41st Annual Forum of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

The Role of Parliamentarians in the implementation of SDGs 16 and 14:

*Promoting democratic renewal and inclusion, safeguarding human rights, and protecting the oceans*

21-22 November 2019

Assembleia Nacional, Praia, Cape Verde
AGENDA - DAY 1
Thursday, 21 November 2019

9:00 - 10:00 a.m. Opening Ceremony

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) as a tool for renewing democracy, realizing fundamental human rights and safeguarding pluralistic and inclusive societies, as well as protecting the Oceans

Opening Address
Dep. José Sanches, MP (Cape Verde); Chair of PGA Cape Verde National Group

Keynote Addresses
H.E. Amb. Sofia Moreira de Sousa, Head of the European Union Delegation to Cape Verde
H.E. Amb. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General's Special Envoy for the Ocean
Ms. Margareta Cederfelt, MP (Sweden); Vice-President of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) Parliamentary Assembly; President of Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

Official Remarks
H.E. Jorge Carlos da Fonseca, President of the Republic of Cape Verde

10:00 – 10:30 a.m. Official Group Photograph & Coffee/Tea Break

Part 1: Promoting democratic renewal and safeguarding human rights (SDG 16)

10:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Panel 1

The Fight for Democratic Renewal: parliamentarians as democracy defenders

- Equipping legislators to detect and deflect early warning signs of erosion of democratic principles, including curtailment of civil and political rights, erosion of separation of powers, and diminishment of media freedoms.
- Empowering parliamentarians to act when the human rights of activists, advocates, and allies are threatened, including strategies to combat politically motivated arrests and detentions.
• Emboldening MPs to demand political dialogue that is respectful of all, resist hate speech and derogatory language, expose disinformation, and prevent and punish defamation, including online and through social media, while respecting freedoms of speech.
• Empowering parliamentarians to combat extrajudicial or summary executions and to abolish the death penalty to prevent the ultimate attacks against activists, defenders and political actors expressing dissent.

Chair
Dip. Carla Pitiot (Argentina), Secretary of Commission of General Legislation; Member of PGA Executive Committee

Panel
Hon. Rozaina Adam, MP (Maldives), Chief Majority Whip, Chair of Independent Institutions Committee; PGA Member
Hon. Millie Odhiambo, MP (Kenya); Chair of PGA Kenya National Group
Hon. Dawda Kawsu Jawara, MP (The Gambia), PGA member

12:30 – 1:30 p.m. Lunch

1:30 - 3:30 p.m. Panel 2

Policies and practices to promote open, diverse and inclusive societies
• Taking action to guarantee that every individual lives with dignity and is free from violence and discrimination, including on the basis of sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, and sex characteristics.
• Promoting and enforcing non-discriminatory laws and policies for sustainable development Protecting and enhancing the civic space.
• Taking action to ensure the “Rule of Law” is “human rights’ centered” under SDG 16, in accordance with International Law.

Chair
Mr. Charles Chauvel, Global Lead and Asia-Pacific Focal Point “Inclusive Processes and Institutions” at the regional center in Bangkok of the United Nations Development Programme; Former MP (New Zealand) and PGA member

Panel
Hon. Dr. Ana Rita Sithole, MP (Mozambique), Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee; Chair of PGA Mozambique National Group
Hon. Levy Nazaré, MP (São Tomé and Príncipe), Deputy Speaker; Member of PGA Executive Committee
Dr. The Hon. Sir Richard Cheltenham, MP (Barbados), President of the Senate
Sen. Aziza Lake (Antigua and Barbuda), PGA Member
Towards peaceful societies: Reducing the scourge of armed conflict by 2030


* Strategies and policies capable of reducing illicit arms flows by 2030 “SDG 16 is considered one of the most ambitious and challenging of SDGs. Despite the prominence that SDG 16 gives to peaceful societies, only one target—16.4—directly references militarization and weaponry by committing states to inter alia ‘significantly reduce illicit arms flows by 2030.’” (cf. SIPRI, 2018)

**Chair**

**Hon. Kasthuri Patto**, MP (Malaysia); Secretary of PGA Malaysia National Group

**Panel**

**Hon. Béatrice Epaye** (Central African Republic), Chair of Foreign Affairs Committee; Member of PGA Executive Committee; Chair of PGA CAR National Group

**Hon. Jasson Rweikiza**, MP (Tanzania), Chair of Legal & Parliamentary Affairs Committee; Chair of PGA Tanzania National Group

**Hon. Antonio Niquice** (Mozambique), Member of PGA Executive Committee

**Hon. Amina Maelainine** (Morocco); PGA member
9:00 - 9:30 a.m.  Panel 4

First International Parliamentary Oceans Day

Keynote Speaker
Dr. Osvaldina Duarte Silva, President National Institute for Fisheries Research and Development (INDP) of Cape Verde

9:30 - 11:30 a.m.  Panel 5

Human Rights abuses and Forced Labor in the Seafood industry - The launch of a new global Treaty ratification campaign by PGA

Chair
Hon. Naveed Qamar, MP (Pakistan); Member of PGA Executive Committee, Chair of PGA Pakistan National Group

Panel
Hon. Fikile Xasa, MP (South Africa), Chair of Portfolio Committee on Environment, Forestry and Fisheries

Ms. Julie Ward, Member of the European Parliament (UK); PGA member

Ms. Sandra Allnutt, Head of Marine Technology and GBS, International Maritime Organization (IMO)

Ms. Katherine Hanly, Policy Manager, Ending Illegal Fishing Project, The Pew Charitable Trusts

11:30 – 11:45 a.m. Coffee/Tea Break
11:45 a.m. - 1:30 p.m.  Panel 6

Supporting Local Fishers and Ocean-dependent States - Sustainable Small-Scale Fisheries as a critical source of livelihood and development

Chair
Dip. Victor Orlando Bisonó (Dominican Republic); Chair of PGA International Council

Panel
H.E. Amb. Peter Thomson, UN Secretary-General’s Special Envoy for the Ocean

Ms. Heather Zichal, Executive Director of the Blue Prosperity Coalition

Ms. Lena Westlund, International Fisheries Analyst, Fisheries and Aquaculture Department, Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

Dr. Xiao Recio-Blanco, Director of Oceans Program of the Environmental Law Institute (ELI)

1:30 – 2:30 p.m. Lunch

2:30 - 4:00 p.m.  Panel 7

The High Seas: A New Treaty creating a legal framework to support long-term biodiversity conservation

Chair
Ms. Petra Bayr, MP (Austria), Chairwoman of Development Policy Subcommittee; Treasurer of PGA and Convenor of PGA Oceans Campaign

Panel
Dip. Jorge Calix (Honduras); Member of PGA Executive Committee

Hon. Mohamed Marzouk, MP (Morocco)

Hon. Abdulrazak Namdas, MP (Nigeria), Member of PGA

Mr. Julian Jackson, Europe Lead for The High Seas Alliance at The Pew Charitable Trusts

4:00 – 4:15 p.m. Coffee/Tea Break
4:15 - 5:00 p.m.  Closing Session

Consideration, discussion and, as appropriate, adoption of a Praia Plan of Action for the Renewal of Democracy and the Protection of the Oceans

Chair
Dr. David Donat Cattin, Secretary-General of PGA; Adjunct Professor of International Law, Center for Global Affairs of the New York University (NYU)

Official Closing
Ms. Margareta Cederfelt, MP (Sweden); Vice-President of the OSCE Parliamentary Assembly; President of PGA

Hon. Jorge Pedro Mauricio dos Santos, MP (Cape Verde), Speaker of the National Assembly of Cape Verde

N.B.: Each session will be followed by an open discussion with all Parliamentarians in attendance.