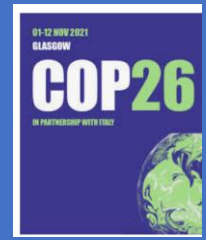


# NEWSLETTER



## Parliamentarians @ COP26

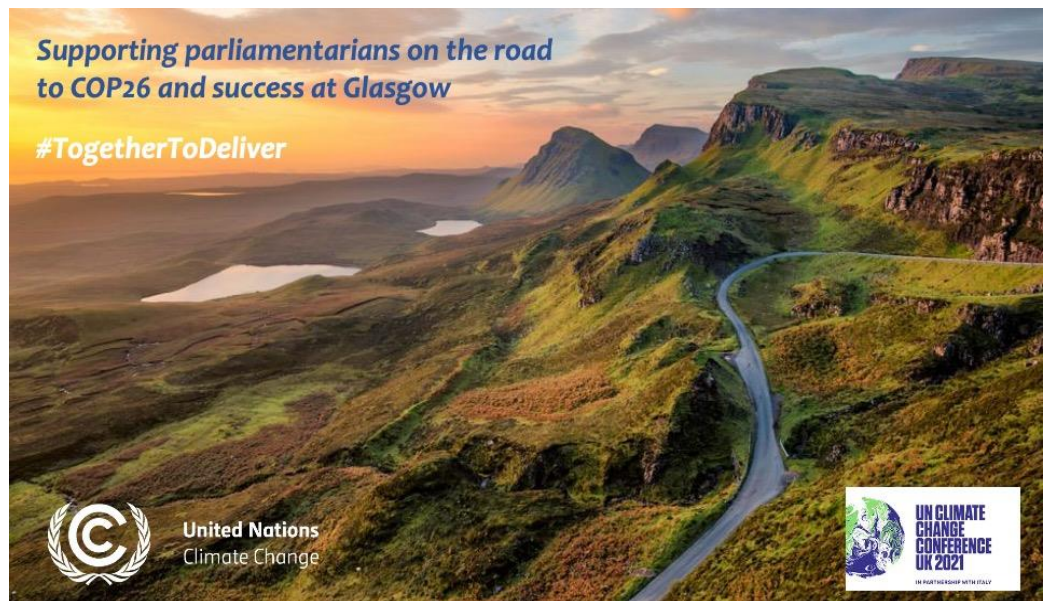
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Fortnightly newsletter prepared by GLOBE International, serving as the UNFCCC Focal Point for the Parliamentary Group. Supporting the community to stay abreast of developments and prepare the ground for success at COP26

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*To keep within our reach the vital goal of limiting global warming to 1.5 degrees Celsius, every nation needs to bring their highest-possible ambitions to the table-*  
*Joe Biden.*

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### Major Announcements at UNGA 76

As we build up to COP26 and especially during the week of the 76<sup>th</sup> Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA 76), nations and organizations have been making increased commitments. Here we look at a few of them.

U.S President, Joe Biden announced during his speech at the 76th Session of the UNGA that he will work with Congress to increase U.S' Climate Change funding support to developing countries to \$11.4 billion per year by 2024. Read more here: <https://reut.rs/3kEyXuA> . Read the full text of President Biden's speech here: <https://bit.ly/3o3KKVy>

As the race to 1.5 picks up with commitments from world leaders at UNGA 76, Chinese President, Xi Jinping, announced that China will no longer fund coal-powered investments abroad. Read more here: <https://bbc.in/3u9Enko>

**UN Secretary General António Guterres Calls for Action:** Much bolder climate action is needed and G20 nations must lead. Read details of UN Secretary General António Guterres' UNGA 76 speech here: <https://bit.ly/3ujeP11>

Nine Foundations, including Bezos Earth Fund, have pledged \$5billion in record funding for biodiversity on the sidelines of UNGA 76. The fund is

targeted at protecting and conserving 30% of the planet by 2030. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3uak86h>

## Updates from the COP 26 UK Presidency

Here are some important news items released by the COP 26 Communications Department ahead of COP 26:

COP 26 Presidency has announced that Jaguar and Land Rover have become official partners. [Jaguar Land Rover will provide electric vehicles for leaders at COP26.](#)

COP26 President-Designate, Rt. Hon. Alok Sharma has called for [coal power to be assigned to history to keep to 1.5 degrees.](#) Sharma was speaking during Energy Action Day on September 16, 2021.

There is hope for a net zero future as the [COP26 Futures We Want Project](#) which was unveiled on September 21, 2021, has shown that there is hope for a resilient, inclusive, and desirable net zero world. See more here: [Global citizens and scientists shine hope on how to achieve a thriving net zero future.](#)

[Australian Business Summit Held in Support of the Race to Zero:](#) The UK in partnership with the New South Wales (NSW) Government on Wednesday, September 22, hosted leading members of the Australian Business Community to a climate action discussion. Major companies in the NSW economy commitment to the 1.5 degrees goal.

[UK Funding Protects 88 million People from the Impacts of Climate Change:](#) UK aid provisions over the past ten years have helped 88 million people to cope with Climate Change while helping to improve access to clean energy for 44 million people. This is according to the UK's International Environment Minister, Zac Goldsmith

According to the COP 26 President-Designate, Alok Sharma, the UK Government will be “offering funding for quarantine hotel stays for all accredited delegates arriving from Red List countries.” Mr. Sharma made this known in his “Letter to All Parties from the COP 26 President Designate, Ahead of Pre-COP” of September 22, 2021. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3i3vNiA>

## Parliaments in the News

**Wednesday, September 22, 2021:** The Foreign and Commonwealth Development Office in Nigeria, with the support of GLOBE, hosted the *Nigeria-UK Parliamentary Workshop on Climate Change Legislation and Low Carbon Development*. The workshop examined how to strengthen Nigeria’s Climate Change Bill; share insights on how Nigeria can decarbonize, opened doors for increased partnership, etc.

**Canadian Parliamentary Election:** Climate Change was a key issue in the build up to the Canadian election, which held on September 20, 2021. Polls conducted showed that Climate change was one of the top issues that voters considered in voting (<https://bit.ly/3udzFSV> ). In the area of gender balance, there was an increase from 29% of women elected to the House of Commons in

2019, to 30% in the just concluded elections. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3occF5C> .

**Germany's Parliamentary Election:** Climate protection was one of the key issues for German voters, as they trooped out for a historic election on Sunday 26, 2021. With devastating flood and increase in heat witnessed in the country this year, the climate crisis was at the front burner (<https://bbc.in/2Y3E3rV> ). Thousands of environmental activists on Friday, September 24, 2021, led by Greta Thunberg and Luisa Neubauer, staged a protest outside Germany's parliament, demanding greater actions are taken by politicians to curb climate change (<https://bit.ly/2XW3kV5> ). As at the time of filing this report, GRÜNE (Germany's Green party) which had hitherto not polled more than ten percent in a federal election won 14.8% which translates to 118 seats. Olaf Scholz of the SPD who will most likely be the next Chancellor of Germany has pledged to "halt man-made climate change"(<https://nyti.ms/3kHQXo4> )

**Parliamentary Elections in Russia:** Elections into Russia's lower house, State Duma, held between September 17-19, 2021. Results show that majority of the seats were won by the ruling party, United Russia. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3uhUwEp> .

**Iceland Parliamentary Election:** 30 out of the 63 seats in Iceland's parliament have been won by women. Initial counting after Sunday's polls had seen the country produce a female majority parliament (33 seats for women) for the first time, until a recount reduced the tally to 30. Iceland is still the country with the highest percentage of female lawmakers in Europe. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3odgEyL> .

**September 23, 2021:** The Parliament of Fiji passed into law its Climate Change Bill. The Bill, which has provisions for carbon trading offers alternative sustainable means of livelihood for landowners and has been seen as the blueprint for a carbon neutral, sustainably developed, and climate resilient Fiji.

## Calendar of Upcoming Parliamentary Climate Events

### **GLOBE Legislators Summit:**

During the COP26 events, GLOBE International shall be hosting a cross-party Legislators' Summit at the Scottish Parliament Edinburgh on November 5-6, 2021. The Summit which will have 150 participants physically present is expected to have an additional 5,000 participants join virtually. It will provide a platform for legislators to network, share ideas on innovative actions to be taken to address the issues of Climate Change and sustainable development.

Register here: <https://bit.ly/3k2vc1L>

### **The Moment:**

Ahead of COP26, GLOBE will be working with partners to promote dialogue between young people and parliamentarians on how to solve the climate crisis. These will take the form of Student-MP Climate Surgeries in London, and across Scotland with MSPs and MPs, on Friday 29 October. It is intended as a means of improving political understanding and supporting informed engagement on a critical issue for young people. The dialogues, billed as "The Moment", will take place across Scotland with the support of Scotland's Children and Youth Parliaments.

Parliaments in Partnership – *EU Global Project to Strengthen the Capacity of Parliaments* will be hosting the World Forum for Democracy Satellite Event “**Parliaments, Climate Change, and Intergenerational Justice**” on 6 October 2021, at 15:00 – 16:30 CEST (Brussels time). The interactive event which will explore Parliaments, Climate Change, and Intergenerational Justice from diverse perspectives is co-organized by INTER PARES, International IDEA and the Council of Europe. Click here for the draft agenda: <https://bit.ly/3F2437J> . Register here (<https://bit.ly/3ikLEcq> ) on or before October 5, 2021, to participate.

The Third Issue of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association’s newsletter, *The Parliamentarian 2021: Issue Three: Looking Ahead to COP26: The Key Challenges Facing the Commonwealth in Combatting Climate Change* is out. [Click here](#) to view this issue.

\*We are still calling for information on what parliaments within your area are doing as we build up to COP26. Please share with us through [focalpoint@globelegislators.org](mailto:focalpoint@globelegislators.org).

## Relevant Reports & Briefings



On Friday, September 24, 2021, the report *Parliaments and the Paris Agreement: Strengthening Parliamentary Engagement in the Development and Implementation of International Climate Commitments. An Overview of Emerging Global Experience* jointly developed by Inter-Pares, ParlAmericas, GLOBE International, and Westminster Foundation for Democracy, was launched at a high-level virtual event as part of the Climate Week New York. It chronicles good practices by parliaments the world over, what parliaments can still do to help their nations in meeting their Climate Change obligations and can be downloaded here: <https://bit.ly/3zH6kBX>



*Panelists at the launch*

**Climate Strikers Day of Action:** Hundreds of thousands of persons from 99 countries of the world have joined a coordinated and global climate strike calling on governments to intensify actions in tackling ecological issues. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/2WeaDX6>

**Religious Leaders join the Climate Fight:** Leaders of the Roman Catholic Church, Anglican Communion, and Eastern Orthodox Church, have issued a joint call stressing the urgency of environmental sustainability, the impact of Climate Change on poverty and the people, and called for global cooperation. Read more here: <https://bit.ly/3o8Bpf8>

How can the world raise money for sustainable and green transportation that does not discriminate against developing nations? Read here: <https://bit.ly/3CG2Kt4>

## Travel Advisory

Are you planning to be at the UK for COP 26? Access the updated Travel Advisory here: <https://bit.ly/3AHrTmJ>

**Important to note however that:** The UK Government is encouraging all those intending on travelling to the UK for COP 26 to be fully vaccinated. Unlike travellers who are not accredited for COP 26 who will be travelling to the UK from 4a.m on October 4, 2021, who have a different set of regulations, for accredited COP 26 delegates, the UK will accept ALL vaccines. It is however advised that the vaccines are WHO-approved.

Being fully vaccinated is to have received the full dosage at least fourteen (14) days before departure to the UK.

**Note:** There will be strict COVID-19 testing regime and safety protocols at the COP.

What is COP 26 and why does it matter? Learn more here: <https://bit.ly/2Zvf2WV>

## Contact Us

*Do you have opinions/insights or views on how Parliaments can help scale up climate ambitions? Is there any pre-COP event for parliamentarians happening around you? Kindly share your thoughts with us through [focalpoint@globelegislators.org](mailto:focalpoint@globelegislators.org).*

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