

REGIONAL SEMINAR ON THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS IN NATIONAL RECONCILIATION PROCESSES IN ENGLISH-SPEAKING AFRICA

Organized jointly by the Parliament of Sierra Leone and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU)

Sierra Leone, 23-25 June 2008

Bintumani hotel



Parliament of Sierra Leone



Inter-Parliamentary Union

PROGRAMME

Monday, 23 June

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| 8 a.m. | - | 9 a.m. | Registration of participants and distribution of documents |
| 9 a.m. | - | 9.45 a.m. | ► Inaugural session
Hon. Eddie Turay, Leader of the Majority, Parliament of Sierra Leone
Mr. Martin Chungong, Director, Division for the Promotion of Democracy, Inter-Parliamentary Union
Hon. Samuel Sam-Sumana, Vice-President of Sierra Leone |
| 9.45 a.m. | - | 11.15 a.m. | ► Session I: Addressing the scars of the past and building viable societies
- Delivering on the expectations raised after conflict: the role of Parliament in national peace-building and reconciliation processes: Mr. Kojo Asante, Governance and Legal Policy Officer / Coordinator of the Parliamentary Support program, Ghana Center for Democratic Development
- Women and gender in post-conflict situations: Dr. Nemata Majeks-Walker, Founder and First President of the 50/50 Group of Sierra Leone |
| 11.15 a.m. | - | 11.30 a.m. | Coffee break |
| 11.30 a.m. | - | 1 p.m. | ► Continuation of Session I |
| 2.30 p.m. | - | 4 p.m. | Session II Truth and Reconciliation Commissions
- The role of Truth and Reconciliation Commissions in the struggle against impunity: Presenting a realistic vision of what they can achieve: Mr. Stephen S. Manley, Director of Programs, Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Liberia
- The importance of ensuring follow-up to commission recommendations: Mr. Franklyn Bai Kargbo, former Executive Secretary, Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Sierra Leone |
| 4 p.m. | - | 4.15 p.m. | Coffee break |
| 4.15 p.m. | - | 6 p.m. | ► Session III: The use of trials to address a legacy of abuse
- The International Criminal Court (ICC) or the creation of hybrid national-international courts as an alternative, Mr. Mohamed Suma, Director, Sierra Leone Court Monitoring Programme, Sierra Leone |

Tuesday, 24 June

- 9 a.m. - 11 a.m. ▶ **Session IV: Justice versus amnesty**
- The question of amnesties from a legal and practical perspective: Ms. Marieke Wierda, Director, Prosecutions Programme, International Center for Transitional Justice (ICTJ)
 - The role of the ICC with respect to the conflict in Uganda: an obstacle or requirement for long-term reconciliation?: Ms. Marieke Wierda, Director, Prosecutions Programme, ICTJ
- 11 a.m. - 11.15 a.m. Coffee break
- 11.15 a.m. - 1 p.m. ▶ **Session V: Reparations**
- Determining the appropriate form of reparation and its beneficiaries and putting in place a reparation programme with adequate funds and proper management: Mr. Suliman Baldo, Director, Africa Program, International Center for Transitional Justice
- 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. ▶ **Session VI: Institutional reforms**
- Ensuring an effective justice system, Ms. Sarah-Ann A. A. Lewis, Coordinator GoSL Justice Sector, Coordination Office, Sierra Leone
 - Security sector reform and parliamentary oversight, Dr. Osman Gbla, Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences and Law, Fourah Bay College, University of Sierra Leone
- 4.30 p.m. - 4.45 p.m. Coffee break
- 4.45 p.m. - 6 p.m. ▶ **Session VII: International initiatives in support of reconciliation**
- What role for the international community? Mr. Gebremedhin Hagoss, Chief, Peace and Governance Section, UNIOSIL, Sierra Leone

Wednesday, 25 June

- 9 a.m. - 11.15 a.m. ▶ **Session VIII: Country experiences: what are the current challenges in addressing the legacy of the past and promoting institutional reforms?**
Sierra Leone
Ghana
- 11.15 a.m. - 11.30 a.m. Coffee break
- 11.30 a.m. - 1 p.m. ▶ **Continuation of country experiences**
Liberia
Rwanda
- 2.30 p.m. - 4.30 p.m. ▶ **Session IX: Country experiences: what are the current challenges in establishing long-lasting peace and promoting reconciliation?**
Somalia
Sudan
- 4.30 p.m. - 4.45 p.m. Coffee break
- 4.45 p.m. - 6 p.m. ▶ **Concluding session**
Mr. Martin Chungong, Director, Division for the Promotion of Democracy, Inter-Parliamentary Union
Hon. Justice Abel N.B. Stronge, Speaker of the Parliament of Sierra Leone