PRESS RELEASE

Mapping Report on Climate Change Laws and Policies in Climate Vulnerable Countries

The first detailed compendium of climate change laws and policies in 48 of the world’s 55 most climate vulnerable nations

30 June 2022, LONDON: Today the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF) and GLOBE International publish the first detailed compendium of climate change laws and policies in 48 of the world’s 55 most climate vulnerable nations.

Launched during London Climate Action Week, the midway point as the UK COP26 Presidency hands over to Egypt’s COP27 Presidency, the Mapping Report on Climate Change Laws and Policies in Climate Vulnerable Countries reveals for the first time the extent of progress in creating legislative architecture and policy frameworks to address climate change in the world’s frontline nations.

The report also brings back into the picture the crucial constitutional role of parliaments in ensuring that promises made at international fora are delivered.

In their Foreword, four leading CVF parliamentarians – Hon. Emmanuel Marfo (Ghana), Speaker H.E. Mohammed Nasheed (Maldives), Congresswoman H.E. Loren Legarda (Philippines) and Hon. Saber Chowdhury MP (Bangladesh) – note that:

“With all the focus on the executive branch, Parliaments and Parliamentarians are often ignored, sidelined or perhaps forgotten. But Parliaments – as the foremost democratic and legislative bodies - have a crucial role to play. We represent the people, make laws, and scrutinise and provide oversight over governments and the executive bureaucracy as they implement national policies.”

They affirm that “On climate, many Parliaments have been taking the lead, by framing and passing climate legislation which legally mandates governments to meet specific ambitious climate targets.”
However, they recognise that “There is still insufficient legislative attention given to climate change in many countries, and we have to urgently change this situation if we are to push our governments to meet the goals set out in the Paris Agreement.”

Speaking on behalf of GLOBE International, chief executive, Malini Mehra, said: “GLOBE is proud to have produced this first-ever Mapping Report to inform climate change efforts across CVF parliaments and improve stakeholder understanding and engagement. The Report will facilitate peer to peer learning, identify gaps and promote best practice. Our initial analysis shows that 85% of CVF members have climate change laws with more than ¾ having adopted or considering net zero targets. More than half seek to integrate mitigation, but links to adaptation and resilience are weaker. This signals a vital area for legislative and policy improvement that we look forward to supporting CVF countries in their ongoing efforts.”

The report is published by GLOBE International and Climate Vulnerable Forum, and developed in collaboration with Aroha. It is available for download from the CVF and GLOBE International websites.

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NOTES TO EDITORS

1. Foreword by:
Hon. Dr. Emmanuel Marfo, Chairperson of the CVF Global Parliamentary Group, and Chairperson of the Environment, Science and Technology Committee, Parliament of Ghana; Hon. Mohamed Nasheed, Former President of Maldives and speaker of the Maldives parliament, the Peoples' Majlis, and Ambassador for Ambition of the Climate Vulnerable Forum; Hon. Loren Legarda, Senator, House of Representatives, Republic of the Philippines and Ambassador for Parliaments of the Climate Vulnerable Forum; Hon. Saber Hossain Chowdhury, MP, Honorary President, Inter-Parliamentary Union, Chairman, Standing Committee on Ministry of Environment Forest and Climate Change, Government of Bangladesh

2. About Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF)
The CVF is an international forum for countries most threatened by climate change. Founded in 2009, it is composed of 55 members across five regions including Africa, Asia, the Caribbean, Latin America and the Pacific, and represents some 1.4 billion people worldwide. The Forum is led by a rotating chair for an ordinary period of two years, with Ghana currently chairing for the period 2022-2024. For more, visit: https://thecvf.org/about/

3. About GLOBE International
GLOBE International is a non-partisan, cross-party network of parliamentarians dedicated to improving governance for sustainable development. Established as a charity in 1991 by Senators Al Gore, John Kerry and their counterparts in the European Parliament, Russian Duma
and Japanese Diet, GLOBE has grown to include legislators from every global region. GLOBE members have been instrumental in the establishment of legislation on climate change, biodiversity and natural resource protection in parliaments across the world. GLOBE International’s current work includes supporting implementation of the Rio Conventions (climate change, biodiversity, desertification), the Sendai Framework on Disaster Risk Reduction and the UN Sustainable Development Goals. GLOBE also serves as the UNFCCC Focal Point for the Parliamentary Group. www.globelegislators.org

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