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PRESS RELEASE

Speaker Woods Attends CPA Coordinating Committee Meeting in London

--**26th February 2026** --Speaker Valerie Woods, Chair of the Small Branches of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) and a member of its Coordinating Committee, attended a series of meetings this week with the CPA Secretary-General, Deputy Secretary General, Chair of the CPA, staff of the CPA Secretariat and Committee members at CPA Headquarters in London, United Kingdom.

The meetings included briefings on the CPA's current work and a review of its newly launched Strategic Plan. The Committee also met with representatives of the Commonwealth Secretariat, members of the CPA UK Branch, and the Foreign, Commonwealth and Development Office to discuss partnership opportunities in support of Commonwealth parliaments.

While in London, Speaker Woods also visited with Belize High Commissioner H.E. Cherie Nisbet and staff.

The CPA works to strengthen parliamentary democracy, build the capacity of parliamentarians, and promote good governance across the Commonwealth. The Small Branches network comprises 51 parliamentary jurisdictions (national and sub-national) with populations of up to one million people. The CPA Coordinating Committee includes the CPA Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and the Chairs of the CPA networks for Women Parliamentarians, Parliamentarians with Disabilities, and Small Branches.

Speaker Woods returns on Friday, 27th February 2026. The cost of her participation was met by the CPA. For more information on the work of the CPA and the Small Branches network visit www.cpahq.org.

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