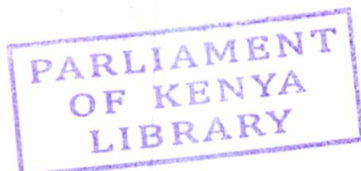




13TH PARLIAMENT (FIFTH SESSION)

REPORT OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR: AFRICAN PARLIAMENTS FOR
CLIMATE ACTION – REDUCING METHANE, PROMOTING DEVELOPMENT



Held at

EMARA OLE SERENI HOTEL, NAIROBI, KENYA

14TH TO 18TH MAY, 2026

PAPERS LAID	
DATE	30/9/2026
TABLED BY	Sen. Faki, CBS, MP on behalf of chairperson
COMMITTEE	Climate Change
CLERK AT THE TABLE	Lillian

Rt. Hon. Speaker
You may approve for tabling
J. M. Nyegenye, C.B.S.,
Clerk of the Senate/Secretary, PSC
Date: 28/9/26

Clerks Chambers,
Parliament Buildings,
NAIROBI.



May, 2026

TABLE OF CONTENTS

LIST OF APPENDICES	2
ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS.....	3
PREFACE.....	4
1 BACKGROUND: ABOUT THE IPU AND THE METHANE PROJECT	5
1.1 The IPU Methane Project Overview	1
1.2 Overview of Methane.....	2
2 INTRODUCTION.....	2
3 AGENDA OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR.....	3
4 PARTICIPATION AND KENYA DELEGATION.....	3
4.1 Key Officials	4
5 PRE-SEMINAR ACTIVITY: PARLIAMENT-MEDIA BREAKFAST DIALOGUE ON METHANE EMISSIONS IN KENYA.....	5
6 OPENING SESSION AND WELCOMING REMARKS	6
7 SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE – UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTIONS AND IMPACTS IN AFRICA	8
8 SESSION 2: THE METHANE CHALLENGE – SPEEDING UP CLIMATE ACTION IN AFRICA.....	11
9 SESSION 3: AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS AND METHANE IN AFRICA	14
10 SESSION 4: WASTE SYSTEMS AND METHANE – AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE.....	16
11 SESSION 5: DECENTRALISED ENERGY SYSTEMS AS A PATHWAY FOR METHANE REDUCTION AND CLIMATE ACTION.....	18
12 CLOSING CEREMONY AND CLOSING REMARKS.....	20
13 FIELD VISIT TO THE SLEEPING WARRIOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, ELEMENTAITA.....	22
14 ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNIQUÉ / OUTCOME DOCUMENT	23
15 RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE KENYA DELEGATION.....	23

LIST OF APPENDICES

Appendix 1 Communiqué / Outcome Document of the Regional Seminar

Appendix 2 List of Participants – Kenya Delegation

ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

IPU	Inter-Parliamentary Union
CVF-V20	Climate Vulnerable Forum
CCAC	Climate and Clean Air Coalition
UNEP	United Nations Environment Programme
CIFOR-ICRAF	Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry
UNIDO	United Nations Industrial Development Organization
SEI	Stockholm Environment Institute
NEMA	National Environment Management Authority

PREFACE

Honourable Speaker,

At the invitation of the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and in collaboration with partner organisations, the Parliament of Kenya co-hosted the Regional Seminar: African Parliaments for Climate Action – Reducing Methane, Promoting Development, at the Ole Sereni Hotel (Emara Ole Sereni), Nairobi, from Thursday, 14th to Monday, 18th May, 2026. The two-day substantive programme took place on 15th and 16th May, 2026, preceded by the arrival of delegates on 14th May, 2026, and followed by an optional field visit to the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone, Elementaita, on 17th May, 2026.

Honourable Speaker,

As a precursor to the Regional Seminar, the Parliament of Kenya hosted a Parliament-Media Breakfast Dialogue on Methane Emissions in Kenya on Thursday, 7th May, 2026, at Parliament Buildings, Nairobi, under the theme Enhancing Public Understanding and Parliamentary Action on Methane Reduction in Kenya. The dialogue brought together Members of Parliament, media practitioners, technical experts, and policy actors to set the national tone and position Kenya's parliamentary leadership ahead of the continental engagement.

Honourable Speaker,

The Seminar was organised as part of a broader 24-month IPU initiative titled Enhancing Parliamentary Action on Climate Change: Strengthening the Role of Parliaments in Reducing Methane Emissions, supported by the Global Methane Hub. The Seminar was officially opened by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Senate, and officially closed by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly. The event was co-organised by the Parliament of Kenya and the IPU, with support from Climate Parliament, the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF-V20), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC/UNEP), the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI/CGIAR), Center for International Forestry Research and World Agroforestry (CIFOR-ICRAF), the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO), and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.

Honourable Speaker,

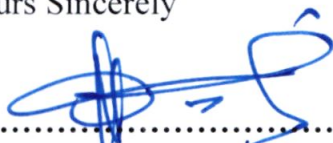
The Seminar brought together parliamentarians, technical experts, scientists, development partners, and representatives from international organisations drawn from across the African continent. The Seminar was co-chaired by Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, MP, Chairperson of

the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, and Sen. Moses Kajwang', CBS, MP, Convener and Chairperson of the Senate Climate Change Caucus, both of whom served as Co-Chairpersons of the Steering Committee that oversaw the planning and delivery of the Regional Seminar.

Honourable Speaker,

It is my pleasure and humble duty to submit this report, which highlights the proceedings, presentations, discussions, and outcomes of the Regional Seminar on African Parliaments for Climate Action, to Parliament for noting and the requisite action.

Yours Sincerely



.....
Sen. Moses Kajwang', CBS, MP.
Co- Chair,
Joint Steering Committee on the
Parliament of Kenya – Regional
Seminar on Methane Reduction.



.....
Hon. (Dr.) John Mutunga, CBS, MP.
Co- Chair,
Joint Steering Committee on the
Parliament of Kenya – Regional
Seminar on Methane Reduction.

1 BACKGROUND: ABOUT THE IPU AND THE METHANE PROJECT

Methane is a potent short-lived climate pollutant, with a significantly higher warming effect than carbon dioxide in the short term. It is the second most significant greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, responsible for approximately 30 percent of the rise in global temperatures since the pre-industrial era, and an estimated 60 percent of today's methane emissions result from human activity, including agriculture, fossil fuels, and decomposing landfill waste. Methane is a key driver of climate change, particularly affecting agriculture, public health, and ecosystems.

Kenya has taken deliberate steps to address methane emissions through national climate policies, greenhouse gas inventory systems, and targeted interventions across key sectors including agriculture, waste, and energy. These efforts are aligned with global and regional climate commitments and are increasingly reflected in national planning and development priorities. Kenya endorsed the Global Methane Pledge at COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021, committing to reduce methane emissions by at least 30 percent from 2020 levels by 2030.

Parliament, as the representative of the people and a central pillar in law-making and oversight, plays a critical role in strengthening the policy and legislative environment for effective methane mitigation. At the same time, the media remains an essential partner in shaping public understanding, accountability, and engagement on climate issues.

While methane mitigation presents clear opportunities for climate action and economic development, it remains insufficiently understood in public discourse. There is a need to simplify science, strengthen communication, and align messaging across institutions.

1.1 The IPU Methane Project Overview

The Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), the global organisation of parliaments, has launched a project on Enhancing Parliamentary Action on Climate Change: Strengthening the Role of Parliaments in Reducing Methane Emissions. This 24-month initiative, supported by the Global Methane Hub, aims to equip parliaments with the tools, training, and networks they need to take effective action on methane emissions.

Parliaments have a vital role to play in tackling methane and climate change through legislation, budgeting, oversight, representation, and raising public awareness. This project supports global efforts such as the Global Methane Pledge, the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals, by helping parliaments become more active players in climate governance.

Climate change is high on the IPU's agenda, as outlined in its Strategy 2022–2026, which identifies climate action as a key area of parliamentary engagement. In line with this commitment, the IPU has supported parliaments worldwide in strengthening climate-related legislation, improving oversight mechanisms, and enhancing international parliamentary cooperation.

1.2 Overview of Methane

Methane is a powerful greenhouse gas and a major cause of global temperature rise. It is over 80 times more harmful than carbon dioxide in the short term but has a much shorter lifespan, remaining in the atmosphere for approximately 12 years. This means that reductions in methane emissions can deliver quick, measurable climate benefits within a decade.

Methane is not only a climate issue. It also harms ground-level air quality, which is bad for public health, crops, and the environment. The United Nations Environment Programme has found that implementing all technically feasible methane abatement measures could reduce global methane emissions by up to 45 percent by 2030, avoiding nearly 0.3 degrees Celsius of global warming by mid-century.

Human-related methane emissions come mainly from Agriculture (livestock rearing, manure, and rice production), Fossil Fuels (leaks during oil, gas, and coal production), and Waste (landfill decomposition and wastewater). Many of the solutions to these issues already exist, meaning that practical and effective action is possible now.

2 INTRODUCTION

The Parliament of Kenya, in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and partner organisations, co-hosted the Regional Seminar: African Parliaments for Climate Action – Reducing Methane, Promoting Development at the Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi, from 14th to 18th May, 2026. The seminar was designed to provide a platform for African parliaments to share experiences, explore practical solutions, and strengthen joint efforts to reduce methane emissions across the agriculture, waste, and energy sectors.

The event was preceded by a Parliament-Media Breakfast Dialogue at Parliament Buildings on 7th May, 2026, which served as a national precursor to set the tone for Kenya's parliamentary leadership at the continental engagement. The Seminar programme featured an opening ceremony, five plenary sessions, and a closing ceremony with the adoption of a Communiqué over two days, followed by an optional field visit to the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone at Elementaita, Nakuru County, on 17th May, 2026.

Africa contributes the least to global greenhouse gas emissions yet bears a disproportionate burden of climate impacts. Kenya and its sister nations face rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, devastating flash floods, and declining agricultural productivity. These realities provided the urgent backdrop against which delegates gathered to deliberate on the role of African parliaments in reducing methane emissions while promoting development.

3 AGENDA OF THE REGIONAL SEMINAR

The following outlines the Agenda of the Regional Seminar:

- i) Day 1 – 14th May, 2026: Arrival of Delegates.
- ii) Day 2 – 15th May, 2026: Understanding Climate Change, Methane Emissions and the African Context.
 - a) Opening Session: High-level welcome and opening remarks, including the official opening by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the Senate.
 - b) Session 1: Setting the Scene – Understanding Climate Change Projections and Impacts in Africa.
 - c) Session 2: The Methane Challenge – Speeding Up Climate Action in Africa.
 - d) Session 3: Agricultural Systems and Methane in Africa.
 - e) Gala Dinner at Emara Ole Sereni Hotel (by invitation).
- iii) Day 3 – 16th May, 2026: African Parliaments Charting the Way Forward.
 - a) Day 3 Recap and Welcome.
 - b) Session 4: Waste Systems and Methane – An African Perspective.
 - c) Session 5: Decentralised Energy Systems as a Pathway for Methane Reduction and Climate Action.
 - d) Closing Ceremony: Closing remarks, presentation and adoption of the Communiqué/Outcome Document, and official closing by the Rt. Hon. Speaker of the National Assembly.
- iv) Day 4 – 17th May, 2026: Optional Field Visit to the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone, Elementaita, Nakuru County (organised by Climate Parliament).

4 PARTICIPATION AND KENYA DELEGATION

The Regional Seminar brought together parliamentarians, government officials, scientists, technical experts, and representatives of international organisations from across the African continent. Parliamentary delegations attended from multiple African nations, with Kenya serving as the host parliament.

The partners who co-organised and supported the Seminar included the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU), Climate Parliament, the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF-V20), the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC/UNEP), ILRI/CGIAR, CIFOR-ICRAF, the Stockholm Environment Institute (SEI), UNIDO, and the Konrad Adenauer Stiftung.

4.1 Key Officials

The Kenyan delegation to the Regional Seminar comprised the following Key Officials:

KENYA DELEGATION KEY OFFICIALS	
Rt. Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, MP	Speaker of the Senate – Official Opening of the Seminar – Represented by Sen. Mohamed Faki, MP
Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses F.M. Wetang'ula, SC, EGH, MP	Speaker, National Assembly – Official Closing of the Seminar – Represented by Hon. Omar Mwinyi, MP
Sen. Moses Kajwang', CBS, MP	Senator, Homa Bay County; Convener & Chairperson, Senate Climate Change Caucus; Co-Chairperson, Steering Committee; Moderator, Opening Session
Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, PhD, MP	Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Agriculture & Livestock; Co-Chairperson, Steering Committee; Presented Communiqué and Closing Remarks on behalf of Speaker Wetang'ula
Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, MP	Chairperson, Climate Change Caucus, National Assembly; Delivered Welcoming Remarks at the Opening Session
Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, CBS	Clerk of the Senate / Secretary, Parliamentary Service Commission; Welcoming Remarks
Sen. David Wakoli, CBS, MP	Senator, Bungoma County; Chairperson, Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock & Fisheries; Delivered Closing Remarks on Day 2
Sen. Beatrice Ogolla, MP	Nominated Senator; Delivered Day 3 Recap and Welcome
Sen. Mohamed Mwinyihaji Faki, CBS, MP	Senator, Mombasa County; Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on Lands, Environment, Natural Resources & Water; Panellist – Session 1
Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP	Member of the Climate Change Caucus – Session 5

Sen. William Kisang, CBS

Vice Chairperson, Senate Standing Committee on Energy; Moderator – Session 6 (Decentralised Energy)

Hon. (Rtd) Major Bashir Abdullah, MP

Vice Chairperson, Departmental Committee on Defence, Intelligence and Foreign Relations; Member for Mandera North Constituency; Chairperson, Pastoralist Parliamentary Group; Panellist – Session 3

5 PRE-SEMINAR ACTIVITY: PARLIAMENT-MEDIA BREAKFAST DIALOGUE ON METHANE EMISSIONS IN KENYA

The Parliament of Kenya hosted a Parliament-Media Breakfast Dialogue on Thursday, 7th May, 2026, from 7:00 a.m. to 9:30 a.m., at Parliament Buildings, Nairobi. The Dialogue was held under the theme: Enhancing Public Understanding and Parliamentary Action on Methane Reduction in Kenya. It was co-organised with the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI/CGIAR), the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP), and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC).

Sen. Moses Kajwang', CBS, MP, provided the welcome remarks and introduction of participants. Opening remarks on why methane matters for Kenya and why Parliament convened the Dialogue were delivered by Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, MP, Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock. A keynote address on the global perspective on methane and the urgency for action was delivered by Ms. Sheila Aggarwal-Khan, Director, Industry and Economy Division, UNEP.

Technical presentations were made on: Kenya's methane profile, inventory systems, and national policy response by representatives of the State Department for Livestock and the State Department for Environment; research, innovation, and sector experience in methane reduction by the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI); and private sector perspectives on sustainable methane management.

A moderated panel discussion and media engagement session followed, featuring representatives from the public sector, Parliament, the scientific community, and the private sector. Sen. Mohamed Faki, CBS, MP, Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Lands, Environment, Natural Resources and Water, presented parliamentary reflections on the policy and legislative gaps requiring action.

Closing remarks including linkage to the Regional Seminar scheduled for 15th to 17th May, 2026, were delivered by Sen. Catherine Mumma, CBS, MP. The Dialogue served as a strategic

national precursor to the Regional Seminar, positioning Kenya at the forefront of parliamentary climate leadership in Africa and bridging science, policy, and public communication on methane.

6 OPENING SESSION AND WELCOMING REMARKS

The Opening Session of the Regional Seminar was held on 15th May, 2026, commencing at 9:00 a.m. at the Emara Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi. The session was moderated by Sen. Moses Kajwang', CBS, MP. Welcome remarks were delivered by Mr. Jeremiah Nyegenye, CBS, Clerk of the Senate of Kenya; Mr. Martin Chungong, Secretary General of the IPU (via video message); Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, MP, Chairperson of the Climate Change Caucus of the National Assembly; Hon. Lydia Haika, MP; and representatives of partner organisations. Senator Mohamed Faki, MP officially opened the Seminar on behalf of the Rt. Hon. Amason Jeffah Kingi, EGH, MP, Speaker of the Senate.

Hon. Charity Kathambi Chepkwony, MP, Chairperson of the Climate Change Caucus of the National Assembly, delivered the substantive welcoming address on behalf of the Parliament of Kenya. She opened by noting that delegates were gathering at a critical moment in history, as climate change threats were being felt directly across the continent, including in Nairobi itself, which had recently experienced severe flooding that caused deaths and serious property damage.

She underscored the enduring and fundamental injustice of Africa's climate situation, noting that historically, Africa contributes the least to global greenhouse gas emissions yet bears a disproportionate burden of climate impacts. She observed that Kenya and its sister nations face rising temperatures, erratic rainfall, prolonged droughts, devastating flash floods, and declining agricultural productivity. Millions of Kenyans have experienced the impact of these changes, with farmers watching harvests fail, pastoralists losing their livestock, and the way of life of entire communities coming under threat. She stated that these events served as stark reminders of the urgent need to address climate change and its far-reaching implications on communities, livelihoods, and national stability.

Hon. Kathambi noted that the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) had confirmed through scientific assessments that human-induced greenhouse gas emissions, including carbon dioxide, nitrous oxide, and methane, are driving unprecedented changes in the global climate system. She noted that methane is the second most significant greenhouse gas after carbon dioxide, responsible for approximately 30 percent of the rise in global temperatures since the pre-industrial era, and that an estimated 60 percent of today's methane

emissions result from human activity, including agriculture, fossil fuels, and decomposing landfill waste. She stated that swift, decisive reductions in methane emissions offer one of the fastest near-term opportunities available to slow global warming.

Hon. Kathambi noted that Kenya was proud to have endorsed the Global Methane Pledge at COP26 in Glasgow in November 2021. She observed that the Pledge, now supported by more than 150 countries representing approximately 70 percent of the global economy, commits participating nations to reduce methane emissions by at least 30 percent from 2020 levels by 2030. She further noted that the United Nations Environment Programme had found that implementing all technically feasible methane abatement measures could reduce global methane emissions by up to 45 percent by 2030, avoiding nearly 0.3 degrees Celsius of global warming by mid-century.

Hon. Kathambi highlighted that Kenya's primary sources of methane emissions span three key sectors. In the agricultural sector, methane is largely generated by livestock farming, particularly cattle, and by rice cultivation. In the waste management sector, significant emissions arise from the decomposition of organic matter in unmanaged landfills and open dumpsites visible in Kenya's cities and towns. In the energy sector, methane is released through the burning of charcoal and biomass, as well as from oil and gas exploration activities in the Turkana Basin.

Hon. Kathambi noted that Kenya has built a structured and evolving legislative framework for climate action. The Constitution of Kenya, 2010, guarantees every person the right to a clean and healthy environment under Article 42 and obligates the State to protect that environment under Article 69. The Climate Change Act, 2016, established a comprehensive legal and institutional architecture placing climate action at the heart of national governance, creating the National Climate Change Council and the Directorate of Climate Change. She further noted that Kenya has since enacted the Climate Change (Carbon Markets) Regulations, 2024, and the Climate Change (Non-Market Approaches) Regulation, 2026, giving domestic effect to Article 6.8 of the Paris Agreement. She acknowledged that more remains to be done, noting that the Climate Change Act requires methane regulation, climate finance accountability, and loss and damage frameworks.

In conclusion, Hon. Kathambi called on all parliamentary representatives to urgently act on five fronts, to deliver progress towards achieving the Global Methane Challenge within four years:

- a) Strengthen climate laws to specifically address methane emissions regulation and climate finance accountability.

- b) Take decisive action to reduce methane emissions across the agriculture, waste, and energy sectors.
- c) Secure adequate and equitable climate finance for implementation, including through concessional finance mechanisms.
- d) Drive technology transfer and co-development between Global South and Global North partners.
- e) Embed climate action comprehensively into national development plans, ensuring methane reduction is aligned with development and livelihood priorities.



7 SESSION 1: SETTING THE SCENE – UNDERSTANDING CLIMATE CHANGE PROJECTIONS AND IMPACTS IN AFRICA

Session 1 commenced following the Opening Session on 15th May, 2026, and was moderated by Hon. Paulette Anne-Marie Larsen, MP, Member of Parliament of Seychelles. The session addressed the theme of understanding climate change projections and impacts across Africa, and explored how climate action can support development, resilience, and sustainable growth. The keynote address was delivered by Dr. Anderson Kehbila, Research Director for Africa and Cluster Lead for Energy and Climate Change at the Stockholm Environment Institute Africa (SEI-Africa) and Dr. Takehiro Nakamura, Head of the UNEP International Environmental Technology Centre. Additional remarks were delivered by H.E. Hon. Dr. Ashebir W. Gayo, First Vice President of the Pan-African Parliament (PAP). Panel contributions were provided

by Dr. George Wamukoya, Team Leader at the African Group of Negotiators Experts Support (AGNES), and Sen. Mohamed Mwinyihaji Faki, CBS, MP.

Dr. Kehbila detailed how Africa is warming faster than the global average, with interior regions experiencing even more rapid temperature increases. Severe droughts, floods, heat stress, and land degradation are increasingly common, threatening economies, public health, food security, water resources, and critical infrastructure. Africa has already warmed by more than 1 degree Celsius above pre-industrial levels, with projections of up to 3 degrees Celsius warming by mid-century in some regions.

By 2030, up to 180 million people may be exposed to extreme hydrological events and heat stress. Agriculture, which employs 50 to 80 percent of the workforce and contributes approximately a quarter of GDP, faces yield declines of up to 22 percent by 2050 under high-emission scenarios. Coastal flooding is projected to increase tenfold from 2019 levels, threatening major urban centres. Despite contributing only 4 percent of global emissions, Africa suffers disproportionate climate impacts due to demographic and resource pressures.

Climate-smart investments in clean energy, sustainable agriculture, resilience building, improved waste management, and clean cooking solutions could reduce carbon dioxide emissions by 55 percent and methane emissions by 74 percent by 2063, while promoting economic growth, job creation, improved health, food security, energy access, and poverty reduction.

H.E. Hon. Dr. Gayo highlighted the Pan-African Parliament's role in harmonising continental climate priorities and supporting the development of modern climate legislation. PAP is developing a modern climate law framework for Africa that addresses methane emissions, energy transition, sustainable agriculture, and waste management. PAP proposed organising dedicated conferences, side events, and advocacy programmes focused on methane and climate action to enhance parliamentary awareness and public engagement continent-wide.

Dr. Wamukoya and Sen. Faki noted that fewer than 30 African countries have submitted their third-generation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), which were due by 2025. Standalone climate change laws remain rare; many countries continue to rely on environmental management laws that lack specificity for climate action, thereby hindering effective implementation and accountability.

The session emphasised that climate change legislation must reflect African realities. Policies should not undermine pastoralist livelihoods, especially regarding methane emissions from livestock. Legislators were urged to ensure community voices are heard in order to balance

climate action with cultural and economic survival. Improved livestock breeds and sustainable grazing practices can reduce emissions without reducing herd sizes, aligning mitigation with adaptation priorities.

Financing was identified as a critical bottleneck. The gap between pledged funds and actual disbursements remains a major obstacle. Debt relief, debt-for-climate swaps, and restructuring linked to climate financing were proposed to ease fiscal pressures and enable sustainable investments. Public-Private Partnerships were identified as key mechanisms for mobilising financing and innovation, particularly in waste management and renewable energy.

Carbon markets and credit trading were proposed as mechanisms to incentivise emissions reductions while generating local income. Climate finance deployment is hindered by weak mandates and enforcement by bodies such as NEMA; existing laws allow for rapid regulatory updates to address emerging issues like carbon credit schemes, but institutional coordination remains weak.

Methane reduction was framed as a strategic entry point offering co-benefits for health, agriculture, and development, requiring African-specific approaches. Policies focused on improving livestock productivity through better breeds, feed, and manure management were highlighted as preferable to approaches based on reducing herd sizes. The promotion of waste-to-energy through organic waste composting and biogas production was noted as contributing economic benefits to the informal sectors. Cross-sectoral links between methane action, energy transition, sustainable agriculture, and urban resilience were highlighted.

The session identified key implementation barriers: fragmented institutional coordination due to overlapping mandates among ministries and agencies; data gaps on emissions from livestock and other sectors impeding informed policy and monitoring; limited funding and capacity at the county and local government level to implement national plans; weak enforcement and limited public participation; and constraints on parliamentary oversight due to funding and procedural limitations.

African governments were called upon to restructure climate finance frameworks and align debt management with climate action priorities. National parliaments were urged to ensure timely NDC submission, enhance public participation, strengthen legislative frameworks for climate implementation, promote creation and enforcement of regulations addressing methane emissions and carbon credit schemes, address institutional overlaps in climate planning, and improve efficiency in funding disbursement to counties and local agencies.

8 SESSION 2: THE METHANE CHALLENGE – SPEEDING UP CLIMATE ACTION IN AFRICA

Session 2 was moderated by Hon. Tiaone Hendry, MP, Member of Parliament of Malawi, and featured presentations from the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF-V20) and the Climate and Clean Air Coalition (CCAC), followed by parliamentary interventions from delegates from Ghana and South Africa.

Ms. Sara Jane Ahmed, Managing Director and Finance Advisor of the CVF-V20 Secretariat, presented on behalf of the Climate Vulnerable Forum (CVF), which represents a partnership of 74 climate-vulnerable economies collectively comprising 1.7 billion people, of which 33 members are from Africa. The Forum has gained significant momentum, with 64 of its 74 members committing to methane-reduction targets.

Ms. Ahmed noted that methane reduction represents one of the few climate interventions capable of delivering measurable atmospheric cooling within the current decade, given that methane dissipates from the atmosphere within approximately 12 years. The CVF-V20, under the leadership of Prime Minister H.E. Mia Amor Mottley of Barbados, has elevated methane to a flagship issue, describing methane reduction as a way to pull an emergency brake on climate change.

The presenter elaborated on four dimensions making methane action urgent and strategically compelling: first, fast climate benefits, as methane reduction is the only mitigation pathway currently capable of slowing warming before 2040; second, economic opportunity, as many methane interventions are net-positive financially, including landfill gas capture, oil and gas leakage reduction, and waste-to-energy projects; third, direct development linkages through expanded energy access, improved public health, and greater agricultural productivity; and fourth, the financing gap, which she noted means Africa deserves financial support to realise its mitigation opportunities rather than blame.

Africa accounts for approximately 14 percent of global methane emissions and has relatively few major methane super-emitters compared to other regions. Key African emitting countries include the Democratic Republic of Congo, Nigeria, Tanzania, Kenya, and Ethiopia. The continent's methane emissions are concentrated in three main sectors: agriculture (approximately 50.6 percent), oil and gas (approximately 34 percent), and waste (approximately 15 percent).

In agriculture, improved livestock management, feed additives, and alternate wetting-and-drying techniques in rice paddies represent key mitigation pathways. In waste, landfill gas

capture was described as low-hanging fruit, with captured gas directly convertible to energy, generating revenue while cutting emissions and improving public health. In oil and gas, reducing venting, flaring, and fugitive emissions presents the largest near-term opportunities; a reduction in gas flaring alone could cut emissions by more than 20 million tonnes of CO₂ equivalent annually.

The cost of capital in African markets ranges from 15 to 25 percent, compared to just 3 to 5 percent in developed economies. The CVF-V20's key financing asks include concessional finance at rates below medium-term GDP growth rates, risk-sharing mechanisms to lower capital costs, and blended finance structures. The presenter described two concrete instruments: the V20-DFI Compact, a coalition-building initiative with development finance institutions including the OPEC Fund, African Development Bank, and World Bank Group, structured around scaling concessional finance, mobilising private capital, and promoting country ownership; and the V20 Lifeline Fund, drawing on member reserve assets, bond issuances, and philanthropic contributions.

Parliamentary asks advanced by Ms. Ahmed included enacting legislation requiring methane monitoring and reporting across key sectors, mandating leak detection and repair programmes for oil and gas infrastructure, allocating budget for waste-to-energy and landfill gas capture projects, and advocating for concessional climate finance at international forums.

Ms. Sina Spiegler, Programme Management Senior Officer at the CCAC Secretariat, noted that the CCAC serves as the Secretariat for the Global Methane Pledge, coordinating 159 signatory countries. Drawing on the Global Methane Assessment 2021, she highlighted that cutting human-caused methane emissions by 45 percent this decade would avoid a rise of 0.3 degrees Celsius by the 2040s, prevent 260,000 premature deaths globally, and avoid 25 million tonnes of annual crop losses. For Africa specifically, this rises to 200,000 premature deaths preventable per year by 2030 and up to 880,000 per year by 2063.

The current status of the Global Methane Pledge shows approximately 8 percent achieved against a target of 30 percent by 2030. A 32 percent reduction is technically feasible if all known measures are deployed with existing technologies. The gap between current trajectory and the pledge target was identified as political, not technical: the technologies exist, but implementation speed and ambition remain the barriers. Without accelerated action, methane emissions in Africa and non-G20 regions are projected to increase by 16 percent by 2030 and 53 percent by 2050.

Ms. Spiegler argued that methane action is not a trade-off against development, but it is development. Major markets are introducing regulations reshaping energy and food production standards; the European Union Methane Regulation sets import standards that oil and gas producers must comply with to maintain EU market access. Approximately 60 percent of targeted methane measures are low-cost and half generate net revenue. Circular economy opportunities relevant to African contexts include biogas from organic waste, improved livestock management, Black Soldier Fly farming, and landfill gas capture.

The CCAC has supported 35 countries through the Methane Roadmap Action Programme, with over half in Africa, and has supported 44 countries to embed methane in their NDC 3.0 submissions. Country-level examples highlighted included: Ghana, which completed an SLCP plan and methane roadmap covering waste, agriculture, and oil and gas; Uganda, developing a National Methane Roadmap and organic waste sector strategy; Zimbabwe, which developed a national methane roadmap and integrated SLCP planning into climate inventories; and Kenya, receiving support on methane mitigation in the waste and livestock sectors, including development of a National Methane Reduction Implementation Strategy for the livestock sub-sector.

Ms. Spiegler concluded by presenting five parliamentary levers for action: Legislate, by embedding sector-specific methane targets in climate legislation and mandating MRV systems; Budget, by allocating national funding to implement and enforce methane action plans; Oversee, by requesting methane progress reports and holding governments accountable; Represent, by linking methane to health and livelihoods in constituencies; and Communicate, by framing methane as a public health, food security, and economic issue beyond just a climate issue.

Hon. Dickson Kyere Duah, APR, MP, Member of Parliament of Ghana, called on lawmakers to lead in combating misinformation and disinformation related to greenhouse gas emissions. He advocated for the continuous strengthening of Members of Parliament and Parliamentary staff on methane-related matters, their active involvement in global climate discourse, and an increase in budgets for parliamentary committees responsible for climate action oversight.

Hon. Mikateko Mahlaule, MP, Member of Parliament of South Africa, observed that Africa is heavily dependent on livestock rearing and subsistence farming and contended that achieving a balance between these agricultural practices and methane reduction objectives is not straightforward. He highlighted significant landfill management challenges in South Africa and stressed the need for waste-to-energy conversion strategies. He affirmed that South Africa has incorporated the Global Methane Pledge into its NDCs and proposed that authorities adopt

appropriate technologies to capture methane from both active and decommissioned coal mines for energy generation. He called for locally sourced data to underpin climate action and for climate finance to be made available at concessional interest rates.

A unified call to action was agreed by all delegates, comprising the following commitments:

- i) African parliaments to follow up with the executive to ensure methane monitoring and reporting as part of the parliamentary oversight mandate.
- ii) Implementation of leak detection and repair programmes for oil and gas infrastructure.
- iii) Provision of dedicated funding by devolved and local governments for landfill gas capture and waste-to-energy systems.
- iv) Parliamentarians to advocate internationally for affordable, concessional climate financing.
- v) Embrace of technology co-development rather than mere technology transfer, to foster equitable partnerships between the Global South and Global North.

9 SESSION 3: AGRICULTURAL SYSTEMS AND METHANE IN AFRICA

Session 3 was moderated by Hon. Dickson Kyere Duah, APR, MP, Member of Parliament of Ghana, and featured presentations from Dr. Claudia Arndt, Senior Scientist and Team Leader of the Mazingira Centre at the International Livestock Research Institute (ILRI), and Dr. Pauline Chivenge, Country Representative for the International Rice Research Institute (IRRI) in Tanzania. Parliamentary perspectives were provided by Hon. (Rtd) Major Bashir Abdullah, MP, Member of Parliament from Kenya and Chairperson of the Pastoralist Parliamentary Group, and Hon. Nqabisa Gantsho, MP, Member of Parliament from South Africa.

Agriculture accounts for approximately 40 percent of global methane emissions, with livestock alone contributing 32 percent. Methane is approximately 84 times more potent than carbon dioxide on a 20-year horizon and remains in the atmosphere for approximately 12 years, making rapid agricultural methane reductions both achievable and impactful within the current decade. Rice and livestock were identified as the two priority agricultural subsectors for Africa in terms of mitigation potential.

Dr. Arndt noted that livestock is central to African food security, livelihoods, and soil fertility. Productivity-focused mitigation is among the most practical pathways: improving feed quality, animal health, and genetics increases yields while lowering emissions per unit of product. Illustrative modelling results presented included milk output increases of 23 percent with a 15 percent reduction in methane per kilogram of product. Combined interventions can cut emissions per product by over 50 percent in livestock systems.

On manure management, on-farm solutions including composting, improved storage, and biogas convert waste into energy and fertiliser while reducing anaerobic methane formation. Carbon finance can provide additional incentives but should not be the primary business case; interventions must be profitable without carbon revenue. Parliamentary oversight of carbon credit governance is critical to prevent profiteering and ensure equitable benefit-sharing with farming communities.

Dr. Chivenge noted that rice feeds approximately 50 percent of the global population, uses approximately 10 percent of arable land, and Africa's demand is rising rapidly, with the continent projected to supply much of the region's estimated 75 million tonnes of milled rice demand by 2050. Africa's rice area has expanded by approximately 700 percent, predominantly in West Africa. Flooded rice emits approximately three times more methane than other cereal crops, and Africa's rapid rice area expansion has driven rising agricultural methane emissions.

High-potential agronomic options presented included direct seeding, alternate wetting and drying (AWD), intermittent irrigation, and improved fertiliser and straw management. Combining direct seeding with AWD can reduce water use by up to 60 percent and lower global warming potential while maintaining yields. A comprehensive suite of agronomic, varietal, and straw valorisation pathways can reduce rice methane emissions by up to approximately 65 percent compared with traditional continuous flooding, in trials and modelling.

Global methane-specific finance reached approximately USD 14 billion in 2023, against an estimated investment need of approximately USD 130 billion to meet global methane targets by 2030. Africa currently relies heavily on satellite and model estimates for emissions data, with very few in-situ methane measurements, increasing inventory uncertainty and weakening MRV systems. Fit-for-purpose MRV and in-situ measurements are critical to unlocking climate finance and enabling reportable NDC actions.

The recommended scaling pathway for agricultural interventions is: begin with pioneer farmers to demonstrate productivity and profitability; develop MRV to show production gains; and then scale across landscapes and regions using research, extension services, and partnerships. Combining short-term concessional support for MRV and pilots with private finance mobilised through clear regulations and bankable project pipelines was identified as the optimal financing approach.

Both Hon. Abdullah and Hon. Gantsho emphasised the critical role of legislators in shaping targeted methane-specific regulations, ensuring NDCs include specific agricultural methane measures, and overseeing equitable implementation. Both panellists stressed that policies must

be tailored to diverse livelihoods; pastoralist communities in particular must be included through local engagement and adapted public participation mechanisms. Pastoralists were noted as highly climate-vulnerable yet low-emission communities whose livelihoods must not be undermined by blanket mitigation policies. Hon. Abdullah noted that certain camelid livestock, such as camels, produce significantly less methane than cattle, and that policies recognising this reality would better serve pastoral communities.

The framing of mitigation as development, rather than as a burden, was highlighted as the key strategy for building the political buy-in necessary for sustained parliamentary action. Interventions that raise productivity, food and nutrition security, resilience, and local air quality simultaneously are most effective in attracting political support.

10 SESSION 4: WASTE SYSTEMS AND METHANE – AN AFRICAN PERSPECTIVE

Session 4 was held on Day 3 of the Seminar, 16th May, 2026, and was moderated by Hon. (Rtd) Major Bashir Abdullah, MP, Chairperson of the Parliamentary Pastoralist Group of Kenya. The session featured presentations from Dr. Daniel Mulat, Environmental Researcher and Laboratory Manager at the Mazingira Centre, ILRI; Dr. Sylvia Nyawira, Scientist with the Alliance of Bio-Diversity International and CIAT; and Dr. Philip Osano, Chief Operating Officer of CIFOR-ICRAF. Parliamentary perspectives were contributed by Hon. Yaya Gassama, MP, Member of Parliament of The Gambia, and Hon. Aymen Ben Salah, MP, Member of Parliament of Tunisia.

Across Africa, rapid urbanisation and population growth are driving a steady increase in waste generation. Existing waste management systems are already under severe pressure, with collection rates critically low in many countries. Open dumping and open burning continue to be the dominant methods of waste disposal, releasing significant quantities of methane and black carbon into the atmosphere.

Organic waste, including food scraps, market waste, and manure, constitutes the largest share of municipal solid waste across sub-Saharan Africa. When left unmanaged, this waste decomposes anaerobically and becomes a significant methane source. Prioritising the management of organic waste was identified as the most logical and effective starting point for methane mitigation in the waste sector.

Key mitigation pathways already available and deployable at scale include: improvement of waste collection systems to stop open dumping and open burning; diversion of organic waste

to biogas production, composting, vermicomposting, insect-based feed systems such as Black Soldier Fly (BSF) farming, and other circular economy models; and landfill gas capture where appropriate, converting captured methane directly to energy. These interventions offer co-benefits including methane reduction, clean energy and organic fertiliser production, job creation, private sector growth, and improved public health.

The following project examples were presented to illustrate practical applications of organic waste mitigation strategies across Africa:

- i) Kenya – African Biogas Component: Supported 25 companies, created 395 jobs, installed over 8,000 small-scale biodigesters, mobilised more than USD 1 million in loans, and achieved annual methane mitigation of over 61,000 tCO₂e.
- ii) Kenya and Uganda – Waste-to-Wealth Initiative: Trained youth in circular economy techniques including Black Soldier Fly farming, vermicomposting, and organic fertiliser production.
- iii) Tunisia – Wadi Laïa Pilot Project: A USD 180,000 project converting organic waste into 60 kW/hour of electricity, sufficient to power 500 families for one year.

Improper waste management, particularly open burning, significantly contributes to air pollution across Africa, linked to an estimated one million premature deaths annually. Mitigating methane from waste is therefore both a climate imperative and a public health strategy. Reframing waste as a valuable resource rather than a burden creates meaningful opportunities for youth and women's employment, supports entrepreneurship, and advances social justice.

African countries are increasingly integrating waste management into their NDCs and national legislative frameworks, as exemplified by the Kenya Waste Management Bill. However, effective legislation alone is insufficient. Implementation requires adequate financing, strengthened local government capacity, public awareness, active private sector engagement, and formal inclusion of informal waste workers. Regional cooperation and equitable access to climate finance are essential to enable African nations to scale sustainable waste management solutions.

Robust, fit-for-purpose MRV is essential for scaling methane mitigation and unlocking climate finance. Local data on waste composition and methane emissions must be significantly strengthened to underpin national inventories and attract investment.

The following were identified as priority actions for African parliaments and stakeholders:

- i) Prioritise organic waste management as the first-step methane mitigation strategy in the waste sector.
- ii) Strengthen MRV systems and local data collection to underpin national inventories and unlock climate finance.
- iii) Scale proven pilot projects using policy frameworks, dedicated budgets, private sector capacity, and regional cooperation.
- iv) Link mitigation to development outcomes including job creation, clean energy, fertiliser production, and public health improvements, to build the political and social support necessary for sustained action.

11 SESSION 5: DECENTRALISED ENERGY SYSTEMS AS A PATHWAY FOR METHANE REDUCTION AND CLIMATE ACTION

Session 5 was moderated by Sen. Hamida Kibwana, MP. The session explored how decentralised energy solutions can support methane reduction, expand clean energy access, and contribute to broader climate and development goals. Presentations were delivered by Mr. Collins Cheruiyot, Programme Manager, Climate Parliament; Ms. Esther Wang'ombe, Director of Renewable Energy, State Department for Energy, Kenya; Mr. Sylvester Kaonga, Senior Research Officer, National Assembly of Zambia; Ms. Willah Nabukwangwa, Research Analyst at the Kenya Medical Research Institute; and Mr. Anthony Kuria, CEO of the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone.

A parliamentary representative from Djibouti presented the country's distinctive climate policy framework. Djibouti possesses an estimated renewable energy capacity of 200 GW spanning solar, geothermal, and other renewable sources, representing approximately 90 percent of the country's territory. Among milestones already achieved, Djibouti has commissioned a 50 MW solar project, with an additional facility under construction, and holds significant geothermal potential. Djibouti has set an ambitious target of achieving 100 percent energy access by 2030 to enable full, uninterrupted 24-hour economic activity.

Djibouti signed a Sovereign Carbon Initiative in 2023, operationalising the polluter pays principle at national level by levying a charge of USD 17 per tonne of CO₂ emitted. Revenues are specifically channelled towards climate adaptation and mitigation for vulnerable communities, food security programmes, and biodiversity conservation. No other country has yet implemented a comparable sovereign carbon mechanism, making Djibouti a trailblazer; African countries were called upon to consider adopting a similar model.

Mr. Collins Cheruiyot introduced the Parliamentarians for Climate Finance Project and the Green Energy Constituency framework, which guides parliamentarians in championing energy transformation at the constituency level through four pillars: Energy (advancing access to clean, affordable, and reliable energy); Resilience (building community capacity to withstand climate shocks); Production (supporting decentralised, community-led energy production); and Risk Reduction (embedding disaster risk reduction into energy planning).

The Climate Parliament maintains a Knowledge and Resource Hub at www.climateparl.net/resources, providing practical tools, policy briefs, and resources for budget advocacy and legislative drafting. Parliamentarians were encouraged to consult the Hub regularly and share its resources with their teams and committees. Key areas for active parliamentary engagement include oversight of national government access to and allocation of climate finance from multilateral funds such as the Green Climate Fund (GCF) and the Global Environment Facility (GEF); legislation creating enabling environments for climate investment; advocacy for equitable access to international climate finance; and accountability through robust parliamentary monitoring and public reporting.

Mr. Sylvester Kaonga, Senior Research Officer at the National Assembly of Zambia, presented the Presidential Constituency Energy Initiative (PCEI), launched in late 2024. The initiative was a direct policy response to one of Zambia's worst droughts in recent memory during the 2024–2025 season, which resulted in up to 20 hours of daily load shedding. Under the PCEI, each constituency is required to construct a 2 MW solar power plant. Originally designed for 156 constituencies, following a recent constitutional amendment, the number has been scaled up to 226 constituencies.

Power plants are community-owned, with revenue flows back into local development initiatives, funded through a reallocation of the Constituency Development Fund (CDF). Under the amended Electricity Act, an open access regime allows independent power producers including constituency energy hubs to sell surplus power directly to the national grid, creating a reliable recurring income stream for communities. The three key roles played by Members of Parliament in the PCEI are as Resource Allocators, redirecting CDF funding into solar infrastructure; as Legal Reformers, amending the Electricity Act to accommodate independent power producers; and as Community Mobilisers, educating constituents and bridging government, local councils, and traditional leaders in facilitating land acquisition.

Ms. Willah Nabukwangwa, Research Analyst at the Kenya Medical Research Institute (KEMRI), presented data showing that Kenya loses approximately 27,000 lives annually due to household air pollution. Beyond the direct health toll, household air pollution contributes

significantly to ambient air degradation and broader climate change. Health consequences are wide-ranging and affect virtually all vital organs, including through respiratory illnesses, cardiovascular diseases, stroke, lung cancer, mental health deterioration, and impaired cognitive performance among learners.

Children, pregnant women, the elderly, those with compromised immunity, and low-income communities are the most vulnerable. Household air pollution was characterised as a silent pandemic, largely because its health consequences are rarely attributed to seemingly routine cooking activities. Delegates and policymakers were called upon to prioritise capacity building on health and environmental risks of household air pollution, awareness campaigns targeting affected communities, budgetary allocations for clean energy access, and targeted interventions for rural and low-income households most exposed.

Mr. Anthony Kuria, CEO of the Sleeping Warrior SEZ, provided an introductory overview of the Zone as a practical model of green industrialisation linking clean energy, carbon dioxide removal, sustainable manufacturing, tourism, and local employment creation. The SEZ sits on approximately 1,517 acres at Elementaita, Nakuru County, with a first phase of about 300 acres under development, and is designed to aggregate up to 1 GW of renewable energy. Full details were provided to delegates through the field visit on 17th May, 2026.

12 CLOSING CEREMONY AND CLOSING REMARKS

The Closing Ceremony of the Regional Seminar was held on 16th May, 2026, following the conclusion of Session 5. The ceremony featured closing remarks by Sen. David Wakoli, CBS, MP, and the presentation of the Communiqué by Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, MP, followed by the official closing by Hon. Omar Mwinyi, MP on behalf of the Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses F.M. Wetang'ula, SC, EGH, MP, Speaker of the National Assembly.

Sen. David Wakoli, CBS, MP, Senator for Bungoma County and Chairperson of the Senate Standing Committee on Agriculture, Livestock and Fisheries, delivered the closing remarks on behalf of the Parliament of Kenya. He opened by noting that it was a distinct honour to address the distinguished Assembly and observed that, as the Seminar drew to a close, he was struck above all by a sense of shared resolve, a conviction forged across the deliberations that Africa's Parliaments are ready to rise to this moment.

Sen. Wakoli extended the Parliament of Kenya's deepest gratitude to all delegates for the energy, expertise, and invaluable contributions they had brought to Nairobi. He expressed distinctive appreciation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition,

the United Nations Environment Programme, the International Livestock Research Institute, and all development partners for bringing the engagement to life.

Reflecting on the deliberations, Sen. Wakoli observed that the Seminar had proven to be both timely and transformative. He noted that the proceedings had been substantive and forward-looking, examining the science and policy dimensions of climate change, assessing methane emissions across agriculture, waste, and energy systems, and exploring pathways for job creation and innovation. He reaffirmed a critical truth that emerged from the deliberations: climate action is no longer optional; it is an urgent legislative, economic, and moral imperative.

He noted that methane, as highlighted in the deliberations, is a potent greenhouse gas with significant short-term impact on global warming, but that it also presents a unique opportunity for rapid and tangible climate gains if addressed decisively.

Sen. Wakoli observed that the Seminar had powerfully affirmed the importance of parliamentary diplomacy and regional cooperation. The exchange of legislative experiences, committee practices, and institutional innovations among the delegations had enriched every participant. He noted that the deliberations served as a reminder that no Parliament acts alone, and that in solidarity lies the greatest strength of Africa's legislatures. He expressed trust that the friendships and partnerships forged during the Seminar would continue to bear fruit long after delegates returned to their respective legislatures.

Sen. Wakoli called on all delegates to receive the Communiqué not as a ceremonial conclusion but as a living parliamentary roadmap; leverage the commitments as legislatures through a robust mechanism for domestication, budgeting, monitoring, and implementation while advancing Nationally Determined Contributions. He underscored that Africa has a remarkable opportunity to demonstrate to the world that reducing methane emissions is not a burden on development, but a pathway to stronger, more resilient economies, fortified by a cleaner energy ecosystem, more productive agriculture, healthier communities, and more sustainable livelihoods.

Sen. Wakoli concluded by wishing all delegates safe travels and extended warm farewells on behalf of the Parliament and people of Kenya. He thereafter introduced Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, MP to present the Communiqué and deliver closing remarks on behalf of the Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses F.M. Wetang'ula, SC, EGH, MP, Speaker of the National Assembly.

The Communiqué and Outcome Document of the Regional Seminar was thereafter presented by Hon. Dr. John Mutunga, CBS, PhD, MP, Chairperson of the Departmental Committee on Agriculture and Livestock, on behalf of all participating delegations. Further closing remarks

were delivered by Ms. Aleksandra Blagojevic on behalf of the IPU. The Seminar was officially closed by Hon. Omar Mwinyi on behalf of the Rt. Hon. (Dr.) Moses F.M. Wetang'ula, SC, EGH, MP, Speaker of the National Assembly of Kenya. Lunch was served thereafter, marking the formal close of the workshop proceedings.

13 FIELD VISIT TO THE SLEEPING WARRIOR SPECIAL ECONOMIC ZONE, ELEMENTAITA

An optional field visit to the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone (SEZ) at Elementaita, Nakuru County, was held on Sunday, 17th May, 2026, organised by Climate Parliament. Delegates departed from the Emara Ole Sereni Hotel, Nairobi, at 7:00 a.m. and arrived at the SEZ by 10:00 a.m. Ms. Julie Gichuru moderated the closing wrap-up of the field visit. Delegates departed for Nairobi at 2:30 p.m.

The field visit was intended to expose delegates to a practical model of green industrialisation linking clean energy, special economic zones, carbon dioxide removal, sustainable manufacturing, tourism, and local employment creation. It provided Members of Parliament with an opportunity to reflect on how legislation, budget-making, oversight, and representation can support clean energy investment and climate-resilient industrial growth at the national and sub-national levels.

The Sleeping Warrior SEZ is one of Kenya's early-mover green industrial park projects, sitting on approximately 1,517 acres with a first phase of about 300 acres currently under development. It is planned as a mixed-use industrial park encompassing manufacturing, mining of construction aggregates, logistics, hospitality and tourism, agro-processing, carbon capture, utilisation, and storage, and other green industrial activities. The SEZ is designed to aggregate up to 1 GW of renewable energy and is complementary to Mumbi Limited, a sister company licensed to explore and develop a 140 MW geothermal energy resource.

Delegates visited the following demonstration areas within the Sleeping Warrior SEZ ecosystem:

- i) **Mumbi Limited Geothermal Well (JN 01):** A first deep exploration well demonstrating how green industrial parks can create captive demand for renewable energy and support the transition to green industrial power.
- ii) **Octavia Carbon Direct Air Capture and Storage:** A Direct Air Capture project capturing CO₂ from the atmosphere, liquefying it, and storing it in

geological rock formations where it mineralises over time. The current stated removal capacity is approximately 300 tonnes of CO₂ per year.

- iii) **Cella Carbon Mineral Storage / Sirona Carbon Technologies:** A carbon mineralisation and Direct Air Capture ecosystem demonstrating how captured atmospheric CO₂ can be injected into volcanic rocks for permanent storage. Cella's pilot well could potentially store up to 50,000 tonnes of CO₂ annually.
- iv) **Silk Origin Integrated Geothermal Bio-Manufacturing:** An enterprise cultivating silkworms for silk production, demonstrating how geothermal heat can support bio-manufacturing, value addition, and local employment.
- v) **Kambi Moran Lodge and Outdoor Tourism:** A hospitality and outdoor adventure facility demonstrating how tourism and conservation-compatible enterprise can be integrated into a green industrial park model.

The site demonstrated that a Special Economic Zone can operate as a green energy zone by deliberately linking energy supply, industrial demand, and climate technologies. The model illustrated how renewable energy projects can be anchored by industrial demand rather than treated only as stand-alone generation assets, and offered lessons for replicating green energy zones in counties with renewable energy resources, industrial potential, or strategic logistics advantages. Delegates engaged directly with project teams and explored how parliamentary oversight can ensure safety, environmental integrity, carbon accounting, community benefits, local skills development, and public-private partnerships.

14 ADOPTION OF THE COMMUNIQUÉ / OUTCOME DOCUMENT

At the conclusion of the substantive programme of the Regional Seminar on 16th May, 2026, the Communiqué and Outcome Document were presented and adopted by consensus by all participating delegations. The Communiqué sets out the key commitments and calls for action agreed upon by African parliamentarians at the close of the Regional Seminar, and constitutes the principal outcome of the event.

The adoption of the Communiqué was preceded by the formal closing remarks delivered by Sen. David Wakoli, CBS, MP, who called on all delegates to treat it as a living parliamentary roadmap for domestication, budgeting, monitoring, and implementation, aligned with each parliament's Nationally Determined Contributions. The full text of the Communiqué / Outcome Document is contained in **Appendix 1** of this Report.

15 RECOMMENDATIONS BY THE KENYA DELEGATION

The Kenya Parliament Delegation to the Regional Seminar on African Parliaments for Climate Action – Reducing Methane, Promoting Development, in furtherance of Kenya's commitments under the Global Methane Pledge, the Paris Agreement, and the Sustainable Development Goals, urges the two Houses of Parliament to:

- i) Note this Report and the Communiqué / Outcome Document of the Regional Seminar.
- ii) Urgently review and strengthen Kenya's Climate Change Act, 2016, to incorporate explicit and sector-specific methane emission reduction targets across the agriculture, waste, and energy sectors, with legally enforceable mandates for Measurement, Reporting and Verification (MRV). The review should further address climate finance accountability and loss and damage frameworks as highlighted during the Seminar.
- iii) Direct the Committees on Agriculture and Livestock, Land, Environment, Natural Resources, and Environment, Forestry and Mining, Energy, and the Health Committees of both Houses to conduct dedicated inquiries on methane emissions, report to the respective Houses on legislative and regulatory gaps, and recommend measures for parliamentary action.
- iv) Ensure that Kenya's third-generation Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs) under the Paris Agreement incorporate specific, measurable, and funded methane reduction measures across the livestock, rice, waste, and fossil fuel sectors, as called for by the Communiqué adopted at the Seminar.
- v) Mandate adequate and dedicated budgetary allocation for the development and implementation of Kenya's National Methane Reduction Implementation Strategy, particularly with respect to MRV infrastructure, methane monitoring systems, greenhouse gas inventory systems, and sector-specific mitigation programmes across agriculture, waste, and energy.
- vi) Engage the Executive to ensure Kenya fully leverages available international climate finance mechanisms, including concessional financing instruments through the CVF-V20 Lifeline Fund, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, the Green Climate Fund, and the Global Environment Facility, to fund methane reduction projects at both the national and county levels.
- vii) Enact enabling legislation and strengthen the regulatory framework for decentralised renewable energy systems and green Special Economic Zones, drawing on the lessons of Zambia's Presidential Constituency Energy Initiative and

the Sleeping Warrior SEZ model, to displace methane-intensive energy sources and reduce dependency on biomass, charcoal, and fossil fuels in households and industry.

- viii) Direct the Committee on Lands, Environment, Natural Resources and Water of both Houses to oversee the integration of waste methane reduction measures into Kenya's waste management legislative framework, track the operationalisation of the Kenya Waste Management Bill, and monitor implementation of biogas, composting, and landfill gas capture projects.
- ix) Champion targeted interventions to address household air pollution, which is linked to approximately 27,000 annual deaths in Kenya, by promoting budgetary allocation for clean cooking energy access, particularly for rural, low-income, and vulnerable households, and by legislating minimum standards for household energy transition.
- x) Support the establishment of a Kenyan Parliamentary Climate Finance Working Group, drawing on the model advanced by the Climate Parliament's Parliamentarians for Climate Finance Project, to strengthen Parliament's capacity to oversee, track, and advocate for climate finance flows from multilateral and bilateral sources.
- xi) Ensure that Kenya faithfully implements the commitments made under the Communiqué of the Regional Seminar and reports annually to Parliament on progress in methane reduction, in fulfilment of Kenya's obligations as host parliament and signatory to the Global Methane Pledge.



Inter-Parliamentary Union
For democracy. For everyone.



Regional seminar: *African parliaments for climate action. Reducing methane, promoting development*

**Nairobi, Kenya
15-16 May 2026**

Outcome statement

We, members of parliament and parliamentary representatives from African countries, gathered in Nairobi, Kenya on 15 and 16 May 2026 for the regional seminar on climate action and methane reduction, organized by the Parliament of Kenya and the Inter-Parliamentary Union, in collaboration with Climate Parliament, the Climate Vulnerable Forum, the United Nations Environment Programme, the Climate and Clean Air Coalition, International Livestock Research Institute, World Agroforestry Centre and the Stockholm Environment Institute:

Recognizing that climate change is already severely affecting countries across Africa impacting livelihoods, ways of life, food systems, health and economic development, with vulnerable groups facing the most severe consequences, and that addressing these challenges urgently requires integrated and context-specific responses,

Noting that methane is a powerful greenhouse gas with a significant short-term warming effect, and that emissions from the agriculture, waste and energy sectors contribute to climate change while also affecting air quality and public health,

Noting also that reducing methane emissions can deliver short-term climate benefits while supporting improved health outcomes and economic opportunities,

Taking note of existing international frameworks and initiatives, including the Paris Agreement and the Global Methane Pledge, whose objectives are to limit global temperature increase and reduce methane emissions, as reference points that may inform national discussions and priorities,

Acknowledging the diversity of national circumstances across African countries, including differences in emissions profiles, development priorities and institutional capacities, and consequently the importance of tailoring approaches accordingly,

Welcoming the exchange of experiences and practices among parliaments during the seminar, including on the role of legislation, budget oversight and parliamentary engagement in advancing climate and methane action, and *noting* the growing interest in strengthening parliamentary engagement on methane and climate action,

Recognizing that methane emissions are a global challenge requiring collective action, and *encouraging* all countries, in line with their national circumstances and development priorities, to consider opportunities to reduce methane emissions as part of their broader climate and sustainable development efforts,

Highlighting the importance of addressing methane emissions in key sectors discussed during the seminar, including agriculture, waste management and energy systems, in ways that also support food security, access to services and sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of ensuring that efforts to address methane emissions in Africa support food security, resilient livelihoods and sustainable development while also recognizing the opportunities that methane abatement actions can bring for innovation, productivity improvements, resilience and locally appropriate sustainable development approaches,

Underscoring the role that national parliaments and continent-wide parliamentary bodies can play in:

- promoting informed and inclusive policy development on climate and methane action,
- supporting enabling legal and regulatory frameworks,
- contributing to budget processes, including the approval of budgets and oversight of public expenditure,
- exercising oversight of government action,
- facilitating dialogue among all stakeholders in methane action, including at the local level,
- supporting adequate investment in national statistical systems to produce high-quality, timely, reliable and, where relevant, disaggregated data,
- promoting continuous learning and evidence-based decision-making, including through scientific data and cooperation with relevant government ministries, academia, civil society and other stakeholders, and through the use of publications and knowledge products tailored for parliamentary audiences,

We commit to:

1. *Encourage* continued collaboration, cooperation and knowledge exchange among African parliaments, including through regional platforms and parliamentary networks, building on the discussions initiated at this seminar;
2. *Call for* enhanced dialogue among African parliaments, governments and regional institutions to promote a strong and united African voice in global climate and methane-related negotiations, ensuring that international frameworks, financing

mechanisms and policy approaches fully reflect Africa's development priorities, food security needs and national circumstances;

3. *Emphasize* the importance of global inter-parliamentary cooperation and solidarity in addressing climate change and methane emissions, with a view to promoting knowledge exchange, strengthening policy frameworks, reducing emissions and mitigating impacts on the most vulnerable populations;
4. *Also emphasize* that Africa's methane mitigation efforts have both adaptation and mitigation co-benefits and require adequate, predictable and accessible climate finance from developed countries, and *call for* the fulfilment of the COP29 climate finance goal and operationalization of loss and damage funding;
5. *Further emphasize* the importance of access to reliable data, technical expertise and capacity-building opportunities to support evidence-based parliamentary decision-making, as well as the expedited transfer of affordable and locally adapted technologies, including low-emissions livestock systems, biogas, waste-to-energy solutions and methane measurement tools;
6. *Affirm* that policies and measures aimed at reducing methane emissions must not compromise sustainable development or efforts to eradicate poverty;
7. *Reaffirm* our interest in continuing engagement and cooperation on climate and methane reduction through the Inter-Parliamentary Union, including through future regional exchanges and global events, such as the annual Parliamentary Meeting at the United Nations Climate Change Conferences, and in engaging in national and regional capacity-building in collaboration with the Inter-Parliamentary Union and other partners and stakeholders.

We also extend our warm gratitude to the Parliament of Kenya for facilitating and ensuring the success of this regional seminar.

Regional seminar: African parliaments for climate action: Reducing methane, promoting development

Regional workshop with African parliaments

Draft programme

15 May 2026: Understanding climate change, methane emissions and the African context

8:30 – 9:00	Arrival at the venue and registration
9:00 – 09:40	Opening session This session will feature high-level welcome and opening remarks from the Parliament of Kenya, the IPU and partner organizations. It will be followed by a group photo.
09:40 – 10:10	Coffee and tea break
10:10 – 11:40	Session 1: Setting the scene – Understanding climate change projections and impacts in Africa This session will provide an overview of climate change trends and impacts across Africa, and explore how climate action can support development, resilience and sustainable growth.
11:40 – 13:10	Session 2: The methane challenge – Speeding up climate action in Africa This session will introduce the methane challenge in Africa, examine current commitments and actions, and provide space for parliamentarians to exchange national experiences and priorities.
13:10 – 14:15	Lunch break

14:15 – 15:45	Session 3: Agricultural systems and methane in Africa This session will explore methane emissions from agriculture, showcase practical solutions, and discuss how parliamentarians can support climate action while advancing food security and just transition goals.
15:45 – 16:00	Summary and closing
16:00	Coffee and tea
18:00	Gala Dinner

16 May 2026: African parliaments charting the way forward

9:00 – 9:15	Welcome and recap
9:15 – 10:45	Session 4: Waste systems and methane – An African perspective This session will examine methane emissions from waste, their links to health and development, and highlight opportunities for parliamentary action and regional exchange.
10:45 – 12:00	Session 5: Decentralized energy systems as a pathway for methane reduction and climate action This session will explore how decentralized energy solutions can support methane reduction, expand clean energy access and contribute to broader climate and development goals.
12:00 – 12:30	Closing Ceremony Presentation and adoption of the Communiqué / outcome document
12:30	Lunch and close of workshop
14:00	Delegate visit to Parliament of Kenya (tbc)

17 May 2026: Optional field visit for MPs organized by Climate Parliament

Participants will visit the Sleeping Warrior Special Economic Zone at Elementaita, a 1,517-acre green industrial park powered by geothermal, solar, and wind energy, which is already home to some of Africa's most advanced climate technologies including multiple carbon capture facilities, agro-processing, and clean manufacturing ventures. The visit will offer parliamentarians a practical example of how an enabling policy environment and special economic zones can attract diverse green investment, lower carbon footprints, and create employment - with lessons directly applicable to their own countries.