Joint Statement of Brazilian and South Asian Parliamentarians

From Awareness to Action: Strengthening Climate Communication

WE, the parliamentarians of Brazil, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Nepal and Sri Lanka, having convened at the dialogue “From Awareness to Action: Strengthening Climate Communication”, organised by Plataforma CIPÓ and the South Asia Regional Parliamentary Forum (SARPF) for Climate, Energy and Environment at the 31st session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (COP31) in Antalya, Türkiye, on 16 November 2026:

1. **Recognise** that climate change is already a lived reality for the people we represent, through heatwaves, floods, cyclones, droughts, glacial melt and wildfires, and that our citizens increasingly understand its urgency.

2. **Recognise** that awareness alone is not enough: lasting climate action requires public trust, democratic participation and a shared understanding of solutions, not only of risks.

3. **Reaffirm** our commitment to the UNFCCC and the Paris Agreement, upholding the principles of equity and common but differentiated responsibilities and respective capabilities (CBDR-RC), in the light of different national circumstances.

4. **Recall** Article 6 of the UNFCCC and Article 12 of the Paris Agreement on Action for Climate Empowerment, which commit Parties to education, public awareness, public participation and public access to information on climate change.

5. **Welcome** the recognition in the COP30 Global Mutirão decision that information integrity is essential for effective climate action, and take note of the Global Initiative for Information Integrity on Climate Change, launched by Brazil, the United Nations and UNESCO.

6. **Take note** of the Roadmaps presented by the COP30 Presidency in November 2026, in particular the Roadmap on Enhancing Efforts Towards Halting and Reversing Deforestation and Forest Degradation by 2030, which identifies information integrity and environmental education as enabling conditions for implementation and highlights the importance of public-interest journalism and of protecting environmental journalists, communicators and scientists.

7. **Express concern** that misleading, false and manipulated information, including narratives that do not deny climate science but seek to delay action, exaggerate its costs or spread fatalism, is eroding public trust and slowing implementation.

8. **Note** that such narratives can spread rapidly through digital platforms, often hitting hardest the most climate-vulnerable and marginalised communities, as well as journalists, scientists and environmental defenders.

9. **Affirm** that strengthening climate communication must always respect freedom of expression, access to information and the diversity of languages, cultures and media in our countries, and that a plural media landscape, with diversity of ownership, voices and perspectives, is a precondition for democratic debate on climate.

10. **Affirm** that parliamentarians, as the elected representatives closest to citizens, have a unique responsibility to connect international commitments with people's everyday lives, and to translate public concern into legislation, budgets and oversight.

AS PARLIAMENTARIANS, WE COMMIT TO:

- **Communicate climate change as a matter of people's lives,** linking it to health, jobs, food, water, energy costs and safety, and highlighting the concrete benefits of action, such as green jobs, clean air and resilient infrastructure.
- **Listen, not only inform,** using public hearings, constituency meetings and consultations to involve citizens, especially women, youth, Indigenous Peoples, local communities and other groups most affected by climate change, in shaping climate policy.
- **Base our own public statements and decisions on the best available science,** working with scientists, universities, meteorological services and other trusted sources.
- **Use our oversight powers** to ensure that public climate information, including early warnings and disaster risk information, reaches everyone in accessible formats and local languages.
- **Support public-interest journalism and media and climate literacy,** and stand up for journalists, scientists and environmental defenders who face harassment or attacks because of their work.
- **Promote the democratisation of communication,** by advocating democratic and transparent regulatory frameworks for media and digital platforms that safeguard pluralism, diversity and freedom of expression, and by supporting public service media and independent, community and grassroots media, especially those that give a voice to the communities most affected by climate change.
- **Respond to misleading climate narratives** with clear, factual and solution-oriented communication, without restricting legitimate debate or freedom of expression.
- **Strengthen exchange between the parliaments of Brazil and South Asia,** sharing practices on climate communication, public participation and the governance of information ecosystems, and meeting again ahead of COP32.

WE CALL ON OUR RESPECTIVE GOVERNMENTS TO:

- Integrate Action for Climate Empowerment, including public awareness, participation and access to information, into the implementation of Nationally Determined Contributions (NDCs), National Adaptation Plans and energy transition strategies.
- Invest in public climate education, media and climate literacy, and early warning systems that reach the last mile, in local languages.
- Make climate data, budgets and policy decisions transparent and accessible to the public and to parliaments.
- Protect journalists, scientists and environmental defenders, and guarantee their safety and freedom to work.

- Promote media pluralism and diversity by preventing excessive concentration of ownership, strengthening public service media, and establishing support mechanisms for independent, community and grassroots media reporting on climate and the environment.
- Consider joining international efforts to promote information integrity on climate change, in line with national circumstances and international human rights law.

WE CALL ON DIGITAL PLATFORMS AND TECHNOLOGY COMPANIES TO:

- Be transparent about how their systems recommend, rank and monetise climate-related content, including advertising.
- Give independent researchers access to the data needed to understand how climate information spreads.
- Take responsibility for the risks their services pose to the integrity of public debate, and invest equitably in content moderation and fact-checking across all languages and regions, including in the Global South.

WE CALL ON THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY TO:

- Ensure that climate finance, including support for capacity-building, covers public awareness, education, participation and access to information in developing countries.
- Strengthen the role of parliamentarians in the UNFCCC process, as a bridge between global commitments, national implementation and citizens.
- Support South–South cooperation on climate communication and information integrity, recognising the knowledge and experience that already exist in the Global South.

Adopted in Antalya, Türkiye, on 16 November 2026.