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Action Plan from the Workshop on the Critical role of Parliament and Parliamentarians in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



Organized by the Parliamentary Select Committee on the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development

in collaboration with

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

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Toolkit Overview	Action	Responsibility	Timeframe & Status
<i>Mainstream the SDGs within parliamentary mechanisms</i>	1. Include engagement with diverse, free and independent expert advice from stakeholders related to different SDGs. Institutionalize this in committees' annual workplans.	Committee staff and Committee leadership	Immediate; Communications training commenced with Committee staff via UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project
	2. Access an existing database created by the IT department with experts/CSOs on different SDG issues to engage with subject-matter committees.	IT Department Committee staff Communications Department	Ongoing; Committee on Public Accounts trialling already. UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project training planned for staff early 2019
	3. Introduce adjournment motions on SDG issues.	Individual MPs; Business of House Committee	Next appropriate Parliament session
	4. Establish stronger links with Sri Lanka's Department of Census and Statistics, civil society organisations and local research institutions as a means to access relevant data and research on the SDGs and gender equality.	Committee staff and Chairs' leadership	Updated before next election; Request monthly reporting to parliament committees from Department of Census and Statistics on SDG-related data
	5. Undertake a gender audit of Parliament's activities, understanding that enhancing gender equality and empowering women is critical to achieving a broad range of goals.	Committee staff and Gender Committee leadership	Updated before next election; Can use Women, Peace & Security framework via UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project
<i>Build an understanding of the SDGs in parliament</i>	6. Manual/Guidelines for Committees updated to include monitoring of SDGs implementation – included in Committee MP and staff induction programme after every election.	Committee staff and Gender Committee leadership; UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	Updated before next election; Guidelines for Sectoral Committees being updated with development support (WfD).

			Incorporate into 2020 Induction planning
	7. Appoint a parliament staff officer with SDG responsibilities, mandated to design and implement capacity development support for all Members/staff of oversight committees on SDGs and how to integrate into their work.	Secretary-General to identify staff member; UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	Ongoing
<i>Bring the SDGs to the local level</i>	8. Work with the National Sustainable Development Council to support MPs to raise awareness at sub-national levels on SDGs: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Councils • District level 	Chair of Select Committee; Select and all Committees' members and staff.	Ongoing; Committee staff and Chairs to incorporate into Annual Committee Plans
<i>Pass laws in support of SDGs</i>	9. Align draft legislation to the SDGs, and increase public and stakeholder participation in draft legislation related to SDGs.	Legislation staff Communications Department	Communications / Legislation Depts to incorporate SDG alignment into legislation briefing sheets / factsheets / publicity
	10. Support drafting of private Members Bills and Motions on SDG issues	Assistant Secretary-General; Individual members	Ongoing; Support already available
<i>Finance the SDGs</i>	11. Establish a Budget Office, with mandate to: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support increased stakeholder engagement outside parliament on SDG issues • Facilitate pre-budget deliberations and consultations by all sectoral committees to assess SDG-related needs. 	Secretary-General	Already committed to implement during 2019

	12. Promote budget transparency and more public engagement around SDG needs and financing requirements through the Committee on Public Finance instigating public pre-budget hearings.	Committee staff, chairs; Parliament Communications Department; Parliament Budget Office	Annually
<i>Monitor SDG implementation</i>	13. Select Committee and all Committees' monitoring role to include overseeing implementation of Sustainable Development Act, including development of National Strategy for Sustainable Development and assessment of Legal Framework to ensure alignment with the SDGs.	Committee staff and Committee leadership	Ongoing; Committee staff and Chairs to incorporate into Annual Committee Plans
	14. Each sectoral committee should conduct reporting every six months to review the outcomes delivered by government in each portfolio area, and consider performance against the SDG goals and targets. This should be institutionalized part of the committee's annual workplan.	Committee staff and Chairs' leadership	Committee staff and Chairs to incorporate into Annual Committee Plans
	15. Establish a select committee for evaluation. Strengthen all Committees' monitoring role to include credibility of data in reports and baselines used to measure the SDGs.	Deputy Speaker; Interested MPs for a Select Committee for Evaluation, Committee staff and Committee leadership	Ongoing; Incorporate into next review of Committees by Deputy Speaker / Assistant Sec-Gen.
	16. Increase staff capacity in committees to provide briefings and analysis on SDG issues, including the development of	Secretary-General	Assistant Sec-Gen & UNDP Parliamentary Development Support

	online platforms for SDG awareness-raising and training.	UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	Project planning to coordinate from early 2019
	17. Committees oversight and monitoring role to include the effectiveness of centralized and devolved levels of government in achieving the SDGs, as well as monitoring delays in already funded implementation at district/local levels.	Committee staff and Committee leadership	Ongoing; Committee staff and Chairs need to incorporate into Annual Committee Plans
<i>Engage the public</i>	18. Strengthen the function of a parliamentary public outreach/education center to provide knowledge about Parliament and how to engage with its processes, starting from school age – strengthen knowledge of democratic process and public institutions (SDG16).	Communications Department; Committee staff	Already committed to within approved Communications Strategy; Communications Department to implement after their establishment expected January 2019
	19. Increase public and stakeholder awareness of how oversight committees are supporting action on SDGs by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Outlining how analysis by committees is made and reported • Using e-parliament opportunities, short video clips • Holding public open hearings 	Committee staff and Chairs' leadership; Communications Department	Annual, ongoing; Committee staff and Chairs to incorporate into Annual Committee Plans; Training for Communications Department & Committee staff coordination planned for January 2019

	20. Increase MP capacity on how to use social media/technology to engage with the public on SDG issues.	Communications Department; IT Department; UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	Ongoing training
	21. Use ICT systems of Parliament to engage with the public on SDGs, including to gather input from the public – link this to committee workplans and issues they are addressing.	Parliament IT Communications Directorate; Committee staff	Committee staff and Chairs to incorporate usage into Annual Committee Plans; Training for Communications Department & Committee staff coordination planned for January 2019; Access non-sitting TV slots on Channel 91 PEO TV.
	22. Committees will undertake regular self-assessment of how to integrate SDGs through their citizen engagement work.	Committee staff, chairs; Parliament Communications Department	Annually; Committee staff and Chairs need to incorporate M&E into Annual Committee Plans; Hold regular Open Parliament days
<i>Ensure that the SDGs serve the most vulnerable</i>	23. Use an existing database created by the IT department to engage diverse and vulnerable communities.	Parliament IT Communications Directorate	Committee staff and Chairs need to incorporate database/stakeholder updates into Annual Committee Plans
	24. Hold forums with nine Chief Ministers representing provincial councils to ensure service delivery reaches the marginalized in their provinces.	Secretary-General Chair of Select Committee	Committee staff and Chairs to consider provincial level engagement in their annual planning processes.
	25. Oversee an agenda for district development that identifies the needs of the most vulnerable, through district	Secretary-General	

	coordination committees. Follow up with Ministries to allocate funds.		
	26. Use development support available to the Parliament to help identify under-represented and vulnerable groups. Establish a consultation process to gain their input into SDG-related needs.	Chair of Select Committee; Committee staff; Communications Department; UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	Committee staff and Chairs need to incorporate stakeholder mapping into Annual Committee Plans
<i>Parliament Coordination</i>	27. Renew the mandate of the Parliamentary Select Committee on Sustainable Development to facilitate the implementation of SDGs by coordinating the activities of the Parliament with respective Ministries and Government, and providing expert advice. The Committee will advise on coordinating development support around strengthening the functions of Parliament to help implement the SDGs.	Parliament Business Committee, Select Committee and Staff UNDP Parliamentary Development Support Project coordination	November 2018