PREVIEW

ENHANCING THE EFFECTIVENESS OF PARLIAMENTS:
CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Monday 27 - Thursday 30 October 2008

934th WILTON PARK CONFERENCE

in cooperation with:

Commonwealth Parliamentary Association
Department for International Development
World Bank Institute

*confirmed speakers
MONDAY 27 OCTOBER

1500

INTRODUCTION AND WELCOME TO WILTON PARK

Roger WILLIAMSON
Programme Director, Wilton Park

WELCOME AND BRIEF THEMATIC INTRODUCTION

*Mark ROBINSON
Acting Director of Governance and Social Development Group, Department for International Development (DFID), London
Representative from the World Bank Institute, Washington

1515-1645

1

MAKING PARLIAMENTS EFFECTIVE; THE CURRENT STATE OF PLAY AND FUTURE CHALLENGES

Objective: To set the scene by evaluating the role of Parliaments in different contexts, assess evolving international experience and outline the challenges faced in making Parliaments more effective. Why and how should Parliaments be strengthened? Is there an intrinsic value in strengthening Parliaments, or should it be done to oversee the Executive? Are Parliaments primarily important to allocate resources, to represent the people, to guarantee service delivery and manage public finances? Have donors concentrated too much on supporting executive powers and marginalised Parliaments? Are the key issues technocratic fixes and generic capacity-building or finding suitable incentives and addressing the political economy?

*Joel BARKAN
Professor Emeritus, Department of Political Science, University of Iowa

1645-1730

Tea, coffee and conference photograph

1730-1900

2

DONOR SUPPORT TO PARLIAMENTS: LESSONS LEARNT

Objective: Discuss the lessons learned and best practise on donor support to parliaments, both from the donor and receiving parliament’s perspective. The focus will be on the
effectiveness of donor coordination (including the donor coordination process), monitoring
and evaluations of projects, and country ownership in donor programmes

*Rick STAPENHURST
Senior Public Sector Specialist, Governance Team, World Bank Institute, Washington DC

*Kevin DEVEAUX
Parliamentary Adviser, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), New York

*Alan HUDSON
Overseas Development Institute, London

1915-1945 Drinks Reception
1945 Dinner

TUESDAY 28 OCTOBER

0900-1030 3 COMPARATIVE REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES OF PARLIAMENTARY SUPPORT/REFORM
Objective: Identify what parliamentary strengthening lessons can be transferred from one region to another and highlight examples where transference is not as effective and why.

PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING IN LATIN AMERICA AND EAST AFRICA: SOME SIMILARITIES AND DIFFERENCES
*John JOHNSON
Director of Governance, National Democratic Institute, Washington DC

*Quinton CLEMENTS
Deputy Director, Centre for Democratic Institutions (CDI) – SE Asia and Pacific, Canberra

*Vidar HELGESEN
Secretary- General, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (IDEA), Stockholm (Or Parliamentarian from IDEA Board)

1030-1100 Tea and Coffee

1100-1200 4 STRENGTHENING PARLIAMENTS IN AFRICA
Objective: Discuss significant attempts that have been made to change parliamentary procedures, structures and traditions in Africa, thereby focusing on how and with which programs parliaments are approached. The session will also address what kind of parliamentary reforms have taken place in the continent over the past decade.

*Hugh BAYLEY MP (Chair)
Chair, All Africa Parliamentary Group, Houses of Parliament, London

THE ROLE OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION IN PARLIAMENTARY REFORMS IN AFRICA
*William SHIJA
Secretary General, Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, London

AFRICAN LEGISLATURE PROJECT: INITIAL FINDINGS
*Robert MATTES
Professor, Political Studies and Director, Centre for Social Science Research, University of Cape Town

PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING – CONCLUSIONS OF A NEW STUDY
*Rasheed DRAMAN
Director, Africa Programme, Parliamentary Centre, Ghana
THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN FRAGILE AND CONFLICT AFFECTED STATES

Objective: Discuss why parliaments are important in fragile and conflict-affected countries, what role they can play, and how donors should approach conflict-affected countries differently than they approach more other development settings.

*Mitchell O’BRIEN
Consultant, Parliamentary Strengthening Program, World Bank Institute, Washington DC

PARLIAMENTS IN THE BROADER CONTEXT OF GOVERNANCE/STATE/SOCIETY FRAGILITY
*Marco MEZZERA
Research Fellow, Netherlands Institute of International Relations, Clingendael

PARLIAMENTS AND THE POLITICAL CONTEXT

Objective: Discuss possible ways in which the technical capacity building programmes can be integrated with the political realities of the countries donors are working with. Identify to what extent politics determine the shape of parliamentary strengthening initiatives, and what donors can do to improve understanding of and approaches to politics in the context of parliamentary work.

The session will then, using illustrative case studies, address the political context of Parliaments and assess their role in the political system as a whole. This will look, for example, at models where Parliament and its members are largely treated as managers of executive patronage on behalf of the head of state.

THE POLITICS OF PARLIAMENTARY REFORM
*Greg POWER
Director, Global Partners and Associates Limited, London

Case Study: Pakistan
*Mohammed WASEEM
Professor, Lahore University of Management Studies

Case Studies: Democratic Republic of Congo, Kenya, Sierra Leone
*David LEONARD
Formerly Dean of International and Area Studies at the University of California, Berkeley; Currently Professorial Fellow, Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex

PARLIAMENTS AND PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING – A VIEW FROM THE SOUTH AND TRANSITION COUNTRIES

Speakers to be confirmed

PARALLEL WORKING GROUPS

Central and Latin America and Caribbean
Sub-Saharan Africa
Fragile States
Parliamentary Strengthening Networks and Initiatives

Dinner
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Time</th>
<th>Session Title</th>
<th>Speakers</th>
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| 0900-1030 | FEEDBACK FROM DISCUSSION GROUPS AND PLENARY DISCUSSION OF EMERGING THEMES    | *Médard Mulanga LWakabwanga  
Member of Parliament, Democratic Republic of Congo |
| 1030-1100 | Tea and Coffee                                                               |                                                                          |
| 1100-1230 | THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN POVERTY REDUCTION                                 | *Médard Mulanga LWakabwanga  
Member of Parliament, Democratic Republic of Congo |
| 1230-1415 | Lunch                                                                        |                                                                          |
| 1415-1530 | POLITICAL PARTY STRENGTHENING                                                | *David French  
Chief Executive, Westminster Foundation for Democracy, London  
*Alvaro Pinto Scholtbach  
Netherlands Institute for Multiparty Democracy, The Hague  
*Adam Behrendt  
Department for International Development |
| 1530-1630 | PARLIAMENTARY BENCHMARKS AND INDICATORS                                       | *Scott Hubli  
Senior Adviser, Executive Office, National Democratic Institute, Washington DC  
*Riccardo Pelizzo  
Research Fellow, Centre of Governance and Public Policy at Griffith University, Australia |
| 1630-1700 | Tea and Coffee                                                               |                                                                          |
| 1700-1830 | CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS                                              | *Stefan Kossoff  
Governance Adviser, Middle East and North Africa Department, Department for International Development (DFID), London  
*Rick Stapenhurst  
Senior Public Sector Specialist, Governance Team, World Bank Institute, Washington DC |
| 1930    | Reception drinks                                                             |                                                                          |
| 2000    | Conference Dinner                                                            |                                                                          |
THURSDAY 30 OCTOBER

0730-0915  Breakfast and payment of bills
0915      Participants depart

This is a preview programme and as such may be subject to change.

This conference is open to those with expertise to share or an interest in the theme; our aim is to have a broad spread of nationalities and institutions represented. The contribution to costs, normally £1200, covers all accommodation and meals, attendance at all sessions, and transport from and to Gatwick airport at the beginning and end of the conference. Special rates may be available for those from non-OECD countries, Central, and SE Europe, and also academics and NGO representatives.

Enquiries about participation and local travel to: Caroline Burness-Smith, Conference Administration Manager, Wilton Park, Wiston House, Steyning, West Sussex. BN44 3DZ Telephone: +44 (0)1903 817765 Fax: +44 (0)1903 817162
Email: caroline.burness.smith@wiltonpark.org.uk
Website: http://www.wiltonpark.org.uk

Enquiries about the programme to: Dr Roger Williamson, Programme Director
Wilton Park, Wiston House, Steyning, West Sussex. BN44 3DZ
Telephone: +44 (0)1903 817737 Fax: +44 (0)1903 817162
Email: roger.Williamson@wiltonpark.org.uk