



2010 ANNUAL REPORT

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THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

The House Democracy Assistance Commission¹ is a bipartisan, twenty-member commission of the U.S. House of Representatives that works directly with partner legislatures around the world to support the development of effective, independent, and responsive institutions.

Established by the U.S. House of Representatives in 2005, the Commission uses peer-to-peer exchange programs, training seminars for members and staff, and targeted material assistance to build capacity in key areas such as legislative oversight, budget analysis, committee operations, constituent relations, and library and research services. Its singular focus on the legislative branch of government and its unique ability to bring together American legislators and their peers from around the world have made the commission a valuable forum for strengthening democratic institutions and deepening bilateral relations.

The Commission was reauthorized for the 111th Congress on January 6, 2009, when the House voted 242-181 to approve the rules package for the 111th Congress, H. Res. 5. Section 4(b) of that resolution re-establishes the Commission and references previous language stating that the Commission shall prepare an annual report and submit it to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Affairs and other appropriate House committees, the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

As required by H. Res. 5, this report reviews the activities of the Commission in 2010 and outlines its proposed activities for 2011. More information about the Commission's activities is available on its website at <http://democracy.house.gov>.

¹ The Commission continues to use the term "House Democracy Partnership" to describe its programs with other legislatures, to emphasize that the House of Representatives and those legislatures are partners in legislative development. The Commission's legal name remained the House Democracy Assistance Commission in the 111th Congress but is expected to be changed formally to the House Democracy Partnership in the 112th Congress.

Executive Summary

The House Democracy Assistance Commission completed its sixth year of activity in 2010. After expanding its number of partner legislatures from 12 to 14 in 2009, the Commission added one program (in Pakistan) and ended one program (in Colombia) in 2010, keeping the number of its partner countries at 14. The Commission maintained a high level of activity with these partners in 2010, sponsoring four Congressional delegations, one delegation of former Members of Congress, two delegations of current or retired congressional staff, two inbound study visits by partner MPs, one inbound defense oversight program for partner MPs, one regional staff institute in Poland, and two staff institutes in Washington.

The Commission's four congressional delegations enabled Members of Congress to engage directly with legislators from seven partner countries: Kosovo, Macedonia, Georgia, Pakistan, Kenya, Liberia, and Haiti. The format of each program differed depending on the needs and interests of the host legislatures, ranging from informal discussions of common problems to more formal training seminars. Most delegations included congressional staff meetings with their counterparts in partner legislatures, usually focused on the research service and committee operations.

Beyond congressional delegations, the Commission sponsored numerous activities in Washington and various partner countries in 2010. In Washington, the Commission hosted a total of 18 MPs from Kenya and 12 MPs from Indonesia for study visits. These visits were notable because they were initiated and paid for by the Kenyan and Indonesian parliaments, which view their partnerships with the Commission as an essential part of their own reform efforts. In cooperation with the Center for Near Eastern and South Asian Security Studies, the Commission hosted a Pakistani Senate delegation for a weeklong seminar on defense oversight. Also in Washington, the Commission trained a total of 48 staff from 13 countries in two weeklong staff institutes, one on budget analysis, the other on committee operations.

In addition, the Commission organized a delegation of four former members of Congress to Georgia to discuss defense oversight issues with MPs and government officials. It also sent four congressional staff to Peru to consult on issues legislative research and public hearings with Peruvian staff counterparts, and sent two retired congressional staff to Timor-Leste and Indonesia to consult with and train staff of the legislative research services. It also dedicated a \$200,000 legislative library in Liberia and authorized a \$175,000 project to improve information and communication technology in the Timorese parliament.

Several aspects of the Commission's work in 2010 were particularly notable, including its efforts to help the Haitian National Assembly continue to function after the devastating January 2010 earthquake destroyed both parliament buildings; its development of a legislative library and archives in Liberia; its consultations with the Kenya National Assembly on the implementation of constitutional reforms adopted in August 2010; its advice to the Assembly of Macedonia on conducting oversight hearings; and its organization of a seminar in Warsaw, Poland that brought together research staff from 11 partner countries with their counterparts from 10 Central European legislatures.

The Commission enters 2011 with partnerships with 14 legislatures: Afghanistan, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Timor-Leste and Ukraine. The Commission continues to actively monitor developments in other countries and may add additional partners in the 112th Congress. The Commission expects to send congressional delegations in 2011 to the partner countries it did not visit this year and to any new partner legislatures; to host at least three seminars for MPs and two for parliamentary staff in Washington; to organize at least one defense oversight seminar for MPs; and to continue its material assistance programs. The Commission will also continue to involve current and retired congressional staff and former Members of Congress in its programming.

Commission Activities in 2010

Highlights

Several aspects of the Commission's work in 2010 were particularly notable. After the earthquake that struck Haiti in January 2010 destroyed the National Assembly and took the lives of several of its members and staff, the Commission worked closely with Haitian and U.S. officials to help the legislature continue to function and secure an interim meeting facility. In Liberia, the Commission dedicated a new legislative library and archives that will contribute significantly to the legislature's post-war development. The Commission also consulted closely with the Kenya National Assembly on implementing constitutional amendments adopted in an August 2010 referendum; provided advice to the Assembly of Macedonia on conducting oversight hearings; and organized a Warsaw seminar that brought together research service officials from 11 partner countries with Central European counterparts who overcame similar challenges 20 years earlier.

Haiti

The Haitian National Assembly was devastated by the January 12, 2010, earthquake that killed an estimated 230,000 people and destroyed much of Port-au-Prince. The buildings housing the Chamber of Deputies and the Senate were reduced to rubble. At least two MPs died in the earthquake. A total of 24 bodies were pulled from the wreckage; most of them were parliamentary staff. One female staffer was rescued alive, and Senate President Kély Bastien was rescued after being trapped for two days in the wreckage.

In the immediate aftermath of the earthquake, Commission staff connected the USAID-funded Parliamentary Support Project with the U.S. Embassy in Port-au-Prince. Thanks to this connection, the 82nd Airborne Division of the U.S. Army was asked to secure the parliament site from looters, ensuring that legislative records were preserved.

Reps. David Price, David Dreier and Donald Payne joined a March 5, 2010, delegation led by Rep. Zoe Lofgren to meet with Haitian and U.S. officials. While in Port-au-Prince, they secured a meeting with Senate President Bastien to express the solidarity of the Congress with the Haitian National Assembly. In March, Reps. Price and Dreier wrote to Secretary of State Hillary Clinton and USAID Administrator Rajiv Shah in support of timely elections and continued U.S. assistance to the parliament, making the case that long-term, sustainable democratic development should not be abandoned as the immediate crisis is addressed.

A May 7 delegation of 10 Members of Congress led by Rep. Price reaffirmed U.S. support for the National Assembly at a critical moment, just days before the mandate of the Chamber of Deputies and one-third of the Senate expired. This timely visit allowed Members to consult with Haitian legislators on the manifold challenges that lie ahead, and helped to focus the U.S. government's attention on the specific needs of the parliament, including the need for an interim meeting facility. That delegation also donated more than 30 laptop computers to the parliament to facilitate its operations, replacing equipment destroyed in the earthquake. They were

distributed to Chamber and Senate staff, and the parliament assumed the responsibility of installing software and providing technical support.

Rep. Price visited Haiti for a third time on August 6 as part of a delegation led by House Majority Leader Steny Hoyer, and Rep. Jeff Fortenberry and Commission staff joined the November 28 election observation delegation led by House Majority Whip James Clyburn.

During the Commission's October 2010 budget staff seminar, Commission staff facilitated a meeting between Lucien Francoeur, the secretary general of the Chamber of Deputies, and senior USAID officials to discuss U.S. assistance to the parliament. As of the end of 2010, USAID has agreed to fund an orientation program for new MPs scheduled to take office in February 2011; to extend its Parliamentary Support Project through May 2011; and to fund an interim parliament building to house the legislature until a permanent new complex can be built. The Commission will continue to work with the Haitian National Assembly and with USAID to ensure that the legislature is able to function effectively, and it will complement those efforts with the expertise of Members of Congress and congressional staff.

Kenya

The Kenya National Assembly has been one of the Commission's most active partners, and members and officials of the parliament have repeatedly turned to the Commission to help organize programs specifically for Kenyan MPs and staff. This enhanced cooperation dates back to 2007, when the Commission assisted the National Assembly with the creation of a budget committee and a fiscal analysis office.

With the passage of constitutional amendments in August 2010, including one creating a second chamber of parliament, the Kenya National Assembly has turned to the Commission to advise it as it implements the reforms. The Commission hosted a total of 18 MPs from Kenya for study visits in 2010. These visits were notable because they were initiated and paid for by the Kenyan parliament, which sees its partnership with the Commission as an essential part of its own reform efforts. In cooperation with the Kenya National Assembly, the embassy in Washington, USAID and the Department of State, the Commission organized meetings with Members of Congress, House officers and congressional staff so visiting MPs could seek advice on the changes they endeavor to effect in their parliament.

Of particular note was a visit to Washington by the Kenyan budget committee that the Commission organized in May-June 2010. Upon their return, several of the MPs on the trip met with the Vice President Biden in Nairobi and told him that they were impressed by the expert advice they received. The Vice President made reference to this during his town hall meeting in Nairobi and paid glowing tribute to the "successful partnership between the U.S. and the Kenyan Parliament."

In addition, the Commission helped establish a relationship between the Clerk of the Kenya National Assembly and House Officers Lorraine Miller, Clerk of the House, and John Sullivan, House Parliamentarian, who accompanied the Commission on a Congressional delegation to Nairobi and hosted their counterparts for a return visit in Washington. In addition, the

Commission facilitated meetings for the Kenyan Clerk with the Chief Administrative Officer of the House, the Secretary and Parliamentarian of the Senate, the Congressional Research Service, House Rules Committee staff, the Office of Legislative Counsel and the Library of Congress.

Liberia

When the Commission initiated its partnership with Liberia in 2006, the legislature's one-room library lacked lighting, adequate furnishings, computers, and other basic items necessary for the operation of a functional modern library. The library had suffered losses and damage due to war-time looting and Liberia's wet and humid climate, and the card catalogue had been lost. Books and archival materials were stored on the floor.

Following a USAID-funded renovation of the Liberian Capitol building, the Commission authorized \$200,000 to create a functional library, archives and research office. The director of the Library of Congress office in Nairobi and a Library of Congress technology expert from the Cairo office designed a modern library, with adequate shelving, carrels, workspace and computers. The project was implemented by the National Democratic Institute for International Affairs (NDI).

During a July 2010 delegation to Monrovia, Commission Members dedicated the new legislative library and signed a memorandum of understanding with officers of the Liberian legislature, in which they pledged the resources necessary to maintain the facility. While work was not complete, the renovation is going according to plan and expected to be finished shortly.

Macedonia

Improving the operations of committees in the Assembly of Macedonia has been a focus of the Commission's program in Macedonia since it began in 2006, complementing the work that NDI is undertaking there. To take advantage of the Macedonian experience, the Commission in 2009 sponsored a seminar in Macedonia for staff from Georgia, Kosovo and Mongolia, other former communist countries facing similar challenges in their parliaments.

Organization of committee hearings and committee oversight have been two important themes of the Commission and NDI programs, and dozens of MPs and staff from Macedonia have participated in the Commission's committee operations programs over the past five years. The effectiveness of this engagement was demonstrated during the visit of CODEL Pomeroy in February 2010, when the delegation attended the first oversight hearing in the history of the Macedonian assembly and Rep. Earl Pomeroy was invited to testify.

The oversight hearing, the first of its kind since the recent passage of a law codifying the Assembly's oversight role and powers, was held by the Foreign Affairs Committee, whose chairwoman and clerk have participated in several Commission training programs, as have several committee members. The hearing focused on an international agreement between Macedonia and the United States on bilateral assistance. In addition to Rep. Pomeroy and the U.S. Ambassador to Macedonia, the Minister of Education testified before the committee and responded to the questions of the committee members.

Warsaw

The Commission draws its inspiration from the work of the Frost-Solomon Task Force, a House of Representatives body created in 1990 to enable the House to provide direct assistance to 10 newly democratic countries in Central and Eastern Europe following the fall of the Iron Curtain. That task force, which operated until 1996, drew heavily upon the expertise of the Library of Congress and its Congressional Research Service, and its greatest legacy is the research services of those 10 legislatures, which remain in operation today.

To mark the 20th anniversary of this congressional outreach to new democracies, the Sejm and Senate of Poland invited U.S. Members and staff who worked on the task force, as well as Commission Chairman David Price and staff of the Commission, to come to Warsaw for a commemoration. MPs and staff were also invited from the other nine participating Central European countries: Albania, Bulgaria, the Czech Republic, Estonia, Hungary, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania and Slovakia. The daylong celebration in the Polish Senate chamber was hosted by the Polish Senate president and included remarks from Rep. David Price, former Rep. Martin Frost, and several staff from the task force.

The Commission took advantage of attendance by 10 Central European research directors to organize an institute for 22 research staff from 11 of its current partner countries. This weeklong institute allowed individuals who have successfully developed research services over the past 20 years to share their experience with their counterparts trying to do the same in other new democracies. The Warsaw commemoration and institute allowed the generation that built democracies after communism to pass along their expertise to a new generation facing similar challenges today, and it tied together the two democracy-building efforts of the House of Representatives.

Congressional Delegations

The Commission sponsored four Congressional delegations to seven partner legislatures in 2010. These delegations enabled Members of Congress to engage with a significant number of Members of Parliament in each legislature, sharing their experience and offering advice in areas in which it was sought. The format of each program differed depending on the interests of the host legislatures, ranging from informal discussions of common problems to more formal training seminars. Most delegations included congressional staff meetings with their counterparts in partner legislatures, usually focused on the research service and committee operations.

Macedonia and Kosovo, February 13-22, 2010

The Commission conducted its 18th Member-led mission in Macedonia and Kosovo from February 13 to 22, 2010. Led by Rep. Earl Pomeroy, the delegation inaugurated the Commission's new partnership with the Assembly of Kosovo, advanced its existing partnership

with the Assembly of Macedonia, and met with legislators and other officials in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in Serbia

The delegation began its visit to the region in Bosnia and Herzegovina (February 14-16), meeting with the Tri-Presidency of State, the Prime Minister, and the leadership of the House of Representatives and the House of Peoples, as well as members of civil society. The delegation emphasized the need for meaningful constitutional reform in order for sustainable democratic development to be achieved.

The delegation's trip to Kosovo (February 16-17) marked the formal inauguration of the Commission's partnership with the Assembly of Kosovo, which was selected as the commission's 13th partner legislature in 2009. The centerpiece of the two-day program was an afternoon of intensive training sessions on the committee hearing process and constituent services. These training seminars drew senior MP and staff participation and included spirited discussions. The delegation also traveled to Gračanica, the largest Serb enclave south of the Ibar River, to underscore the Commission's position that a commitment to minority rights and participation is a key component of democratic development.

The delegation traveled next to Macedonia (February 17-18), meeting with the President, the Speaker of the Assembly and the Prime Minister. The focal points of its program in the Assembly were participation in a milestone oversight hearing and a training session on legislative research. The oversight hearing, the first of its kind since the recent passage of a law codifying the Assembly's oversight role and powers, was held by the Foreign Affairs Committee, whose chairwoman has participated in several Commission training programs.

The delegation continued its mission in Serbia (February 18-21). In Belgrade, the delegation met with the Prime Minister, Deputy Prime Minister, Foreign Minister, Speaker of the National Assembly, and members of the Serbia-U.S. Caucus, as well as representatives from civil society. The delegation encouraged Serbia's pursuit of Euro-Atlantic integration and discussed the political and economic reforms that such a path will entail. The importance of strengthening the U.S.-Serbia relationship and legislature-to-legislature exchanges were also discussed. The delegation also visited Kraljevo, a city in Serbia's heartland.

On February 21, the delegation returned to Kosovo for a full day with U.S. troops stationed at Camp Bondsteel. In addition to receiving briefings on the KFOR mission and touring the facilities, the delegation spent several hours on patrol with Liaison Monitoring Teams, traveling to the largest ethnic-Albanian and ethnic-Serbian cities in the U.S.-led sector.

Georgia and Pakistan: March 26-April 2, 2010

The Commission conducted its 19th Member-led mission in Georgia and Pakistan from March 26 to April 2, 2010. Led by Rep. David Price, the delegation included Reps. Jeff Fortenberry, Jim McDermott and Stephen Lynch. The delegation renewed ties with the National Parliament of Georgia, inaugurated the Commission's new partnership with the Parliament of Pakistan, and met with legislators and other officials in Bangladesh.

The delegation's visit to Georgia (March 27-28) marked the Commission's fourth program in Tbilisi with the Georgian parliament, which has been among the commission's most active partners. Building on a recent defense oversight program conducted by several former Members of Congress on behalf of the Commission, the delegation discussed the state of civil-military relations in Georgia, the role of the political opposition, and other regional and bilateral issues with a multiparty group of legislators led by Speaker David Bakradze. The delegation also discussed U.S.-Georgian relations and the progress of Georgia's economic and political development over dinner with President Mikhail Saakashvili.

Between visits to partner countries, the delegation spent two days (March 28-29) in Bangladesh, which held free and fair elections in 2008 following two years of rule by a military-supported caretaker government. The delegation met with the Speaker of the National Assembly and other legislators to express U.S. support for the country's return to democracy and foster closer ties between the U.S. Congress and National Assembly of Bangladesh. The delegation also met with Prime Minister Sheikh Hasina Wazed, opposition leader Khaleda Zia, and the ministers of foreign affairs and commerce to discuss various issues of bilateral concern.

The central focus of the delegation's mission was its visit to Pakistan (March 29-April 1). The inauguration of the Commission's newest partnership came at an important moment for U.S.-Pakistan relations, and the visit gave the delegation an opportunity to emphasize the interest of the U.S. Congress in a long-term strategic partnership with Pakistan. The delegation's program included meetings with National Assembly Speaker Fahmida Mirza and a multiparty group of Senators led by Senate President Farooq Naek, a lively roundtable discussion with the parliamentary Women's Caucus, a lunch hosted by the Foreign Affairs Committee, a briefing by the board of the Pakistan Institute for Parliamentary Services, and smaller working groups on defense oversight and committee operations. On its final day in Pakistan, the delegation traveled from Islamabad to the frontier capital of Peshawar for several meetings focused on the Pakistani military's operations in the region and the civilian government's role in providing services to conflict-affected areas.

Haiti: May 7, 2010

On May 7, 2010, a delegation traveled to Haiti to assess the status of the country's recovery efforts and consult with the Haitian National Assembly in the last days of its mandate. The delegation was led by Rep. David Price and included Reps. David Dreier, Donald Payne, Mazie Hirono, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Bobby Rush, Lynn Woolsey, Gregory Meeks, Brad Miller, and Gwen Moore. This was the Commission's 20th Member-led mission. The visit was an opportunity to reaffirm U.S. support for the Assembly at a critical moment, consult with Haitian legislators on the manifold challenges ahead, and focus the U.S. government's attention on the specific needs of the parliament.

The visit began with a tour of downtown Port-au-Prince, where members surveyed the remains of the National Assembly compound and Presidential Palace. In intensive meetings with State Department and USAID officials at the U.S. Embassy, the delegation emphasized the need for the U.S. government to address the needs of the National Assembly in its broader reconstruction

strategy, including by helping to identify a meeting space for the parliament and maintaining USAID's legislative strengthening program, in recognition of both the importance of long-term democratic development and the legislature's essential role in that process. Embassy officials informed the delegation of the U.S. commitment to funding a temporary parliamentary facility and working to ensure that new legislative elections are held as soon as possible. (Elections were subsequently held November 28, 2010.)

In addition to the material challenges of rebuilding an institution from the ground up, the National Assembly faced an uncertain political future, with the mandate of the entire Chamber of Deputies and one-third of the Senate set to expire soon after the visit. The central focus of the delegation was meetings with parliamentary leaders at the National Assembly's temporary meeting space in a police academy in Pétienville. At a meeting with several Deputies chaired by Chamber President Levaillant Louis-Jeune, the delegation expressed sympathy and support for the country's tragic loss and emphasized the need for Deputies to remain involved in the reconstruction effort, even as their term in office expired. Several Deputies indicated that they would be running for reelection and would thus remain involved in leading their communities along the path to recovery, while also underscoring the need for the Senators remaining in office to perform the parliament's oversight functions.

The delegation's meeting with the Haitian Senate was chaired by Senate President Kély Bastien and included a majority of the 19 Senators who would remain in office. Commission Members affirmed their resolve to continue the commission's partnership with the Senate despite the difficult circumstances, and encouraged the Senate to be as active as possible in conducting oversight of the government's reconstruction efforts in the months ahead. Several Senators acknowledged the increased oversight responsibilities that their chamber would assume but voiced their concern that reconstruction decisions were being consolidated in the executive branch and the Interim Haiti Recovery Commission without adequate involvement by the parliament.

Liberia and Kenya: July 3-12, 2010

A delegation traveled to Africa from July 3 to 12, 2010, to advance the commission's partnerships with the legislatures of Liberia and Kenya and make bilateral visits to Tanzania and Mali. The delegation was led by Rep. David Price and included Reps. David Dreier, Donald Payne, Allyson Schwartz, Keith Ellison, Michael Conaway, Vern Buchanan and Patrick Kennedy. The delegation also included a high-level staff component led by Clerk of the House Lorraine Miller and House Parliamentarian John Sullivan. This was the Commission's 21st Member-led mission.

The visit to Liberia (July 4-6) began in the county capital of Kakata, where the delegation met with local officials and attended a town hall meeting in which citizens were invited to provide feedback on local development projects. In Monrovia, the delegation met with House and Senate leaders to discuss their newly adopted modernization plan, inaugurated the legislature's new Commission-funded library and research facility, and held breakout sessions with Liberian members on constituent relations, committee operations, and staffing structures. Concurrently,

Commission staff held three training programs for Liberian staff on legislative procedure, budget analysis, and committee operations. The delegation also met with President Ellen Johnson Sirleaf to discuss the economic and political progress that Liberia has made and other issues of bilateral importance.

The delegation's visit to Kenya (July 6-9) came at a critical moment for the consolidation of Kenyan democracy, just prior to approval of a major package of constitutional reforms. The delegation and MPs discussed how the National Assembly will implement many of the legislative reforms, including the establishment of a second chamber. The delegation met with the Speaker of the National Assembly, various party leaders and committee chairs, and members of the Women's Caucus and Reform Caucus. As in Liberia, these meetings were accompanied by parallel staff-to-staff consultations on targeted areas of institutional development, including budget analysis, legislative oversight, and bicameralism. In addition to their program in the National Assembly, members met with Kenyan President Mwai Kibaki, Vice President Kalonzo Musyoka, and other senior officials to discuss various bilateral and regional issues, and also visited two U.S.-funded development projects. The delegation ended its visit in the coastal city of Mombasa, where it toured several projects funded through Kenya's Constituency Development Fund program and hosted local civic and religious leaders for lunch.

After a brief stop in Tanzania (July 10-11), where members visited a U.S.-funded global health program and met with local officials in the Moshi area, the delegation concluded its mission in Mali. The West African nation has experienced four successful presidential elections over the past two decades despite the serious economic and security challenges facing the region, and the visit allowed Commission members to consult with President Amadou Toumani Touré, leaders of the National Assembly, and other Malian and U.S. officials on the country's democratic development.

MP Washington Seminars and Study Visits

The Commission scheduled a weeklong seminar in September 2010 on committee operations for Members of Parliament from Indonesia, Lebanon and Pakistan, as well as an observer delegation from Iraq. The seminar, however, was postponed until March 2011 due to logistical challenges.

The Commission hosted a total of 18 MPs from Kenya and 12 MPs from Indonesia for study visits in 2010. These visits are notable because they were initiated and paid for by the Kenyan and Indonesian parliaments, which see the partnerships with the Commission as an essential part of their own reform efforts. In cooperation with those legislatures, their embassies in Washington, USAID and the Department of State, the Commission organized meetings with Members of Congress, House officers and congressional staff.

Six MPs from Kenya's Parliamentary Caucus on Reforms visited the U.S. from February 8 to 12, 2010, to consult with policymakers on their reform agenda, develop contacts with think tank and NGO staff relevant to democratization in Kenya, and meet with their peers in the U.S. Congress to discuss how caucuses and issue-based campaigns work in the U.S. political system.

Four MPs and one staff member from Kenya's House Broadcasting Committee visited the United States from May 6 to 18, 2010, to learn about the operations of the Committee on House Administration, services provided by the House Recording Studio and the relationship between broadcasting in the U.S. House and the press. The delegation also met with Members of Congress to discuss the use of broadcasting technologies by elected officials.

Eight MPs from the Budget Committee of the Kenya National Assembly visited the United States from May 30 to June 5, 2010. During a day of meetings on Capitol Hill, the delegation met with staff from the House Budget Committee, House Appropriations Committee, Congressional Research Service and Congressional Budget Office to learn about the congressional budget process and the role that support agencies play in budget analysis. The meetings were considered so valuable by the visiting parliamentarians that they mentioned it to Vice President Biden during his June 2010 visit to Nairobi, and the Vice President cited the Commission's cooperation with the National Assembly in a speech during his visit.

Twelve MPs and three staff from the Indonesian Committee on Religion, Social Affairs and Women Empowerment visited Washington from October 11 to 14, 2010, to discuss those issues with U.S. officials. The Commission organized meetings with staff from the Committee on Ways and Means to discuss income security and social security programs with the committee.

Defense Oversight Seminar

In cooperation with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, the Commission organized a seminar focused on defense oversight for members of the Senate of Pakistan. The seminar allowed three MPs from the defense committee of the upper chamber to observe the relationship in the United States between the Department of Defense, including the military services, and the Congress, with the aim of strengthening civilian control of the armed forces. Participants met on Capitol Hill with Members of Congress on the key oversight and authorizing committees in the House and Senate and with senior staff, and also met with officials of the Department of State, Department of Defense, and Central Intelligence Agency. The seminar, from May 17 to 21, 2010, was developed in close cooperation with the Center for Near Eastern and South Asian Security Studies in Washington.

Former Member Delegation

In cooperation with the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, the Commission organized a weeklong visit of four former Members to Tbilisi, Georgia, from January 22 to 28, 2010. The delegation was led by Martin Lancaster and included Pete Geren, Joel Hefley and Heather Wilson. The delegation focused on issues of defense oversight and steps that the National Parliament of Georgia has taken to improve its oversight and investigative role since the 2008 conflict with Russia.

Congressional Staff Delegations

The above-mentioned Congressional delegation to Liberia and Kenya (July 3-12) included working meetings between U.S. congressional staff and their counterparts, concurrently with Member programs. Lorraine Miller, the Clerk of the House, and John Sullivan, the House Parliamentarian, led the staff contingent and consulted with the Clerk of the Kenya National Assembly, Clerk of the Liberian House of Representatives, and Secretary of the Liberian Senate during the visits. The visit to Kenya was particularly timely, as the parliament had begun preparing for the transition to a bicameral legislature, and a discussion of House-Senate relations was a focal point of the conversation with the two House officers.

In addition, staff from the Congressional Budget Office and House Appropriations Committee met with staff of the Kenyan budget committee and fiscal analysis office, as well as Liberian budget staff, to discuss budget analysis for the legislature. Staff of the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, House leadership and the House officers met with committee staff in both countries to discuss the role of committees in organizing hearings and conducting oversight. The Clerk, Parliamentarian and staff of the House Rules Committee also consulted on how to track bills during the legislative process and how to prioritize legislation for floor consideration.

Two staff from the Congressional Research Service and a staff member from the House Committee on Veterans Affairs traveled with Commission staff to Peru from April 5 to 9, 2010, to consult with officials and staff of the Peruvian legislative research service and committees. Conducting the program entirely in Spanish, they discussed issues pertinent to legislative research and public hearings with their Peruvian counterparts.

The staff delegation was timely and well received at all levels. The Peruvian Congress's Modernization Group continues to lead legislative reform efforts, and is a willing and active partner for the Commission. The April program was a collaborative effort among the central staff, the political staff and the Modernization Group, reflecting the growing momentum of the Congress's internal reform efforts.

Legislative Staff Institutes

The Commission, in cooperation with the International Republican Institute (IRI), organized a staff institute on strengthening budget analysis capacity in the legislature from October 18 to 22, 2010. The institute included 21 staff from 11 partner countries: Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, and Timor-Leste. The institute included meetings with or presentations by officials from the Congressional Budget Office, the Congressional Research Service, and staff from the House Committees on Budget and Appropriations and the Joint Committee on Taxation. In addition, budget analysts from the Kenya National Assembly shared their experience in establishing and developing a parliamentary budget office.

The budget institute provided a general framework of the budget process in the United States and the role of the congressional agencies that provide technical support for the budget analysis and modification process. It also provided participants with a solid understanding of generating

economic and budget forecasts, analyzing and modifying the budget submission, reviewing external sources of information that contribute to budget analysis, and providing budget oversight.

The Commission, also in cooperation with IRI, organized a staff institute on committee operations from December 13-17, 2010. The institute included 27 staff from 13 partner countries: Afghanistan, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, and Timor-Leste. The institute included meetings with or presentations by officials from the Congressional Research Service and staff from several House committees, as well as meetings with Rep. David Price and Rep. David Dreier. In addition, committee staff from the Assembly of the Republic of Macedonia shared their experience in developing procedures to begin using oversight hearings as part of the work of their parliamentary committees.

In addition to the two seminars that the Commission organized in Washington, Commission staff organized a visit for the Clerk of the Kenya National Assembly and four staff members from October 29 to November 3, 2010. The purpose of the visit was to learn about bicameral operations and identify partners who can support the National Assembly's institutional challenges in adjusting to a bicameral model. The Commission facilitated meetings with the Clerk, Parliamentarian and Chief Administrative Officer of the House and the Secretary and Parliamentarian of the Senate, as well as meetings with the Congressional Research Service, House Rules Committee Staff, Office of Legislative Counsel and Library of Congress.

Regional Staff Institutes

From June 7 to 11, 2010, the Commission sponsored a regional staff institute on research and analysis in Warsaw, Poland, for 22 staffers from 11 partner legislatures. The institute began with a commemoration of the 20th anniversary of the Frost-Solomon Task Force, through which the House of Representatives from 1990 to 1996 assisted 10 new democracies in Central and Eastern Europe to develop independent legislatures after four decades of communist rule. The institute brought together research directors from those 10 countries with the research staff from current partner countries, enabling them to share their 20 years of experience with counterparts who face many of the same challenges today. CRS Director Dan Mulhollan and several former staff from CRS and the Library of Congress also spoke at the institute.

Speakers underlined the importance of reliable, impartial, timely and accurate research to the work of democratic legislatures. They also shared tips on how to engage legislators and help them see the value of research, which was a concern shared by a number of participants.

Retired Staff Delegation

The Commission sent a delegation of two retired staff from the Congressional Research Service to Indonesia and Timor-Leste in July-August 2010 to provide follow-on training to research service staff in the two parliaments.

The weeklong program in Timor-Leste, from July 26 to 30, 2010, was the Commission's third retired staff training program in Dili. The formation of a research service in the National Parliament of Timor-Leste was inspired by participants in a 2007 Commission seminar in Washington, and the Commission has facilitated consulting and training by retired CRS staff and current staff of the Jakarta office of the Library of Congress. The office has expanded to include 10 staff, and additional staff members were expected to be assigned to it.

The training in Dili consisted of an intermediate course on techniques of public policy analysis and craft skills needed to work effectively with the Parliament. It included a seminar on critical thinking for legislative analysts. In addition, the consultants met with Committee Chairs, Members of Parliament, the Secretary General, and the Director of Research. The meetings were aimed at gauging the extent to which MPs were making use of the research unit and how satisfied they were with the services received from the unit.

The three-day program in Jakarta, from August 2 to 4, 2010, consisted of presentations and discussions on techniques of public policy analysis and craft skills needed to work effectively with the Parliament. This program provided an opportunity to bring together over 90 expert and research staff of the upper and lower chambers of the legislature for the first time. The program focused on policy research and analysis and development best practices used by policy analysts.

Material Assistance

CODEL Price in July 2010 dedicated the library and archives of the Liberian legislature, which was developed in part through a \$200,000 contribution by the Commission. The project, which includes a modern legislative library to serve members and staff, office space for the research service, and archive space, was designed by Library of Congress staff based in Kenya and Egypt and implemented by NDI. The new facility will include a common work space; an archive to provide for storage of key legislative materials in an orderly fashion, with climate control to mitigate the effects of a tropical climate on papers; and office space for the House and Senate research departments, including an adequate workspace for each researcher, computers with Internet access, printers, and basic office equipment.

Plans to develop a Parliamentary Services Center (PSC) in Haiti were suspended indefinitely following the January 12, 2010, earthquake that destroyed both parliament buildings. The Commission has authorized \$200,000 for the project. The Commission will work with USAID and both chambers of the National Assembly to identify the best way for the project to move forward as part of the broader reconstruction of the Haitian parliament. The Commission identified the PSC as a project to which it could provide not only financial support, but also technical assistance and training from current and former staff of CRS, LOC and the Clerk's office. The Commission will consider additional funding if warranted.

The Commission in July 2010 authorized an expenditure of \$175,000 to improve information and communication technology in the National Parliament of Timor-Leste. A memorandum of

understanding between the Commission and the parliament is expected to be signed in February 2011. The project seeks to strengthen the technology planning and management capacity of parliament and to establish a sustainable ICT infrastructure at Parliament. This project follows the Commission-funded parliamentary library, which was dedicated in July 2009. Commission-funded consultants have identified the poor internet and computer connections in the library and the broader parliament as a major impediment to realizing the full potential of the library and the parliamentary research service.

Proposed Commission Activities in 2011

The conference report for the Consolidated Appropriations Act for fiscal year 2010 appropriated \$2 million to fund the Commission's programs. These funds are used to fund MP and parliamentary staff institutes in Washington and abroad, material assistance programs, and former member and retired staff delegations. The Office of Democracy and Governance at USAID administers this funding. This funding level is expected to be maintained in fiscal year 2011 under the continuing resolution passed at the end of the 111th Congress.

The Commission envisions that 2011 may see the addition of new partner countries to the program. A series of regional discussions with congressional and outside experts scheduled for January 2011 will be the first step in identifying potential new partners. A visit to Iraq is scheduled for February 2011 to enable Members to gain insight into a possible program there.

The Commission in 2011 plans to visit the seven partner countries that did not host delegations in 2010: Afghanistan, Indonesia, Lebanon, Mongolia, Peru, Timor-Leste and Ukraine. Visits to Georgia and Haiti are also foreseen in 2011. The Commission will also send independent staff assistance delegations to work with the staff of partner legislatures on a case-by-case basis.

Bringing MPs and staff from partner legislatures to the United States will remain a central part of the Commission's work. The Commission plans at least two MP seminars focusing on committee operations in 2011, inviting MPs from new partner countries and from existing partner countries that have recently elected new legislatures. Plans call for one staff institute to be organized at the end of 2011 on legislative research and analysis. The Commission may also organize a regional staff institute on committee operations in the last quarter of 2011.

Cooperation on defense oversight seminars is expected to continue in 2011 with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and its regional centers for security studies. In the wake of Afghan parliamentary elections in 2010, the Commission is exploring the possibility of organizing a seminar in 2011 for Afghan defense committee MPs.

The Commission will continue to explore ways to utilize the expertise of former members of Congress and retired congressional staff in its programs. Possible programs may include orientation seminars for newly elected MPs in Haiti and Afghanistan.

The Commission is planning to continue its material assistance programs with several partner parliaments in 2011. It expects to complete a \$200,000 project in Liberia to renovate, furnish, equip, and train staff for a "resource center" – a modern information center to house an independent research staff, store archives, and provide library materials and workspaces for MPs and their staffs. A similar project planned for the Haitian National Assembly has been delayed by the January 2010 earthquake; the Commission is discussing with USAID the timing for implementing that project. In Timor-Leste, a February 2011 congressional delegation plans to sign a memorandum of understanding with the Timorese parliament to implement a \$175,000 project to improve the parliament's communications capabilities, particularly its Internet access. Other material assistance projects could be undertaken in new partner countries as needed.

APPENDIX: COMMISSION ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Congressional Delegations

<u>Delegation</u>	<u>Partner Nations Visited</u>	<u>Date</u>
CODEL Kolbe	Indonesia, Timor-Leste	Feb. 2006
CODEL Dreier	Lebanon*, Kenya*, Liberia	July 2006
CODEL Dreier	Macedonia*, Afghanistan*	Nov. 2006
CODEL Price	Haiti*	Feb. 2007
CODEL Price	Ukraine*, Georgia*	Apr. 2007
CODEL Price	Lebanon, Liberia*	May 2007
CODEL Payne	Mongolia*, Indonesia*	July 2007
CODEL Price	Colombia	Aug. 2007
CODEL Price	Indonesia*, Georgia	Feb. 2008
CODEL Price	Macedonia, Ukraine*	Mar. 2008
CODEL Schiff	Afghanistan	May 2008
CODEL Price	Liberia*, Kenya*	July 2008
CODEL Schwartz	Georgia*	Dec. 2008
CODEL Hirono	Haiti*	May 2009
CODEL Price	Mongolia*, Indonesia*, Timor-Leste*	July 2009
CODEL Price	Peru*, Colombia	Aug. 2009
CODEL Price	Lebanon, Afghanistan	Nov. 2009
CODEL Pomeroy	Macedonia, Kosovo	Feb. 2010
CODEL Price	Georgia, Pakistan	Mar. 2010
CODEL Price	Haiti	May 2010
CODEL Price	Liberia*, Kenya*	July 2010

* -- included staff training component, in addition to Member programs

Beyond Congressional Delegations: Member and Staff Training Programs

Former Member of Congress Delegations

<u>Delegation</u>	<u>Partner Nations Visited</u>	<u>Date</u>
EXDEL Frost	Kenya	Nov. 2009
EXDEL Lancaster	Georgia	Jan. 2010

Combined Member/Staff Training Programs – Washington + Member districts

<u>Date</u>	<u>Partner Nation Participants</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Apr. 2006	Timor-Leste, Georgia, Indonesia, Macedonia	Introduction to Congress
Sept. 2006	Afghanistan, Kenya	Introduction to Congress
Apr. 2007	Colombia, Lebanon	Introduction to Congress

Member Training Seminars – Washington, DC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Partner Nation Participants</u>	<u>Topic</u>
June 2007	Afghanistan	Defense oversight
July 2007	Mongolia, Liberia	Introduction to Congress
Apr. 2008	Indonesia, Mongolia	Defense oversight
June 2008	Afghanistan	Defense oversight
July 2008	Indonesia, Kenya, Macedonia, Ukraine	Committee operations
Sept. 2008	Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, Haiti, Liberia	Committee operations
March 2009	Pakistan	Defense oversight
Sept. 2009	Afghanistan	Budget oversight
Sept. 2009	Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mongolia	Committee operations
Oct. 2009	Haiti, Kenya, Liberia, Peru	Committee operations
May 2010	Pakistan	Defense oversight

Parliamentary Staff Training Institutes – Washington, DC

<u>Date</u>	<u>Partner Nation Participants</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Dec. 2007	Afghanistan, Georgia, Indonesia, Liberia, Kenya, Macedonia, Haiti, Mongolia, Timor-Leste	Research, Parliamentary administration (2 tracks)
Oct. 2008	Afghanistan, Colombia, Timor-Leste, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Ukraine	Budget Analysis
Dec. 2008	Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Ukraine	Committee Operations
Nov. 2009	Afghanistan, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Peru, Timor-Leste	Information technology
Dec. 2009	Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Timor-Leste	Research and analysis
Oct. 2010	Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Timor-Leste	Budget analysis
Dec. 2010	Afghanistan, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Timor-Leste	Committee operations

Regional Staff Institutes

<u>Date</u>	<u>Location</u>	<u>Partner Nation Participants</u>	<u>Topic</u>
Nov. 2009	Kenya	Afghanistan, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Timor-Leste	Budget analysis
Nov. 2009	Macedonia	Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mongolia	Committee operations
June 2010	Poland	Afghanistan, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Timor-Leste	Research and analysis

Congressional Staff Training Program for MPs and staff – in-country

<u>Date</u>	<u>Partner Nation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Jan. 2006	Georgia	IT needs assessment
Jan. 2006	Macedonia	IT needs assessment and training
Feb. 2006	Timor-Leste	LoC-Jakarta library training and development
Mar. 2006	Georgia	Research Department needs assessment
July 2006	Lebanon	Library of Congress (LoC)-Cairo library training program
Sept. 2006	Afghanistan	LoC-Islamabad library training program and assessment
Nov. 2006	Timor-Leste	LoC-Jakarta library training and development
Feb. 2007	Kenya	Legislative drafting and parliamentary procedure workshops
June 2007	Haiti	Ethics seminar
June 2007	Timor-Leste	LoC-Jakarta library training and development
Nov. 2007	Haiti	LoC assessment of proposed parliamentary resource center
Nov. 2007	Haiti	Budget analysis training
Nov. 2007	Kenya	Research and budget analysis training
Dec. 2007	Macedonia	Constituent service training
May 2008	Haiti	Personnel administration and website development training
May 2008	Timor-Leste	LoC-Jakarta library training and development
April 2009	Liberia	LoC-Nairobi and LoC-Cairo library development
Dec. 2009	Timor-Leste	LoC-Jakarta library training and development
April 2010	Peru	CRS and committee staff consultations and training

Retired Staff Training Program – in-country

<u>Date</u>	<u>Partner Nation</u>	<u>Description</u>
Oct. 2009	Haiti	Retired CRS staff, library/research center project
July 2010	Timor-Leste	Retired CRS staff, research training/consultation
Aug. 2010	Indonesia	Retired CRS staff, research training/consultation

Material Assistance

<u>Partner Nation</u>	<u>Description</u>	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Status</u>
Afghanistan	Library development and materials	\$150,000	Completed
Georgia	Computer servers and software	\$70,000	Completed
Haiti	Library/research center	\$200,000	Suspended due to earthquake
Lebanon	Library materials	\$1,000	Completed
Liberia	Library/research center	\$200,000	Nearing completion
Macedonia	Computer servers	\$50,000	Completed
Timor-Leste	Library equipment, materials, training	\$175,000	Completed
	Internet access/networking	\$175,000	Approved