



*ParlAmericas*



**Report on 41st Meeting of the Board of  
Directors of ParlAmericas  
and the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of  
ParlAmericas**

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## Day One

### INTRODUCTION

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1. Following a letter of invitation (*See Appendix A*) the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago participated at the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas: Strengthening Parliaments and Building Resilient Societies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals, December 6-7, 2016, Mexico City, Mexico. In attendance were:
  1. Hon. Bridgid Mary Annisette-George, Speaker of the House of Representatives;  
and
  2. Opposition Member, Mr. Rushton Paray, MP;
2. Concurrently with the Plenary Assembly, there was a Meeting of the Board of ParlAmericas of which Trinidad and Tobago held a seat and a Training Session for parliamentarians of member countries.
3. Mr. Garreth Ferguson ICT Director was selected to be a facilitator at the Training Session and Mr. Rushton Paray, MP, Member for Mayaro was selected to attend the Training Session as a participant. The Board Meeting was held in rooms 3 and 4, on the ground floor of the Hemicycle, whilst the training session occurred in room 6 on the same floor. A detail conference agenda can be seen at Appendix B.

### BOARD MEETING

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4. At a meeting of the Executive Committee of the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago held on Friday October 28, 2016, it was agreed that the Speaker of the House should attend the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas, of which Trinidad and Tobago is a board member. A detailed agenda of the meeting can be seen at Appendix C.
5. The meeting was carded for Monday December 5, 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico, prior to the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas.
6. The Meeting was held within the Senate of the Republic of Mexico and was chaired by Senator Marcela Guerra, President of ParlAmericas. The following countries which comprise the Board were also in attendance:

1. Argentina
3. Canada
5. Chile
7. Columbia
9. Costa Rica
11. Cuba
13. Ecuador
2. Jamaica
4. Mexico
6. Nicaragua
8. Panama
10. St Lucia
12. Suriname
14. Trinidad and Tobago

### UPDATES

7. Members were given updates by the President on the following matters:
  - The Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between ParlAmericas and the Organization of American States (OAS), where a visit was made to the General Assembly by the Director General and the President. A report was then tabled on this trip;
  - Meeting with the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB): a letter of intent was signed in Washington DC on August 24, 2016;
  - Meeting with the World Bank; and
  - MOU with the United Nations Environmental Programme (UNEP) was circulated for the information of the Board.

### REPORTS

8. Reports were tabled and considered on the following matters:
  1. The visit to General Assembly of the OAS;
  2. The ParlAmericas observer mission to the USA Presidential elections;
  3. The Ecuador Gathering: Group of Women Parliamentarians;
  4. The Launch of the Climate Change Network in Panama; and
  5. The Chile Study Visit-Open Parliament Network (OPN).
9. Reports were received on the Caribbean Sub-Regional Activities which included the:
  1. Ottawa meeting on Building Gender Caucuses in the Caribbean and Canada; and
  2. The Launch of the Gender Tools for Caribbean Parliamentarians

## MAJOR DECISIONS

10. The major decisions of the Board of Directors included the following:
  1. Adoption of the Climate Change Network;
  2. Agreement on the Plenary Agenda; and
  3. Agreement on ParlAmericas work plan for January 2016-April 2017  
(See Appendix D).

## DISCUSSIONS

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### ELECTIONS AND NOMINATIONS

11. As it relates to the Caribbean Sub-Region only one nomination had been received for the two positions available for the Region on the termination of the current term. Jamaica had indicated its intention to seek reappoint, however, Trinidad and Tobago had not indicated such. If no other nomination was received by the deadline, in order to prevent under representation of the region on the Board level, Trinidad and Tobago indicated that it would reconsider its position.

### FINANCIAL REPORT

12. A variance report for the fiscal period ending 30<sup>th</sup> September 2016 was discussed and explained. Overall, there was a positive variance.
13. Financial Statements were noted and an independent audit is carded for December 12, 2016.

### MEMBERS' CONTRIBUTIONS

14. Agreed to defer consideration of a review of Members' contribution to the next board meeting.

## FUTURE MEETINGS

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15. A request was made of Trinidad and Tobago to host the 44<sup>th</sup> Meeting of the Board and 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly in October 2017. Trinidad and Tobago indicated that it was already committed to hosting two other international Parliamentary events in 2017. A proposal was put for Trinidad and Tobago to consider hosting the Gathering of Group of Women Parliamentarians (GoWP) in May 2018. It was agreed that discussions shall continue between

the Secretariat of ParlAmericas and the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago on the feasibility of hosting the GoWP in May 2018.

1. Costa Rica shall host the 2017 OPN Gathering; and
2. Argentina shall host the 2017 Gathering of GoWP.

### **TRAINING SESSION: MAXIMIZING THE USE OF TECHNOLOGY TO IMPROVE COMMUNICATION WITH CONSTITUENTS**

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16. Sen. Hernan Larrain of Chile gave a brief overview of the Road Map produced by the Open Parliament Network (OPN). The Road Map was co-drafted by a group of parliamentarians and civil society representatives and presented in Paraguay in May 2016 where it was endorsed by parliamentarians from over 20 countries.
17. The OPN initiative seeks to engender greater trust in the work of parliamentarians and the image of parliament, since studies conducted in various jurisdictions have shown that trust in national parliaments has declined over the last decade. The lack of confidence in this key democratic institution has been so significant that it has been listed as the first key message in the Inter-Parliamentary Union's latest Global Parliamentary Report (2012).
18. In response to this growing trend of distrust and cynicism, the OPN, through the medium of information and communication technologies have sought to boost citizen participation and information sharing from parliament to the public. This approach fosters a new form of interaction between citizens and legislative powers that promotes parliamentary openness and transparency to ensure access to information, accountability, citizen involvement and high ethical standards in parliamentary work.
19. Sen Hernan Larraín informed the participants that since the inception of the initiative, Costa Rica and Colombia have used the Road Map as a reference to develop their own national action plans on open parliament. Sen. Larraín also made mention of Venezuela & Guatemala who also developed their action plans.
20. In his closing statements, Sen. Larraín lamented that 'he thinks that things are progressing in the right direction, since the aim of the work is that in the future all countries will have an action plan for legislative openness'. Following this statement, Sen. Larraín invited Dr.

Maurice McNaughton, the Director of the Caribbean Open Institute, to formally commence the workshop.

### **ICT AND CITIZEN ENGAGEMENT STRATEGIES FOR PARLIAMENTS**

21. The facilitators for this session were Mr. Garreth Ferguson, ICT Director, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago and Dr. Maurice McNaughton, Caribbean Open Institute.
22. This session explored how parliaments as democratic institutions have adopted transparent practices to open parliamentary proceedings to citizens using Information and Communication Technology (ICT) tools. In addition, it looked at how civil society organizations have contributed to this objective by creating applications that have made parliamentary information more accessible and digestible to citizens.
23. The various tools that are used by the Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago were highlighted such as YouTube, Facebook, and Twitter, which allows the public to comment instantaneously on matters of their interest. The constituents also have the option of gathering information from the Parliament website, which can be easily navigated and readily provides information on committees, the budget process, laws, the Hansard and information on their Members of Parliament.
24. The need to maximize on free to use technological hubs and applications was stressed as budgetary constraints that can affect the operational capacity of integrating ICT into the parliamentary framework.

### **FACEBOOK 'LIVE' AS A WAY TO COMMUNICATE WITH CONSTITUENTS**

25. The facilitator for this session Mr. Marcos Gibran Mena, highlighted the important role of new media, the citizen and parliament; and gave the example of the White House Model (DC. USA) which facilitates open engagement with wider sections of the society. This approach brings the operations and decisions of Congress and the President to every viewer in real time.
26. Before ending his presentation, a demonstration was given on how to use Facebook 'Live' and best practices that should be adopted for MPs' to engage their constituents. This session ended at 5:00 pm.



*Participants and Facilitators of the first Training Session*



## Day two

### **PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE: FIRST EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THE SDGs IN PARLIAMENTS**

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27. The first day of the Plenary began with 7 presentations with the keynote address from Dr. Luis Almagro Lemes, Secretary General of the Organization of American States which was followed by the official picture. At this session, the participants addressed the following topics:
1. Approval of the agenda;
  2. ParlAmericas annual report;
  3. Presentation of the resolutions of the Board of Directors; and
  4. Announcement of the election procedures.
28. Following, these matters the dialogue session was held which was targeted at implementing, monitoring and evaluating the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### **PARLIAMENTARY DIALOGUE: FIRST EFFORTS TO IMPLEMENT THE SDGs IN PARLIAMENT**

29. This session sought to define the context for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs at the national and global level, and presented tools, mechanisms, and alliances necessary for developing indicators, collecting and analyzing data, and strengthening the supervisory role of parliaments in the progress towards the SDGs.
30. Participants highlighted the efforts of their respective parliaments in implementing the SDG's. It was reported that the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is committed to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. A presentation was made by the Speaker on the text is attached at Appendix C.
31. This session ended at 4:30 pm

## Day Three

### INDICATORS AND MECHANISMS FOR MONITORING AND EVALUATING THE SDGs

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32. This session defined the context for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs at the national and global level, and presented tools, mechanisms, and alliances necessary for developing indicators, collecting and analysing data, and strengthening the supervisory role of parliaments in the progress towards the SDGs.
33. The moderators for this session were
1. José Marco Antonio Olvera Acevedo, Senator of Mexico and ParlAmericas Board Member;
  2. Luis Fidel Yáñez, Officer in Charge, Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean;
  3. Dr. Livia Bizikova, Director of Knowledge for Integrated Decisions, International Institute for Sustainable Development; and
  4. Javier González, Director of Democratic Governance, United Nations Development Program, Mexico.
34. Dr. Livia Bizikova, presented on the importance and strategies for implementing the SDGs. She is a Canadian who founded the International Institute for Sustainable Development, a think tank. Part of its mandate is to monitor sustainable development and in this case the progression of the SDGs. Dr. Bizikova, has assisted the United Nations in developing indicators for monitoring the achievement of 169 targets in various nations. From the UN Level the indicators used are critical to get insight on the developments and progression at the national level. It is necessary to develop appropriate mechanisms to monitor and evaluate, the implementation of the SDGs given its heavily integrated and cross sectional nature.
35. Javier Gonzalez assessed the role of the Parliamentary Committees in implementing, monitoring and evaluating the SDGs. He noted that although Parliamentary Committees have a specific mandate they may be able to contribute to a number of SDGs. He highlighted five Areas of Intervention which can be adopted namely:
1. Installation of Special Commissions - to monitor goals and indicators

2. Everyday Parliamentary Work - mechanism to access relationship and alignment to SDGs for cross cutting alignments
  3. Accountability - Legislators can drive the generating of certain reports, into public officials to see how goals are being covered.
  4. Public engagement - for realization of the goals - CBO, private sectors - Agenda to be accepted and used by other stakeholders.
  5. The Budget - approval must be in alignment with SDGs, for example Mexico, is currently engaged in an alignment exercise with the treasury, to see how budgets cover goals or deficits, see also what is a realistic budget. The My WORLD Technology Platform, allowed Mexico to identify the 1.9 million needed to be involved in this platform.
36. In addition to the presentations by each Parliament on the work being done, ParlAmericas presented a report on the work being done within the organization to achieve the SDGs

#### **Roundtable work: Opportunities for inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making**

37. The discussion called for a consideration by the participants of the existence within Parliament for participation by citizens, civil society and experts in the drafting of legislation and the monitoring of implementation, the efficacy of these mechanisms in allowing the consideration of those views by Parliament and the creation of mechanisms or improvement of existing mechanisms to permit citizen participation.
38. The discussion revealed that there existed in most parliaments represented varying mechanisms for citizen consultation such as parliamentary committees which seek the views of stakeholders and experts.
39. Suriname presented some novel practices for the reception and consideration of citizens' views by its Parliament which included:
  - The hosting of public hearings on each piece of legislation
  - Consultation workshops with stakeholders;
  - A Committee of Petitions which allows for citizens to influence Parliament's agenda; and
  - A permanent Youth Parliament.

40. It was noted that while not required by the Standing Orders of Parliament, there is a practice of the Opposition in Trinidad and Tobago to permit the appointment of temporary Senators to permit the views of special interests to be heard and considered.
41. The conclusion was that there was need to improve the process for the consideration of the views of the groups identified among other things:
1. The application of ICT;
  2. Community outreach programmes;
  3. Introduction of E-Petitions as in England; and
  4. Institutionalization of a permanent Youth Parliaments.
42. Before the official close of the plenary session, the participants had the following matters to address: matters brought to the Plenary by the Board and Executive Committee, the selection of the host of the fourteenth plenary session and the reading of the Declaration.
43. Elections: The Elections to the Board and Executive Committee were held the results of which were as follows:
- Sen Marcela Guerra ( Mexico) - President
  - MP Robert Nault (Canada) - Vice President
  - North America Region - Canada, and Mexico
  - Central America - Nicaragua
  - The Caribbean - Jamaica and Trinidad and Tobago
  - South America - Chile and Ecuador
  - GoWP (Vice Presidents) - MP Claudia Nogueira Chile)and  
- Sen Mobina Jaffer (Canada)
44. The 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly: The host country for the 14th Plenary Session shall be the Republic of Columbia.
45. Declaration: A Declaration was passed by the Assembly. The full text of the Declaration is attached at Appendix F.
46. The conference culminated at 2:00pm with a cultural presentation at the Templo Mayor Archeological Area.



Ottawa, Canada, October 18, 2016

**The Honourable Bridgid Annisette-George**  
**Speaker**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Trinidad and Tobago**

**Re: Invitation to 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas**  
**Mexico City, Mexico | December 5-7, 2016**

Dear Speaker Annisette-George,

On behalf of ParlAmericas and the Senate of Mexico, it is our pleasure to invite you, and the members of your parliament, to attend the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas "Strengthening Parliaments and Building Resilient Societies to Achieve the Sustainable Development Goals" and a training session for English-speaking legislators on "Maximizing the use of technology to improve communication with constituents" which will be held on **December 5-7, 2016 in Mexico City, Mexico.**

ParlAmericas serves as an independent forum for parliamentarians of the Americas and the Caribbean committed to cooperative political dialogue and participation in the inter-American system. Since 2001, ParlAmericas has created a supportive professional community for parliamentarians through regional forums, training opportunities, year-round discussions, and follow-up actions.

We celebrate our Plenary Assembly every year with the purpose of gathering parliamentarians who will contribute to initiatives that will help improve the development of the Americas and the Caribbean. This year, parliamentarians will reflect on the important role of their legislatures in the development and oversight of national policies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals. For additional information, we encourage you to consult the [preliminary agenda](#) which will be updated regularly and can be accessed via this link.

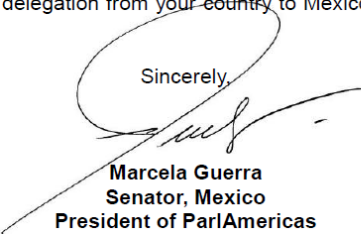
Furthermore, during this year's Plenary Assembly, several seats on the Board of Directors and Executive Committee of the Group of Women Parliamentarians are open for election (see [election advisory](#)). Participating delegations will vote to elect the following:

- President of ParlAmericas
- Vice-president of ParlAmericas
- 1 legislature to represent Central America
- 2 legislatures to represent the Caribbean
- 2 legislatures to represent South America
- Host Parliament for the 14th Plenary Assembly to take place in 2017
- 2 Vice-presidents of the Group of Women Parliamentarians

It would be a great honour to welcome an official delegation of legislators from your country to our Plenary Assembly. To register, we ask that you please complete the [registration form](#) before **November 21, 2016**. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact the ParlAmericas International Secretariat at [info@parlAmericas.org](mailto:info@parlAmericas.org).

We look forward to welcoming a delegation from your country to Mexico City, and extend to you our very best regards.

Sincerely,

  
**Marcela Guerra**  
**Senator, Mexico**  
**President of ParlAmericas**



## Agenda

**13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas:  
Strengthening parliaments and building resilient societies to achieve  
the Sustainable Development Goals**  
December 5-7, 2016 | Mexico City, Mexico



*In order to reduce our ecological foot print, the meeting documents, resources and publications are available at [www.parlAmericas.org](http://www.parlAmericas.org). For easy access through your mobile phone, we invite you to download a QR reader application.*

### Sunday, December 4, 2016: Arrival

**All day** Arrival of the members of the Board of Directors and training session participants; transfer from the airport to the host hotel

### Monday, December 5, 2016: Arrival, Board of Directors Meeting, and Training Session

**All day** Arrival of participants and transfer from the airport to the host hotel

**Travel by foot to the headquarters of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico from the hotel Sevilla Palace (300 meters away - 4 minutes approximately)**  
Address: Av. Paseo de la Reforma 135, esq. Insurgentes Centro, Colonia Tabacalera, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, Ciudad de México, C.P. 06030. Entrance by Madrid street (between Paris and Insurgentes streets). Accompaniment by personnel of the General Directorate of Parliamentary Protection and Protocol of the Gilberto Bosques Center for International Studies of the Senate.

**09:00 – 13:00** Concurrent closed-door meetings

**09:00 – 12:45** **41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas**  
Rooms: 3 and 4, Ground floor of the Hemicycle

*Closed-door meeting for Board Members of ParlAmericas*

**12:45 – 13:00** **Official Photograph of the Board of Directors**  
Room: Staircase of the Senate, Hemicycle (entrance by Av. de la Reforma)

**Training session: Maximizing the use of technology to Improve communication with constituents**

Room: 6, Ground floor of the Hemicycle

*Session In English (no Interpretation provided)*

*Facilitating access to parliamentary information through the use of innovative technology to increase citizen participation in decision-making processes is a key aspect of the open parliament agenda and ParlAmericas' Roadmap Towards Legislative Openness. Parliamentarians and parliaments face new challenges and opportunities in adapting to new communications trends to better engage with their constituents. This session, combining parliamentary transparency and an effective communications strategy, will provide tips and tools for parliamentarians, considering their*

*local context, to maximize these opportunities for themselves as legislators as well as for their parliament as an Institution.*

- 13:00 – 14:30 Lunch offered by the Senate of the Republic of Mexico  
"Zonura" Senators Restaurant, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Hemicycle elevator.
- 14:30 – 17:00 Continuation of the 41<sup>st</sup> Meeting of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas  
Rooms: 3 and 4, Ground floor of the Hemicycle  
Closed-door meeting for members of the Board of Directors of ParlAmericas
- Continuation of the Training session: Maximizing the use of technology to improve communication with constituents  
Room: 6, Ground floor of the Hemicycle
- 18:00 Travel by foot to hotel Sevilla Palace
- 19:00 – 21:00 Welcome cocktail offered by the Secretariat of Foreign Affairs of Mexico (business attire)  
Location: French Room, National Museum of Arts (MUNAL), Tacuba street 8, Delegación Cuauhtémoc, Historical Centre, 06010 Ciudad de México.
- 21:00 Transfer to the hotel Sevilla Palace

**Tuesday, December 6, 2016: 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly**

- 08:00 – 08:40 Participant registration at the hotel
- Travel by foot to the headquarters of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico from the hotel Sevilla Palace (300 meters away - 4 minutes approximately).  
Entrance by Madrid street (between Paris and Insurgentes streets). Accompaniment by personnel of the General Directorate of Parliamentary Protection and Protocol of the Gilberto Bosques Center for International Studies of the Senate.
- 09:00 – 09:40 Inauguration  
Room: Permanent Commission Hall, Level -1.
- Marcela Guerra, Senator of Mexico and President of ParlAmericas
  - Ambassador Miguel Ruiz Caballero, Deputy Secretary for Multilateral Affairs and Human Rights for the Foreign Affairs Secretary
  - Leo Helleman, Regional Director of the United Nations Environment Programme
  - Dr. Luis Almagro Lemes, Secretary General of the Organization of American States
  - Javier Bolaños Aguilar, President of the Chamber of Deputies of Mexico
  - Pablo Escudero Morales, President of the Senate of Mexico
- 09:40 – 10:10 Keynote address  
Permanent Commission Hall.
- Dr. Luis Almagro Lemes, Secretary General of the Organization of American States

- 10:15 – 10:30 Official Photograph**  
Staircase of the Senate, Hemicycle (entrance by Av. de la Reforma)
- 10:35 – 11:15 Introduction**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle
- This session will address the following topics:*
- *Approval of the agenda*
  - *ParlAmericas annual report*
  - *Presentation of the resolutions of the Board of Directors*
  - *Announcement of the election procedures*
- 11:15 – 13:15 Parliamentary Dialogue: First efforts to Implement the SDGs In Parliaments**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle
- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development was adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in September 2015. Since then, parliaments from different countries around the world have organized to monitor their successes and have taken measures to specifically achieve SDG16 aimed at promoting inclusive societies and building effective, accountable institutions, an objective that directly applies to parliaments. In this session, ParlAmericas will present a report on the work being done within the organization to achieve the SDGs. The session will then continue with the presentation of reports from delegates of each parliament. Instructions will be sent beforehand.*
- Moderator: Marcela Guerra (Mexico), Senator and President of ParlAmericas
- *Gina Godoy (Ecuador), Member of the National Assembly and President of the Group of Women Parliamentarians*
  - *Hernán Larrain (Chile), Senator and President of the Open Parliament Network (video)*
  - *Javier Ortega (Panama), Member of the Chamber of Deputies and Member of the Parliamentary Network on Climate Change*
  - *Senator Laura Rojas Hernández, President of the Commission on Foreign Affairs, International Organs of the Mexican Senate and President of the Permanent Commission on Peace and International Security of the Inter-Parliamentary Union*
  - *Reports from representatives of the delegation of each parliament*
- 13:15 – 13:30 Greetings from the plenary session of the Congress of Mexico to the participants of the 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly**  
Hall of Sessions of the Senate, Hemicycle
- 13:30 – 15:00 Lunch offered by the Senate of the Republic of Mexico**  
"Zonura" Senators Restaurant, 5<sup>th</sup> floor, Hemicycle, by Commissions Tower elevator
- 15:00 – 15:30 Photographic campaign to highlight and raise awareness about the SDGs**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle
- 15:30 – 17:30 Continuation of parliamentary dialogue: First efforts to Implement the SDGs In Parliaments**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle
- 17:30 Travel by foot to the hotel Sevilla Palace**  
Accompaniment by personnel of the General Directorate of Parliamentary Protection and Protocol of the Gilberto Bosques Center for International Studies of the Senate



- 19:30            **Transfer to the Welcome Dinner-Cocktail from hotel Sevilla Palace to Hacienda de los Morales**
- 20:00 – 22:00   **Welcome Dinner-Cocktail offered by the House of Representatives of Mexico (business attire)**  
Location: Hacienda de los Morales, located in Vázquez de Mella 525, Col. del Bosque, 1510, Mexico City
- 22:00            **Transfer to the hotel Sevilla Palace**

**Wednesday, December 7, 2016: 13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly**

**Travel by foot to the headquarters of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico from the hotel Sevilla Palace (300 meters away - 4 minutes approximately).**  
Entrance by Madrid street (between Paris and Insurgentes streets). Accompaniment by personnel of the General Directorate of Parliamentary Protection and Protocol of the Gilberto Bosques Center for International Studies of the Senate

- 09:00 – 10:30   **Indicators and mechanisms for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle

*The SDGs provide a global framework for commitments made by governments that must be adopted and monitored for political implementation at the local, national, and global level. The parliament, as the main institution for representing citizens' interests and ensuring that the government is accountable, has a key role to play not only in adopting the necessary legislation to achieve the SDGs, but also in supervising the progress made towards them. This session will define the context for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs at the national and global level, and present tools, mechanisms, and alliances necessary for developing indicators, collecting and analyzing data, and strengthening the supervisory role of parliaments in the progress towards the SDGs.*

**Moderator:** José Marco Antonio Olivera Acevedo, Senator of Mexico and PanAmericas Board Member

- Luis Fidel Yañez, Officer in Charge, Secretariat of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean
- Dr. Livia Blizkova, Director of Knowledge for Integrated Decisions, International Institute for Sustainable Development
- Javier González, Director of Democratic Governance, United Nations Development Program, Mexico

- 10:30 – 11:30   **Roundtable work: Opportunities for Inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle

*Parliaments also need to look within themselves to achieve SDG 16, the good governance goal upon which all other goals rely to succeed. As an institution that represents the people,*

*parliaments strive to be more effective and accountable, and to render decision-making more inclusive and transparent. This session will explore steps that can be taken to strengthen the capacity of parliaments for inclusive, participatory, and representative decision-making, through a practice of participatory law-making.*

Moderator: Ms. Kella Gonzalez, Resident Director in Mexico, National Democratic Institute

- 11:30 – 12:00 **Official Closing of the Plenary Assembly**  
Rooms: 2 and 5, Ground floor of the Hemicycle.  
*This session will address the following topics:*
- *Voting and election results*
  - *Announcement of the host country for the 14<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly*
  - *ParAmericas 2017 calendar*
  - *Reading of the declaration*
  - *Closing remarks*
  - *Evaluations*
- 12:00 – 12:30 **Transfer to the Templo Mayor Archaeological Area from the Senate of the Republic (casual wear)**  
Accompaniment by personnel of the General Directorate of Parliamentary Protection and Protocol of the Gilberto Bosques Center for International Studies of the Senate.
- 12:00 – 14:00 **Cultural visit: Templo Mayor Archaeological Area**
- 14:00 **End of official program and transfer to the hotel Sevilla Palace**  
**Lunch not provided**
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	<b>41ª Reunión del Consejo México - 5 de diciembre de 2016</b>	<b>41<sup>st</sup> Board Meeting Mexico – December 5, 2016</b>
<b>8:45</b>	Traslado a pie a la sede del Senado de la República de México Salón: (por confirmar), Planta Baja del Hemiciclo	Walk to the headquarters of the Senate of the Republic of Mexico Room: (TBC) Ground Floor
<b>9:00 (20 min)</b>	<b>Inauguración de la reunión</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Palabras de bienvenida de la Senadora Marcela Guerra, Presidenta de ParlAmericas</li> <li>Palabras de bienvenida del Senador José Marco Antonio Olvera Acevedo, miembro del consejo de México</li> <li>Presentación de las y los participantes</li> </ul>	<b>Inauguration of the meeting</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Welcoming remarks by Senator Marcela Guerra, President of ParlAmericas</li> <li>Welcome remarks by Senator José Marco Antonio Olvera Acevedo, Member of the Board from Mexico</li> <li>Presentation of participants</li> </ul>
<b>9:20 (5 min)</b>	Aprobación de la agenda	Adoption of the agenda
<b>9:25 (15 min)</b>	Aprobación del informe de la 40ª Reunión del Consejo	Approval of the 40 <sup>th</sup> Board Meeting report
<b>9:40 (20 min)</b>	<b>Actualización de la Presidenta de ParlAmericas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renovación del MdE con la OEA</li> <li>Reunión con el BID</li> <li>Reunión con el Banco Mundial</li> <li>Informe de la Misión de Observación a las elecciones de los Estados Unidos</li> </ul>	<b>Update from the President of ParlAmericas</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Renewal of the MOU with the OAS</li> <li>Meeting with the IDB</li> <li>Meeting with the World Bank</li> <li>Report from the Observation Mission to the US Elections</li> </ul>
<b>10:00 (20 min)</b>	<b>Actualización sobre el lanzamiento de la Red de Cambio Climático</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informe sobre la reunión en Panamá</li> </ul>	<b>Update about the launch of the Climate Change Network</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report back on the meeting in Panama</li> </ul>
<b>10:20 (20 min)</b>	<b>Actualización de la Presidenta del Grupo de Mujeres Parlamentarias</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentación del informe del Encuentro en Ecuador</li> <li>Informe sobre la reunión en Guatemala: El camino electoral de las candidatas en América Central</li> <li>Propuesta de cambio de nombre del Comité Ejecutivo</li> <li>Próximas actividades</li> </ul>	<b>Update from the President of the Group of Women Parliamentarians</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the report from the Ecuador Gathering</li> <li>Report back on the Guatemala working session: The Journey of the Candidate in Central America</li> <li>Executive Committee proposed title change</li> <li>Upcoming activities</li> </ul>

<b>10:40</b> <b>(10 min)</b>	<b>Actualización sobre las actividades sub-regionales del Caribe</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Informe de la reunión en Ottawa sobre la formación de Grupos Parlamentarios para la Igualdad de Género en el Caribe y en Canadá</li> <li>Lanzamiento de las herramientas de género para el portal en línea para las y los parlamentarios del Caribe</li> </ul>	<b>Caribbean Sub-Regional Activities Update</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Report back from the Ottawa meeting on building Gender Caucuses in the Caribbean and Canada</li> <li>Launch of the Gender Tools for Caribbean Parliamentarians Web Portal</li> </ul>
<b>10:50</b> <b>(15 min)</b>	<b>Actualización de la Red de Parlamento Abierto (RPA)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentación de la Hoja de ruta de la RPA</li> <li>Informe sobre la visita de estudio en Chile</li> <li>MdE con la Red Latinoamericana por la Transparencia Legislativa</li> <li>Presentación sobre la estructura propuesta del comité ejecutivo de la Red</li> <li>Próximas actividades</li> </ul>	<b>Update from the Open Parliament Network (OPN)</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Presentation of the OPN Road Map</li> <li>Report back on the Chile Study Visit</li> <li>MOU with the Latin American Transparency Network</li> <li>Presentation on the proposed structure of the executive committee for the Network</li> <li>Upcoming activities</li> </ul>
<b>11:05</b> <b>(10 min)</b>	<b>Pausa</b>	<b>Break</b>
<b>11:15</b> <b>(45 min)</b>	<b>Actualización de la OEA</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Diálogo con Francisco Guerrero, Secretario para el Fortalecimiento de la Democracia, miembro (por su cargo) del consejo de ParlAmericas, sobre las prioridades y trabajo actual de la OEA</li> </ul>	<b>Update from the OAS</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Discussion with Francisco Guerrero, Secretary for the Strengthening Democracy Secretariat, Ex-Officio member of the ParlAmericas Board about current priorities and work of the OAS</li> </ul>
<b>12:00</b> <b>(15 min)</b>	<b>Actualización de otros miembros del Consejo</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Novedades que las y los miembros del consejo quisieran compartir sobre sus actividades desde la última reunión del consejo</li> </ul>	<b>Updates from Other Members of the Board</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Any other news that Board Members wish to share about their activities since the last Board Meeting</li> </ul>
<b>12:15</b> <b>(30 min)</b>	<b>Actualización sobre la Asamblea Plenaria y las elecciones</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Revisión de la agenda de la Asamblea Plenaria</li> <li>Revisión de los puntos de procedimiento para la Plenaria</li> <li>Actualización de las elecciones y de las nominaciones recibidas</li> <li>Revisión de los pagos de membresía recibidos</li> </ul>	<b>Update on the Plenary Assembly and Board Elections</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Review of the Plenary Agenda</li> <li>Review of Plenary Points of Procedure</li> <li>Update on the Elections and nominations received</li> <li>Review of membership payments received</li> </ul>



12:45	Foto oficial	Official Photo
13:00	Almuerzo ofrecido por el Senado de la República Salón: 5 <sup>to</sup> Piso, Hemiciclo	Lunch offered by the Senate of the Republic of Mexico Room: 5 <sup>th</sup> floor
14:30 (30 min)	Informe de la Secretaría Internacional <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Actualización del estado financiero</li> <li>• Actualización sobre el espacio de oficina de la Secretaría Internacional</li> </ul>	Report from the International Secretariat <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Financial Update</li> <li>• Update about International Secretariat Office Space</li> </ul>
15:00 (15 min)	Actualización del Tesorero de ParlAmericas <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Auditoría anual de ParlAmericas</li> </ul>	Update from the ParlAmericas Treasurer <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ParlAmericas Annual Audit</li> </ul>
15:15 (45 min)	Discusión sobre el plan estratégico <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Crecimiento y sostenibilidad de ParlAmericas</li> </ul>	Strategic Planning Discussion <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ParlAmericas' growth and sustainability</li> </ul>
16:00 (20 min)	Revisión del calendario de actividades inicial de 2017	Review of initial calendar of activities for 2017
16:20 (10 min)	Otros asuntos: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Otros asuntos que surgen de la reunión</li> </ul>	Other Business: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Any other business arising from the meeting</li> </ul>
16:30	Reunión finalizada	Meeting adjourned



### Work Plan / Plan de Trabajo 2016 – 2017

	Meetings of the Board / Los reuniones del Consejo
	ParlAmericas pillar events (hemispheric) / Eventos pilares de ParlAmericas (hemisféricos)

#### Advisory Groups / Grupos consejeros

	Gender / Género
	Open Parliament / Parlamento Abierto
	Inter-American Relations & Climate Change / Relaciones Interamericanas y cambio climático
	Plenary Assembly / Asamblea Plenaria

## 2016



JANUARY		ENERO	
<b>Activity:</b>	Sub-regional working session	<b>Actividad:</b>	Sesión de trabajo subregional
<b>Topic:</b>	Gender-based political harassment	<b>Tema:</b>	Acoso político contra las mujeres
<b>Date(s):</b>	26-27	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	26-27
<b>Participants:</b>	25 Caribbean parliamentarians (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	25 parlamentarias/os del Caribe (inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	Saint Lucia	<b>País:</b>	Santa Lucía
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and Parliament of Saint Lucia	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento de Santa Lucía
<b>Attendance:</b>	28 parliamentarians (18F,10M) from 11 Countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	28 parlamentarias/os (18M, 10H) de 11 países

FEBRUARY		FEBRERO	
<b>Activity:</b>	Stakeholders meeting	<b>Actividad:</b>	Reunión de socios
<b>Topic:</b>	Open Parliament Stakeholders	<b>Tema:</b>	Parlamento Abierto - socios
<b>Date(s):</b>	4-5	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	4-5
<b>Participants:</b>	NDI, OAS, World Bank, GOPAC, Directorio Legislativo, UNDP, ParlAmericas	<b>Participantes:</b>	NDI, OEA, Banco Mundial, GOPAC, Directorio Legislativo, PNUD, ParlAmericas
<b>Country:</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<b>País:</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina
<b>Organizer:</b>	World Bank	<b>Organizador:</b>	Banco Mundial

MARCH		MARZO	
<b>Activity:</b>	39th Meeting of the Board	<b>Actividad:</b>	39 Reunión del Consejo
<b>Topic:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Tema:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Date(s):</b>	9-11	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	9-11
<b>Participants:</b>	ParlAmericas Board	<b>Participantes:</b>	Consejo de ParlAmericas



<b>Country:</b>	Ottawa, Canada	<b>País:</b>	Ottawa, Canadá
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and Parliament of Canada	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento de Canadá
<b>Activity:</b>	Inter-parliamentary dialogue with civil society	<b>Actividad:</b>	Diálogo interparlamentario con la sociedad civil
<b>Topic:</b>	Framework for Open Parliament Action Plans	<b>Tema:</b>	Plan de acción marco para parlamentos abiertos
<b>Date(s):</b>	17	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	17
<b>Participants:</b>	4 parliamentarians and 4 civil society representatives (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	4 parlamentarios/os y 4 representantes de la sociedad civil (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina	<b>País:</b>	Buenos Aires, Argentina
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Attendance:</b>	7 parliamentarians (3F/4M) from 6 countries; 6 civil society representatives (3F/3M) from 5 Countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	7 parlamentarios/os (3M/4H) de 6 países; 6 representantes de la sociedad civil (3M/3H) de 5 países
<b>APRIL</b>		<b>ABRIL</b>	
<b>Activity:</b>	Parliamentary delegation in Haiti	<b>Actividad:</b>	Delegación parlamentaria en Haití
<b>Topic:</b>	ParlAmericas MIOEH - Electoral Observation Mission – Gender focus	<b>Tema:</b>	ParlAmericas MIOEH - Misión de Observación Electoral – Enfoque de género
<b>Date(s):</b>	20-27	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	20-27
<b>Participants:</b>	3-4 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	3-4 parlamentarios/os
<b>Country:</b>	Port-au-Prince, Haiti	<b>País:</b>	Puerto Principe, Haití
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>MAY</b>		<b>MAYO</b>	
<b>Activity:</b>	Annual Gathering of the Open Parliament Network	<b>Actividad:</b>	Encuentro anual de la Red de Parlamento Abierto
<b>Topic:</b>	Roadmap towards legislative openness	<b>Tema:</b>	Hoja de ruta hacia la apertura legislativa
<b>Date(s):</b>	25-27	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	25-27
<b>Participants:</b>	Parliamentarians – from the 35 member countries	<b>Participantes:</b>	Parlamentarios/os de los 35 países miembro
<b>Country:</b>	Asuncion, Paraguay	<b>País:</b>	Asunción, Paraguay
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and Senate of Paraguay	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Senado de Paraguay
<b>Attendance:</b>	53 parliamentarians (21F/32M) from 20 countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	53 parlamentarios/os (21M/32H) de 20 países

JUNE		JUNIO	
<b>Activity:</b>	Skills training	<b>Actividad:</b>	Capacitación técnica
<b>Topic:</b>	Gender mainstreaming in parliamentary work	<b>Tema:</b>	Transversalización de género en el trabajo parlamentario
<b>Date(s):</b>	1	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	1
<b>Participants:</b>	10 parliamentarians from the Caribbean (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	10 parlamentarias/os del Caribe (inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	Quito, Ecuador	<b>País:</b>	Quito, Ecuador
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Attendance:</b>	10 parliamentarians (6F/4M) from 8 countries and 1 territory	<b>Asistencia:</b>	10 parlamentarias/os (6M/4H) de 8 países y 1 territorio
 <b>Activity:</b>	Annual Gathering of the Group of Women Parliamentarians	 <b>Actividad:</b>	Encuentro anual del grupo de mujeres parlamentarias
<b>Topic:</b>	Gender and inclusive politics	<b>Tema:</b>	Género y política inclusiva
<b>Date(s):</b>	2-3	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	2-3
<b>Participants:</b>	Parliamentarians – from the 35 member countries	<b>Participantes:</b>	Parlamentarias/os de los 35 países miembro
<b>Country:</b>	Quito, Ecuador	<b>País:</b>	Quito, Ecuador
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and National Assembly of Ecuador	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Asamblea Nacional del Ecuador
<b>Attendance:</b>	95 parliamentarians (61F/34M) from 27 countries and 2 territories	<b>Asistencia:</b>	95 parlamentarias/os (61M/34H) de 27 países y 2 territorios
<b>Activity:</b>	40th Meeting of the Board	<b>Actividad:</b>	40 Reunión del Consejo
<b>Topic:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Tema:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Date(s):</b>	4	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	4
<b>Participants:</b>	ParlAmericas Board	<b>Participantes:</b>	Consejo de ParlAmericas
<b>Country:</b>	Quito, Ecuador	<b>País:</b>	Quito, Ecuador
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and National Assembly of Ecuador	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Asamblea Nacional del Ecuador
<b>Activity:</b>	Inter-Parliamentary Forum of Presidents of Legislative Powers (OAS)	<b>Actividad:</b>	Encuentro interamericano de Presidentes de Parlamentos (OEA)
<b>Topic:</b>	Transparency, environment and gender	<b>Tema:</b>	Transparencia, medio ambiente y género
<b>Date(s):</b>	22-24 TBC	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	22-24 a confirmar
<b>Participants:</b>	Speakers of 35 member countries and presidents of inter-parliamentary forums (ParlAmericas, Parlatino, Parlamento Andino)	<b>Participantes:</b>	Presidentes/as de los poderes legislativos y de foros interparlamentarios (ParlAmericas, Parlatino, Parlamento Andino) de los 35 países miembro
<b>Country:</b>	Bogota, Colombia	<b>País:</b>	Bogotá, Colombia





<b>Organizer:</b> ParlAmericas and OAS	<b>Organizador:</b> ParlAmericas y la OEA
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JULY		JULIO	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>CANCELLED</b>	Dialogue: Parliamentarians and Pan-American Health Organization	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>CANCELADO</b>	Diálogo: parlamentarios/as y Organización Panamericana de la Salud
<b>Topic:</b>	Health	<b>Tema:</b>	Salud
<b>Date(s):</b>	TBC	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	A confirmar
<b>Participants:</b>	10-12 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	10-12 parlamentarias/os
<b>Country:</b>	Washington D.C., USA	<b>País:</b>	Washington D.C., Estados Unidos
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas

AUGUST		AGOSTO	
<b>Activity:</b>	ParlAmericas & Parlatino Sub-regional working session	<b>Actividad:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlatino Sesión de trabajo subregional
<b>Topic:</b>	Climate Change (COP21)	<b>Tema:</b>	Cambio climático (COP21)
<b>Date(s):</b>	3-5	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	4-6
<b>Participants:</b>	Parliamentarians – from the 35 member countries	<b>Participantes:</b>	Parlamentarias/os de los 35 países miembro
<b>Country:</b>	Panama City, Panama	<b>País:</b>	Ciudad de Panamá, Panamá
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and Parlatino	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlatino
<b>Attendance:</b>	53 parliamentarians (19F/34M) from 17 countries and 1 territory	<b>Asistencia:</b>	53 parlamentarias/os (19M/34H) de 17 países y 1 territorio

SEPTEMBER		SEPTIEMBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	ParlAmericas & DECO (Department of Electoral Cooperation and Observation – OAS) working session	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	ParlAmericas y DECO (Departamento de Cooperación Electoral y Observación – OEA) Sesión de trabajo
<b>Topic:</b>	Women and elections	<b>Tema:</b>	Mujeres y elecciones
<b>Date(s):</b>	11-13	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	11-13
<b>Participants:</b>	30 Parliamentarians and former, current and future political leaders (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	30 parlamentarias/os y pasadas, presentes y futuras lideresas políticas (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Antigua, Guatemala	<b>País:</b>	Antigua, Guatemala
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and OAS-DECO	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y OEA-DECO
<b>Attendance:</b>	21 participants (20F/1M) from 8 countries – includes 14 parliamentarians (13F/1M), 4F former parliamentarians and 3F emerging leaders from 8 countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	21 participantes (20M/1H) de 8 países – incluyendo 14 parlamentarias/os (13M/1H), 4 ex parlamentarias y 3 lideresas emergentes de 8 países



<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Parliamentary delegation-study visit	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Visita – delegación parlamentaria
<b>Topic:</b>	Legislative transparency best practices	<b>Tema:</b>	Transparencia legislativa – buenas prácticas
<b>Date(s):</b>	13-14	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	13-14
<b>Participants:</b>	6-8 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	6-8 parlamentarias/os (Español)
<b>Country:</b>	Chile	<b>País:</b>	Chile
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión
<b>Attendance:</b>	26 participants (8F/18M) from 6 countries - includes 15 parliamentarians (4F/11M) and 11 parliamentary staff (4F/7M)	<b>Asistencia:</b>	26 participantes (8M/18H) de 6 países – incluyendo 15 parlamentarias/os (4M/11H) y 11 asistentes parlamentarias/os (4M/7H)

OCTOBER		OCTUBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Parliamentary delegation-study visit	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Visita – delegación parlamentaria
<b>Topic:</b>	Women’s caucuses	<b>Tema:</b>	Comisiones de mujeres
<b>Date(s):</b>	20-21	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	20-21
<b>Participants:</b>	6-8 parliamentarians (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	6-8 parlamentarias/os (Inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	Canada	<b>País:</b>	Canadá
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión
<b>Attendance:</b>	18 participants (16F/2M) from 6 countries – includes 14 parliamentarians (14F/2M); 1F former parliamentarian; and 3F parliamentary staff	<b>Asistencia:</b>	18 participantes (16M/2H) de 6 países – incluyendo 14 parlamentarias/os (14M/2H); 1 ex parlamentaria y 3 asistentes parlamentarias

NOVEMBER		NOVIEMBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>NEW</b>	Parliamentary Delegation visit to the US Elections	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>NUEVO</b>	Visita de delegación parlamentaria a las elecciones de Estados Unidos
<b>Topic:</b>	Election Observation	<b>Tema:</b>	Observación Electoral
<b>Date(s):</b>	6-9	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	6-9
<b>Participants:</b>	11 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	11 parlamentarias/os (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Washington, DC	<b>País:</b>	Washington, DC
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Attendance:</b>	11 (3F/8M) parliamentarians from 9 countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	11 (3M/8H) parlamentarias/os de 9 países



<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Parliamentary delegation-study visit	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Visita – delegación parlamentaria
<b>Topic:</b>	Legislative transparency best practices	<b>Tema:</b>	Transparencia legislativa – buenas prácticas
<b>Date(s):</b>	13-14	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	13-14
<b>Participants:</b>	6-8 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	6-8 parlamentarias/os (Español)
<b>Country:</b>	Chile	<b>País:</b>	Chile
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión
<b>Attendance:</b>	26 participants (8F/18M) from 6 countries - includes 15 parliamentarians (4F/11M) and 11 parliamentary staff (4F/7M)	<b>Asistencia:</b>	26 participantes (8M/18H) de 6 países – incluyendo 15 parlamentarias/os (4M/11H) y 11 asistentes parlamentarias/os (4M/7H)

OCTOBER		OCTUBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Parliamentary delegation-study visit	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Visita – delegación parlamentaria
<b>Topic:</b>	Women’s caucuses	<b>Tema:</b>	Comisiones de mujeres
<b>Date(s):</b>	20-21	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	20-21
<b>Participants:</b>	6-8 parliamentarians (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	6-8 parlamentarias/os (Inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	Canada	<b>País:</b>	Canadá
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión
<b>Attendance:</b>	18 participants (16F/2M) from 6 countries – includes 14 parliamentarians (14F/2M); 1F former parliamentarian; and 3F parliamentary staff	<b>Asistencia:</b>	18 participantes (16M/2H) de 6 países – incluyendo 14 parlamentarias/os (14M/2H); 1 ex parlamentaria y 3 asistentes parlamentarias

NOVEMBER		NOVIEMBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>NEW</b>	Parliamentary Delegation visit to the US Elections	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>NUEVO</b>	Visita de delegación parlamentaria a las elecciones de Estados Unidos
<b>Topic:</b>	Election Observation	<b>Tema:</b>	Observación Electoral
<b>Date(s):</b>	6-9	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	6-9
<b>Participants:</b>	11 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	11 parlamentarias/os (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Washington, DC	<b>País:</b>	Washington, DC
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Attendance:</b>	11 (3F/8M) parliamentarians from 9 countries	<b>Asistencia:</b>	11 (3M/8H) parlamentarias/os de 9 países



DECEMBER		DICIEMBRE	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Plenary Assembly	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Asamblea Plenaria
<b>Topic:</b>	SDGs	<b>Tema:</b>	ODS
<b>Date(s):</b>	December 6-7	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	6-7 diciembre
<b>Participants:</b>	Parliamentarians – 35 countries	<b>Participantes:</b>	Parlamentarias/os – 35 países
<b>Country:</b>	Mexico	<b>País:</b>	México
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Activity:</b>	Skills training	<b>Actividad:</b>	Capacitación técnica
<b>Topic:</b>	Communications with constituents	<b>Tema:</b>	Comunicación con las y los electores
<b>Date(s):</b>	December 5	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	5 diciembre
<b>Participants:</b>	10-15 parliamentarians (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	10-15 parlamentarios/as (Inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	Mexico	<b>País:</b>	México
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Activity:</b>	41st Meeting of the Board	<b>Actividad:</b>	41 Reunión del Consejo
<b>Topic:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Tema:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Date(s):</b>	December 5	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	5 diciembre
<b>Participants:</b>	ParlAmericas Board	<b>Participantes:</b>	Consejo de ParlAmericas
<b>Country:</b>	Mexico	<b>País:</b>	México
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas

## 2017

JANUARY		ENERO	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	III Forum: Beijing +20 Sub regional working session	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	III Foro: Beijing 20 años después Sesión de trabajo subregional
<b>Topic:</b>	Women and media	<b>Tema:</b>	Mujeres y medios de difusión
<b>Date(s):</b>	12-13	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	12-13
<b>Participants:</b>	25 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	25 parlamentarias/os (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Santiago, Chile	<b>País:</b>	Santiago, Chile
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and Congress of Chile	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Congreso de Chile
FEBRUARY		FEBRERO	
<b>Activity:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Sub-regional Inter-parliamentary dialogue with civil society	<b>Actividad:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Diálogo interparlamentario subregional con la sociedad civil



<b>Topic:</b>	Masculinity and politics	<b>Tema:</b>	Masculinidad y política
<b>Date(s):</b>	TBC	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	A confirmar
<b>Participants:</b>	10-12 Caribbean parliamentarians (English)	<b>Participantes:</b>	10-12 parlamentarios del Caribe (inglés)
<b>Country:</b>	TBC	<b>País:</b>	A confirmar
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión

	MARCH		MARZO
<b>Activity:</b>	42nd Meeting of the Board	<b>Actividad:</b>	42. Reunión del Consejo
<b>UPDATED</b>		<b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	
<b>Topic:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Tema:</b>	ParlAmericas
<b>Date(s):</b>	18	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	18
<b>Participants:</b>	ParlAmericas Board	<b>Participantes:</b>	Consejo de ParlAmericas
<b>Country:</b>	Costa Rica	<b>País:</b>	Costa Rica
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y Parlamento anfitrión

<b>Activity:</b>	Annual Gathering of the Open Parliament Network	<b>Actividad:</b>	Encuentro anual de la Red de Parlamento Abierto
<b>UPDATED</b>		<b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	
<b>Topic:</b>	Citizen Participation	<b>Tema:</b>	Participación Ciudadanía
<b>Date(s):</b>	16-17	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	16-17
<b>Participants:</b>	Parliamentarians – from the 35 member countries	<b>Participantes:</b>	Parlamentarios/os de los 35 países miembro
<b>Country:</b>	Costa Rica	<b>País:</b>	Costa Rica
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas and host parliament	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas y el Parlamento anfitrión

<b>Activity:</b>	Stakeholders Meeting	<b>Actividad:</b>	Reunión de socios
<b>UPDATED</b>		<b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	
<b>Topic:</b>	Open parliament stakeholders	<b>Tema:</b>	Parlamento Abierto - socios
<b>Date(s):</b>	15	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	15
<b>Participants:</b>	NDI, OAS, World Bank, GOPAC, Directorio Legislativo, UNDP, ParlAmericas	<b>Participantes:</b>	NDI, OEA, Banco Mundial, GOPAC, Directorio Legislativo, PNUD
<b>Country:</b>	Costa Rica	<b>País:</b>	Costa Rica
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas

<b>Activity:</b>	Skills training	<b>Actividad:</b>	Capacitación técnica
<b>NEW</b>		<b>NUEVO</b>	
<b>Topic:</b>	To be determined	<b>Tema:</b>	A determinar
<b>Date(s):</b>	15	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	15
<b>Participants:</b>	10 parliamentarians (Spanish)	<b>Participantes:</b>	10 parlamentarios/as (español)
<b>Country:</b>	Costa Rica	<b>País:</b>	Costa Rica
<b>Organizer:</b>	ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	ParlAmericas



ParlAmericas supports parliamentary participation in Inter-American meetings four times a year  
 ParlAmericas apoya la participación parlamentaria en reuniones interamericanas: cuatro veces al año

<b>Meeting:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	CIM (Inter-American Commission of Women – OAS)	<b>Reunión:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	CIM (Comisión Interamericana de Mujeres - OEA)
<b>Topic:</b>	Validating legislation on political harassment	<b>Tema:</b>	Validando legislación sobre acoso político
<b>Date(s):</b>	May 30-31, 2016	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	30 y 31 de mayo de 2016
<b>Participants:</b>	2-4 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	2-4 parlamentarias/os
<b>Country:</b>	Bolivia	<b>País:</b>	Bolivia
<b>Organizer:</b>	Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Bolivia) and OAS-CIM	<b>Organizador:</b>	Ministerio de Relaciones Exteriores y la OEA-CIM
<b>Attendance:</b>	2F parliamentarians (El Salvador & Colombia)	<b>Asistencia:</b>	2 parlamentarias (El Salvador y Colombia)
<b>Meeting:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	Open Government Partnership – Regional Meeting for the Americas	<b>Reunión:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Alianza para el Gobierno Abierto – Encuentro regional de las Américas
<b>Topic:</b>	Open government	<b>Tema:</b>	Gobierno abierto
<b>Date(s):</b>	June 1-2, 2016	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	1 y 2 de junio, 2016
<b>Participants:</b>	2-4 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	2-4 parlamentarias/os
<b>Country:</b>	Uruguay	<b>País:</b>	Uruguay
<b>Organizer:</b>	OGP y Government of Uruguay	<b>Organizador:</b>	AGA y Gobierno de Uruguay
<b>Attendance:</b>	2 (1M/ 1F) parliamentarians (Chile & Costa Rica)	<b>Asistencia:</b>	2 parlamentarias/os (1H/ 1M) (Chile y Costa Rica)
<b>Meeting:</b> <b>UPDATED</b>	International Women’s Day Activity with CIM and the OAS	<b>Reunión:</b> <b>ACTUALIZADO</b>	Día Internacional de la Mujer Actividad con la CIM y la OEA
<b>Topic:</b>	Inter-American Commitment to Women’s leadership & Gender Equity	<b>Tema:</b>	Compromiso Interamericano para el liderazgo de la mujer y la igualdad de género
<b>Date(s):</b>	March 10, 2017	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	10 de marzo de 2017
<b>Participants:</b>	4-6 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	4-6 parlamentarias/os
<b>Country:</b>	Washington, DC	<b>País:</b>	Washington, DC
<b>Organizer:</b>	OAS Permanent Representatives, CIM & ParlAmericas	<b>Organizador:</b>	Representantes permanentes de la OEA, CIM y ParlAmericas
<b>Meeting:</b>	TBC	<b>Reunión:</b>	A confirmar
<b>Topic:</b>	TBC	<b>Tema:</b>	A confirmar
<b>Date(s):</b>	TBC	<b>Fecha(s):</b>	A confirmar
<b>Participants:</b>	2-4 parliamentarians	<b>Participantes:</b>	2-4 parlamentarias/os
<b>Country:</b>	TBC	<b>País:</b>	A confirmar
<b>Organizer:</b>	TBC	<b>Organizador:</b>	A confirmar

**Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago**  
**First Efforts: Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), 2016**

**Efforts to monitor progress towards SDGs**

The Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago is committed to the implementation of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to this end, ensuring that all acts of Parliament, including the budget can give effect to its achievement.

Trinidad and Tobago's strategy is contained in a National Development Strategy (NDS) which has been accepted by the Cabinet. The NDS lays the foundation and pathway for attaining developed country status by providing a broad socio-economic development framework to the year 2030<sup>1</sup>. It is expected to be laid in the Parliament in early 2017 and it is likely that a Joint Select Committee of the Parliament shall be responsible to consider, monitor the implementation of and report on the strategies.

**Specific actions undertaken to date**

The Trinidad and Tobago Parliament has proactively pursued Goal 17 (*Partnership for goals*) by building partnerships for the fulfilment of the SDGs. In so doing, the Parliament is in the process of establishing an Experts' Register which will allow qualified persons with expertise in a number of disciplines, to indicate their willingness to be called by the Committee for expert advice. Further, we have enhanced the capacity of our Parliamentarians by equipping them with information through the following Parliamentary Conferences and Seminars:

- ***Workshop on Sustainability, Energy and Development*** (December 7 to 10, 2015, Trinidad and Tobago) (*Goal 7: Affordable and Clean Energy*) - By partnering with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament was able to host a four day Workshop on Sustainability, Energy and Development. The Workshop was aimed at strengthening parliamentarians who have a responsibility to actively engage in the development agenda. Its overall objective was to empower parliamentarians to ensure the development and achievement of the SDGs, enhance their status as key international stakeholders and provided them with a united, powerful voice at the national level. The Workshop focused on the following subject areas:
  - (i) Energy security in the Caribbean;
  - (ii) Financing for energy sustainability;
  - (iii) Renewables and diversification;
  - (iv) Cutting consumption;
  - (v) SDGs and the Legislative Process; and
  - (vi) Parliament's role in SGD and the Scrutiny Process.
- ***International Parliamentary Conference on Sustainability Energy and Development*** (March 14th - 17th, 2016, Westminster, London) - In March 2016, representatives from the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament participated in a Parliamentary Conference on Sustainable Energy. The following issues were discussed:

<sup>1</sup> National Development Strategy 2016-2030 (Vision 2030), page 11

- (i) the issue of energy policies, particularly policies related to the development of renewables;
  - (ii) financing sustainable development;
  - (iii) the role of parliamentarians in legislating for sustainability; and
  - (iv) ensuring energy security, energy access and transparency.
- ***Parliamentary Workshop on Gender Bias and Gender Based Violence*** (December 2, 2016, Trinidad and Tobago) - This Workshop was part of the wider United Nations initiative entitled the '*Parliamentarian Workshop Series*' and was aimed at promoting human dignity with country specific themes of HIV, Gender Bias and Gender Violence and Child well-being. It therefore supported SDG 5 (*Gender Equality and the Empowerment of Women and Girls*).
  - ***Seminar on Parliamentary and Civil Oversight of Oil, Gas and Mining Revenue*** (December 5, 2016) - The Trinidad and Tobago Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Steering Committee in collaboration with the High Commission of Canada and the Parliamentary Centre of Canada facilitated a Seminar on the role of Parliaments in the Extractive Sector, Governance and Monitoring. This seminar addressed issues such as the key challenges facing the country's energy sector and best practices from around the world. It therefore, supported SDGs 7 (*Affordable and Clean Energy*) and 17 (*Partnership for the Goals*).
  - ***Youth Parliament Debate 2016 - 'Youth crime: how to tackle the issue and opportunities for young people'*** - In October, 2016, the Trinidad and Tobago Parliament hosted a National Youth Parliament Debate. The primary objective of the debate was to foster youth development through social dialogue by providing them with a platform to make informed contributions on social and economic issues affecting the country. This year's topic was in support of SDG 16 (*Promote just, peaceful and inclusive societies*).
  - ***Secondary Schools Essay Competition 2016 - "Saving Energy, Saving the Planet"*** In an effort to build awareness on the importance of managing and conserving energy, the Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago conducted an essay competition in all Secondary Schools during the period March 14 to April 22, 2016. The competition was geared toward increasing awareness of climate change and an understanding for the need for energy efficiency. This venture supported SDG 13 (*climate action*) and SDG 7 (*affordable and clean energy*).

#### Specific actions taken towards SDG 16: *peace, justice and strong institutions*

***Parliamentary Oversight Committees*** - There are nine (9) Joint Select Committees established under the Standing Orders (House and Senate) with powers to investigate and report on the powers, methods of functioning and criteria adopted by Ministries, State Enterprises and other governmental agencies and through these very Committees, the Parliament will monitor the implementation and progress any specific actions required to facilitate implementation of the NDS.





## DECLARATION OF COMMITMENT

13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas: *Strengthening parliaments and building resilient societies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*

Mexico City, Mexico | December 6-7, 2016

Parliamentarians from 25 countries, gathered in Mexico City, Mexico on December 6-7, 2016, for the **13<sup>th</sup> Plenary Assembly of ParlAmericas: *Strengthening parliaments and building resilient societies to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals*** (SDGs), discussed progress made and challenges ahead in effectively achieving the SDGs in the Americas and the Caribbean.

During the meeting, each parliamentary delegation reported on its progress and preliminary efforts currently in place in their respective parliaments to implement the SDGs, in particular SDG 16.

Fruitful exchanges took place around the implementation of the SDGs and the context for monitoring and evaluating the SDGs on the global, regional, and national level. The distinctive political and socio-economic features of each country were taken into account in determining the corresponding actions and strategies that parliaments in the hemisphere should implement to promote and support their achievement and monitoring. Therefore and,

### **Recognizing:**

That the agreements adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in the *2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development*, expressed in the 17 Sustainable Development Goals, are of the utmost importance for the economic, social, and environmental well-being of individuals and communities.

That the declaration on the *Institutional Strengthening for Sustainable Development in the Americas*, signed by the General Assembly of the Organization of Americas States on June 15, 2016, established a hemispheric frame of reference to direct institutional efforts in the implementation of the SDGs.

That the parliaments, as bodies representing the citizens and in consideration of the specific nature of their function, play a fundamental role in promoting, implementing, monitoring, and evaluating all of the SDGs through their work in legislative action, budgetary design, political control, and representative functions.

That it is necessary to strengthen the institutions responsible for collecting, processing, analyzing, and disseminating disaggregated statistical information, in accordance with principles of transparency and inclusion, to support the monitoring and evaluation of progress towards the SDGs and to allow for evidence-based legislative decision-making.

That the multidimensional character of sustainable development and the efficient achievement of the SDGs poses challenges that require institutional strengthening of

parliaments so that they are more effective, responsible, and transparent and promote the highest standards of ethics and probity.

That the effective achievement of the SDGs involves the promotion of joint work between parliaments, citizens, civil society organizations, and other actors and social movements, creating cooperative spaces that favour the adoption of inclusive, participatory, and representative decisions, with special attention to women, minorities, and traditionally marginalized groups.

That parliamentary work involves continuing to advance in a determined way in the fight against corruption, ensuring that the resources destined for development are allocated and applied in accordance with principles of efficacy, transparency, probity, and accountability.

That achieving real equality between genders and the empowerment of all women and girls is *sine qua non* for ensuring development and, thus it is a central component of the 2030 Agenda. The priorities, lived experiences, and contributions of women and girls must be at the centre of discussions around the implementation and monitoring of the SDGs.

That the effects of climate change and its consequences on the well-being of individuals and communities requires coordinated actions to mitigate its impact, particularly those that threaten the most vulnerable communities and population groups.

That in order to adequately implement the SDGs, it is fundamental to engage in dialogue and work collaboratively with the different agencies and institutions in the international community and the inter-American system.

***We are committed to:***

1. Decisively taking up the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and the achievement of its corresponding *Sustainable Development Goals and Objectives*, which we recognize as fundamental to ensuring the economic, social, and environmental well-being of individuals and communities.
2. Reviewing current legislation in order to adopt, where relevant, the legislative and regulatory frameworks required to progress in implementing the SDGs and facilitating the achievement of the established goals.
3. Taking into account priorities already established in national development plans when formulating and adopting budgets, reflecting what is needed in order to achieve the SDGs.
4. Making progress on corresponding actions to expand monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation initiatives in the implementation and fulfillment of the agreements and goals outlined in the SDGs, particularly Goal 16.
5. Establishing or strengthening parliamentary bodies, commissions, or groups required for ensuring adequate monitoring, follow-up, and evaluation in the implementation of the SDGs and their effective achievement.
6. Putting into place legislative practices, including the development and realization of national action plans on open parliament, to implement the agreements of ParlAmericas' *Roadmap*

*towards legislative transparency*, including adopting legislation and establishing enforcement bodies in order to ensure access to public information.

7. Promoting citizen participation in parliamentary decision-making so that these processes are participatory and representative, making use of online communication tools that facilitate the dissemination of public information.
8. Incorporating a gender perspective into parliamentary work, taking into account the potential results and impacts in the legislation that help to identify legal responses that promote equality, justice, and social change.
9. Prioritizing, in the public and legislative agendas of our countries, the adoption of strategies to mitigate the phenomena associated with climate change, as well as its social, economic, and environmental impacts, keeping in mind its cross-cutting and differential nature.
10. Encouraging our governments to prioritize, strengthen, and delve deeper into initiatives directed towards achieving the SDGs, by fostering collaborative spaces for work and dialogue with multilateral organizations, agencies, and other bodies in the inter-American system, like the OAS, the international community, local authorities, and civil society organizations, giving special attention to vulnerable and traditionally marginalized communities.
11. Progressing with democratic discussions on the adoption of inclusive, sustainable, and resilient development models, in accordance with what is set out in the 2030 Agenda and the SDGs, with special consideration for gender equality and the inclusive nature of our societies.
12. Establishing institutional alliances between our parliaments and multilateral organizations involved in the implementation of the SDGs like the *United Nations Development Programme*, the *United Nations Environment Programme*, the *Inter-Parliamentary Union*, the *Latin American and Caribbean Parliament*, and non-governmental organizations like the *International Institute for Sustainable Development*.
13. Actively participating in global spaces for collaborative work around the implementation and monitoring of progress in achieving the SDGs, particularly the *United Nations High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development* and the *Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean's Forum of the Countries of Latin America and the Caribbean on Sustainable Development*.

The parliamentary delegations in attendance would like to offer their heartfelt recognition to ParlAmericas on the occasion of its fifteenth anniversary and express their gratitude for its notable efforts in promoting democracy and the strengthening of parliamentary diplomacy in the Americas and the Caribbean, facilitating dialogue and the exchange of best legislative practices on topics of hemispheric relevance.

The parliamentary delegations also present their warm appreciation to the Senate, Chamber of Deputies and the Mexican Foreign Ministry for their generous hospitality, and the kind welcome received from the people of Mexico.

*Signed in Mexico City, Mexico on December 7, 2016*

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