

WOMEN, PUBLIC LIFE AND DEMOCRACY (COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION) pdf

1: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK | Advancing Parliamentary Democracy from Westminster

Extra resources for Women, Public Life And Democracy (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association) Sample text In this case study work began with a gender audit that produced a template against which progress could be measured.

My name is Kate Ryan-Lloyd. To begin, we would like to note that we are gathered today on the traditional lands of the Lekwungen people, known today as the Esquimalt and Songhees First Nations. We begin, as we always do, with an acknowledgement of our respect for their traditions, cultures and wisdom. In particular, on behalf of the British Columbia branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, I am honoured to acknowledge the presence of Mr. We have the assistance of elected members from across the Commonwealth who have agreed to spend time with us all this week and serve as mentors to the CYP, from various parliamentary institutions. We have, from the Parliament of Sri Lanka, the Hon. Adam Marshall; from the Scottish Parliament, Ms. Jodie Wickens on this side of the House. Also assisting with our conference team this week are a group of dedicated parliamentary staff, including Ms. And from the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, a dedicated team of officials who have assisted us in co-hosting and with all the preparations to date. Sahar Eljack and Ms. I would like to thank each of them for their contributions and help over a period of many weeks. As I said, it is a great honour for the British Columbia branch to host this conference on behalf of the Canadian region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. We have been eagerly awaiting this opportunity for over a year. When it was last hosted, in Darwin, in the Northern Territory, in Australia, it was a remarkable success. We hope that you will find your experience here, also, to be a memorable and engaging one for you. To open the proceedings, I will, in a moment, call upon an elder of our community, Mary Anne Thomas of the Esquimalt Nation, to offer a special blessing. But first, I just wanted to mention that we had the honour and privilege of having Ms. Thomas present with us here at the Legislature, along with many distinguished First Nations chiefs, only a few months ago. As you may know, talking sticks are important symbols that are used to indicate the right of a person to speak and to be heard and listened to. Thomas said on that occasion, the Talking Stick is about dialogue, relationships, respect, working together and being patient with one another. So we have an opportunity to have the Talking Stick today and throughout the week to be the symbol of your parliamentary proceedings, indicating that these, too, will be undertaken in the spirit of mutual respect and understanding, as embodied by this Talking Stick. With that, I would now like to invite Ms. Thomas to join me at the front to offer a special blessing to our proceedings. Elder Mary Anne Thomas: To share this prayer, because everything that comes out of our mouth is sharp, is healing. With the legacy that she left and he left with me, I put that shoe on and I do the best I can. What do I need to do in my yard? Fix things in my own yard. This morning, I just really want to pray. You can all be seated. I want to share with each and every one of you. We respect each other, the way they come to our place and ask if I could come and do a prayer. With the work that you do, go and respect that person and go and visit and see them. You and I have our spirit here. I do everything that I can in my life to do everything right. Yes, I have people that backstab. I look at them, and I pray for them. I always tell my children: Give them a smile. Everything that we did, when we go to bed, is at the foot of our bed. So everything that we do is all respect and love. You guys are all so special. We pray to the trees. We pray to the water. We pray for the air. All those are living. There was a nephew that was saying to me: I was going to give up my life. You have a gift. Take care of it. Grab hold of it. He saw him open this tree. He opened the door, and he went down. And he asked him: What is your name? I gave you a gift. You just thank them for the words, and you keep on going. You have a gift: I just really wanted to share something very valuable. We have our language. We have our big hearts to open up to each other, to be a gift to each other. We have each other. All my relations, hychka. Thank you very much, Mary Anne, for your words and for your presence with us this morning. Next I am honoured to introduce and welcome to our proceedings the Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Mr. Prior to taking up his post as Secretary-General in January , Mr. Khan had dedicated his career to the practice

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of law, with notable experience in international law. His passion for democracy and the rule of law has resulted in many professional achievements. Among his many accomplishments, Mr. Khan has also served as a member of the prestigious World Economic Forum global council on the rule of law. Khan for his support of this event and his presence here today and invite him to make some opening remarks. Thank you, and a very good morning. The principles which she has talked about “respect for human beings and equality” are central to who we are in the Commonwealth family. It is fitting for her to talk about those principles here in a place known as parliament, which represents all peoples. In our Commonwealth, all of us are equal, whether we are the poorest, the richest, the strongest or the weakest. Across all of our races of our nine regions are two billion people. What is central that holds us together as a golden thread in the Commonwealth is our respect for human dignity. So thank you very much, Elder Thomas, for telling us and reminding us that we may sit here as Youth Parliamentarians, and we may sit here with many achievements and accomplishments, but in fact, each and every one of us must respect each other as human beings. That is fundamentally why we are here in this place as a community of human beings who respect ourselves and respect each other. Together we try to improve the world that we know as the Commonwealth. I thank, very much, the Deputy Clerk for introducing me. We look forward to her presence here to support the current hosts and also to take forward the banner of the Commonwealth Youth Parliament to the Caribbean next year. Also, I take this opportunity to recognize the members of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly and members from other Commonwealth parliaments, who have stepped up and given freely of their time to be mentors for all of us here this week, to give you an opportunity to see what it is to be a parliamentarian from their perspectives. Craig James, who is the Clerk, and Ms. Ryan-Lloyd, who is the Deputy Clerk of the British Columbia Legislative Assembly, who have worked tirelessly with Speaker Reid in order to put together for you an absolutely tremendous program for this week. Also, I take this opportunity to welcome Mrs. Last, but certainly not least, I want to welcome our Commonwealth Youth Parliamentarians. A very good morning to everybody, and welcome to the opening of the Eighth Commonwealth Youth Parliament. It is a great privilege and pleasure to join you here in Victoria, British Columbia. I want to congratulate all of our approximately, I believe, 60 Commonwealth Youth Parliamentarians who have made it here to Victoria. As the Secretary-General of the CPA, now an association in its 30th year of promoting democracy across the Commonwealth, we represent the parliamentary arm of the Commonwealth. Together with our Commonwealth Youth Parliament, we have this year also unveiled and started to deliver a new strand of work known as the CPA roadshows. They have started across the Commonwealth, and we have spoken to in excess of 7,000 young people from the age of eight upwards to 18, to encourage young people in schools and colleges to engage with their local parliamentarians in order to talk about the Commonwealth and the importance of democracy. Young people are increasingly suspicious of parliamentarians who engage them at the time of election. What we are hoping to do is to build a community of young people who are going to take forward the ideals of democracy for all of us in society, not just to be engaged at the time of elections. Why do we do this work? Why are we starting at the age of eight upwards to 18? We do this because democracy, in my view, demands active and involved citizens of all ages, and all ages need to take action to make our societies a better place.

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2: Opening of the 8th Commonwealth Youth Parliament

Women, Public Life and Democracy. Book Description: The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is an important actor in this process, offering both institutional.

In spite of this shared responsibility in the area of human rights, and owing to its primary role in law-making, parliament is the branch of government best placed to give effect to human rights, take practical measures to prevent abuses, and to ensure that law provides practical means through which remedies may be sought for alleged violations. To this end, parliamentarians may influence policies and budgets at the national level, monitor policy implementation programmes at local levels, address the needs and concerns of their constituencies, and act as a catalyst in the realisation of human rights domestically and internationally. However, their role is not formalised within the process, let alone elaborated in a meaningful way. The Commonwealth has steadily been adding its voice as we participate in global efforts to remedy such shortcomings and increase the contribution of parliamentarians in the protection of human rights. Together with the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, we have been developing the ability of parliamentarians to promote and protect human rights nationally and on a regional basis. A further outcome was the establishment of regional Commonwealth parliamentary human rights groups which are giving practical effect to the commitments made. It was officially registered under the Societies Act in and is recognised by both houses of parliament. It focuses on developing parliamentary tools to oversee state compliance with human rights obligations and accountability for violations. Recently, the Kenya parliamentary human rights caucus partnered with the Kenyan National Commission for Human Rights KNCHR by signing a memorandum of understanding to ensure the promotion and protection of human rights. An important area of focus is to ensure effective financial and human resource allocation for the recently adopted Kenyan National Human Rights Policy and Action Plan. Members of the human rights caucus have also been active in proposing legislation to enhance the enjoyment of rights in Kenya. One such example is the Prevention of Torture Bill, which was drafted and introduced by the convenor of the human rights caucus. The Bill had its second reading before parliament in early December. Parliamentary committees are a key tool available to advance the protection of human rights at the national level. Being able to develop and express common parliamentary positions on human rights issues and to contribute to meaningful legislation, as the Kenyan human rights caucus has, demonstrates their value. The Secretariat has been supporting the work of Commonwealth parliamentary human rights champions including on their relationship with national human rights institutions; child marriage; migration; equality and non-discrimination. The establishment of the Kenyan human rights caucus is just one in a wider set of encouraging global developments. Some of these developments, including the Kenyan human rights caucus, were profiled during a side event held at the UN Human Rights Council on 15 March. We shared the results of our ongoing work with parliamentarians while the other panellists discussed how parliamentarians can increase their contribution to the promotion and protection of human rights and how national parliaments can increase their contribution to the work of the Human Rights Council and the UPR, including through institutional measures. Although there has been clear progress in enhancing the role of parliamentarians in promoting and protecting human rights, much still remains to be done to fully realise their contribution to the work of the Human Rights Council and the broader protection of human rights.

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3: Why Ireland should rejoin the Commonwealth | openDemocracy

A practical guide to the growing influence of women on parliamentary legislation across the Commonwealth, and includes a study of how women's rights are promoted.

Keynote address 59th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: Keynote address 2 September Speaker: Johannesburg, South Africa Theme: This is a regular fixture in my calendar and I always welcome the opportunity to meet with those who represent the people of the Commonwealth through our parliaments, where the heart of democracy beats strongest. We also owe gratitude to our hosts, Hon. Mzinwa Johannes Mahlangu and Hon. I congratulate them and their teams on the excellent arrangements for this conference, and thank them for the warm welcome we have received. Wherever I travel in member states, I make a point of calling on leaders and representatives of the government as well as on the Speaker and Leader of the Opposition. I am always mindful of the role that parliamentarians play, and the importance of strengthening parliamentary practice and culture. I would have met a number of you here in the course of those visits, and it is very good to see familiar faces. A Commonwealth conference in Africa is also always an opportunity to take stock and to celebrate that our members here, across the range of indices, tend to find themselves at the top end of progression and achievement. This is not by chance. The Commonwealth has identified a blend of values and principles that are advanced for its people. And a great deal of the success in this region as elsewhere is due to the role of yourselves as parliamentarians. This morning, His Excellency the President lauded the Commonwealth as a uniquely global organisation. Representation and respect for diversity and for differing opinions, with inclusivity and equity, are indispensable to our Commonwealth understanding of what is needed if we are to take strides as societies that are more just, and a world order that is more fair. The commitment of our member states to representative parliamentary democracy can be seen as an expression of the kinship and affinity that is so distinctive a feature of the Commonwealth. Indeed, parliamentary links, forged and continually strengthened through the work of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association over many decades, can be seen as among the most powerful practical illustration of Commonwealth nations joining together freely and voluntarily in an enduring relationship. Democracy around the Commonwealth takes varied forms. However, we commit ourselves to common values and principles, and these shape both our collective goals and our collective responsibility. Deep-rooted in our Commonwealth approach is the ideal of learning from one another and gaining reciprocally through the exchange of ideas, experience and insights. That is what Commonwealth conferences are all about: Democracy and Development The collective wisdom of the Commonwealth is that, while development and democracy are each goals in their own right, they are also interconnected and mutually reinforcing. Development is enhanced and achieves greater advance in democratic societies where the individual has liberty and choice. Democracy is enhanced where the tide of economic growth lifts all and leaves none behind. Our ambition for the CHOGM in November is that leaders will explore how growth and development can be advanced whether one lives in a city, a town, a village, a rural community, or an out-lying island. We do well to recall the objectives identified already by our heads as those they consider make democracy work for pro-poor development. MDGs and post sustainable development framework These objectives remain relevant and topical, particularly as we approach the target date for the Millennium Development Goals in While substantial headway has been made, both globally and in the Commonwealth, a long road still lies ahead. Particular challenges remain in meeting targets on basic education, maternal mortality, hunger and gender equality. As we assess progress and measure achievements, work towards international convergence on a post sustainable development framework is already underway. South Africa and Ireland have been contributing at another level. The Commonwealth has a long record of building consensus around global challenges, and is well-placed to provide both analytical and practical insights into this debate. Indeed, the new global development agenda has featured prominently at recent Commonwealth ministerial meetings. A common thread, reflecting our focus on the practical and on delivery,

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is that our various ministerial discussions have pointed to the importance both of reaching global agreement on new goals themselves as well as on the means by which they can be achieved. All in all, the Commonwealth is bringing its perspective to the debate on the new post-MDGs global development agenda. Commonwealth values As representatives of the people, I can think of no more important an audience than this one to which to comment on our new Charter, also alluded to by His Excellency the President this morning. The values and aspirations for which the Commonwealth strives have been brought together in a single, accessible document, adopted by Heads of Government in December last year, and signed on Commonwealth Day this year by Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth. We now have a defining document for our association, to which the people of the Commonwealth at large contributed and which embodies their goals and expectations. I welcome your support in raising awareness of the Charter. I trust opportunities can be found to debate it in parliaments, and to use it as an aid in encouraging greater partnership and collective striving. Human Rights

â€” Universal Periodic Review Given the role of the legislature, I should underline that the Commonwealth Secretariat much appreciates our practical partnership with the CPA, notably in delivering our human rights mandate. An important area of collaboration is strengthening the role of parliamentarians in one of the most important human rights mechanisms, the Universal Periodic Review. At their request, we have worked to help build the capacity of parliamentarians, whose role is not formalised in the UPR process, so that they are equipped to carry forward accepted UPR recommendations. A seminar we convened jointly last November, tailored to the needs of parliamentarians from Small Island Developing States, was designed to enhance the role of parliaments in the UPR reporting and implementation process, with members equipped to support the passage of legislation relevant to UPR recommendations. In March this year we continued this with a Caribbean regional seminar in Trinidad and Tobago on the role of parliamentarians in the promotion and protection of human rights. The essential fact is that the contemporary UN structure for examining the human rights situation in any given member state can only benefit from an active role by parliamentarians. And we are happy to partner in this. This enables us to offer one another support and allows fruitful cross-pollination of ideas. These teams of distinguished parliamentarians and other eminent Commonwealth personalities bring together knowledge and experience drawn from throughout the worldwide family of the Commonwealth. In the period since we have sent more than Observer Groups to presidential and parliamentary elections. These are highly valued by member states, which also see our observers as encouraging credence and legitimacy to the electoral process â€” and can also serve as a calming influence when tensions are high. We have also received invitations to observe forthcoming elections in Maldives, Rwanda, Sri Lanka, Swaziland and Cameroon later this month. The proper conduct of elections depends to a large extent on the capacity and resourcing of national election management bodies. The Commonwealth is committed to raising their performance so that they are a force for good, and upholders of the highest electoral standards. I have in the past referred to the Electoral Commission in any member state as the filament that must endure tremendous heat at election time. If and when it endures, the election result can enjoy credibility and support; when it breaks, the credibility of the election result is jeopardised. With this in mind we have established a Commonwealth Electoral Network, bringing together election management bodies from across the Commonwealth. The Network is a new resource through which technical expertise in managing key processes of democracy can be exchanged. Our aim is to create peer-support mechanisms that promote good practices and sharing of experience to overcome common challenges. This is all about the Commonwealth playing to its fundamental strength â€” its networks, its diversity, and its collective practical advancement â€” in both a contemporary twenty-first century way and the tested way of Commonwealth solidarity. And it facilitates pan-Commonwealth collaboration across countries, organisations and partners. Information can be stored centrally and become accessible to any network member. We are making this ground-breaking Commonwealth product available to all including the CPA. Our goal is that existing and future Commonwealth networks are not only informed and in touch with each other, but can also collaborate, transact, and forge creative partnerships online. Government and opposition workshops Honourable

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parliamentarians, the manner in which business is conducted once elected is as important for entrenching the culture of democracy as the process of election. Both have valuable contributions to make in deepening the democratic process, through their respective rights, roles and responsibilities. Our intention now is that these workshops should move from a regional focus and become more targeted and country oriented in approach. The aim is to consolidate the practice of a more constructive relationship between governing and opposition parties, conducive to their working more productively together in the joint interest of national harmony and national development. Parliament is the primary forum where the voice of the people, especially the poor and marginalised has to be heard with absolute clarity. Confidence that parliament truly understands, and is able to address the aspirations and interests of the people, is a paramount guarantee of social peace and stability. Such confidence is secured when parliamentarians of both the majority and minority parties show a common purpose in representing the interests and concerns of their electorate as a whole, when holding the Executive to account, and when improving and enacting legislation. Distinguished Commonwealth parliamentarians, I conclude by paying tribute to your public service and duty, and in expressing respect for it. Your high calling, and your continuing care and commitment in the service of all, help ensure that in the world of tomorrow none are excluded from the life of the community in which they live, learn, and work, or are left behind in the onward march of social and material progress. That is the noble purpose of our collective effort: Thank you again for your time and for the courtesy of inviting me.

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4: Commonwealth Parliamentary Association - Wikipedia

Women, Public Life And Democracy (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association) by Lovendusky, Joni, Campbell, Rosie, Sampson-Jacant, Jacqui. Pluto Press. Used - Very Good.

Conn Corrigan 9 January Subjects: The biggest mistake Irish republicans ever made says former Irish rugby star Trevor Ringland , was that "they never asked. And worse than not asking, Ringland says, is that the "only method used to persuade unionists of the benefits of a united Ireland was violence. The point he makes, I believe, neatly encapsulates the two major flaws in Irish republicanism: The presumption was that the day a united Ireland arrived unionists would either snap out of their false consciousness and realise that they have been Irish all along, or have to go back to where they came from. But republicans did further damage to their cause by the way in which they set out their vision of what a united Ireland would look like: Catholic, Gaelic and monolithic. Unionists could argue, with considerable justification, that their British culture , their British identity , would be obliterated in a country like this. The principle of consent But with the Good Friday Agreement and the enshrinement of the principle of consent - in which there can be no constitutional change unless a majority wants one - obvious weaknesses in Irish republican political theory have been corrected. Having moved on from fantasies of repatriating Protestants, Gerry Adams now acknowledges as much: This acceptance is liberating in that it enables republicans to set out more clearly the case for a united Ireland, and to present an inclusive vision of what this might look like. Unionists must be wooed by republicans and challenged through the force of intellectual argument. The approach of the tenth anniversary of the Good Friday Agreement next year provides an opportunity for republicans to take stock of how much progress they have actually made on this front. It might be instructive to look at some of the old arguments unionists used against a united Ireland, and see how they stack up today. No longer the land of Rome Rule The good news for republicans is that three of these arguments - that the republic is a Catholic state, that it is backward and undeveloped, and that it celebrates only a singular form of Irishness - no longer really apply. Unionists, in the past, could say that a united Ireland would condemn them to living under " Rome Rule ". Member must remember that in the South they boasted of a Catholic State. They still boast of Southern Ireland being a Catholic State. The position of the Catholic Church in Ireland - which, up until was acknowledged as "special" in the Irish constitution - has weakened dramatically in the new republic. Arthur Aughey , a distinguished unionist political scientist, once wrote that the republic is committed to the "construction of homogenous, confessional political order. Economic success has been accompanied by a good dose of secularism, meaning unionists can no longer argue against unification on the grounds that they would be condemned to living in a Catholic clerical tyranny. The second unionist argument against a united Ireland - backwardness - is in a sense closely related to the first: In the decade that Paisley made the above remarks, Ireland was an economic disaster. But that was the s. In , the Economist described Ireland as the "basket case of Europe": More recently, the UN human development index ranked Ireland in fifth place, placing the UK in sixteenth place. This experience of immigration into Ireland is important, in that it can demonstrate to unionism that the former monolithic and homogenous Irish society is capable of adapting and accommodating different cultures and peoples. And never has this adaption been demonstrated more vividly than it was last February at Croke Park, the Dublin Headquarters of the Gaelic Athletic Association and one of the great institutions of Irish life. Why Republicans need the commonwealth The Republic of Ireland has come along way towards being somewhere which unionists might be willing to live. But there is obviously a lot more to do. All political parties in the south are ostensibly committed to a united Ireland with perhaps the exception of the Green Party. But they all need to be more creative in the way in which they try to persuade unionists to come around to their way of thinking. I would make one suggestion: Republicans should call for Ireland to rejoin the commonwealth. I admit, for many Irish republicans this idea will raise nothing more than a few chuckles; it may have others reaching for a bucket. But they should give it serious consideration. The process by which enough unionists

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will come around to the idea of united Ireland will not happen overnight - a united Ireland by is beginning to look more and more like a republican fantasy. In a seminal article on Ulster unionism, UCD academic Jennifer Todd identified two traditions in unionist political culture: Ulster loyalists and Ulster British. In loyalist ideology, Todd argued, the primary imagined community is Northern Protestants, who have a secondary identification with Britain. For Ulster British, the imagined community is Greater Britain, with a secondary regional identification with Northern Ireland. For some of this second group, the point of the union with Great Britain is not an end of itself. It is for civic reasons: An Alternative Vision for Ulster , the union exists because of "the quality of social and political life" that it brings to Northern Ireland. There is no reason why this group cannot be persuaded of the social and economic benefits that would come with a united Ireland, but they would need to be convinced that their Britishness would be assured in a united Ireland. The very notion of Britishness - an identity that belongs to no one nation - is compatible with this. For many people, for example, being Scottish is a particular way of being British. During the Troubles, when people were being killed simply because they were British, and when Irishness was defined in such explicit non-British, Catholic and Gaelic terms, it is little wonder that many but by no means all British in Northern Ireland rejected the term "Irish" in their self-descriptions. For unionists to be convinced that they should join a united Ireland, they need to be assured that the south is no longer anti-British. Joining the commonwealth would be an important way of symbolising this. This idea is not as unrealistic as it might seem. In April , Jeffrey Donaldson also said: We would like to see the Irish Republic join the Commonwealth. And in July, Labour MP Andrew Mackinlay told the House of Commons that it was time to issue an invitation to Ireland to rejoin so as to " take its natural place " in the commonwealth. This would not be a surrender to an imperial past. It would not mean that the Queen would be the head of state, which is the case only for the 16 states of the commonwealth realm. There are 54 countries in the commonwealth, 33 of which are republics, and many of which, like Ireland, had to fight for their independence. Instead, it would be a gesture - that a Northern Unionist identity could survive - even flourish - as part of a united Ireland. And for republicans to ever succeed, the two cannot be considered mutually exclusive concepts. Were Ireland to rejoin the commonwealth, it would send out a message to Northern Protestants not simply that their Britishness would be tolerated which implies a kind of reluctant acceptance - but would be actively promoted in a united Ireland. Which is why Gerry Adams and Co. Comment and discussion on this article is hosted here , on the OurKingdom blog. We encourage anyone to comment, please consult the.

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5: Governance - Commonwealth of Nations

*Women, Public Life and Democracy (Commonwealth Parliamentary Association) [Joni Lovenduski, Rosie Campbell, Jacqui Sampson-Jacent] on www.enganchecubano.com *FREE* shipping on qualifying offers. More and more women from Commonwealth countries are now securing jobs in the senior public sector.*

Burg has in recent years been a senior member of the Israeli Labour Party and one of the most charismatic members of Parliament. In , he became the youngest Speaker in the history of the Israeli Knesset. He has boldly argued that there cannot be democracy in Israel without equal rights for all who live there, Arab as well as Jew. Prior to being elected to this post, he had spent 22 years in the service of the organisation. Cornillon has carried out missions for the promotion of human rights and democracy in various countries. He has taken part in many international meetings and has held advisory positions in several international bodies dealing with parliament and democracy. He is an adviser to the African, Caribbean and Pacific ACP group of States in Brussels, which he is assisting in establishing a parliamentary assembly. He has held several positions, including sitting on the Finance Committee for seven years, where he headed a group of senior parliamentary staff who assist the General Budget Rapporteur in examining the technical aspects of financial laws. He left the Senate for a four-year period, during which he served as adviser to the then minister for the economy and finance, Mr. Jean Arthuis, from to . After two years in the private sector he went back to the Senate in January , where he has been serving since as Assistant Director of the International Relations Service in charge of bilateral and multilateral cooperation and relations with international organizations. Professor deSouza has, from the direction of political theory, engaged with what can be termed as the puzzles of Indian democracy. Some of the areas on which he has worked and published concern the banning of books, electoral reform, decentralized governance, electoral violence, political parties, human security, minority rights in India, marginal citizens and righting historical wrong. He has also written numerous democracy-related articles in national and international journals. She received her PhD degree in development sociology from Cornell University in . In this capacity, Mr. Hubli advises NDI staff on governance program strategy, design, implementation and evaluation; he also develops and maintains a pool of pro bono experts and trainers on governance issues. Hubli has conducted legislative assessment and training missions in over 20 countries. La Follette Institute of Public Affairs. Prior to joining NDI, Mr. He worked with the United Nations assistance mission in Haiti in and on the first post-apartheid elections in South Africa in . Between March and October , Mr. Since its inception in , Marta Lagos has been the Executive Director of LatinoBarometro, which surveys annually public opinion in 18 Latin American countries. Author of many publications in the field of public opinion research, she is a member of the World Values Survey team and part of the committee that organizes the Comparative Study of Electoral Systems CSES. Marta Lagos Cruz Coke holds a M. She has taught and written on the law of contract, human rights law and particularly issues relating to gender equality and African customary law , international law, and constitutional law. He was a Member of Parliament from to , where he chaired several important committees privileges, legal, standing rules and orders. He was elected Speaker from to . As Speaker, Cyril Ndebele was instrumental in introducing parliamentary reforms designed to transform parliament into a more efficient, transparent and participatory democratic institution. Cyril Ndebele was a founder member of the SADC Parliamentary Forum and has been a resource person at several international meetings on the workings of parliamentary democracy. Speaker of the Moroccan Chamber of Representatives Abdelwahad Radi was one of the founders of the Union nationale des forces populaires political party, and later the Union socialiste des forces populaires. He has held a number of positions of responsibility within the party, and has served as First Deputy Secretary since . He has also co-founded many civil society and trade union organizations. From to , Mr. Radi was Minister for International Cooperation. Radi was first elected as a member of parliament in . He has been constantly re-elected since , and has served as the Speaker of the Chamber of Representatives since . He is a strong proponent of parliamentary diplomacy and has held senior

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posts in a number of regional parliamentary organizations. Loretta Rosales is a representative of the marginal and under-represented sectors of Philippine society. During the repressive regime of former Philippine President Ferdinand Marcos, her underground activities led Loretta Rosales to be arrested on several occasions. Rosales actively lobbied for the enactment of the party-list law as provided for in the Philippines Constitution. Since , she has been a member of the House of Representatives where she has chaired the Committee on Human Rights and co-chaired the Committee on Suffrage and Electoral Reforms. She is also the founder of the Zorig Foundation, an NGO whose mission is to advance democracy and the rule of law in Mongolia. Oyun earned her PhD in isotope geochemistry from Cambridge University. Member of the Mexican Senate Dulce Maria Sauri has extensive experience as a legislator and public administrator. She was Governor of the State of Yucatan , and has been elected to either House of the Mexican Congress on numerous occasions since . Since 1 December , Ms. The following is a non-exhaustive list of organisations involved in strengthening parliamentary institutions. It was established in . The Union is the focal point for world-wide parliamentary dialogue and works for peace and co-operation among peoples and for the firm establishment of representative democracy. The IPU operates a Technical Cooperation Programme under which it assists national parliaments, particularly in developing countries, to improve the organisation of their work and strengthen their infrastructure. The programme focuses on strengthening the parliamentary institution itself, as well as providing assistance to elected parliamentarians and parliamentary staff. It systematically integrates this work with gender and human rights perspectives. Indeed, certain projects are specifically focused on ensuring greater participation of women in the parliamentary process. Commonwealth Parliamentary Association The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association CPA is composed of branches formed in Parliaments and Legislatures in Commonwealth countries which subscribe to parliamentary democracy. National Conference of State Legislatures The National Conference of State Legislatures NCSL provides technical assistance in democracies and emerging democracies across the globe with the goal of strengthening the legislative institution. Drawing on its experience in the U. NCSL has conducted a variety of projects in the areas of accountability, civic education, ethics, federalism, legislative management, new member training, and transparency in government. NCSL has also organised a number of workshops that often involve the entire legislature and are usually conducted by U. Action is undertaken for human resource development with parliamentarians and other elected representatives and institutional capacity building within parliaments and decentralized authorities. This includes attention to:

6: 59th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference: Keynote address | The Commonwealth

A practical guide to the growing influence of women on parliamentary legislation across the Commonwealth.

7: IPU: Guide on Parliament and Democracy. Annexes

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) exists to develop, promote and support Parliamentarians and their staff to identify benchmarks of good governance and to implement the enduring values of the Commonwealth.

8: Uganda's Speaker Elected Chairperson of Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians - www.enganchecwpa.org

Recognizing the need of increasing women's representation in political institutions, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) established a structure and governance body to work on.

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