



Inter-Parliamentary Union  
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Geneva, 10 July 2014

## Parliamentary Meeting on the occasion of the United Nations Climate Change Conference (COP20/CMP10)

Dear Madam President,  
Dear Mr. President,

Two months ago, we sent you an advance information note announcing the holding of a Parliamentary Meeting in conjunction with this year's session of the United Nations Climate Change Conference, due to take place in Lima, Peru, in December.

As you may know, the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) is a multilateral platform providing Parties to the Convention with a permanent mechanism for conducting global negotiations on climate change. The Secretariat of the Convention organizes annual sessions on the ministerial level, known as the Conference of the Parties to the Convention (COP) and the Conference of the Parties serving as the meeting of the Parties to the Kyoto Protocol (CMP). These sessions attract thousands of participants from government, parliament, business, academia, the scientific community and non-governmental organizations. The session in Lima, COP20/CMP10, will take place from 1 to 12 December 2014.

I am pleased to hereby invite your Parliament to a one-day Parliamentary Meeting to be organized in parallel with COP20/CMP10 by the IPU and the Congress of the Republic of Peru, with the support of the geopolitical Group of Latin America and the Caribbean (GRULAC). The Parliamentary Meeting will take place on 8 December 2014 on the premises of the Congress of the Republic. The practical information note and registration form are enclosed.

Climate change is a complex problem. Despite being environmental in nature, it is intricately linked to a multitude of other global issues, including economic development, poverty eradication, population growth, resource management, etc. It is hardly surprising therefore that the consensus-based intergovernmental negotiations under UNFCCC auspices have been advancing very slowly in recent years. They appear to be in dire need of a powerful political boost.

This is why the IPU has resolved to take the lead in mobilizing parliaments to actively participate in this process. The particular importance of COP20/CMP10 session in Lima stems from the fact that it is expected to advance resolutely towards the preparation of a universal climate change agreement, to be adopted at the following UNFCCC session in Paris, in 2015.

It goes without saying that the negotiating Parties to the UNFCCC are represented by governments. While fully respecting this principle, parliaments should nonetheless keep themselves informed of the ongoing talks and exercise their oversight role vis-à-vis government negotiators. Such a proactive attitude will prove its worth in particular when the time comes for the ratification of the new climate change agreement by parliaments.

The Parliamentary Meeting in Lima will be held with a view to providing parliamentarians with an opportunity to obtain first-hand information on the main issues and orientations of COP20/CMP10, interact with government negotiators directly involved in the Conference decision-making process, gain better knowledge of the recommendations adopted by the IPU with regard to parliamentary action on climate change, and exchange views on parliamentary follow-up to the UN Climate Change Conference in Lima.

Modelled on similar events organized by the IPU in conjunction with UNFCCC sessions in Copenhagen (2009), Cancún (2010) and Durban (2011), the Parliamentary Meeting in Lima will include a series of interactive panels and keynote presentations with the participation of leading international experts and officials from the United Nations and beyond. The detailed programme of the event will be posted on the IPU website in the coming weeks.

In the run-up to the Parliamentary Meeting in Lima, the IPU intends to make the most of its forthcoming 131<sup>st</sup> Assembly (Geneva, 12-16 October 2014) to hold broad consultations on the content of a possible parliamentary message to be addressed to COP20/CMP10. A pre-draft of this document, to be prepared by the Peruvian Congress, will be discussed at the session of the IPU Standing Committee on Sustainable Development, Finance and Trade on 14 October.

As on similar occasions in the past, the Meeting in Lima is intended for parliamentarians attending the UNFCCC session as members of official national delegations or in any other capacity, such as observers representing civil society organizations. To ensure the success of the Meeting, it is of paramount importance to ensure that each parliament nominate MPs who are directly involved in activities dealing with environmental protection and climate change.

It is recommended, whenever possible, that delegates to the Parliamentary Meeting travel to Lima as members of official national delegations to COP20/CMP10. This is by far the easiest way to ensure that their transportation, visa, and accommodation needs are dealt with in a centralized way. More importantly, they will then be automatically accredited to the UN Climate Change Conference and receive ID badges allowing them unrestricted access to COP20/CMP10 premises. We therefore urge you to contact your country's relevant ministry without delay.

We must stress that the organizers of the Parliamentary Meeting are not in a position to facilitate accreditation to the UN Conference and cannot provide hotel accommodation in Lima and visa assistance for entry into Peru. These matters should be dealt with by each delegation individually, as part of the overall COP20/CMP10 accreditation procedure.

Given that the COP20/CMP10 session will be taking place during a two-week period, on days other than the date of the Meeting at the Congress of the Republic, parliamentary delegates will be expected to work with their national delegations to the UN Conference and will also have the possibility of attending various side events and activities taking place at a specially assigned location on COP20/CMP10 premises. Subject to confirmation, one such event will be organized on 10 December specifically for parliamentarians and representatives of cities and local authorities. Details of this event will be announced closer to the date of the session.

We sincerely hope that members of your parliament will take part in the forthcoming COP20/CMP10 session in Lima and will also attend the Parliamentary Meeting hosted by the Congress of the Republic of Peru on 8 December.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Martin Chungong', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Martin Chungong  
Secretary General