



# National Assembly of Belize

## Office of the Clerk

P.O. Box 139, Belmopan, Cayo District, Belize Central America

Tel. (+501) 822-2141/2142 or 2144

E-mail: [ClerkNA@bna.gov.bz](mailto:ClerkNA@bna.gov.bz)

[www.nationalassembly.gov.bz](http://www.nationalassembly.gov.bz)

REF: NA/17/24 (43)

### PRESS RELEASE

#### **Parliamentarians at the 46th Conference of the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Region of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association in Georgetown, Guyana**

-- Friday, September 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 – A delegation comprising of the **Honourable Valerie Woods**, Speaker of the House of Representatives, **Senator, the Honourable Erica Jang**, **Senator, the Honourable Bevinton Cal** and **Ms. Eudice Gibson**, Senior Clerk Assistant, are attending the **46th Conference of the Caribbean, the Americas and the Atlantic Region (CAA) of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA)**. The conference which is organized by the Guyana Branch of the CPA, the Regional Secretariat for the region, is being held at the Parliament Office in **Georgetown, Guyana**, from the **1<sup>st</sup> - 7<sup>th</sup> September 2024**. The theme for this year's Conference is ***Engage, Empower, Sustain: Charting the course for resilient democracy.***

Parliamentarians joined other Members of Parliament in the region for the following meetings:

- **The Regional Executive Committee Meeting;**
- **The 46th Regional Conference;**
- **The 14th Regional Conference of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians; and**
- **The Annual General Meeting of the 46th Regional Conference (5th September 2024).**

Speaker Woods, Chairperson of the Commonwealth Women Parliamentarians CAA, moderated the Migration and chaired the Women's Parliamentarians' Conference.

Discussions also focused on Gender Sensitive Parliaments, Artificial Intelligence, Healthcare Access for Women and Girls and Experiences of Women Presiding Officers. Senator Jang participated on the panel healthcare access. Plenary sessions were on the topics of Peace and Security, Migration, Accountability (Effective Oversight Committees) and on Building Greater Autonomy for Houses. The Clerk's Programme provided an opportunity for the parliamentary staff from the region to discuss best practices and exchange ideas on various parliamentary procedures and processes.

While in Guyana, the Belize Delegation held courtesy visits with Belize Commissioner to Guyana, H.E. Gale Miller-Garnett and with Caricom Secretary General, H.E. Dr. Carla Barnett.

The Belize delegation departed the country on Saturday, 31<sup>st</sup> August 2024, and returns in country on Sunday, 8<sup>th</sup> September 2024.

---END---

