



Press Release

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Speaker Farrugia chairs various sessions of the CPA Small Branches Climate Change workshop

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia, as Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Small Branches, chaired various sessions of the CPA Small Branches Climate Change Workshop, which was organised by the CPA and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) in Nairobi, Kenya, from 10th to 13th October 2018. A summary of these sessions follows.

- Session 1: Setting the Scene – Climate Change and Legislative Work

Over 10 years, the UN Environment's Law Division has worked with experts, research institutes and other international organisations to generate an impressive array of products that could facilitate the development and implementation of climate change related policies and legislation at a national level. This session provided an overview of these instruments and tools, as well as additional information on how legislators could make use of these in developing legislation as appropriate.

- Session 2: State of Play – Examples from different Legislatures

This session aimed at providing practical examples on how parliaments and legislatures have developed legislation to deal with the challenges climate change poses to small island states, considering the international agreements that their governments have signed. Participants were encouraged to look at the issue holistically by including how these measures added to the realisation of multiple SDGs. Participants discussed what measures needed to be developed further and what input they expected from the workshop.

- Session 5: Sustainable Transport Systems

The UN Environment's work on promoting and supporting sustainable and low carbon transport including cleaner fuels; cleaner and more efficient vehicles; non-motorized transport; clean ports; clean buses; and electric mobility, including electric 2&3 wheelers.

- Session 9: The role of Ministries of Finance in Climate Change Policy

Climate change action by countries requires planning over a long period in the face of uncertainty as well as, for many governments, costly financing in the near term. It has become ever clearer that countries need to consider all policy instruments. Climate change is going to affect the core business of finance ministries related to fiscal policy, government budgets, and public debt. This session

focused on public expenditure management for climate actions rather than the full spectrum of finance ministry responsibilities.

- Session 10: Legislative support to legislators: Legal Response Initiative (LRI) and UN Environment

The international negotiations under the UNFCCC are amongst the most complex multilateral law and policy making processes ever. They are characterised by using technical jargon, reference to legal principles and procedural norms. To create a more level playing field, LRI provides free advice on a rapid response basis, briefing papers that translate complex information into accessible formats, and legal capacity building. In addition, LRI has entered into a partnership with the UN Environment to leverage private sector legal expertise on a pro bono basis on various aspect of climate change related policy.

When introducing this session, Speaker Farrugia referred to the proposal put forward to the European Parliament by MEP Miriam Dalli that CO2 emissions from vehicles should be reduced by 20% by 2025 and 40% by 2030. He added that EU Environment Ministers agreed on a compromise of 35% cut by 2030. He stressed that this shows that, notwithstanding the fact that one comes from a small state, one can still have a leading role among big players.

Speaker Farrugia also chaired Session 14, entitled Summary of Climate Change Workshop and Next Steps (including recommendations for CPA/UN Environment partnership), and delivered the closing remarks, which are herewith attached.