



National Assembly of Belize

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PRESS RELEASE

The National Assembly Hosts Parliamentary Training on Effective and Inclusive Budgets

—**25th November 2022**—The National Assembly, in collaboration with United Nations Women (UN Women), and United Nations Country Office of Belize (UN Belize), in its effort to enhance awareness and technical capacity for Members of Parliament held a training entitled "Effective and Inclusive Budgets". The parliamentary training was held at the Conference Room of the Phoenix Business Center, Belmopan on Thursday, 24th November 2022.

Honourable Carolyn Trench-Sandiford, President of the Senate, gave the welcome remarks, followed by Ms. Birgit Gerstenberg, Resident Coordinator, United Nations Belize, and Ms. Tonni Brodber, Representative, UN Women.

Ms. Isiuwan Iyanhen, Deputy Representative, and Ms. Monique Long, Planning and Coordination Specialist, delivered two sessions to the Members of the House and Senate present at the event.

Session 1 introduced Gender and Gender Responsive Budgeting. During this session Members were provided with information on Gender and Gender Responsive Budgeting; Equality – an Overview, Definitions, Basic Concepts; Gender Responsive Budgeting (GRB) and National Development – making the Critical Link to the implementation of the SDGS and National Development Priorities of Belize; An Overview of Basic Concepts, and GRB and the Role of Parliament.

Session 2 provided an Overview of Analytical Tools, Approaches, and Key Instruments such as the Call Circular: What does a Gender Sensitive Call Circular Look Like; The Gender Budget Statement; and Law Making: Mainstreaming Gender in Finance Laws: the Rwanda Experience.

Honourable Valerie Woods, Speaker of the House of Representatives, on behalf of the National Assembly, expressed her appreciation to the UN team for the information shared and the ongoing collaborative work with the National Assembly of Belize. Speaker Woods also conveyed her gratitude to the parliamentarians present for their support and attendance.

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