

# CPA SMALL BRANCHES SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP



## WORKSHOP REPORT

**The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)** connects, develops, promotes and supports parliamentarians and their staff to identify benchmarks of good governance and the implementation of the enduring values of the Commonwealth. The CPA collaborates with parliaments and other organisations, including the intergovernmental community, to achieve its statement of purpose. It brings parliamentarians and parliamentary staff together to exchange ideas among themselves and with experts in various fields, to identify benchmarks of good practices and new policy options they can adopt or adapt in the governance of their societies.

**The CPA Small Branches** is a network made up of members from over 40 Commonwealth legislatures in jurisdictions with populations of up to 500,000 people. Members discuss political problems and the operation of democratic systems in some of the world's smallest jurisdictions. The CPA works closely with Small Branches in all regions of the Commonwealth to identify their particular needs and requirements in parliamentary strengthening, development and cooperation.

### **Contacts**

All correspondence with regard to this report should be addressed to Ms Bénite Dibateza, Programmes Assistant and Project Manager responsible of the delivery of the Small Branches Sustainable Economic Development Workshop, and Mr Jack Hardcastle, Programmes Assistant responsible for the management of the CPA Small Branches network at: [hq.sec@cpahq.org](mailto:hq.sec@cpahq.org)

### **Acknowledgements**

The CPA Headquarters Secretariat would like to sincerely thank Dr Jonathan King, Deputy Clerk of Tynwald and Clerk of the Legislative Council for both his assistance at the workshop and for drafting this report. We would also like to thank the Parliament of Malta for recording the evidence sessions heard at the workshop and the Hansard Team at Tynwald for producing the transcripts.

Lastly, the CPA Headquarters Secretariat would like to thank Hon. Dr Angelo Farrugia, Speaker of the Parliament of Malta and his staff, all the parliamentarians who participated as Members of the Workshop Select Committee and, the Specialists who served as witnesses, with out whom we could not have delivered the workshop nor published this report.

© Commonwealth Parliamentary Association 2020

All rights reserved. This publication may be reproduced, stored, or transmitted in any form or by any means, electronic or mechanical, including photography, recording or otherwise provided it is used only for educational purposes and is not for resale, and provided full acknowledgement is given to the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association as the original publisher. Rights are not extended for the reproduction of any photography or design not owned by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association as contained in this publication.

Views and opinions expressed in this publication are the responsibility of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association Headquarters Secretariat and should not be attributed to any parliament or member of the Association.

**Have you used this publication?  
If you have, let us know as we are always keen to hear how our  
products are being used. Our details are on the back.**

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

<b>WORKSHOP SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP</b>	<b>1</b>
<b>I. BACKGROUND</b>	<b>2</b>
THE CPA SMALL BRANCHES NETWORK	2
THE CPA SMALL BRANCHES SUSTAINABLE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT WORKSHOP	2
THE MODIFIED SELECT COMMITTEE PROCEDURE ADOPTED FOR THE WORKSHOP	3
<b>II. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS</b>	<b>4</b>
THE UNITED NATIONS SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS	4
THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS AND PARLIAMENTARIANS	5
THE ROLE OF INTERPARLIAMENTARY GROUPINGS	6
<b>III. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT</b>	<b>8</b>
<b>IV. SOCIAL PROGRESS</b>	<b>10</b>
EDUCATION	10
EQUALITY AND EQUITY	11
MIGRATION	12
<b>V. ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE</b>	<b>14</b>
CLIMATE CHANGE AND SUSTAINABLE ENERGY	14
FOOD AND WATER SECURITY	16
OCEAN MANAGEMENT	18
<b>VI. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>ANNEX 1 : WITNESS PROFILES</b>	<b>23</b>
<b>ANNEX 2: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN CONTEXT: MULTILATERAL MEETINGS AND AGREEMENTS SINCE 1992</b>	<b>28</b>
<b>ANNEX 3: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS</b>	<b>29</b>

*Transcriptions of oral evidence heard by the Workshop Select Committee are published in a separate document alongside this Report. Footnote references beginning with “Q” are references to the transcriptions, in which each question asked by the Committee has been assigned a unique number.*

## WORKSHOP SELECT COMMITTEE MEMBERSHIP

**SMALL BRANCHES CHAIRPERSON**, Hon. Niki Rattle (the Cook Islands)

Hon. David Agius MP (Malta)

Mr Tim Baker MHK (Isle of Man)

Ms Joy Burch MLA (Australian Capital Territory)

Mr Jeff Collins MLA (Northern Territory (Australia))

Hon. Josephine Connolly MHA (Turks and Caicos)

Mr David Earl (Alderney)

Hon. Dr Corinda Essex MLC (St Helena)

Deputy Inna Gardiner (Jersey)

Hon. Hamizan bin Hassan MLA (Perlis)

Hon. Gervais Henrie MNA (Seychelles)

Sen. Dr Lynette P Holder (Barbados)

Hon. Jean-Claude Micallef MP (Malta)

H.E. Hon. Sir Ratu Epeli Nailatikau, CF, LVO, OBE (Mil), KStJ, CSM, MSD (Fiji) (Observer)

Ms Sandra Nelson MLA (Northern Territory)

Hon. Kye Rymer MHA (the British Virgin Islands)

Mr Bill Shimmins MHK (Isle of Man)

Hon. Tamaiva Tuavera MP (the Cook Islands)

Deputy Robert Ward (Jersey)



Members of the Workshop Committee

## I. BACKGROUND

### The CPA Small Branches network

1. Since 1981 the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association has held an annual conference for member Branches representing populations up to 500,000, referred to as Small Branches. There are now 43 such Branches, representing seven of the Association's nine Regions. As well as participating in an annual conference, they form a network which provides an opportunity to discuss the operation of democratic systems in some of the world's smallest jurisdictions.
2. In 2016 a Small Branches Chairperson was elected for the first time to represent Small Branches on the Executive Committee of the Association. The first holder of this post was Hon. Dr Angelo Farrugia MP, Speaker of the Parliament of Malta. In 2018 a Small Branches Strategic Plan was launched recommending the establishment of a Small Branches Steering Committee. In 2019, at the end of his term of office, he was succeeded by Hon. Niki Rattle, Speaker of the Cook Islands.

### The CPA Small Branches Sustainable Economic Development Workshop

3. This Report has its origins from an initial idea of the Small Branches Chairperson Hon. Dr Angelo Farrugia, who presented his proposal at the first meeting of the Small Branches Steering Committee, which took place in Kampala, Uganda, in 2019. At that meeting, the Committee agreed to hold a workshop on the theme of sustainable economic development. The Steering Committee's vision was of a workshop which would both:
  - Equip parliamentarians with the essential knowledge needed to effectively enact and support policies administered by their respective parliaments; and
  - Provide parliamentarians with the tools needed to scrutinise commitments and goals made by their respective governments relating to sustainable economic development.
4. In order to address the first of these two aims, it was decided that the workshop would be delivered as a mock Select Committee inquiry. Accordingly, the present Report is in the form of a Select Committee Report.
5. Following the dissemination of invitations to Small Branches, 25 places were allocated to Members who met the required criteria. In the event, 19 parliamentarians (including the Small Branches Chairperson) participated in the workshop representing 14 Branches and six Regions.
6. The workshop took place in Malta from 29 January 2020 to 31 January 2020. It was supported by Mr Vernon Barrett, international development specialist (Jamaica); Dr Jonathan King, Deputy Clerk of Tynwald (Isle of Man); and on behalf of the CPA HQ Secretariat by Ms Anna Schuesterl, Programmes Manager, Ms Bénite Dibateza Programmes Assistant and Project Manager for this workshop, and Mr Jack Hardcastle, Programmes Assistant.

### The modified Select Committee procedure adopted for the workshop

7. As a general principle, the procedure of a Select Committee in a Commonwealth Parliament is determined by the Committee itself within broadly permissive Standing Orders. In the present case, given that the Select Committee was created for the purpose of the workshop and only came together for the three days of the workshop, it was not practical for the Select Committee itself to determine every element of its own procedure. Instead, the initial stages of its work were undertaken by the CPA HQ Secretariat and in consultation with the CPA Small Branches Chairperson and with Ms Gabriella Cassola, Acting Director of the Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence.
8. It was determined in October 2019 that the overall theme of sustainable economic development should be broken down into three inquiries and seven subtopics, as follows:
  - Inquiry 1:** Economic Empowerment. Subtopics: (i) trade opportunities; (ii) development of the tourism sector
  - Inquiry 2:** Social Progress. Subtopics: (iii) education; (iv) inclusion and equality
  - Inquiry 3:** Environmental Governance. Subtopics: (v) renewable energy and energy independence; (vi) ocean management; (vii) climate action change and impacts on food security.

9. CPA HQ Secretariat staff made arrangements for the appearance of ten witnesses, asking each witness to address one of the seven subtopics. Of the witnesses, three were parliamentarians who were also participants in the workshop and were therefore also Members of the Select Committee; two were part of the team supporting the workshop; three were resident in Malta, and two travelled to Malta for the purposes of giving evidence. Profiles of all the witnesses are annexed to this Report.<sup>1</sup>
10. The Select Committee met on three occasions. At its first meeting, on Wednesday 29 January 2020 in the Grand Hotel Excelsior, Valletta, Malta, the Select Committee determined the procedures to be followed during its remaining meetings; and it had an initial discussion of the topic of sustainable development. As part of that discussion, the Select Committee approved the following terms of reference for its inquiry:
  - **What should be the highest priorities for small jurisdictions in relation to sustainable economic development?**
  - **How can parliaments and assemblies in small jurisdictions best contribute to the achievement of those priorities?**
  - **What is the role of international parliamentary networks such as the CPA Small Branches network in supporting the advancement of sustainable economic development priorities?**
11. In the afternoon of Wednesday 29 January, the Members undertook a site visit to Malta's Water Services Corporation and to the Ghar Lapsi Reverse Osmosis Plant, where they saw first-hand examples of sustainable economic development. The Select Committee's second and third meetings, on Thursday 30 January 2020 and Friday 31 January 2020, were held in the Chamber of the Parliament of Malta. On each of these occasions, the Committee heard and considered oral evidence.
12. In order to effectively apply the chosen format of a mock Select Committee inquiry, the oral evidence was heard in private, the press and public not being admitted. It was, however, made clear to the Members and witnesses that the oral evidence would be filmed, transcribed and published. Those transcriptions are published as a separate document alongside this Report. They were produced through a collaboration between the Parliament of Malta and Tynwald, the Parliament of the Isle of Man. The Parliament of Malta produced a video recording of the proceedings and an initial draft transcription. This draft was checked, corrected and formatted by the Tynwald Hansard team.
13. Each oral evidence session was preceded and followed by a private discussion among the Members of the Select Committee. Although those discussions were filmed for future reference by the CPA HQ Secretariat, they were intended as private discussions and they are not therefore being published.
14. After the three meetings in Malta, an earlier draft of this Report was circulated to all the Members of the Select Committee. Members' comments on that draft have been taken into account in the present text, which is issued on the authority of the Chairperson of the Small Branches network.

---

1. See Annex 1

## II. SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AND THE ROLE OF PARLIAMENTS

### The UN Sustainable Development Goals

15. “Transforming our world: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development” was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 25 September 2015.<sup>2</sup> The resolution was the latest stage in a programme of international activities going back to at least the Rio Earth Summit of 1992.<sup>3</sup> The Agenda incorporates 17 Sustainable Development Goals or “SDGs”.<sup>4</sup> There are 169 targets for the 17 goals. Each target has up to three indicators. In total there are 232 approved indicators.
16. The concept of sustainable development was explained by the 1987 Report of the World Commission on Environment and Development: Our Common Future (also known as the Brundtland Report) as development which meets the needs of the present without compromising the ability of future generations to meet their own needs.<sup>5</sup> This definition was adopted for the purposes of this Report.
17. It was noted during the workshop that the Sustainable Development Goals set out an ambitious programme relating not only to economic development, but also to social and environmental matters. It was further noted that although the starting point for this inquiry was the question of sustainable economic development, this question was closely linked with those of sustainable social and environmental development.
18. The 2015 UN resolution makes specific reference to Small Island Developing States (SIDs) and to a parallel programme of international action going back at least to 1994.<sup>6</sup> The resolution states:

*In deciding upon these Goals and targets, we recognise that each country faces specific challenges to achieve sustainable development, and we underscore the special challenges facing the most vulnerable countries and, in particular, African countries, least developed countries, landlocked developing countries and small island developing States, as well as the specific challenges facing the middle income countries.<sup>7</sup>*

Among the 169 targets in the resolution, there are 10 which make express mention of Small Island Developing States.<sup>8</sup>

19. The jurisdictions represented by the CPA Small Branches are at varying stages of development, and not all are islands, states, or classified as developing. Nevertheless, it is important to be aware of the international agenda relating to Small Island Developing States, which is part of the context in which all jurisdictions operate.
20. Dr Patrick Osakwe said:

*“Small states are key to the achievement of the sustainable development goals. Why did I say that? I am saying that because one of the main principles of the sustainable development goals is to leave no one behind. If we are to leave no one behind, we have to make sure that we address the key economic development challenges facing small states, particularly the least developing countries amongst them. Because if we do not address these challenges, we are not going to achieve the sustainable development goals which we have set for ourselves.”<sup>9</sup>*

21. Just as Dr Osakwe believes that small states are key to the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals, the Sustainable Development Goals are key to the future of CPA Small Branches.

---

2. UN resolution A/Res/70/1 [https://www.un.org/ga/search/view\\_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E](https://www.un.org/ga/search/view_doc.asp?symbol=A/RES/70/1&Lang=E)

3. See Annex 2

4. See Annex 3

5. <https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/content/documents/5987our-common-future.pdf>

6. See Annex 2

7. UN resolution A/Res/70/1, paragraph 67

8. UN resolution A/Res/70/1, targets 3c, 4b, 4c, 7b, 9a, 10b, 13b, 14.7, 14a, 17:18

9. Q2

## The role of Parliaments and Parliamentarians

22. It was recognised in discussions that the signatories to the UN Agenda for Change were the Governments of sovereign states, not parliaments and not states, provinces, territories or dependencies. Nevertheless, every Branch in the CPA Small Branches network represents a Parliament or Assembly of a jurisdiction which is either a UN Member State in its own right or relies on a UN Member State for international representation. Either way, all their Governments are signed up to the UN Agenda for Change.
23. It was however acknowledged by Members of the Select Committee that some states, provinces, territories and dependencies within the CPA Small Branches have their own National Sustainable Development Plans of which the Parliament or Assembly plays a role in its implementation.
24. As Parliaments, the Small Branches of the CPA have considerable influence over their Governments. They should use that influence to ensure that their Governments deliver the Sustainable Development Goals. They can do this by raising awareness in their communities generally, and also by using the Sustainable Development Goals as a framework when undertaking their core parliamentary functions.

### Recommendation 1

**Small Branches should raise awareness of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs should be incorporated into the core parliamentary functions of legislating, overseeing the actions of the Executive and representing constituents.**

### Recommendation 2

**Small Branches should hold their Governments to account for delivery of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.**

25. The delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals does not only require action by Governments: it will also require changes in behaviour by individuals. As the UN resolution puts it:

*Governments, international organisations, the business sector and other non-State actors and individuals must contribute to changing unsustainable consumption and production patterns.<sup>10</sup>*

Moving away from unsustainable patterns of activity is more easily said than done. Individual Parliamentarians, as leaders in society, have an important role to play. They should take the lead in adopting sustainable practices, knowing that where they lead, others will follow.

---

10. UN resolution A/Res/70/1, paragraph 28



## Recommendation 3

**Members of Small Branches should form a network of champions, leading by their own example.**

### The role of inter-parliamentary groupings

26. International co-operation is clearly essential to the delivery of the Sustainable Development Goals. Representatives from small Parliaments and Assemblies all benefit from opportunities to share expertise. High value is therefore placed on the opportunities offered by the CPA.
27. A further challenge faced by representatives of small jurisdictions is that of making their voices heard. Greater success is achieved in drawing international attention to shared concerns if Small Branches act collectively rather than individually.

## Recommendation 4

**Small Branches should join forces in sharing best practice and in drawing international attention to their shared concerns. Small Branches should continue to co-operate through inter-parliamentary groupings such as the CPA and others.**

28. At a practical level, the Select Committee noted that one of the ways in which Small Branches can share best practice is through the work of the CPA HQ Secretariat. The Secretariat already holds information about parliamentary practice and procedure throughout the Commonwealth. The Members of the Select Committee would like the Secretariat to develop its expertise in the area of Sustainable Development.
29. According to a report published by the UN in July 2018, between USD \$3.3 to \$4.5 trillion per year is needed to be mobilised if the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development is to be achieved. The report stated that at the levels of public and private investments being made in SDG-related sectors, developing countries faced an average annual funding gap of USD \$2.5 trillion.<sup>11</sup> The Select Committee noted the existence of green finance initiatives and the challenge of making environmental projects “investor-friendly”.<sup>12</sup> The Select Committee identified this as an area where the CPA HQ Secretariat may be able to assist.

## Recommendation 5

**The CPA Small Branches network should act as a central repository for information relating to Sustainable Development Goals including a glossary of funding sources.**

11. Local insights, global ambition: unlocking SDG financing: good practices from early adopters <https://unsdg.un.org/sites/default/files/Unlocking-SDG-Financing-Good-Practices-Early-Adopters.pdf>

12. Q65

## Recommendation 6

**Further work should be done by the CPA Small Branches network to develop best practice guidance on attracting private investment.**

30. Participants found the Select Committee approach valuable for the purposes of the January 2020 Sustainable Economic Development workshop in Malta, because it enabled them to look together in some detail at a significant topic and to come up with agreed recommendations.
31. It was recognised, on the other hand, that participants had come together for only three days and that they had been selected for this opportunity by the CPA HQ Secretariat, not elected by their communities. If the CPA Small Branches network were to organise a similar workshop in the future, it would in all likelihood have different participants leading to a lack of continuity.

## Recommendation 7

**The Small Branches Network should consider establishing a task force on the idea of a Small Branches Parliament which could lead to a Commonwealth Parliament.**



Members of the Committee on a site visit to the Ghar Lapsi Reverse Osmosis Plant.  
(Image by Josua Namoce Fiji)

### III. ECONOMIC EMPOWERMENT

32. Trade permeates nearly all of the Sustainable Development Goals. Targets relevant to the Select Committee's terms of reference include:

- SDG 8a: "Increase Aid for Trade support for developing countries, in particular least developed countries, including through the Enhanced Integrated Framework for Trade-Related Technical Assistance to Least Developed Countries"; and
- SDG 17.11: "Significantly increase the exports of developing countries, in particular with a view to doubling the least developed countries' share of global exports by 2020".

33. Tourism can be linked to many of the SDGs and targets. Targets relevant to the Select Committee's terms of reference include:

- SDG 8.9: "By 2030, devise and implement policies to promote sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products"; and
- SDG 12.b: "Develop and implement tools to monitor sustainable development impacts for sustainable tourism that creates jobs and promotes local culture and products".

34. Sen. Dr Lynette P. Holder informed the Select Committee that according to the World Bank, the Caribbean share of world trade fell from about 3% in the 1970s to 0.25% by 2012. Poverty was on the increase, meaning that the benefits of trade were not reaching vulnerable groups. Economies had not diversified and were not competitive as compared with Latin American exporters.

35. Sen. Dr Holder summed up the role of parliaments by saying:

*I believe that Parliament ought to legislate, ... to give oversight to the executive and thirdly, represent the people that would have placed our legislators in place.<sup>13</sup>*

She expanded on the regulatory role of the legislature as follows:

*At the end of the day, for me, a firm is in business or operates to trade and to do business. The legislative environment has to be such that it incentivises them to pay attention to their environment.*

*In my country, for example, we have used the legislative apparatus to encourage our firms to use renewable energy ... In absence of that legislation, our firms will continue to draw on fossil fuels ... it is the Parliament who has to legislate that social consciousness.<sup>14</sup>*

36. Although coming from a different perspective, Dr Patrick Osakwe's comments on the role of Parliaments in relation to sustainable trade were similar to Sen. Dr Holder's. He said:

*Trade is critical to the economic development of small states. They are very small, they have very high trade-GDP ratios; that means they are very vulnerable to economic shocks. What we observe in a lot of these countries is that, even though exports are growing – output is growing – there are very high unemployment rates, so the impact of trade on poverty is very low in a number of small states. So we have to find ways to strengthen linkages between trade and poverty reduction in small states.*

*There are three key areas where I think there is need for action. One is to deal with productive capacities; the second is to promote social inclusion, because if you do not get particularly marginalised groups involved in the growth and development process, you are not going to have any serious linkages between trade and poverty reduction in small states; and then finally, the issue of economic empowerment, which is something that we are going to discuss here in a few minutes.*

---

13. Q1  
14. Q6

Let me end by saying that Parliaments have a key role to play in each of these areas that I have identified, because they have a monitoring role, which is very important. I think Dr Holder has already talked about the legislative functions, the oversight functions, the participatory issues, but monitoring the implementation of some of the policies and agreements that we have relating to small states are very important in terms of making trade work for small states.<sup>15</sup>

## Recommendation 8

**Small Branches should participate in the development of an open trading system in line with SDG 17 and should ensure that legislation in their jurisdiction facilitates sustainable economic growth. At the same time, they should regulate economic activity so as to ensure the achievement of environmental and social targets.**



15. Q2

## IV. SOCIAL PROGRESS

### Education

37. SDG 4 is: “ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all”. Education is linked to many other goals:

- Poverty, hunger, health, gender equality (SDGs 1, 2, 3 and 5) – women with a secondary education seek out antenatal care and better medical treatment in general, take more measures to improve their children’s health, delay marriage and have fewer children (thus reducing maternal mortality), are more likely to send their children to school, and have greater economic opportunities that will alleviate poverty and hunger.<sup>16</sup>
- Economic growth (SDG 8) – for every US\$1 spent on education, as much as US\$10 to US\$15 can be generated in economic growth.<sup>17</sup>
- Decent work for all (SDG 8) – “credentialing” (the attainment of degrees or certificates of achievement) has become a social necessity. Employers seek highly schooled individuals and depend on the education system to prepare and distinguish job candidates.<sup>18</sup>

38. Hon. Dr Corinda Essex informed the Committee that she believed education was the key to sustainable development; and explained the challenges of delivering inclusive and equitable quality education to all in St Helena.<sup>19</sup> Ms Katie Gallogly-Swan said that education was crucial for climate change.<sup>20</sup> The Hon. Ratu Epeli Nailatikau said that education was the most important element of the tourist sector.<sup>21</sup>

39. The Hon. Ratu Epeli Nailatikau went on to make the following comment on the link between education and development:

*Just like with sustainable development goals, you educate the children, they educate their parents – not the other way round because too many parents these days sit back and think about old times. The time for that is over.<sup>22</sup>*

## Recommendation 9

**Small Branches should recognise the key importance of education (SDG 4) and its links to other goals including those relating to poverty, hunger, health, gender equality, economic growth and decent work for all. Educate the children, and they will educate their parents.**

16. The central role of education in the Millennium Development Goals (UNESCO, 2010), page 18  
[http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/ED/ED\\_new/images/education\\_for\\_all\\_international\\_coordination\\_new/PDF/analyticalnote.pdf](http://www.unesco.org/new/fileadmin/MULTIMEDIA/HQ/ED/ED_new/images/education_for_all_international_coordination_new/PDF/analyticalnote.pdf) (accessed 20 February 2020)

17. “Youth and skills: putting education to work” (UNESCO, 2012), page 18  
<https://unesdoc.unesco.org/ark:/48223/pf0000218003> (accessed 20 February 2020)

18. Q22

19. Q 22, 32, 36, 37

20. Q 23

21. Q15

22. Q15

## Equality and equity

40. In adopting the SDGs, UN Member States pledged that no-one would be left behind.<sup>23</sup> The Select Committee looked both at gender inclusion and at the issue of inclusion more generally.

41. In terms of gender, it was noted that SDG 5 is “Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls”. Gender equality is closely linked to other SDGs. It is referred to in the targets supporting other SDGs including SDG 1 (end poverty), SDG 4 (education) and SDG 17 (means of implementation). According to the International Monetary Fund, greater gender equality boosts economic growth and leads to better development outcomes.<sup>24</sup>

42. Ms Katie Gallogly-Swan spoke to the Select Committee about the importance of pursuing gender equality, as required by SDG 5, and also about the importance of the related but distinct concept of gender equity. She said:

*Equality is giving two people the same pair of shoes. Equity is giving two people shoes that are their size. So if we have an economy and a world that is designed for men, that means that women will always be trying to catch up.<sup>25</sup>*

43. In terms of inclusion more generally, it was noted that:

- SDG 8 is “Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all”;
- SDG 10 is “Reduce inequality within and among countries”; and
- SDG 16 is: “Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels”.

44. With gender and with inclusion more generally Ms Gallogly-Swan argued that the aspiration of Parliaments should be not only equality, but equity. She said:

*So equality is about being treated equally, but equity is recognising that different people – not just the differences between men and women, because all men and women deserve their rights to be recognised, but all intersectional differences. That means different genders but that also means people of different countries, different languages, people who have disabilities, people who are of different racial backgrounds – those differences all make a difference in how we are able to engage in our society.<sup>26</sup>*

45. Dr Stefano Moncada gave the Select Committee cause for optimism that small jurisdictions may be well-placed to pursue equitable treatment for all their citizens. He said:

*In terms of whether inclusion is easier in small jurisdictions or not, the answer is yes. Why is that? Probably because of proximity and the idea that, for example, if you fall into any type of uncomfortable situation there is always your family. Then there are different layers of protection: there is your family, there is the state which has a proportionally higher presence than in bigger countries, and then there are other organisations of civil society at large. So, it is relatively more difficult for a person in general to fall behind the lines than in other big countries.*

*So it is easier, but going back to my first point, it depends a lot on the role of governance. How able and willing is the Parliament at times to intervene to assist in that net of welfare or support that the person or part of the community need? Very few usually are left behind in smaller jurisdictions and if this happens, of course there are exceptions, there is also a way for these people or parts of the community to be very vociferous. We know from evidence that it is more difficult, or it is taken care of a bit better.<sup>27</sup>*

23. UN resolution A/Res/70/1, Preamble and paragraph 4

24. “Pursuing women’s economic empowerment”, International Monetary Fund, 2018

<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/Policy-Papers/Issues/2018/05/31/pp053118pursuing-womens-economic-empowerment> (accessed 20 February 2020)

25. Q23

26. Q24

27. Q27

46. SDG target 5.5 is “Ensure women’s full and effective participation and equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in political, economic and public life.” The Select Committee noted that there were significant differences in the gender balance in each of the Members’ own respective Parliaments. For example, the Legislative Assembly of the Australian Capital Territory was 52% women Members, while that of Malta was 12% women Members.<sup>28</sup> There was a discussion of some length on different ways of achieving effective participation by women in Parliaments.<sup>29</sup> The Select Committee did not identify a single solution, but was able to agree that more work in this area would be of value.

## Recommendation 10

**Small Branches should recognise that sustainable economic development will not be achieved without equitable treatment of everyone; and without income inequality being addressed.**

## Recommendation 11

**The CPA Small Branches network should consider developing a position paper or best practice guidelines on achieving equitable representation in Parliaments.**

### Migration

47. SDG 10 is “Reduce inequality within and among countries” and one of the supporting targets is:
- SDG 10.7: “Facilitate orderly, safe, regular and responsible migration and mobility of people, including through the implementation of planned and well-managed migration policies”.

The UN resolution of September 2015 also states:

*We recognise the positive contribution of migrants for inclusive growth and sustainable development. We also recognise that international migration is a multidimensional reality of major relevance for the development of countries of origin, transit and destination, which requires coherent and comprehensive responses. We will cooperate internationally to ensure safe, orderly and regular migration involving full respect for human rights and the humane treatment of migrants regardless of migration status, of refugees and of displaced persons. Such cooperation should also strengthen the resilience of communities hosting refugees, particularly in developing countries.<sup>30</sup>*

28. QQ 28, 30, 38, 42, 45, 48

29. QQ 27 to 32

30. UN resolution A/Res/70/1, paragraph 29

48. Dr Stefano Moncada told the Select Committee:

*All the evidence that we have gathered – of course bar a few exceptions – tell us that migration is beneficial to the economy of a country and migrants are not a burden to the welfare of a country.<sup>31</sup>*

49. The Select Committee recognised that migration has wide-ranging social and economic impacts which are, as the UN resolution quoted above states, of major relevance for the development of countries of “origin, transit and destination”. It was also recognised that some Small Branches were “countries of origin”, while others were “countries of destination”. Members of the Select Committee therefore found that their perspectives on migration issues were different and concluded that there would be value in further discussion.

## Recommendation 12

**Small Branches should participate in the development of a set of guidelines designed to ensure a positive migration policy in line with SDG 10. Small Branches should be leaders in promoting the study of migration from a variety of perspectives to guarantee better integration programmes, to address any imbalance in social progress and to ensure population growth which is economically sustainable.**



Ing Anne Marie Grech and Prof. Aldo Drago giving oral evidence to the Committee Members

31. Q46



## V. ENVIRONMENTAL GOVERNANCE

### Climate change and sustainable energy

50. SDG 13 is “Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts” and SDG 7 is “Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy”.
51. During the course of the CPA Small Branches Sustainable Economic Development Workshop in Malta in January 2020, the CPA HQ Secretariat launched its publication “Climate Change and Small States: Parliamentarian’s Toolkit”.<sup>32</sup> This publication is referred to in the oral evidence as “the toolkit”. The toolkit defines adaptation as any action taken to adjust to climate change, and mitigation as action taken to reduce, avoid or sequester greenhouse gas emissions. It goes on to state:

*Due to their vulnerability to the effects of climate change, and negligible contributions to global greenhouse gas emissions, small states’ responses should largely prioritise adaptation...*

*Because the contribution of small states towards global emissions is negligible, investing in climate change mitigation may seem like a pointless, or even diversionary endeavour. However, pursuing mitigation strategies is important for several reasons:*

- *It provides the opportunity for small states to achieve other development objectives, for example, achieving energy security and reliable, resilient energy infrastructure.*
- *It showcases leadership in low carbon development, which has a positive effect on development overall and applies pressure for the biggest emitters to follow – especially if small states transform energy plans at a regional or inter-island level.*
- *It can inform investment decisions to avoid locking in higher levels of emissions in long-term infrastructure and assets.*
- *It provides opportunities for resilience building from the resulting economic transformation of investing in renewable energy.*<sup>33</sup>

52. Mr Jack Hardcastle, who produced the toolkit on behalf of the CPA HQ Secretariat, commented:

*When we look at the dilemma with small states combatting climate change and sustainable energy, there is the need to balance climate change adaptation which, for many, is the priority, but then they can also look towards mitigation, for which having the energy transformation/energy revolution is a key aspect.*

*I think that by mitigating climate change, small states can set an example to larger states. Smaller jurisdiction can set a good example for bigger states to follow, especially those more culpable, in terms of greenhouse gas emissions. But it also increases security and reduces vulnerabilities in relation to reliance on fossil fuels, for example. So many small states and small jurisdictions are heavily reliant on imported fossil fuels, which creates increased vulnerability to external shocks in the global economy.*

*So by transforming their energy policy and their energy systems, I think they can kill two birds with one stone by increasing security, but also setting an example for others to follow as well.*<sup>34</sup>

32. “Climate change and small states: Parliamentarian’s toolkit: a guide for effective climate change action” [https://issuu.com/theparliamentarian/docs/cpa\\_small\\_branches\\_climate\\_change\\_toolkit\\_feb\\_2020](https://issuu.com/theparliamentarian/docs/cpa_small_branches_climate_change_toolkit_feb_2020) (accessed 21 February 2020)

33. “Climate change and small states: Parliamentarian’s toolkit: a guide for effective climate change action” pages 8 to 9

34. Q53

53. When asked what he would do to encourage jurisdictions to move to renewable energy, Mr Vernon Barrett said:

*You ... have legacy players in place, the power generating companies, and you have to find a pathway to work with them or to encourage them through policies to engage in this process of transitioning to the new world where you have the ability to tap into individual power sources. That has implications like balancing the grid and dealing with the fact that with solar, there is obviously no sunlight at night so there is no power then, and when the wind dies down. So it is an integrated system.*

*So to answer your question, it is one working with existing power companies and what is their position and what can incentivise them to move ahead to make that change. And then you can encourage private individuals.<sup>35</sup>*

54. Ing Anne-Marie Grech laid out a challenge for Parliamentarians, saying:

*I think Parliamentarians can keep their governments on their toes, in the sense they can request state of the energy sector reports identifying where we stand, whether we are reaching our targets and even request the cost of inaction; how it will impact on the state.*

*I think that the Parliamentarians also can act as ambassadors of change. For example, if they take up some innovative renewable solutions, they can even talk about their personal experience on the take up and even promote it within their state.<sup>36</sup>*

## Recommendation 13

**Small Branches should be leaders in climate change adaptation, seeing opportunities not barriers, and taking advantage of their size to act quickly and innovate.**

## Recommendation 14

**Small Branches should be leaders in climate change mitigation and in the transition to renewable energy. They should work with legacy power generating companies and with citizens; and their Members should be ambassadors for change through their own behaviour.**

## Recommendation 15

**Small Branches should make use of the CPA toolkit on climate change and small states.**

35. Q56

36. Q62

## Food and water security

55. SDG 2 is “End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture”. SDG 6 is “Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all”.
56. Mr Vernon Barrett conveyed to Members of the Select Committee the challenge of food security in the following way:

*According to the FAO, climate change is more than a risk; it is a challenge, it is a reality. We need to understand as a world, everybody, what it is that is going on, and what is likely to happen going forward in the future. I want to share a bit of that with you now.*

*What we know will happen for sure barring some major Armageddon type scenario is that the world is going to move from 7 billion to close to 10 billion by 2050. So in 30 years, there are going to be close to 10 billion people on the planet and now we have 7 billion.*

*That is about a 40% increase in people; but actually the demand for food is projected to go to 70% more, because people’s eating habits are going to change; you have wealthy people in the Far East in particular. The demand for food is going to increase substantially.*

*Combined with that, we have urban migration: about 70% of people will live in cities and that will create a social disruption to agricultural production, which is traditionally in the rural areas. So you can imagine how that will work.*

*Also we have, thanks to environmental degradation, decline in agricultural productivity in the field not only on land, but also in the sea. So for example, in the Caribbean, they are expending twice the ‘effort’ as it is termed to go fishing and they are taking in 25% less fish than they did 30 years ago. So twice the effort, 25% less fish: we can do the maths.*

*Then you add to this mix of known trends, climate change, which is throwing out some unknowns. What we can see and from work in different countries my base is in the Caribbean primarily we know that the trend for waterfall rain is declining so there are droughts, periodic and long term, and there are floods, extreme events and so on. People in the room who live in the Caribbean region will know what I am talking about.<sup>37</sup>*

Commenting on the special circumstances of small jurisdictions and particular of islands, Mr Barrett continued:

*Small jurisdictions do share similar trends and issues related to food security and food in general, although you actually do come from very diverse cross sections, so I have to be careful here, but importation of food, I would argue probably is a key component.*

*Most Caribbean islands import over 50% of their food and not only that, but the high cost of food for the people living there, the average person in the Caribbean spends more than 50% of their disposable income on buying food. Of course, that is subject to exchange rate fluctuations of their currencies.*

*Then there are vulnerable food systems you probably have as small islands: you have an issue with logistics. Most of you are small islands; not all, granted. But you have to get the food to and from the Island and then you have things such as diet, which is another aspect of food and nutrition.<sup>38</sup>*

---

37. Q52  
38. Q52

57. In introducing Members to the discussion of these issues Mr Barrett highlighted the following key points:

The thinking, going forward, in facing this issue is that we should grow our own food. You probably cannot grow all that you need, but you should certainly grow more of it. So grow what you eat and eat what you grow. It is a very simple philosophy.

Finally, the future of farming is gardening. We all have a role to play in how we go about getting our food.<sup>39</sup>

58. In the oral evidence session, the Select Committee had a valuable series of discussions in which Members recognised the significance of food and water security and the particular challenges faced by small jurisdictions on these matters.

59. In considering water security, Members of the Select Committee were grateful to the Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence for facilitating a site visit to Malta's Water Services Corporation and to the Ghar Lapsi Reverse Osmosis Plant. The Corporation's Chief Executive, Mr Richard Bilocca, explained the process and gave a clear account of recent improvements in efficiency which had primarily been achieved through improved exploitation of technology.

## **Recommendation 16**

**Small Branches should champion the SDG Agenda for food security (SDG2) including sustainable agriculture and improved nutrition, thereby ensuring increased resilience against the urgent challenges of climate change.**

## **Recommendation 17**

**Small Branches should be leaders in delivering the sustainable use and management of water resources for all communities (SDG6); promoting viable models reflecting best practice.**

---

39. Q52

## Ocean management

60. SDG 14 is “Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development.” Target 14.7 is “By 2030, increase the economic benefits to small island developing States and least developed countries from the sustainable use of marine resources, including through sustainable management of fisheries, aquaculture and tourism”.

61. Sustainable ocean management is also connected with the following goals and targets:

- SDG 6: Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all.
- Target 6.3 By 2030, improve water quality by reducing pollution, eliminating dumping and minimizing release of hazardous chemicals and materials, halving the proportion of untreated wastewater and substantially increasing recycling and safe reuse globally.

62. Other international agreements and bodies concerned with the sea include:

- Convention on Biological Diversity (“Aichi Targets”)
- UN Convention on the Law of the Sea and the Safety of Life at Sea (UNCLOS)
- International Convention for the Safety of Life at Sea (SOLAS)
- International Coral Reef Initiative
- Regional Sea Conventions, e.g. Cartagena Convention for the Caribbean, Barcelona Convention for the Mediterranean
- Commonwealth Blue Charter, and associated action groups
- Commonwealth Clean Ocean Alliance

63. The sea is important to everyone, but it is particularly important to those Members who live in islands. Committee Members heard oral evidence about many aspects of ocean management including tourism, shipping, fishing, and microplastics.

64. Professor Drago impressed on the Select Committee the complexity of the marine environment and the importance of measurement in understanding it. He said:

*The marine environment is indeed a complex system. We cannot understand it fully but we can understand those aspects and at least be able to address the aspects that we understand.*

*However, in order to be able to better understand and to better intervene, we need to measure. The state of health of a human body we continue with the analogy is by measuring certain parameters of how a person feels but also of measuring concretely certain parameters like body temperature and other things. Same with the sea; we need to have some essential parameters which are made known through a regular, long--term, sustained effort to be able to really understand whether our state of health of the coastal seas is deteriorating or not. It is not a question of just having a feeling of whether you are healthy or not; you need to be able to really measure ...*

*When I was speaking about data, I was not meaning sea temperature and sea level; I was speaking in general, knowing where the fishermen are going, knowing what gear they are using, knowing the country of origin of who is doing an activity or another, knowing where resources are going, knowing what resources are available, etc. So, I was meaning all this full range of different kinds of data, not just ocean parameters. Therefore, I think one important message is to make sure that in our countries we promote the fact that we have this information available in a systematised way, not in an ad hoc manner.<sup>40</sup>*

65. In terms of the role of national authorities, Professor Drago had one specific suggestion for the Select Committee to consider:

*One important message that we may perhaps take with us is on how we can systematise information so that it is accessible to everybody and it can be used in order to resolve and to plan. Finding a structure which enables data collection and information production on the national scale I think is one important essential step that we have to take, because that is the ingredient that we can then make use of to resolve many of the disputes in a tangible and effective manner.<sup>41</sup>*

## **Recommendation 18**

**Small Branches should pursue the systematic collection of the full range of information which is needed in order to resolve ocean management issues.**

---

40. QQ 54, 74

41. Q74

## VI. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

66. Sustainable development is important to all Small Branches. Noting that within the network there are Small Branches at very different stages of development, and facing very different economic, social and environmental challenges, sustainability needs to be pursued in different ways according to different circumstances.
67. Whatever circumstances a Branch may be in, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) form a useful framework for work on sustainability.
68. Economic development will not be sustainable unless social and environmental concerns are also addressed.
69. This Report makes 18 specific recommendations. It will be for individual participants in the Workshop, and for others, to determine how best to progress these recommendations in their own jurisdiction. The recommendations are reproduced here for ease of reference.

### Recommendation 1

**Small Branches should raise awareness of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda and the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The SDGs should be incorporated into the core parliamentary functions of legislating, overseeing the actions of the Executive and representing constituents.**

### Recommendation 2

**Small Branches should hold their Governments to account for delivery of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda.**

### Recommendation 3

**Members of Small Branches should actively champion issues concerning CPA Small Branches and lead by example in their respective regions.**

### Recommendation 4

**Small Branches should join forces in sharing best practice and in drawing international attention to their shared concerns. Small Branches should continue to co-operate through inter-parliamentary groupings such as the CPA and others.**

### Recommendation 5

**The CPA Small Branches network should act as a central repository for information relating to Sustainable Development Goals including a glossary of funding sources.**

## **Recommendation 6**

Further work should be done by the CPA Small Branches network to develop best practice guidance on attracting private investment.

## **Recommendation 7**

The Small Branches Network should consider establishing a task force on the idea of a Small Branches Parliament which could lead to a Commonwealth Parliament.

## **Recommendation 8**

Small Branches should participate in the development of an open trading system in line with SDG 17 and should ensure that legislation in their jurisdiction facilitates sustainable economic growth. At the same time, they should regulate economic activity so as to ensure the achievement of environmental and social targets.

## **Recommendation 9**

Small Branches should recognise the key importance of education (SDG 4) and its links to other goals including those relating to poverty, hunger, health, gender equality, economic growth and decent work for all. Educate the children, and they will educate their parents.

## **Recommendation 10**

Small Branches should recognise that sustainable economic development will not be achieved without equitable treatment of everyone; and without income inequality being addressed.

## **Recommendation 11**

The CPA Small Branches network should consider developing a position paper or best practice guidelines on achieving equitable representation in parliaments.

## **Recommendation 12**

Small Branches should participate in the development of a set of guidelines designed to ensure a positive migration policy in line with SDG 10. Small Branches should be leaders in promoting the study of migration from a variety of perspectives to guarantee better integration programmes, to address any imbalance in social progress and to ensure population growth which is economically sustainable.



## **Recommendation 13**

**Small Branches should be leaders in climate change adaptation, seeing opportunities not barriers, and taking advantage of their size to act quickly and innovate.**

## **Recommendation 14**

**Small Branches should be leaders in climate change mitigation and in the transition to renewable energy. They should work with legacy power generating companies and with citizens; and their Members should be ambassadors for change through their own behaviour.**

## **Recommendation 15**

**Small Branches should make use of the CPA toolkit on climate change and small states.**

## **Recommendation 16**

**Small Branches should champion the SDG Agenda for food security (SDG2) including sustainable agriculture and improved nutrition, thereby ensuring increased resilience against the urgent challenges of climate change.**

## **Recommendation 17**

**Small Branches should be leaders in delivering the sustainable use and management of water resources for all communities (SDG6); promoting viable models reflecting best practice.**

## **Recommendation 18**

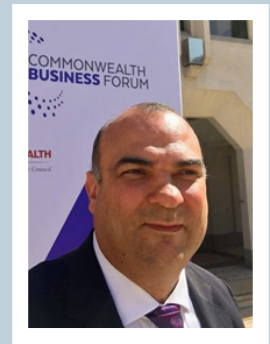
**Small Branches should pursue the systematic collection of the full range of information which is needed in order to resolve ocean management issues.**

## ANNEX 1: WITNESS PROFILES

### VERNON BARRETT

#### International Sustainable Development Specialist

Vernon Barrett is an independent, international business consultant who advises governments, companies and organisations, globally, in areas of sustainable development goals (SDGs), socio-economic transformation, trade and investment, entrepreneurship and private sector development - particularly as they relate to Small States. He has worked on multi-year development projects in several Small States: Belize, Dominican Republic, Jamaica, Grenada, Trinidad & Tobago and Guyana. Vernon holds an MBA from London Business School and was trained in Management Consultancy at the world leading practices of Accenture and Deloitte. This has been followed by over 30 years of global experience, across diverse industry sectors including: Maritime, Aquaculture, Tourism, Food, Agro-processing, Renewable Energy, Creative Industries, Media & Film, Environment, Distribution & Transportation, and Business Services. During 2017-2018, Vernon advised the Commonwealth Secretariat on strategies to address diverse Small States (SIDS) development issues, successfully establishing the Commonwealth Small States Centre of Excellence in London & Malta. He developed initiatives to assist SIDS in achieving their Sustainable Development Goals - particularly relating to SDG13 (Climate Action), SDG14 (Ocean Governance) and SDG3 (Health). During 2019 he advised a Caribbean Government in developing its National Agri-Business Sector Strategy and Five-Year Action Plan, in the context of global Climate Change. Vernon is currently advising the UN (FAO) on SDG2 (Food Security & Sustainable Agriculture) issues and specifically as they relate to SIDS, Private Sector engagement and Climate Change. Central to his work, Vernon specialises in leading change actions - conceptualising new approaches and mobilising financial (and other) resources for transformational implementation, through collaborative projects, for example creating the International Fine Cocoa Innovation Centre in Trinidad & Tobago. His core competences include Organisational Change, Thought Leadership, Change Management, Business Development, Program Management, Monitoring, Evaluation & Learning. Vernon has a passion for catalysing practical change in areas such as the Blue Economy (Mariculture, Mangrove Rehabilitation etc.) and he was instrumental in recently securing one of the first Caribbean Bio-Diversity Fund (EbA) grants for a Jamaican-led partnership, which will address issues facing the Kingston Harbour Eco-systems and its dependent vulnerable communities.



### PROFFESOR ALDO DRAGO

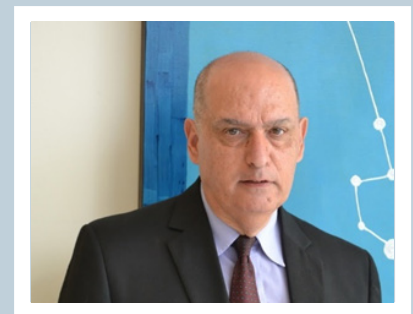
#### Head, Physical Oceanography Research Group Dept. of Geosciences, University of Malta

Currently leading the Physical Oceanography Research Group (PO-Res. Grp., ex Physical Oceanography Unit, PO-Unit) within the Department of Geosciences.

The PO-Res.Grp undertakes oceanographic research, in a holistic perspective, including operational marine observations and forecasts, specialised data management analysis and participation in international cooperative research ventures. The PO-Res.Grp promotes activities in operational oceanography with the installation and maintenance of permanent sea monitoring systems, and the provision of meteo-marine forecasts and related downstream services. Under his direction, the PO-Res.Grp has strengthened its activities, know-how and capability through the participation in several EU funded regional and pan-European scientific projects, INTERREG and MED Programme projects.

Prof. Drago obtained his Ph.D. in physical oceanography from the University of Southampton in 1999. He is the founder of PO-Unit. His initial engagement was with the Malta Council for Science and Technology in 1991, where he conducted a number of programmes and initiatives both locally and internationally as Coordinator of the Marine Sciences Network. He served as the Maltese delegate to the Intergovernmental Oceanographic Commission (IOC/UNESCO) and to the International Commission for the Scientific Exploration of the Mediterranean (CIESM), the National Representative for the Committee on the International Oceanographic Data and Information Exchange (IODE/IOC), and Malta's lead delegate on the European Earth Monitoring Programme (GMES) User Forum. He served as Director of Research within the IOI-Malta Operational Centre since May 2000 and became Director of the Centre in 2006. He planned and initiated the IOI Malta course on Regional Ocean Governance in 2005. Prof. Drago has been instrumental in consolidating the regional framework to promote and execute operational oceanography in the Mediterranean. From 1998 to 2013, he served as the Executive Secretary of MedGOOS, the Global Ocean Observing System for the Mediterranean, with office in Malta.

He is currently the national pivot in the BlueMed initiative for Blue Growth, representing Malta on the BlueMed Group of Senior Officials, and the vice-chair of the University Maritime Platform. Prof. Drago coordinates the M.Sc. in Applied Oceanography.



### **HON. DR CORINDA ESSEX MLC**

**Deputy Chair of the Environment and Natural Resources Committee, Public Accounts Committee and Education Committee, Legislative Council, St Helena**

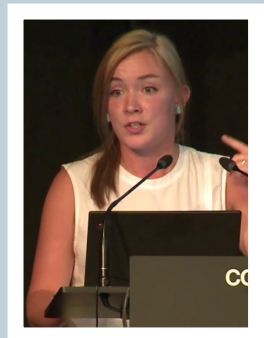
Councillor Dr Corinda Essex is a Member of Legislative Council and was elected during the General Election 2017. Her present Position is as Member of Legislative Council; Deputy Chair of Environment and Natural Resources Committee; Member of Public Accounts Committee; Member of Education Committee; President of St Helena Chamber of Commerce. Year First Elected: 1993. Education: University of Bristol – Bachelor's Degree; Master's Degree and Doctorate. Received formal Programme Management training from the United Nations Development Programme and European Union. Fellow of the Institute of Chartered Management (UK). Member of the British Psychological Society. Career Before Entering Politics: 42 years' service in St Helena Government, initially as a teacher but then moving into management roles, culminating in 14 years at Head of Department/Directorate level. Acted as Chief Secretary on several occasions. Was European Union Territorial Authorising Officer for St Helena, Ascension and Tristan da Cunha and United Nations Programme Director from 1999 – 2013. Has owned a retail business for over 20 years and has been President of the St Helena Chamber of Commerce since 2013. Political Career: Resigned seat in 1995 to take up post of SHG UK Representative. Stood for election in 2014 and won seat. Re-elected July 2017. Attended Commonwealth Parliamentary Association British and Mediterranean Islands Conference in 2016.



### **KATIE GALLOGLY-SWAN**

**Gender Justice Lead in Campaigns, Policy and Influencing in Oxfam GB**

Katie Gallogly-Swan is the Gender Justice Lead in Campaigns, Policy and Influencing in Oxfam Great Britain working on gender policy across macroeconomics, peace and security, business and human rights, and climate justice. She Co-Chairs the Women's Economic Justice working group of the Gender and Development Network, and has formerly sat on the Gender and Trade Coalition steering group on behalf of ActionAid. At home in Scotland, Katie led a rights-based programme on ensuring access to vital public services in Glasgow with Roma and refugee women. Prior to this she worked with progressive think tanks on a range of policy issues including democratic reform, care policy, fiscal justice and land reform. While in Glasgow, she sat on the board of local economic justice project, the People's Bank of Govanhill, and was an advisor to the Glasgow Currency Working Group. She graduated top of her Masters programme in the Development Studies department at the School of Oriental and African Studies where she specialised in labour rights, gender and displacement; and also holds an honours degree in Social Anthropology from Harvard University.



### **ANNE MARIE GRECH**

**Senior Policy Officer, Energy and Water Agency, Malta**

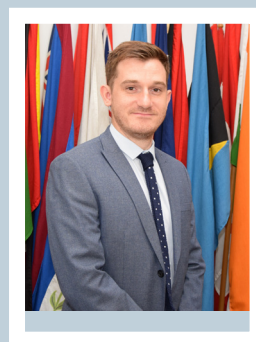
Ing. Anne Marie Grech obtained her first degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of Malta in 2004, with first class honours. She holds a Master of Science in Building Services Engineering with Distinction from Brunel University. She started her career as a research engineer with a leading microelectronics company in Singapore and later moved on to the local building services industry. She has been involved in the energy sector since 2009 through her role within the EU Affairs Office at Enemalta Corporation. She is currently a senior officer within the Energy and Water Agency and is responsible for the ex-ante and ex-post assessment of energy policy especially those related to energy efficiency.



**JACK HARDCASTLE**  
**Programmes Assistant, CPA Headquarters Secretariat**

**Career Summary:** Programmes Assistant, CPA Secretariat, June 2019 to date; Administrative Coordinator, AximoMD, 2018-2019; Intern, Institute for Integrated Transitions, 2018; Administrative Assistant, Aximo Design, 2015-2016; Hospitality, Fullers, 2014-2015; Sales Associate, Brimelows, 2009-2011

**Education:** MA International Security, Universitat de Barcelona, 2016-2018. BA Hons. History, University of Westminster, 2011-2015.



**HON. SENATOR DR LYNETTE HOLDER**  
**Chief Executive of the Small Business Association, Barbados**

Senator Dr. Lynette Holder was appointed a Government Senator in May 2018, by the Barbados Labour Party administration. She is known to speak in the Senate on areas including, small business development, financial services, industry & commerce and economic development.

Sen. Holder is the CEO of the Small Business Association of Barbados, and chairman of the Small Business Development Centre framework, of the Ministry of Small Business, Entrepreneurship & Commerce. She is a former Executive Director of the Caribbean Association of Small & Medium Enterprises, and formerly operated a small management company in Barbados and the OECS-sub region.

Dr. Holder is the vice president of the City of Bridgetown Credit Union Ltd. and also served at the president of the credit union, Director of the Barbados Cooperative Credit Union League (BCCUL) and Secretary of the Board of Trustees of the Central Fund Facility Trust of the BCCUL. Dr Holder is currently the chairman of the Board of Management of the Springer Memorial Secondary School, deputy chairman of the Barbados Agricultural Credit Trust and the Corporate Secretary/Director of the Barbados Trust Fund Ltd.

Senator Holder has a Doctorate, Theology and a Masters in Theology, from the North Central Theological Seminary, Minneapolis, USA; a Master of Science, Integration Studies, from the University of the West Indies, and a MBA from the University of Surrey, United Kingdom.

Dr Holder is a member of the Chartered Governance Institute of Canada (formerly the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators, Canada) and a member of the Chartered Management Institute, United Kingdom.



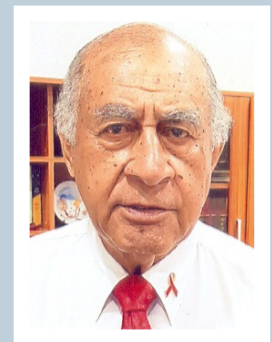
## **DR STEFANO MONCADA**

**Lecturer & Researcher in Development Economics and European Studies, Institute for European Studies, Climate Change Platform Focal Point Islands and Small States Institute Board Member, University of Malta**



Stefano Moncada was born in Rome in 1976. He obtained his Ph.D. in Economics from the University of Malta, where he lectures and conducts research in the areas of development economics, climate change, island studies, sustainable development, and impact evaluation techniques. Stefano's recent research activities include socio-economic assessments, in the face of climate-change, of vulnerable communities with a focus on Small Island Developing States. Prior to join academia, Stefano worked in the Italian Parliament as manager and policy-analyst, and as a consultant in several development projects mainly in relation to socio-economic and environmental-funded activities. Stefano is also member of the board of the Islands and Small States Institute of the University of Malta, and part of the Executive Committee of the European Association of Development and Training Institutes (EADI), of the Mediterranean Experts on Climate and Environmental Change (MedECC), and acts as expert reviewer for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC). He is active in numerous outreach initiatives, including training/consultation sessions for public, private, and Non-Governmental Organisations.

## **HON. RATU EPELI NAILATIKAU** **Speaker of the Parliament of Fiji**

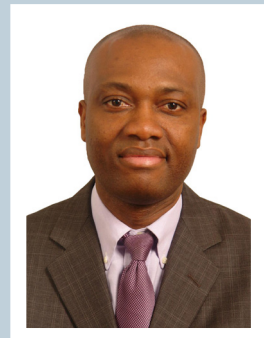


Hon. Ratu Epeli Nailatikau was elected as the new Speaker of the Fijian Parliament in February, 2019. He was the Speaker of the House of Representatives from 2001 to 2006 under the bi-cameral legislative system. Prior to his appointment as Speaker, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau served as Fiji's President for six years from 2009 to 2015. During this period he was invested as a Knight Justice in the Most Venerable Order of St John of Jerusalem and also appointed Chancellor of the University of Fiji. He also served as Vice President of Fiji in 2009. Hon. Ratu Nailatikau's career began in 1962 when he joined the then Royal Fiji Military Forces ('RFMF'). In 1963, he was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the RFMF after attending a First Appointment to Commission Course at the Army Schools in Waiouru, New Zealand. He then served as aide-de-camp to four Governors of Fiji from 1965 to 1969. After attending the Foreign Service Course at Oxford University in the United Kingdom, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau served as Second Secretary to the Fiji High Commission in Canberra from 1970 to 1972 and then to the Fiji Mission to the United Nations in New York from 1972 to 1974. He rejoined the RFMF in 1975. In 1978 he was appointed Commanding Officer of the First Battalion Fiji Infantry Regiment (1FIR) FIJI BAT ONE and promoted to Lieutenant-Colonel for peace-keeping duties with the United Nations Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL). This was the first time that Fiji soldiers were deployed on peace-keeping duties with the UN. Hon. Ratu Nailatikau worked in various roles within the RFMF before being appointed the Commander from 1982 to 1987. He was later promoted to the rank of Brigadier-General in 1986. In 1988, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau was appointed as Fiji's High Commissioner to the United Kingdom where he served for 8 years and accredited as Fiji's Ambassador to Denmark, Egypt, Germany, Israel and the Holy See. In 1998, he was appointed Roving Ambassador and High Commissioner in the Pacific with special responsibility for Fiji's Peace-keeping contribution with the Peace Monitoring Group in Bougainville, PNG. Hon. Ratu Nailatikau then took up the post of Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs and External Trade in 1999. He served as the Deputy Prime Minister and Minister for Fijian Affairs in the interim Government from June 2000 to March 2001. He continued serving in this post under the caretaker Government until September 2001 before taking on the role of Speaker of the House of Representatives. In October 2006, he was appointed Ambassador in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs before serving as the Minister for Foreign Affairs and External Trade in January of 2007. Hon. Ratu Nailatikau was then appointed Minister for Indigenous Affairs, Provincial Development and Multi Ethnic Affairs in October 2008. On 10 June 2005, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau was appointed the UN AIDS Special Representative for the Pacific and was also appointed as Fiji's representative for HIV/AIDS in 2007. In his commitment in advocating on AIDS related issues, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau was appointed the UN AIDS Regional Goodwill Ambassador for the Pacific Region in 2015. In this new role, Hon. Ratu Nailatikau believes that it is time to fast track the HIV response and emphasised that he will work tirelessly to end the AIDS epidemic not only in Fiji but throughout the Pacific.

## **DR PATRICK OSAKWE**

### **Chief, Trade and Poverty Branch, United Nations Conference for Trade and Development (UNCTD)**

Patrick Osakwe holds a Ph.D. degree in Economics from Queen's University, Canada. He is currently Chief of the Trade and Poverty Branch (UN Director level) at the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development based in Geneva, Switzerland. He has also served as Chief of Finance, Industry and Investment at the UN Economic Commission for Africa in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia. Before joining the United Nations, he worked as a Senior Analyst at the Bank of Canada, Ottawa. Dr. Osakwe has done extensive research in international and development economics and has refereed publications in major economic journals and books. He has won several academic awards, prizes, and fellowships. He is a valedictorian, a fellow of the Cambridge Commonwealth Society, and a member of the editorial boards of the "Journal of African Development", published by Penn State University Press, and the "International Development Policy" published by the Graduate Institute, Geneva.



## ANNEX 2: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS IN CONTEXT: MULTILATERAL MEETINGS AND AGREEMENTS SINCE 1992

June 1992	Rio de Janeiro	<b>Earth Summit:</b> more than 178 countries adopt <b>Agenda 21</b>
1994	Barbados	Programme of Action (BPOA) on Small Island Developing States (SIDs) adopted
September 2000	New York	UN Member States adopt the Millennium Declaration at the <b>Millennium Summit</b> , leading to the elaboration of eight <b>Millennium Development Goals (MDGs)</b> to reduce extreme poverty by 2015.
2002	Johannesburg	Declaration on Sustainable Development and the Plan of Implementation, adopted at the <b>World Summit on Sustainable Development</b>
2005	Mauritius	Strategy of Implementation (MSI) in relation to Small Island Developing States (SIDs) adopted
June 2012	Rio de Janeiro	At the <b>United Nations Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20)</b> Member States adopt the outcome document “ <b>The Future We Want</b> ”. It makes express reference, at paragraphs 178 to 180, to the challenges faced by Small Island Developing States (SIDs). It addresses tourism at paragraphs 130 to 131. Also at Rio +20, a process is launched to develop a set of Sustainable Development Goals to build upon the Millennium Development Goals.
September 2014	Samoa	Small Island Developing States (SIDs) Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway ( <b>SAMOA Pathway</b> ) produced at the Third International Conference on SIDs.
2015	Addis Ababa	Third International Conference on Financing for Development produces Addis Ababa Action Agenda.
September 2015	New York	Adoption of the <b>2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development</b> incorporating <b>17 Sustainable Development Goals</b> . There are 169 targets for the 17 goals. Each target has between 1 and 3 indicators. In total there are 232 approved indicators.
December 2015	Paris	At the 21 Climate Change Conference of Parties (COP 21), landmark <b>agreement</b> is reached to combat climate change.
February 2017		Launch of UN <b>Global Action Programme</b> on Food Security and Nutrition in Small Island Developing States
December 2018	New York	UN adopts <b>resolution 73/245</b> on “Promotion of sustainable tourism, including ecotourism, for poverty eradication and environment protection” based on a <b>July 2018 report</b> by the UN World Tourism Organisation
September 2019	New York	<b>High-level meeting</b> reviews the implementation of the SAMOA Pathway and calls for action
October 2019	London	Commonwealth Trade Ministers’ Meeting expresses appreciation for technical assistance to support the trade competitiveness of developing members in global markets and recognises vulnerability of Small Island Developing States to natural disasters.

## ANNEX 2: THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS

 <p><b>1</b> NO POVERTY</p> <p>Icon: A family of four (two adults and two children) standing together.</p>	<p>End poverty in all its forms everywhere</p>
 <p><b>2</b> ZERO HUNGER</p> <p>Icon: A white bowl with three wavy lines above it representing steam or smoke.</p>	<p>End hunger, achieve food security and improved nutrition and promote sustainable agriculture</p>
 <p><b>3</b> GOOD HEALTH AND WELL-BEING</p> <p>Icon: A white heartbeat line with a heart symbol at the end.</p>	<p>Ensure healthy lives and promote well-being for all at all ages</p>
 <p><b>4</b> QUALITY EDUCATION</p> <p>Icon: An open book and a pencil.</p>	<p>Ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all</p>
 <p><b>5</b> GENDER EQUALITY</p> <p>Icon: A female symbol with an equals sign inside a circle, and a male symbol to its right.</p>	<p>Achieve gender equality and empower all women and girls</p>
 <p><b>6</b> CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION</p> <p>Icon: A water tap with a single drop of water falling from it.</p>	<p>Ensure availability and sustainable management of water and sanitation for all</p>
 <p><b>7</b> AFFORDABLE AND CLEAN ENERGY</p> <p>Icon: A sun with a power button symbol in the center.</p>	<p>Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all</p>
 <p><b>8</b> DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH</p> <p>Icon: A bar chart with an upward-pointing arrow.</p>	<p>Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all</p>





**Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation**



**Reduce inequality within and among countries**



**Make cities and human settlements inclusive, safe, resilient and sustainable**



**Ensure sustainable consumption and production patterns**



**Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts**  
*[acknowledging that the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change is the primary international, intergovernmental forum for negotiating the global response to climate change]*



**Conserve and sustainably use the oceans, seas and marine resources for sustainable development**



**Protect, restore and promote sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems, sustainably manage forests, combat desertification, and halt and reverse land degradation and halt biodiversity loss**



**Promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels**



**Strengthen the means of implementation and revitalize the Global Partnership for Sustainable Development**



*Image credits: CPA Secretariat and CPA Branches, Shutterstock file images.*

Published by the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA).  
*Registered Charity Number 263147.*

CPA Headquarters Secretariat  
Richmond House, Houses of Parliament  
London SW1A 0AA  
United Kingdom

Telephone: +44 (0)20 7799 1460  
Email: [hq.sec@cpahq.org](mailto:hq.sec@cpahq.org)  
Website: [www.cpahq.org](http://www.cpahq.org)