

# 58TH COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTARY CONFERENCE

Colombo, Sri Lanka  
07-15 September 2012



## NEWS BULLETIN

Issue - No. 8

Saturday, 15 September 2012

### General Assembly Meeting of CPA

The General Assembly Meeting of the 58th Commonwealth Parliamentary Association commenced at 9.00 a.m. at the members who had passed away in Parliaments in Commonwealth Countries and the loss of lives and property caused by natural



BMICH Chaired by the Speaker of Sri Lanka and the President of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa. The other Members at the Head Table were Secretary General of CPA, Dr. William F. Shija and Chairperson of the Executive Committee, Rt. Hon. Sir Alan Haselhurst, Vice Chairperson of the Executive Committee Hon. Dr. Nafisa Shah, Treasurer of CPA and Hon. Marwick T. Khumalo.

All the Delegates, Secretaries, Observers and the guests who attended the General Assembly of CPA were welcomed by the President of CPA, Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa.

As per the request of the President, a minute of silence was observed by participants to honour Parliamentarians and staff

and other disasters across the Commonwealth.

The Minutes of the last Meeting held in London were confirmed.

Further, the Reports of the Executive Committee, the Membership report, Audited Accounts and Balance Sheets for the year ended 31 December 2011, Draft budgets and Financial Management Reports, the Appointment of External Auditors and the Report of Working Party were moved and seconded by the respective Executive Committee Members and the delegates.

The Strategic Plan of 2008-2012 and the draft strategic plan of 2013-2017 were presented by the Secretary General of CPA, Dr. William F. Shija.

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### Presentation of Plaques to Retiring Executive Committee Members

The list of names of the Members who received Plaques at the CPA General Assembly held yesterday at the BMICH are given below. The plaques are most generously donated by the Malaysia Branch each year.

1. Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, MP, Speaker of Parliament, Sri Lanka, Vice-President of the Association 2010/2011 and President of the Association 2011/2012.

2. Hon. Muyali Boya Mary epe Mboka, MP, Deputy Whip, Cameroon, African Regional Representative 2009/2012

3. Senator the Hon. John Hogg, President of the Senate, Australia, Australian Regional

Representative, 2009/2012

4. Mr Hugh Bayley, MP, United Kingdom, British Islands and Mediterranean Regional Representative, 2010/2012

5. Mr Joe Preston, MP, Canada, Canadian Regional Representative 2009/2012

6. Hon. Meira Kumar, MP, Speaker of the Lok Sabha, India, Indian Regional Representative 2009/2012

7. Hon. Datuk Ronald Kiandee, MP, Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives, Malaysia, South-East Asian Regional Representative, 2009/2012

*(Continued in p.2)*

## General Assembly .....

(Continued from p.1)

According to him, the strategic plan focused on building the capacity of Parliamentarians and CPA staff. Furthermore, Dr. Shija stated that the programme is geared towards achieving effective governance by considering the issues of Good Governance practices, Human Rights, Gender and Women Representation and Youth Parliamentarians etc.

The Recommendations of the Executive Committee to the General Assembly were moved by the Chairperson of the Executive Committee and seconded.

At the conclusion of the General Assembly, the report of the 32nd Conference of Members from Small Branches, Report of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians and Report from the Commonwealth Youth Parliament were moved by the respective Members of CPA and seconded.

## Presentation of Plaques.....

(Continued from p.1)

The following Members received the Pewter Plate :

1. Hon. Tammy Jean Jacques, MP, the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Alternate Regional Representative Regional Representative 2011/2012
2. Hon. Sada Soli Jibia, MP, Chairman Inter-Parliamentary Relations Committee, African Regional Representative 2009/2011

## Plaques

**For information of Members who do not know about the offering of plaques to retiring Members :**

It was at a meeting of the General Assembly in Jamaica in 1978, that it was agreed that retiring Members of the Executive Committee should receive a plaque in recognition of their service. The Malaysia Branch very generously offered to donate the plaques each year.





Delegates at Koggala - 13.09.2012



Delegates at Sigiriya - 13.09.2012





Future"

monwealth for the Future"

PRESIDENT

58th COMMONWEALTH

58th COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMETARY CONFERENCE COLOMBO, SRI LANKA 7th-15th SEPTEMBER 2012

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TEA BREAK

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Delegates at Kelaniya Temple - 13.09.2012



St. Lucia's Cathedrel - 13.09.2012



Delegates at the Museum - 13.09.2012



Odel Fashion Store - 13.09.2012



Barefoot - 13.09.2012



Dankotuwa - 12.09.2012



Delegates at Pinnawala Elephant Orphanage - 13.09.2012



Delegates Visiting the Sacred Temple of Tooth Relic (Dalada Maligawa) - 13.09.2012



Delegates at Peadeniya Botanic Gardens - 13.09.2012





Today you are reading the final issue of our CPC News Bulletin. We tried our best to provide all relevant information to you on a daily basis. We hope that they were useful and informative.

The Parliament of Sri Lanka is honoured to host the 58th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka. We are particularly happy that the Conference was held in a peaceful atmosphere after the elimination of separatist terrorism which caused misery, heart break and destruction for thirty long years.

The distinguished delegates contributed immensely by expressing valuable ideas at the Sessions. The Conference provided a golden opportunity to share your expertise and experiences on many vital issues. The forum was effectively used by the delegates to freely exchange their views. It is earnestly hoped that the knowledge gained would be used for the betterment of the people in all our countries.

We hope that your stay in Sri Lanka was enjoyable. You were able to see the beauty of our country. You mingled with the friendly Sri Lankan people. Now you have first hand experience and a deeper understanding about Sri Lanka and its people. You are most welcome to visit Sri Lanka in the future!

Now the time has come for parting. You will fly back to your home countries carrying fond memories.

We wish you happy journey.

Good Bye!



**Thank You !**  
**On behalf of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Sri Lanka Branch I wish to express my sincere gratitude to His Excellency Mahinda Rajapaksa, President of Sri Lanka and Vice Patron CPA and Hon. Chamal Rajapaksa, MP, Speaker and President CPA, for their guidance and unstinted support in making the 58<sup>th</sup> Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference in Colombo, Sri Lanka 7-15 September 2012 a reality and a success.**

**I deeply appreciate the participation of nearly 700 delegates and participants who arrived in Sri Lanka and made our Conference a success. I also wish to say a warm thank you to all the staff of the Sri Lanka Parliament on behalf of the Secretary General, for their assistance, commitment and hard work that went into organizing a herculean task of this magnitude. The assistance provided by all agencies involved in this endeavour is deeply appreciated.**

**Looking forward for the next CPC in Johannesburg, South Africa in 2013.**

**Neil Iddawala  
Deputy Secretary General and Conference Coordinator  
Parliament of Sri Lanka**