

## Statement by Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA)

Delivered by Honorable Oliver Bamenju Agho, member of Parliament (Cameroon) and Executive Committee member of PGA

Parliamentarians for Global Action (PGA) is a non-partisan NGO network of legislators from all regions of the world acting in their individual capacity to advocate for human rights, democracy, the rule of law, gender equality, protection of the environment, and justice in all its forms. Our network includes over 1,100 active members of parliament, representing government and opposition parties, in 150 countries. We facilitate peer-to-peer learning among parliamentarians, foster connections between parliamentarians and civil society, and build bridges between domestic and international policymakers. PGA is governed by legislators with technical and legal assistance from our Secretariat.

Parliamentarians play a critical role in addressing environmental protection from a human rights-based approach. PGA reinforces these principles of environmental democracy by working with parliamentarians to secure the right to access information, participation, and justice in environmental matters in the ocean for their communities.

Since the adoption of the High Seas Treaty, we have sensitized our global membership and facilitated the exchange of information at the local and regional levels, addressing requests about the status of the treaty, and building political support for ratification. Once the treaty is ratified, its successful implementation depends on parliamentarians to assure effective national legislation, international cooperation, and political will.

PGA commits to:

1. Building momentum for the ratification of the High Seas Treaty among our global membership by convening the 4th Consultative Assembly of Parliamentarians for the Oceans.
2. Providing technical support to PGA member-parliamentarians on ratification and implementation of the treaty.
3. Facilitating meaningful interactions among parliamentarians, government, civil society organizations and local communities to build trust and community support for oceans protection.
4. Protecting 30 percent of the oceans by 2030 by implementing marine protected areas in the high seas.