

**151st IPU Assembly and Related Meetings**  
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**Statement by Dr. Sharmila Sahiba Faruqui Hashaam at Standing Committee  
on Sustainable Development during Panel discussion on the impact of global  
warming: A parliamentary call to protect the most vulnerable**

Honourable Chair, distinguished delegates,

Global warming is no longer a warning — it is a lived reality. And its impact is not measured only in degrees, but in human suffering. The same heat that melts our glaciers also melts the futures of those who did the least to cause this crisis.

For Pakistan, this is not an abstract concern — it is a recurring heartbreak. In 2022, one-third of our country was submerged under water. Over 33 million people were affected, 1,700 lives were lost, and two million homes were destroyed. Crops vanished, villages disappeared, and livelihoods drowned. Yet our share in global emissions remains less than one percent.

This is the cruel inequality of our age — those who pollute the least, suffer the most.

But Pakistan's story is not only of loss; it is of resilience, reform, and resolve. Our updated Nationally Determined Contributions are anchored in a single principle: to leave no one behind. We see climate change not only as an environmental threat, but as a profound human challenge demanding justice and inclusion.

Our NDCs focus as much on adaptation and resilience as on mitigation. We are transitioning to 60 percent renewable energy by 2030, introducing 30 percent electric vehicles, and restoring millions of hectares through reforestation and mangrove regeneration. These are not statistics — they are lifelines for our farmers in Sindh, our fisherfolk in Gwadar, and our mountain families in Gilgit-Baltistan.

Our recovery is deeply human and profoundly gender-responsive. Through the Benazir Income Support Programme, nearly ten million women receive direct financial support — empowering them to rebuild lives and lead recovery. And in Sindh, the provincial government is constructing 2.1 million climate-resilient homes for flood-affected families, with each home titled in the name of a woman. This is

not just reconstruction; it is transformation — restoring dignity, security, and ownership to the women who hold our communities together.

Our Parliament continues to legislate for clean air, allocate budgets for adaptation, and oversee climate finance to ensure transparency and equity. Because resilience without fairness is not justice — it is survival by chance.

But colleagues, no nation can adapt alone. Climate finance must not trickle down as charity — it must flow as climate justice. Loss and damage funding must reach those standing knee-deep in floodwaters, not remain trapped in bureaucracy or broken promises.

Pakistan calls for a global compact of compassion and accountability — one where finance is predictable, access is fair, and every promise made to the developing world is finally kept.

Because when we protect the most vulnerable, we protect humanity itself. And if we fail them, we fail the very meaning of progress.

Thank you.

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