



## Parliamentarians for Global Action

### Debt-for-Development: Debt Relief Targeted to Poverty Eradication 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Parliamentary Forum

#### AGENDA

December 11-12

*Senato della Repubblica Italiana*  
Palazzo Giustiniani, Sala Zuccari  
Rome, Italy

*With the support of*

*The Department for International Development (DFID) United Kingdom,  
The Royal Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (DANIDA),  
Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida),  
The Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA),  
&  
United Nations Fund for Population Activities (UNFPA)*

#### DAY ONE, DECEMBER 11

9:45-10:15 Registration

#### 10:15-11:00 Opening Ceremony:

◆ **Welcoming Remarks**

Ms. Shazia Rafi, *Secretary General, PGA*

Sen. Ersilia Salvato, *Vice-President, Italian Senate; Co-President, PGA Italian National Group*

◆ **Message** from H.E. Kofi Annan, Secretary General, United Nations delivered by Daniela

Salvati, *Vice-Director, United Nations Center, Rome*

#### 11:00-1:00 Session I: Debt: Evolution, Impact and Response

**Questions:**

- *What factors led to the growth of debt and the crisis? Are any of these factors still present, and what can be done about them? (examples: poor borrowing and lending decisions, oil crisis, natural disasters, weak economic governance and corruption)*
- *What has been the response of the international community?*
- *What is the impact of debt on development?*
- *Do all sectors feel the impact of debt equally, or are the poor particularly damaged? Why?*
- *What are the costs of structural adjustment for patterns and speed of growth?*
- *What are the costs of structural adjustment for poverty and the living conditions of the poor?*

211 East 43<sup>rd</sup> Street, Suite 1604, New York, NY 10017, USA

T: +212-687-7755 F: +212-687-8409 E-mail: [info@pgaction.org](mailto:info@pgaction.org)

- *Are there other possible responses to debt crisis?*

**Chair:** Dr. Abdul Moyeen Khan, MP (Bangladesh), Former Minister of State for Economic Planning

**Speakers:**

- ◆ Mr. Grant Taplin, *Special Representative to the WTO and Assistant Director (Geneva), International Monetary Fund (IMF)*
- ◆ Mr. Enrique Cosio-Pascal, *Chief, Debt Management and Financial Analysis System, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)*
- ◆ Mr. Dan Driscoll-Shaw, *National Coordinator, Jubilee 2000, USA*
- ◆ Dip. Ing. Mario A. H. Cafiero, *(Argentina), President, Comision Bicameral de Jubileo*
- ◆ Dep. Lahaou Touré, *(Mali) Inspecteur des Services Économiques, Coordonnateur du Réseau des Parlementaires sur la Population et le Développement*
- ◆ Mr. Bert Koenders, MP *(the Netherlands), Labour Party Foreign Affairs Spokesman*

<b>1:00-3:00 Luncheon Break</b>
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<b>3:00-4:30 Session II: Delivering Debt Relief: HIPC Initiative and Progress to Date</b>
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**Questions:**

- *Who should be eligible for debt relief?*
- *What specific issues do multilateral lenders and their debtors need to consider?*
- *What funds should be used to provide relief?*
- *What conditions should be attached to relief?*
- *Who should set the rules for eligibility, amounts, schedules and conditions? Should the rules be similar across countries or vary by case?*
- *What should bilateral lenders do to guarantee bilateral and multilateral debt relief programs?*
- *Should bilateral lenders set their own rules and institutions for relief, or should they follow multilateral lender patterns?*

**Chair:** Drs. Jan Hoekema, MP *(The Netherlands)*

**Speakers:**

- ◆ Hon. T. A. Manuel, *Minister of Finance (South Africa)*
- ◆ Mr. Jacob Kolster, *Deputy Manager, HIPC Unit, The World Bank*
- ◆ Hon. Beatrice B. Kiraso, MP *(Uganda), Chairperson, Committee on Finance, Planning and Economic Development*
- ◆ Mr. Jim Cousins, MP *(United Kingdom), Member of the Treasury Select Committee*
- ◆ Ms. Paloma Escudero, *Representative, Oxfam International, Brussels*

### 4:30-6:00 Session III: The Impact of Independent Initiatives (Case Study: Zambia)

#### Questions:

- *What characteristics would be necessary in an institution independent of multilateral and bilateral organizations?*
- *What has been the impact of the Jubilee 2000 campaign?*
- *How can an independent effort such as Jubilee attract the support of multilateral lenders, creditor nations, and private lenders? What is unique about Zambia's debt relief model?*
- *Can Zambia's experience be generalized to other contexts?*
- *In what setting should debt negotiations occur?*
- *Who should be party to the negotiations? Individual nations and creditors, groups of nations and creditors, civil society actors?*
- *What are alternate forms of debt relief?*
- *What institutions exist to oversee debt relief programs, and who controls them?*
- *What will it take for "conditionalities from below" to work?*

**Chair:** Ms. Theresa Tagoe, MP (Ghana)

#### Speakers:

- ◆ Mr. Francesco Martone, *Coordinator, Reform the World Bank Campaign (Italy)*
- ◆ Sen. Michiel Maertens, (Belgium), *Vice-President, Finance and Economic Affairs Committee*
- ◆ Dr. Peter J. Henriot, *Director, JCTR*
- ◆ Hon. Patrick K. Kalifungwa, MP (Zambia)

### 8:00 Fifth Annual Defender of Democracy Awards Dinner

(126 Via del Corso, Grand Plaza Hotel, Roma)

*Honoring Dr. Ernesto Zedillo Ponce de León, President of Mexico for his commitment to upholding the democratic process and Sra. Estela Barnes de Carlotto, on behalf of Las Abuelas de Plaza de Mayo for their courage in fighting for justice for the children of the desaparecidos in Latin America (By invitation)*

## DAY TWO, DECEMBER 12

### 10:00-11:30 Session IV Poverty Reduction Strategies: New Wine in Old Bottles

- *Does this approach mark a fundamental change in thinking within the international community on development planning?*
- *Have the institutions - governments, IFIs, multilaterals and bilaterals, civil society - changed their behaviour? What else needs to change? How responsive are the institutions?*
- *Does this approach strengthen or undermine national planning processes? Are developing countries being required to divert scarce capacity resources to producing yet another document to meet a new set of donor requirements?*
- *Are local consultative processes being enhanced or marginalised? What role have parliaments played? What role should they play?*
- *What makes a 'good PRSP'? Are there 'minimum standards' or new conditionalities?*
- *Who will undertake the long-term monitoring and evaluation of a country's PRS? What capacity is needed? How much of it is in place?*
- *Is the PRS process sustainable? How can an alliance for poverty reduction be built at the*

*national and international levels?*

**Chair:** Sen. Raynell Andreychuk (*Canada*)

**Speakers:**

- ◆ Mr. Opa Kapijimpanga, *Coordinator, African Network on Debt and Development, (AFRODAD)*
- ◆ Mr. Ted van Hees, *Coordinator, European Network on Debt and Development, (EURODAD)*
- ◆ Ms. Anne-Christine Hubbard, *Deputy Secretary General, Fédération Internationale des Ligues des Droits de l'Homme (FIDH)*
- ◆ Mr. Mauricio Díaz Burdett, *Coordinator Nacional del Espacio Interforos de la Sociedad Civil De Honduras, Asociación de Organismos No Gubernamentales de Honduras (ASONOG)*

<b>11:30-1:00 Session V: Debt-for-Development Options: Review of Cases and Applications to HIV/AIDS</b>
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**Questions:**

- *What debt swaps occurred in the past, and what worked?*
- *What local and international institutions are necessary to meet development objectives within the swaps?*
- *What amount and kind of debt should be swapped?*
- *What debts and what amount of debt can be converted into counterpart funds?*
- *What institutional framework is necessary to guarantee that HIV/AIDS goals are reached?*
- *What prevention and treatment programs could be appropriately funded?*

**Chair:** Dip. Tomas Jocelyn-Holt Letelier (*Chile*)

**Speakers:**

- ◆ Dr. Olusoji Adeyi, *UNAIDS*
- ◆ Ms. Diane Lee Langston, *Senior Technical Officer, UNFPA*
- ◆ Dep. Hinasou-Laïna Loum, (*Chad*) *Vice-Président, Assemblée Nationale*
- ◆ Mr. Manuel Pinto, *MP (Uganda)*

<b>1:00-3:00 PGA Luncheon: Venue to be Announced</b>
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- ◆ **Luncheon Address:** Hon. Hilde Johnson, *MP (Norway), Former Minister for International Development and Human Rights*

<b>3:00-4:00 Session VI: Creation of a Parliamentary Oversight Network on Debt for Development</b>
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- *How can PGA contribute to an independent debt relief effort?*
- *What mechanisms can a PGA Oversight Network on Debt-for-Development use to encourage, support and push for domestic policy and legislative decisions relating to debt relief and poverty eradication?*
- *What is needed from parliamentarians in donor countries?*
- *What is needed from parliamentarians in debtor countries?*
- *PGA has proposed follow-up work in the following countries: Bolivia, Nicaragua, Uganda, Tanzania, Senegal, Mali, Zambia, Ghana and, if it opts for HIPC relief and parliament is restored through democratic elections,*

*Côte d'Ivoire. What are the unique characteristics of each of the proposed countries regarding debt relief? How can PGA be most effective?*

**Chair:** Dep. Ibrahima Fall (*Senegal*)

**Speakers:**

- ◆ On. Enrico Nan, MP (*Italy*)
- ◆ Dr. Ricardo Lagos, *Advisor, Central American Bank for Economic Integration*
- ◆ Hon. Kenneth Dzirasah, *MP (Ghana), Deputy Speaker*
- ◆ Mr. Michael Fallon, *MP (United Kingdom), Member of the Treasury Select Committee*
- ◆ Sen. Wakako Hironaka (*Japan*)

**4:00- 4:15 Closing Session: Declaration**

\* Invited

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