Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 6th issue of CDI.News for 2007. This issue highlights CDI’s commitment to democratic development in Papua New Guinea, the focus of much of our work in 2007 including the recent induction program for the PNG parliament. More information on this event and other recent CDI activities are detailed in the following pages.

CDI’s work combines technical assistance and capacity building programs, networking, and interpersonal and knowledge exchange, including the dissemination of CDI’s original research on democracy and its institutions. Our focus countries comprise Indonesia and Timor-Leste in South East Asia and Papua New Guinea, Fiji, Solomon Islands and Vanuatu in Melanesia.

CDI’s central goal is to support these regional focus countries in strengthening their political parties & systems of parliamentary governance.

Accordingly, CDI works to:

- Improve the operation and understanding of parliamentary machinery by members of parliament and parliamentary staff in focus countries
- Strengthen political parties in focus countries through improving the knowledge and skills of members and officials of political parties
- Extend networks in the region between Australian parliamentarians, political party officials, and parliamentary staff and their counterparts from focus countries

CDI’s core budget is provided by AusAID, Australia’s Agency for International Development.

CDI.News will keep you informed periodically of our activities and events, and you can access this information at any time by visiting our website: www.cdi.anu.edu.au.

Benjamin Reilly | CDI Director
CDI recently assisted the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea in organising and running an induction program for Members of Parliament following the 2007 national elections. The induction was held over three days, 14 to 16 August 2007, following on from the first meeting of the 8th National Parliament on Monday 13 August during which the Speaker and Prime Minister were elected.

The Hon. Kevin Rozzoli, a former Speaker of the New South Wales Parliament, and CDI Deputy Director, Mr Quinton Clements, provided the technical assistance and advice to the Clerk of Parliament, Mr Don Pandan, in planning and running the event.

The first two days of the induction were held in the parliamentary chamber and the final day was held in the State Function Room of Parliament House. The induction was officially opened by the PNG Governor General, and just under 100 of the 108 Members attended on each of the three days of the induction program, including all the newly elected Members of Parliament.

The first day of the induction was focused on providing Members with an overview of the Parliamentary Service – its structure and size, the role and functions of its various Divisions, and the type of support and services provided to Members. Members received comprehensive briefings from various parliamentary officers including the Sergeant-at-Arms, Mr Lalai Vali, the Director of Inter-Parliamentary Relations, Mr John Balagetuna, and the Principal Hansard Reporter, Mrs Sarufa Haro. Director of the National Research Institute (NRI), Dr Thomas Webster, gave a presentation on the type of research support NRI can provide to parliamentary committees and Members as well as an overview of the main development issues affecting PNG that the new Parliament will need to address. This was followed by presentations on the ‘Role of the Opposition’ by former Opposition Leader, Mr Bernard Narokobi, and working with the media by the President of the PNG Media Council, Mr Oseah Philemon.

The second day was devoted to a mock session of the Parliament. Members were taken through the practice and procedure of the House as outlined in the Standing Orders and role-played a typical sitting day. Following this, Dame Carol Kidu MP, the only female Member, gave a presentation on the role of a Member and managing constituent expectations. Mr Rozzoli then spoke on the Australian experience of being an MP. The last part of Day 2 focused on the finance and administration of the Parliament and the entitlements and retirement benefits of Members.

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The third day focused on leadership obligations and rules relating to MP’s behaviour in office. Presentations were provided by the Ombudsman Commission, the Registrar of Political Parties, the Electoral Commissioner, Transparency International and the Auditor-General.

In addition to the presentations, all Members received copies of the Constitution, Standing Orders, relevant Acts and Organic Laws, a Handbook on parliamentary procedure and practice and a Guide to the Parliamentary Service.

Feedback from Members, including evaluation responses, has been overwhelmingly positive. Newly-elected Members in particular found the induction to be an extremely useful start to the new Parliament. A key objective of the induction was to also build up the capacity of the PNG Parliamentary Service to raise the standards of service they provide to MPs.

The official opening of the new Parliament by the Head of State took place on 18 September 2007, and CDI is scheduled to follow-up on the success of the induction and the enthusiastic response of MPs with a two day workshop on parliamentary committees in mid November this year. See the article on Page 6 of this newsletter for details on this November project, and click on this link to access the full report of the PNG induction program, and more on our website:

CDI Sponsors Pacific Island Engagement in ASPG Conference & Parliamentary Attachment Program

CDI sponsored the engagement of Pacific Island parliaments in the Australasian Study of Parliament Group (ASPG) annual conference held in Adelaide, South Australia from 23 to 25 August 2007, and the attachment of two senior Pacific Island parliamentary officers to the South Australian, Commonwealth and ACT parliaments as part of this initiative.

The ASPG’s objectives are to encourage and stimulate research, writing and teaching about parliamentary institutions in Australasia and the South Pacific in order to generate a better understanding of these institutions not only with those connected professionally to parliaments but to all people interested in the functions and purpose of their democratic institutions of government.

In seeking to extend its activities beyond these two traditional features, the ASPG is now promoting a number of new initiatives. The Group has decided to actively pursue a process of engagement with the parliaments of the Pacific. It believes it can facilitate the exchange of useful information on the study of parliament for research and teaching purposes to the mutual advantage of the region.

CDI has agreed to support the ASPG in this goal by sponsoring the participation of Members of Parliament...
and parliamentary officers from Pacific Island countries to the ASPG’s annual conferences. In 2006 CDI sponsored the attendance of delegations from Solomon Islands and Fiji to the ASPG conference in Wellington, New Zealand, and in 2007 we sponsored the following participants to attend the ASPG Adelaide conference:

- Hon. Lawrence Belleh, Member of the Autonomous Bougainville Government House of Representatives;
- Mr Robert Tapi, Clerk of the Autonomous Bougainville Government House of Representatives;
- Mr Podi Kohu, First Clerk Assistant, National Parliament of Papua New Guinea; and
- Mr Jude Devesi, a senior officer of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands.

Mr Tapi and Mr Devesi also participated in a two week attachment program following the ASPG conference that was designed by the South Australian, Commonwealth and ACT parliaments. Mr Tapi and Mr Devesi spent the first week in Adelaide and the second week in Canberra working with and learning from their Australian counterparts.

Click on this link to visit our website for a more detail on this project:

**ASPG Conference & Attachments**

## CDI Working with the Autonomous Bougainville Government's House of Representatives

At the request of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, Hon. Nicholas Peniai, CDI organised a training workshop for Members of the Autonomous Bougainville Government (ABG) House of Representatives. The focus of the training was on the role of parliamentary committees with an emphasis on engaging the community through committee work. The workshop was held in Buka on 28 and 29 June.

The aim of the workshop was to assist the House of Representatives with ensuring that its parliamentary committees ‘take Parliament to the people’, thus enabling them to be better informed about community views; to provide a bridge between constituents’ concerns and the broader community interest; to promote public debate; and to scrutinise the Executive and contribute towards better government through a more informed administration and policy making process.

Mr Peter Loney, former Chairman, Public Accounts Committee, Legislative Assembly of Victoria, convened the workshop on CDI’s behalf. He was assisted by:

- Mr Tim Barnett - MP, New Zealand;
- Mrs Taeasi Sanga - Clerk of the National Parliament of Solomon Islands;
- Mr Warren Cahill - Project Manager, UNDP Parliamentary Strengthening Project, National Parliament of Solomon Islands;
- Mr Quinton Clements - Deputy Director, CDI; and
- Mr Luke Hambly - Executive Officer, CDI.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

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Click on this link for more detail on our website:
Sydney Meeting: Political Parties in Conflict-Prone Societies

Leading international experts on political party development in conflict-prone societies met in Sydney in June for the second and final author’s meeting of a major new project on the subject sponsored by CDI, International IDEA and the United Nations University (UNU).

The project looks at the wave of attempts to influence the way political parties develop in conflict-prone transitional democracies by the regulation of party organisation, financing, and behaviour. While one of the most distinctive aspects of democratic development in recent years, party regulation has received relatively little scholarly attention, despite a great deal of interest from policymakers.

Through examining the impact of recent experiments by new democracies in Africa, Asia, Europe, Latin America and the South Pacific, the CDI-IDEA-UNU project aims to correct this situation. The project has already generated important new policy-relevant knowledge on party development which will be synthesised in a new book edited by CDI Director Ben Reilly and Dr Per Nordlund of International IDEA, as well as a series of policy briefs which will examine this new phenomenon in detail.

The book, Political Parties in Conflict-Prone Societies: Regulation, Engineering and Democratic Development, will be published by the United Nations University Press in early 2008 and will be launched at a special event at the United Nations in New York.

As the first comprehensive examination of political party regulation in new democracies, it has already attracted a great deal of interest from international organisations seeking to strengthen party systems in developing democracies, and is likely to be the first of a number of new projects on this subject.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

Political Parties in Conflict-Prone Societies

After the Third Wave: Problems and Challenges for New Democracies

Speaking at an international conference in Taiwan, CDI Director Ben Reilly was one of a number of experts to discuss the challenges of democratization in the Asia-Pacific region. Dr Reilly focussed on the shift towards more majoritarian electoral and party systems in the new democracies of Northeast Asia, Southeast Asia and the Southwest Pacific.

The conference, “After the Third Wave: Problems and Challenges for the New Democracies”, examined the performance of new democracies in the Asia-Pacific region and around the world. The conference brought together a who’s-who of leading scholars of democracy, with a keynote speech delivered by Professor Guillermo O’Donnell of the University of Notre Dame.

The conference was organised by the Taiwan Thinktank, and also featured speeches by the President of Taiwan, Chen Shui-bian; academics from the United States, Europe, and Asia; and representatives from the World Bank and government agencies.

Following the Taipei conference, Dr Reilly travelled to Chicago where he presented his paper, ‘Democratisation and Electoral Reform in the Asia-Pacific: Is There An Asian Model of Democracy?’, to the annual meeting of the American Political Science Association.

Click on this link to our website to access more on this activity:

Launch of Indonesian version of CDI Policy Paper

As part of a joint effort to expand the impact of CDI research, an Indonesian-language version of CDI’s Policy Paper on the Indonesian parliament, The Indonesian Parliament after Two Elections: What has Really Changed? was launched in Jakarta on 22 August in cooperation with the Friedrich Naumann Stiftung (FNS).
At its meeting on 22 June 2007, CDI’s Consultative Council marked the end of the 2005-2007 CDI contract with praise for CDI’s current direction and work program.

Following presentations by CDI Director Ben Reilly and Deputy Director Quinton Clements on CDI’s last six month of activities and proposed work program for the coming year, several members of the CDI Consultative Council made a point of noting their satisfaction with CDI’s new direction and program of practical assistance projects to parliaments and parties in Indonesia, East Timor, and the South Pacific.

The Council strongly endorsed CDI’s current special focus on Papua New Guinea, which includes a combination of applied research, electoral workshops, an induction program for the new parliament and the hosting of the 2007 CDI Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue in the PNG highlands.

The Consultative Council meeting also marked the last event held under the old CDI contract, which expired on 30 June 2007. A new funding agreement between AusAID and the Australian National University to host CDI until March 2009 has now been signed. The new agreement maintains CDI’s current thematic and geographic focus, but with increased funding and greater flexibility in delivering the Centre’s work program.

Click on this link for more details on our website:

CDI Consultative Council Meeting & New Funding Agreement

Forthcoming

CDI Visit to Timor-Leste

As part of CDI’s increased commitment to Timor-Leste, CDI Deputy Director Mr Quinton Clements is visiting Dili from 22 to 24 October 2007. The purpose of his visit is to meet with the President of the National Parliament, Mr Fernando Lasama de Araujo, other Members of Parliament, and the Secretary-General, Mr Adelino Afonso de Jesus, to discuss CDI’s assistance to the National Parliament. Mr Clements will also organise the parliamentary committees workshop that CDI is running for the National Parliament in early 2008.

Click on this link for more details on our website:

Visit to Timor-Leste

CDI Organising Training Workshop for PNG Parliament

At the request of the Speaker of the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea, Hon. Jeffrey Nape MP, CDI is organising a training workshop for Members and staff of the National Parliament. The focus of the training is on the role of parliamentary committees with an emphasis on engaging the community through committee work. The workshop will be held at Parliament House in Port Moresby on Thursday 8th and Friday 9th of November 2007.

This workshop follows on from the successful induction program in August 2007 for Members of Parliament elected at the 2007 national elections, and as detailed on page 2 of this newsletter.

The November workshop is part of CDI’s ongoing commitment to assist the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea with ensuring that its parliamentary committees can perform their proper roles.
Mr Peter Loney, former Deputy Speaker and Chairman of the Public Accounts Committee in the Legislative Assembly of Victoria, will convene the workshop on behalf of CDI. He will be assisted by CDI Deputy Director, Mr Quinton Clements, and a small team of parliamentarians and officials from the region.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

**PNG Parliamentary Workshop**

The 9th Annual Centre for Democratic Institutions Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue to be held in Goroka, PNG

CDI has been conducting an annual Dialogue for Members of Parliament from the Pacific Island Countries, Australia and New Zealand since 1999. The aim of this flagship project is to facilitate discussions by Pacific parliamentarians on issues of common interest whilst having the opportunity to look at aspects of parliamentary practice in other parliaments in our region.

The 9th Annual CDI Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue will be held in Goroka, Eastern Highlands Province, Papua New Guinea from 11 – 13 December 2007. The Dialogue will provide a forum for Members of Parliament from the Pacific Island Countries, Australia, New Zealand and, for the first time, Timor-Leste, to discuss the role of Parliaments in managing conflicts, and to learn about political developments in Papua New Guinea.

By exploring the ways Parliaments can address contentious issues in conflict-affected societies, the Dialogue aims to help strengthen and enhance the political governance of Pacific Island countries. While the overarching theme deals with the Role of Parliament in Managing Conflicts, the program has been designed so that the first and third days are focused on Papua New Guinea. This will give parliamentarians from elsewhere in the Pacific region, Timor-Leste, Australia and New Zealand the opportunity to learn more about Papua New Guinea.

The annual CDI Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue constitutes part of CDI’s ongoing support for elected public officials, their staff and the formal institutions of political governance in the Pacific. The Dialogue will thereby contribute to improving political governance in partner countries by exposing participants to new ideas and enabling them to engage with fellow political practitioners on issues relating the role of Parliament.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

**Pacific Parliamentary Dialogue 2007**

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**CDI Feature Articles, Publications, Events & Links**

From Evaluating Democracy Assistance to Appraising Democracy Promotion

Peter Burnell - University of Warwick

*Political Studies* (OnlineEarly Articles).

Abstract: Organisations involved in delivering international democracy assistance are engaging increasingly with questions about how to assess their activities. A double shift in the terms of reference, from the ex post evaluation of assistance projects or programmes to ex ante appraisal of the broader democracy promotion strategies, could make democracy promotion more effective. This does not mean abandoning the former; on the contrary its status would be enhanced. Improving the chain of learning that leads from assistance evaluations to the formulation of promotion strategies could improve decision-making over how and whether to promote democracy abroad. Because strategies for democracy promotion are constitutive of the political relationship with countries, different strategies have different implications for the possibilities of political self-determination. For that reason and because democratisation and hence effective democracy promotion may be beneficial for human development, international peace and national security, strategies that reflect informed appraisal would be an improvement on a defective status quo.

The challenges include: more systematic data gathering; innovative ways of comparing the various democracy promotion options; and institutional changes that connect the research findings to the high politics of policy-making.

Click on this link to access this journal article on the web:

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CDI Director Analyses East Asian Party Systems

In a special issue of the *Journal of East Asian Studies*, CDI Director Ben Reilly discusses the evolution of electoral and party systems in East Asia. The special issue, on ‘Party Choice and Partisanship in East Asia’, contains articles first
presented at a research conference held at the East West Center in 2006 by scholars from Australia, Japan, Korea, Taiwan and the United States. Collectively, these represent an important and in many ways unique contribution to the comparative study of political parties in East Asia, and will also appear in the future as a book published by Lynne Rienner Press.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

All suggestions and comments are welcome to cdi@anu.edu.au

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