

PARLIAMENTARY
NETWORK ON THE
WORLD BANK &
INTERNATIONAL
MONETARY
FUND



Annual Conference 2013

BAKU
AZERBAIJAN
23-24 MAY

DESCRIPTION

The Annual Conference is the Parliamentary Network's flagship event, bringing together over 200 network members, leaders from civil society and partner organizations, and top officials from International Financial Institutions including the World Bank and the IMF. The Annual Conference is both an annual general meeting for members to identify the Network's policy foci for the upcoming year, as well as a conference on development and macroeconomic priorities. The agenda - which runs over two to three days - is packed with stimulating and informative sessions as well as many opportunities for discussion. Past attendees include the presidents of Brazil, Indonesia and Senegal. Previous participants attending the Annual Conference engaged with the President of the World Bank, the Managing Director of the IMF, Nobel Economics Laureates, high-level national officials, CSOs, academia, and private sector representatives. The Parliamentary Network annual conferences are hosted by the Parliament and Government of countries where the event takes place.

CONFERENCE OBJECTIVES

The global financial crisis and subsequent Great Recession have had a significant impact on the world economy and on people's lives. The global economy is now moving at different speeds. Some countries, particularly emerging market and developing economies, are doing well. Others are on the mend, for example the U.S. But other economies including the euro area and Japan - still have some distance to travel. The challenge for today's policy makers - including parliamentarians - is to help turn this three-speed global economy into a full speed economy which delivers equitable growth and much needed employment, in particular for the world's youth. The eight Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) - which range from halving extreme poverty to halting the spread of HIV/AIDS and providing universal primary education - have helped galvanize development efforts and guide global and national development priorities for the last decade. While three of the eight goals have been achieved ahead of 2015, progress across countries is uneven. A strong global partnership for development is needed to accelerate progress and reach the goals by 2015, and parliamentarians have to be active partners in this effort. With the international community starting to look beyond 2015, the focus must also turn to what sustainable development and economic growth should look like after 2015. Principles such as sustainability, equality, accountability, transparent governance and policy formulation will be important

Parliamentarians have a particular role in helping craft policies that support growth and in shaping new frameworks for development. In this, they face difficult choices and policy trade-offs, for example when designing policies to support inclusive growth and job creation while dealing with constrained budgets at the same time. They are also both the instigators of legislation that could lead to better growth and development results, as well as the scrutinisers of national policies and budgets affecting growth and development outcomes. It is vital that parliamentarians lead a well-informed and knowledge-based growth and development process. A coherent system for growth and development also must take into account global resource constraints, and should aim at a more equitable distribution of resources. The focus should be on those groups that benefit the least from progress and which require assistance in order to profit from general improvements in economic, social and political sectors. To ensure the functioning of such a system, national governments and international institutions have to remain accountable and guarantee the transparency and inclusivity of their work to citizens, parliamentarians, civil society, and other stakeholders.

Azerbaijan weathered the recent global economic crisis much better than many other countries, with a solid rise in income and reduction in poverty. The country has a unique opportunity to enter the ranks of a sustainable higher middle income country, as is evidenced by the decline in poverty from 50 percent of the population in 2001 to 7.6 percent in 2011. Much of its rapid growth came from a jump in oil and gas revenues, and with a relatively short oil production horizon, the government faces the challenge to accelerate efforts on several fronts to achieve its 2020 goal of a highly competitive economy, with sustainable and broad-based growth led by the private sector, and further efforts to strengthen its economic position, including by diversifying its economy. Azerbaijan's challenges and opportunities to a large degree mirror those of a number of other middle income and developing countries, and its successes could serve as inspiration for other countries.

This year's Parliamentary Network Conference agenda focuses on how to secure sustained, sustainable and inclusive growth in developed, emerging developing and fragile countries alike, through social protection; mitigating and adapting to climate change; promoting openness in the extractive industries sector; facilitating private sector growth; and strengthening parliamentary oversight. With the conference, the Parliamentary Network aims to strengthen the role of legislators in development and policy making through: (i) increasing parliamentarians' knowledge of the themes discussed; (ii) underlining parliamentarians' roles in addressing identified issues in their respective countries; and (iii) analysing how international financial institutions such as the World Bank and IMF can support them in this task.

PROGRAMME

MAY 22

20:00 - 21:30 Arrival of Delegates / Check-in at hotel/ Pick-up of badges

Gathering for the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

Welcome by Sen. Alain DESTEXHE, MP, Belgium, President of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

Update on the Network

MAY 23

09:30 - 09:45 Transport from hotel to Gulistan Palace

10:00 - 11:00 Welcome address

Speakers: Hon. Ilham ALIEV, President of the Republic of Azerbaijan
 Hon. Eikhan SULEYMANOV, President of the Association of Civil Society Development in Azerbaijan, Member of the Milli Majlis of Azerbaijan
 Sen. Alain DESTEXHE, MP, Belgium, President of the Parliamentary Network
 Cyril MULLER, Vice President, External Affairs, World Bank

11:00 - 11:10 Video message from Mme. Christine LAGARDE, Managing Director, IMF (3 minutes)
 Video message from Dr. Jim Yong KIM, President, World Bank (3 minutes)

11:10 - 12:00 Opening remarks

Speakers: Hon. Elman RUSTAMOV, Governor, Central Bank of Azerbaijan
 Henry KERALI, Regional Director for the South Caucasus, World Bank
 Sabina BHATIA, Chief of Public Affairs, Communications Department, IMF

12:00 - 12:45 Program overview and expectations for conference: Open discussion

Chair: Sen. Alain DESTEXHE, MP, Belgium, President of the Parliamentary Network,

Speakers: Hon. Elman RUSTAMOV, Governor, Central Bank of Azerbaijan
 Cyril MULLER, Vice President, External Affairs, World Bank
 Sabina BHATIA, Chief of Public Affairs, Communications Department, IMF

12:45 - 13:45 Lunch



14:00 - 15:15 2 Parallel / Networking sessions

Social Protection

Providing all citizens with access to a minimum package of basic social services and income support to those unable to earn an income (social protection floors) is a key social policy priority for many national governments in developing countries that enjoys the support of international organizations, including the ILO and IMF. What are the main lessons of past experience for introducing and successfully managing social protection floors? Once floors are established and secured, what considerations should lie behind the transition to a more holistic, yet sustainable, approach to social protection? How can governments manage policy trade-offs in a way that supports social protection?

Speakers:

Elliott HARRIS, Assistant Director, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF
Krzysztof HAGEMER, Social Security Department, International Labor Organization

Moderator:

Hon. Ceyhan Yunis OGLU OSMANLI, MP, Azerbaijan

Transparency in Extractive Industries: The Role of MPs in Resource Governance

The session aims to provide an overview of the value chain for extractives governance with particular emphasis on the segment of "ensuring revenue transparency", through using country examples and share best practices of parliamentary engagement with the EITI process and opportunities for peer-to-peer learning.

Speakers:

Prof. Ingilab AHMADOV, Director of the RWI Eurasia Extractive Industries Knowledge Hub
Jonathan DUNN, Deputy Division Chief, Middle East and Central Asia Department, IMF
Hon. William MADZIMURE, Member, GOPAC Board of Directors (Member of Parliament, Zimbabwe)

Moderator:

Hon. Batchimeg MUGEDDORJ, Member of the Parliament of Mongolia

15:15 - 15:30 Coffee Break

15:45 - 16:15 Plenary: Ending poverty in a changing development landscape: the post MDGs framework

At the Spring Meetings of the World Bank in April, the international community committed to end extreme poverty 2030. With traditional donors hit by austerity, new emerging economies becoming donors, but on their own terms, and low income countries being among the faster growing economies, development assistance will have to look different in the post-2015 world. What are the consequences for development, sustainability, accountability and results?

Chair:

Cyril MULLER, Vice President, External Affairs, World Bank

Moderator:

Sen. Alain DESTEXHE, MP, Belgium, President of the Parliamentary Network

16:30 - 17:30 Video conference and Q&A with Caroline ANSTEY, Managing Director, World Bank

17:30 Video conference wrap-up with Sen. Alain DESTEXHE and Cyril MULLER

19:30 - 21:30 Gala Dinner
 20:00 - 21:30 Transport to Hotel

MAY 24

09:00 - 09:30 Transport from hotel to the Gulistan Palace

09:30 - 10:45 2 Parallel / Networking sessions

Fragile States

Some 1.5 billion people live in countries affected by violent conflict. We need to transform the way we all engage with fragile and conflict affected states. That's the message from our own research, and also from heeding the calls for a "New Deal" from an innovative coalition of fragile countries across Africa, Asia and the Pacific, known as the g7+. What does it take?

Speakers:

Video Message from WB President Jim Yong KIM, from the Great Lakes region
 Anne-Lise KLAUSEN, Global Center on Conflict, Security and Development, The World Bank
 Hon. Norbert MAO, Governor Gulu District, Uganda, Co-founder of the Great Lakes Parliamentary Forum on Peace (Amani Forum)

Moderator:

Hon. Tarun VIJAY, Member of Parliament, Rajya Sabha, India

Turn down the Heat: avoiding a 4 degree world

The World Bank commissioned report "Turn Down the Heat" warns that the world will heat up by 4 degrees at the end of the century if the global community fails to act on climate change. Parliamentarians play a potentially transformational role in fundamentally changing how countries use energy, value their natural environments, and combat climate change.

Driving the transition to clean energy: a 5-point plan for parliamentarians

Members of the Climate Parliament team outline clear steps MPs can take to make parliaments powerful drivers of the global effort to avoid a 4-degree warmer world..

Speakers:

Patrick VERKOOIJEN, Special Representative, Climate Change, World Bank
 El Mostafa EL AOUAZI, Regional Director for the Middle East and North Africa; and
 James CORRE, Programme Manager, Climate Parliament

Moderator:

Hon. Mansour SY, Deputy Speaker, Parliament of Senegal

10:45 - 11:00 Coffee Break

11:00 Plenary: Video message from Mme. Christine LAGARDE, Managing Director, IMF (7 minutes)

11:10 - 12:30

Plenary: Emerging from the Global Financial Crisis

It's almost five years since the world was struck by a financial crisis of unprecedented scale that led to a full-blown global recession with a significant human cost. Today, despite improved financial market performance, global growth is lagging, with stark differences between regions. How can policymakers address these challenges in the context of a rapidly changing world? The iRevolution has made the world hyper-connected and hyper-democratic, empowering citizens and changing the policymaking landscape. How can policymakers support an inclusive and sustainable economic recovery in this interconnected world? What does the newly hyper-connected world mean for the IMF, governments, and parliamentarians?

Speaker: Sabina BHATIA, Chief of Public Affairs, Communications Department, IMF

Moderator: Hon. Göran PETTERSON, MP, Finance Committee, Parliament of Sweden

12:30 - 14:00

Lunch

14:00 - 15:15

2 Parallel / Networking sessions

**Strengthening Oversight through
Parliamentarian-Donor Interaction**

Accepting that parliaments have a role in shaping frameworks for development, this panel contributes to an improved understanding of how to achieve better development results by engaging parliamentarians. This panel will take into account the Busan partnership for effective development cooperation, and discuss the role of parliamentarians in ensuring transparent oversight of donor-funded project alongside a commitment to human rights, democracy and good governance.

Speakers:

Dr. Naser AL SANE, Member, GOPAC Executive Committee (Former Member of Parliament, Kuwait)

Hon. Dr. Donya AZIZ, Member, GOPAC Global Task Force on Parliamentary Oversight (Former Member of Parliament, Pakistan)

Riccardo PELIZZO, WBI Consultant

Moderator:

Hon. Senator Edgardo ANGARA, Philippines, GOPAC Chair

**Private Sector -
Cornerstone for Development**

Government policies have a decisive impact on shaping the business environment for the private sector. What steps can parliamentarians take to promote sustainable private sector development that facilitates inclusive growth, and what are the experiences from the region? The international development community can support government policies through developing a regulatory environment that fosters opportunities for entrepreneurship and job creation; Facilitating access to a broad range of financial services; Mobilizing the private sector to offer better services, such as housing finance and insurance, to the poor as consumers; and Supporting developing countries build robust financial systems that are resilient to shocks.

Speakers:

Angela PRIGOZHINA, FPD Country Sector Coordinator for the South Caucasus, the World Bank

Hon. Jean Damascène NTAWUKULIRYAYO, Rwanda Senate

Moderator:

Hon. Jeremy LEFROY, House of Commons, UK

15:30 - 17:00 General Meeting of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF
(Continuation from 22 May)

Chair: Sen. Alain DESTEXHE, MP, Belgium, President of the Parliamentary Network

- Presentation of new Board
- Discussion of future action plan for the PN

17:00 - 18:30 Visit to Baku city and the Alley of Martyrs

18:30 - 21:00 Reception at the Milli Majlis (Parliament of Azerbaijan)

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