



National Assembly of Belize

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OUR REF: NA/17/23-24(32)

PRESS RELEASE

CPA UK DELEGATION VISITING BELIZE - 11TH to 16TH MARCH 2024

The National Assembly concluded a week-long visit of parliamentarians from the United Kingdom as part of an official exchange coordinated by the UK branch of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association, with support from the British High Commission in Belize.

The four distinguished Women Parliamentarians representing cross-party organizations included the Right Honourable Vicky Ford (Conservative), Anna McMorris MP (Labour), Kerry McCarthy MP (Labour), and Pauline Latham MP (Conservative).

During their visit to Belize, the delegation met with parliamentary colleagues in a collaborative spirit to share common challenges and experiences, make suggestions for solutions and explore opportunities for innovation and ideas on various topics such as: **Public Finance, Sustainable Development, Climate Change/Environment (including Debt for Nature Swaps), Trade Opportunities and Challenges, Violence, Migration and Women/young people.**

Head of delegation MP Ford shared, “We have greatly benefited from hearing about the work of Belizean parliamentarians. The information and insights shared have been invaluable.”

Speaker Valerie Woods added, “Belize’s legislature is based on the Westminster model. These exchanges with the UK parliamentarians provide an opportunity to look at parliamentary procedures in practice and obtain ideas and suggestions from each other to address the challenges that are common in the Commonwealth system of parliament.”

The National Assembly takes this opportunity to highlight the valuable relationship Belize has cultivated with both CPA and CPA UK. We also extend special thanks to the British High Commissioner, Her Excellency Nicole Davison, Deputy Commissioner Kate Reynolds and Mr. Christopher Brown, Regional Programme Manager for CPA (UK) of the Americas, Caribbean, and Europe.

NATIONAL ASSEMBLY

BELMOPAN

18th March 2024.

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