



National Assembly of Belize

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President of the Senate attends the 63rd Session of the OACPS Parliamentary Assembly and 43rd Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, in Brussels, Belgium

—Tuesday, 4th July 2023— The Honourable Carolyn Trench-Sandiford, President of the Senate, attended the 63rd Session of the Organization of African, Caribbean and Pacific (ACP) Parliamentary Assembly and the 43rd Session of the ACP-European Union (EU) Joint Parliamentary Assembly held from June 20th – 29th, 2023 at the Organization of African-Caribbean-Pacific States (OACPS) Secretariat in Brussels, Belgium.

At these sessions, the Minutes of the Meetings of the 62nd Session of the OACPS Parliamentary Assembly and 42nd Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly were read and adopted. As well, there was an exchange of views on the Reports of the Committees on Political Affairs, Economic Development, Finance and Trade and Social Affairs and the Environment.

On the agenda were presentations and exchange of views on several issues and challenges confronting member states, and opportunities for change. These included, but were not limited to, reducing pesticide reliance and risks for safe and affordable food production and for sustainable and resilient agri-food systems; international pandemic treaty-state of play of ongoing negotiations; critical raw materials, energy transition and climate change in the EU-ACP cooperation; the humanitarian and security situation in Haiti; the humanitarian situation in OACPS countries affected by terrorism; hybrid threats, the reform of the United Nations Security Council and the signing of the post-Cotonu Agreement.

In addition, workshops, forums and side meetings were held in a number of thematic areas including women, youth, technology and democracy. The President also used the opportunity to share key aspects of the work of the National Assembly of Belize and to explore opportunities for partnerships aligned with the assembly's strategic objectives of a modern, more open and inclusive, gender responsive and climate resilient parliament

Madam President's participation at the 63rd Session of the OACPS Parliamentary Assembly and 43rd Session of the ACP-EU Joint Parliamentary Assembly, was supported by H. E. Dr. Gianni Avila, Belize's Ambassador to the European Union, and the Staff of the Belize Embassy in Brussels.

The cost of the travel for the Madam President was provided by the OACPS Secretariat.

—The End—

