

Volume 4 Issue 2

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Welcome to the March issue of our multilingual Parliamentarians@COP29 newsletter, prepared by <u>GLOBE International</u> serving as the <u>UNFCCC Focal Point</u> for the world's parliamentary constituency. Our work supports legislators to deliver on their Paris Agreement (and related) climate commitments, and to prepare for and engage effectively at COP29.

We are proud to work closely with the **COP28-COP29-COP30 Presidencies**, now brought together as the first such Troika to better coordinate across the Presidencies and support Mission 1.5C. Our focus is on ensuring that the global parliamentary constituency is well-informed and supported to engage in the UNFCCC process, COP29 and related international fora. Tune in for in-depth updates at our **monthly Webinars** for the Parliamentary constituency (details below) and our bi-monthly newsletters.

At COP28, we hosted the first ever Parliamentary Pavilion. Most of the events at the **Parliamentary Pavilion were livestreamed** and the videos for 32 events can be viewed directly on the **Parliamentary Pavilion playlist** <u>here</u>. Photos from the Pavilion events can be viewed on Flickr here.



The first ever 'troika' of the COP28, COP29, and COP30 Presidencies has been launched by the COP28 Presidency. The partnership which brings together the United Arab Emirates, Azerbaijan, and Brazil, was launched on 13 February 2024, in Dubai, United Arab Emirates "to improve cooperation and continuity between current and future COP Presidencies, leading to increased climate action in support of 'Mission 1.5°C'. More <u>here</u>.

Stiell Calls for Unity of the Troika



Image credit: ZAWYA

Following the launch of the COP Presidencies Troika to drive ambitious, collaborative, and continuous actions leading to improved NDCs, the Executive Secretary of the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), Simon Stiell, has said that the unity of the Presidencies will help in the attainment of the global vision to limit temperature rise to 1.5 degrees Celsius. According to him, the "unity of this Troika will help deliver on the ambition needed to tackle climate change, through collaboration, cooperation and coordination. This is an opportunity to cement what was agreed at COP28, ensure that it is enabled by COP29 and the subsequent actions taken at COP30 with new ambitious NDCs - shifting finance from trickles to torrents and delivering 1.5°C aligned NDCs." More <u>here</u>.



The first major climate change meeting post-COP28, the Copenhagen Ministerial, took place in Copenhagen, Denmark, on 21-22 March, 2024. Chaired by Danish Minister for Development Cooperation and Global Climate Policy, Dan Jorgensen, the meeting gathered over 40 climate leaders for conversations on the priorities for COP29. More <u>here</u>.

COP29 High-Level Champion Unveiled



The COP29 Presidency has announced H.E. Ms. Nigar Arpadarai as the 9th UN Climate Change High-level Champion. "The High-Level Champion is a key position in the UN Climate Change multilateral process, created at COP21 in Paris, connecting the work of national governments with the many voluntary and collaborative actions taken by non-State actors from cities, regions,

businesses, investors and civil society." H.E Arpadarai is a member of the Azerbaijan Parliament. GLOBE looks forward to working with Ms Arpadarai in delivery of her mandate and engagement of the Mili Majlis of Azerbaijan and the global parliamentary constituency. More <u>here</u>. Image credit: Sherg.az

UNEA-6 Ends with Key Resolutions



The Sixth United Nations Environment Assembly (UNEA-6) has ended in Nairobi, Kenya, with member countries agreeing to fifteen resolutions which will help tackle the triple planetary crises of climate change, nature loss and pollution. The Ministerial Declaration "affirmed Member States' commitment to slow climate change, restore and protect biodiversity, create a pollution-free world and confront issues of desertification, land and soil degradation, drought and deforestation by taking effective, inclusive and sustainable multilateral actions." More <u>here</u>.

Image credit:TheCable

Global Updates

Azerbaijan Signs Up to Global Methane Pledge

The host of COP29, Azerbaijan, has signed up to the Global Methane Pledge. This was as the country prepares to host this year's global climate change talks. The Methane Pledge is a commitment by countries to reduce their emissions of methane. About 155 countries have already signed up. More here.

Global Methane Pledge

Image credit: Menafn

1.5C Warming Limit Over 12-month Period Exceeded



Image credit: AFP

For the first time ever, global warming in world exceeded the 1.5 degrees Celsius threshold over a one-year period. This was revealed by the European Union's Copernicus Climate Change Service (C3S) in early February, 2024. This officially made 2023 the hottest year ever since 1850, with the heat expected to continue way into 2024. More <u>here</u>.

1.5 Degrees: COP29 Presidency to Unite North and South



Image credit: Bloomberg

COP29 President-designate, Mukhtar Babayev, has said that Azerbaijan will work hard to bridge the trust, implementation and funding gap between industrialised and developing countries which continue to affect the attainment of commitments. Babayez said that only through rebuilding trust can the 1.5 vision be attained. More <u>here</u>.

WIM for L&D Holds 20th Executive Committee Meeting



Image credit: The Loss and Damage Collaboration

The Executive Committee of the Warsaw International Mechanism for Loss and Damage has held its 20th meeting. The meeting which took place in Bonn, Germany, on 12-15 March, 2024, rose with many decisions including collaborating with the Santiago Network on Loss and Damage, presentation of the five-year rolling workplan of the ExCom, adoption of the 2024 outreach event theme to be "integrating loss and damage into national planning processes", etc. Find the summary of decision points, <u>here</u>.

Maltese Parliament Debates New Climate Legislation



Image credit: Times of Malta

The Parliament of Malta in February debated on the enactment of new climate legislation. Minister of Environment, Miriam Dalli, introduced the debate which seeks to enact "a new legal framework to address climate change. The new legal framework will include a Climate Action Authority and separate National Climate Action Council." More <u>here</u>.

EALA Calls for Climate Action to Boost Food Security



Image credit: Kenyan News

Members of the Committee on Agriculture, Tourism, and Natural Resources, of the East East Africa Legislative Assembly (EALA), led by its Chairman, Hon. Francoise Uwumukiza, have called for increased action and collaboration to boost food security in the region. The Committee which acknowledged that climate change is the biggest impediment to attaining food security by 2025, called for collaboration among partner States. This was during an oversight visit to the Lake Victoria Basin Commission (LVBC). More <u>here</u>.

EU Agree Deal on World's First Carbon Removal Certification Scheme



Image credit: EURACTIV

On 20 February, 2024, Members of the European Union Parliament reached an agreement on a proposal to set up "...the world's first registry for certified carbon dioxide removals obtained from eco-farming practices and industrial processes." The proposal will be followed by the establishment of certification methodologies. More <u>here</u>.

APPU Holds 52nd Annual Meeting



Image credit: Legislative Yuan

The Asian-Pacific Parliamentarians' Union (APPU) has held its 52nd Meeting in Tokyo, Japan, on 11-14 March, 2024. The meeting which was attended by participants from eleven countries, witnessed the approval of the motion for Taiwan's bid to become part of the UNFCCC process. More <u>here</u>.

Former British MP Chris Skidmore Launches 'Better Earth'



Former Member of the UK Parliament, Chris Skidmore, has announced the launch of the Better Earth Initiative at the edie 24 conference in London. The initiative seeks to help countries across the world deliver on their decarbonisation plans, to provide the support and investment needed to make emissions

reductions not just a hope but a reality". The former MP is known for his authorship of <u>the Net-Zero Review</u> and has spoken at several <u>GLOBE events</u> and was <u>a regular at</u> <u>the COP28 Parliamentary Pavilion</u>. Better Earth will run as a private company and "will include professionals with expertise in policymaking, energy infrastructure delivery and green finance. More <u>here</u>. <u>Image credit: Bloomberg</u>



EU to Future-proof Food Systems

The European Union Commission is establishing the 'Partnership for Sustainable Food Systems (SFS) for people, planet and climate' to help transform national and global food systems. The initiative will bring together "policymakers, businesses, researchers and civil society to coordinate, align and leverage European and national R&I efforts to future-proof food systems through an integrated and transdisciplinary approach." More <u>here</u>.

<image>

Image credit: UN

The Cities and Regions Summit was convened on 23 February, 2024, by the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and its partners including UN Habitat and ICLEI. The event which had over 600 participants (virtual and in-person) discussed "ways to strengthen multi-level governance and urban financing to support multilateral actions." More <u>here</u>.

3rd Summit for Democracy Held



Image credit: Democracy & Beyond Plus

The third Summit for Democracy took place in Seoul, Republic of Korea, in 18-20 March, 2024. The three-day Summit featured a Ministerial Conference on day one; exhibition booths and diverse sessions on day two; and a virtual plenary for heads of States and governments, with civil society.

WFD Calls for Urgent Climate Action

DEMOCRACY



At the margins of 3rd Summit for Democracy, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy convened a critical session on "Why Democracy Tomorrow Means Climate Action Today" to make the case for an urgent wave of deep democratization through Climate Action. The session featured presentations from MPs and experts including: Maureen Oduori, WFD Kenya Country Director; Rafael Jimenez Aybar, WFD Practice Lead, Environmental Democracy; Rachel Kyte, Professor of Practice in Climate Policy, University of Oxford; Jennie King, Institute for Strategic Dialogue (ISD), Director of Climate Research and Policy; Nate Rugh, Environmental Scientist, Researcher at the Institute of Environmental Science and Technology at the Autonomous University of Barcelona, activist with Scientist Rebellion and cofounder of Extinction Rebellion Spain; Hon. Biyika Lawrence Songa MP, Chair of the Committee of Environment, Natural Resources, Climate Change and Science, Technology and Innovation, Chair of the Parliamentary Forum on Climate Change, Parliament of Uganda; Malini Mehra FRSA, CEO, GLOBE Legislators; Chair, Just Transition Group, London Sustainable Development Commission; Adhityani Putri, Policy and Engagement Specialist, Just Energy Transition Partnership (JETP) Indonesia Secretariat & Founder of Indonesia Cerah Foundation; and Kanbar Hossein Bor, Head Democratic Governance and Media Freedom Department, FCDO.

Parliamentary Network Reports & Briefings

UNDRRR and GLOBE to Hold Parliamentary Luncheon Dialogue



Image credit: Geneva Tourism

The UN Office for Disaster Risk Reduction (UNDRRR), and GLOBE International (Focal Point of the Parliamentary Group) will hold a parliamentary luncheon dialogue on Tuesday 26 March, 2024, from 13:00-14:30 at the Geneva International Conference Centre. The event which will take place on the margins of the 148th IPU General Assembly will bring together Members of Parliament from across the world, and experts, to discuss "Accelerating Risk Reduction, Resilience, and Financing to Strengthen Preparedness, Prevention and Recovery." Details <u>here</u>.

Parliamentary Group Holds Monthly Webinar

	International	
UNFCCC Parliamentary Group	Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday Wednesday	31 January 21 February 20 March 24 April 29 May 19 June 31 July 28 August 25 September 30 October 27 November 19 December

The monthly "Road to COP29" webinar of the UNFCCC Parliamentary Group took place on 21 February (for February), and 20 March, 2024 (for March). Morning and Afternoon sessions were held on each occasion. The webinars served as platforms for collaborative planning for not just COP29, but for increased parliamentary action on climate change, amongst Members of Parliament and parliamentary networks. Subscribe for the next webinar coming up on 24 April 2024, by emailing <focalpoint@globelegislators.org>.

Progress in Fossil Fuel Phaseout: Preliminary Report



Parliamentarians for a Fossil-Free Future have released details of the "Global Parliamentarians' Inquiry into the Progress of Fossil Fuels Phase Out". The report shows that even though funding by G20 countries and multilateral banks for fossil fuel projects fell to \$55bn between 2019-2021, it was still about double the investments in renewable. Download the report.



Elected Officials Protecting America (EOPA) has convened a summit on offshore wind for 27 March, 2024. The "summit is being held to bring together local, state, and federal officials across the state to hear from experts, agency representatives, and their elected peers on Offshore Wind as a critical climate solution for New Jersey and New York." Details here.



The European Union Parliament has voted in favour of a deal to revise the industrial emission directive (IED). The "new rules will reduce harmful emissions from industrial installations and large pig and poultry farms to protect human health and the environment. More here.

EU Parliament Adopts Deal to Revise IED

IPU Holds 148th General Assembly



Image credit: IPU

The 148th General Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) is ongoing in Geneva, Switzerland. The event which brings together Members of Parliament from across the world will take place from 23-27 March, 2024, at the Headquarters of the Union. This year's theme is "Parliamentary diplomacy: Building bridges for peace and understanding". More <u>here</u>.



Date Fixed for 8th IRENA Legislators Forum

The 8th Session of the International Renewable Agency (IRENA) Legislators' Forum will take place in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 16 April, 2024 during the 14th session of the IRENA Assembly which will take place from 17 to 18 April, 2024. This

Image credit: IPU

year's theme will be "Outcome of COP28: Infrastructure, Policies and Skills for Tripling Renewables and Accelerating the Energy Transition".

Have Your Say

GLOBE tracks parliamentary engagements in the UNFCCC process on an ongoing basis. We would like to hear from you if your parliament has been involved in the Global Stock Take and/or on your government delegation to COP28. Please get in touch if you have any other thoughts and ideas to share. Our e-mail is <focalpoint@globelegislators.org>. Thank you.

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 <<u>secretariat@globelegislators.org</u>>

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

GLOBE International is the UNFCCC Focal Point for the Parliamentary Group



COP28-29-30 Mission1.5°C

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Contact Us

Please contact us with your news, views, and information about parliaments and climate action, including sharing any Hearings, reports, articles and blogs you may have written. We look forward to hearing from you through <u>focalpoint@globelegislators.org</u>.

