

# ***Society of Clerks-at-the-Table in Commonwealth Parliaments***

## **FINAL AGENDA**

**44th GENERAL MEETING, SEPTEMBER 2007  
(Committee Room D, Vigyan Bhawan Annexe, New Delhi, India)**

**WEDNESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER 2007**

*9.45 am Official photograph*

**10.00 am**

- 1. Election of Chairman**
- 2. Apologies for Absence**
- 3. Adoption of the Agenda**
- 4. Parliamentary developments (and topical issues) in India  
*presented by Shri P D T Achary, Secretary General of Lok Sabha***
- 5. Topical issues from the other regions**

A Clerk from each region (nominated by the region) will make a short presentation (maximum 10 minutes) on recent changes and procedures in their region over the past year—

*Africa: Mr Aatso Atogho (Cameroon)*

*Australia: Mr Russell Grove (New South Wales)*

*British Isles and Mediterranean: Mr Joe Reynolds (Northern Ireland)*

*Canada: Mr David McNeil (Alberta)*

*Caribbean, Americas and Atlantic: Mr Conrad Lewis (Belize)*

*Pacific: Ms Louise Sparrer (New Zealand)*

*South East Asia: Datuk Mahmood Adam (Malaysia)*

*Asia: Mr Raja Amin (Pakistan)*

*2.30 pm to 5.45 pm*

**AFTERNOON:** *Sight-seeing tour of Delhi (with delegates to Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference, etc.)*

## THURSDAY 27 SEPTEMBER 2007

10am and 2pm

### 6. Recent problems

Discussion of problems which have occurred over the past year and exchange of experience on how colleagues have dealt with similar problems.

### 7. Debate on specific topics:

- (i) Freedom of speech and Citizens' right of reply: parliamentary privilege versus accountability. *To be presented by Mr Russell Grove, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales*
- (ii) 50 years at the Table – the art of briefing a Speaker. *To be presented by Mr George MacMinn, QC, Clerk of the Legislative Assembly, British Columbia*
- (iii) Information management. *To be presented by Mr Paul Grice, Chief Executive of the Scottish Parliament*
- (iv) Corporate bodies: their structure, accountability and effectiveness. *To be presented by Mr Paul Bélisle, Clerk of the Senate, Canada*
- (v) Managing bills in the Australian Parliament. *To be presented by Mr Mr Richard Selth, Director (Legislation and Records), Table Office, House of Representatives, Australia*
- (vi) Public participation: a South African case study. *To be presented by Mr Matome Mawasha, Northern Cape*
- (vii) Financing legislatures. *To be presented by Advocate Lulu Matyolo-Dube, National Council of the Provinces, South Africa*
- (viii) Members of Parliament Local Area Development Scheme – Origin, Evolution and Functioning. *To be presented by Shri N. C Joshi, Acting Secretary General of Rajya Sabha, India*

**FRIDAY 28 SEPTEMBER 2007**

**11.30am**

**8. Briefing from CPA Secretary General**

*Briefing for Society of Clerks-at- the-Table in Commonwealth Parliaments form Dr William F. Shija, Secretary General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.*

**7 (cont). Debate on specific topics**

- (ix) Relationship between the Legislature Secretariat and the Executive. *To be presented by Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary General, Lok Sabha, India*
- (x) Providing Counselling and Support for Elected Members. *To be presented by Mrs Anne Harris, Deputy Greffier of the States of Jersey*

**9. Staff Professional Development**

World Bank Institute Professional Development Program for Parliamentary Staff: briefing and on-line demonstration of first module (course). *To be presented by Ms Brooke Prater, World Bank Institute*

Presentation on Lok Sabha Bureau of Parliamentary Studies and Training. *To be presented by Shri P.D.T. Achary, Secretary General, Lok Sabha, India*

Continuing professional development of parliamentary officers. *To be presented by Shri N.C Joshi Acting Secretary General, Rajya Sabha, India*

**10. Report and Accounts of the Society for 2006**

**11. Proposals for the Agenda for the 45th General Meeting in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, between 1 and 8 August 2008**

**12. Any Other Business**