



The CPST Connect

The Center for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST)-Connect.

Issue

002

JUNE 2024

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CPST changes address, moves operations to County House

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CPST offices at County House, Nairobi

A “Early last month, the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training moved its operations from Mukoma Road in Karen to the newly refurbished County House located in the yet to be completed Parliamentary Square.”

The move is, however, temporary, as the Centre awaits the completion of its ultra-modern building coming up in Karen. The milestone for the PSC comes in quick succession of yet another of PSC's great achievements: the launch of Bunge Tower by H.E. the President Hon. (Dr.) William Ruto earlier in the month.

Since the 10th Parliament's inception, the CPST has operated at a facility located along Muhuti Road in the

Karen suburbs, about 1.2 kilometres off Magadi Road.

The facility that the PSC owns once served as the Speaker's Official Residence for the 6th Speaker of the National Assembly, Rt. Hon. Francis Xavier Ole Kaparo.

The expanded role of Parliament, which saw the establishment of the Senate and an enlarged National Assembly, created the need to distend the structure and roles of Parliament's foremost Capacity-building institute, hence the need to establish the Town Campus. The Centre has since spread its tentacles to offer County Assemblies and Regional legislatures training.

According to the Centre's Executive Director, Prof. Nyokabi Kamau, **CONTINUED ON PAGE 6** ▶

Centre Facilitates program on Contemporary Issues in Parliamentary Governance for Members and Staff of Parliament,

Mid this month, Members and staff of Parliament undertook a one-week program on *Contemporary Issues in Parliamentary Governance*.

The course was aimed at equipping the lawmakers and staff of legislatures with the necessary tools to navigate the challenges of the modern legislative environments.

The program brought together participants from Kenya, Ghana, Congo Brazzaville, Nigeria, South Sudan, Canada, Saint Vincent and Grenadines and ECOWAS.

Leading the Kenyan delegation, was the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Gladys Boss. The training featured an impressive roster of speakers including the Executive Director the Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST), Prof Nyokabi Kamau.



Members and Staff of different parliaments, together with the Kenyan delegation led by the Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly, Hon. Gladys Boss (front row, middle), pose for a photo after the completion of a program on Contemporary Issues in Parliamentary Governance

These thought leaders provided the participants with deep insights and practical knowledge on the oversight role of Parliaments, the critical role of Parliament in accountability and good governance, the symbiotic relationship between the media and politicians, the takeover of artificial intelligence, and the implications of synthetic media.

Mr. Cyril Kwabena Oteng Nsiah, the Clerk of the Parliament of Ghana took the participants through a session on *Improving Parliamentary Performance through Rules and Procedures*, sharing insights on how effective the revision of the Standing Orders has been to their House.

On her part, Prof. Kamau, took the participants through

the Critical Role of Gender in Parliaments and the Collaboration of Parliamentary Training Institutes in Building Capacities of Legislative Bodies and Promoting Good Governance. According to her, achieving gender equality in Parliaments is a matter of fairness and a prerequisite for effective and inclusive governance.

The program's success underscores the importance of continuous learning and international collaboration in strengthening democratic institutions.

CPST leads discussion on the role of Parliamentary Training Institutes (PTIs) with the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU).

In the ever-changing global political landscape, a need has emerged for well-trained and knowledgeable Parliamentarians. To enhance effectiveness and governance, Senior Parliamentary officers from the CPST and the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) met virtually.

Their discussions were centred around collaborations of different Parliamentary Training Institutes (PTIs). In 2016, McGill University and the Commonwealth Parliamenta-

ry Association (CPA) invited different heads of PTIs for discussions on PTIs working together. A constitution was established, and a symposium was held with participants drawn from India, Uganda and Ghana.

Ms Norah Babic from the IPU reiterated the importance of parliamentary muscle capacity-building through PTIs collaboration. This discussion was held as a precursor to the upcoming PTI conference that will be facilitated and organised by the CPST later in the year.



CPST hosts 11th Webinar on The Legislature in the Transfer Functions

The CPST hosted its 11th Webinar conference on Monday 20th May 2024, under the theme “The Legislature in the Transfer of Functions. The Webinar attracted over 140 participants from across different sectors.

The Keynote speaker of the Webinar was Dr. Kipkurui S Chepkwony, the Chief Executive Officer of the Intergovernmental Relations Technical Committee, while the discussant was FCPA. Rose Osoro who served in the inaugural Commission on Revenue Allocation.

Both speakers have a wealth of experience on transfer of functions and the entire devolution space which they shared in their presentations and responded to various queries from the participants. The Webinar was moderated by Mr. Mohamed Ali, MBS, Deputy Clerk in the Senate -a seasoned legislative officer having served in both the Senate and the National Assembly, on behalf of the Clerk of the Senate, Mr.

Jeremiah Nyegenye.

The Webinar conference exposed the attendees to the roles of the Legislature in the transfer of functions, residual functions of the legislature at either level and the transfer of functions framework including lessons learned this far.

The CPST Webinars are based on the CPST mandate to conduct programmes that advance the ideals of parliamentary democracy and constitutionalism as a whole. Based on this and the broad mandate of the CPST that targets Members and staff of legislatures and other stakeholders, it has become vital to reach out to the stakeholders on certain emerging issues hence the CPST Webinar Conference series.

The Constitution under Article 6 envisages that the two levels of government shall be distinct but interdependent. Similarly, the Intergovernmental Relations Act sets out the framework for transferring functions between the two levels of Government. **CONTINUED ON PAGE 5** ▶



The staff of county assemblies and the CPST led by the Deputy Director of Finance, Administration and Corporate Affairs, Ms Linet Misati (Centre, seated), pose for a photo during the training on Effective Management of Career Progression in Legislatures in at the CPST offices in Karen

County Assembly staff trained on Effective Management of Career Progression in Legislatures

In fulfilling the CPST's Strategic Pillar 1 and Strategic Objective 4 on "Building the Capacity of Staff working in Counties", the CPST organised and facilitated a course on *Effective Management of Career Progression in Legislatures*.

Human Capital staff members from Kisumu, Homabay, Migori, and Kakamega counties undertook the training to enhance their professional development and skills in navigating career-related issues in the workplace.

Among the trainers was Dr Jane Wanyoike, a seasoned human capital and talent development trainer who opened the training session and gave a brief on the concept of career progression.

The participants gained insights on legislative environments, career planning and goal setting, leadership and development, networking and identification and mitigation of challenges faced in their career path. The training adopted the blended learning approach through interactive sessions, expert insights and self-assessment.

At the end of this training, the participants were equipped with valuable knowledge and skills to navigate their careers successfully within legislative environments. By fostering a deeper understanding of legislative dynamics and providing practical strategies for career advancement, the training, contributed to attendees' professional development.

The CPST Way: Why it Makes a Difference

The CPST, despite being a premium global centre for capacity building, prides itself in its methodologies and approaches. The facilitators who are engaged to train at the Centre are always carefully picked based on areas of expertise and with significant experience in legislative circles.

As a quality assurance measure, the CPST endeavours to ensure that its trainers undertake the CPST Training of Trainers (T.o.T) course, which exposes them to adult learning methodologies and approaches. This ensures that our clients always experience different yet effective training experiences that put the client's needs at the forefront.

The TOT program specifically exposes the Trainers to the

CPST way of Training, which has set the CPST apart for many years and has drawn back clients from a cross-section of legislatures and other stakeholders to CPST programs

As an organisation whose core activities include capacity building to enhance the quality of services provided by the legislature, the CPST has undertaken to develop a firm culture and approach to training.

The motive behind the approach is to ensure and guarantee the quality of the training materials and the efficiency of the delivery processes. Accordingly, particular emphasis is placed on the CPST's eclectic training model, generally called "THE CPST WAY". This approach has four key features:



- The CPST way also engenders a work ethic of punctuality, commitment, and strict adherence to professionalism. In this respect, the facilitation process is not politically partisan, and all facilitators must restrict their practice to the subject matters of the training process.
- To further ensure quality in content and delivery, the CPST has developed a curriculum around six thematic areas. The Curriculum provides the facilitators with adequate base material to ensure that what is delivered is well-researched and factual.
- The CPST way is transformative in character as it seeks to provide training that introduces positive dynamics in the legislature and other legislative entities of interest

CPST hosts 11th Webinar on The Legislature in the Transfer Functions (CONTINUED)

➤ **FROM PAGE 3** These provisions have been tried and implemented on various mandates over the 11 years of devolution under the Constitution 2010. The legislative framework has set out each player's role in this process, but these roles have not been espoused to practitioners and the public.

Indeed, the legislature, which has the oversight mandate of the government, has the inception and implementation

role of a transferred function. It is noteworthy that despite a function being transferred to another level of Government, the legislature retains the role of oversight of the function.

The CPST has lined out other interesting Webinar Conference series for the year, 2024/25, which our stakeholders are encouraged to participate in.

Kisumu County Assembly's House Business Committee Undertakes a study tour at CPST



The Members of the House Business Committee of Kisumu Assembly led by the Speaker Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro (Middle, seated) pose for a photo during their benchmark visit at CPST offices in Karen.

The Centre for Parliamentary Studies and Training (CPST) hosted a delegation of Members and technical Staff from the Kisumu County Assembly for a benchmarking visit at its Karen Campus.

The Deputy Director of Administration, Finance and Corporate Affairs CPST, welcomed the delegation led by the Speaker of the Kisumu Assembly, Hon. Elisha Jack Oraro, who, on behalf of the Executive Director, informed the delegation of the Centre's role in driving capacity-building initiatives for members and staff of legislature in Kenya and the region.

He further highlighted the key milestones and achievements since the Centre's establishment. The initiative is part of the ongoing efforts by the Assembly to strengthen its legislative functions and improve governance.

The delegation, through the Speaker Oraro expressed interest in mandatory courses for staff and the Training of Trainers (T.o.T) program for members and staff of the assembly whose adoption by the CPST is dependent on approval from the respective County Assembly Forum (CAF) and the Society of Clerks at the Table (SoCATT).

CPST changes address, moves operations to County House (CONTINUED)

► **FROM PAGE 1** The move to establish a Town Campus within Parliamentary Square has some advantages. It will grant MPs and staff who want to juggle their work and undertake training at their convenience.

"Although we have moved our operations to the Town Campus temporarily, we appreciate that this move will be convenient to our principal clients; MPs and Parliamentary staff", she noted.

It will also help us cut operational costs since we're now operating from within the Parliamentary nerve centre", she added.

According to Prof. Nyokabi, the move also brings the Centre closer to the pool of its resource persons who, perhaps because of work exigencies, would ordinarily find it hard to commute to Karen and back to Parliament. The Centre draws a majority of its resource persons from among experienced senior Parliamentary staff. The Town Campus boasts three well-furnished and modern training rooms, boardrooms, an executive office and a resource centre. The building will also host the Center's 30 staff, who now enjoy better and more spacious working spaces.

CPST ED underscores the role of technology in facilitating legislatures during SoCCATT forum



The Executive Director of the CPST Prof. Nyokabi Kamau held on May 20-24, 2024 took part in the Society of Clerks at the Table-Africa(SoCATT) Einar held in Arusha, Tanzania.

The 4-day Professional Development Seminar whose theme was "Repositioning Parliamentary Administration in the Era of Evidence and Modernization" was held between 20th and 23rd May, 2024 at the East African Community Headquarters in Arusha, Tanzania .

The conference brought together Parliamentary Clerks and thought leaders from across the continent to discuss and strategize on enhancing the efficiency and effectiveness of parliamentary processes through evidence-based approaches and modern technological advancements.

Clerks and senior members of staff from Parliaments across region who attended this insightful and eye-opening program, got an opportunity to share different experiences from their legislatures.

Prof Nyokabi Kamau took participants through the case of CPST inducting Members and staff of Parliament into office. She recognized the complexity of inducting Members occasioned by adoption of technology by Parliaments.

Her presentation further delved into the truth between blur and fiction from Artificial Intelligence and the Internet of Things which has led to the world being a global village.

While underscoring the need for institutions like the

CPST to develop stringent standard operating procedures, she noted that the Centre ensures proper evaluation before conducting induction since this ensures continuous improvement of the programs offered by the Centre, while ensuring compliance with quality assurance framework.

Prof. Nyokabi also pointed out that in partnership with the County Assemblies Forum, the Centre had developed induction manuals for Members of County Assemblies.

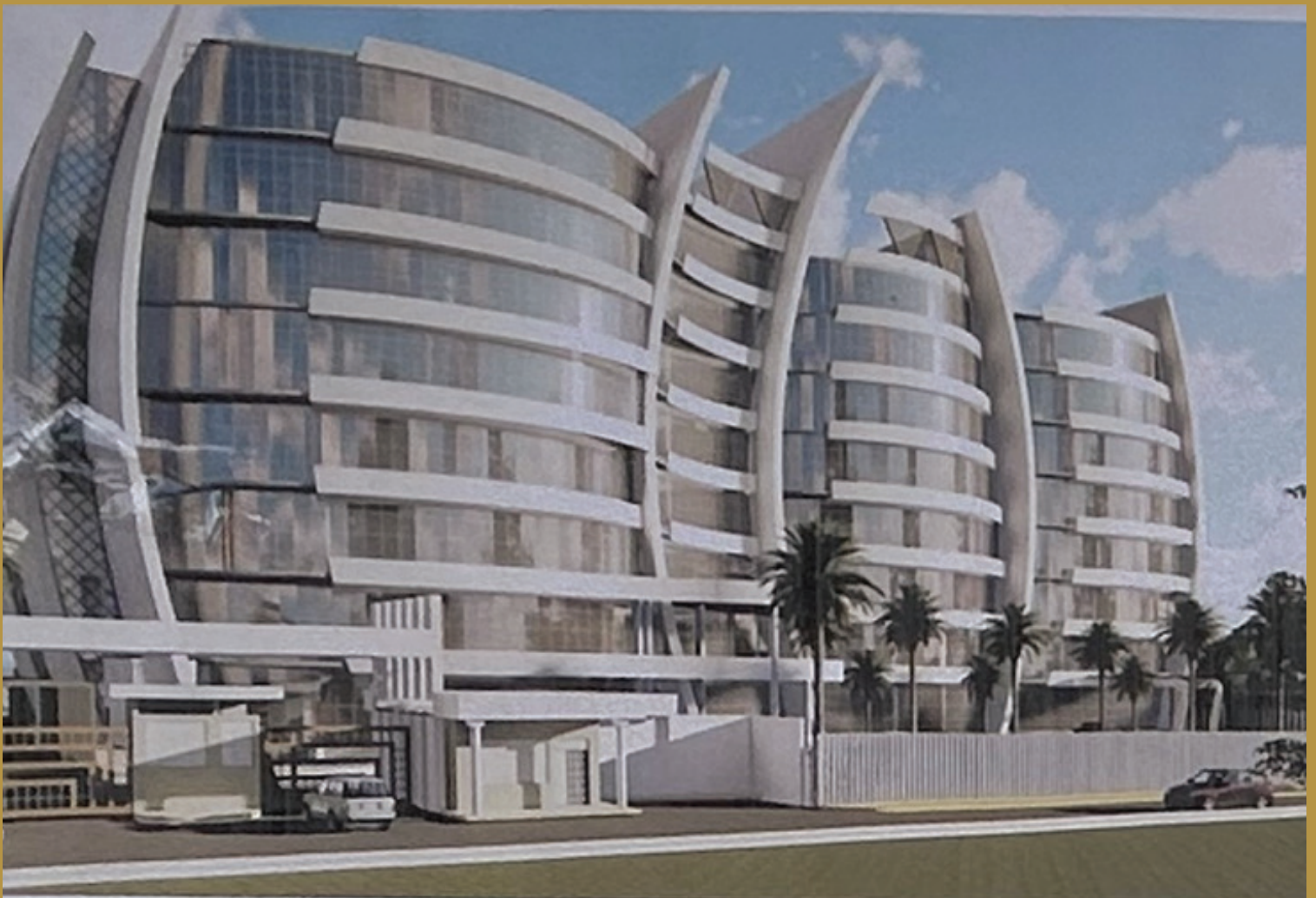
The Deputy Clerk of the National Assembly Mrs. Serah Kioko represented the Clerk of the National Assembly the forum.



The Parliament of Kenya: A History

1907	LEGCO (Legislative Council) held its first meeting. Chaired by Sir James Hayes Sadler, where two bills were discussed: A Bill for the abolition of legal status for slaves and slavery throughout the East Africa Protectorate and A Bill for the regulation of the sale of intoxicating liquor in the East Africa Protectorate.	
1944	Eliud Mathu was appointed as the first African representative to LEGCO, where he served continuously until 1957 and lost in the first election of African Members to LEGCO	
1954	Constitutional changes were effected with the introduction of the Lyttelton Constitution to replace the 1922 Constitution. This new constitution introduced a Council of Ministers and increased the nomination of African representatives to six	
1957	The first election of African representatives under the Lyttelton Constitution to the LEGCO was held. 8 elected members joined: Hon. Bernard Mate, Hon. Ronald Ngala, Hon. Tom Mboya, Hon. Oginga Odinga, Hon. Masinde Muliro, Hon. Lawrence Oguda, Hon. Daniel Moi and James Mũmi	
1962	LEGCO was succeeded by a Bicameral Legislature, the National Assembly, consisting of the Senate and the House of Representatives. It comprised 41 Senators, 117 House of Representatives Constituency members, 12 specially elected Members, and the Attorney General, an ex officio member.	
1970	On 6th January, Hon. Fredrick Mbiti G. Mati became the first African Speaker of the National Assembly, and Hon. Grace Onyango became the first woman elected member into the House	
1992	Kenya transitioned from single-party to multi-party politics following the repealing of Section 2 (A) of the Constitution in 1992	
2010	The Constitution was promulgated on 27th August 2010 and provided for a Bicameral Parliament within a Presidential System of governance (KNA, 2013).	

Source: National Assembly, Fact Sheet 19



REPUBLIC OF KENYA



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