

COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION
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“Working for Parliamentary Democracy”

**INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON PEACEBUILDING:
TACKLING STATE FRAGILITY**

31 JANUARY – 6 FEBRUARY 2010

PROGRAMME

PLEASE NOTE THIS IS A PREVIEW PROGRAMME AND AS SUCH IS SUBJECT TO CHANGE

MONDAY 1 FEBRUARY - Peacebuilding Strategies

0900 – 1000

Welcome and Introductions

1000 – 1100

Opening Keynote:

Pathways to Peace, Security and Democracy: The Role of Parliamentarians

How important are parliaments, parliamentarians and parliamentary processes to establishing sustainable peace and security in fragile states? What is the role of a parliamentarian within a fragile state, within the region and as part of the broader international community?

- Ms Geraldine Fraser-Moleketi (Director - Democratic Governance Practice, UNDP; Former Minister and MP, South Africa)
- Mr Don Steinberg (Deputy President, International Crisis Group)

1120 – 1240

Policy Priorities for Tackling State Fragility: Perspectives

What are the causes of fragility? What are the drivers of non-violent change? How can state resilience be built up to avoid a return to violent conflict? What policy areas should parliamentarians prioritise to tackle state fragility? What principles should guide policy development and scrutiny?

- Mr Amitav Banerji (Director, Political Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat)
- Dr Funmi Olonisakin (Director, Conflict, Security and Development Group, Kings College, London)
- Professor James Putzel (Director, Crisis States Research Centre, London School of Economics)

1240 – 1400

Lunch hosted by Rt Hon John Bercow MP (Speaker of the House of Commons)

1400 – 1520

Implementing Peace and Security Policy: Cross-Government Approaches and International Engagement

What strategies do governments adopt in coordinating responses to state fragility? What are the benefits and challenges associated with implementing cross-government approaches (language, coordination, resource/funding lines)? How can parliamentarians strengthen government strategies

– what policy areas are in need of stronger scrutiny for more effective peacebuilding? How can the International Dialogue on Peacebuilding and Statebuilding support this?

- Mr David Ashley (Regional Conflict Advisor – South Asia, British High Commission, Sri Lanka)
- Mr Rory Keane (International Network on Conflict and Fragility, Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, Paris)
- Mr Phil Vernon (Director of Programmes, International Alert, London)

1540 - 1700

Scrutinising International Peacebuilding Actors: Parliamentary Networks in Action

What roles have multilateral organisations played in peacebuilding? How have parliamentarians in donor and fragile states scrutinised the activities of international actors (UN, IMF, World Bank) and better held them to account? What innovative peacebuilding initiatives have emerged from international, regional and national parliamentary networks and partnerships? How have these helped to facilitate transitions from violent conflict and what more can be done?

- Hon. Dr. Juliana Kantengwa MP (Former Secretary General AMANI Forum - The Great Lakes Parliamentary Forum on Peace, Rwanda)
- Dr Sara Pantuliano (Research Fellow and Programme Leader, Overseas Development Institute)
- Rt Hon. the Baroness D'Souza (Crossbench; All-Party Parliamentary Group on Women, Peace and Security, UK)

1730 – 1830

Evening Reception, London

TUESDAY 2 FEBRUARY – Revitalising Economies and Human Security

0900 – 1000

Keynote: Mobilising the Economy for Sustainable Peace, Security and Development

How does violent conflict sustain underdevelopment? What are the challenges to rebuilding the economy after conflict? How can priorities and budgets for security and public service provision be balanced to meet public expectations? What role can parliamentarians in donor and fragile states play in scrutinising peacebuilding initiatives for the transition to peace, security and development? Experiences from Africa: Armed conflicts cost Africa US\$18 Billion per year, money that could transform the continent addressing HIV and AIDS, education, clean water and sanitation, preventing tuberculosis and malaria.

1000 – 1120

Rebuilding Public Financial Management Systems: Moving Beyond Aid Dependence

How can domestic revenue collection in fragile states be strengthened to reduce foreign aid dependency? How can access to natural resources be managed to finance reconstruction? What mechanisms can be used to monitor the use of international aid through post-conflict transition? How can the gap between humanitarian and development aid be negotiated in reconstruction plans? How can large numbers of international donors be coordinated without compromising local ownership of reconstruction? What are the challenges and opportunities for parliamentarians?

- Ms Mary Baine (Commissioner General, Rwanda Revenue Authority)
- Professor Thandika Mkandawire (Chair in African Development, London School of Economics)
- Mr Nicola Pontara (Senior Economist, Fragile and Conflict-Affected Countries Group, The World Bank)

1140 – 1300

Harnessing the Power of Business: Part of the Solution?

What happens to the private sector during conflict and how can it support peacebuilding? How can local entrepreneurship be developed? How can the private sector be monitored and encouraged to avoid aggravating violent conflict (Voluntary Principles, Red Flag initiative)? What issues do parliamentarians in donor and fragile states need to scrutinise to support multi-stakeholder partnerships?

- Ms Canan Gündüz (International Alert)
- Dr Hugo Slim (Director, CforC Ltd)

1400 - 1520

Reinstating Rule of Law: The Foundations for Development and Community Security

How does reinstating rule of law produce peace dividends – create the space for investment as well as human security? How can rule of law be re-established where resources are scarce and systems are fragmented and un-coordinated? What priorities should drive post-conflict judicial and security sector reform? How should the international community engage without compromising local ownership and priorities? What is the role of parliamentarians?

- Ms Yasmine Sherif (Senior Rule of Law, Justice & Security Adviser, Bureau for Crisis Prevention & Recovery, UNDP)
- Mr Edouard Belloncle OR Simon Rynn (Security and Justice Sector Development Adviser, Saferworld)

1540 - 1700

Effective Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration of Conflict Actors: Women and Men, Girls and Boys

What can we learn from the Integrated Disarmament, Demobilisation and Reintegration Standards (IDDRS) in terms of good practice and policy guidance? What are the priorities and challenges to effective short and long term DDR strategies? What are the responsibilities of fragile state governments, their neighbours in the region and the international community? At its 10th anniversary, how effectively has Security Council Resolution 1325 been implemented in DDR? How can parliamentarians scrutinise DDR strategies to ensure they curb violence and address the human rights and needs of former combatants in all their diversity – women, men, girls and boys?

- Ms Irma Specht (Director, Transition International, the Netherlands)

WEDNESDAY 3 FEBRUARY – Improving Access to Justice

0900 - 1000

Keynote: Parliamentarians and Transitional Justice: No Peace Without Justice?

How can issues of justice and rule of law be broached in the aftermath of violent conflict without re-igniting old tensions and hostilities? How can the International Criminal Court serve justice and support peacebuilding together? How can constitutional review and development contribute to redressing injustices, affirming rule of law and promoting reconciliation for a sustainable peace?

- Mr Paul Van Zyl (Executive Vice-President, International Centre for Transitional Justice)
- Ms Nita Yawanarajah (Adviser and Head, Good Offices Section, Political Affairs Division, Commonwealth Secretariat)

1000 – 1120

Negotiating Justice and Reconciliation: Perspectives and Experiences

What local, national and international tools and strategies can support justice and reconciliation? What lessons can be learned from experiences of implementing truth and reconciliation commissions/hearings? How can gender-based violence issues be better tackled? How can parliamentarians support these processes?

- Dr Sari Kouvo (Head, Afghanistan Program, International Centre for Transitional Justice)

1140 – 1300

Peacekeeping for the Long Term: Strengthening Effectiveness and Accountability

How does peacekeeping relate to peacebuilding? How has the expanding mandate of peacekeeping operations (civilian protection; disarmament demobilisation and reintegration of combatants, security sector reform, return and reintegration of internally displaced persons and refugees) been matched with developments in training and coordination? What mechanisms exist for holding peacekeepers to account?

- Dr Kwesi Aning (Head, Conflict Prevention, Management and Resolution Department, Kofi Annan International Peacekeeping Training Centre (KAIPTC), Accra, Ghana)
- Dr Marsha Henry (London School of Economics)

1400 – 1700

Parallel Workshops: Session 1

Parliamentarians guided by a facilitator will explore key issues and share experiences, challenges and lessons learned to develop strategies and follow-up action plans for national, regional and international levels. Workshop themes to include:

- Conflict Sensitive Policy Making - Part 1 (International Alert)
- Managing Natural Resources: Governance and the Pursuit of Prosperity (International Alert)
- Working for a More Accountable Security Sector - Police, Military and Intelligence (Saferworld)

1730 - 2200

- **Flight and Transfer: Westminster, London to Northern Ireland Assembly, Belfast**

**THURSDAY 4 FEBRUARY – Rebuilding Citizen – State Relations
Stormont, Northern Ireland**

1000 – 1045

Keynote: Rebuilding Citizen – State Relations: Governance Challenges and Opportunities

What is the role of national dialogue mechanisms and processes in achieving sustainable peace? How does conflict undermine perceptions of national dialogue and information systems? How can an inclusive and transparent state, active civil society and professional media and civil society rebuild public trust and reduce the risk of a return to violence? How can parliamentarians support the construction or restoration of systems for national dialogues? How can decentralisation of political decision making help? What role can traditional leadership structures play?

- Dr Sina Odugbemi (Program Head, Communication for Governance & Accountability Program (CommGAP), The World Bank)

1045 - 1145

Rebuilding Public Confidence After Violent Conflict: Northern Ireland Assembly Case Study

How have parliamentarians elected to the Northern Ireland Assembly worked to build an inclusive and transparent political system in Northern Ireland? How have they negotiated public expectations through transition? How do parliamentarians perform their role of scrutiny without undermining fragile peace? What have been the challenges and political breakthroughs? What lessons have been learned from working with civil society and the media?

- Representatives from all parties of the Northern Ireland Assembly
- Mr William Hay MLA (Speaker of the Northern Ireland Assembly)

1200 - 1300

Forum: Delegates and Northern Ireland Assembly Panellists in Dialogue

An opportunity for delegate parliamentarians to pose questions and engage in discussion with panellists from the Northern Ireland Assembly – sharing common challenges and lessons learned.

1400 – 1700

Parallel Workshops: Session 2

Facilitator guided workshops exploring key issues and delegate experiences - challenges and lessons learned. Working towards developing strategies and follow-up action at the national, regional and international level, workshop sessions will include:

- Conflict Sensitive Policy Making - Part 2 (International Alert)
- Working with Civil Society: Where next for UN Security Council Resolution 1325? (International Alert)
- The Role of Media and Communications in Transitions to Stability (Media Support Solutions)

1800 – 1930

Evening Reception, Northern Ireland Assembly, Belfast

**FRIDAY 5 FEBRUARY – Moving Forward
Stormont, Northern Ireland**

0900 – 1000

Workshop Report Back

1000 – 1300

Visit to local community projects in Belfast

1400 - 1500

Discussion Session: Summing Up and Agreement of Conference Communique

1500 – 1600

Closing Keynote:

The Commonwealth, International Parliamentary Diplomacy and Building Peace

How has the Commonwealth at its 60th anniversary facilitated inclusive and multilayered international diplomacy and supported transitions from violent conflict to peace? What lessons have been learned? How can the Commonwealth contribute over the next 60 years and what role can parliamentarians play in international diplomacy for sustainable development, peace and security?

- His Excellency Kamallesh Sharma (Commonwealth Secretary-General)

1700 - 2200

Flight and Transfer: Northern Ireland Assembly, Belfast to Westminster, London

CONFERENCE CLOSE