



Press Release

PR 191979

23.09.2019

PRESS RELEASE BY THE OFFICE OF THE SPEAKER

Speaker Anġlu Farrugia opens the 37th Small Branches Conference of the CPA

Speaker of the House of Representatives Anġlu Farrugia, Chairperson of the Small Branches of the CPA, has officially opened the 37th Meeting of the Small Branches, which is being organised as part of the 64th Commonwealth Parliamentary Conference being held in Kampala, Uganda, between 23 and 29 September 2019.

The Small Branches' Chairperson addressed around 50 delegates hailing from 43 small branches of the CPA. In his keynote speech, Speaker Farrugia, stressed the importance of addressing climate change as a crucial topic which is impacting the economies of the small branches. He also referred to other important topics that will be dealt with during this meeting such as the relevance of Brexit to the Small Branches and the importance of training and professional development opportunities for Parliamentarians from Small Branches.

Speaker Farrugia stated that he felt immensely proud that through hard work, together with members of Parliament and with the constant support of the CPA HQ, the Strategic Plan for Small Branches was developed, and the first Small Branches Steering Committee was launched. Concluding, the Speaker congratulated the two candidates for the post of Chairperson of the Small Branches who would take over the Presidency once his tenure comes to an end at the conclusion of the Meeting.

The opening ceremony was also addressed by Emilia Monjowa Lifaka, Chairperson of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly of Cameroon. In her address Lifaka praised the work of Speaker Farrugia during his tenure as Chairperson of the Small Branches.

During the Small Branches Conference, Speaker Farrugia will moderate two sessions, one dealing with parliamentary procedures and practices in Parliaments adopting the Westminster model and the other on climate change and the possible effects on CPA Small Branch economies and development.

The Maltese delegation to this Conference, which is led by Speaker Farrugia comprises of Members of Parliament David Agius, Etienne Grech and Alex Muscat. MP Agius will be a panelist during the session on the possible effects of Brexit on CPA Small Branches, while MP Muscat will be a panelist during the session on climate change and the possible effects on CPA Small Branch economies and development.