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Urgent parliamentary action to address climate-related disasters and strengthen resilience in the Himalayan region and other vulnerable regions

Draft resolution submitted by the drafting committee

Rapporteur: Ms. M. Guerra Castillo (Mexico)

The 153rd Assembly of the Inter-Parliamentary Union,

- (1) *Expressing deep concern* at the disaster on an unprecedented scale that struck the Rasuwa–Bhotekoshi region of Nepal on 26 August 2026, and *expressing* its deepest condolences for, and solidarity with, the people and communities affected by the multidimensional and devastating impacts of the disaster,
- (2) *Recalling* the purposes, principles and values of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) which, as set out in its Statutes, Rules and Strategy, is the global organization of national parliaments working to advance questions of international interest and express its views on such issues with the aim of bringing about action by parliaments and their members,
- (3) *Reaffirming* the purposes and principles enshrined in the Charter of the United Nations,
- (4) *Welcoming* the unanimous advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice of 23 July 2025 on the obligations of States in respect of climate change, and *affirming* the importance of the Court's advisory opinion as an authoritative contribution to the clarification of existing international law,
- (5) *Underscoring* that States' obligations pertaining to the protection of the climate system and other parts of the environment from anthropogenic greenhouse gas emissions, in particular the obligation to prevent significant transboundary harm under customary international law, are obligations *erga omnes*,
- (6) *Reaffirming* the commitment made in the Paris Agreement of 2015 to hold the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and to pursue efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels,
- (7) *Recalling* decision 1/CP.21 of the Conference of the Parties (COP) to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) on *Adoption of the Paris Agreement*, through which the international community pledged to mobilize US\$ 100 billion annually, including to finance the reduction of atmospheric CO₂ emissions in developing countries,
- (8) *Recalling also* the commitments agreed at COP29, held in Baku, Azerbaijan, to deliver on the New Collective Quantified Goal on climate finance by mobilizing at least US\$ 300 billion annually for developing country Parties by 2035, with developed country Parties taking the lead, and the call to scale up climate finance from all public and private sources to at least US\$ 1.3 trillion annually by 2035,

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(9) *Stressing* that climate change is an existential threat of civilizational proportions and that the well-being of present and future generations of humankind depends on an immediate and urgent response to it,

(10) *Acknowledging* that climate-induced disasters such as storms, floods, glacier melt, glacial lake outburst floods, rockfalls, avalanches, landslides and droughts pose a borderless threat to current generations as much as to the future of humanity, and that the climate crisis is no longer a distant warning but instead a present, daily reality,

(11) *Noting with concern* that wars of aggression and other armed conflicts generate significant greenhouse gas emissions through military operations, landscape fires, attacks on energy infrastructure, and the destruction of forests, wetlands and other carbon sinks, and that such emissions undermine the efforts of States to meet their commitments under the Paris Agreement,

(12) *Recognizing* that the Himalayan region is the roof of the world and that the ecosystem services it provides underpin the growth of civilizations and the livelihoods of over 2 billion people living along river basins and in coastal zones,

(13) *Recognizing also* that developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the adverse impacts of climate change, in particular least developed countries and small island developing States, have contributed the least to anthropogenic greenhouse gas concentrations in the atmosphere,

(14) *Recognizing further* the important role of local communities, Indigenous peoples and women in disaster preparedness, adaptation planning and resilience-building,

(15) *Welcoming* the Sagarmatha Sambaad organized by the Government of Nepal in Kathmandu in 2025 under the theme *Climate Change, Mountains and the Future of Humanity*, and its outcome document, the *Sagarmatha Call for Action*, which called for collective efforts towards the fulfilment of obligations for climate mitigation and adaptation,

(16) *Recalling* the address delivered by the United Nations Secretary-General at the 81st session of the UN General Assembly on 22 September 2026, in which he emphasized the observations and concerns he had expressed in Nepal in 2023 relating to accelerating glacier melt and the caving in of the rooftops of the world, and in which he stressed the urgent need for climate action, including climate justice focused on adaptation and finance,

(17) *Recognizing* that national parliaments have broad legislative and oversight powers over executive authorities, including in the areas of budgetary and foreign policy, and play a key role in translating international commitments into tangible national action,

1. *Expresses appreciation* to the international community for providing immediate relief assistance to Nepal for the people and communities affected by the Rasuwa-Bhotekoshi disaster;
2. *Encourages* the international community to maintain its focus beyond this current immediate relief, in order to sustain the political will needed to support medium- and long-term rehabilitation, as well as risk-reduction efforts in view of future climate-related disasters;
3. *Calls upon* Member Parliaments to use their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions to strengthen nationally determined climate action consistent with the Paris Agreement goal of holding the increase in the global average temperature to well below 2°C above pre-industrial levels and pursuing efforts to limit the temperature increase to 1.5°C above pre-industrial levels;
4. *Calls upon* governments and parliaments to strengthen food security and climate-resilient agriculture in vulnerable mountain, coastal and dryland regions, including through investments in resilient food systems, sustainable water management and locally adapted agricultural practices;

5. *Encourages* parliaments to integrate the interests of future generations into climate, disaster risk reduction and reconstruction policies, including through effective parliamentary oversight and long-term impact assessments;
6. *Urges* Member Parliaments to consider the implications of the advisory opinion of the International Court of Justice on the obligations of States in respect of climate change, in the exercise of their legislative, budgetary and oversight functions;
7. *Encourages* Member Parliaments to intensify parliamentary diplomacy and strengthen coordinated engagement through the mechanisms of the IPU and its geopolitical groups in order to build international consensus on the transboundary sharing of climate data, in advance and in real time, as well as on regional and international collaboration on early warning systems, particularly in transboundary mountain and river-basin regions;
8. *Calls for* the open and timely sharing of scientific data across borders in order to strengthen early warning systems and disaster preparedness;
9. *Also calls for* cooperation and the exchange of best practices among parliaments in mountain regions, delta regions and other climate-vulnerable areas, including small island developing States;
10. *Calls upon* the world's parliaments, acting through the IPU and other appropriate parliamentary channels, to show readiness to support all genuine efforts aimed at reducing climate-induced disasters and ensuring speedy recovery and reconstruction;
11. *Encourages* Member Parliaments to make collective efforts to ensure equitable and simplified access for developing countries, particularly those vulnerable to climate change, including small island developing States and mountainous least developed countries, to international climate finance including scaled-up grants and concessional finance, technology development and transfer, and capacity-building from bilateral and multilateral sources, including the operating entities and funds of the financial mechanism under the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement and alternative sources;
12. *Calls for* investment in climate-resilient infrastructure and nature-based solutions that reduce disaster risks while safeguarding essential public services;
13. *Calls upon* the international community and relevant financial institutions to ensure that assistance provided to countries affected by environmental disasters does not further exacerbate their debt burden, while taking into account the principle of common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities, as well as different national circumstances;
14. *Calls upon* the Member Parliaments of developed countries to support efforts to strengthen the disaster preparedness of developing countries that are particularly vulnerable to the impacts of climate change;
15. *Requests* the IPU to facilitate the exchange of parliamentary good practices, support capacity-building and report on parliamentary action taken to implement this resolution;
16. *Calls upon* IPU Member Parliaments to report on their actions taken in follow-up to this resolution in the special accountability segment at future IPU Assemblies;
17. *Requests* the IPU Secretary General to circulate this resolution to all Member Parliaments, to the UN Secretary-General and to multilateral development funds, with a view to mobilizing international support for enhancing parliamentary accountability for climate justice.