



National Assembly of Belize

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Presiding Officers of parliament meet with Executive Secretary of FOPREL

The **Honourable Valerie Woods, Speaker of the House of Representatives**, and the **Honourable Carolyn Trench-Sandiford, President of the Senate**, had a courtesy visit from **Dr. Santiago Rivas Leclair**, Executive Secretary of the Forum of Presiding Officers of Parliaments/Congresses of Central America, the Caribbean and Mexico. (FOPREL). The parliamentary officials met and discussed various parliamentary issues of interest in a meeting held in the Speaker's Room, National Assembly Building, Belmopan, following the official presentation of a pin/plaque of FOPREL to the Honourable Woods, for being a Member of FOPREL and the representative for Belize's membership. Also present at the meeting was Mr. Eddie Webster, Clerk of the National Assembly, and Mrs. Clarita Pech, Deputy Clerk.

Belize is one of the founding members of FOPREL and has been a member since 1994. The organization is led by the heads of the legislative powers of each member parliament. FOPREL works to assist members in their legislative work through the application and standardization of legislation based on key thematic areas which are used as guidelines for consideration by each parliament. FOPREL has its permanent headquarters in Nicaragua and annually appoints a pro tempore president from among its members. The current pro-tempore President is led by El Salvador and the Vice President by the Dominican Republic. The parliament of Belize chairs FOPREL's Interparliamentary Committee on Education and Health.

Dr. Leclair was on a 2 day visit to Belize and is scheduled to depart the country today, after a courtesy call to the **Honourable John Briceño, Prime Minister of Belize**, at the Office of the Prime Minister, Charter House, Belize City.

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY
BELMOPAN**

APRIL 6, 2022

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