



THE PARLIAMENTARY NETWORK

On The World Bank & International Monetary Fund

Guidelines for the creation of National Chapters

ABOUT THE NETWORK: OVER 2000 MEMBERS

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 2000 parliamentarians from World Bank and IMF member countries 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. Liam Byrne MP, UK is the Chairman of the Network. Membership is open to Parliamentarians with a current mandate.

Through your membership to the PN, you become part of a larger network of peers committed to tackling global development issues and advocating for increased accountability and transparency in development cooperation. The PN through its members and events creates a platform where parliamentarians can engage with the World Bank and IMF in a transparent manner. Members of Parliament are invited to give their feedback and share their experiences to both organizations on their respective work and, therefore, participate actively in shaping the international development agenda, which in turn helps accelerate achieving results.

WHY ESTABLISH NETWORK LOCAL CHAPTERS?

A Parliamentary Network Chapter brings together a group of parliamentarians who are committed to the Network's mission and principles. Chapters aim to strengthen the position of parliamentarians among international financial institutions and other development stakeholders.

Direct engagement with local World Bank and IMF teams:

- Members of the local Chapters get privileged and priority access to World Bank and IMF experts. Members can **participate in consultations** in World Bank Country Partnership Frameworks (CPF), IMF Article IV consultations, as well as World Bank and IMF operations, policies and individual projects.
- The Chapter can also facilitate a **Question and Answer system** to enable you to submit any query you have on a World Bank or IMF project or policy in a given country, region, or on a global scale.

- The Chapter can also organize a **briefing in Parliament with World Bank and IMF experts** on a key development issue of your choosing.
- When possible, the Parliamentary Network also facilitates access, for Chapter members, to **meetings with World Bank and IMF senior Management** when they visit your country.

International parliamentary events:

- As member of the Chapter, you are invited to take part in the **Global Parliamentary Forum**, which is organized on the sidelines of the Spring Meetings in partnership with the World Bank and the IMF. Gathering some two hundred MPs, the conference gives visiting parliamentarians a platform on which to engage with senior management and experts of the IMF and the World Bank Group on pressing global development issues.
- You will also get privileged access to the **parliamentary workshop** on the margins of the Annual Meetings. The workshop offers the international parliamentary delegation the chance to interact directly with World Bank and IMF staff for better development outcomes.

Field Visits:

- Members of the Chapter will be invited to take part in the **Regional and International Parliamentary Field Visit** which offers a firsthand look at World Bank and IMF programs on the ground in recipient countries. These visits offer a platform to exchange views and experiences with international peers on successful development policies. During the visit, you will also have the opportunity to meet with local high-level officials, development stakeholders, CSOs and private sector representatives.
- The Network can also organize a field visit in your country, as well as meetings with Task Team Leaders and projects beneficiaries.

Although recently these activities have been held virtually due to the pandemic, the Network has maintained its platform facilitating legislators' feedback to World Bank and IMF officials and express their views on what has worked and what still needs to be achieved in development programs, both at the national and global levels. Further activities can be organized upon request, to the extent possible.

Strengthening parliamentary advocacy is also a key component of citizen engagement. Including beneficiary feedback in World Bank and IMF programs is an effective way to integrate citizen voices in lasting development results. This level of engagement has proven invaluable in improving country ownership and involvement in the poverty-reduction and economic development process.

HOW TO FORM A LOCAL PN CHAPTER

The principle of parliamentary cooperation and networking is strongly promoted by the Parliamentary Network. Parliamentarians join the Network as individuals, but are then encouraged to coordinate their development-related activities with corresponding groups and eventually to

create local Chapters. The Parliamentary Network international secretariat provides support to Chapters and facilitates their activities.

Chapters are discussion groups acting within the scope and mission of the Parliamentary Network. **They must be a local initiative and require at least three to five founding parliamentarians per country.**

The local Chapter must be non-partisan and consist of MPs from both the ruling and opposition parties, as well as try to promote a gender balance.

To be considered as such, local Chapters should report on their activities to the Network's Secretariat. Members of Chapters must fill out the [Network's membership form online](#) in order to be considered Parliamentary Network members.

Chapters take the responsibility to meet regularly and discuss macroeconomic and development issues, adopt a program of activities, and ensure the financial independence of the Chapter. The formal organization of Chapters and the frequency of meetings are to be determined by consensus among the Chapter members, taking into account the members' parliamentary calendar and obligations.

Chapters also take the responsibility to establish a permanent liaison with the Parliamentary Network's Secretariat in order to report back on their structure, operations, and upcoming activities.

Chapters will benefit from engaging with the World Bank and IMF local offices on a regular basis in order to discuss the institutions' activities and projects at the local level.

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