PARLIAMENTARIANS@COP28

NEWSLETTER

COP28 UAE

GLOBE
The Global Legislators Organisation

UNFCCC

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Welcome to the multilingual bi-monthly newsletter of 2023 prepared by GLOBE International serving as the UNFCCC Focal Point for the Parliamentary Group, supporting legislators to stay abreast of developments and prepare the ground for success at COP28.

In this issue we are delighted to announce two firsts at a UNFCCC Conference of Parties (COP) with regard to the parliamentary constituency:

- First-ever **Parliamentary Day** at COP28 on 6 December 2023
- First-ever **Parliamentary Pavilion** (hosted by GLOBE International) at COP28

Read on for further information on both – **including how to book an event at the Parliamentary Pavilion** – after the round-up of climate change news and events below.

UN Updates

Climate Change Dominate Conversations at UNGA78

Image credit: Global Goals

Climate change conversations were the ever-present feature of speeches by Heads of States and Governments including heads of institutions during the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly (UNGA78) which held in New York on 18-26 September, 2023. This comes as the world grapples to find solutions to the climate crises and ensure that the right steps are taken to keep 1.5 degrees alive. In his speech, UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres highlighted that "developed countries must reach net zero as close as possible to 2040, and emerging economies as close as possible to 2050 in line with common but differentiated responsibilities," while President Joseph Biden of the United States pledged America's commitment to quadrupling climate finance support to developing countries, help Pacific Island States to build resilience, and support the reformation of the international finance architecture.

Read the full text of President Biden's speech here: click here

Read the full text of Secretary Guterres' speech here: click here

COP28: Host country Agreement Signed

COP28 President-designate, Dr. Sultan Al Jaber, and the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Simon Stiell, on 1 August 2023, signed the host country agreement for COP28. In a joint statement released after the signing, they expressed their commitment to delivering a transparent and inclusive COP which will deliver transformative progress across all pillars.

Climate Ambition Summit Held

The United Nations Secretary General's Climate Ambition Summit was held in New York on 20 September 2023 on the sidelines of the 78th Session of the United Nations General Assembly. The Summit which is aimed at accelerating global climate ambitions featured heads of governments, business leaders, and institutions which the Secretary General identified as taking serious actions to improve their climate actions. Conspicuously missing from the list of participants are key emitters such as China and the United States. Watch the opening sessions here: click here

Image credit: UNTV

ACW: We Must Hold the Line at 1.5 Degrees — Simon Stiell

The Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Simon Stiell, says COP28 presents the world with a critical moment to ensure that everything is put in place to ensure that average temperature rise does not exceed 1.5 degrees Celsius. Mr. Stiell made this known during his speech at the Africa Climate Week in Nairobi, Kenya. According to him, this would entail at the very least, "[t]he delivery of the pledged 100 billion dollars. A doubling of adaptation finance. Substantial replenishment of the Green Climate Fund. A global finance system – public and private – aligned with climate action and green finance." More here: click here

Image credit: EviroNews

The Key to Resolving the Climate Crises is with the G20– Guterres

The United Nations Secretary General, Antonio Guterres has said that the solution to the climate crises rests on the G20 nations showing more ambition and commitment. Mr. Guterres stated this during his speech at the G20 Leaders' Summit held in New Delhi, India, on 9-10 September, 2023. According to him, the ultimate solution rests on "big emitters [making] extra efforts to cut emissions; and wealthier countries support emerging economies…" More here: click here

Image credit:UN

Synthesis Report of the GST Released

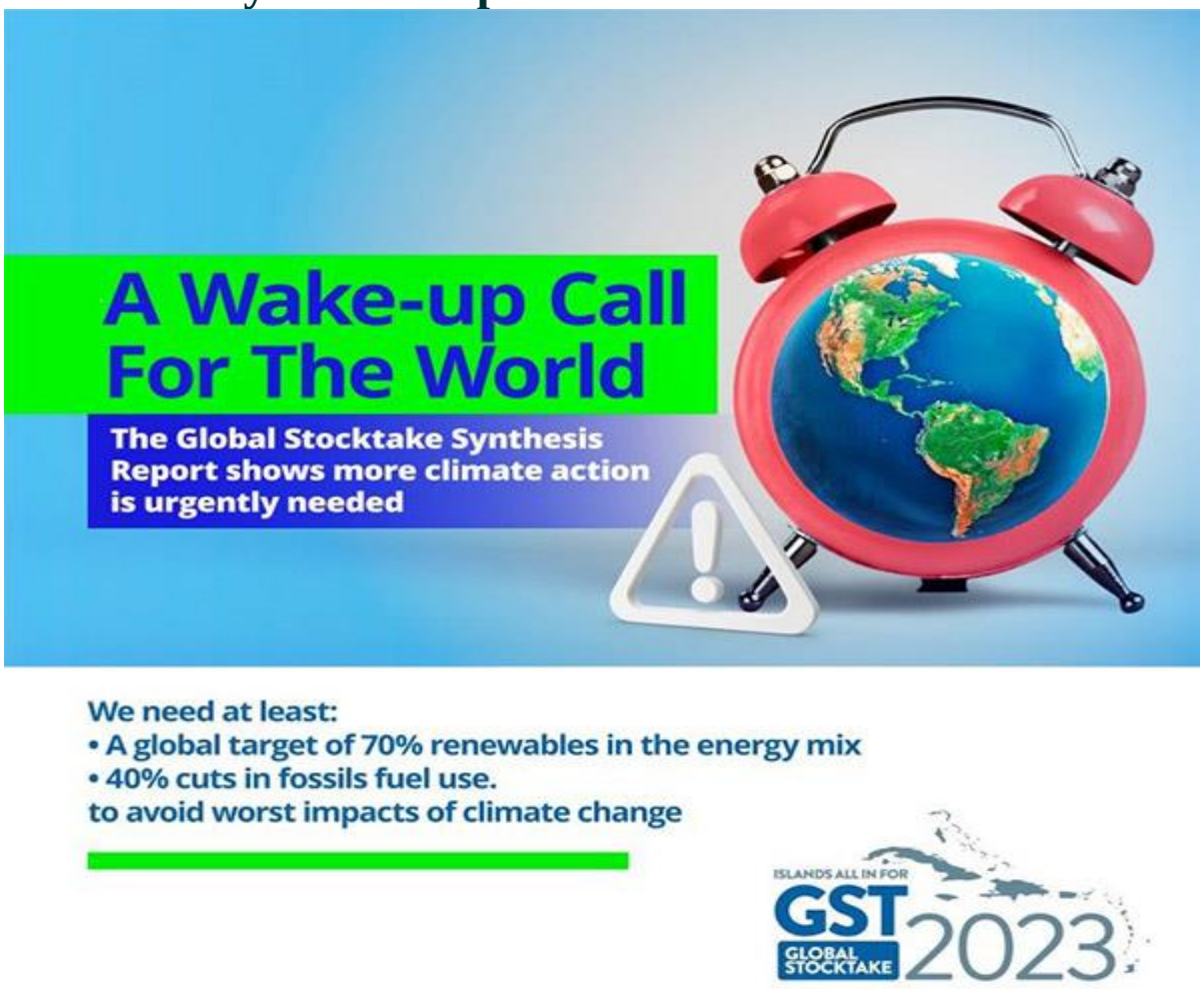


Image credit: LinkedIn

The synthesis report on the technical dialogue of the first global stocktake has been released. The report identified "key areas for further action to bridge gaps and addressing challenges and barriers in the implementation of the Paris Agreement." Download the report here: click here

COP28 Presidency Calls for Energy Transition Changemakers

The COP28 Presidency has launched the Energy Transition Changemakers initiative aimed at fostering "private sector collaboration in delivering innovative and scalable decarbonization projects globally." The initiative will focus on four key areas namely: renewables, renewable integration and clean power; energy efficiency; low-carbon hydrogen; and heavy emitting sectors – steel, cement, and aluminum. The focus will be on identifying projects which show "game-changing innovative solutions or approaches that have the potential to be replicated and scaled elsewhere." Applications are open until 9 October, 2023. More here: click here

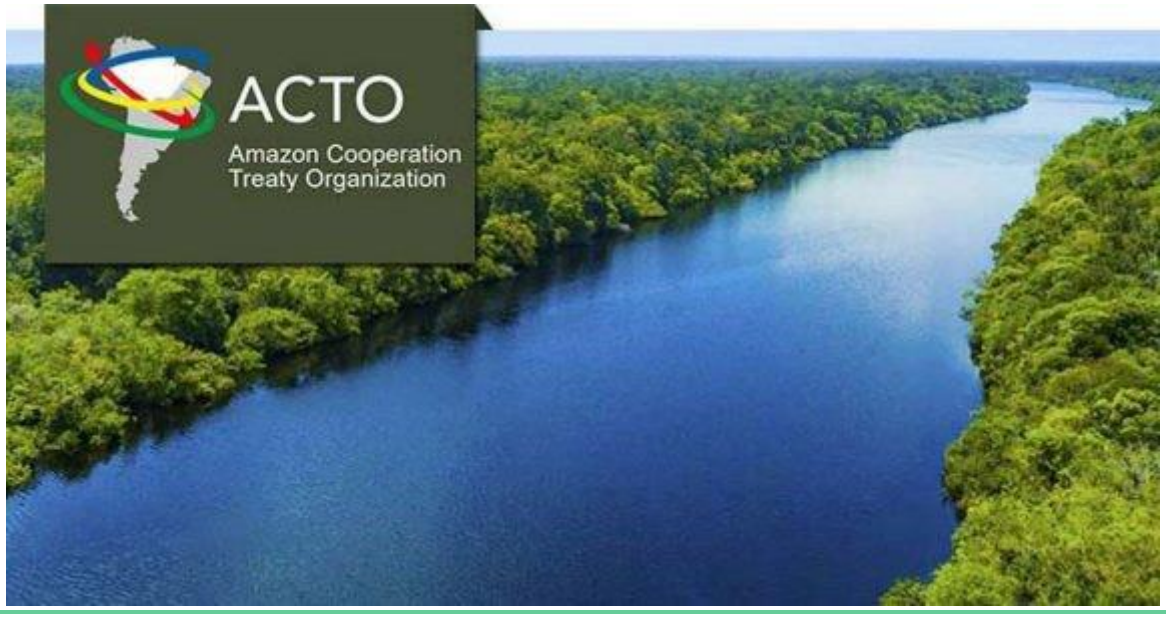
Global Updates

G20 Summit Ends With New Delhi Leaders Declaration

Image credit: Reuters

The G20 Leaders' Summit held in New Delhi, India on 9-10 September, 2023 with the theme "One earth, one family, one future," ended with a declaration which in addition to supporting the restructuring of the global finance architecture, champions "low-GHG/low-carbon emissions, climate-resilient and environmentally sustainable development pathways by championing an integrated and inclusive approach." Download the Declaration here: click here

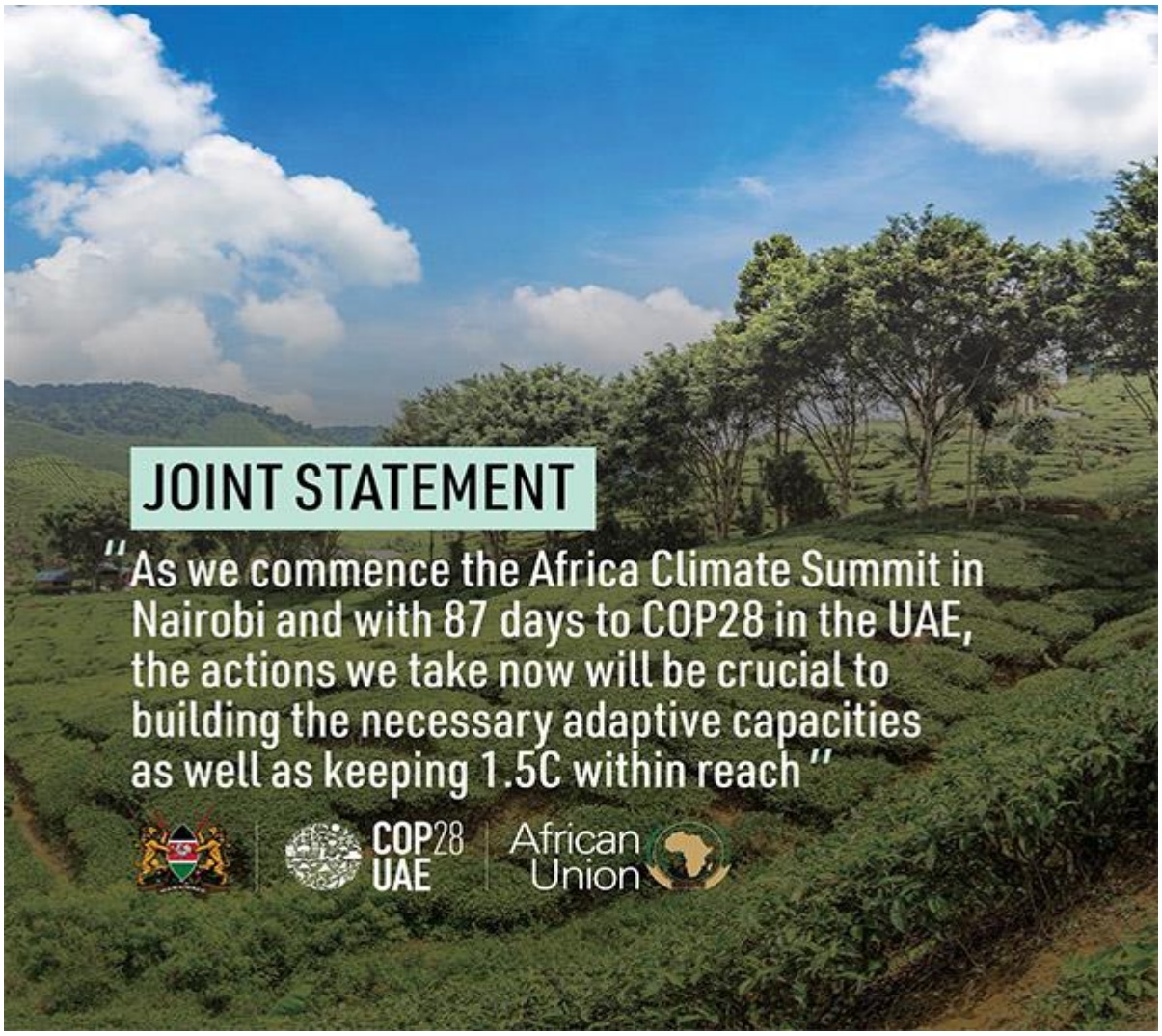
Amazon Summit Held



A 2-day Amazon Cooperation Treaty Organization (ACTO) summit held on 8-9 August, 2023 in Brazil. The event had leaders from Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela gathered at Belem, Brazil, to discuss ways of protecting the ecosystem of the Amazon rain forest. The Amazon is critical as it can serve as a massive carbon sink in the global fight against climate change. The Summit rose with the Belem declaration which essentially created alliances to combat deforestation of the Amazon and underscored the protection of the rights of indigenous people. Download the declaration here: click here

Image credit: OnManorama

Africa, COP28 Presidency, Commit to Ambitious Climate Action



The COP28 Presidency, Chairman of the Committee of African Heads of State and Government on Climate Change (CAHOSCC) and President of Kenya, William Ruto, and African Union Commission Chair Moussa Faki Mahamat have reiterated the commitment of Africa and the United Arab Emirates to work collaboratively to advance ambitious plans for a low-carbon, high-growth economic models powered by renewable energy and a reshaped finance architecture. This was contained in a Joint Statement released in Nairobi, Kenya, during the Africa Climate Week. More here: click here

Pacific SIDS Hold High-Level Dialogue on Climate Change

Image credit: Fiji One News

The high-level dialogue of the Pacific Small Islands Developing States held in Fiji on 21-22 August, 2023. The event was convened to seek regional solutions to the global need to keep average temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. Top priorities at the dialogue were: getting a timeline for phasing out fossil-fuel; improved climate finance to respond to the peculiar challenges faced by SIDS; stronger collaboration; and support for capacity building. More here: click here

Africa Climate Week Held in Kenya

Image credit: Joy Online

Africa Climate Week 2023 was held in Nairobi Kenya on 4-8 September, 2023. The event which brought together global players in climate change, African Heads of States, multinational organisations, youths, experts, parliamentarians, etc., focused on addressing climate adaptation, renewable energy, climate finance, and forming a United African front in the fight against climate change and rose having adopted the Nairobi Declaration. You can watch the opening ceremony of the Ministerial Day here: click here

Download the Nairobi Declaration here: click here

New York Climate Week Held

Image credit:Climate Chance

The annual New York Climate Week was held on 17-24 September, 2023. This year, there were over 400 events including the high-profile "Climate Week NYC Opening Ceremony". The focus this year was to provide answers to three key questions: the climate action is not moving fast enough across the globe. So, where should investment be channeled to, and who should be held accountable?; the U.S, Europe, and China are investing billions to boost investments in green technology and energy security. What should be done to ensure that implementation takes place?; how do we harness the collective will of the climate community to drive accelerated action? Visit www.climateweeknyc.org for more.

UAE Announces Green Finance Initiative with Africa

COP28 Presidency has announced a new Green Finance Initiative between the United Arab Emirates and Africa. The announcement was made on 5 September, 2023, during the Africa Climate Summit in Nairobi, Kenya. The initiative which will deploy an initial US$4.5Bn and further unlock an additional US$12.5Bn through multilateral, public and private sources will unlock Africa's clean energy potential with Africa50 as strategic partner. More here: click here

Date fixed for Climate and Development Ministerial Meeting

COP28 Presidency and the Government of the United Kingdom will be co-hosting the 3rd Climate and Development Ministerial meeting at pre-COP on 29 October, 2023. The meeting will focus on “advancing access to, and delivery of, adaptation finance.”

Kenya Amends Climate Change Law

Image credit: The Africa Report

The National Assembly of Kenya has amended the Climate Change Act. This was as the country prepared to host the African Climate Week 4-8 September. The Kenyan Climate Change (Amendment) Act 2023 which was signed into law by President William Ruto on 1 September, 2023, provided a framework for carbon trading as a means of incentivizing green growth and emissions reductions. More here: click here

African MPs to Hold Government Accountable

African Members of Parliament have committed to holding their governments accountable in enhancing climate action across the continent. This was at the Parliamentary Discourse held on the sidelines of the Africa Climate Week by the Global Parliamentary Group of the Climate Vulnerable Forum, International Renewable Energy Agency, Global Renewables Congress, and the Kenyan Parliament on 5-6 September, 2023 at the Kenyan Parliament. The dialogue which led to the establishment of an African Parliamentarians' Working Group on Climate Adaptation within the broader African Parliamentarians Network for Climate Action said effective climate action must focus on: Climate Change Adaptation and Mitigation; Green Growth and Sustainable Production; and Renewable Energy and Just Transition. Read the Press Release and download the Outcome Statement here: click here

GCF Pledging Conference to Hold

Image credit: GCF

The High-Level Pledging Conference for the second replenishment of the Green Climate Fund (GCF) will hold in Bonn, Germany, on 5 October 2023. The "GCF is a critical element of the climate finance architecture, as part of the financial mechanism of the UNFCCC and in serving the Paris Agreement," and provides support for developing countries to respond to the climate crises. More here: click here

Parliamentary Inquiry into Fossil-free Future Launched

Parliamentarians for a Fossil-Fuel free Future on 17-18 September 2023 held the launch of the “Global Parliamentarians' Inquiry into the Progress of the Fossil Fuel Phase Out” at Kimberley Hotel, New York. The inquiry was led by a Global Inquiry Committee of Parliamentarians from Bangladesh, Bolivia, Canada, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Egypt, Germany, Liberia, Philippines, Sierra Leone, Uruguay, Uganda, Tanzania, USA, and Zambia.

Preparations for COP28

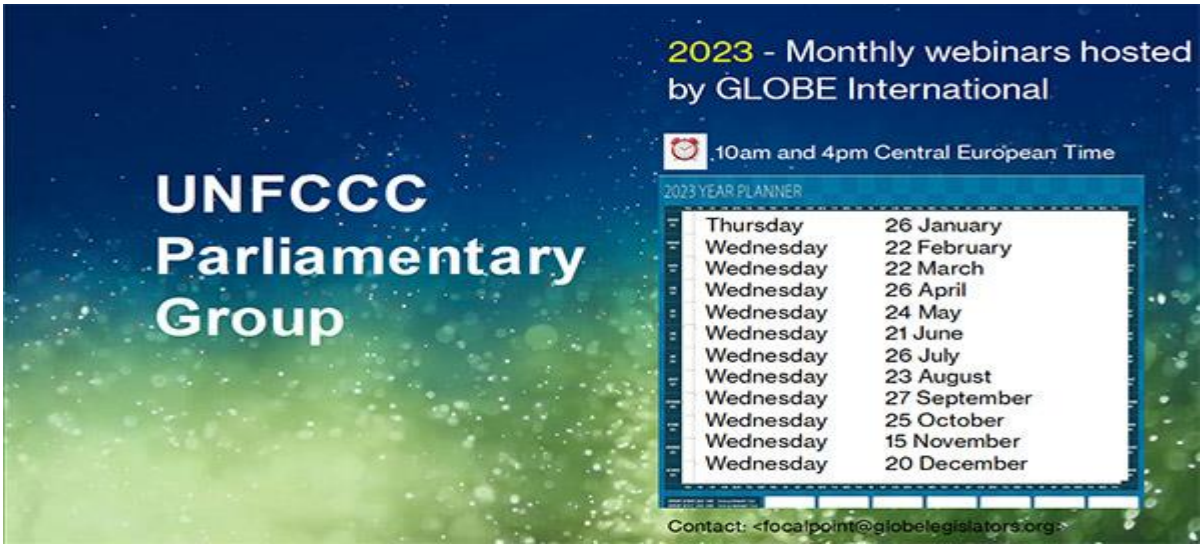
COP28 PARLIAMENTARY DAY – THURSDAY 6 DECEMBER 2023

We are delighted to share that following several months of discussion with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the Federal National Council (al-Majlis al-Watani al-Ittihadi) the national parliament of the UAE, and GLOBE International, the COP28 Presidency has confirmed that there will be a COP28 Parliamentary Day on Thursday 6 December.

The event will take place in the Green Zone and the programme is currently being co-drafted by IPU, FNC and GLOBE International. GLOBE International chief executive, Malini Mehra, was recently at IPU headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland, to meet with Ambassador Anda Filip of IPU to discuss the programme and share plans for COP28.

Please join our regular webinar for updates on the programme for the Parliamentary Day.

UNFCCC PARLIAMENTARY GROUP – MONTHLY WEBINAR



Stay abreast of parliamentary activity towards COP28 with our informative monthly webinars. The September session of the Parliamentary Group monthly webinar will take place on Wednesday, 27 September, 2023. This month's session will feature participation by the COP28 Presidency and the UNFCCC who will provide updates on preparations towards COP28 and respond to questions. There are two sessions viz:

Morning session — 10:00am CET.
Afternoon session— 4:00pm CET.

The webinars are intended for members of parliament, aides, parliamentary organisations and networks. To attend, kindly email us <focalpoint@globelegislators.org> for joining details.

BOOK YOUR EVENT AT THE COP28 PARLIAMENTARY PAVILION

The first ever Parliamentary Pavilion will be hosted at the Blue Zone, Expo City, Dubai, during COP28. The pavilion will offer parliamentarians and parliamentary networks a place to network, hold meetings, hold events and caucuses, and meet for morning and evening briefings on the state of negotiations.

Please e-mail <focalpoint@globelegislators.org> for details on how to book an event in the COP28 Parliamentary Pavilion.

COP28 PARLIAMENTARY CALENDAR

We are currently compiling our usual COP Parliamentary Calendar. Kindly send in your events which will take place during COP28. These may be within the Blue Zone, Green Zone, or at hotels. Email <focalpoint@globelegislators.org> for inclusion in the Parliamentary Calendar. Deadline 15 November 2023.

Related Partner News

Agora Hold Workshop on Parliamentary Research

The AGORA Parliamentary Development Community of Practice on 20 September, 2023, held a workshop on “Mapping and connecting parliamentary research services around the world”. The event sought to highlight the importance of research-backed parliamentary mechanisms for parliamentarians.

CPA Launches SDGs Course for MPs

Image credit: CPA

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) has launched the CPA Parliamentary Academy Sustainable Development Course. The launch held on the margins of the United Nations SDGs Summit. Learn more about the course, and register for the CPA Parliamentary Academy here: click here

Support Us

GLOBE International is an international charity registered in Belgium. We work in a cross-party and non-partisan manner to ensure that elected representatives are aware of and engaged in key international processes such as the United Nations conference of parties (COPs) on climate change, biodiversity and desertification.

Since 2021, GLOBE has served as the UNFCCC Focal Point for the Parliamentary Group, providing a range of services to help inform and organise the global parliamentary constituency. We seek to do the same for the other Rio Conventions and key international institutions and processes.

As a non-profit organisation our work relies on public support and donations. If you would like to support our work, kindly Donate using our Paypal account: the beneficiary is <secretariat@globelegislators.org>

If you would like to support our work through sponsorship partnerships, kindly drop us a line at <secretariat@globelegislators.org> Thank you.

Contact Us

Do you have opinions/insights or views on how Parliaments can help scale up climate ambitions? Are Parliaments around you taking action to help address the climate crisis? Kindly share your thoughts with us through focalpoint@globelegislators.org.

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