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THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY PARTNERSHIP IS AN INITIATIVE OF THE HOUSE DEMOCRACY ASSISTANCE COMMISSION

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Executive Summary

The House Democracy Assistance Commission had another successful year in 2009, as it continued its work with 14 partner legislatures. The Commission's partnerships focus on strengthening the capacity and effectiveness of institutions, individuals, and infrastructure supporting the work of partner legislatures. It has sought to collaborate with partner legislatures in enhancing core capabilities like budgetary analysis, committee oversight, independent research, and constituent relations.

The Commission and partner legislatures continue to see significant results from this cooperation. Among the most notable is the creation of legislative research services in five partner countries since the Commission began working with them; other partner countries have significantly increased the size and capabilities of their research services since their partnerships began. The Congressional Research Service continues to play an important role in helping to advise research services and train staff, sending staff abroad and hosting a December 2009 institute for research service officials and analysts. Similarly, three partner countries have created budget analysis offices in the past few years, all of them after their MPs visited Washington to meet with Congressional Budget Office officials, members and staff of the House Budget Committee, and CRS.

Among the most significant reform achievements, the Indonesian House of Representatives (DPR) in August 2009 approved legislation that gives the legislature control over its own staff and internal budget. Staff of the parliamentary secretariat previously had been part of an executive branch ministry, which controlled parliamentary spending. The new law represents a significant strengthening of parliamentary independence. Commission Members had numerous discussions over the years with DPR members on the importance of this step, and the Committee on House Administration, Subcommittee on Legislative Branch Appropriations and the office of the Chief Administrative Officer all consulted extensively with their Indonesian counterparts.

In 2009, the Commission sent Members of Congress on assistance missions to seven partner countries, hosted two seminars in Washington for 48 MPs from eight partner countries, hosted seminars in Macedonia and Kenya for 54 staff from nine countries, and hosted two legislative staff institutes in Washington for 52 staff from 13 legislatures. In addition, the Commission cooperated with the Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) to organize a defense oversight seminar for 10 MPs from Pakistan. The Commission also completed or initiated material assistance programs in three legislatures, with the cooperation of the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID), sent several congressional staff assistance delegations to partner countries, and organized its first delegation of former Members of Congress, to Kenya.

The Commission enters 2010 with partnerships with 14 legislatures, and plans to add at least one additional partner. The Commission expects to send congressional delegations to the partner countries it did not visit this year and to new partner legislatures; to host at least one seminar for MPs and three for parliamentary staff; to cooperate with OSD on two defense oversight seminars for MPs; and to continue several material assistance programs. In addition, the Commission will continue to send staff assistance delegations and delegations by former members of Congress and retired staff to work with MPs and staff in their capitals.

Introduction

First established in March 2005, the House Democracy Assistance Commission was reauthorized for the 111th Congress by the House of Representatives on January 6, 2009, when the House voted 242-181 to approve H. Res. 5. Section 4(b) of that resolution, the rules package for the 111th Congress, re-establishes the Commission and references previous language stating that the Commission shall prepare an annual report and submit it to the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Minority Leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Foreign Affairs and other appropriate House committees, the Office of Interparliamentary Affairs of the House of Representatives, and the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development.

In June 2009, the Speaker of the House appointed 11 Democratic Members of the Commission for the 111th Congress. David Price was named Chairman; other Democratic Members are Lois Capps, Rush Holt, Adam Schiff, Allyson Schwartz, Donald Payne, Earl Pomeroy, Sam Farr, Keith Ellison, Mazie Hirono and Lucille Roybal-Allard. The Republican Leader appointed nine Republican Members of the Commission. David Dreier was named Ranking Republican Member; other Republican Members are John Boozman, Jeff Fortenberry, Judy Biggert, Bill Shuster, Kay Granger, Charles Boustany, Mike Conaway and Vern Buchanan.

For the first time since 2006, the Commission added new partner countries. The Kosovo Assembly and the Peruvian Congress were invited to join the program in June 2009, soon after Members of the Commission were appointed for the 111th Congress. These actions bring the number of partner countries to 14.

The House Democracy Assistance Commission agreed in August 2009 to use the term “House Democracy Partnership” to describe its programs with other legislatures, to emphasize that the House of Representatives and those legislatures are partners in legislative development. The Commission’s legal name in the 111th Congress, as stated in H. Res. 5, remains the House Democracy Assistance Commission.

As required by H. Res. 5, this report reviews the activities of the Commission in 2009 and outlines proposed activities of the Commission for 2010.

Commission Activities in 2009

Congressional Delegations

The Commission sponsored four Congressional delegations to seven partner legislatures in 2009. These delegations enabled Members of Congress to engage a significant number of Members of Parliament in each legislature, sharing their experience and offering advice in areas in which it was sought. The format of each program differed depending on the interests of the host legislatures, ranging from informal discussions of common problems to more formal training seminars. Most delegations included congressional staff meetings with their counterparts in partner legislatures, usually focused on the research service and committee operations.

Haiti: May 8-11, 2009

The Commission conducted its 14th Member assistance mission in Haiti from May 8 to 11, 2009. Led by Rep. Mazie Hirono, the delegation included Reps. David Dreier, Jim McDermott, Gwen Moore and Kilili Sablan. The delegation met with the parliamentary leadership of both the Senate and the Assembly, Senate Vice President Andris Riche and Levaillant Louis-Jeune, and a wide array of political and party leaders representative of various political currents. The Members also toured the L'Union Building, home of the future parliamentary resource center, and held an hour-long meeting with President Rene Preval on May 8. On May 9, the delegation was invited to the residence of the Ambassador to hold conversations with Prime Minister Michele Pierre Louis and held a separate meeting with women legislators.

The centerpiece of the visit was a May 11 legislative conference. Senate President Kély Bastien and Chamber President Levaillant Louis-Jeune welcomed the delegation's interest in strengthening Haiti's legislature and provided an overview of the progress the Parliament has achieved to date on key legislation and internal reforms. Delegation members exchanged views with the Haitian MPs and staff on the importance of timely, nonpartisan research as well as the importance of the role of rules of legislative procedure.

In addition, site visits were conducted to several projects funded by the U.S. government, including the Foundation for the Development of the Haitian Family (FONDEFH), a private organization that receives U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID) funding for community health clinics; the Partners in Health Lacolline Hospital completed in 2008, and over 60-bed facility that sees approximately 300 patients per day; a USAID project that supports the construction of irrigation canals to strengthen the agricultural sector in Haiti; and an apparel plant that is currently benefiting from the passage of HOPE II legislation.

Mongolia, Indonesia and Timor-Leste: June 26-July 5, 2009

The Commission conducted its 15th Member assistance mission in Mongolia, Indonesia and Timor-Leste from June 26 to July 5, 2009. Led by Rep. David Price, the delegation included Reps. Vern Buchanan, Jim McDermott, Jim Cooper, Bob Etheridge and Phil Gingrey. On its way to work with partner parliaments in Asia, the delegation stopped in Budapest, Hungary, on June 27 to represent the United States and deliver a statement from President Obama at ceremonies marking the 20th anniversary of the fall of the Iron Curtain. In a speech in the Hungarian parliament building, Chairman Price noted that the Commission endeavors to help other countries emulate Hungary's exemplary transition from dictatorship to democracy.

In Mongolia on June 29 and 30, the delegation met with members of the State Great Hural, the Commission's first visit to Mongolia since July 2007. The establishment of a research service in the Hural in January 2009 provides the Commission with an opportunity to assist in its development, and three specialists from the Congressional Research Service accompanied the delegation to all three countries. The importance of legislative research was a key theme for the delegation in its meeting with Speaker Demberel and in a kickoff event for MPs and staff. Other sessions addressed the role of parties in the legislature, and the work of committees, particularly

those involved in defense and security, ethics, extractive resources and budgeting. The delegation concluded its visit with meetings with President Elbegdorj and Prime Minister Bayar.

Coming in the wake of April 2009 parliamentary elections, the July 1 visit to Jakarta was an opportunity for a final meeting with the outgoing legislature. The delegation met with Speaker Agung Laksono and with MPs on the ad hoc committee that was considering a political reform law. The committee chairwoman updated the Commission on the reform legislation, which gives the parliament the power to select its own staff and to set and manage its own budget. The delegation also discussed foreign policy with the foreign affairs committee and met with the minister of defense.

The delegation's visit to Timor-Leste from July 2 to 4 was the first by the Commission since February 2006. Members visited the parliamentary library that was funded by HDAC and designed by the Library of Congress, and they met with dozens of Timorese MPs to discuss the importance of independent research and committee operations, particularly those that oversee the security forces and the budget. The delegation met with President Jose Ramos Horta, opposition leader Mari Alkatiri, and Speaker Fernando Lasama de Araujo. Members were guests of honor at the U.S. Embassy's Independence Day celebration, and they visited the provincial center of Maubisse, where they met with local MPs and municipal leaders at a town hall meeting.

Peru and Colombia: August 15-23, 2009

The Commission conducted its 16th Member assistance mission from August 15 to 23, in Peru and Colombia. Led by Rep. David Price, the delegation included Reps. David Dreier, Lois Capps, Sam Farr, Lucille Roybal-Allard, Jim McDermott, Ed Whitfield and Brian Bilbray. The delegation's trip to Peru (Aug. 15-19) marked the formal inauguration of the partnership with the Peruvian Congress. To highlight the importance of constituent relations, the delegation began its visit in the southern city of Arequipa, where it toured the constituency office of a local member of Congress and observed the anniversary of the city's founding with various officials, including Vice President Lourdes Mendoza.

The centerpiece of the delegation's visit was its two-day program with the Peruvian Congress in Lima, which included a nationally televised signing ceremony for a memorandum of understanding, peer-to-peer working groups on constituent services and committee oversight, a meeting with the congressional Modernization Commission, and lunches hosted by the President of Congress and the Congressional Women's Caucus. The delegation also met with President Alan García, Prime Minister Javier Velásquez, and Minister of Foreign Trade and Tourism Martín Pérez to discuss issues of mutual concern. Concurrently, staff from the Commission, the Library of Congress, and CRS conducted a weeklong training program for their Peruvian counterparts focused on legislative research services and information technology.

Between stops in HDP partner countries, the delegation visited Paraguay (Aug. 19-20), which recently experienced its first peaceful transition of power in six decades. In meetings with President Fernando Lugo, cabinet members, and congressional leaders in Asunción, Members discussed various bilateral and regional issues, including the new U.S. Millennium Challenge

Corporation (MCC) compact with Paraguay, and emphasized the need for the legislative and executive branches to work together in support of Paraguayan democracy.

On its final stop, the delegation traveled to Colombia (Aug. 20-23), which has been an partner country since 2006. In meetings with House and Senate leaders in Bogotá, Members discussed the next steps in the three-year-old partnership, with all sides agreeing that the legislative strengthening program will transition into a broader dialogue on issues of mutual concern. The delegation concluded its visit in the coastal city of Cartagena, a center of Colombia's Afro-Colombian population and a focal point of the government's efforts to demobilize and reintegrate paramilitary and guerrilla fighters.

Lebanon and Afghanistan: November 6-16, 2009

The Commission conducted its 17th Member assistance mission in Lebanon and Afghanistan from November 6 to 16, 2009. Led by Rep. David Price, the delegation included Reps. David Dreier, Lois Capps, Keith Ellison, Mazie Hirono and Charles Boustany. The delegation's stop in Lebanon (Nov. 10-11) marked the Commission's third visit to the Lebanese National Assembly in Beirut and first since political tensions caused a government shutdown in late 2007. The visit coincided with the formation of a new Lebanese cabinet five months after the country's June 2009 elections, allowing the delegation to engage with newly elected members of parliament and other senior officials on their goals for the coming legislative session.

The delegation began its visit by meeting with President Michel Suleiman, incoming Prime Minister Sa'ad Hariri, and outgoing Prime Minister Fouad Siniora to congratulate them on the formation of a new government and discuss various bilateral issues of concern, including the Lebanese economy and the Middle East peace process. The centerpiece of the delegation's visit was its program with the Lebanese National Assembly, which included roundtable discussions with legislators on economic reform and legislative strengthening issues, meetings with senior parliamentary leaders, including Speaker Nabih Berri, and informal lunches with rank-and-file legislators from various political parties. The delegation also hosted a roundtable presentation by Lebanese civil society organizations about their work in the country.

Between visits to partner countries, the delegation spent two days in Islamabad (Nov. 12-13) meeting with members of parliament and other senior Pakistani officials. Pakistan's February 2008 elections and subsequent political developments have given rise to hopes that the country's parliament will assume a more prominent role in setting national policy, and the visit allowed HDP Members to assess the prospects of future engagement with their fellow legislators. The program included meetings with National Assembly Speaker Fahmida Mirza, Senate President Farooq Naek, the chairwoman of the National Assembly Defense Committee, leaders of the two largest opposition blocs, and the cabinet minister for parliamentary affairs. The delegation met with Prime Minister Yousaf Gilani to discuss the political and economic situation in the country, the government's campaign against extremist organizations, and other issues of bilateral concern.

The delegation concluded its trip in Afghanistan (Nov. 14-15), marking the Commission's third visit to Kabul since its partnership with the Wolesi Jirga (lower house) of the Afghan National

Assembly was inaugurated in 2005. Afghanistan has been among the Commission's most active and constructive partners, and the visit allowed the delegation to continue developing the relationship at a critical moment in the country's history. Building on previous work with the Wolesi Jirga, delegation Members conducted an intensive series of meetings and working groups with their Afghan counterparts, including roundtable discussions with the Defense and the Internal Security committees, a forum on constituent outreach and representation, and breakout sessions with members of the Budget and Finance, Health, Education and Culture, and Religious Affairs committees. The delegation also met with Wolesi Jirga Speaker Yunus Qanooni, observed a plenary session of the Meshrano Jirga (upper house), and toured the Afghan parliamentary library, which has been a central focus of training and material assistance.

Although the mission focused primarily on the legislature, the visit also gave Members an opportunity to consult with senior U.S. and Afghan officials during the final stages of President Obama's review of U.S. strategy toward Afghanistan and Pakistan. In a meeting with President Hamid Karzai, the delegation emphasized the importance of forming an effective and inclusive government and taking concrete steps to address corruption. It also met with Karzai's main opponent, Dr. Abdullah Abdullah, to discuss his role as the leader of the political opposition and the ability of the legislature to hold the executive branch accountable for its actions. Finally, the delegation held extensive discussions with U.S. Ambassador Karl Eikenberry, Gen. Stanley McChrystal, and representatives of the United Nations and United Kingdom regarding the future of the U.S.-NATO mission in Afghanistan.

MP Washington Seminars

The Commission hosted two weeklong seminars for Members of Parliament that focused on committee operations. HDAC seminars are unique among legislative strengthening programs because they draw upon the expertise of Members of Congress, allowing the visiting MPs to get information from their peers in the House of Representatives.

The first seminar was held from September 26 to October 3, 2009, and included 24 MPs from Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia and Mongolia. The second was held from October 17 to 24, 2009, and included 24 MPs from Haiti, Kenya, Liberia and Peru. Most participants were committee officers in their parliaments; others serve in leadership positions, including one Speaker.

Both seminars were similar in format, beginning with an overview by the Congressional Research Service of the Congress and its committee structure. Committee staff and former members of Congress spoke to participants about various aspects of committee operations, including the role of staff and organizing public hearings. Roughly a dozen Members of Congress spoke to participants in each seminar, offering their personal experience in using committees to advance their own legislative and oversight priorities. Participants were briefed on the organization and conduct of committee hearings and observed a hearing.

To date, HDAC has conducted 11 seminars for MPs, involving a total of 173 members from 14 partner legislatures.

In addition to its regularly scheduled MP seminars, the Commission from September 8-16, 2009, collaborated with the USAID-funded Afghanistan Parliamentary Assistance Project and organized meetings on Capitol Hill for a delegation of 20 Members and staff of the Afghan National Assembly, Finance Ministry and Auditor General's office. The program complemented a training seminar at the World Bank Institute. The delegation met with Chairman Price and Ranking Member Dreier, Chairman John Spratt of the House Budget Committee, and staff of the Congressional Budget Office, Congressional Research Service, the House Appropriations Committee and the House Budget Committee.

Defense Oversight Seminar

In cooperation with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the U.S. Embassy in Islamabad, the Commission organized a seminar focused on defense oversight for members of the National Assembly of Pakistan. The seminar allowed 10 MPs from the defense committee of the lower chamber to observe the relationship in the United States between the Department of Defense, including the military services, and the Congress, with the aim of strengthening civilian control of the armed forces. Participants met with Members of Congress on the key oversight and appropriations committees and with senior staff. The seminar, from March 9 to 13, 2009, was developed in close cooperation with the Center for Near Eastern and South Asian Security Studies in Washington.

Former Member Delegation

In cooperation with the United States Association of Former Members of Congress, the Commission organized a weeklong program with former Members to Nairobi, Kenya. The delegation was led by Martin Frost and included Connie Morella, Barbara Kennelly and Philip English. The delegation highlighted the prospective role of the parliament in helping resolve the precarious political situation in Kenya. In addition to meeting members of the Kenya National Assembly, the group met with civil society leaders, the press, youth groups and business leaders.

Congressional Staff Delegations

Three of the Congressional delegations in 2009 included programs in five countries for congressional staff to work with their counterparts. Concurrent with Member programs, congressional staffers met with their counterparts in Mongolia, Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Haiti and Peru. In the five countries, the congressional staff delegations focused primarily on issues pertaining to legislative research and analysis, legislative reference services, information technology and its applications to congress, as well as effective member office management and how district offices contribute to improved communications with constituents. For each staff program, an agenda was tailor-made to address specific institutional development needs that were identified with the partner legislature, and the program included peer-to-peer meetings, coaching and formal workshops and conferences.

At the Commission's request, the Library of Congress sent the director of its Nairobi office and a technical expert from its Cairo office to Liberia in April 2009 to conduct a needs assessment of the library and research service and to design a modern library for the legislature. Their assessment report serves as the basis of the Commission's material assistance project to Liberia.

The Commission facilitated fewer individual staff delegations than in past years, preferring to conduct staff programs in conjunction with congressional delegation or as regional staff institutes (see below), which enable congressional staff to meet with a larger number of partner staff in the course of a program.

Legislative Staff Institutes

From November 2-6, 2009, the Commission, in collaboration with the National Democratic Institute, organized a program on information and technology in the legislature for 27 participants from nine partner legislatures. The centerpiece of the program was participation in the 3rd Annual World E-Parliament Conference, organized in Washington from November 3-5 by the United Nations, the U.S House of Representatives, the Inter-Parliamentary Union and the Global Centre for ICT in Parliament. In addition to the three-day conference, the Commission organized two days of meetings on Capitol Hill with information technology specialists of the U.S. House of Representatives on information security, constituent relations, information technology in congressional support agencies, and website development, offering comparative perspectives on information technology applications and legislative development.

In addition, from December 7-17, 2009, the Commission hosted its fifth Legislative Staff Institute, in conjunction with CRS and the International Republican Institute. The program addressed the role of the research service in providing independent information and analysis to members of parliament and their staffs. The 27 participants came from 12 partner countries, mostly officials and analysts of their parliament's research service. The program was designed by retired CRS staff and was held in the Library of Congress.

Regional Staff Institutes

From November 9-14, the Commission sponsored a regional staff institute on budgeting and oversight in Nairobi, Kenya, for parliamentary staff delegations from Indonesia, Timor-Leste, Liberia, Afghanistan and Kenya. The group spent five days exploring the legislative role in budget making and expenditure oversight. The Institute was hosted by the Kenya National Assembly and was organized in collaboration with the Kenya Parliamentary Support Project of the State University of New York's Center for International Development.

The Institute enhanced legislative strengthening efforts in those countries by providing legislative staff the opportunity to learn about comparative budget review and oversight processes. The Institute featured staff from both the Kenyan and U.S. legislatures, who presented the models, processes, practices, and procedures used to ensure effective legislative control of public finances. The Institute was hosted by the Kenya National Assembly, which recently

created a budget committee and a Fiscal Analysis Office to support it. Kenyan staff and experts teamed with staff from CBO, CRS and the House Appropriations and Budget Committees to share their experience with international counterparts.

Congressional staff offered a comprehensive look at the U.S budget process, budget oversight and control, and how to link sector research and budget analysis. Kenyan MPs and the budget office director led presentations on the Kenya National Assembly's improved role in budgeting and oversight. Special sessions addressed ways in which policy think tanks, civil society organizations, and donor-financed initiatives can enhance legislative oversight. Several hands-on workshops addressed budget analysis, macroeconomic forecasting, cost estimates, revenue forecasting and public participation in oversight. The final workshop joined experts and legislative staff in planning how to use the knowledge and skills gained to enhance oversight and control in their own institutions.

Concurrently, from November 10-14 in Mavrovo, Macedonia, the Commission sponsored a regional staff institute on committee operations for delegations from Georgia, Kosovo, Mongolia and Macedonia. The delegates examined ways in which committee staff can more effectively support committee operations, including organizing legislative and oversight hearings; soliciting public input on legislation through other methods; conducting policy and legal research to support the committee's deliberations; working effectively with the executive branch agencies that their committees oversee; and writing effective committee reports.

In addition to the formal training sessions, the delegates had an opportunity to tour the Macedonian Parliament, as well as observe activities of the parliament, both in plenary and in committee. The program was also intended to provide an opportunity for participating staff to interact with their colleagues from other partner parliaments in the House Democracy Partnership program and to share best practices and lessons learned.

Retired Staff Delegations

Francis Miko and Paul Gallis, retired staff of the Congressional Research Service, traveled to Haiti on behalf of the Commission for two weeks in late October and early November to support the USAID-funded parliamentary strengthening program. Creating an effective research service as part of a Parliamentary Services Center (PSC) remains a priority of the Haitian Parliament. The aim is to establish the center as the primary source of information and analysis on legislative issues, as well as to provide documentation, training, legislative drafting services, and media and public relations services. The creation of the PSC awaits the rehabilitation of a Parliamentary administrative building. As an interim step, the USAID-funded program has established a Legislative Research Unit to provide essential research services to committees in their legislative and oversight activities. The unit is preparing briefing books and other written products, and plans call for it to train other Parliamentary staff to do basic committee research.

The training program aimed to strengthening researchers' ability to provide quality legislative research products to the Parliament. Staff of the Haitian Senate and Chamber of Deputies, selected by the Parliament leadership, also participated in the program. In addition to the researcher training, the retired CRS staffers met with Haitian MPs, the secretaries general of both houses of parliament, other parliamentary staff, international donors, and project staff. In

addition, meetings with were held with MPs and parliamentary staff on issues facing legislators and how a central research unit can support MPs and committees in developing and amending legislation, assessing the economic and other impacts of proposed legislation, and conducting oversight of the government. The consultants also worked with the project staff to design a model briefing book for MPs and committees. Presentations centered on how to conduct policy analysis, develop legislative histories, and use methodology to produce a research product.

Material Assistance

In late 2008, HDAC sent retired CRS staff, Bill Robinson and Francis Miko, to Haiti to provide technical assistance to the USAID-funded project and they developed a plan for a Parliamentary Research Center. Funding assistance has been pledged for the development of the Parliamentary Services Center (PSC) in the amount of \$200,000. The project centers on rehabilitating an office building, and it is expected to be completed in 2010. The Commission identified the PSC as a project where it could provide not only financial support, but also technical assistance and training from current and former staff of CRS, LOC and the Clerk's office. The Commission will consider additional funding if warranted.

From April 27-May 2, 2009, Pamela Howard-Reguindin, director of the Nairobi office of the Library of Congress, and Amr Hamza, of the Library's Cairo office, conducted a needs assessment of the library and research service Liberian legislature, and they drafted a plan for a modern legislative library to serve members and staff. This plan includes a common work space; an archive that would provide for storage of key legislative materials in an orderly fashion, with climate control that would mitigate the effects of a tropical climate on papers; and office space for the House and Senate research departments, including an adequate workspace for each researcher, computers with Internet access, printers, and basic office equipment. The Commission has pledged \$200,000 in funding for this project. The Commission will consider additional funding if warranted.

Proposed Commission Activities in 2010

In its report accompanying the act making appropriations for the State Department and foreign operations for fiscal year 2010, the House Appropriations Committee earmarked \$2 million to fund the Commission's programs. These appropriated funds are used to fund MP and parliamentary staff institutes, both in Washington and abroad, material assistance programs, and former member and retired staff delegations. The Office of Democracy and Governance at USAID administers this funding.

The Commission expects that 2010 will see the addition of new partner countries to the program. Following a two-day visit to Islamabad during the November 2009 congressional delegation, the Chairman and Ranking Member directed staff to undertake a study assessing the feasibility of a program in Pakistan. A Commission decision on a potential program in Pakistan is expected early in 2010. Additional countries may be added to the program later in 2010.

The Commission in 2010 plans to visit the six partner countries that did not host delegations in 2009: Kosovo, Macedonia, Georgia, Ukraine, Liberia and Kenya. It will carry out additional congressional delegations as circumstances warrant. The Commission will also send independent staff assistance delegations to work with the staff of partner legislatures.

Bringing MPs and staff from partner legislatures to the United States will remain a central part of the Commission's work. The Commission plans at least one MP seminar focusing on committee operations in 2010, inviting MPs from new partner countries and from existing partner countries that have recently elected new MPs. Plans call for two staff institutes be organized in the latter part of 2010; topics may include committee operations and budget analysis.

Cooperation on defense oversight seminars is expected to continue in 2010 with the Office of the Secretary of Defense and its regional centers for security studies. At the request of senior U.S. officials, the Commission has agreed to help organize a seminar in May for MPs from the defense committee of the Senate of Pakistan. One other defense oversight seminar is planned.

The Commission will continue to explore ways to tap the expertise of former members of Congress and retired congressional staff in its programs. A delegation of former members of the House Armed Services Committee and Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, led by former Rep. Martin Lancaster, is scheduled to visit Georgia in January 2010 for a three-day program addressing oversight of the defense and security sectors. Additional former member programs may be scheduled during the course of 2010.

The Commission is planning to continue its material assistance programs with several partner parliaments. The Commission has agreed to assist legislatures of Haiti and Liberia in developing "resource centers" – modern information centers that would house an independent research staff, store archives, and provide library materials and workspaces for MPs and their staffs. The Commission in 2009 approved funding of \$200,000 for each country; additional funds may be considered in 2010. Plans have been developed in both countries. Building renovations have begun in Haiti; in Liberia, USAID is working with a local contractor on a project design. The Commission also plans to undertake a project in Timor-Leste to improve the parliament's communication capabilities, particularly its Internet access. A Library of Congress expert visited Dili in December 2009 for an assessment that will guide the project design. The Commission in 2010 will consider funding for the project once a cost-estimate is developed.

APPENDIX: COMMISSION ACTIVITIES TO DATE

Congressional Exchanges

| <u>Delegation</u> | <u>Partner Nations Visited</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------|-------------|
| CODEL Kolbe | Indonesia, Timor-Leste | Feb. 2006 |
| CODEL Dreier | Lebanon*, Kenya*, Liberia | July 2006 |
| CODEL Dreier | Macedonia*, Afghanistan* | Nov. 2006 |
| CODEL Price | Haiti* | Feb. 2007 |
| CODEL Price | Ukraine*, Georgia* | Apr. 2007 |
| CODEL Price | Lebanon, Liberia* | May 2007 |
| CODEL Payne | Mongolia*, Indonesia* | July 2007 |
| CODEL Price | Colombia | Aug. 2007 |
| CODEL Price | Indonesia*, Georgia | Feb. 2008 |
| CODEL Price | Macedonia, Ukraine* | Mar. 2008 |
| CODEL Schiff | Afghanistan | May 2008 |
| CODEL Price | Liberia*, Kenya* | July 2008 |
| CODEL Schwartz | Georgia* | Dec. 2008 |
| CODEL Hirono | Haiti* | May 2009 |
| CODEL Price | Mongolia*, Indonesia*, Timor-Leste* | July 2009 |
| CODEL Price | Peru*, Colombia | Aug. 2009 |
| CODEL Price | Lebanon, Afghanistan | Nov. 2009 |

* -- included staff training component, in addition to Member programs

Beyond Congressional Exchanges: HDAC Member and Staff Training Programs

Former Member of Congress Delegations

| <u>Delegation</u> | <u>Partner Nations Visited</u> | <u>Date</u> |
|-------------------|--------------------------------|-------------|
| EXDEL Frost | Kenya | Nov. 2009 |

Combined Member/Staff Training Programs – Washington + Member districts

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Partner Nation Participants</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|
| Apr. 2006 | Timor-Leste, Georgia, Indonesia, Macedonia | Introduction to Congress |
| Sept. 2006 | Afghanistan, Kenya | Introduction to Congress |
| Apr. 2007 | Colombia, Lebanon | Introduction to Congress |

Member Training Seminars – Washington, DC

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Partner Nation Participants</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-------------|--|--------------------------|
| June 2007 | Afghanistan | Defense oversight |
| July 2007 | Mongolia, Liberia | Introduction to Congress |
| Apr. 2008 | Indonesia, Mongolia | Defense oversight |
| June 2008 | Afghanistan | Defense oversight |
| July 2008 | Indonesia, Kenya, Macedonia, Ukraine | Committee operations |
| Sept. 2008 | Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, Haiti, Liberia | Committee operations |
| March 2009 | Pakistan | Defense oversight |
| Sept. 2009 | Afghanistan | Budget oversight |
| Sept. 2009 | Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mongolia | Committee operations |
| Oct. 2009 | Haiti, Kenya, Liberia, Peru | Committee operations |

Parliamentary Staff Training Institutes – Washington, DC

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Partner Nation Participants</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-------------|--|---|
| Dec. 2007 | Afghanistan, Georgia, Indonesia, Liberia, Kenya, Macedonia, Haiti, Mongolia, Timor-Leste | Research, Parliamentary administration (2 tracks) |
| Oct. 2008 | Afghanistan, Colombia, Timor-Leste, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Ukraine | Budget Analysis |
| Dec. 2008 | Afghanistan, Timor-Leste, Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Ukraine | Committee Operations |
| Nov. 2009 | Afghanistan, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Peru, Timor-Leste | Information technology |
| Dec. 2009 | Georgia, Haiti, Indonesia, Kenya, Kosovo, Lebanon, Liberia, Macedonia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Peru, Timor-Leste | Research and analysis |

Regional Staff Institutes

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Location</u> | <u>Partner Nation Participants</u> | <u>Topic</u> |
|-------------|-----------------|---|----------------------|
| Nov. 2009 | Kenya | Afghanistan, Indonesia, Kenya, Liberia, Timor-Leste | Budget analysis |
| Nov. 2009 | Macedonia | Georgia, Kosovo, Macedonia, Mongolia | Committee operations |

Congressional Staff Training Program for MPs and staff – in-country

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Partner Nation</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-----------------|-----------------------|--|
| Jan. 2006 | Georgia | IT needs assessment |
| Jan. 2006 | Macedonia | IT needs assessment and training |
| Mar. 2006 | Georgia | Research Department needs assessment |
| July 2006 | Lebanon | Library of Congress (LoC)-Cairo library training program |
| Sept. 2006 | Afghanistan | LoC-Islamabad library training program and assessment |
| Feb. 2007 | Kenya | Legislative drafting and parliamentary procedure workshops |
| June 2007 | Haiti | Ethics seminar |
| Nov. 2007 | Haiti | LoC assessment of proposed parliamentary resource center |
| Nov. 2007 | Haiti | Budget analysis training |
| Nov. 2007 | Kenya | Research and budget analysis training |
| Dec. 2007 | Macedonia | Constituent service training |
| May 2008 | Haiti | Personnel administration and website development training |
| April 2009 | Liberia | LoC-Nairobi and LoC-Cairo library development |
| Multiple visits | Timor-Leste | LoC-Jakarta library training and development |

Retired Staff Training Program – in-country

| <u>Date</u> | <u>Partner Nation</u> | <u>Description</u> |
|-------------|-----------------------|--|
| Oct. 2009 | Haiti | Retired CRS staff, library/research center project |

Material Assistance

| <u>Partner Nation</u> | <u>Description</u> | <u>Amount</u> | <u>Status</u> |
|-----------------------|--|---------------|---------------|
| Afghanistan | Library development and materials | \$150,000 | Completed |
| Georgia | Computer servers and software | \$70,000 | Completed |
| Haiti | Library/research center | \$200,000 | Ongoing |
| Lebanon | Library materials | \$1,000 | Completed |
| Liberia | Library/research center | \$200,000 | Ongoing |
| Macedonia | Computer servers | \$50,000 | Completed |
| Timor-Leste | Library equipment, materials, training | \$175,000 | Completed |
| | Internet access/networking | TBD | Pending |