CPA COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

Update

Distributed by the CPA Secretariat
Suite 700, 7 Millbank, London SW1P 3JA, United Kingdom
Tel. (+44) 20-7799-1460 Fax: (+44) 20-7222-6073
hq.sec@cpahq.org www.cpahq.org

Issue 16
9 Feb 2009

CONTENTS: (1) Regional Workshop for Parliamentarians for the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region; (2) La Trobe Summer School 2009; (3) Parliamentary Staff Development Workshop for the Africa Region

(1) Regional Workshop for Parliamentarians for the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region



CPA Secretary-General Dr William F. Shija (left) talking to the Speaker of the Tasmanian House of Assembly, Hon. Michael Polley, MHA, in London recently.

The CPA and World Trade Organization (WTO) with the assistance of the CPA Antigua and Barbuda Branch are organizing a Regional Workshop for Parliamentarians from the Caribbean, Americas and the Atlantic Region. The Workshop will be in Antigua and Barbuda from 18 to 20 February. The Regional Workshop is jointly funded by the CPA and WTO. The Regional Workshop will focus on four general areas: (1) introduction to the multilateral trading system and selected WTO Agreements; (2) the Doha Development Agenda and process to concluding the round; (3) development issues and issues of particular relevance to the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic region, and (4) the parliamentary dimension.

On queries concerning the programme or administrative arrangements for the Regional Workshop, please contact Mr Shem Baldeosingh, CPA Secretariat at: shem@cpahq.org or Tel: +44 20 7799 1460, Fax: +44 20 7222 6073.

(2) La Trobe Summer School 2009

The CPA is supporting Members and officials from three Pacific Branches to travel in early February to Australia to the 2009 La Trobe Summer School on the work of Public Accounts Committees and Auditors-General. Members and officials from Samoa and Kiribati and officials from Tonga will join other Pacific islanders and participants from Asia and South-East Asia at the PAC Summer School in Melbourne and Beechworth, Victoria. The programme is for PAC Members, the committee's Clerk and a representative from the Auditor-General's office in each participating Parliament. The programme is run by the CPA in partnership with the World Bank Institute, the Centre for Democratic Institutions and La Trobe University's Public Sector Governance and Accountability Research Centre. A similar programme will be run in Accra, Ghana, later in the month for West African Parliaments. The CPA is being represented by Mr Andrew Imlach, the Director of Research and Communications.

(3) Parliamentary Staff Development Workshop for the Africa Region

A Parliamentary Staff Development Workshop for the Africa Region was hosted by the Parliament of Uganda at Munyonyo from 2-4 Febrauary as part of the CPA's core programme of support for parliamentary staff.

Twenty-five participants from national Branches in the region participated in the three-day seminar. The programme included sessions on:

- The importance of Procedural Rules
- The Functions and Needs of Parliamentary Committees, and Organisation and Operational Structure
- Public Participation in the Select Committee Process
- Organisation, leadership and the constitution of parliamentary administration
- Supporting our Parliaments: Strategies for developing staff and capacity building
- Parliamentary staff and Parliament's relations with the Judiciary and the Executive
- Media Coverage of Parliamentary Proceedings
- Raising awareness of parliamentary staff to gender issues

Discussions were led by the Clerk of the Parliament of Uganda, and senior clerks from the host Branch, Parliaments in the Africa region, the Africa Regional Secretariat and the World Bank Institute. The CPA was represented by the Director of Administration and Finance, Mr David Broom.



Above left: The Speaker of the Legislative Assembly in Ontario, Hon. Steve Peters, (left) with the Secretary-General. Top right: The Secretary-General receiving a gift from a senior parliamentary official from Indonesia. Below right: The High Commissioner designate to Tanzania, Ms Diane Corner (fifth from left), paid a visit to the CPA headquarters in January and was briefed by the Secretary-General on the commonwealth parliamentary conference arrangements for the 2009 meeting in Arusha.

Calender of CPA Events 2009

FEBRUARY

2-4	Uganda: Parliamentary Staff Development Workshop for the Africa Region
8-14	Melbourne, and Beechworth Australia: La Trobe PAC Summer School
16-20	Sydney, NSW Australia: CDI Committee Enquiries Course
18-20	Antigua & Barbuda: CPA/WTO Trade Seminar for the Caribbean
22-28	Ghana: CPA/WBI/CPC PAC Summer School for Africa
25-27	Grenada: Post Election Seminar

MARCH

1	New York: Consultation of Commonwealth National Women's Machineries (NWMs)
9	London and in Branches: Commonwealth Day

APRIL

13-18	Bermuda: Mid-Year CPA Executive Committee Meeting

MAY

24-30	Sydney, New South Wales, Australia: Commonwealth Parliamentary Seminar

JUNE

15-19	Guernsey: 40th Conference of the British Islands and Mediterannean Region

SEPTEMBER

21-29	Arusha, Tanzania: 55th CPA Plenary Conference

NOVEMBER

27-29	Port of Spain, Trinidad and Tobago: CHOGM

EVENTS TO BE ANNOUNCED/ TO BE CONFIRMED

TBC	Swaziland: Post Election Seminar (March)
TBC	Maldives: Post Election Seminar (May)
TBC	Maldives: Gender Workshop (May)
TBC	CPA/UNDP Asia, India, SE Asia Regional Benchmarks Workshop
TBC	CPA/WBI Asia/India Financial Scrutiny Workshop
TBC	British Columbia, Victoria, Canada: CPA/WBI Conflict Seminar at Royal Roads
TBC	CPA/UNDP Pacific Regional Benchmarks Workshop

ENDS