THEME: “Enhancing Democracy through the Use of the Parliamentary System and the Media.”

Basseterre, St. Kitts & Nevis | 16 - 24 June 2017
WELCOME

THE ST. CHRISTOPHER AND NEVIS BRANCH
OF THE COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY
ASSOCIATION (CPA)

St. Christopher and Nevis Branch wishes to extend a very
warm welcome to all Delegates, Women Parliamentarians,
Secretaries, Youth Parliamentarians and Observers to
the 42nd Regional Conference of the Caribbean, the
Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth
Parliamentary Association, being held in Basseterre, St.
Christopher from 16th to the 24th June 2017. The theme
of Conference 42 is, “Enhancing Democracy through the
Use of the Parliamentary System and the Media.”

CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

Conference Chairman
Hon. A. Michael Perkins,
Speaker of the National Assembly

Deputy Speaker
Hon. Senator Akilah Byron-Nisbett

Conference Coordinator
Ms. Sonia Boddie, Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly

Clerk - Jose Lloyd

Regional Youth Parliament Coordinator
Mr. Azard Gumbs

Superintendent Cromwell Henry
Mr. Lesroy Williams
Mr. Nigel Williams
Mr. Michael Penny
Ms. Shara Maynard
Ms. Amicia Mussenden
Mr. Theodore Brown
Mr. Duran Williams
Founded in 1911, the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is an organisation made up of parliamentarians from Commonwealth Legislatures. The organization works to promote the ideals of democracy in its member Parliaments and among member parliamentarians and electors. It does so by enhancing knowledge and understanding of democratic governance.

The CPA is headquartered in London, United Kingdom and the Secretariat is headed by a Secretary General who implements the policies of the Executive Committee, the body that is responsible for the control and management of the business of the Association. The General Assembly which meets at least twice annually is the Association’s supreme authority.

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association is divided into nine Commonwealth geographic regions: Africa, Asia, Australia, British Islands and Mediterranean, Canada, India, Pacific, South-East Asia and the Caribbean, America and Atlantic.

The CPA promotes its demographic deepening objectives through the holding of:

- Annual Commonwealth Parliamentary Conferences
- Regional Conferences
- Parliamentary Seminars and workshops
- Parliamentary Symposiums
- Parliamentary Publications
- Interparliamentary Visits
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Dear Delegates,

The St. Christopher & Nevis Branch of the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Region (CAAR) of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA), is delighted to host this 42nd Regional Conference. The tremendous, and at times seemingly overwhelming efforts that it has taken us to get to this point, reminded me of the very pointed quotation by the famous, retired 4-star General of the US Army, Colin Luther Powell: “There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work and learning from failures.”

As you are aware, the theme for the Conference is “Enhancing Democracy through the Use of the Parliamentary System and the Media.” This theme was crafted in light of the fact that a lot more still needs to be done to advance our democratic capacities and rights. I hold the view that such can only be achieved through greater communication, cooperation and honesty in our discussions. And, I further accept that we need the help of the Media to do so.

As a vital umbrella body, our Regional CPA Branch, is, or should be, ideally poised to forge the links that would make the above stated objectives possible. I say “should be” because it is well-known that the functioning of most of our individual branches is just not at the level that it should be. It is my wish therefore, that this Conference, by bringing Parliamentarians together from across our Region, and further afield, would resolve - once again – to do whatever is necessary to improve the relationship between Parliamentarians, which inextricably would impact upon the quality of our Democracy.

We meet this year in a forum that is blessed with the natural Caribbean charms of sun, sea, scenery and our own peculiar styles. The Caribs called these isles Liamiuiga – fertile land for St. Kitts, and Oualie – land of beautiful waters – for Nevis. I anticipate that this idyllic setting would therefore yield equally fertile discussions and collaboration as we seek to deal with our challenges, emphasise our strengths, and realise an enhanced DEMOCRACY!

The Hon. A Michael Perkins
Speaker of the National Assembly
Conference Chairman
CPA BRANCHES
AND DELEGATES/OBSERVERS

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (Bicameral)
Hon. Sir Gerald Watt, QC, Speaker/Delegate
Hon. Joanne M. Massiah, MP, CWP/Delegate
Hon. Alincia Williams-Grant, CWP/Delegate
Mrs. Ramona Small, Clerk/Branch Secretary

CAYMAN ISLANDS (Unicameral)
Hon. Bernie Bush, Speaker/Delegate
Hon. W. McKeeva Bush, -Speaker/Plenary
Ms. Barbara Conolly, Plenary
Mr. Kenneth Bryan, Plenary
Hon. Juliana O’Connor Connolly, JP, Plenary

BARBADOS (Bicameral)
Hon. Michael Carrington, Speaker, QC, MP
Hon. Kerryan Ifill, Assistive Technology Consultant
Hon. Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic, Plenary
Mr. Pedro Eastmond, Plenary

DOMINICA (Unicameral)
Hon. Alik Boyd Knight, Speaker/Plenary
Mr. Daniel James, Clerk/Branch Secretary

BERMUDA (Bicameral)
Hon. Randolph Horton, Speaker/Plenary
Hon. Kim Wilkerson, JP
Mrs. Shernette Wolfe, Plenary

GUYANA (Unicameral)
Ms. Keshanna Murledhar, Plenary
Hon. Pauline Campbell Sukhai, MP
Hon. Annette Ferguson, M.P.

BRITISH ISLES
Ms. Kristina Moore, Observer
Mr. Kenneth Gibson, Observer

JAMAICA (Bicameral)
Hon. Pernel Charles, Speaker/Plenary
Mrs. Heather Cooke, Regional Branch Secretary
Hon Dwayne Vaz, Plenary
Ms. Kerensia Morrison, Senate/Plenary

BRITISH VIRGIN ISLANDS
Hon. Ingrid A. Moses-Scatcliffe, Speaker/Plenary
Hon. Alvera Maduro-Caines, Plenary
Hon. Melvin Turnbull, Plenary
Hon. Marlon Penn, Observer
Ms. Lorna Choucoutou, Observer

MONTSERRAT (Unicameral)
Hon. Juliana O’Connor Connolly, JP, Plenary

CANEROON
Hon. Emilia Lifaka Monjowa, Delegate/Observer

REPUBLIC OF TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
Hon. Nigel De Freitas, Plenary
Hon. Glenda Jennings-Smith, Plenary
Hon. Vidia Gayadeen-Gopeesingh, Plenary
Hon. Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir, Plenary
Hon. Nigel DeFreitas, Plenary
Mr. Julien Ogilvie, Plenary
Ms. Sharon Combie, Observer
Ms. Sophia Cooper, Observer

CANADA
Hon. Nils Clarke, Speaker/Observer
TURKS & CAICOS ISLANDS
Hon. Derek Taylor, Plenary
Hon. Dwayne Taylor, Plenary
Mrs. Tracy I. Parker, Plenary

ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
Hon. Anthony Michael Perkins, Speaker
Hon Shawn Richards, Plenary
Hon. Lindsay Grant, Minister of Government
Hon. Sen. Wendy Phipps, Plenary
Hon. Sen. Akilah Byron-Nisbett, Plenary
Rt. Hon. Dr Denzil Douglas, Plenary
Hon Marcella Liburd, Plenary
Hon Patrice Nisbett, Plenary
Hon. Konris Maynard, Plenary
Hon. Nigel Carty, Plenary
Ms. Sonia Boddie

NEVIS ISLAND
Hon. Farrel Smithen, President of the Nevis Island Assembly
Hon. Vance Amory, Plenary
Hon. Hazel Brandy-Williams, Plenary/CWP
Ms. Myra Williams

BARBADOS
Ms. Danika Griffin
Mr. Ade O’Neal
Ms. Deborah Thornhill
Mr. Dia Parris

CAYMAN
Ms. Bianca Meghoo
Mrs. Debra Braderick-Chaperone
Mr. Richard Weber

ST. CHRISTOPHER & NEVIS
Mr. Ackeem Alexander
Mr. Azard Gumbs
Ms. Azuree Liburd
Mr. Christian Nathaniel
Mr. Dennis McCall
Ms. Shajunee Gumbs
Ms. Sonia Boddie
Ms. Tarique Hercules

NEVIS ISLAND
Ms. Britney Simmonds
Ms. Celesthal Hanley
Ms. Delecia Burke
Mr. Devonne Cornelius
Ms. Jvanti Liburd-Chaperone
Ms. Lauren Lawrence
Ms. Lekaih Lescott
Ms. Tamu Reid -Chaperone

YOUTH PARLIAMENTARIANS
Ms. Ikayla Ceaser
Mr. Kamarlie Mannix
Ms. Russshell Ellis

ANTIGUA AND BARBUDA (Bicameral)
Noor-ud-Din Mohammed
Vivian Wall

TRINIDAD & TOBAGO
Ms. Ajai Peets
Yasser Baia
BIOGRAPHICAL PROFILES OF DElegates

ANTIGUA & BARBUDA

HON. JOANNE M. MASSIAH
CWP

HON. SIR. GERALD WATT, QC
Speaker - Plenary

HON. SIR GERALD WATT, QC
Speaker, Delegate

Career: Sir Gerald Watt joined the Antigua Civil Service and worked as a Junior Clerk at the Electricity Department (1958 to 1960). Four years later, he joined the Honourable Society of the Middle Temple London, England, and was called to the Utter Bar on 24 November 1964. He was called to the Antiguan Bar on 7 January 1965 and entered private practice (1965 to 1979). During this time, Sir Gerald Watt served in Parliament of Antigua as an appointed Senator. He was next elected to the House of Representatives and served (1971 to 1975). During this 4-year period, he was appointed Minister of Public Utilities and Communication (1971 to 1973), and Attorney General and Minister of Legal Affairs & Labour (1974 to 1975). In 1976, Sir Gerald Watt returned to private practice. He was elected President of the Antigua and Barbuda Bar Association in 1983 - 1986, appointed as one of Her Majesty’s Counsel on 19 November 1997, and was called to the Inner Bar on 19 December 1997. On 1 October 2005 he was appointed Chairman of the Antigua and Barbuda Electoral Commission (ABEC). Today, Sir Gerald Watt maintains his appointment as Chairman and continues in private practice.

EDUCATION:
University of the West Indies, Monroe College, Cumbria University

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:
AS, BA, MA

CAREER:
Clerk to Parliament

MRS. RAMONA SMALL

HON. ALINCIA WILLIAMS GRANT
CWP

HON. SEN. ALINCIA WILLIAMS GRANT
CWP

EDUCATION: Hugh Wooding Law School, University of Wolverhampton

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Bachelor of Laws (LL.B) Law, LEC

CAREER: Current - President of Senate, Attorney at Law and Notary Public
Former - Director of Antigua Commercial Bank
HON. MICHAEL CARRINGTON, QC, MP
**Speaker**


**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** L.E.C., LL.B., BA


HON. LT. COL. JEFFREY BOSTIC
**SPEAKER - Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** BA (Hons) Caribbean & Latin American Studies – UWI

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Diploma in Hemispheric Security - Inter American Defence College [USA]

**CAREER:** Barbados Defence Force (Ret'd) - Commanding Officer, Barbados Regiment, Regional Security System(RSS)-Director Operations & Training, Patriot Security Services Limited-Managing Director (Present), Guardsman (Barbados) Limited – General Manager

HON. KERRYAN IFILL
**Senate President - Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of the West Indies

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** MBA, BSc

**CAREER:** Assistive Technology Consultant

MR. PEDRO EASTMOND
**CAREER:** Immigration Officer, Crown Counsel, Deputy Clerk of Parliament, Clerk of Parliament.
BERMUDA

HON. RANDOLPH HORTON JP, MP
Speaker - Plenary

EDUCATION: BA in Economics – Rutgers University N.J (1972)
Teachers Certificate – Culham College Oxfordshire (1996)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Certificate for Executive Leadership – Cornell University 2011

CAREER: Elected in Hamilton West Constituency (1998),
Minister of Community Affairs & Sport (2000-2003),
Elected in Southampton West (2003),
Minister of Labor, Home Affairs and Public Safety (2003-2006),
Minister of Environment (2006),
Re-Elected in Southampton (2007),
Minister of Education (2007-2008),
Chairman-Parliamentary Joint Select Committee on the “Causes of Violent Crime & Gun Violence in Bermuda” (2010),
Elected Deputy Speaker of House (2011),
Re-Elected in Southampton West (2012),
Elected Speaker of House (2013).

MRS. SHERNETTE WOLFE
Plenary

EDUCATION: University of St. Mary’s, Queens Clark Atlanta University

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BA, BED, MLS

CAREER: Current- Clerk of the House of Assembly- Bermuda
Previous – Head of Library- Information Services at Cedar Bridge Academy- Bermuda
Foreign Language - Teacher

HON. KIM WILKERSON, JP
Plenary

EDUCATION: St. Johns University (NY, USA), University of Buckingham (UK)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Graduate Diploma Law, CPCU, Associate Chartered Institute of Arbitrators
HON. INGRID A. MOSES-SCATLIFFE, MHA
Speaker - Plenary

EDUCATION: (2007-2008) – City University London, England Inns of Court School of Law LLM – Credit
(2005-2006) – City University, London England Inns of Court School of Law, Bar Vocational Course, Post Graduate Diploma
(2003-2005) – University of Wolverhampton, Wolverhampton, UK LLB (Hons) Degree

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Attorney At Law

CAREER: (2011-Present) Speaker, House of Assembly
(2009-Present) Partner, Travers Thorp Alberga
(2007-2009) Chief Registrar of Lands, Land Registry Department
(Sept –Dec, 2006) Pupillage, Harnery Westwood; Riegels LLP
(Summer 2005) Pupillage, O’Neal Webster O’Neal Barristers & Solicitors Tortola
(Summer 2004) Project Manager, Registry of Corporate Affairs, Financial Services Commissions, Tortola
(1995-1998) Manager’s Assistant Information Technology, Barclays
(1986-1990) Junior Supervisor, Corporate Department, Barclays Bank PLC, Tortola

HON. ALVERA MADURO-CAINES, MHA
Plenary

EDUCATION: (1977-1979) – Gary Training Center, Texas, United States of America

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: N/A

CAREER: (2011- Present) – Government Backbencher Member for Sixth District
(1992-1999) – Legal Secretary, Citco B.V.I. Limited, Tortola
(1980-1985) – Accounts Clerk, Devon International, St. Thomas
(1979-1980) – Registry Clerk, Government of the British Virgin Islands, Tortola

HON. MARLON PENN
Observer

EDUCATION: (2001-2004) – Temple University, Philadelphia, Bachelor in Business Administration

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: IT Professional

CAREER: (Dec 2015 – Present) – Junior Minister for Trade and Investment Promotion and Member for the Eighth District
(2013-Present) – Vice President/Director: The Hope Foundation (BVI)
(2006-2013) – Manager and Financial Consultant, MWM Financial Services Group Limited, Tortola, BVI

HON. MELVIN TURNBULL, MHA
Plenary

EDUCATION: (2002) – Florida Memorial University, Miami, Florida, Bachelor in Business Administration

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Financial Manager

CAREER: (2015-Present) – Member of the 3rd House of Assembly
(2013-Present) – Vice President/Director: The Hope Foundation (BVI)
(2006-2013) – Manager and Financial Consultant, MWM Financial Services Group Limited, Tortola, BVI

MS. LORNA CHOUCOUTOU
Observer

EDUCATION: H. Lavity Stoutt Community College, Tortola
Associates of Science Degree in Business Administration - Marketing

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: N/A

CAREER: (2016 – Present) Personal Assistance to the Speaker,
(2011-2015) Office Assistance,
(2005-2011) Ag. Philatelic Bureau Supervisor,
CAYMAN ISLANDS

HON. W. MCKEEVA BUSH, O.B.E. JP, MLA
Speaker

EDUCATION: Cayman Islands High School

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Member of the Legislative Assembly (MLA)

(2005-2009) – Leader of the Opposition
(2009-2012) – Premier-Cayman Island First Premier; Minister of Finance, Tourism and Development
(May 2017-Present) Speaker

EDUCATION: Registered Trust and Estate Practitioner (TEP)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: N/A

CAREER: Worked in the Financial Services Industry, Currently employed at Alexandria Bancorp Limited as the Manager of Fiduciary Services,
Became a member of the People’s progressive Movement (The Progressive) in 2002,
Worked with former Leader of Government Business, Hon. D Kurt Tibbetts, OBE, JP from 2005 to 2009
Later became the General Secretary of the Party from 2013 to 2017

HON. JULIANA O’CONNOR CONNOLLY, JP, MLA
Plenary

EDUCATION: Cayman Islands Law School, University of St. Leo
BA (Hons) University of Liverpool LLB

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Teacher/Attorney At Law

CAREER: Teacher, Accounts Assistant, Attorney-at- Law

MS. BARBARA CONOLLY, MLA
Plenary

EDUCATION: Registered Trust and Estate Practitioner (TEP)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: N/A

CAREER: Worked in the Financial Services Industry. Currently employed at Alexandria Bancorp Limited as the Manager of Fiduciary Services,
Became a member of the People’s progressive Movement (The Progressive) in 2002,
Worked with former Leader of Government Business, Hon. D Kurt Tibbetts, OBE, JP from 2005 to 2009
Later became the General Secretary of the Party from 2013 to 2017
DOMINICA

HON. ALIX BOYD KNIGHTS
Speaker

EDUCATION: University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Lawyer LLB Hons
CAREER: Speaker of the House of Assembly

MR. DANIEL JAMES
Plenary, Clerk of the House of Parliament/ Branch Secretary

GUYANA

Hon. Annette Ferguson, CWP, M.P.
Minister within the Ministry of Infrastructure

EDUCATION: University of Guyana
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Degree
CAREER: Human Resource Specialist

MS. KESHANNA MURLEDHAR
Plenary

EDUCATION: University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Degree in Public Management
CAREER: Assistant Clerk of Committees

HON. PAULINE SUKHAI

EDUCATION: University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Bsc Economics, Post Graduate Diploma II in Development Studies
CAREER: Politician or Legislator
MRS. PAULINE CAMPBELL-SUKHAI, M.P.
Opposition Member of Parliament and Shadow Minister
of the Ministry of Indigenous Peoples Affairs

JAMAICA

EDUCATION: Trade University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: B.A. Political Science
CAREER: Parliamentarian

HON PEARNEL CHARLES
SPEAKER-Plenary
EDUCATION: Trade University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: B.A. Political Science
CAREER: Parliamentarian

MRS. HEATHER COOKE
Regional Branch Secretary-Plenary
EDUCATION: Norman Manley Law School
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Certificate in Legal Education
CAREER: Clerk to the Houses

HON DWAYNE VAZ
Plenary
EDUCATION: New Orleans & University of the West Indies
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BSE in Hotel Management 7
MBA – Business Administration
CAREER: Managing Director – Flexi Financing & Consultancy Agency – Estelar Global Services

SEN. KERENSIA MORRISON
EDUCATION: University of the West Indies
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Literatures in English
CAREER: Teacher, Writer, Spokes Person & M.P Caretaker & Councilor Caretaker

HON SHIRLEY OSBORNE
Speaker - Plenary
EDUCATION: Simmons College
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MBA
CAREER: Montserrat Tourist Board; ADP (US) The Girl's Education Project (US & MINI) Montserrat Legislative Assembly
HON. DR. INGRID BUFFONGE
Delegate
EDUCATION: UWI, CGM-UK
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BSc MBBS MCGM
CAREER: Medical Doctor

HON. FARREL SMITHE
Speaker
President of the Nevis Island Assembly
Plenary

HON. HAZEL BRANDY WILLIAMS
CWP
EDUCATION: University of Glasgow
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MSc
CAREER: Minister of Government

MYRA WILLIAMS
Plenary
EDUCATION: University

HON. PREMIER VANCE AMORY
Plenary
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BA (UWI), MBA (UVI)

HON. ANTHONY MICHAEL PERKINS
Speaker - Conference Chairman
EDUCATION: BSc Civil Engineering (FAMU/FSU, Florida, USA) MBA General Management – Metropolitan College of New York
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Parliamentary Procedures/Systems; Politics; Civil and Human Right; Sports; International Affairs
HON. SHAWN RICHARDS
**Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of South Florida, Quinnipiac University

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** BSc Management Information Systems, MSc Computer Information System

**CAREER:** IT Manager, Senator/Deputy Speaker

---

HON. LINDSAY GRANT

**EDUCATION:** University of the West Indies, Harvard University

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Barrister and Solicitor

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HON. SEN. AKILAH BYRON-NISBETT

**Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of South Florida, Quinnipiac University

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** BSc Management Information Systems, MSc Computer Information System

**CAREER:** IT Manager, Senator/Deputy Speaker

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HON. SEN. WENDY PHIPPS

**Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of the West Indies, University of Georgia

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Management Consultant

**CAREER:** Classical Literature, SME Advocacy, Outreach to the Elderly

---

HON. MARCELLA LIBURD

**Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of the West Indies

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Lawyer; LLB, LEC

**CAREER:** Meeting people, health and fitness

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HON. PATRICE NISBETT

**Plenary**

**EDUCATION:** University of the West Indies

**PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:** Lawyer; LLB, LEC

**CAREER:** Law
SENATOR NIGEL CARTY
Plenary
EDUCATION: Virginia Polytechnic Institute and State University
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Msc Computer Science
CAREER: Good governance; impartiality

HON. KONRIS MAYNARD
Plenary
EDUCATION: University of Waterloo
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MEng

RT. HON. DR. DENZIL DOUGLAS
Plenary
EDUCATION: University of the West Indies
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Medical Doctor - MBBS

HON. NIGEL DE FREITAS
Plenary
EDUCATION: University of Guelph-Guelph, Ontario
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: M.Sc. Aquaculture, B. SC (Hon) Marine Biology
CAREER: Vice President of the Senate, Marine Resources and Fisheries Specialist (Director), Aquaculture Development Office (Management), Aquatic Biologist

MS. SONIA BODDIE
Conference Coordinator
EDUCATION: Universidad Internacional, Mexico, University of Birmingham, UK
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MSc Public Administration, Merit
BSc International Relations, (Honours)
CAREER: CURRENT: Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly/ Foreign Service Officer
FORMER: Senior Tax Inspector

TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO

EDUCATION: University of Guelph-Guelph, Ontario
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: M.Sc. Aquaculture, B. SC (Hon) Marine Biology
CAREER: Vice President of the Senate, Marine Resources and Fisheries Specialist (Director), Aquaculture Development Office (Management), Aquatic Biologist
HON. GLENDIA JENNINGS-SMITH  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: University of Cambridge, U.K and University of the West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Master’s degree in Applied Criminology and Police Management and BA in Public Administration and Social Work  
CAREER: Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of National Security, Assistant Commissioner of Police

HON. VIDIA GAYADEEN-GOPEESINGH  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: Anglia Ruskin University, Hugh Wooding Law School, University of London, University of West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MBA-Masters in Business Administration, LEC, LLB-Bachelor of Law, BSc Agricultural Economics  
CAREER: Member of Parliament

HON. DR. DHANAYSHAR MAHABIR  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: McGill University, University of the West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: PhD and MA in Economics, B.Sc in Economics (UWI)  
CAREER: Independent Senator, Economist, Educator, Adviser to public and private financial institutions

HON. GLENDIA JENNINGS-SMITH  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: University of Cambridge, U.K and University of the West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Master’s degree in Applied Criminology and Police Management and BA in Public Administration and Social Work  
CAREER: Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of National Security, Assistant Commissioner of Police

HON. VIDIA GAYADEEN-GOPEESINGH  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: Anglia Ruskin University, Hugh Wooding Law School, University of London, University of West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: MBA-Masters in Business Administration, LEC, LLB-Bachelor of Law, BSc Agricultural Economics  
CAREER: Member of Parliament

HON. DR. DHANAYSHAR MAHABIR  
Plenary  
EDUCATION: McGill University, University of the West Indies  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: PhD and MA in Economics, B.Sc in Economics (UWI)  
CAREER: Independent Senator, Economist, Educator, Adviser to public and private financial institutions

MRS. SHARON COMBIE  
Observer  
EDUCATION: University  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BSc Management Studies  
CAREER: Public Servant

SOPHIA COOPER  
Observer  
EDUCATION: University  
PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: BA Media and Communication, MA Photography  
CAREER: Public Servant
HON DWAYNE TAYLOR
Speaker - Plenary

EDUCATION: High School (Dip), College (Theology)

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Trained Police Officer, Certified

CAREER: (Domestic Violence) Career; Compliance: Banking & Social Security Scheme & Money Laundering Former Elected MHA Deputy Speaker

MRS. TRACY PARKER
Plenary

EDUCATION: University

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION:

CAREER: Personal Secretary – Attorney General’s Chambers, Administrative Officer – Legislative Council, House of Assembly, Deputy Clerk – Consultative Forum/Interim Administrative 2012 – Present – Clerk to House of Assembly

HON DEREK TAYLOR OBE
Plenary

EDUCATION: Turks & Caicos High School

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Career Civil Servant Training Caribbean & UK

CAREER: Eighteen years in the civil service, Twenty four years in the House of Assembly, Eight years as Chief Minister
OBSERVERS

BRITISH ISLES (SCOTLAND)

MR. KENNETH GIBSON
Observer

AFRICA

HON. EMILIA LIFAKA MONJOWA
African Region (Cameroon) - Observer

EDUCATION: Advance Levels Certificate from St. Paul’s Higher Technical College Bonjongo-Cameroon

PROFESSIONAL QUALIFICATION: Diploma in Administrative Management (Sponsored by USAID) from the University of Maryland Eastern Shore, United States of America, Diploma in Secretariat and Business Studies (Sponsored by the Institute of Agronomic Research) from the Crown Secretariat and Business Studies Kings College, London. Ongoing MBA in Human Resource Management, University of Anglia Ruskin, United Kingdom.

CAREER: (2002 – Present) – Member of Parliament, National Assembly
(2009 – Present) – Deputy Speaker, National Assembly
(2002 – 2007) – Member of the Budget and Finance Committee of the National Assembly
(2007 till date) – Member of the Constitutional Laws Committee of the National Assembly
(2008 till date) – Member of the Executive Committee of Good Governance National Assembly
(2002 till date) – Member of the Executive Committee of Good Governance National Assembly
(2007 – 2014) – Member of the National Decentralization Council (Representative the National Assembly)
(2007 till date) – Leader and Coordinator of Commonwealth Parliamentary Association International Activities (CPA) National Assembly (1998 -2002) – Chief of Centre Intensive Vocational Training Centre for office Employees under the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training Buea – Cameroon
Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians

11th Annual Meeting and Conference

at the
42nd Conference Of The Caribbean, The Americas and The Atlantic Region Branch Of The CPA
St. Christopher & Nevis

June 16 – 24, 2017

Programme for Friday, June 16th - Sunday, June 18th, 2017

Friday, June 16th

7:30 – 10:30 p.m. CWP pre-conference Dinner meeting and check-in – Introduction of CWP Conference Theme: Next Steps in Strategising for Women’s Leadership in the Caribbean Political Space

Saturday, June 17th

CWP STEERING COMMITTEE MEETING

9:30 – 12:30 a.m. Review and reporting in of working Groups established in Bahamas in July 2016 Next Steps in Strategising for Women’s Leadership in the Caribbean Political Space

12:30 – 2:00 a.m. Lunch

11TH COMMONWEALTH WOMEN PARLIAMENTARIANS CONFERENCE

2:00 – 3:00 p.m. Opening Remarks (MC)

Keynote Address

CWP Chair’s Address

3:00 – 3:30 p.m. Discussions on the Addresses

3:30 – 5:30 p.m. Planning Session

7:00 p.m. Dinner

Sunday, June 18th

9:00 – 9:15 a.m. Arrival of Members and Opening of Day’s agenda

9:15 – 10:00 a.m. Report on the CWP Steering Committee Meeting of July 17th

10:00 – 11:00 a.m. Address and discussion

11:00 – 11:15 a.m. Coffee Break

11:15 – 12:00 p.m. Address and discussion

12:00 – 12:30 p.m. Wrap up

12:30 – 1:00 p.m. Official Close of 10th CWP Conference and acknowledgment
Sunday 18th June, 2017

2:30 p.m – 3:30 p.m. Executive Committee Meeting

Monday 19th June, 2017

9:00 a.m – 10:15 a.m. Opening Ceremony
9:00 a.m – 10:15 a.m. Official Photograph

SESSION 1
10:30 p.m – 12:00 p.m. Topic: “The importance of engendering positive perceptions of Parliaments and Parliamentarians.”
Presenters: Hon. Shirley Osborne (Speaker) – Montserrat
Hon. Lt. Col. Jeffrey Bostic – Barbados
Delegate from Antigua and Barbuda or The Bahamas

SESSION 2
1:30 p.m – 3:00 p.m. Topic: “Establishing the parameters of a respectful and productive relationship between Parliament and the Media.”
Presenters: Hon. Pernel Charles (Speaker) – Jamaica
Hon. Shawn Richards – St. Kitts and Nevis
Delegate from Guyana - Hon. Annette Furguson

SESSION 3
3:30 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. Topic: “Enhancing Caribbean Parliamentary Democracy via public and media participation”
Presenters: Hon. Dr. Dhanayshar Mahabir- Trinidad and Tobago
Hon. Randy Horton (Speaker) – Bermuda
Hon. Dwayne Taylor (Speaker) - Turks and Caicos

7:00 p.m. – 9:00 p.m. Departure from Hotel at 6.30 pm

Reception hosted by the Governor General of St. Christopher and Nevis, His Excellency, Sir S.W. Tapley Seaton, GCMG, CVO, QC, JP, at Government House, Springfield, Basseterre.

Tuesday 20th June, 2017

SESSION 4
9:00 a.m–10:30 a.m. Topic: “Social Media: Its potential to complement or undermine the democracy process.”
Presenters: Hon. Senator Akilah Byron-Nisbett- St. Kitts and Nevis
Hon. Mark Brantley – Nevis Island Administration
Mr. Azard Gumbs- President of the St. Kitts National Youth Parliament

SESSION 5
10:45 a.m.–12:00 pm Topic: “The need for parliamentary independence.”
Presenters: Hon. Alix Boyd-Knights (Speaker) - Dominica
Hon. Ingrid Moses –Scatliffe (Speaker) British Virgin Islands
Hon. Juliana O’Connor Connolly- Cayman Islands

2:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. Trip to Nevis
**Wednesday 21st June, 2017**

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<th>Time</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>10:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Annual General Meeting</td>
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<td>1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hot Topics Forums</td>
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<td>Topic: “Seeking to Increase Women’s Political Participation- Part II.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>1:30 p.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Hot Topics Forums</td>
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<td>Topic: “Seeking to Increase Women’s Political Participation- Part II.”</td>
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<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.–10:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Departure from the hotel 6:30 p.m.</td>
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Dinner hosted by His Honour the Speaker A. Michael Perkins at the Carambola Beach Club, Friars Bay, South East Peninsula.

**Thursday 22nd June, 2017**

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<th>Time</th>
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<tr>
<td>8:45 a.m.–5:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Tour Day (Departure from the hotel 8:30 am)</td>
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<td>Visit to Caribelle Batik, Brimstone Hill Fortress (UNESCO World Heritage Site), Boat ride to Basseterre, Shopping and tour time in capital city Basseterre.</td>
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<tr>
<td>8:00 p.m – Until</td>
<td>The first night of St. Kitts Music Festival</td>
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Delegates interested in participating are free to purchase tickets to attend and transportation will be provided to take delegates to and from the venue, at a time to be determined. The festival usually begins at 8pm and ends at around 3am. More info on the festival can be found at [http://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/](http://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/)

Regular tickets can be purchased at [https://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/tickets.asp](https://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/tickets.asp) and VIP tickets for a more luxurious experience can be purchased at [https://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/viptickets.asp](https://www.stkittsmusicfestival.net/viptickets.asp)

**Friday 23rd June, 2017**

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<tr>
<td>9:00 a.m – 12:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Regional Youth Parliament</td>
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<td>Topic: “The Protection of Migrant Workers and their Families”</td>
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**Saturday 24th June, 2017**

All Day Departures
About The National Assembly of St. Christopher and Nevis

History
The first sitting of the National Assembly/Parliament of St. Christopher and Nevis was in 1960.

Procedure
Parliamentary procedure in the National Assembly is dictated by a number of legal instruments being the Constitution, the National Assembly Elections Act, Cap 2.01 and the National Assembly (Powers and Privileges) Act, Cap. 2.04. The Standing Orders of the National Assembly provide the most specific rules of parliament including rules on time and manner of speaking during a debate, notice requirements, powers of the Speaker, parliamentary committees and the order of how the business of Parliament should be conducted. The Standing Orders are the fourth schedule of the National Assembly Elections Act.
HOW A BILL IS PASSED

A bill is a proposal for a new law or a proposal to amend an existing law. A bill has to be debated in parliament and must go through “three readings” before it is passed. Essentially, when it is said that a bill is read, it means that the long title of the Bill is read into the parliament record. At the appropriate times during a parliament sitting, the Clerk or Deputy Clerk of Parliament will read the long title out loud three times during one or more sittings of parliament. Each reading represents a different stage in the passage of the bill.

FIRST READING

First reading means that the Bill has now been introduced to the public and should be available for public scrutiny. Debate on the contents or purpose of the Bill follows. That debate may take place in the same sitting or it may occur at a subsequent sitting within a particular session of parliament. However, according to Standing Order 57, generally bills should not pass through more than two readings in any one sitting but this can be done if the mover of the bill obtains the approval of Parliament to formally suspend that Standing Order prior to reading the Bill a third time.

SECOND READING

The Bill is read a second time when the debate between the parliamentarians ends. After the second reading, the House goes into “Committee stage” where all parliamentarians (referred to as a Committee of the whole) or a select few (a Select Committee) consider the Bill clause by clause and any proposed amendments are discussed and voted on. Thereafter, the mover of the Bill i.e. the parliamentarian who proposed the Bill reports to the Parliament whether any changes have been made.

THIRD READING

On completion of the second reading, the approval of Parliament is sought to have the Bill read a third time and passed. Thereafter the Bill is sent to the Governor General for his assent and published in the Gazette. Having passed through all these stages, the Bill would now be referred to as an Act and comes into effect as law on the date published or on a specific date prescribed by the Minister.

ANTHONY MICHAEL PERKINS

Conference Chairman

The Speaker of the National Assembly is elected by the members and is the presiding officer of Parliament. He decides all questions of procedure and order with complete impartiality and protects the privilege of freedom of speech by ensuring that all members, regardless of party affiliation, are given a fair opportunity to speak and express their views. The Speaker may or may not be an elected member of the National Assembly. The current speaker of the National Assembly of Saint Kitts and Nevis is Michael Perkins.
Special thanks is extended to members of the Conference 42 organizing committee, conference staff, protocol officers, drivers, security and all other persons who contributed in some way to making this Conference a success.

National Bird of St. Christopher and Nevis
- The Brown Pelican

National Flower of St. Christopher and Nevis
- The Poinciana
The Federation of Saint Kitts and Nevis also known as the Federation of Saint Christopher and Nevis, is a two-island country in the West Indies. Located in the Leeward Islands chain of the Lesser Antilles, it is the smallest sovereign state in the Western Hemisphere, in both area and population. The country is a Commonwealth realm, with the British monarch, who is currently Queen Elizabeth II, as head of state.

The capital city is Basseterre on the larger island of Saint Christopher. The smaller island of Nevis lies approximately 3 km (2 mi) southeast of Saint Kitts across a shallow channel called “The Narrows”.

The British dependency of Anguilla was historically also a part of this union, which was then known collectively as Saint Christopher-Nevis-Anguilla. To the north-northwest lie the islands of Sint Eustatius, and Saba (the Netherlands), Saint Barthelemy, Saint-Martin/Sint Maarten and Anguilla. To the east and northeast are Antigua and Barbuda, and to the southeast is the small uninhabited island of Redonda, and the island of Montserrat, which currently has an active volcano.

Saint Kitts and Nevis were among the first islands in the Caribbean to be settled by Europeans.

Saint Christopher was home to the first British and French colonies in the Caribbean, and hence has also been titled “The Mother Colony of the West Indies”.

Legislature:
National Assembly

GDP (PPP):
• Total - $1.458 billion
• Per capita - $25,913

GDP (Nominal):
• Total - $945 million
• Per capita - $16,793

HDI:
^ 0.752
high · 77th

Independence:
• Associated State 27 February 1967
• From the United Kingdom 19 September 1983

Area:
• Total - 261 km2 (101 sq mi) (207th)
• Water (%) - Negligible

Population:
• 2015 estimate - 54,961 (209th)
• 2001 census - 46,325
• Density - 164/km2 (424.8/sq mi) (64th)

Currency: East Caribbean dollar (ECD)