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Chairman's Foreword

Jeremy Lefroy, PN Chairman, Member of the UK Parliament

When I ran a business in Tanzania, I remember on a visit to the local tax office seeing a quotation pinned on the wall: "When I pay taxes, I buy civilisation."

We can debate whether civilisation can be bought, and whether everything on which taxpayers' money is spent is civilised. However I think that most people would agree that the major elements of what we would call a 'civilised society' - healthcare and education accessible to all, peace and stability – could not exist without a reasonable amount of taxation levied in a fair way.

Parliamentarians have the ultimate responsibility when it comes to taxation. In England, after Magna Carta in 1215, the monarch had to summon a parliament (undemocratic, it must be admitted) and obtain its assent to raise taxes. Most of the time, those taxes were to be used to fight wars. Fortunately we have come a long way since then, but the principle remains the same. The executive Government can only raise and spend taxes by the permission of the people's representatives in parliament.

Parliamentarians around the world are taking this responsibility very seriously. In Tanzania in 2014, when sessions of the Public Accounts Committee (PAC) regarding a controversial energy deal, chaired by Hon. Zitto Kabwe MP, were broadcast live on television, it attracted very large audiences. On a visit there at the time, I saw for myself people crowding around televisions in bars when the Tanzanian Parliament was discussing the PAC's report.

In my own country, the PAC regularly castigates Government of all parties for poor spending decisions or badly managed projects, and that is as it should be. It is of course important that PAC also highlights examples of good practice. It may not make for so many press headlines

but it is important to let people know what is working well. It does democracy no favours if people hear only about inefficiency and bad practice and not about the outstanding work which many people in public service carry out, often for little reward.

As well as monitoring public expenditure, parliamentarians have a central role in ensuring that income from taxes is collected fairly and in full. As the President of the World Bank has said recently, avoiding paying taxes is a form of corruption.

In Lima in October, he also remarked: “Christine Lagarde (IMF Managing Director) and I have offered that we will provide, for any country in the world, intensive technical support to make developing countries tax systems more efficient and fairer. And so we were very encouraged by the response we got; there was not a single developing country that did not want our help, and we are going to go forward in doing that.”

But this is not just a question of improving tax systems in developing countries, it is also a responsibility of wealthy countries to ensure that so called ‘tax havens’ are thoroughly reformed. They must not be a means of hiding profits from tax or illegally obtained wealth from the reach of the law. Country by country reporting by multinational organisations of profits and tax paid should also, I believe, be required.

Increasingly our constituents wish to know that the products and services they buy are supplied by businesses with good employment and business practices, and which pay their fair share of taxes. At the same time, both constituents and businesses demand that the taxes they pay are spent efficiently and effectively. As parliamentarians, we have an essential role in ensuring that both happen – that “taxes are paid” and that they do “buy civilisation.”

Role of Legislators in Implementing Paris/COP21 Agreement

Cedric Thomas Frolick, Member of the South African Parliament

1. INTRODUCTION

Traditionally, parliaments have been engaged in domestic politics, as a distinctive branch of government that represents people. However, in recent years they have increasingly moved to international relations issues, including climate change in two major ways: by conducting parallel diplomatic relations (parliamentary diplomacy); and by establishing and empowering parliaments as representative bodies of regional and international organizations. Nonetheless, this does not mean that parliaments have become the most important actors in international affairs as the executives still remain central to foreign policy, but in recent years they are no longer the exclusive players.¹ For example, one of the key objectives of the South African Parliament is “to engage in, participate in, and oversee international relations.”² The South African Parliament facilitates and participates in several international relations activities, including multilaterals, bilaterals, international forums and organizations, including the African, Caribbean, and Pacific-European Union forum; the Inter-Parliamentary Union; the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association; the Pan-African Parliament; and the SADC Parliamentary Forum.³ It is in this respect that the then National Assembly House Chairperson for International Relations, the Hon. Fatima Hajaig stressed that “Parliament must engage more meaningfully and constructively in international relations,”⁴ thereby opening a unique opportunity for South African legislators to participate in the events of GLOBE

¹ Malamud, A. and Stavridis, S. (2011) Parliaments and Parliamentarians as International Actors. In: The Ashgate Research Companion to Non-State Actors, B. Reinalda (Ed.), pp. 106–116, Ashgate Publishing Limited, Surrey.

² Parliament of the Republic of South Africa (2008:31) Strategic Plan for Third Parliament 2004–2009. Office of the Secretary to Parliament, Cape Town.

³ Ibid.

⁴ Hajaig, F. (2013:1) Speech by Hon. Fatima Hajaig, National Assembly House Chairperson, during the Budget Vote Debate on Parliament June 11, 2013. Parliament of the Republic of South Africa, Cape Town.

International.

Parliaments and parliamentarians have been working together on forums offered by GLOBE International in dealing with contentious political issues. They have been doing this exceptionally well owing to their more de-escalating approaches, which readily make them more trustworthy and have the potential to influence positions when the official communication channels have become congested or terminated. In fact, some easing of tension between nation states has its roots in informal gatherings at the parliamentary level. The interest in each other grows and positive outcomes can result from these parliamentary contacts.⁵ This kind of parliamentary diplomacy is truly needed in the implementation of the Paris/COP21 Agreement to benefit humanity worldwide, as legislators from the well-to-do parliaments in the Western world would be able to appreciate the breadth of challenges with which their counterparts from developing countries grapple. This would broaden the perspectives of the legislators of developed countries sufficiently for them to impress upon their executive arms of government serious consideration of financial and technological transfers to developing countries in the Southern Hemisphere, including South Africa. Thus, we see increasing action in parliamentary diplomacy in the implementation of the Paris/COP21 Agreement, as there appears to be a growing convergence in understanding the challenges posed by climate change and its solutions.

2. LEGISLATIVE RIGOR NEEDED IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE PARIS/COP21 AGREEMENT

There is an overwhelming consensus that parliamentarians have an important role in translating the Paris/COP21 Agreement into concrete actions on the ground, including holding governments accountable, passing legislation, and making appropriate budget allocations for the implementation of climate change programs across government. This is necessary, as reducing the impacts of climate change naturally leads to poverty relief,

⁵ Posdorf, H. (Undated) International Parliamentary Cooperation.
http://www.kas.de/wf/doc/kas_12975-1522-2-30.pdf?080211045838.

meaning that climate change mitigation and adaptation go hand-in-hand with poverty reduction. There is also a need for legislators to ensure that national environmental legislation has a strong focus on protecting carbon sinks even if the management of those sinks does not fall within the portfolio or select committee that deals with environmental matters. This means that legislators who oversee the implementation of climate change interventions should be willing to scrutinize those policies that may cursorily appear to have no implications for climate change, but do so under close inspections. Legislators would need to develop interest in understanding the sector they are deployed to oversee, and how this portfolio relates to other sectors. For example, in the South African case, the legislators in the Portfolio Committee on Environmental Affairs should be able to anticipate the likely impacts of the policies that originate from the agricultural and forestry sectors, land reform, trade, mineral resources, energy, and fiscal policies, among others.

As legislators, we should facilitate our governments to conduct an economy-wide review of existing policies and legislation to ensure that they coincide with global climate objectives, particularly the Paris/COP21 Agreement. This is essential for cost-effective reform. In fact, South Africa's National Climate Change Response Policy White Paper (White Paper on Climate Change) already requires the government to undertake such policy and legislation studies to identify gaps in the implementation of climate change initiatives. *Section 10* of this White Paper on Climate Change states that "all government departments and state-owned enterprises will need to review the policies, strategies, legislation, regulations and plans falling within their jurisdictions to ensure full alignment with the National Climate Change Response within two years of the publication of the White Paper." This kind of information would determine the nature and scope of the anticipated national Climate Change Act. It is therefore imperative for Parliament to determine whether such policy and legislation alignment studies have been conducted, and what the findings are, particularly in light of the need for Parliament to adopt the Paris/COP21 Agreement domestically and oversee its full implementation. There is indeed a call for legislators to understand that we have a major role in advancing the international climate agenda by enacting relevant domestic legislations and ensuring that those laws are properly implemented.

Legislators should note the cross-cutting nature of climate change, as it has an impact on many sectors in the public domain, including agriculture and food security; biodiversity;

human health; water resources and services; migration and propensity for conflicts over natural resources; infrastructure; energy; and tourism. This means that a national climate change policy and the corresponding Act of Parliament for implementing the Paris/COP21 Agreement should be comprehensive enough to avoid an implementation deficit in certain sectors. There is therefore a need for us, as legislators, to adopt an unorthodox approach in monitoring the implementation of such a framework policy and legislation for climate change. In addition to the regular parliamentary committee oversight of the relevant executive authority, there is a need for biannual assessment of the implementation of climate change policy/legislation by all relevant parliamentary committees. This may be new to many legislators, although in South Africa, we have started reviewing the implementation of the White Paper on Climate Change, assessing the pace of implementation by all government departments and other organizations of state whose functions involve or affect climate management. In this regard, the first session of parliamentary public hearings that brought together diverse stakeholders from the public sector and the private sector was conducted in June 2012 and gave a bird's-eye view of the implementation process; it thus serves as a good reference point, against which future progress in the implementation of the White Paper could be monitored, with the aim of raising red flags where there are implementation deficits.

It is necessary for legislators to regularly review the implementation approaches of government departments toward enhance synergy, and prevent duplication and hence wasting of scarce resources allocated to government departments and other stakeholders in managing and implementing climate change. This biannual monitoring exercise assists the South African Parliament to holistically gauge the government's commitment to climate change, taking into account South Africa's vulnerability to the negative consequences of climate change. The South African Parliament would facilitate a similar broad-based approach to climate change law-making for implementing the Paris/COP21 Agreement and for monitoring its implementation.

Finally, we need to change our perspectives; as legislators in developing countries we become too preoccupied with having a climate change policy or legislation merely for the sake of having a policy discourse on climate change and because it is nice to think we are, as a country, keeping up with the rest. We need to do things differently in formulating climate change law when implementing the Paris/COP21 Agreement with or without external support.

As public representatives, we should lead the way in enacting creative policy instruments to generate the necessary finances required to implement our national laws and ratify the Paris/COP21 Agreement. Cooperation from international community is crucial for developing countries, since negative consequences of climate change would be especially dire for citizens of developing countries, owing to lack of capacity to adapt in a timely fashion. However, we must be aware that asking for financial and technological transfers as well as capacity-building from developed countries to fast-track our development and overcome various challenges along the development path, may not always be well-received by some developed countries.

3. CONCLUSION

We all know that progress in global climate change negotiations had been painfully slow until 2011 when significant progress was made at COP17 in Durban, South Africa that resulted in the Durban Platform for Enhanced Action. Subsequent COPs dealt with the operationalization of the Durban/COP17 Agreement, making COP21/CMP11 a symbolic event in the fight against climate change. Indeed the Paris/COP21 negotiations did not disappoint, successfully leading to the Paris/COP21 Agreement, which recognizes the critical role of legislators in overseeing its implementation through effective law-making and oversight of executive action, including budget management. In the South African case, legislators have the power to scrutinize, pass, or reject any budget proposal by the executive arm of government. So, our work as legislators, which commenced with the conclusion of the Paris/COP21 Agreement, was underscored time and time again. Parliamentarians have an important role in translating the Paris/COP21 Agreement into concrete actions on the ground, including holding governments accountable, passing legislation, and making budget allocations.

Nobody communicated this role much more eloquently than the United Nations Secretary-General Ki-moon Ban who, at the IPU meeting on the occasion of COP21/CMP11, emphasized that parliamentarians have a key role to play in supporting an effective national and global response to climate change; he further affirmed our various national climate targets (INDCs) as an expression of our efforts and aspirations. Secretary-General Ban

stressed that implementing the INDCs is essential for the success of a global agreement to limit CO2 emissions and improve resilience to the impacts of climate change, and that national legislation and adequate public financing would be crucial in this regard. He pointed out that tremendous progress has been made in terms of climate laws and policies—400 were on the books in 2009, but more than 800 were in 2014. He remarked that “the global legislative architecture on climate change is undergoing a ground-breaking change,” alluding of course, to the contribution of legislators, which should be reflected in the implementation of the Paris/COP21 Agreement.

We should understand that we live in an interdependent world, where action or inaction by one nation or a group of nations may affect the lives and wellbeing of the citizens of other nations, particularly in terms of the environment, physical security, and the security.⁶ Without facilitating our respective governments to acquire relevant instruments for implementing the Paris/COP21 Agreement, the reality is that the world would suffer dire consequences. Now is an important time for us legislators to start living up to our core mandate in the fight against climate change.

Cedric Thomas Frolick has been a Member of the South African Parliament since 1999. He is the House Chairperson of Oversight and ICT Committees, Parliamentary Co-Chairperson for COP 17 and the Millennium Development Goals, and President of GLOBE International.

⁶Tozaka, M. Parliament’s role on international affairs. *Solomon Star*, 13th August 2013. Honourable Tozaka is the Chairperson of the Foreign Relations committee in the Solomon Islands.

Politics in Kenya: Tribalism and the Dilemma of Public Officials

Mwaura M. Isaac, Member of Kenyan Parliament

Recently, I have been hearing many conversations regarding the ways the two sides of Kenya's political divide view each other. First, I should explain my personal worldview. I am Kenyan Kikuyu and a Member of Parliament (MP) nominated by the Orange Democratic Movement (ODM) party to represent special interest groups. Driven by my nationalist ideals, I joined ODM 10 years ago to make Kenya stronger. My primary reason for entering politics was to represent Kenya's marginalized groups of people, particularly persons with disabilities, to which I am sensitive because I am a person with albinism, and I am first such individual to become an MP in Kenya.

Perhaps, there is no greater sense of purpose than this one. However, I find myself at crossroads since being nominated for MP. I must seek to be elected directly by the people. Because Kenyan politics are ethnically driven, some in my party see me only as an outsider in their group and attempt to reduce my function as giving a diverse face to the party to increase its public appeal. Regarding political ideology, I am at the center left; in other words, I believe in growth with equity, which includes proper distribution of that growth to the public. My experiences in my party are at the moment being tolerated rather than being truly accepted.

On the other hand, most of my ethnic community belongs to the other side of the political divide, and I am considered a traitor to my tribal cause. The Jubilee side is believed to be right wing and pro-business, although the manifestos of The National Alliance and the United Republican Party parties state that they are social democratic parties.

I have been approached to run for parliament for four constituencies: Githunguri, Ruiru, Roysambu, and Starehe, and I have narrowed that down to two (Ruiru and Roysambu). I will make my final determination after I conduct wide consultations. However, these two constituencies are in the Jubilee zone and, therefore, to have a chance of winning either of

them, I must run on the Jubilee ticket. Otherwise, running would be an academic exercise. I considered running on an ODM ticket, but I am not confident of the outcome of the party nominations, particularly because of my involvement with the famous Kasarani elections.

During my brief odyssey, I listened to the conversations and narratives on both sides of the political divide, and I can clearly state that Kenya has a serious identity crisis. In the ongoing voter registration and mobilization efforts, both sides use the siege mentality to rally individual members of their ethnic communities to use their voter cards and National Identity cards as so-called weapons to safeguard community interests and defeat the perceived enemy. Therefore, it follows that the essence of participation by voting is not defined as a solemn national and patriotic duty, but as a way to pursue an ethnic agenda. Yet, at the same time, I have heard genuine cries from the leaders and the people as they search for true national unity. In my opinion, this is what Mao referred to as the “contradiction in the womb of the people.”

At present, as a true practicing nationalist, I have a dilemma because for me to politically survive, I must consider my political ideals while inadvertently supporting a narrative of betrayal perpetuated particularly in the Luo and Kikuyu communities. In short, for me (or anyone) to survive in politics in Kenya, I must become an “ethnic” politician and align myself accordingly. There is little space for those of us who want to unite Kenyans without first being tribal kingpins. In essence, a precedent has been set that a politician must mobilize his or her ethnic community before negotiating with others. This route creates political hostages without the freedom to have minds of their own. I must choose between the ideal and the pragmatic. A public official in Kenya must meet many tribal demands; the irony of this situation is that those demands concern the sharing of scarce national resources to solve critical problems, such as infrastructural needs for roads, water, electricity, educational facilities, hospitals, and jobs.

Kenya is now being pulled in different directions due to the current political structure governed by ethnic, tribal demands. This slows our progress toward a common vision of equal opportunity. Tribalism and its twin, corruption are holding Kenya back from forward progress.

Mwaura M Isaac is a Member of Kenyan Parliament representing special interest groups. He is also the National Coordinator of the Albinism Society of Kenya.



RePa-BM/FMI

**Réseau des Parlementaires sur la Banque
Mondiale et le Fonds Monétaire
International**

Session d'informations des parlementaires

**Thème :
Activité de la Banque Mondiale dans le
secteur de la santé au Cameroun.**

RAPPORT

Le Réseau des Parlementaires sur la Banque Mondiale et le Fonds Monétaire International-RePa-BM/FMI a conduit ce lundi 22 Février 2016 une délégation de parlementaires venus de toutes les régions du Cameroun pour prendre part à la deuxième session d'informations sur les activités de la Banque Mondiale dans le secteur de la santé.

Les trois grandes articulations de cette session de briefing thématique sont :

- 1) Mot introductif de la Directrice des Opérations de la Banque Mondiale
- 2) Présentations des projets par les experts de la Banque Mondiale
- 3) Questions-Réponses

1) Dans son mot introductif, **Madame Elizabeth HUYBENS, Directrice des Opérations de la Banque Mondiale (Cameroun, Angola, Gabon, Guinée Equatoriale et Sao Tomé & Principe)** a rappelé la vision de l'Institution dont elle a la charge au Cameroun à savoir "Œuvrer pour un monde sans pauvreté" qui se décline en plusieurs objectifs sectoriels notamment celui de la santé. A cet effet, elle a passé en revue les principaux projets qui constituent le fruit de la Coopération Cameroun-Banque Mondiale dans le secteur de la santé. Les tout derniers de cette liste qui font l'objet de ladite session sont :

- le Projet d'Appui aux Investissements dans le Secteur de la Santé (PAISS)
- le Projet de Performance du Système de Santé du Cameroun (P2S2C)
- le Global Financing Facility (GFF)

2) Ainsi, les projets PAISS et P2S2C basés sur l'approche de Financement Basé sur la Performance (PBF) sont présentés par **Monsieur ENANDJOU B WANGA** Coordonnateur national du PBF. Il faut retenir que l'objectif du PAISS est d'accroître l'utilisation des services de santé et d'en améliorer la qualité avec un accent particulier sur la santé de la mère, de l'enfant et les maladies transmissibles. La mise en œuvre de ce projet pilote a démarré depuis 2009 dans 26 Districts de Santé. Il a couvert environ 03 millions de populations et plus de 400 contrats signés pour un coût total de 25 millions de dollars US. Il est arrivé à son terme en 2014 mais tellement les résultats étaient encourageants que l'Etat du Cameroun l'ait reconduit depuis 2015 sur fonds propres et envisage de l'étendre à 18 autres districts dans la partie septentrionale à partir de 2017. En effet, le Financement Basé sur la Performance (PBF) est la mise en place d'une stratégie de financement des services de santé visant à

augmenter la qualité et la quantité des soins préventifs et curatifs fournis à la population. Il est basé sur un contrat signé entre une partie qui achète les soins (acheteur) et l'autre qui les vend (prestataire). C'est une approche de réforme du système de santé axée sur les résultats.

Le PBF est caractérisé par :

- la mise à disposition des formations sanitaires des transferts proportionnellement à leurs prestations mensuelles ;
- la signature des contrats de performance entre les producteurs de soins (formations sanitaires) et une agence d'achat de performances (AAP) ;
- la mise en place par chaque formation sanitaire des stratégies novatrices pour servir plus de patients et avec plus qualité ;
- la gestion autonome des transferts par les formations sanitaires ;
- l'implication des communautés dans le suivi et l'évaluation des résultats ;
- la prise en charge des indigents.

D'où la naissance du Projet de Performance du Système de Santé (P2S2C) qui va démarrer en 2017 avec deux principales composantes :

- a) Continuer la mise en œuvre actuelle du PBF dans les zones couvertes par le PAISS et envisager une mise en œuvre progressive sur toute l'étendue du territoire national ;
- b) Renforcer les capacités au niveau national, régional et local en vue de l'amélioration de la performance du système de santé.

Le projet Global Financing Facility (GFF) quant à lui est présenté par le Spécialiste en Santé de la Région Afrique de la Banque Mondiale **Monsieur Paul Jacob ROBYN** qui a dit que le GFF est une nouvelle opportunité pour le secteur de la santé. Il a pour objectif d'accélérer les efforts déployés pour mettre fin aux décès évitables de mères, de nouveau-nés, d'enfants et adolescents ; d'améliorer la santé et la qualité de vie des femmes, des adolescents et des enfants. Mais il faut obéir à un certain nombre de critères pour y être éligible. Le Cameroun, compte tenu des performances enregistrées par le PBF a été choisi parmi les 63 pays élus pour l'initiative du Mécanisme de Financement Mondial GFF « chaque femme, chaque enfant » et s'offre ainsi de nouvelles opportunités de mobilisation de ressources additionnelles. Il a fait aussi le point des initiatives en cours dans le cadre du GFF. Il s'agit :

- d'une mission d'experts qui a séjourné au Cameroun du 08 au 26 Février dernier ;
- d'une délégation camerounaise conduite par le Ministre de la Santé ayant pris part à la Conférence des Investisseurs Internationaux du GFF ;
- de la négociation du nouveau projet en Mars 2016 ;
- de la finalisation du dossier d'investissement à la prochaine session du Conseil d'Administration de la Banque en Mai 2016 ;
- de la finalisation de la stratégie de financement de la santé nationale en Juin 2017...

3) La phase des questions-réponses est ouverte par l'**Hon. MGBATOU Pierre** qui a félicité l'initiative de briefings thématiques et a souhaité que le projet PBF soit élargi à la région du centre qui contient aussi des minorités ainsi que des indigents.

The second speaker, **Honourable BANMI Emmanuel** started off by thanking the World Bank team for the wonderful initiative of inviting parliamentarians to inform them on their activities. He appreciated the presenter and suggested that, owing to the very important nature of the project, the capacity building of health personnel should be taken into consideration and should focus on helping these health personnel understand that, helping patients regain good health is contributing to the country's development. In this light a sub project on the capacity building of the health personnel should be associated to the project and members of parliaments from the project areas should be informed and involved in the capacity building process. This will enable them obtain information on what is happening and identify loopholes that will contribute in ensuring the proper follow up and success of the project.

La troisième intervention est celle de l'**Hon. NYASSA BEKOLO** qui a déploré la cible choisie par ce projet c'est-à-dire les personnes malades alors qu'il gagnerait à faire un travail de sensibilisation des personnes bien portantes en amont parce qu'elles sont en réalité de potentiels malades. De même que cette sensibilisation permettra de faire tomber au niveau de ces populations certaines traditions telles que l'Etat providence qui veut que les gens aillent à l'hôpital seulement quand ils ont mal au lieu d'y aller pour préserver leur santé, ce qui fait que les hôpitaux sont devenus des mouiroirs d'une part et d'autre part beaucoup de naissances ne sont pas déclarées. Elle va terminer par le vœu d'une amélioration du ratio agent de santé/patients.

La réponse à cette première série de questions est apportée par **Monsieur ENANDJOURM**

BWANGA qui a adhéré à toutes les propositions pertinentes faites par les parlementaires et a rassuré que les dispositions sont en cours non seulement pour l'élargissement du projet à toutes les couches concernées mais pour renforcer le personnel sanitaire. Il a rassuré les parlementaires que leur implication est indispensable à la réussite du projet car les projets votés par le parlement doivent refléter les besoins des populations. De même que ce projet permettra aux parlementaires par le biais de la mise en place des relais de mesure d'impact desdits projets d'exercer aussi leur pouvoir de contrôle de l'action gouvernementale. Cette réponse sera complétée par la Directrice des Opérations de la Banque Mondiale qui a pris l'engagement d'organiser des briefings thématiques de façon périodique sur toutes les activités de son Institution.

La deuxième vague de questions-réponses sera ouverte par l'**Hon. DZITHE Thérèse** qui a déploré l'insuffisance du personnel de santé dans l'arrière-pays et la recherche effrénée du gain facile (corruption) par ceux qui y sont affectés malgré le faible pouvoir d'achat de nos populations rurales.

Honorable NGALLE Daniel on his part started by praising the World Bank's initiative with regards to the information session and reiterated on what the coordinator had earlier said; that so much effort and material are being put into the health sector but very little impact is felt. He proposed that in addition to the need for workers to be motivated alongside other issues mentioned by the coordinator, there is also an urgent need to highlight the problem of the mentalities of these health personnel as well as patients. He added that in Bamusso where the population is essentially made up of Nigerians, the health centre in Bikumou is not attended to since the women prefer to consult traditional midwives rather than going to hospitals despite the efforts made to convince them. The Consul General of Nigeria was invited to Bikumu and educated the population on the issue of birth attendance in Nigeria which was handled by female midwives. Only then was it realised that the women of the locality avoided giving birth in health centres because the midwives were mostly males. He also appreciated the idea of motivations for health workers but insisted on the need for health workers to change the poor mentality of waiting for motivations before doing their jobs. La troisième intervention sera celle de l'**Hon NIKINA Pierre** qui a félicité les experts pour la qualité du travail qu'ils ont fait dans le diagnostic de la situation sanitaire dans la région de l'Extrême nord en touchant du doigt la pauvreté qui y sévit malgré les multiples

efforts déployés par le Gouvernement du Cameroun pour améliorer la situation sanitaire dans cette zone. L'accès aux soins de santé comme la visite prénatale constitue un luxe pour les populations de l'extrême nord. La population est contrainte soit à la médecine traditionnelle, soit aux écorces ou plus grave les comprimés de contrefaçon comme « tramoles » qui constituent de la drogue. Il a dit que c'est l'extrême pauvreté qui justifie l'absence des cliniques privées dans la région de l'extrême nord qui n'en compte que deux et a remercié la Banque Mondiale pour l'intégration de sa région dans le passage à l'échelle du PBF mais il a prié les experts de prendre en compte les particularités de cette région.

Cette deuxième vague de questions sera solutionnée par **Monsieur ENANDJOUR BWANGA** qui a fait sienne les préoccupations des uns et des autres notamment en ce qui concerne le changement de mentalité pour faire tomber certaines barrières liées à nos us et coutumes. Il a dit que le PBF est conscient de tout cela, y travaille et espère qu'au moins avec les effets d'entraînement enregistrés actuellement par le PBF, un début de changement va s'opérer.

In response to the questions and worries, **Dr. NDIFORCHU Victor** insisted that motivations for health workers must not be regarded from an angle of financial reward only, that motivation goes beyond cash and could include making working conditions adequate, either by providing toilets or equipping the laboratories. This will motivate and attract workers who will tend to be more effective at work and provide quality services to their patients. He then went ahead to justify the importance of the project and how it has enhanced the local recruitment of more medical personnel where few existed and trained personnel where untrained or no personnel existed. An example of which was the local recruitment of about 300 health personnel in the East region who are paid locally by the PBF project since it began. Other health centres which were not functional due to limited or no personnel are now functional due to the recruitment of trained personnel by this project. Amongst these was a health centre with one (01) health personnel which now has seven (07) health personnel as well as the recruitment of ten (10) certified nurses, one (01) pediatrician and three (03) general practitioners in a regional hospital in Bertoua which had only nurse aids. He explained that the project comes with a lot of reforms in the health sector. These reforms will require changes in regulations, texts and laws and it is at this point that the role of parliamentarians comes in, which will be that of backing up the reforms, laws and texts in

favour of revamping the health sector in Cameroon.

Madame EMMANULA BI G. (Responsable programme à la Banque Mondiale) quant à elle va rassurer les participants sur l'adaptation du PBF aux spécificités locales (seuil de pauvreté, indigents, vulnérables ...) de chaque région. **Monsieur Paul Jacob ROBYN** a complété cette réponse par le fait que le PBF est un projet flexible qui s'adapte au contexte spécifique dans lequel il est appelé à être implémenté. Ce qui fait que les études préalables réalisées ont permis au PBF d'identifier les districts sanitaires appropriés et d'apprécier le taux de vulnérabilité et le pouvoir d'achat des bénéficiaires. Enfin, le **Dr TAPTUE FOSTO Jean Claude Expert Santé à la Banque Mondiale** va attirer l'attention des participants sur le fait que la gestion efficiente des ressources est une priorité du PBF, ce qui appelle à réfléchir sur comment associer le binôme (performance et efficience) dans l'affectation des ressources aux formations sanitaires retenues.

La troisième vague d'interventions sera ouverte par **l'Hon. MAN SIMBE Jacqueline Christine** qui a déploré l'accueil très peu chaleureux et pas du tout encourageant offert aux patients par le personnel sanitaire. Elle a illustré ses propos par des témoignages très poignants qu'elle a vécus dans sa circonscription où il y a eu mort d'homme. Elle propose donc qu'un travail de sensibilisation du personnel sanitaire soit fait en amont pour l'application du serment d'Hippocrate. Elle n'a pas manqué de déplorer la non implication des parlementaires dans un projet d'envergure qu'est le PBF et a remercié les organisateurs de la session d'informations pour l'avoir invitée à ce grand rendez-vous de donner et de recevoir.

L'Hon. DOUALA BELL Marlyse Rose s'est appuyée sur la légende de la grenouille et du scorpion lors de la traversée de la rivière pour justifier l'attitude des capitalistes qui profitent des inégalités existant dans le monde pour proposer des solutions mais sans jamais arriver à l'extrême comme le scorpion car ils sont conscients qu'ils reviendront toujours vers leurs cibles. Selon elle, la notion de pauvreté est universelle mais la variable se retrouve au niveau du degré et du type de pauvreté. Elle a présenté les difficultés auxquelles elle est confrontée dans la mise en place d'une mutuelle de santé dans sa région et a salué la venue du PBF qui est en fait un instrument efficace offert par Banque Mondiale pour solutionner les difficultés auxquelles les populations sont confrontées de nos jours dans le secteur de la santé.

DR. NDIFORCHU Victor commented on the issue of nutrition raised by Honourable DOUALA BELL which the project has identified as a problem especially for children and underprivileged or indigenous populations. He recalled that it had been said in the presentation that UNICEF and UNFPA had recently come into the play (in the East) and were concerned with nutritional issues. But then during field visits, it was noticed that indigenous populations were everywhere and that all poor and vulnerable groups were faced with nutritional problems and thus the nutritional problem is multi-sectored and depends on the type of food cultivated. In this regard, agriculture has a major role to play as well as education and other domains. Thus we need to approach the issue of nutrition from a multi-sectored view point. With regards to the role of civil societies and elected personalities, he emphasized on the fact that, each member of the community had a role to play in ensuring the success of the project and not just the parliamentarians. This had been included in the project as “*community PBF*”. These community members are working hand in glove with the municipalities to bring out business plans. He then went ahead to talk about *mutual health* which had been implemented by the Ministry of Health especially in the Littoral Region but these have not gone a long way because of the ineffectiveness of the strategies that were put in place. This failure was as a result of the log ahead between the Ministry of Health and the Ministry of Social Affairs who both wanted to take charge of the issue of mutual health. He proposed that from his view point, the issue of mutual health would be most effective if it starts from the community level. He then gave the floor to Honourable NGALLA Esther to present an example of mutual health in Ndu in the North West Region.

Honourable NGALA Esther then started off by saying that mutual health at the community level required yearly contributions which were taken for granted by some community members who stopped contributing after they had regained their health. The Ndu health centre however had been involved in organising seminars and workshops to sensitise patients on the importance of nutrition in health. She observed the lack of understanding with regards to child and mother care, especially in the rural area and proposed that the PBF project should include the organisation of seminars for local bed attendants in the bid to sensitize and educate them on child and mother care. She also proposed that, owing to the long distances between health centres and hospitals, training centres/midwifery schools should be reinstated to train more midwives and that more midwives be recruited to health centres in

these rural areas. She further emphasised on the very low salaries of these midwives and hospital attendants and the need for the government to increase these salaries, because with good salaries, midwives and health personnel will not wait for motivations/tips before doing their jobs. She was also worried about the high prices of drugs in both health centres and pharmacies and suggested that the project should involve price control on these drugs so as to facilitate their purchase by patients. She also reiterated the need for documents and presentations to be made in both French and English for better understanding by both English speaking and French speaking members of parliament.

Enfin, **Monsieur ENANDJOUR BANGA** a clôturé la journée par un sincère remerciement à l'endroit des parlementaires pour avoir non seulement honoré la session de leur présence mais y ont apporté des informations très enrichissantes à l'amélioration du PBF.



Fait à Yaoundé, le 26 Février 2016

Secrétariat Permanent du Réseau des Parlementaires sur la Banque Mondiale et le FMI
Assemblée Nationale du Cameroun

Network Featured Discussion

Göran Pettersson, Member of the Swedish Parliament

I am thrilled to take on the task of editing the discussion section of *The Parliamentary Network Review*. According to its mission statement, the Parliamentary Network seeks to “encourage debate and information exchange among parliamentarians on issues of good governance, budgetary oversight of development funds, and civil society participation in the legislative process.” My hope is that the discussion section of the PN review will serve as a forum for dialogue and knowledge-sharing among our member parliamentarians. I will encourage PN members to participate in the discussion by suggesting a special topic for each coming issue. Articles on other topics will also be accepted, but priority will be given to those addressing the special topic. To maximize the impact of your contribution on our readers, I ask that you keep the text short and develop clear and concise lines of argument.

The topic for next issue’s discussion section is **the Eurozone crisis**.

- What further measures should be taken to reduce negative repercussions of the European debt crisis on our societies and citizens?
- What have we learned from the present crisis? How can we prevent similar crises in the future?
- How can Europe emerge from the present crisis and achieve economic and financial sustainability?

Please send your contributions to goran.pettersson@riksdagen.se.

MP Göran Pettersson

Discussion section editor, *The Parliamentary Network Review*

Göran Pettersson is the Chair of the Swedish-American Parliamentary Network and the OECD Network in the Swedish Parliament.

NOTE FROM EDITOR

I thank the authors of this issue for their valuable contributions. If you would like to write for future issues or have suggestions for improving the publication, please contact me at enoh@princeton.edu.

Eu Na Noh

Editor, *The Parliamentary Network Review*

CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

If you would like to contribute an article to *The Parliamentary Network Review*, please send your submission to Editor Eu Na Noh at enoh@princeton.edu or junior program officer and French articles editor William Perlmutter at jpo1@parlnet.org. If you would like to write for the Network Featured Discussion, please contact discussions column editor Göran Pettersson at goran.pettersson@riksdagen.se.

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