



HOUSES OF PARLIAMENT



CPA UK
ANNUAL REVIEW
2012/2013

INTRODUCTION

Welcome to the Annual Review of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association UK (CPA UK) for the Financial Year 2012/2013.

It has been an extremely busy year. CPA UK has undertaken more projects than ever before in its work on behalf of Parliament and the wider CPA to promote parliamentary democracy and good parliamentary practice across the Commonwealth and beyond. Over the course of FY 2012/2013, CPA UK has engaged with over 1000 Commonwealth Members and Clerks, and over 100 others from the rest of the world.

The majority of CPA UK's activities continue to consist of bilateral international parliamentary outreach, with sustained emphasis on long-term partnerships. CPA UK now has memoranda of understanding or long-term parliamentary partnerships in place with the legislatures of Canada, Ghana, Guyana, India, Pakistan, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia, as well as undertaking more opportune, but nonetheless highly effective, work with a host of other countries.

Mindful of the value in leveraging both funding, resources and expertise, in 2012 CPA UK collaborated with the British Group of the IPU (BGIPU) to plan and deliver CPA UK's annual thematic conference, the International Parliamentary Conference on Gender and Politics. The subject is of central focus to both organisations and is a priority theme for the wider international development community. The programme successfully captured and focused the interest generated by previous conferences as well as by a number of CPA UK programmes run with women parliamentarians.

CPA UK continues to promote discussion, solution-seeking and consensus-building on contemporary issues facing the Commonwealth and the wider international community and which are of interest to both UK and Commonwealth parliamentarians. These range from climate change, women's empowerment, the role civil society and the media play in modern democracy, and health provision to trade relationships and devolution.

Working closely with the CPA Headquarters Secretariat, CPA UK also contributes to the CPA on an international level: supporting CPA's Executive Committee Chairperson Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP and providing the Secretariat for the CPA British Isles and Mediterranean Region.

Plans are well under way for the coming year which promises to be just as industrious and productive.



58TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE – COLOMBO

The UK sent a delegation of ten Members and Peers to the 58th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference hosted by the Parliament of Sri Lanka 8-14 September. The conference was themed ‘Ensuring a relevant Commonwealth for the future.’

Highlights included workshops and plenary sessions discussing a range of topics, including the role of social media in politics, whether the Commonwealth should create the position of the Commissioner for Democracy, the Rule of Law and Human Rights, the role of parliamentarians in peace-building and youth unemployment. It also featured meetings of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians, delegates from the CPA British Isles & Mediterranean Region and the annual conference of the Society of Commonwealth Clerks-at-the-Table (SOCATT).

Several Members of the UK delegation also undertook a Sri Lankan government-organised visit to the north of the island, to learn about progress in implementing the ‘Lessons Learned and Reconciliation’

report. CPA UK and BHC Colombo had hoped to facilitate an independent and unfettered free access field visit, but various administrative difficulties prevented that plan. Despite those difficulties, the overall impressions gained by Members were that: the Sri Lankan government was making progress in reconstruction and redevelopment; more investment was needed to create a viable economy in the north; greater impetus needed to be given to the reconciliation process and to achieve greater mutual respect between the two communities; the Tamil diaspora could play a more positive role in the reconciliation process.

Whilst in the country, CPA Executive Committee Chairperson Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP was invited to deliver the year’s occurrence of the annual Lakshman Kadirgamar Memorial Lecture. Joined by Sri Lankan Minister for External Affairs Hon. Prof. GL Peiris on the panel, he spoke on the subject of ‘A Commonwealth for our Future – the Parliamentary Dimension.’



INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON GENDER AND POLITICS

From 6-8 November 2012 CPA UK collaborated with BGIPU on the delivery of an International Parliamentary Conference on Gender and Politics, 'Representation of Women in Parliament, Politics and Public Life,' to capture and focus the interest generated by previous conferences as well as by a number of programmes run with women parliamentarians.

Bringing together parliamentarians from Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth countries, the programme combined briefings, presentations, plenary discussions, workshops, working groups and fringe events, and explored themes such as representation in both political and economic life, education, attitudes of societies and the media towards women and women's role in development.

The closing keynote plenary focused on the priority theme of the 57th Session of the Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), 'preventing and

eliminating all forms of violence against women and girls.' The panel featured Lynne Featherstone MP, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State for International Development; Rt Hon. Harriet Harman QC MP, Shadow Deputy Prime Minister and Shadow Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport; and Rt Hon. Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC, former Attorney-General. The chair was Rt Hon. Baroness Hayman GBE, former Lord Speaker.

A key priority in planning and executing the conference was to ensure a lasting and credible legacy. Outputs included a detailed and challenging communiqué, recommendations from a working group and an online group hosted by an existing parliamentary development portal to enable continued sharing of information and experiences relating to gender equality in political life. The first issue for online discussion was eliminating violence against women, the 2013 CSW theme.



PARLIAMENTARY SUIT DRIVE IN AID OF DRESS FOR SUCCESS

In the run-up to the 2012 International Parliamentary Conference on Gender & Politics, CPA UK held a 'suit drive' in Parliament to support London-based charity Dress for Success, which helps women on low incomes return to work by providing them with professional clothes to wear to interviews, a consultation with a trained stylist, and personal interview training from a senior executive. Dress for Success works with more than 1,000 women each year, and one of every two clients it works with goes on to secure employment.

As well as filling over 30 boxes with clothing that could help women back into work, kindly donated by parliamentarians

and parliamentary staff, the week-long suit drive culminated in an informative and interactive breakfast briefing hosted by Lord Speaker Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG for parliamentarians with the Chief Executive of Dress for Success and a successful client.



5TH COMMONWEALTH YOUTH PARLIAMENT

CPA UK and the CPA HQ Secretariat this year once again collaborated to host the fifth Commonwealth Youth Parliament (CYP) in Westminster 4-7 December 2012, as part of both organisations' commitment to engaging young people in parliamentary democracy and the Commonwealth. CYP was hosted in London for the second year in succession to mark the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen.

The four-day programme closed with the 55 delegates debating whether education should be universally free to all in the House of Lords Robing Room presided over by the Lord Speaker, Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG. Over the

course of the 5th CYP, Commonwealth Youth Parliamentarians had worked as a model parliament, discussing and debating topics ranging from responses to the global food crisis, legal recognition of same-sex partnerships, reinforcement of parliamentary democracy, and reducing the voting age to 16 to the proposal to create a Commonwealth Treaty Association to serve a similar function to NATO.

In facilitating the 5th CYP, CPA UK received huge support from Members and staff of both Houses of Parliament, for which we extend our thanks.

CPA UK MARKS THE DIAMOND JUBILEE YEAR OF HER MAJESTY THE QUEEN

In order to play its part in observing the Diamond Jubilee year of Her Majesty The Queen, Head of the Commonwealth and Patron of the CPA, and her longstanding and profound commitment to the Commonwealth, CPA UK worked with the Houses of Parliament on two commemorative projects. These landmark occasions brought a flavour of the rich cultural heritages of a number of member states to Westminster, thereby celebrating the 2012 Commonwealth theme, 'Connecting Cultures.'

CREATIVE PEACE MURALS EXHIBITION IN PARLIAMENT

On 14 June 2012, the Arts in Parliament initiative run by both Houses of Parliament to mark the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen and the Cultural Olympiad launched an exhibition of Creative Peace Murals in Westminster Hall.

The murals were an initiative by the Creative Peace Mural Society (CPMS), which promotes international understanding through creation of textile murals that represent local culture. Since 1988, CPMS has worked on eleven textile murals with communities in New Zealand, Northern Ireland, Switzerland, Canada, Uruguay, Ukraine, Coast Salish, Uganda, Japan and China. Each is a local art project which draws upon values and themes important to each community. 2012 saw the creation of a new twelfth piece in Northern Ireland embodying the Olympic and Paralympic values of truce, friendship and respect.

During June, Arts in Parliament brought together the full collection for the first time, and the launch event saw contributions from the Speaker of the House of Commons, the Lord Speaker and the President of CPMS. It also featured a talk from a community worker from Uganda who worked for Restless Development, a youth-led development agency, and who had been brought to the UK by CPA UK for the occasion.



COMMONWEALTH CARNIVAL OF MUSIC

On Monday 2 July 2012, some 400 musicians, singers and dancers from across the Commonwealth performed in Westminster Hall in the Commonwealth Carnival of Music. Taking place to mark the Diamond Jubilee of HM The Queen, and organised by the Llangollen International Musical Eisteddfod with the support of Lord Roberts of Llandudno and CPA UK, the Carnival was a celebration of the year's Commonwealth theme, 'Connecting Cultures' and the long peacebuilding tradition of the Eisteddfod.

Performers included the Commonwealth Youth Orchestra, the Ngāti Rānana Maori Choir who brought the Haka to

Westminster Hall, a Welsh male choir, the Midlands Youth Choir from South Africa, the Watoto Children's Choir from Uganda and choirs from Australia and Canada.

PARLIAMENTARY STRENGTHENING AND PARLIAMENTARY DIPLOMACY

This year, CPA UK has continued to focus the bulk of its activity on international parliamentary outreach, parliamentary strengthening and diplomacy programmes. Where possible, it seeks to put in place long-term parliamentary partnership programmes (PPP) with memoranda of understanding outlining agreed milestones, frameworks for collaboration and deliverables, prioritising these over ad hoc projects in order to ensure the increased continuity, impact and value for money of its work.

TEAM ONE: BRITISH ISLES & MEDITERRANEAN REGION AND OPERATIONS & COMMUNICATIONS

Guernsey

Over the period 16-17 October 2012, CPA UK hosted a programme for newly-elected Members of the States of Guernsey, to serve as an in-depth introduction to the Westminster system examining the minutiae of the work and running of Parliament. The ten Deputies also met with several members of the Channel Islands APPG and the CPA UK Executive Committee.

TEAM TWO: ASIA-PACIFIC & MENA

Australia

On Thursday 19 April 2012 Hon. Bruce Scott MP, Second Deputy Speaker of the Parliament of Australia visited the Houses of Parliament in order to engage with UK parliamentary colleagues on issues of mutual interest. Speaker Michael Polley of the House of Assembly of Tasmania then

visited Parliament for a working lunch on 25 July 2012.

Following this, a delegation of six Members of both Houses of Parliament undertook a parliamentary diplomacy programme in Australia's national and state legislatures 20-24 August 2012. The programme was designed to enable the delegates to understand better the challenges faced by their Australian colleagues, and to learn more about Australian parliamentary views on the Commonwealth, and consisted of a series of meetings with Foreign Affairs Ministers and Shadow Ministers and other senior MPs.

In November CPA UK then hosted the President of the Senate, Hon. John Hogg, and Members of the Australian Parliament for a week-long programme at Westminster, Holyrood and Glasgow. The visit aimed to strengthen diplomatic ties between Australian and UK parliamentarians in gaining a better understanding of the issues faced by both countries, including national security, the

economic situation in Europe, climate change and devolution among others.



Bangladesh

CPA UK's work with the Parliament of Bangladesh has focused on its financial oversight function, with Members of the Bangladesh Parliament's three financial oversight committees, the Public Accounts, Public Undertakings and Estimates Committees, visiting the UK from 16-18 October for a programme examining parliamentary scrutiny of public expenditure. As a follow-up exercise following the UK programme and in collaboration with the World Bank Austin Mitchell MP and Adrian Jenner, Member and Clerk of the UK Public Accounts Committee, visited the Parliament of Bangladesh 25-26 February 2013 to attend a 'lessons learned' meeting at which Members of the Bangladeshi delegation gave a report of their experiences in Westminster to their parliamentary colleagues.

India

From 18-26 August 2012, a cross-party delegation of nine UK Members and peers, led by Executive Committee Chair Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP, visited the Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha as well as travelling to legislatures and civil society projects in Orissa and Andhra Pradesh. They also contributed at a parliamentary seminar at OP Jindal Global University at the beginning of the programme.



In the next stage of CPA UK's long-term partnership programme with India, a cross-party delegation of eight UK Members and Peers, led by Executive Committee member Alun Cairns MP, visited colleagues in India 1-7 April 2013. Whilst there, the delegation spent two days in New Delhi visiting the High Commission, Amity University, Janki Devi Memorial Women's College, Lok Sabha and Rajya Sabha as well as travelling to legislatures and DFID projects in Bihar and Tamil Nadu.

The aim of the ongoing programme is to enable UK Members to understand better the political landscape in India, including the bicameral system, relationships between federal and state legislatures and political parties, and the involvement of the media and CSOs in politics. Other key topics for discussion included economics and trade, poverty reduction strategies and aid, the position of women in society and national security.

Other activities include a roundtable session for Members of the Indian Parliament with UK colleagues on issues of Indo-British interest at the Houses of Parliament on 15 October 2012. The day formed CPA UK's contribution to an FCO-sponsored Chevening IBFP Parliamentarians' Programme, a week-long series of tailor-made programmes focussing on leadership, international relations, public policy and tackling key issues of the 21st century that affect both India and Britain.

The Maldives

On Tuesday 5 March, CPA UK hosted nine Maldivian students aged 16-21 for a one-day programme in Parliament. This visit formed part of a wider study programme organised in a partnership between the British High Commission in Colombo and Democracy House. The programme was aimed at deepening the participants' knowledge and understanding of democracy, youth leadership, social justice and community work.

Pakistan

In 2012, CPA UK and the Parliament of Pakistan initiated a long-term programme focusing on women's empowerment, as a result of ongoing dialogue with the Secretary of the Pakistan Women's Caucus, Hon. Dr Nafisa Shah MNA, who is also Vice Chairperson of the international CPA.

The first phase took place 14-19 May 2012, when CPA UK hosted a delegation of eight women members from the Parliaments of Afghanistan and Pakistan for the first trilateral programme of its kind with UK colleagues, focusing on women's participation in politics, as well as gender diversity and forced marriage. Discussions covered a broad range of subjects, including approaches to legislating against early and forced marriage, mechanisms for increasing representation, and women's role in peacebuilding and conflict prevention.

The next phase in the collaboration, 18-20 February 2013, saw a delegation of women Members led by the Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG, Lord Speaker,



take part in a three-day workshop with Pakistani parliamentary colleagues in Islamabad. Accompanying her was a high-level delegation made up of Baroness Falkner of Margravine, Mary Macleod MP, Shabana Mahmood MP, Baroness Northover, Yasmin Qureshi MP and Rt Hon. Baroness Royall of Blaisdon. Discussions centred on the economic empowerment of women as a pre-requisite for sustainable development.

CPA UK also hosted the Parliamentary Committee on National Security from the Parliament of Pakistan 3-5 July 2012, in a programme organised in collaboration with BHC Islamabad and the Pakistan Institute for Legislative Development and Transparency (PILDAT). The programme was designed to explore issues relating to civil-military relations in Pakistan and the involvement of Parliament and political parties in the formulation of the UK's National Security Strategy.

Papua New Guinea (PNG), the Autonomous Region of Bougainville and the Solomon Islands

From 15-24 February, a delegation of four UK Members visited the Parliament of PNG and several communities in a programme designed to enable them to understand better the challenges faced by their Papua New Guinean colleagues, and to strengthen the bilateral relationship between the UK and PNG. Key areas for discussion included the current political situation in PNG, including the institutional challenges faced by its



Parliament, such as relationships between political parties, women's representation in politics, and the separatist movement in the context of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville.

Whilst in the region and before their arrival in PNG, the delegation undertook a short programme in the Solomon Islands with a related set of objectives. In addition, on 1 August 2012 CPA UK arranged a visit of the Deputy Prime Minister of the Solomon Islands, Hon. Manasseh Maelanga MP, to Parliament.

The Ukraine

Working as part of the Westminster Consortium (TWC), on Wednesday 18 April 2012 CPA UK hosted a delegation of members and officials from the Ukraine Parliament on a study tour to the UK. The day-long programme explored the framework, passage and amendments of freedom of information (FOI) legislation in the UK.

Sri Lanka

On Monday 24 September 2012, CPA UK facilitated an introduction to the UK

Parliament for a group of Sri Lankan young people brought over by the Commonwealth Youth Exchange Council.

A group of newly elected Sri Lankan parliamentarians (under 40 years of age) then visited Westminster on Wednesday 27 February 2013 for a programme designed to explore models of governance and democracy in the UK. The day in Parliament formed part of a wider programme run in collaboration with the Royal Commonwealth Society and International Alert.

United Nations Development Programme Partnership (UNDP)

The UN Millennium Campaign, with support from the Rockefeller Foundation and in partnership with the Asian Forum of Parliamentarians on Population and Development (AFPPD), has run a project entitled 'Engaging Parliamentarians in Efforts to Accelerate the MDG Achievement in Asia and the Pacific.' Through this initiative a series of sub-regional and regional fora have been held for parliamentarians and civil society to discuss the movement towards the post-2015 sustainable development agenda.

CPA UK has worked with the organisers to send UK delegates to participate in sub-regional meetings: the South-East, East & North-East Asia & Pacific Parliamentarians' Forum in Manila, Philippines 20-21 November 2012; and the South, South-West, North & Central Asia Parliamentarians' & Civil Society

Forum in Dhaka, Bangladesh 10-11 December 2012. The project culminated in the Asia-Pacific Parliamentarian and CSO Forum, taking place 25-26 March 2013 in Bali, Indonesia, to coincide with the fourth High Level Panel meeting held 24-27 March 2013 in Bali.

Oxford University Foreign Service Programme

On 22 January 2013, CPA UK hosted a day-long workshop for students on the Oxford University Foreign Service Programme in Parliament. The purpose of the programme was to learn more about the bicameral system, to examine in greater detail the role of the Foreign Affairs Select Committee, and to explore the work of Parliament and parliamentarians in international relations.

TEAM THREE: SOUTHERN AFRICA & EAST AFRICA

Botswana

From 10-11 July 2012, CPA UK hosted a programme examining comparative parliamentary processes for three members of the Ntlo ya Dikgosi (House of Chiefs) of Botswana. Whilst in the UK,



the delegation met with the Lord Speaker, Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG, to explore the workings of the Westminster Parliament, with particular focus given to issues such as bicameralism and House of Lords reform.

Five Members and three Committee staff from the Parliament of Botswana then undertook a programme 15-16 January 2013 designed by CPA UK to increase their capacity in the scrutiny of the executive.

Kenya

As part of a wider programme facilitated by the House of Commons Overseas Offices, on Wednesday 24 October 2012 CPA UK met with the Clerks-designate of both chambers of the Parliament of Kenya. Mr Jeremiah Nyegenye (Clerk of the Senate), Mr Justin Bundi (Clerk of the National Assembly) and Mr Clement Nyandiere (Director General of a Joint Services/Administration Department) were visiting the UK to learn more about the interaction between the House of Lords and House of Commons. Kenya moved to a bicameral system following its recent election in March 2013.

Malawi

The President of the Republic of Malawi, HE Dr Joyce Banda, visited Parliament on 20 March and addressed parliamentarians at an event in the River Room chaired by Rt Hon. Baroness D'Souza CMG. The President gave open and pertinent responses to questions put to her from the floor and reiterated her commitment



to poverty reduction by addressing developmental challenges in Malawi including maternal health, HIV and AIDS and education.

Namibia

As part of a wider programme facilitated by the House of Lords and House of Commons Overseas Offices, on Wednesday 6 March CPA UK organised an afternoon programme for members of the Standing Committee on Security, Constitutional & Legal Affairs from the Namibian National Council (the upper house of the Namibian Parliament).

Rwanda

From 16-20 April 2012, CPA UK hosted a capacity-building programme for a delegation of research staff from the Parliament of Rwanda. The programme gave an overview of research services in the UK Parliament, as well as incorporating practical workshops on developing research skills, producing briefings and managing data.

South Africa

On 19 April 2012, CPA UK coordinated a working lunch for Hon. Lindiwe Mazibuko MNA, the newly-appointed Parliamentary Leader of the Democratic Alliance, the official opposition in the National Assembly of South Africa. Ms Mazibuko visited Westminster to meet and engage with UK parliamentary colleagues.

Tanzania

During the week of 21 January 2013, a small team of CPA UK staff undertook a visit to meet parliamentary officials and other local partners in Tanzania and Zambia to discuss the ongoing bilateral programmes undertaken by CPA UK and the Parliaments of both countries. In Tanzania, as well as meeting parliamentarians and parliamentary officials, the CPA UK team further explored its potential role in the Legislatures Support Project, meeting other contributors including British High Commission and DfID staff, the British Council, VSO, UNDP, UN Women and local civil society organisations.

The visit of a senior delegation of parliamentarians and parliamentary officials representing Tanzania's Parliamentary Services Commission to Westminster 26-27 March 2013 formed the first phase of the longer-term collaboration. The delegation, led by Deputy Speaker Hon. Job Ndugai MP and accompanied by the Clerk of the National Assembly Dr Thomas Kashillah, took part in a series of meetings to discuss the planning and implementation

of a number of new programmes in the Parliament of Tanzania.

Ad hoc work with the Parliament of Tanzania included a short programme for members of the Tanzanian Committee on Constitutional, Legal and Public Administration on 25 October 2012, and a working lunch for visiting Zanzibar clerks forming part of a wider professional development programme run by the House of Commons Overseas Office. The clerks' programme also included Welsh and Canadian representatives.

Uganda

CPA UK began its 2012-13 programme with the Parliament of Uganda when two staff paid a short visit to Kampala (21/22 June) to discuss its parliamentary strengthening partnership programme with Speaker of the Ugandan Parliament, Hon. Rebecca Kadaga MP, and other stakeholders.

The partnership began with CPA UK, the Ugandan Women's Parliamentary Association (UWOPA) and the British High Commission in Kampala collaborating to organise and run an in-country workshop for women parliamentarians, 21-22 September 2012. Further collaboration between UWOPA and CPA UK is envisaged for 2013-14.

Three MPs from the Parliament of Uganda, led by Hon. Godfrey Lubega MP and accompanied by one official, then visited the UK 22-25 October 2012 to discuss the development of agriculture policy in Uganda with UK



parliamentarians and development experts. This was followed by a visit from 27-29 November 2012 of the newly-established Ugandan Parliamentary Human Rights Committee to Westminster for meetings with their UK counterparts and for briefings on the work of parliamentary committees.

Members from Uganda's parliamentary committee on Local Government Accounts were also involved in the trilateral financial scrutiny programme with Members from Trinidad & Tobago 11-12 December 2012. Further details follow in the Trinidad & Tobago section.

Baroness O'Loan then represented CPA UK and the APPG on the Death Penalty at a Roundtable in Uganda on 26 March, speaking on the role of parliaments in the abolition of the death penalty and adherence to international human rights standards in penal policy.

Zambia

On Tuesday 1 May 2012, Hon. Dr Guy Scott, Vice-President of Zambia, gave a talk to MPs and peers in Westminster in a visit coordinated by the Zambia and

Malawi and Agriculture and Food for Development APPGs in collaboration with CPA UK.

On the Zambia leg of its scoping visit in January, the CPA UK team explored potential collaboration with the Zambia Women's Parliamentary Caucus and had useful discussions with parliamentary staff, the British High Commissioner, the Chair of the Zambia Chapter of APNAC, and representatives from DfID, UNDP, the World Bank, Irish Aid and VSO.

Zimbabwe

From 24-25 April 2012 CPA UK facilitated a two-day programme in Parliament for a delegation composed of Zimbabwean professional fellows, who visited Westminster as part of the Commonwealth Professional Fellowship Scheme.

A Member of the Parliament of Zimbabwe attended CPA UK and BGIPU's International Parliamentary Conference on Gender & Politics, and CPA UK continues its efforts to engage with Zimbabwe at parliamentary level both bilaterally and as a member of the Commonwealth Organisations Committee on Zimbabwe.

TEAM FOUR: AMERICAS, CARIBBEAN & WEST AFRICA

Bermuda

The newly-appointed Governor of Bermuda, HE George Fergusson, visited Parliament on 18 April 2012 to meet with parliamentarians with an interest in Bermuda and to discuss issues related to the territory with them.



Canada

From 22-27 April 2012 a cross-party delegation of four MPs and one peer undertook a parliamentary diplomacy programme in Canada with the aim of better understanding the issues faced by their Canadian colleagues, exploring the Canadian political landscape and fostering Canada-UK relations. They also visited two provincial parliaments (Alberta and Quebec) to discuss climate change and devolution.

The issue of devolution was also the subject of the next phase in the bilateral relationship, when a group of five Canadian MPs and Senators visited Westminster and Holyrood 21-24 January 2013 to explore gain an in-depth understanding of the Edinburgh Agreement. Other key areas for discussion included trade and investment and the financial crisis in Europe.

The Speaker of the National Assembly of Quebec, Hon. Jacques Chagnon MNA, then visited the Parliament of Westminster 28 February-1 March 2013. Speaker Chagnon visited the UK to further his links with his UK counterparts and colleagues and to explore their formal roles.



Cameroon

On Tuesday 26 June 2012, CPA UK hosted a programme for the Finance and Budget Committee of the National Assembly of Cameroon to explore the roles of the Treasury and Public Accounts Committees.

Ghana

In May 2012 CPA UK formally agreed its long-term programme with the Speaker of the Parliament of Ghana. As a result, the training programme for Sierra Leonean clerks in September 2012 was expanded to include Ghanaian staff for the first time.

On 30 October CPA UK hosted a networking lunch for the Ghanaian Committee on Members Holding Office of Profit, including its Chair.

Continuing its bilateral activities CPA UK sent a small team from Westminster, two Members and a clerk, to the Parliament of Ghana 2-4 February to undertake a post-election seminar in-country for Members of the newly-elected 6th Parliament. Diane Abbott MP, Andrew Stephenson MP and Eve Samson led several sessions for approximately 150 Ghanaian Members of Parliament in this lively and professional induction programme.



CPA UK's Director then undertook a scoping visit in Accra 27-28 February 2013 to develop further the bilateral partnership. Future work-streams to build the capacity of the new (80% turn-over of) MPs and officials were identified and discussed in meetings with Members, clerks and local partners, including BHC Accra, DFID, the British Council, VSO, the Parliamentary Centre and NGOs, CARE and STAR.

Guyana

In May 2012, CPA UK formally established a long-term partnership programme with the Speaker of the Parliament of Guyana. Three months later a MOU was agreed with UNDP, providing a framework for collaboration and cost-sharing.

As the first milestone, CPA UK partnered with UNDP and CPA Canada to send a team of five speakers to Guyana to conduct a post-election training seminar for over 55 newly-elected members of the Parliament of Guyana, 20-22 May 2012.

In October, over the course of a two-week attachment with Hansard in Westminster, the Chief Editor and Senior Editor of Hansard Guyana undertook a programme exploring the production



of parliamentary records in the UK. It was subsequently agreed to develop this training element further, with the next Hansard programme planned for spring 2013 in Georgetown.

From 29 October-2 November 2012, the Speaker of the National Assembly of Guyana visited Westminster and the Scottish Parliament accompanied by a high-level delegation in a programme arranged by CPA UK working in partnership with the British High Commission Georgetown. As the primary focus was Minority Governance, the programme included a comparative study of other Commonwealth legislatures and governments including Canada's previous minority governments and New Zealand's experience of multi-party coalitions, in addition to the current Scottish Parliament.

Then, from 12-16 November 2012, UNDP and CPA UK conducted a joint assessment of the Guyana National Assembly's committee system. Dr David Ponet (UNICEF) and Dr Robin James (House of Commons) evaluated the committee system in Georgetown, including its structure, composition and function.

Nigeria

On 19 November CPA UK arranged a networking lunch for the Committee on Public Service Matters.

Sierra Leone

Working in partnership with the House of Commons Overseas Office and Voluntary Services Overseas (VSO), CPA UK sent two clerks, Eve Samson and Jessica Mulley, to run an in-country training programme for over 20 staff of the Parliament of Sierra Leone 12-13 April 2012. The seminar was a follow-up course to the first-level programme run in Westminster in September 2011

The next milestone in the partnership programme took place when CPA UK, in partnership with the British High Commissions in Accra and Freetown and the Westminster Foundation for Democracy, hosted the second phase in its interactive training programme for Clerks from the Parliament of Sierra Leone, who were joined by Ghanaian colleagues, from 3-7 September 2012 in Westminster.



In the latest activity in this programme, Rt Hon. David Hanson MP, Greg Hands MP and Eve Samson, Clerk of the Committees on Standards & on Privileges, visited Sierra Leone to conduct a post-election seminar on 25 February 2013 for some 70 newly-elected Members and staff following the country's recent elections.

Trinidad & Tobago

CPA UK conducted a two-day programme for twelve parliamentarians from Trinidad and Tobago and Uganda, to discuss parliamentary oversight of public accounts. The two delegations included members of the Trinidad & Tobago Public Accounts Committee and Public Accounts (Enterprises) Committee, and members from the Uganda Local Government Accounts Committee. The programme focussed on the work of the Public Accounts Committee and aimed to strengthen and support the work of members of the Committees represented in scrutinising government spending.

Following this, on 4 February 2013, ten Members, including four Ministers, and two Clerks visited Westminster as part of a study tour in the UK exploring the committee system. In addition to the UK Parliament at Westminster, delegates visited the Senedd in Wales and the Oireachtas in Ireland.

UK PARLIAMENTARY ACTIVITIES

CPA UK LECTURE SERIES

CPA UK's lecture series was launched in 2011 as a forum in which to highlight important issues affecting the Commonwealth and wider international community to MPs, Peers, parliamentary staff, and civil society and to facilitate discussion. Over the subsequent two years, the monthly lectures have attracted wider audiences and tackled increasingly challenging subjects, with each panel featuring contrasting perspectives on the issues of the day from parliamentarians, government departments, academia, and civil society.

During 2012/2013, the lecture series took in the following topics:

- 'The Crown and the Commonwealth: An Emblem of Dominion or a Symbol of Free and Voluntary Association?' – 18 April 2012
- 'Connecting Cultures: Are the Commonwealth's Shared Values "Common" Enough for Survival?' – 22 May 2012



- 'Realising Rights: The Role of Parliamentarians in Tackling Forced Marriage' – 26 June 2012
- 'Sport, Peace & Development' – 11 July 2012
- 'Strings Attached: Human Rights as a Condition for Aid' – 5 September 2012
- 'Did You See Her Shoes?! Media Perceptions of Women in Public Life' – 24 October 2012
- 'Enfranchising the Future: Should the Voting Age Be Lowered to 16?' – 21 November 2012
- 'Rwanda: The Fall of an "Aid Darling"?' – 6 February 2013
- 'A Reality Check for Global Development Goals: Papua New Guinea – A Case Study' – 13 February 2013

PARLIAMENTARY BRIEFINGS

As well as its regular lecture series, CPA UK has held a number of ad hoc events both specifically for MPs, Peers and more generally for parliamentary staff. These events are distinct from the lecture series, often featuring high-profile speakers, arranged in response to specific developments, and/or held in partnership with other organisations as a means of sharing knowledge, and are more targeted and 'round-table' in format.

- CPA UK & Commonwealth APPG briefing on the Commonwealth Charter with Rt Hon. Hugo Swire MP, Minister for the Commonwealth – 27 November 2012

- CPA UK & Commonwealth
APPG briefing on the Foreign
Affairs Committee Report on the
Commonwealth with Rt Hon. Richard
Ottaway MP, Chair of the FAC
– 24 January 2013
- 'Oil and Politics in Uganda'
– 11 February 2013
- Roundtable for UK parliamentarians
and civil society women's rights
activists from Africa and Asia, in
collaboration with Womankind
Worldwide – 13 February 2013
- Roundtable with Senator Hugh
Segal, Canada's Special Envoy for the
Commonwealth – 12 March 2013
- De-Brief with Lynne Featherstone MP,
Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State
for International Development, on the
57th Session of the Commission on the
Status of Women – 25 March 2013

NETWORKING EVENTS

CPA UK has also organised several networking events for parliamentarians to meet with stakeholders and colleagues with mutual interests. These include:

- Meeting with British Heads of Mission
to Commonwealth countries
– 3 May 2012
- Gathering with Commonwealth High
Commissioners to mark the State
Opening of Parliament – 9 May 2012
- Gathering to mark CPA UK's
Memorandum of Understanding
with Volunteer Services Overseas
– 5 February 2013

SUPPORTING THE WIDER COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY ASSOCIATION

CHAIRPERSON OF THE CPA INTERNATIONAL EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Along with the CPA HQ Secretariat, CPA UK continues to provide support for Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP in his role as Chairperson of the CPA International Executive Committee as well as UK Chair. Since his election in 2011, CPA UK has employed an International Relations Officer to support Sir Alan's and the CPA HQ's work during his term as Chairperson. In January 2013, Matthew Salik handed over to Charlotte Restorick.

In his capacity as Chairperson, Sir Alan has attended the following meetings of the International Executive Committee and Regional Conferences during FY 2012-2013:

- Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting, Nuku'alofa, Tonga – 16-20 April 2012
- 43rd CPA Africa Region Annual Conference, Gauteng, South Africa – 2-3 July 2012
- CPA Canada Region Annual Conference, Quebec, Canada – 17-21 July 2012
- 58th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, Colombo, Sri Lanka – 7-14 September 2012
- Mid-Year Executive Committee Meeting, George Town, Cayman Islands – 18-21 March 2013

BRITISH ISLANDS & MEDITERRANEAN REGION

CPA UK was represented at the British Isles & Mediterranean Annual Conference, this year taking place in Edinburgh 12-15 June 2012, by a delegation composed of Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods MP (delegation leader), Thomas Docherty MP and Mark Lazarowicz MP. Themed 'Making Parliaments Relevant', the conference explored the changing role of parliaments in the 21st century, and included the BIMR AGM.

The 2013 BIMR Annual Conference was hosted by the Falkland Islands Legislative Assembly 11-14 February 2013, to which CPA UK sent a small delegation. The conference was entitled 'self-determination and its role in self-governance and devolution,' and a session looking at the different advantages and consequences of self-determination of small island states featured Rt Hon. Baroness Scotland of Asthal QC.



CPA BIMR also sent representatives, including two UK Members, to take part in an election observer mission (EOM) to the Turks & Caicos Islands election of 9 November 2012. The observation was carried out jointly with the Association of Caribbean Electoral Organisations.

**Commonwealth Women
Parliamentarians (CWP).**

Recent elections within BIMR saw Patricia Ferguson MSP appointed to the role of regional representative to the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians Executive Committee. Within its role of providing the CPA BIMR Secretariat, CPA UK will now provide support for the BIMR CWP. A new BIMR CWP Steering Committee has been formed by Members from the remaining branches within the region. CWP BIMR's focus will follow that of the wider work of CWP, working with women across the region to increase global representation of women in parliaments and politics and connecting women through the Commonwealth network.

FORTHCOMING ACTIVITIES – FINANCIAL YEAR 2013-2014

INTERNATIONAL PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE ON THE POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT FRAMEWORK

Building on its well-received International Parliamentary Conference on the Millennium Development Goals (November 2011), in November 2013 CPA UK will host a conference on the post-2015 international development framework and the ways in which parliamentarians can become more engaged in its realisation.

It is anticipated that CPA UK will partner with UK, Commonwealth and international NGOs in its organisation to leverage expertise and to facilitate wider discussion. Further details of this conference will become available in due course.

62ND WESTMINSTER SEMINAR ON PARLIAMENTARY PRACTICE & PROCEDURE AND 3RD WESTMINSTER WORKSHOP: THE PUBLIC ACCOUNTS COMMITTEE

This year, CPA UK will host the 62nd annual Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice and Procedure and 3rd Westminster Workshop, once again focusing on the Public Accounts Committee, from 17-21 and 24-27 June respectively.

Launched in 1952, the Seminar has long been a fixture of CPA's calendar, and is a hugely popular event with both parliamentarians and clerks. It is aimed at newly-elected Members and mid-career clerks, and takes the Westminster Parliament model as the focus of discussions in a detailed course designed to enhance the capacity of delegates to work more effectively in their legislatures.

This year's Workshop on the Public Accounts Committee will bring PAC Chairs, Members, Clerks and regional representatives from Supreme Audit Institutions to Westminster to explore key features of an effective PAC. This year's programme will have a particular focus on issues surrounding PACs in small legislatures.

As the Westminster Seminar Project has been moved to June in 2013 rather than taking place in March as has been the case in the past, none occurred during FY 2012-13. The move evened out workloads within the CPA UK Secretariat and avoided the inconvenience of the Christmas and New Year break occurring at a crucial time in the planning process, which will enable the Westminster Seminar Project and the November conference to be delivered to an even higher standard. Already the move of dates has proved its value; 90 delegates will attend each week's programme compared with 60 in the recent past.

PRESIDENTS

Rt Hon. the Baroness D'Souza CMG,
Lord Speaker

Rt Hon. John Bercow MP, Speaker of
the House of Commons

CHAIR OF THE BRANCH

Rt Hon. David Cameron MP,
Prime Minister

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Rt Hon. Kevin Barron MP (Hon. Treasurer)

Mr Hugh Bayley MP

Dr Roberta Blackman-Woods MP
(Regional Representative)

Rt Hon. Baroness Boothroyd OM

Rt Hon. Sir Malcolm Bruce MP

Mr Alun Cairns MP

Mr Thomas Docherty MP

Rt Hon. Lord Dholakia OBE DL

Rt Hon. Lord Foulkes of Cumnock

Rt Hon. David Hanson MP

Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP (Chair)

Rt Hon. Baroness Hooper CMG

Rt Hon. Baroness Hughes of Stretford

Mrs Pauline Latham OBE MP

Mr Ian Liddell-Grainger MP

Rt Hon. Professor Lord McColl
of Dulwich CBE

Miss Anne McIntosh MP

Mr John Robertson MP

Mr Andrew Rosindell MP

Mr Craig Whittaker MP

CPA UK STAFF

Director, Commonwealth & International
Relations & Secretary:

Mr Andrew Tuggey DL

Deputy Director, Commonwealth
& International Relations:

Miss Helen Haywood

Assistant Directors, Commonwealth &
International Relations:

Miss Hatty Cooper, Miss Ann Hodgkinson,
Mrs Susan Holmes, Miss Kirsty Jackson

Assistant Director, Finance, Administration
& Human Resources:

Mrs Edith David

Operations & Communications Manager:
Miss Victoria Bower

Senior International Relations Officers:

Miss Claire Bowman (until January 2013),
Ms Rachael Cox, Miss Morna Richards, Mr
Matthew Salik

International Relations Officers:

Ms Mariam El-Azm, Miss Charlotte
Restorick, Miss Elisa Cattaneo (from
January 2013)

Communications Officer: Ms Julia Beck

Finance & Administration Assistant:
Mrs Rita Patel

Conference Assistants:

Ms Ieva Indriunaite (from February 2013),
Mr George James (until November 2012),
Ms Fiona Richards (until December 2012)

HR Adviser: Ms Alison Macdonald

FINANCIAL REVIEW

CPA UK expects an annual grant-in-aid payment of £1,948,000 from the Houses of Parliament (70% Commons / 30% Lords). Since April 2011, the Executive Committee has supported HMG's and Parliament's savings agenda by opting for a 10% reduction in the annual grant. Furthermore, 25% of the annual grant-in-aid payment for the year ending 2013 was sacrificed to allow for drawdown from the reserves. The impact has been a year-end overspend (deficit) of £169,318.

Reserves Policy.

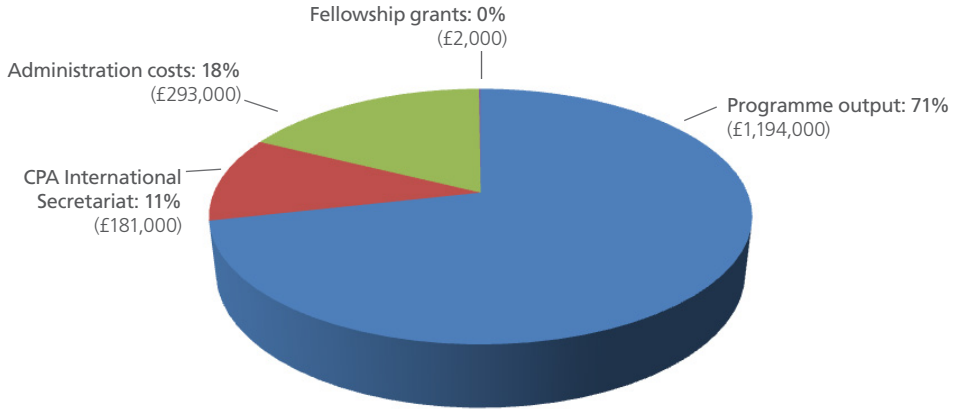
CPA UK's reserves policy is that no more than one quarter of the annual funding will be retained as reserves at any one time. As at 31 March 2013 CPA UK's reserves stood at £687,501, down by £169,318 from 31 March 2012. CPA UK continues to work in year to reduce reserves to the correct level.

CPA UK Fellowship Scheme.

On 19 April 2000 the Executive Committee designated a stand-alone fund of non-public money, originally raised by sponsorship for the 1986 CPC in London, as the CPA UK Fellowship Scheme. The purpose of the Fellowship Scheme is to assist CPA UK Members to visit Commonwealth countries to study specific topics as approved by the Executive Committee and adds value to CPA UK's work. As at 31 March 2013 the designated Fellowship Scheme funds have been reduced to £113,981 by in-year grants of £1,920 awarded to one MP to participate in a PAC Workshop in Sierra Leone. The in-year take-up has been disappointing. However, several embryo bids were delayed to FY2013/14.

OPERATIONAL EXPENSES

EXPENDITURE OF THE ASSOCIATION FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 2013



Programme output 71%. The programme output is a reflection of CPA UK's activities. Support costs have been allocated to the programmes of activities on the basis of staff time and in accordance with the Charities Statement of Recommended Practice.(SORP)

Administration costs 18%. Administration costs includes governance and the cost of a staff member to render support to the Chairperson of the CPA International Executive Committee, Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP.

SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

Statement of financial activities for the year ended 31 March 2013.

INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

	Unrestricted Funds (£)	Designated Funds (£)	Total 2013 (£)	Total 2012 (£)
Incoming resources from generated funds				
Investment income	891	-	891	1,575
Incoming resources from charitable activities	1,495,576	-	1,495,576	2,101,803
Total incoming resources	1,496,467	-	1,496,467	2,103,378
Resources expended				
Charitable activities				
Membership subscriptions	181,323		181,323	178,135
Fellowship Scheme grants awarded	-	1,920	1,920	20,972
Mainstream programme activities	761,714	-	761,714	884,869
Parliamentary partnership programmes	712,248	-	712,248	329,523
Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference 2011	-	-	-	752,151
Total charitable expenditure	1,655,285	1,920	1,657,205	2,165,650
Governance costs	10,500	-	10,500	13,320
Total resources expended	1,665,785	1,920	1,667,705	2,178,970
Net expenditure for the year/ movement in funds	(169,318)	(1,920)	(171,238)	(75,592)
Fund balances at 1 April 2012	856,819	115,901	972,720	1,048,312
Fund balances at 1 March 2012	687,501	113,981	801,482	972,720

The statement of financial activities also complies with the requirements for an income and expenditure account under the companies Act 2006.

BALANCE SHEET AT 31 MARCH 2013

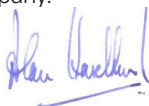
	2013	2012
	£	£
Fixed assets		-
Tangible assets	7,669	9,427
Current assets		
Stocks	4,500	3,732
Debtors	174,568	184,698
Cash at bank and in hand	701,405	1,010,825
	880,473	1,199,255
Creditors		
Amount falling due within one year	(86,660)	(235,962)
Net current assets	793,813	963,293
Total assets less current liabilities	801,482	972,720
Income funds		
Designated funds- Fellowship Funds	113,981	115,901
Unrestricted funds	687,501	856,819
	801,482	972,720

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE'S STATEMENT TO THE SUMMARISED FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

These summarised financial statements contain information from both the Statements of Financial Activities and the Balance Sheet for the year ended 31 March 2013, but they are not the full statutory report and accounts.

The full financial statements were approved by the Finance Audit and Remuneration Committee on Monday 20 May 2013 and recommended to the Executive Committee of the CPA UK Branch; also the Directors of the Company and Trustees of the Charity. The accounts will be submitted to the Charity Commission and to Companies' House. Copies of the full accounts with notes may be obtained from www.parliament.uk/cpauk

The full CPA UK Branch accounts received an unqualified audit report by HW Fisher & Company.



Rt Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst MP
Chairman



Rt Hon. Kevin Barron MP
Honorary Treasurer

PLANS FOR THE FUTURE

CPA UK continues to look to the future. It is organised to deliver its mission and international parliamentary outreach on behalf of Parliament and the wider CPA in an effective and efficient manner. CPA UK has five internal teams; an operational & communications team which also is responsible for all CPA international and regional work, three global regional teams and a finance, HR and administration team. It is a flexible organisational structure designed to enable CPA UK to deliver: parliamentary strengthening work within its 2-3 year parliamentary partnership programmes with other parliaments and organisations; more formal bilateral exchange programmes; and our trademark international parliamentary conferences, seminars and workshops. All programmes and events are underpinned by an effective communications strategy and have a continuing focus on the important continuum of parliament diplomacy.

As is clear from the outline output figures for the reporting period, Parliaments throughout the Commonwealth and around the world look to Westminster for help, advice and guidance in increasing numbers. CPA UK will continue to focus on the extremely important and ever-growing demand-driven work of parliamentary partnership programmes. To achieve the successful delivery of parliamentary strengthening, CPA UK recognises the imperative for Parliament's international outreach work to be coordinated. CPA UK will continue to work with others to ensure intra-Parliament coordination and communication. CPA UK has Memoranda of Understanding defining partnerships with UNDP regional offices, VSO and IIED and seeks further collaboration with government departments and NGOs in UK and abroad. In the last financial year CPA UK leveraged some £143,675 from government departments, parliamentary partners and other international organisations in its quest to deliver more in addition to its budget.

In June 2013 CPA UK will deliver the 62nd benchmark Westminster Seminar on Parliamentary Practice & Procedure followed directly by the 3rd of the Westminster Workshop Series and in November 2013 we shall deliver the annual International Parliamentary Conference which this year will focus on the role and importance of parliamentarians in the post-MDG development framework. The CPA UK will also attend the annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Johannesburg in August / September 2013.

The CPA UK Fellowship fund adds value to CPA UK's work by providing financial assistance for Members to undertake study projects abroad. Up to £40,000 per annum is available, but the take-up has been disappointing. Happily there is more movement for FY 2013/2014 and further details about the scheme are available on the website.

CPA UK's work is extremely important. It contributes to building strong parliamentary democracy, which underpins peace, stability and prosperity. It is work which is of great relevance to Members and officials of both Houses and which contributes to the soft power of the UK. By continuing to build on the success of its programmes and by enhancing its communications in Parliament and beyond, CPA UK plans to increase further the quality and number of its programmes and broaden its human resource base by involving a greater number of Westminster MPs, Peers and officials.

