40 Years of Commonwealth Election Observation: Evolving, Responding, Innovating

Democracy Day Symposium

2020 marks 40 years of Commonwealth Election Observation. This milestone presents a unique opportunity to review and commemorate the Commonwealth’s work in international election observation and how it contributes to the promotion of democracy in member countries.

The Symposium, held over two days, offers a space to reflect on the Commonwealth’s electoral history and the trends that have influenced elections, and to strengthen this key area of work.

Panel I
Reflecting on the Commonwealth’s Electoral History and Evolution: Personal Perspectives

15 September 2020, 2:00 pm BST

Keynote Address: The Rt Hon Patricia Scotland QC
Commonwealth Secretary-General

Speakers

Dr Lawrence Gonzi
Prime Minister of Malta (2004-2013)

HE Dr Goodluck Jonathan
President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria (2010-2015)

HE Bruce Golding
Prime Minister of Jamaica (2007-2011)

Zainab Bangura
Director-General of the United Nations Office at Nairobi

HE Mmasekgoa Masire-Mwamba
Deputy Secretary General of the Commonwealth (2008-2014)

Dr Rajen Prasad QSO
Commonwealth Special Envoy to Lesotho (2014-2016)

Moderator: Stuart Mole OBE
Director, Commonwealth Secretary-General’s Office (1990–2000)
Panel II
Key Electoral Trends Influencing the Last 40 Years

16 September 2020, 12:00 pm BST

Speakers

Dr Kwadwo Afari-Gyan  

Olufunto Akinduro  
Senior Programme Officer, International Institute for Democracy and Electoral Assistance (International IDEA), Nigeria

Hon Sana Ullah Baloch  
Member of the Balochistan Provincial Assembly, Pakistan

Lomcebo Dlamini  
Human Rights Lawyer, Eswatini

Dr Eric Kwa  
Secretary of the Department of Justice and Attorney General, Papua New Guinea

Dr Lisa Ann Vasciannie  
Lecturer, University of West Indies, Mona, Jamaica

Moderator: Amitav Banerji  
Director and Head, Office of the Commonwealth Secretary-General (2000-2008), Director of Political Affairs, Commonwealth Secretariat (2009-2015)

Register to attend via GoTo Webinar