Dear Colleagues,

Welcome to the 50th issue of CDI.News. As well as being something of a milestone, this issue highlights CDI's recent work in the South Pacific, an enduring focus of our democracy building efforts.

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

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**Bougainville Women Candidates Training Workshop**

BUKA | CDI's Women Candidates Training Workshop was conducted from 24 to 26 November, at the Kuri Resort in Buka, in the Autonomous Region of Bougainville. This is the first time CDI has conducted a course aimed purely at training potential women candidates for upcoming elections.

The House of Representatives of the Autonomous Region of Bougainville (ARB) includes three reserved seats for women, and elections are due to be held in May 2010. One of the main objectives of the course was to enhance women’s campaigning skills, not only for the prescribed women’s seats, but to be more competitive in the 33 open, general constituency seats.

The three-day workshop was led by CDI Associate, Dr Norm Kelly, who was assisted by Linda Reynolds, a former National Campaign Manager for the Liberal Party of Australia; and Dr Meredith Burgmann, from the Australian Labor Party, a former President of the New South Wales Legislative Council, and current Sydney City councilor. Luke Hambly, Executive Officer for CDI, provided logistical support.

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The workshop attracted 39 participants, which included a good geographic spread of the Northern, Central and Southern regions of Bougainville. One current MP, Magdalene Toroansi, participated in the workshop. CDI received excellent support from the ARB House of Representatives in advertising the workshop and providing logistical assistance throughout. In particular, CDI thanks Speaker Andrew Miriki and Clerk Robert Tapi, for their valuable involvement.

The workshop included sessions on the three M’s of campaigning – Machinery, Money and Message. These sessions covered important campaign functions, including building a campaign team, fundraising and structuring a budget, developing a clear message and techniques for delivering a message. Bougainville’s Electoral Commissioner, Reitama Taravaru, gave a presentation to the group on the first day, explaining the electoral laws for candidates, and statutory timelines from the issuing to the return of election writs.

The workshop included interactive sessions, including a mock election as a way of explaining the Limited Preferential Voting (LPV) system, and emphasising the importance of preference flows under LPV. Participants received a 38-page workshop manual which covered the session themes, and included a strategic campaign plan and timetable template.

The workshop fills an identified need for women in Bougainville. As a report following the 2005 election noted, the fact that there are three reserved women’s seats may have had the unintended consequence of restricting women to only three seats in a legislature of 39 (elected) seats. The challenge is to encourage women to contest open seats to increase the overall numbers of women in the House of Representatives. Indications from the workshop are encouraging, with a high level of cooperation and strategic planning observed over the three days.

CDI appreciates the support of the Australian Liberal and Labor parties in recommending experienced campaigners from their parties to be part of the workshop team.

Click on this link for more on our website:

**Parliament, Policy, the Press & the Public: Preparing for the Challenges of being a Minister**

**CANBERRA |** CDI recently concluded a new professional development course for MPs from the Pacific Islands region and Timor-Leste. This highly specialised course was aimed specifically at relatively new parliamentarians who want to better understand their roles and responsibilities and who aspire to and wish to be better prepared for future positions of leadership. The idea for this course came about as the result of MPs in the region asking for further training following the induction programs and specialised workshops that CDI has helped organise and run. This course was therefore designed to address a gap in programs to assist parliamentarians newly appointed to positions in government and thereby help them become more effective leaders and government ministers in their respective countries. It helps meet a growing demand from the public throughout the region for strong and outcome-oriented people in ministerial positions who can make a difference.

The course was convened by Hon. Dr Kay Patterson, former Senator and Minister in the Australian Federal Government, with the assistance of former Deputy Prime Minister of Papua New Guinea, Hon. Moses Maladina MP, and CDI Deputy Director Quinton Clements. It was held in Canberra from 21-30 October 2009.

16 parliamentarians, including several Ministers in their respective governments, from across the region participated in the course. They were joined by Mr Mariano Carmo who works for the United Nations Mission in Timor-Leste. Participants were involved in a practical and interactive course using best practice from Australia and the region. Session presenters included current and former Members of the Federal, NSW and ACT parliaments, departmental heads, ministerial advisers and key statutory officeholders such as the Commonwealth Ombudsman. The course was officially opened by the Hon.

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Duncan Kerr MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Pacific Island Affairs. Subjects addressed in the program included:

- Constitutional and legal frameworks - understanding the concepts of responsible government and the separation of powers;
- Understanding the job of being both an MP and a Minister;
- Supporting Ministers - the role of Ministerial staff - setting up your office and appointing your personal staff;
- Ministers’ relationship with Departments - building a relationship with your department(s) – creating a ministerial/departmental liaison mechanism;
- Cabinet – collective responsibility, understanding the policy making process, working with fellow ministers – Cabinet solidarity;
- Understanding the budget process;
- Parliamentary Business (parliamentary questions, the legislation process, parliamentary committee inquiries);
- Dealing with the institutions of accountability such as parliament, Ombudsman, Leadership Code Commissions, Anti-Corruption bodies, Audit Office;
- Preparing and giving speeches;
- Dealing with the media;
- Dealing with the party – implementing party platforms;
- Ministerial conduct - principles of good leadership & good governance - ethics and codes of conduct for Ministers.

Click on this link for more on our website:

Hon Ture Kailo MP
1965 - 2009
CDI sadly acknowledges the tragic death of Hon. Ture Kailo, Member of Parliament from the Republic of Vanuatu. Mr Kailo passed away in the early hours of Friday 23rd October 2009 in Canberra.

Mr Kailo was born on the island of Aniwa. He had a distinguished career in sports administration including as Director of the Vanuatu Government’s Department of Youth and Sports before entering Parliament. He was elected to Parliament as the Member for the Southern Islands Constituency at the national elections in September 2008.

Since his election Mr Kailo had been an active participant in a number of CDI activities for Vanuatu and was a passionate supporter of programs aimed at strengthening the role of Parliament in Vanuatu.

His passing is a tremendous loss to Vanuatu and our thoughts and prayers remain with his family and friends.

The Spirit of Democracy: The 2009 CDI Annual Address by Prof Larry Diamond

CANBERRA | The 2009 CDI Annual Address was delivered by Professor Larry Diamond to an audience of over 70 at the Australian National University on Monday 12 October. Professor Diamond spoke on the subject of his new book The Spirit of Democracy: The Struggle to Build Free Societies Throughout the World, which examines the global trend of democratization and explores the sources of democratic progress and stress and the future prospects of democracy. His lecture updated the book to take account of new emerging trends and challenges to democracy around the world.

Click on this link for more detail on our website including a video recording of the 2009 CDI Annual Address and further details on Professor Diamond’s work:

Elections and Conflict Workshop

OTTAWA | CDI Director Ben Reilly was the lead speaker at a high-level workshop on Elections and Conflict held in Canada in October 2009.

Sponsored by the North South Institute, the event took place in Ottawa, and was held in the context of high-stakes elections in conflict-prone states around the world, from Afghanistan to Sudan. There is increasing recognition that there are lessons to be learned from conflict-affected elections as a basis for more effective conflict prevention and mitigation.

The Ottawa workshop addressed the causes, indicators and consequences of electoral discord and violence with the goal of articulating good practices for conflict prevention and mitigation before, during and after elections. The event brought together a combination of policy experts, officials and UN election administrators for an expert panel discussion. Professor Reilly discussed the Asia-Pacific experience of elections and conflict, and options in terms of mechanisms of representation.

Click on this link for more details on our website:
Launch of PNG Parliamentary Practice & Procedure Manual

PORT MORESBY | On Tuesday 10 November 2009, the Manual of Parliamentary Practice & Procedure for the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea was officially launched by Deputy Speaker, Hon. Francis Marus MP, at Parliament House in Port Moresby. CDI supported the production and publication of the Manual, as part of the follow up to the successful August 2007 induction program for the National Parliament of Papua New Guinea that CDI helped organise and run. Hon. Kevin Rozzoli, with assistance from CDI Deputy Director Mr Quinton Clements, prepared the Manual in consultation with the Clerk and senior officers of the Papua New Guinea Parliamentary Service, in particular the Deputy Clerk, Mr Simon Ila, and First Clerk Assistant, Mr Podi Kohu.

Both Mr Clements and Mr Rozzoli attended the Launch, where Mr Clements made special mention of the fact that initiative for the Manual came from the PNG Parliamentary Service and that the publication of the Manual was a first for parliaments in the region. In addition to a number of MPs and parliamentary officers who attended the Launch, representatives of key constitutional bodies such as the Ombudsman Commission and the Registrar of Political Parties along with the media were also present.

Click on this link for more detail on our website and to access an electronic copy of the Manual:

CDI @ PIPSA Conference 2009

AUCKLAND | CDI Deputy Director Quinton Clements participated in the 11th Conference of the Pacific Islands Political Studies Association (PIPSA) at the University of Auckland from 3-4 December 2009. The conference was officially opened by Sir Paul Reeves, former Governor General of New Zealand. With the theme of ‘Pacific Democracy: What’s Happening?’, the conference provided a forum to openly and critically discuss the problems and issues that continue to shape the dynamics, culture and institutions of political governance and democratic rule in the Pacific.

Mr Clements convened a panel on the theme of Parliaments in the Pacific. The other panel participants were Professor Robert Nakamura from the University at Albany, State University of New York, Mr Afamasaga Toleafoa (Samoan economist/diplomat/politician/consultant) and Mr David Hegarty, an

ANU scholar of Pacific Islands politics. The panel discussed the development and characteristics of parliamentary systems throughout the Pacific Islands region and the attempts made to reform and strengthen these parliaments.

While at the conference Mr Clements also convened the inaugural meeting of authors contributing to a new CDI book on The State of Parliaments in the Pacific Islands, to be published in 2010. Click on this link for more detail on PIPSA 2009 on our website and the following article here for more on contributing to CDI’s The State of Parliaments in the Pacific Islands:

Call for Contributions to an Edited Volume

Purpose: An assessment of the state of parliamentary development in the region on a country by country basis. Our goal is to describe, categorise and analyse the region as a whole, and appreciate the richness of regional variation in merging modern representative institutions with traditional structures. We hope to produce the most comprehensive look to date of the state of parliaments in the independent countries in the region and the French territories.

Dates and Submissions: CDI plans to hold an authors meeting in mid 2010 in the region in anticipation of publication by the end of 2010. Participation in the authors meeting and a honorarium for each author will be funded by the Centre for Democratic Institutions. We are accepting one-page proposals until the end of January, 2010. Click on this link for more important details on this edited volume including how to submit your proposal:

Launch of PNG Parliamentary Practice & Procedure Manual

CDI @ PIPSA Conference 2009

Forthcoming CDI Activities

3rd Annual CDI Effective Parliamentary Committee Inquiries Course | 15-19 February 2010

SYDNEY | The 3rd Annual CDI Effective Parliamentary Committee Inquiries Course will be held in Australia from 15-19 February 2010. The Course has been designed and developed by CDI with the support of the Parliament of New
South Wales, World Bank Institute and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association.

The Course is designed specifically for parliamentary committee staff and will focus on the practical aspects of parliamentary committee work. Topics that will be covered in the program include inquiry terms of reference, planning and budgeting for an inquiry, collecting written and oral evidence, conducting public hearings, writing a report and tabling the final report in Parliament.

The 2009 Effective Committee Inquiries Course was attended and enthusiastically received by 20 participants from parliaments across the Asia Pacific region.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

CDI Supports 5th Residential Summer School for Parliamentary Public Accounts Committees

MELBOURNE | The Public Sector Governance and Accountability Research Centre at La Trobe University in Melbourne is conducting its 5th annual Summer School for Parliamentary Public Accounts Committees in February 2010. The course is supported by the Centre for Democratic Institutions, World Bank Institute and the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The course runs from 7-13 February 2010.

The Program will focus on building effective Public Accounts Committees as the Parliament’s primary means of financial scrutiny of the Executive. It will combine both the theoretical and the practical, with a five-day retreat-style training course at La Trobe University’s Beechworth Campus, and visits to the Parliament of Victoria in Melbourne.

The Summer School is aimed at Chairs and Members of Public Accounts Committees, Auditors-General and Audit Office staff, and Public Accounts Committees staff.

Click on this link for more detail on our website:

Expressions of Interest Sought: ACADEMIC VOLUNTEERS at the UNIVERSITY OF PAPUA NEW GUINEA

Expressions of interest are invited from academics in Australia for a new program to provide short-term assistance to the University of Papua New Guinea (UPNG) in Port Moresby. This pilot program seeks the involvement of academics willing to work in a voluntary capacity with colleagues at UPNG. The program is an initiative of the Group of Eight (Go8) Australian universities and the University of Papua New Guinea with funding support from AusAID.

The program will cover the travel, accommodation and living expenses of volunteers and current (or recently retired)
New Regional Masters Program in Human rights and Democratisation

In July 2010, the University of Sydney, in cooperation with Gadjah Mada University in Indonesia, Mahidol University in Thailand, Kathmandu School of Law in Nepal and the University of Colombo in Sri Lanka, will be commencing a Regional Masters Program in Human Rights and Democratisation. This program, supported by a significant grant from the European Commission, will parallel existing Masters programs in Europe, South East Europe, Africa and South America, but will be specifically targeted for people working in, or seeking to work in, the fields of human rights and democratisation in our region.

Through a combination of academic and practical educational experiences, the program will support ongoing efforts to strengthen institutions dedicated to the protection and promotion of human rights and democracy and to enhance a regional culture of human rights and democracy. Recognizing the critical institutional developments that are taking place both regionally and in particular countries during this time, the program has been set up to ensure that human rights and democracy advocates in the region are well resourced to lead us into the next decades. Students in this degree will spend their first semester together at the University of Sydney, where they will complete a number of foundational units providing a broad social scientific and legal grounding in human rights and democracy studies. They will then spend their second semester at one of the partner universities, where they will continue their course work, in combination with a research dissertation, or an in-country dissertation or further specialized electives. Thirty full scholarships, covering all fees and a substantial living and travel allowance will be offered to students across the Asia Pacific region.

Click on the link below for more information or contact the Academic Director, Dr. Danielle Celermajer at danielle.celermajer@usyd.edu.au

From Pacific Beat @ Radio Australia:

NZ academics drop democracy handbooks into Tonga

Updated Mon Oct 12, 2009 9:40am AEST

A group of university staff and students from New Zealand recently visited Tonga to distribute a booklet outlining basic democratic concepts. The 100 page booklet, in Tongan and English, was prepared by Dr Malakai Koloamatangi, a Tongan political scientist at Canterbury University. Around three thousand booklets were distributed all around Tonga at public meetings which featured discussions about the new, more democratic system in the Kingdom.

Elections under a new system which will see the majority of MPs elected by the people are scheduled for the end of 2010.

Click on this link to Pacific Beat to listen to Bruce Hill’s interview with two of the students at Canterbury University involved in this project:

All suggestions and comments on our newsletter are very welcome to cdi@anu.edu.au

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