



The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) has said that Maldives needs to give opposition the political space to scrutinize the actions of the government.

The remarks were made by the visiting Secretary General of CPA Akbar Khan. Khan concluded a two day visit to the Maldives at the invitation of the Speaker of the People's Majlis Abdulla Maseeh. During his visit Khan met with the Maldives Foreign Minister Dunya Maumoon and the President's Office Legal Affairs Minister Aazima Shukoor. He also met with all major party parliamentary groups.

Speaking at Malé's Ibrahim Nasir International Airport on Tuesday night Akbar said that it is important for a fledgling democracy that the rights of the opposition such as scrutinizing legislation, questioning government actions and other oversight tools be exercised. He highlighted the importance of the opposition or the minority being afforded the political space to exercise those rights.

Akbar noted that the opposition's role should not be to "oppose for the sake of opposing" but to hold governments accountable. Akbar said that Parliaments will become paralyzed if "opposing for the sake of it" becomes the norm.

Talking about politics that benefits people, Akbar said that it is important the ruling and opposition find areas where they can cooperate and sometimes be able to look beyond the political rhetoric in order for the

people to benefit.

Akbar announced that CPA has agreed to conduct trainings for Maldivian Parliamentarians. Akbar said that the nature and the timing of the trainings were still under discussion, but noted that he had received positive signals across the Parliamentary blocs over the involvement of CPA.

Like (https://www.facebook.com/sharer/sharer.php?fb_locale=en_US&u=http://raajje.mv/65602)

Tweet (<https://twitter.com/intent/tweet?text=http://raajje.mv/65602>)

+1 (<https://plus.google.com/share?url=http://raajje.mv/65602>)