policies on climate change;
 - (iii) Follow up on the legislative actions and efforts taken to materialize the intended nationally determined contributions (INDC) in the periods between the Conferences of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change;
 - (iv) Encourage cooperation between parliaments and government agencies in the development and implementation of innovative policies to combat climate change and in measuring progress;
 - (v) Promote international cooperation to curb climate change through parliamentary diplomacy.
4. **Governance.** The PNCC-ParlAmericas will be governed by an Executive Committee composed of 1 president, 4 vice-presidents, and 2 ex-officio members, appointed based on the role they serve in ParlAmericas.
 - (i) **PNCC-ParlAmericas Presidency.** The President will be elected by the delegates of the member parliaments attending the PNCC Gathering. The mandate of her/his term will be 2 years, with the possibility of re-election. The President will also automatically serve as 2nd Vice-President of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas.
 - (ii) **PNCC-ParlAmericas Vice-Presidency.** The Vice-Presidents will be elected by the delegates of the member parliaments attending the PNCC Gathering, ensuring, when possible, gender parity in the positions. The term of their mandate will be 2 years, with the possibility of re-election. In the case of an elected Vice-President stepping down from their role or becoming unable to continue their mandate, their position will become open for election at the following PNCC Gathering.
 - (iii) **Ex-officio Members.** The President of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas will be an ex-officio member of the PNCC-ParlAmericas Executive Committee and will have voting rights. The Director General (or another designated person) will also be an ex-officio member but will not have voting rights.

- (iv) **Regional composition of the Vice-Presidencies.** To maintain regional balance, the 4 Vice-Presidents will come from each of the following four sub-regions:
- a. North America: Canada, United States of America, United Mexican States.
 - b. Caribbean: Antigua and Barbuda, Commonwealth of the Bahamas, Barbados, Cuba, Dominica, Dominican Republic, Grenada, Haiti, Jamaica, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, Trinidad and Tobago.
 - c. Central America: Belize, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Nicaragua, Panama.
 - d. South America: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Paraguay, Peru, Suriname, Uruguay and Venezuela.
5. **Roles.** The roles and responsibilities of the positions of President and Vice-President are constituted as follows:
- (i) Presidency
 - a. Represent the PNCC on behalf of ParlAmericas in the inter-American system;
 - b. Consult on relevant topics and contribute to ParlAmericas' agenda;
 - c. Review and approve the annual PNCC-ParlAmericas work plan, prior to its adoption by the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas;
 - d. Provide information on the progress of PNCC activities at every ParlAmericas Board of Directors meeting;
 - e. Chair the meetings of the PNCC-ParlAmericas Executive Committee;
 - f. Co-chair the PNCC Gathering with Parlatino; and
 - g. Serve as 2nd Vice-President on the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas.
 - (ii) Vice-Presidencies
 - a. Assist with the representation of the PNCC on behalf of ParlAmericas with an emphasis on their respective sub-region;
 - b. Consult on relevant topics and contribute to the development of ParlAmericas' agenda by offering a sub-regional perspective;
 - c. Review and approve the annual PNCC-ParlAmericas work plan, prior to its adoption by the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas;
 - d. Fulfill the responsibilities of the President in her/his absence, with prior designation by the President, except in meetings of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas; and
 - e. Attend the PNCC Gatherings.
6. **Electoral process.**¹ The International Secretariat will be responsible for organizing the electoral process for the positions on the PNCC-ParlAmericas Executive Committee.
- (i) The delegations will be comprised of parliamentarians representing member states, who will be chosen by each parliament.
 - (ii) The delegations representing their parliaments will be able to vote for the President and 4 Vice-Presidents.
 - (iii) The parliamentary candidates for the positions of President and Vice-President must show interest in and commitment to the Network's mandate and have been designated by their respective parliaments.

¹ In accordance with Resolution 34-03 of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas, ratified during the 11th Plenary Assembly, the member legislatures must pay their respective dues in order to present a candidacy. The payment for the current year must be received at the latest one day before the elections in order to present a candidacy.

- (iv) Every authorized delegation will receive one (1) official electoral ballot. Following the reading of the rules at the Gathering, a representative from the International Secretariat will visibly hand an electoral ballot to the voting delegate from each delegation.
- (v) An official ballot box will be placed so as to be visible to the Assembly where the representative of each delegation in attendance can place their vote, within the stipulated time.
- (vi) In the event that there is no competition for a position due to having only one candidate for the vacancy, the Director General or her/his designated representative will announce that the position has been designated by acclamation and will name the winning candidate.
- (vii) In the event of a tie, the candidates nominated for the position will have two (2) minutes to give a presentation in front of all of the delegations, in order to then hold a second round of voting. In the event that this also results in a tie, the ParlAmericas Board of Directors will need to vote to decide the winning candidate.
- (viii) The Director General or her/his designated representative will announce the election results and the length of the mandates.
- (ix) An official announcement of the results will be published on the website.
- (x) Succession plan for the Presidency.
 - a. In the event that the President is absent for an activity in which she/he must represent the PNCC, she/he will designate one of the Vice-Presidents to fulfill her/his functions during the activities of the organization, with the exception of her/his responsibilities related to the role of 2nd Vice-President of ParlAmericas.
 - b. In the event that the PNCC-ParlAmericas President must resign or retire from her/his role between PNCC Gatherings, the ParlAmericas Board of Directors, through a vote, will designate one of the Vice-Presidents of the PNCC-ParlAmericas as acting Interim President,² including in the position of 2nd Vice-President of the ParlAmericas Board. The new President will be elected at the next Gathering.

² The designated Vice-President's position will remain vacant until the next election.