



## THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund



Annual Meetings 2017

# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP



**WORLD BANK GROUP**



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**PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS  
OF THE WORLD BANK & THE INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND**

**10-11 OCTOBER 2017 | WASHINGTON DC**

## **EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

The 2017 Annual Meetings were held from October 9-15 in the World Bank Group and International Monetary Fund headquarters in Washington, DC. On October 10-11, the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF, in cooperation with the World Bank and IMF, organized the *Parliamentary Workshop*, which brought together 53 participants from 33 countries: Bangladesh, Burkina Faso, Cameroon, Canada, Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Equatorial Guinea, Germany, Ghana, Indonesia, Iraq, Jordan, Latvia, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Moldova, Morocco, Nigeria, Paraguay, Poland, Romania, Senegal, South Africa, Switzerland, Tanzania, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Kingdom, and Zimbabwe. Other participants included representatives from the International Assembly of the Francophonie, the Pan-African Parliament, and the Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC).

The main themes of this year's Workshop covered some of the most pressing global development issues: the correlation of economic growth and job creation; inequality; climate change; private sector investment; fighting corruption; energy reforms; the importance of investing in human capital; and maximizing finance for development. Many of these discussions built on the previous dedicated sessions during the Global Parliamentary Conference which took place in April 2017, and introduced new approaches to tackling these universal challenges.

*"We as Members of Parliament need to ensure that economic growth does not translate into wealth for the few, but jobs for the many" - Jeremy Lefroy, United Kingdom, Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF*

Another key theme, introduced at this year's Parliamentary Workshop, concerned fragility and conflict as critical development challenges threatening to destroy the meager development successes achieved in the least stable countries. The closing session of the Workshop was dedicated to elaborating an action plan for parliamentarians – allowing the participants to reflect on the lessons learnt in these two days, share experiences, and provide suggestions to follow up at the country level.





Numerous experts from the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank (including the IFC) were invited as speakers, providing the parliamentarians with hands-on knowledge of mechanisms employed by their institutions to achieve the development objectives.

*“Politicians need to take responsibility for structural problems. Countries need inclusive political structures; otherwise the ability to deal with fragility is undermined. Parliamentarians are sometimes complicit in this situation, because it benefits them” - Yunus Carrim, South Africa*

*“South America is dealing with deforestation, while the main polluters continue to pollute. We should not allow another ten years to elapse before some concrete measures materialize. We hope that those generating the difficulties will consider that we live on the same planet” - Ramón Romero Roa, Paraguay*

During the last session of the event, the participants were invited to submit their proposals for a common action plan, which would integrate the suggested steps parliamentarians can take in their countries in order to contribute to better development outcomes. The final document based on all submitted proposals is published along with the report<sup>1</sup>.

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<sup>1</sup> See Annex 1



The 2017 Parliamentary Workshop reaffirmed the commitment of parliamentarians from all regions of the world to share knowledge and experience, and to engage with international institutions to increase their role in the field of development. As elected representatives of the people, Members of Parliament are well positioned to address and influence the issues covered at the workshop through their budgetary, legislative, and oversight powers. The discussions during the Workshop looked in particular at the operational side of the work of the World Bank and the IMF, providing parliamentarians with knowledge of necessary instruments to support and develop their initiatives on the ground.

*“We need to invest in people and opportunities to build human capital and mitigate the inequality of fortune” - Ambar Narayan, Lead Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank Group*

*“Globalization and trade are good for jobs everywhere, but we need to work on income redistribution” - Mitali Das, Deputy Division Chief, External Sector Division, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF*

A recurring theme throughout the workshop was inequality: between rich and poor, resilient and fragile, donors and recipients, polluters and those who suffer from pollution. Parliamentarians from all groups of countries should assume responsibility in this issue and work together with their governments to meet the numerous development challenges and turn expert recommendations into policies adapted to every particular context of each country. The questions and criticisms expressed during the meetings reasserted the importance of dialogue between various countries, regions, and non-state actors by showcasing differences of opinions and experiences, but also similarities in terms of goals and challenges that need to be addressed.



## FOREWORD

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### *About the Parliamentary Workshop*

On the occasion of the World Bank and IMF Annual Meetings, parliamentarians are invited to join the PN delegation for a dialogue on development and matters related to the global economy. In the context of an ambitious global development agenda, the Parliamentary Workshop engages Members of Parliament in a dialogue on development and global economy, through discussions between MPs, senior management, and technical or operational staff of the WB and the IMF, i.e. the people responsible for designing and overseeing the implementation of projects and policies.

The Workshop plays a critical role in building political will to ensure that both development programmes and the SDGs are attained, while encouraging country ownership and government accountability. By focusing on specific development topics and favouring interactive debates between participants rather than traditional panel discussions, the knowledge-sharing platform provided by the Workshop allows the participants to learn from best practices across the world and to maximize their impact on the development process.

### *Acknowledgements*

The Parliamentary Network would like to thank the World Bank Group and the International Monetary Fund, for their support in organizing the event. The PN would also like to express its gratitude to the speakers and moderators who animated the discussions and provided invaluable input in the successful execution of the Workshop. Finally, the PN wishes to thank its members who came from all over the world to take part in this important gathering.





## WELCOME REMARKS

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### *Speakers*

- Hon. **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK; Chair, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF
- **Sabina Bhatia**, Assistant Director, Communications Department, IMF
- **Jill Wilkins**, Director, Global Engagement, External Affairs, World Bank Group

**Jill Wilkins** opened the Workshop by citing President Jim Yong Kim's speech about the human capital crisis<sup>2</sup>, and underlined the World Bank's ambition to help the countries adapt the workforce to the new digital era. She called all parliamentarians to look at the recent 2017 World Development Report dedicated to education, as well as other World Bank papers released during the week of the Annual Meetings, sharing with the participants some of the new findings of the World Bank researchers regarding poverty and inequality, notably that lack of economic mobility today will have consequences for future generations, and concluded that investing in human capital is of utmost importance to overcome these negative effects.

Ms. Wilkins then spoke of maximizing finance for development, and described the World Bank's new model which prioritizes private finance as a powerful lever to fight extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity. She underlined that legislators play an important role in this process, as they can shape the regulatory environment for foreign investment and private sector involvement in general.

**Sabina Bhatia** welcomed the parliamentarians to the 2017 Annual Meetings, and invited them to take advantage of the congregation of experts from various institutions, academia, and civil society that were gathered in Washington. She announced the release of the IMF World Economic Outlook on the day of the workshop, and the predicted overall upswing in the global economy, the first in the ten years after the financial crisis. She mentioned the speech Christine Lagarde gave a week before the Meetings at Harvard University<sup>3</sup>, repeating the Managing Director's words when calling the policymakers to take advantage of the momentum and not let this recovery go to waste. As inequality between countries gradually decreases, inequality within countries is only growing worse, and it is up to parliamentarians to focus on their country's labour market and think about ways to create new jobs for the young, invest in education, and foster inclusive growth. Finally, Ms. Bhatia reiterated the IMF's commitment to multilateralism, and expressed the hope that attending the week's meetings and seminars will help the parliamentarians in their everyday work in the interest of their constituents.

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<sup>2</sup> Jim Yong Kim, "Building New Foundations of Human Solidarity"

<https://live.worldbank.org/human-capital-project>

<sup>3</sup> Christine Lagarde, "A Time to Repair the Roof"

<https://www.imf.org/en/News/Articles/2017/10/04/sp100517-a-time-to-repair-the-roof>



# THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK FOR JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

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## *Speakers*

- **Malhar Nabar**, Deputy Division Chief, World Economic Studies Division, Research Department, IMF
- **David Robalino**, Manager of the Jobs Group, World Bank Group

## *Moderator*

- Hon. **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK; Chair, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Jeremy Lefroy** opened the discussion by declaring that job creation is a priority for Members of Parliament all over the world, and highlighting the existence of a so-called *job-poor growth* - a variation of economic growth which does not translate into creation of new jobs. He identified three principal elements of the job creation strategy: 1) ensuring that economic growth does not translate into wealth for the few, but jobs for the many; 2) ensuring that the jobs agenda is always among the government's priorities; 3) providing positive recommendations. As an example of such a recommendation, he described an equipment leasing business he established in Tanzania in order to provide opportunities for small and medium enterprises.

**David Robalino** underlined that MPs need to think about new strategies to generate economic growth in order to address challenges related to job creation. Usually, if efficiency is improved, growth follows: however, it is not always the case. Mr. Robalino announced that job prospects are gradually improving in both advanced and emerging economies; however, it is not the case in low-income countries in Africa, Latin America and the MENA region, which are still affected by the jobs deficit. The most affected countries are those with the biggest share of young people and women left out of the workforce. He observed that among the working part of the population in low-income countries, around 50% are self-employed farmers, which means that they do not have guaranteed pay. Moreover, many of those employed are working in the informal sector. Mr. Robalino proposed three main directions in which parliamentarians can work to improve the employment situation in their countries: 1) Create more jobs; 2) Improve quality of jobs in the informal sector; 3) Facilitate access to jobs for vulnerable groups. He underlined that the existing policies are not enough to tackle the lack of jobs, because the private sector is not interested in creating more jobs per se, and that it is the public sector's responsibility to attract more private investments.





**Malhar Nabar** took this opportunity to announce the release of the October 2017 update of the *World Economic Outlook*<sup>4</sup> predicting that the global upswing in economic activity will continue to strengthen in advanced and emerging economies. While inflation remains subdued and the risks are skewed to the downside in the medium term, the common goal today is to boost potential growth, while paying attention to varying macroeconomic management needs.

As far as emerging countries are concerned, China's transition to a consumption-dependent economy plays an important role in the increased demand for commodities. At the same time, advanced economies are in the middle of cyclical rebound with varying degrees of crisis repair in different parts of the world. Mr. Nabar emphasized the demographic challenges underpinning these tendencies: a growing youth population in emerging countries and worsening demographic trends in advanced economies, including aging populations in many countries.

However, according to Mr. Nabar, the general recovery still "falls short" in a few areas, as inflation remains below target in advanced economies, threatening their growth prospects. The medium-term growth projections both in advanced, emerging, and developing economies fall short of past projections. Real per-capita GDP growth is set to remain below past averages in advanced economies and commodity (especially fuel) exporters. While the outlook for some countries (Brazil, Russia) has slightly improved, growth is projected to weaken considerably in Latin America, Middle East, North Africa, and Pakistan.

Finally, Mr. Nabar suggested a few policy priorities designed to improve the medium-term growth outlook and reduce risks, notably: strengthening safety nets, elaborating strategies to put debt on a sustainable path in advanced economies; containing financial risks in vulnerable developing countries; adjusting to lower commodity revenues in exporting countries; and undertaking structural reforms to boost potential output.

## *Discussion*

**Jeremy Lefroy** opened the discussion by highlighting the historic duty of Members of Parliament to create jobs for future generations. He invited the participants to propose practical measures and share successful policies and programmes from their countries.

During the discussion that followed, parliamentarians brought up numerous initiatives that worked well in their home countries:

- The example of Poland illustrated the re-industrialization programme undertaken with help from the European Union. This programme, which created over 355 000 jobs, was focused on national and local investors, removing all foreign investors' privileges.

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<sup>4</sup> "World Economic Outlook, October 2017. Seeking Sustainable Growth: Short-Term Recovery, Long-Term Challenges"  
<https://www.imf.org/en/Publications/WEO/Issues/2017/09/19/world-economic-outlook-october-2017>



- Bangladesh in their job-creation strategies focuses on youth and women, providing them with various income-generating skills training programmes. Malaysia favours online business as a convenient way for women to enter or re-enter the workforce.
- The examples from Jordan and South Africa were less optimistic, claiming that extensive skills programmes undertaken by governments remain inefficient, as private sector growth today does not produce many new jobs.
- The main concern of countries of Central and Eastern Europe was emigration: qualified specialists leaving the country to work in more financially beneficial conditions.
- Youth unemployment was mentioned as a major driver of terrorism in African countries.

According to the World Bank, only 30% of job-creation programmes around the world have positive outcomes. **David Robalino** underscored the fact that in the short to medium term, there will not be enough formal waged employment for everyone, and therefore it is crucial to improve conditions and access to social security in the informal sector.



# INEQUALITY, GLOBALIZATION, TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE, AND TRADE

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## *Speakers*

- **Larry Cooley**, President Emeritus of Management Systems International (MSI); President of Society for International Development (SID)
- **Mitali Das**, Deputy Division Chief, External Sector Division, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF
- **Ambar Narayan**, Lead Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank Group

## *Moderator*

- Hon. **Lahcen Haddad**, MP, Morocco; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Lahcen Haddad** started the session by outlining real consequences and perceptions of globalization: notably, the rise in the global flow of goods and services, which at the same time generates fear and uncertainty over potential loss of jobs, making globalization a controversial issue.

**Larry Cooley** compared globalization with a “Rorschach test for people’s fears and hopes”, where the essence of actual changes happening in this process is sometimes secondary for the public opinion. He underlined that globalization is often seen as a battle between the well-off and the struggling layers of society.

**Mitali Das** described the decline in the labour share of income as a key factor of the rise in inequality around the world. She presented the IMF’s key findings in this area: while in advanced economies this decline was primarily caused by technological advancements, in emerging and developing economies it is closely connected to the forces of global integration and the countries’ increased participation in global value chains. However, agricultural economies cannot automate in the same way as advanced economies, which is the reason why they become very capital-intensive when integrated to these value chains.

The global decline in labour shares around the world is very heterogeneous: it varies across the countries, industries, and skill levels. The most pronounced decline has been noted at the medium-skilled level. Ms. Das said that even though their labour share has gone down, the capitalization in emerging markets meant that hundreds of millions of people were lifted out of poverty.





**Lahcen Haddad** started the debate by posing a fundamental question: *was poverty around the world really reduced?*

The three speakers approached this problem from different angles. **Ambar Narayan** emphasized the fact that there are 1.1 billion fewer poor people in the world today - an enormous reduction that gives a reason for optimism. The global inequality between countries has decreased, and growth is strong due to the benefits of globalization and successful policies. However, inequality within countries has become worse than 25 years ago. Mr. Narayan underlined that, while globalization cultivates the expectation of upward mobility, there is in fact stagnation, as the children of poor people statistically remain relatively poor. He called to invest in people and opportunities in order to build human capital and overcome this “inequality of fortune”, and proposed three main elements of the strategy: 1) managing shocks; 2) introducing strong safety nets; and 3) improving people’s skills.

**Larry Cooley** pointed out that, from the point of view of ordinary people, globalization is associated with fear of downward mobility. It is easy to personalize their fears and a sense of lost privilege in migration. He asserted that cultural wars have to do with national identity rather than economic growth.

**Mitali Das** explained that the balance between capital and labour shares of income had been stable until 1980s, when it reached a turning point. Today in advanced countries, technological advancements cause loss of jobs, and low-income countries have lost their bargaining power of cheap labour, as it can easily be moved elsewhere in the globalized world.



However, she demonstrated the falsehood of the assumption that globalization leads to jobs being shipped abroad: often factories in low-income countries would not have been created other than because of differences in the price of labour. In conclusion, Ms. Das suggested that, while trade is good for jobs everywhere, the redistribution aspect is the main problem which causes inequality.

## *Discussion*

During the discussion, participants expressed various concerns:

- The removal of manufacturing jobs from emerging countries;
- Natural disasters hindering growth and development;
- Politicization of economic instruments, such as income tax;
- False link between loss of jobs in rich countries and outsourcing jobs to low-income countries.

**Mitali Das** evoked the article of David H. Autor “Why Are There Still So Many Jobs?”<sup>5</sup> to prove that all jobs will never be lost to automation.

*“All the time, new kinds of jobs are appearing. Human beings are needed. Job loss has started to slow down, as people are moving from manufacturing to other sectors. Assembly lines are in the past, but other jobs are materializing.” - Mitali Das, Deputy Division Chief, External Sector Division, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF*

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<sup>5</sup> Autor, David H. “Why Are There Still So Many Jobs? The History and Future of Workplace Automation” - Journal of Economic Perspectives—Volume 29, Number 3—Summer 2015—Pages 3–30



# INVESTING IN EDUCATION

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## Speakers

- **Deon Filmer**, Lead Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank Group
- **Halsey Rogers**, Lead Economist, Education Global Practice, World Bank Group

## Moderator

- Hon. **Pauline Ndomou**, MP, Cameroon; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

Both of this session's speakers are co-authors of the World Development Report 2018 - Learning to Realize Education's Promise<sup>6</sup>, the first report entirely devoted to education. The main premise of this report is that education and learning are different things, and the former needs to lead to the latter.

**Deon Filmer** illustrated his words with a graph showing the percent of end-of-primary students who meet a minimum proficiency threshold in math in different categories of countries, which showed a direct correlation between the level of academic success and the level of country's income. As he explained, low-income countries are the ones most affected by the *learning crisis*, the key factors of which are the lack of preparedness of the child to school (adequate prior nutrition and stimulation); lack of skills and motivation on the teachers' side; and lack of materials, infrastructure, and management ability, all of which are necessary to ensure successful learning. The root causes of these obstacles lie in 1) technical complexity of education which requires many elements to be working in tandem; and 2) political economy and politicians seeking re-election rather than contributing to the development of their societies.

However, Mr. Filmer stayed optimistic by giving the participants some examples of education success stories (Republic of Korea, Peru, Liberia, Tonga, Papua New Guinea). He proposed several entry points to counter various factors pulling away from learning: 1) Assess learning to make it a serious goal; 2) Act on evidence to make schools work for all learners; 3) Align actors to make the whole system work for learning.

**Halsey Rogers** underlined the need to address the issue of learning on the system level. He identified the three main elements needed in order to make the reforms sustainable.

1. *Information and metrics* allowing to create and sustain strategic change;
2. *Coalitions and incentives* to negotiate a long-term reform process;

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<sup>6</sup> "World Development Report 2018 - Learning to Realize Education's Promise"  
<http://www.worldbank.org/en/publication/wdr2018>



3. *Innovation and agility* - innovations from elsewhere have to be adapted to local conditions to provide solutions.

## *Discussion*

Parliamentarians expressed their appreciation for the timeliness and importance of raising the question of education in the work of the World Bank. It was pointed out that evaluating successes and challenges in the education sector requires objective data. However, in some countries information and statistics are unreliable, and the real number of students attending classes can be half of the number in official Ministry of Education reports.

According to **Halsey Rogers**, the issue of data unreliability stems both from lack of capacity to collect it, but also from incentives not to give real data. World Bank tackles this problem from two different angles: working with local NGOs and citizen assessment, but also helping improve official statistics.

Both Mr. Filmer and Mr. Rogers asserted that the key to building incentives to tackle the learning crisis is information: it is important to get people talking about the problem. The World Development Report needs to be distributed locally, so that people can use it to improve educational systems in their countries and regions.





# INSTITUTION BUILDING AND ENERGY REFORMS

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## *Speakers*

- **Baoping Shang**, Senior Economist, Expenditure Policy Division, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

## *Moderator*

- Hon. **Olga Bielkova**, MP, Ukraine; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Olga Bielkova** opened the session by sharing an insight from her own country, where energy is particularly important due to harsh climate conditions. The Ukraine-Russia conflict put the country in a situation where it has to buy natural gas at a higher price than before, the difference in costs being covered by the government. The current solution is unsustainable, and the energy prices need to be increased in order to help cover the difference. However, this decision is certain to have repercussions, and no politician is willing to take it for fear of not being re-elected.

**Baoping Shang** presented the two main definitions of energy subsidies, one being narrow (pre-tax) subsidies (undercharging for supply cost of energy), and another one broad (post-tax) - undercharging for both supply and environmental costs of energy, as well as failure to tax its consumption. The narrow subsidies only constitute a small part of broad subsidies, which means that environmental costs and taxes constitute a major part of them. Coal, the dirtiest of fuels, is also the least taxed one.

Mr. Shang underlined that the consequences of energy subsidies go well beyond fiscal losses. They are also responsible for depressing growth by reducing investment in the energy sector and over-allocating resources to energy-intensive sectors; damage the environment; and exacerbate inequality, as 90% of the profits resulting from such subsidies benefit the richest 20% of the population. He estimated that the elimination of energy subsidies would remove 25% of carbon emissions worldwide, as well as generate significant revenue. He pointed out that today's low international energy prices provide countries with a unique window of opportunity to carry out the reform.

*“Many countries are in the loop of trying to get out both of the fossil and of the nuclear energy. The energy subsidies should be a dynamic formula, instead of a fixed one. We need a solution that would evolve along with the evolution of technology” - Claude Béglé, Switzerland*



Finally, Mr. Shang proposed several elements for a successful energy reform, including:

- The importance of having a long-term comprehensive reform plan;
- An effective communication strategy that explains the price rise to the citizens;
- Phasing and sequencing price increases;
- Greater efficiency of energy state-owned enterprises;
- Introduction of targeted mitigating measures such as safety nets for the vulnerable in the short term;
- The depoliticized energy prices: the price setting need to be taken out of governments' hands in order to eliminate political influence.



## *Discussion*

The question of energy subsidies generated an animated discussion. Participants shared experiences from their countries, with a representative of Jordan evoking a successful cash transfer policy introduced by the Jordanian government in order to redistribute the benefits from subsidies to low- and middle-income groups. However, in other countries this policy led to a widespread dependency on cash transfers.



The parliamentarians acknowledged a great impact energy policy has on politics in many countries. The example from Senegal showed how the position of Minister of energy can be undesirable to politicians because of the pressure applied to the holder of this post.

The recommendations voiced by the participants varied greatly:

- Introducing alternative sources of energy in addition to eliminating subsidies;
- Establishing state mechanisms of price control and regulation;
- Creating opportunities for entrepreneurs in the sphere of renewable energy;
- Taxing air fuel.

**Baoping Shang** admitted that, while in the past alternative energies were not considered a viable option to replace fossil fuel, they are now becoming increasingly competitive. He appreciated the political sensitivity of the subject of energy subsidies, and acknowledged the difficulty of introducing new prices to people who are used to paying less.

*“The ideal solution would be no subsidies on any kind of energy.” - Baoping Shang, IMF*



# CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND DISASTER RESILIENCE

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## *Speakers*

- **Francis Ghesquiere**, Head of the Global Facility for Disaster Reduction and Recovery, World Bank Group
- **Mico Mrkaic**, Senior Economist, World Economic Studies Division, Research Department, IMF

## *Moderator*

- Hon. **Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin**, MP, Malaysia; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Francis Ghesquiere** began by demonstrating the audience a graph showing the evolution of natural disasters in the world for the last 40 years, which have been rising in every region of the world. He defined a disaster as a conjuncture of two elements - the natural events, and the population exposed to them, - and concluded that it is the second element that caused the statistical rise in the numbers.

The sources of growth of natural disasters, according to Mr. Ghesquiere, lie in demographic growth which leads to the expansion of cities and serious environmental consequences. The problem of chaotically built neighbourhoods unprotected from environmental calamities is pressing around the world - from favelas in Brazil to slums in Kathmandu.

Mr. Ghesquiere underscored that in the last ten years, the World Bank has scaled up its efforts in the sphere of resilience. He emphasized the need to integrate risk management in everything that is built from today onwards.

*“The Parliamentary Network can play a role in building resilience by making sure that disaster precautions percolate through our systems and integrate everything we build.” - Francis Ghesquiere, World Bank Group*

**Mico Mrkaic** presented his work on the chapter in the World Economic Outlook describing the effect of weather-related shocks on economic activity around the world.



The IMF has long studied the macroeconomic effects of greenhouse gases, in particular the effects of temperature changes on GDP. Mr. Mrkaic announced the main finding of these studies to the audience: *there is a robust concave relationship between GDP per capita and temperature*, which is present everywhere from advanced economies to low-income countries. The rise in temperature affects all economies; however, the marginal effect on GDP when temperature increases by one degree is not constant. While in cold countries the effect is initially positive, in hot countries it is immediately detrimental, which leads to the conclusion that a moderate temperature is optimal for economic growth. The effect of one-degree warming is also uneven in countries with different levels of income: low-income countries, which are home to most of the world's population, suffer the most, as each new degree of warming decreases their GDP by 1.2%.

According to Mr. Mrkaic, temperature effects are long-lasting, and they work through several channels: lower productivity, reduced investment due to high risks, and decreased effective labour supply due to negative effects on human health and child mortality. He called for sound policies and macroeconomic buffers which can help partially mitigate these effects. While adaptation to new conditions is also an option, low-income countries are the ones with the lowest capacity to adapt.



*“Low-income countries suffer disproportionate economic effects of global warming, while having contributed little to the problem.” - Mico Mrkaic, IMF*



## *Discussion*

During the discussion, criticisms were addressed to international humanitarian organizations regarding their handling of the environmental catastrophe in Lake Chad and Congo basin. The forest degradation and desertification continue there, despite the existing programmes and efforts to stop it. The vanishing water supplies particularly affect refugees and displaced populations in the region threatened by Boko Haram.

Participants from countries most affected by climate change pointed out the injustice of having to suffer from problems created by the advanced economies. They underlined that greater polluters also have the best coping mechanisms to mitigate the negative effects, while the low-income countries do not have such mechanisms.

*“The situation in the Congo basin needs to be addressed urgently.” - Martin Crisantos Ebe Mba, Equatorial Guinea*



## MEASURING FRAGILITY

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### *Speakers*

- **Franck Bousquet**, Senior Director, Fragility, Conflict, and Violence Group, World Bank Group
- **Mumtaz Hussain**, Senior Economist, Institute for Capacity Development, IMF

### *Moderator*

- Hon. **Yunus Carrim**, MP, South Africa; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Franck Bousquet** spoke about possible ways to reduce fragility around the world. He declared that international institutions need to review their approach to emergency response, as today 90% of refugees in the world are hosted by developing countries. The “business as usual” approach is that United Nations humanitarian agencies are the first to arrive on the ground, and the development institutions only step in when the emergency phase is over. However, this way of dealing with the situation harms the most vulnerable groups such as children, who grow up as refugees without access to most basic services, medicine, education, or a status of a rightful member of society, and become a lost generation.

Today, the World Bank is gradually shifting its focus towards the prevention of crises, recognizing that development actors have a key role to play in helping countries focus on inclusive development, and in ensuring that existing conflicts do not turn violent. Reducing fragility is currently its number one priority, with the last major IDA replenishment focusing on helping fragile countries.

While the World Bank does not work on security measures, Mr. Bousquet underlined that it acknowledges the necessity to collaborate with security partners in order to achieve these goals and tackle the pockets of fragility in both low- and middle-income countries.

**Mumtaz Hussain** pointed out that combating fragility is a matter of actions taken, and not merely a question of funding. He evoked an IMF study on sub-Saharan Africa<sup>7</sup> to prove that fragility is not a short-term concept, and that getting out of the fragile state requires much time, as building stable and resilient institutions is a slow and laborious process.

Mr. Hussain then gave the participants the IMF’s definition of fragility, which consists of three main characteristics:

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<sup>7</sup> “Building Resilience in sub-Saharan Africa’s Fragile States”, <https://www.imf.org/external/pubs/ft/dp/2015/afr1505.pdf>





- lack of stability and security;
- inability to deliver basic public goods and services;
- inability to promote inclusive economic and human development.

The five dimensions by which progress in building resilience can be measured are 1) conflict reduction and political stabilization; 2) institutional improvements; 3) fiscal space and institutions; 4) economic performance; and 5) social outcomes. Each of the countries who successfully battled fragility and became resilient displayed significant improvement in every one of these five areas. According to Mr. Hussain, progress is more easily achievable in resource-rich countries, where the gains in economic performance are the primary factor contributing to stability.

Mr. Hussain underlined that the current progress in terms of mitigating conflicts and fragility is due to the global focus on SDGs; however, in all countries analyzed in the IMF's study on sub-Saharan Africa, more than half of the population is still poor. He also described the ways in which the IMF tackles fragility: with capacity building (technical assistance); policy advice; financial assistance with no interest rate; and catalyzing aid from other donors.

## *Discussion*

**Yunus Carrim** opened the discussion by acknowledging the partial responsibility of politicians for structural problems causing fragility. He concluded that absence of inclusive political structures undermines the ability to mitigate fragility, and that public representatives are the ones who need to step up their efforts in dealing with this issue.

The ensuing debate focused on the current refugee crisis, as well as internally displaced population in countries such as Chad, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Sierra Leone, Bangladesh, and Ukraine, some of which are not considered fragile states. One particular issue exacerbating tensions is the language barrier, as it is even more difficult for refugees arriving in a country with a different language to adapt.

*“The ultimate goal is not helping the government, but helping the people” - Franck Bousquet, World Bank*

The perception that migrants receive more help from the state than the natives was mentioned as one of the sources of these tensions. However, the World Bank and the IMF are focusing on inclusiveness in their work by using the country partnership framework centered on social outcomes and providing support not just to refugees, but to the whole communities. They are working more closely with non-state actors and security partners to reinstate the social contract and prevent radicalization of deprived populations.



# INNOVATIVE WAYS OF FINANCING DEVELOPMENT

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## Speakers

- **Vladimir Klyuev**, Deputy Chief, Developing Markets Strategy Unit, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF
- **Bernard Sheahan**, Director of Global Infrastructure and Natural Resources, International Finance Corporation

## Moderator

- Hon. **Olfa Soukri Cherif**, MP, Tunisia; Vice-Chair, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Bernard Sheahan** started the session by laying out current global trends which define today's political and social context: the rising aspirations for better jobs, goods and services fueled by the improved communication technology that creates better visibility for people's lifestyles in different parts of the world. According to him, these global aspirations require very large investments which cannot be covered by public resources only, and need significant private investments to complement them.

However, numerous obstacles hinder private investment in many countries: namely, the unfavourable regulatory environment and the perception of political risks. Mr. Sheahan asserted that private investment is only possible on the condition of steady flow of bankable projects, favourable public environment, and acceptable level of government-related risks. He described the *cascade principle*, otherwise called "Maximizing finance for development"<sup>8</sup>, which emphasizes the crowding-in of private sector resources in infrastructure, and focuses primarily on de-risking private investment in various ways and supporting governments in creating bankable projects.

Finally, Mr. Sheahan described another relevant IFC practice called *Linkages*, which is designed to connect local small- and medium enterprises to large-scale industries, allowing to create jobs in the surrounding economy (infrastructure and services).

**Vladimir Klyuev** focused on the ways in which the IMF contributes to the Sustainable Development Goals, which require substantial investments in infrastructure. He explained that macroeconomic stability - the principal goal of the IMF - is also one of the key conditions for attracting private

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<sup>8</sup> "Maximizing finance for development: leveraging the private sector for growth and sustainable development" [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVCOMMINT/Documentation/23758671/DC2017-0009\\_Maximizing\\_8-19.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/DEVCOMMINT/Documentation/23758671/DC2017-0009_Maximizing_8-19.pdf)



investment. He described the *Infrastructure Policy Support Initiative*<sup>9</sup> - a set of tools designed to help countries evaluate the implications of different investment programmes and financing strategies in order to increase their capacity to manage public investment. Finally, Mr. Klyuev underscored that the IMF works both in the sphere of domestic resource mobilization and in attracting and catalyzing resources from external donors, such as regional development banks.

## *Discussion*

Numerous important points were raised by the parliamentarians in the debate that followed:

- The public-private partnerships cost more to the state, as more incentives are required for the private sector in order to encourage the investors.
- State guarantees can be an extremely valuable tool to mobilize funds.
- The capacities of private sector need to be supported: even stable countries struggle sometimes to attract investment. Corruption is an important factor repelling investors.

Overall, the participants were particularly interested in the existing financing tools and instruments both on the World Bank's and IMF's side. They wondered about the role parliamentarians can play in helping to attract more private funds into development.

The particular issues concerning Africa were raised, such as connectivity: according to Mr. Klyuev, sub-Saharan countries are not as well integrated in the global supply chains as other parts of the world. Nevertheless, Mr. Sheahan gave examples of the areas in which Africa was able to integrate as quickly as the rest of the world: namely, the digital economy, which was brought to African countries entirely through the private sector, and which is currently generating considerable employment opportunities.

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<sup>9</sup> "Roads to Stronger Growth in Low-Income Countries"

<https://blogs.imf.org/2017/01/12/roads-to-stronger-growth-in-low-income-countries/#more-16258>



## ELIMINATING CORRUPTION - WHAT CAN PARLIAMENTARIANS DO?

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### *Speakers*

- **Merly M. Khouw**, Lead Investigator, World Bank Group
- **Paul Ashin**, Senior Financial Sector Expert, Legal Department, IMF

### *Moderator*

- Senator **Percy Downe**, Canada; Vice-Chair, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Merly Khouw** started this session by describing the World Bank's efforts in combating corruption in its member countries within its Integrity Vice Presidency. While many units in the World Bank work on prevention, enforcement, and compliance, this structure is the one in charge of investigating and seeking sanctions against corrupt companies, and use the lessons learnt to help other World Bank departments, as well as national entities, to fight against corruption.

According to Ms. Khouw, today there is increasingly less tolerance to corruption around the world, the main reason for this being the losses in foreign investment that it causes, which are particularly high in emerging markets (a 20% "tax" on foreign investment). She evoked the James D. Wolfensohn's 1996 speech, first mentioning the "cancer of corruption" on effective development. Due to this, corruption is one of the World Bank's priorities, both for the abovementioned economic and legal reasons.

**Paul Ashin** explained that, historically, corruption was considered as a fact of life intrinsically built into the system: to this day, films like *The Godfather* feature corrupt officials as a part of every government institution. He asked a question: how can we finally evolve from the society where an honest person is considered a fool and corruption is the norm, to a society where this situation is an aberration?

According to Mr. Ashin, the IMF focuses its efforts on types of corruption that have macroeconomic consequences: it is currently in the process of formulating a new staff guidance note on the subject. He pointed out that, despite the IMF's effort to tackle corruption, there is still room for improvement in its strategies: he suggested that it be more "even-handed" in different countries.





## *Discussion*

*“The IMF sometimes downplays its wording to maintain good relationship with a government; but there are times when we just need to say that corruption is there and ask them to address this behaviour” – Paul Ashin, IMF*

The topic of corruption provoked an animated discussion among the participants. Everyone agreed on the following points:

- The successful fight against corruption necessitates an alliance between the authorities, the civil society and the media;
- The anti-corruption programmes and interventions need to be tailored for each particular country;
- Better data is needed to measure the effects of corruption;

Mr. Ashin pointed out that Members of Parliament can help provide an objective measure of the effect corruption has on the economy and society by scrutinizing the budget and overseeing spending efficiency. They are best placed to identify various red flags and inconsistencies pointing to corruption.



- The need to look at both demand and supply sides of corruption;

Several participants drew attention to the fact that foreign investors can often be a corrupting factor when coming into a country. The reliance that a country can form on a major industry operated by a foreign corporation can allow it to bend rules and inflate prices.

- Parliaments not getting all information.

The parliament often does not know enough about funding procedures, nor is it able to evaluate the government's spending independently, without basing its analysis on numbers provided by this government. Engaging its own external auditors, working directly and only for the parliament, could be a way to remedy this dependency.

The session ended with participants calling to create more regulations over fiscal fraud, possibly using a mechanism analogical to the one used by the World Bank, which would allow the countries to isolate and ban cheating companies from competition over public procurement.

*“International investors coming into a country do corrupt. We need to attract investors, but investors cheat. It's a dilemma.” – Janet Mbene, MP Tanzania*



# HUMAN CAPITAL AND THE WORK OF THE WORLD BANK AND IMF

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## *Speakers*

- **Dr. Mariam Claeson**, Director, Global Financing Facility
- **David Coady**, Division Chief, Expenditure Policy Division, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

## *Moderator*

- Hon. **Nathan Nandala-Mafabi**, MP Uganda; Board Member, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**Dr. Mariam Claeson** opened the session on human capital with the presentation of the Global Financing Facility – a new initiative launched in 2015 and aspiring to end preventable maternal, child, and adolescent deaths, and improve the health and overall quality of life of women and children according to the SDG targets<sup>10</sup>.



This Facility was created in response to two main trends: insufficient progress on maternal and child health, and change in development assistance trends, notably the shifting focus to attracting private finance as opposed to increasing the ODA.

In 2015, the year the GFF was created, the gap in financing health assistance was estimated at 33.3 billion \$. According to Dr. Claeson, much of this amount could be saved simply by improving efficiency; and closing this financing gap would prevent 24 to 38 million deaths by 2030.

The GFF functions as a country-driven process pulling together both domestic resources and IDA/IBRD finance. Dr. Claeson emphasized the enormous opportunities the last IDA replenishment – the largest in its history – presents for financing human health and development. The GFF also benefits extensively from external financing, including bilateral (Canada, Denmark, France, Germany, Ireland, and others) and multilateral funding (European Commission, Gavi, the Islamic Development Bank, UN). Dr. Claeson described their strategy to leverage private resources: developing innovative mechanisms to facilitate investment, encouraging partnerships between global private sector and countries, and leveraging domestic private sector capabilities in countries.

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<sup>10</sup> Global Financing Facility  
<https://www.globalfinancingfacility.org/>





**David Coady**, in his turn, described the IMF's increased efforts in supporting human development over the last decade. According to him, from the Fund's perspective, the key is social spending: quality education, healthcare, and social protection need to be able to reach even the most vulnerable groups.

This approach falls in line with IMF's proclaimed main objective, which is maintaining macroeconomic stability. Human capital investment requires considerable fiscal space, which in its turn requires the strengthening of tax and spending policy, as well as institutions. According to Mr. Coady, human development programmes need to put an emphasis on spending efficiency, as well as stronger social safety nets. Energy subsidy reform is one of the keys to creating necessary fiscal space; however, it needs to be designed to protect vulnerable populations who rely on subsidies.

Finally, Mr. Coady suggested to participants a few reads on social spending from the Fund's point of view, notably the IMF's own *"Social Safeguards and Program Design in PRGT and PSI-Supported Programs"* and *"Inequality and Fiscal Policy"*, the Independent Evaluation Office's paper *"The IMF and Social Protection"*, and the IMF Fiscal Monitor's *"Tackling Inequality"*.

## **Discussion**

The parliamentarians agreed that creating fiscal space should be a priority in order to boost social spending, but noted that maintaining macroeconomic stability and managing debt is often done at the expense of social spending.

The participants were skeptical to the idea that economic growth goes hand in hand with increased social spending, pointing out that in reality, the health sector (and primarily women and children) suffer because of the focus on growth.

***"We should concentrate on supporting medical personnel instead of new infrastructure; otherwise the doctors are not motivated to stay." - Lanre Tejuoso, MP, Nigeria***

Dr. Claeson reiterated that the key to achieving results in the health sector is not more money, but reforming the approach to spending and increasing efficiency. She noted the importance of harmonizing different existing efforts, and agreed with the participants that investments in quality and human resources should be a priority above everything else.



## AN ACTION PLAN FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS

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### *Speakers*

- **Naye Bathily**, Head, Parliamentary Engagement, World Bank Group
- **Glenn Gottselig**, Senior Communications Officer, Communications Department, IMF

### *Moderator*

- Hon. **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK; Chair, Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

This session was dedicated to discussions among parliamentarians of their future as a network, and of the ways the platform can be further developed. It was also an opportunity for them to debate on topics mentioned earlier, and agree on a set of priorities, which would be later assembled in the common action plan.

**Nayé Bathily** opened the session by explaining the participants that the World Bank country offices are open for discussions with Members of Parliament, as well as organizing more high-level meetings with officials while they are visiting the country. She suggested that a meeting with Members of Parliament should become an integral part of World Bank officials' missions on the ground, complementing their usual series of meetings with government representatives. Ms. Bathily emphasized the Bank's commitment to 100 % beneficiary feedback on all its projects, and therefore its duty to engage with parliamentarians as representative of those beneficiaries.

**Glenn Gottselig** joined her in that, underlining that IMF mission teams are also open to collaboration with legislators, and only require an invitation from them to organize informational meetings to explain and discuss the Fund's country activities.

The parliamentarians, however, questioned the capacity in which they can engage with international financial institutions. The World Bank's and the IMF's principal interlocutors are the member countries' governments, while the PN is a network of individual Members of Parliament, who do not represent their institutions (but still report back to them). The value of PN national chapters was brought to light in this relation, as they are structures approved by the national parliaments, and therefore have a mandate.

Some participants suggested the group adopts a resolution following the two days' discussion, in order to formalize its main conclusions. However, due to the informal nature of the workshop and the individual capacity of participants it was decided to draft an action plan assembling all policy suggestions which emerged from the debate, while abstaining from adopting a formal resolution.



All parliamentarians agreed that the PN needs to be more impactful and try to create continuity between its main events by following up more with the national parliaments. Many voices were heard in support of raising the level of the organization in order to be able to talk to international financial institutions from the position of power, and for parliamentarians to be more influential within their own country in order to stand up to radical political movements.

**Jeremy Lefroy** reminded the participants that the Network was created in 2003 as an association for educational purposes and with no decision-making ability. He underscored the fact that the level of participation and discussions is significantly higher today than it was in the first years after its creation. He asked the participants for concrete proposals, which would then be discussed by the Board of Directors and put on vote at the next PN General Assembly.

Ms. Bathily proceeded to invite all participants of the workshop to participate in the field visits – a joint initiative allowing Members of Parliament from both donor and recipient countries to see World Bank projects on the ground and engage with various local development actors in order to raise awareness among parliamentarians on the way development initiatives work.

*“The desire to be more active and effective as a network first came up in 2008-2009 from developing countries. Today, it is coming from developed countries. While both sides are correct, we need to manage this debate, as the motivations from those two sides are completely different.” – Yunus Carrim, MP, South Africa*



## CONCLUSION

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The Parliamentary Workshop at the Annual Meetings of the World Bank and International Monetary Fund gathered 55 parliamentarians from 33 countries and several parliamentary organizations in Washington in order for them to meet with leading experts on various development-related topics such as fragility, education, climate change, fight against corruption, job creation, and energy reforms. The debate concluded with participants submitting various remarks and suggestions which were then discussed during the meeting of the PN Board of Directors, and put together in the form of the common action plan.

This action plan is the document for the participants to take back to their home parliaments as the main outcome of the workshop, and use it to increase their influence and demand action on the development agenda from their governments.

*“The Parliament of Bangladesh thanks the Parliamentary Network for this intense and focused discussion, from which we take back valuable lessons regarding the ways the World Bank and the IMF operate. The general sentiment among Members of Parliament is that this discussion should be taken to the next level.” – Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, Speaker of Parliament, Bangladesh*

The 2017 Parliamentary Workshop shed light on different issues affecting different regions and categories of countries, and highlighted the importance of knowledge produced by the World Bank and IMF researchers and its value for policymakers worldwide. Parliamentarians were invited to use instruments such as Parliamentary Network national chapters in order to establish closer contact with World Bank and IMF offices in their countries, and take advantage of their resources and expertise. Finally, all participants were invited to continue the debate at the 2018 Global Parliamentary Conference, which will go even more in depth of the main development challenges the world is facing today.



## Annex 1

### ACTIONS RESULTING FROM THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK WORKSHOP

#### 1.0 For Parliamentarians to consider or take up within their own Parliaments

- 1.1 Establishing an informal or formal group/committee within Parliament on the work of the WB/IMF (and possibly other MFIs of which their country is a member).
- 1.2 Share with the PN best practices in their own countries which aim to support job and livelihoods creation and their success or failure in doing so.
- 1.3 Use data and examples from IMF and WB to write articles for local press and inform parliamentary speeches.
- 1.4 Lead balanced debates on 'pros' and 'cons' of globalisation as well as benefits of international parliamentary cooperation.
- 1.5 Use the World Development Report 2018 on Education and Learning to inform parliamentary debates and government decisions on education.
- 1.6 Collaborate with civil society and community organizations on initiatives to reduce fragility.
- 1.7 Lead other initiatives to hold governments to account and scrutinize budget more effectively.

#### 2.0 For the Board to take up with the WB/IMF

- 2.1 Meetings with the Executive Directors to discuss matters raised by the Network;
- 2.2 Proposal that the WB (supported by IMF) considers establishing/supporting the establishment of a Global Fund for Youth Jobs and Livelihoods Creation, based on existing work but taking it to a new level. It would be similar to other PPP's such as the Global Fund on HIV/AIDS/TB and Malaria. (UK)
- 2.3 Work with the countries in the Lake Chad Basin to lead a concerted effort to reverse the environmental degradation and 'refill' Lake Chad; (Chad)
- 2.4 Co-operate more closely with the WB and partner humanitarian organizations in the field of fragility prevention.



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## ABOUT THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and International Monetary Fund (the PN) was initially founded in 2000 as an independent, non-governmental organization providing a platform for Parliamentarians from World Bank and IMF member countries to advocate for increased accountability and transparency in development cooperation. The Parliamentary Network has over 1000 parliamentarians in Africa, Asia, Europe and the Americas, supported by its international secretariat and guided by its Board, currently made up of nine (9) Members of Parliament. Jeremy Lefroy MP, UK is the Chairman of the Network. Membership is open to Parliamentarians with a current mandate.

The PN through its members and events creates a space where parliamentarians can engage with the World Bank and IMF in a transparent manner, and, therefore, participate actively in shaping the international development agenda. Through its work programme the Network empowers MPs to take an active part in development programs and policies of both institutions. Part of its mission has evolved to providing a platform for knowledge exchange between parliamentarians and the World Bank and IMF, with information on World Bank/IMF programs and activities, as well as facilitating feedback and experiences from Members of Parliament to both organizations on their respective work, which in turn helps accelerate achieving results.

## THE PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS

The parliamentary workshop at the World Bank/IMF Annual Meetings engages Parliamentarians in a dialogue on development and matters related to the global economy, with discussions between MPs, senior management, and technical or operational staff of the WB and the IMF, meaning the people responsible for designing and overseeing the implementation of projects and policies. The workshop provides:

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- Up to date information to parliamentarians on the World Bank's and IMF's priorities and strategic directions;
- Direct access to the World Bank and IMF for influential parliamentarians, thus creating effective possibilities for dialogue and impact (including at the regional and country level),
- A knowledge-sharing platform and, therefore, promoting parliamentary engagement for better development outcomes.

Parliamentarians were active contributors to the framing and conceptualization of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Now, it is also up to them to help implement them at national and international levels through their lawmaking, budgeting, and oversight functions.

The parliamentary workshop at the Annual Meetings plays a critical role in building political will to ensure that both development programs and the SDGs are attained, while encouraging country ownership and government accountability. All sessions will provide concrete examples and actions parliamentarians can take to achieve the goals and challenges discussed.

## VENUES

VENUE	ADDRESS
International Monetary Fund Headquarters 2 (IMF HQ2)	1900 Pennsylvania Ave NW, Washington, DC, 20431



# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2017

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## MONDAY, 9 OCTOBER 2017

**All day**

### ARRIVAL OF DELEGATES AND BADGE PICK-UP

Venue: **World Bank I Building - 1850 I Street NW**

The Registration Office is open for badge pickup daily from **8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.**, from Monday, October 9 - Sunday, October 15

## TUESDAY, 10 OCTOBER 2017

**08:00 - 08:45**

### LATE BADGE PICK-UP FOR PARTICIPANTS

Venue: **World Bank I Building - 1850 I Street NW**

**09:00 - 09:30**

### WELCOME REMARKS BY

Venue: **IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)**

- **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK, Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF
- **Sabina Bhatia**, Assistant Director, Communications Department, IMF
- **Jill Wilkins**, Director, Global Engagement, External Affairs, World Bank

**09:30 - 10:30**

### THE GLOBAL OUTLOOK FOR JOBS AND ECONOMIC GROWTH

Venue: **IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)**

The pickup in global growth remains on track—projected to grow by 3.5 percent in 2017 and 3.6 percent in 2018—with the economies of the U.S., Japan, and China showing increasingly positive signs. Inflation in advanced economies remains generally below targets and continues to decline in emerging economies, such as Brazil, India, and Russia. However, monetary policy normalization in the U.S. could trigger a faster-than-anticipated tightening in global financial conditions.

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Commodity exporters continue to face tight revenue flows, and financial stability risks persist in many emerging economies. Policy need to also watch for a turn toward inward-looking policies, as well as other geopolitical risks. This session provides an overview of the economic conditions facing lawmakers as they deliberate the best policy options to secure jobs and economic growth in their countries.

Speakers:

- **Malhar Nabar**, Deputy Division Chief, World Economic Studies Division, Research Department, IMF
- **David Robalino**, Manager of the Jobs Group, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK, Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF

**10:30 - 10:45**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**10:45 - 11:45**

**INEQUALITY, GLOBALIZATION, TECHNOLOGICAL CHANGE, AND TRADE**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

Rising inequality has coincided with increasing global integration and significant technological advancements—while these have had many benefits for lower-income and emerging-market countries, some advanced economies have witnessed job losses and eroding market shares. Rising income inequality over recent decades has led to calls for governments to help people who are falling behind. This session examines the driving forces behind inequality and the role that lawmakers can play in addressing inequality in their countries.

Speakers:

- **Larry Cooley**, President Emeritus of Management Systems International (MSI); President of Society for International Development (SID)

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- **Mitali Das**, Deputy Division Chief, External Sector Division, Strategy, Policy, and Review Department, IMF
- **Ambar Narayan**, Lead Economist, Poverty and Equity Global Practice, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Lahcen Haddad**, MP, Morocco; Board Member, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**11:45 - 12:45**

## INVESTING IN EDUCATION

Venue: **IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)**

Education is a key instrument for lifting populations out of poverty. It shifts outcomes for the individual and society at large. Education allows for healthier lives and more engaged citizens. It narrows gender and social gaps, and spurs productivity and economic growth. This provides a strong rationale for investing in education. As elected representatives, parliamentarians can have a strong influence on government decisions and actions in the field of education. They can press for policies that recognize the importance of quality educational services for all is a national priority.

Speakers:

- **Deon Filmer**, Lead Economist, Development Research Group, World Bank Group
- **Halsey Rogers**, Lead Economist, Education Global Practice, World Bank Group

Moderator: **Pauline Ndomou**, MP, Cameroun, Board Member, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**13:00 - 14:00**

## LUNCH

Venue: **IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-05B-073 (5th floor)**

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**14:15 - 15:15**

## **INSTITUTION BUILDING AND ENERGY REFORMS**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

The session will look at how to implement appropriate energy reforms to achieve a comprehensive energy sector, better communication with stakeholders, incremental price increases, and ultimately improve the country's institutional environment.

Speaker: **Baoping Shang**, Senior Economist, Expenditure Policy Division, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

Moderator: **Olga Bielkova**, MP, Ukraine, Board Member, Board Member, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**15:15 - 16:15**

## **CLIMATE CHANGE MITIGATION AND DISASTER RESILIENCE**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

Climate change, increasing urban vulnerability and rapid environmental degradation are exacerbating the magnitude and impact of disasters, especially in developing countries, making adaptation a matter of urgency. This session will explore how parliamentarians around the world, especially in countries vulnerable to disasters, can advance disaster risk reduction and climate change adaptation in order to protect lives and livelihoods at international and local levels.

Speakers:

- **John Roome**, Senior Director for the Climate Change, World Bank Group
- **Miko Mrkaic**, Senior Economist, World Economic Studies Division, Research Department, IMF

Moderator: **Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin**, MP, Malaysia; Board Member, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2017

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**16:15 - 17:15**

## **MEASURING FRAGILITY**

Venue: **IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)**

wFragility, conflict, and violence are a critical development challenge that threatens efforts to end extreme poverty and promote shared prosperity. There is growing recognition of the close linkages between governance and fragility. In parallel, conflicts are frequently seen as causes and consequences of poor, illegitimate and corrupt governance structures. The persistence of fragility in many countries continues to reveal critical factors of state weakness at play, including weak capacity and poor commitment to institution building and pro-growth policies. Recent research indicates that building resilience depends on several factors, including an inclusive political arrangement, a committed leadership that is capable of implementing policies to improve governance and generate inclusive growth, and strong international support in the form of financial and technical assistance.

Speakers:

- **Franck Bousquet**, Senior Director, Fragility, Conflict, and Violence Group, World Bank Group
- **Mumtaz Hussein**, Senior Economist, Institute for Capacity Development, IMF

Moderator: **Yunus Carrim**, MP, South Africa

**18:30**

## **RECEPTION HOSTED BY THE AMBASSADOR OF TUNISIA TO THE UNITED STATES**

Venue: **Residence of Tunisia's Ambassador to the US  
5131 Broad Branch Road NW, Washington, DC**

# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2017

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WEDNESDAY, 11 OCTOBER 2017

08:30 - 09:30

## INNOVATIVE WAYS OF FINANCING DEVELOPMENT

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

When the Sustainable Development goals were established, it was clear that more funds will be needed to meet the new goals. Innovative sources of development financing can include a wide range of potential contributors, such as citizens, corporations, and governments. In particular, the private sector has to be a principal actor when it comes to infrastructure finance. The session will explore how to overcome market inefficiencies and other constraints to private sector investment at the country and sector level.

Speakers:

- **Vladimir Klyuev**, Deputy Chief, Developing Markets Strategy Unit, Strategy, Policy and Review Department, IMF
- **Bernard Sheahan**, Director of Global Infrastructure and Natural Resources, International Finance Corporation

Moderator: **Olfa Soukri Cherif**, MP, Tunisia, Vice Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

09:30 - 10:30

## ELIMINATING CORRUPTION – WHAT CAN PARLIAMENTARIANS DO?

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

Corruption distorts economic development and subverts political decision-making, stunting growth and creating political instability. It also distorts the proper functioning of democratic institutions, discourages legitimate business, distorts the allocation of resources and compromises political legitimacy. The session will look at how Parliamentarians can build accountability, promote the rule of law and help curb corruption.

# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2017

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Speakers:

- **Merly M. Khouw**, Lead Investigator, World Bank Group
- **Paul Ashin**, Senior Financial Sector Expert, Legal Department, IMF

Moderator: **Senator Percy Downe**, Canada; Vice Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF

**10:45 - 11:00**

**COFFEE BREAK**

**11:00 - 12:00**

**SOCIAL PROTECTION IN THE WORK OF THE WORLD BANK AND IMF**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

This session discusses how the World Bank and IMF address and ensure social protection in the context of their country work, as an integral part of human development. Social protection systems should aim to be inclusive and sustainable, characterized by people's ability to participate in, and benefit from, wealth and job creation. The promotion of decent work and a guarantee of rights at work is vital, as are unemployment benefits and a sound health care system. The World Bank Group supports universal access to social protection, which is central to its goals of ending poverty and boosting shared prosperity. Over the past decade, the IMF has stepped up its attention to social protection, as it has dealt with the aftermath of the global financial crisis and other economic stresses on low-income groups and the most vulnerable.

Speakers:

- **Dr. Mariam Claeson**, Director, Global Financing Facility
- **David Coady**, Division Chief, Expenditure Policy Division, Fiscal Affairs Department, IMF

Moderator: **Nathan Nandala-Mafabi**, MP Uganda, Vice Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank & IMF



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October 10-11, 2017

**12:00 - 13:00**

## **AN ACTION PLAN FOR PARLIAMENTARIANS**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-3B-768 (3rd floor)

To make a significant contribution to the effort to eradicate poverty and promote equitable development, legislators need to make a strong commitment of taking action in their home Parliaments. This session will provide some recommendations as to how parliamentarians can be more pro-active in bringing about positive development outcomes in their countries.

Speakers:

- **Naye Bathily**, Head, Parliamentary Engagement, World Bank Group
- **Glenn Gottselig**, Senior Communications Officer, Communications Department, IMF

Moderator: **Jeremy Lefroy**, MP, UK, Chair, The Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF

**13:00 - 14:00**

## **LUNCH**

Venue: IMF HQ2, Room HQ2-05B-073 (5th floor)

**14:00 - 18:00**

## **MEETING OF THE PARLIAMENTARIANS FOR INVESTING IN THE EARLY YEARS**

Venue: World Bank Group, 1818 H Street NW - Room MC 7-100

Organized by Action and Action Against Hunger.

**18:30**

## **RECEPTION OF CIVIL SOCIETY REPRESENTATIVES**

Venue: World Bank Group Atrium, 1818 H Street NW

# PARLIAMENTARY WORKSHOP AT THE ANNUAL MEETINGS 2017

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October 10-11, 2017

## CONTACTS

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THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund

**LIST OF MEMBERS OF PARLIAMENT**  
**Parliamentary workshop on the occasion of the Annual meetings 2017**  
**10-11 OCTOBER 2017 | WASHINGTON DC**

- |   |  |
|---|--|
| <b>BANGLADESH</b>                       | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shirin Sharmin Chaudhury, MP, Speaker of Parliament</li><li>• Muhiuddin Khan Alamgir, MP, Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee</li></ul>  |
| <b>BURKINA FASO</b>                     | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Dissan Gnomou, MP, President of the West and Central Africa Parliamentarian Network for Nutrition</li></ul>  |
| <b>CAMEROON</b>                         | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Pauline Bekono Ebah Ndoumou, MP, Quaestor of the National Assembly, Board Member of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF</li><li>• Musa Mbutoh Njingum MP, Quaestor of the National Assembly</li><li>• Marlyse Rose Douala Bell, MP</li></ul> |
| <b>CANADA</b>                           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Percy E. Downe, Senator, Vice Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF</li></ul>   |
| <b>CHAD</b>                             | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Issa Mardo Djabir, MP, Chairman of the Special Commission on the SDGs</li></ul>  |
| <b>DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO</b> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Flore Musendu Flungu, Senator, Rapporteur of the Senate</li><li>• Jean Philibert Mabaya Gizi Amine, Senator, Quaestor of the Senate</li></ul>  |
| <b>EQUATORIAL GUINEA</b>                | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Martin Crisantos Ebe Mba, Senator</li></ul>  |
| <b>GERMANY</b>                          | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Volkmar Klein, MP</li></ul>  |



## THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund

<b>GHANA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Kwame Agbodza, MP</li></ul>
<b>INDONESIA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Sukamta Sukamta, MP</li><li>• Mohamad Arief Suditomo, MP</li></ul>
<b>IRAQ</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Iqbal Almadhy, MP</li></ul>
<b>JORDAN</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Umayya Toukan, Senator</li></ul>
<b>LATVIA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Janis Vucans, MP, Chairman of the Budget and Finance (Taxation) Committee</li><li>• Imants Parādnieks, MP, Deputy Chairman of Budget and Finance (Taxation) Committee</li></ul>
<b>MADAGASCAR</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Constance Razafamily, MP, Chair of the Finance and Budget Committee</li><li>• Maminiaina Rabenirina, MP</li><li>• Lova Razafindrafito, MP</li></ul>
<b>MALAWI</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Clement Chiwaya, Second Deputy-Speaker of Parliament</li></ul>
<b>MALAYSIA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Shamsul Iskandar Mohd Akin, MP, Board Member of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF</li><li>• Noraini Ahmad, MP</li></ul>
<b>MOLDOVA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Gheorghe Mocanu, MP</li></ul>
<b>MOROCCO</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Lahcen Haddad MP, Board Member of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF</li><li>• Souad Zaidi, MP</li></ul>
<b>NIGERIA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Tijjani Abdulkadir Jobe, MP</li><li>• Lanre Tejuoso, Senator, Chair of the Health Committee</li><li>• Jones Onyereri, MP</li><li>• Rafiu Adebayo, Senator</li><li>• Dino Melaye, Senator</li></ul>



## THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund

- Stella Oduah, Senator
  - Johnbull Shekarau, Senator
  - Danjuma Goje, Senator
- PARAGUAY**
- Ramón Romero Roa, MP, Chairman of the Committee on Constitutional Affairs
  - Walter Harms, MP, Chairman of the Foreign Relations Committee
- POLAND**
- Grzegorz Bierecki, Senator, Chairman of the Budget and Public Finance Committee
- ROMANIA**
- Rozalia Ibolya Biro, MP, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- SENEGAL**
- El Hadji Mansour Sy, MP, Deputy Speaker of Parliament
- SOUTH AFRICA**
- Yunus Carrim, MP, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Finance
- SWITZERLAND**
- Hans-Peter Portmann, MP
  - Claude Béglé, MP
- TANZANIA**
- Hawa Ghasia, MP, Chairman of the Standing Committee on Budget
  - Janet Zebedayo Mbene, MP
- TUNISIA**
- Olfa Soukri Cherif, MP, Vice Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF
- TURKEY**
- Taha Ozhan, MP, Chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee
- UGANDA**
- Nathan Nandala-Mafabi, MP, Vice Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF



## THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund

### UK

- Jeremy Lefroy, MP, Chair of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF

### UKRAINE

- Olga Bielkova, MP, Board Member of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and IMF

### ZIMBABWE

- David Chapfika, MP

### GLOBAL PARLIAMENTARY ORGANIZATIONS

- Assemblée Française de la Francophonie (APF) - Bachir Dieye, Advisor
- The Central African Economic and Monetary Community (CEMAC) Parliament - Marie Rose Nguini Effa, MP
- Pan-African Parliament - Patrick Mayombe, MP
- Bangladesh All-Party Parliamentary Groups - Shishir Shil, Secretary General