



**[DELIVERED]  
STATEMENT**

**THE 5<sup>TH</sup> CONFERENCE OF THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT  
PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK**

***“The Role of Parliaments in Ensuring Climate-Resilience  
Urbanization in the NAM Era”***

**15 April 2026  
Istanbul, Türkiye**

*H.E. Ms. Sahiba Gafarova, Chairperson of the Non-Aligned Movement Parliamentary Network (NAM PN), Speaker of the Milli Majlis of the Republic of Azerbaijan*

*Honourable Heads of Delegation of NAM-PN Member Parliaments, Observers, and Partners, Ladies and Gentlemen,*

Allow me to express my high appreciation to NAM-PN for convening this timely Conference and for its continued commitment to strengthening parliamentary cooperation under the theme: **“The Role of Parliaments in Ensuring Climate-Resilient Urbanization in the NAM Era”**. It invites us to reflect on how to ensure that our cities and communities remain liveable, equitable and resilient amid growing climate pressures and an increasingly uncertain global environment.

In many ways, the “NAM Era” lives with us today in renewed form. Developing countries continue to strive to navigate amidst a complex global landscape marked by sharp geopolitical rivalries, economic volatility and bare exposure to global shocks. In this context, the continued relevance of the Non-Aligned Movement lies in the enduring principles, rooted in the spirit of the 1955 Bandung Conference and the Five Principles of Peaceful Coexistence, which uphold respect for sovereignty, and development through dialogue, mutual respect and multilateral cooperation.

For ASEAN, these principles are reflected in the Treaty of Amity and Cooperation in Southeast Asia (TAC), whose 50th Anniversary we commemorate this year. The guiding principles of respect for sovereignty and territorial integrity, non-interference, peaceful settlement of disputes, renunciation of the threat or use of force, and effective cooperation have long shaped ASEAN’s regional order. They remain as relevant today as they were back in 1976. They are normative, legally binding instruments for securing durable peace, security and amity, which are conditions sine qua non for regional and over-regional cooperation.

This is especially important in the context of climate change resulting in heat waves, flash floods and large-scale inundation, increased violent storms, severe droughts and other natural, but mostly man-made catastrophes. Across regions, their impacts are unfolding alongside rapid urban growth while conflicts, geopolitical tensions and economic disruptions add tremendous pressures on the ecosystem, energy and food security, supply chains and public services to name the few.

In the context of global warming, designing resilient urbanisation has become a crucial life issue, also taken into account of continued population migration into urban areas.

Focus is given to the building of adequate hard and soft infrastructure capable to adapt and cope with those challenges, but more importantly also to inclusive governance. This is where the role of parliaments has become indispensable. Through their legislative, budgetary, oversight and representative functions, parliaments help shape the policy frameworks and institutional responses required to address climate change in a comprehensive and long-term manner to ensure equity and accountability to the people.

Southeast Asia remains one of the most vulnerable parts of the world to climate impacts, particularly in densely populated coastal and urban areas. As the legislative side of ASEAN, AIPA plays a complementary role in advancing parliamentary diplomacy and legislative oversight on climate governance. Most recently, in February 2026, AIPA launched its Capacity Development Programme on Climate Change for Member Parliaments, aimed at strengthening parliamentary capacity and engagement on climate-related challenges.

The challenges we face today—whether climate change or urban vulnerability—transcend national boundaries. They require collective responses based on rule-based multilateralism, equity, mutual respect and shared responsibility. The NAM PN is called to be pro-active when addressing critical issues of the survival of mankind on sick our planet earth.

We need global responses from the South in a responsible manner. It is essential that parliaments continue to act with foresight and responsibility—ensuring that urban development is not only resilient to climate risks, but also people-centred and equitable while upholding shared prosperity and securing long term social harmony.

Thank you.

