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CONTENTS: (1) Executive Committee Meeting (2) Conference on Parliamentary Leadership (3) Asia and India Regional Conference (4) Workshop on the Administration and Financing of Parliament (5) Parliamentary Network on the World Bank Conference

(1) Executive Committee Mid-Year Meeting

The CPA Executive Committee will hold its Mid-Year Meeting in Cyprus from 16 to 21 April. It will be preceded by a meeting of the CPA Working Party, which will, among other subjects, review the arrangements for the Annual Conference.

(2) CPA/WBI Conference on Parliamentary Leadership

The CPA, in collaboration with the World Bank Institute and Royal Roads University, Canada, will organize a conference on "Parliamentary Leadership: Anti-Corruption, Poverty Reduction and Conflict Management" in Victoria, British Columbia, Canada from 6 to 11 May. This will bring together approximately 36 participants from both Commonwealth and non-Commonwealth jurisdictions. The purpose is to strengthen the ability of Parliaments to contribute to the improvement of governance, the reduction of poverty and the fight against corruption. The CPA Secretariat will be represented by Mr Andrew Imlach, Director of Information Services.

(3) Joint Asia and India Regional Conference

More than 120 Members and parliamentary staff attended the 3rd Joint Asia and India Regional Conference of the CPA, which was hosted in Islamabad by the Senate of Pakistan from 24 to 28 March. This year's conference theme was "Knowledge Sharing and Networking among Regional Parliaments". CPA Secretary-General Dr William Shija represented the Secretariat and was accompanied by his Special Assistant, Mr Anthony Staddon. As well as enjoying a full programme, delegates attended a luncheon hosted by the President of Pakistan, H.E. Gen. Pervez Musharraf. The CPA Secretary-General was able during the conference to have meetings with the Chairman of the Executive Committee, Shri Abdul Hashim Halim, MLA, and the Chairman of the Senate of Pakistan, Sen. Mohamedmian Soomro, who is currently a member of the Executive Committee.

(4) Asia and India Regional Workshop on the Administration and Financing of Parliament

The CPA, in collaboration with the World Bank Institute, is organizing the Asia and India Regional Workshop on the Administration and Financing of Parliament from 5 to 9 April, hosted by the People's Majlis of the Maldives. The issues to be addressed by the 15 Members attending include: The relationships between the Speaker, the corporate body, the Clerk/Accounting Officer, and the staff of Parliament; the functions and delegated authority of a corporate body, and delivery of service to key client groups. The CPA Secretariat is represented by Mr Shem Baldeosingh, Assistant Director (Reference Services).

(5) Parliamentary Network on the World Bank Conference

The seventh annual conference of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank was held in Cape Town, South Africa from 15 to 17 March and the CPA Secretariat was represented by Mr Andrew Imlach, Director of Information Services, and Mr Nicolas Bouchet, Assistant Editor. The conference was an opportunity for 275 Members and officials, including more than 50 from 26 CPA Branches, to discuss development issues and the work of the Bank. They also had the opportunity to interact with the President of the World Bank Mr Paul Wolfowitz, the Managing Director of the International Monetary Fund, Mr Rodrigo de Rato and the President of the African Development Bank, Mr Donald Kaberuka.

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