



COMMONWEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT FORUM
annual report 2002 - 2003
PARTNERSHIPS FOR DEVELOPMENT AND DEMOCRACY



McKinnon and UN Under Secretary Dr Anna

At our 2003 Conference in South Africa, CLGF was privileged to have not only the Head of Government, President Thabo Mbeki, to inaugurate the event, but also keynote presentations from Commonwealth Secretary-General Don

Tibaijuka - a reflection of the seriousness with which our organisation is regarded.

CLGF is indeed unique in that it is the only Commonwealth organisation representing local government and brings together all spheres of government – local, state/provincial and central government – to discuss policy, developments and good practice. It is therefore appropriate that CLGF has now been formally recognised as an associated Commonwealth organisation representing elected local government. This new status will be something which we will wish to make full use of, at meetings of Heads of

Government, at Ministerial meetings and on other important occasions.

The Commonwealth is committed to supporting and developing democracy and good governance. The important role of local democracy was specifically highlighted in the 2002 Commonwealth High Level Review, endorsed by Heads of Government. The CLGF likewise has a strong commitment to democracy and good governance at local level and has begun to strengthen its work in this area. It will continue to lobby to ensure the recognition which local government has received at Commonwealth level is also properly reflected within our member countries.

Foreword by CLGF Chairperson, **Len Duvall** OBE

The Commonwealth is committed to supporting and developing democracy and good governance.



CLGF has 148 members in 42 countries. New members who joined during 2002-03 included: Brisbane and Coffs Harbour City councils in Australia; the Ministry of Territorial Administration in Cameroon; Black River and Pamplemousses/R du Rempart District councils in Mauritius, and; Essex County Council and Kent County Council and the Institute of Commonwealth Studies in the UK.

CLGF
has members in:

Australia
Bahamas
Bangladesh

Belize
Cameroon
Canada
Cyprus
Dominica
Fiji

The Gambia
Ghana
Gibraltar
Guyana
India
Jamaica

Kenya
Kiribati
Lesotho
Malawi
Malaysia
Malta

Mauritius
Mozambique
Namibia
New Zealand
Nigeria
Pakistan*

Papua New Guinea
St Lucia
Seychelles
Sierra Leone
Solomon Islands
South Africa

Sri Lanka
Swaziland
Tanzania
Trinidad and Tobago
Uganda
United Kingdom

Vanuatu
Zambia
Zimbabwe*

*currently suspended from the Councils of the Commonwealth



The second Commonwealth Local Government Conference, held in Tshwane, South Africa was a highlight of the year. Attendance doubled compared to the first conference in 2000. We will be submitting the

Conference report for endorsement to Heads of Government and taking forward

the recommendations, notably on developing and disseminating guidelines on the Conference theme - Local Government Service Partnerships. This will be done in close collaboration with partners in the private sector and civil society.

During the year, in line with the 2002 CHOGM mandate, CLGF has sought to extend its work with the Commonwealth Secretariat and other Commonwealth bodies to make the most effective use of resources, especially in supporting local democracy. We have been working ever-closer with other Commonwealth

organisations and with partners such as UN-Habitat and the ACP/EU institutions.

CLGF has continued to provide technical and other support to its members, responding to requests for assistance, for example from the Caribbean, and to countries covered by the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group mandate to help develop and strengthen local government structures. This has involved CLGF undertaking election observer missions in co-operation with the Commonwealth Secretariat.

The past 12 months has seen an expansion of our Good Practice Scheme, especially in Africa and the Asia-Pacific

Introduction by **Carl Wright**, CLGF director



region, and further development of our regional capacity-building and information dissemination activities. We have consolidated our research programme and published our second Commonwealth Local Government Handbook which has been widely acclaimed.

As always, much of our work involves behind-the-scenes administration by our hard working staff who, with the support of South African partners, excelled themselves in ensuring the success of our Tshwane Conference. I wish to record my appreciation for their dedication. I would also wish to thank all our past Board members for their active support and look forward to working closely with the newly elected Board members during their term of office.

Supporting local democracy

CLGF has intensified its work to promote local democracy and good governance.

During 2002-03, CLGF has:

- held regular meetings with the Commonwealth Secretariat and other Commonwealth organisations to look at areas of cooperation and joint working, in particular monitoring local democracy in the countries under the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group (CMAG) mandate;

player in implementing pro-poor development strategies;

- participated in the World Summit on Sustainable Development and the World Urban Forum as well as the work of UN Habitat on urban governance;
- co-operated with other partners in the ACP Local Government Platform in developing a dialogue with the ACP Ambassadors and Secretariat and the European Union.

More than 400 delegates from 37 Commonwealth countries attended the conference including ministers, mayors, senior local government politicians and officials and representatives of the private sector and civil society. The theme of the conference was Local Government Service Partnerships. Other key speakers at the opening session included Commonwealth Secretary General Rt Hon Don McKinnon, Dr Anna Tibajuka, Executive Director UN Habitat, Hon Minister F S Mufamadi and CLGF Chair Len Duvall

Research was completed on profiles for a further seven countries: Bangladesh, Belize, Canada, Cyprus, Dominica, Malta and Trinidad and Tobago. The research was carried



- provided technical assistance and expertise to selected countries undergoing local government reform such as St Lucia in the Caribbean and Tonga in the Pacific;
- undertaken, where requested, observation of local elections in co-operation with the Commonwealth Secretariat, for example in Cameroon;
- made presentations to different Commonwealth forums, including the 2003 Commonwealth Expert Group on Development and Democracy, highlighting the fact that local government is a key

Exchanging experience among local government practitioners

HE President Thabo Mbeki, President of the Republic of South Africa, opened the 2003 Commonwealth Local Government Conference.

The conference, which took place at the Sammy Marks Centre in Pretoria, Tshwane, South Africa from 4-6 March 2003, was co-hosted by the City of Tshwane, the South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and the Government of South Africa.

out in collaboration with the University of Birmingham's International Development Department after the UK Office of the Deputy Prime Minister agreed to fund a second phase of research.

The results of the research were published in the Commonwealth Local Government Handbook 2003, launched in March 2003 at the second Commonwealth Local Government Conference. This is the second edition of the Handbook and contained 15 profiles of local government systems in specific Commonwealth countries and a report on local government partnership working.

Strengthening local government capacity

The second phase of the UK DFID-funded part of the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme was launched in India in October 2002.

India is one of the four target countries selected for the second phase. Work is also underway in South Africa and Ghana.

The Australian AusAID-funded Good Practice Scheme in the Pacific, which links local authorities in Australia and

was transferred to an autonomous regionally based structure.

CLGF has participated in a number of key activities held in Africa, Asia-Pacific and the Caribbean during the year. Plans are underway for further work in the Caribbean, the Pacific and East Africa and a submission for funding was made to the European Union under the Cotonou agreement in consultation with the ACP Ambassadors and regional authorising organisations such as CARICOM, the Pacific Islands Forum and the East African Community.

Winchester, UK, in June hosted by Hampshire County Council. The meeting discussed New Partnership for Africa's Development, NePAD and called for a greater role for African local government in its implementation. The CLGF subsequently wrote to the British and Canadian Prime Ministers in support of this position prior to the G8 Summit in Canada.

The 2002 Board Meeting was held in New Delhi, hosted by the Indian Minister of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, Hon Ananth Kumar, and provided a valuable opportunity for Board members from across the Commonwealth to interact with their Indian counterparts and exchange experience.

Thabo Mokwena, Chief Executive, South African Local Government Association (SALGA) and Mike Ashley, Director, Local Government International Bureau (LGIB), UK sign an accord between the two organisations as the first project in the Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme in South Africa.

The project on International Partnership Development will help to strengthen the capacity of both organisations to boost their international work and help them support their member local councils to develop international links and exchanges.



Papua New Guinea, has four projects up and running.

The first phase of the CLGF's capacity building project in the Pacific is currently concluding. The Technical Advisory Panel met in Fiji in July to review progress and look at funding for the future. The project has achieved some important outcomes including an inventory of training and capacity building programmes and establishing a network of local government practitioners in the region.

Following a regional workshop held in Maputo in July, the current phase of the regional information centre for Southern Africa ended and the management of the Centre

Supporting members

CLGF staff in its headquarters in London and the regional office in Fiji support members by providing advice and information in response to inquiries and providing information through newsletters, publications and the CLGF website.

The CLGF's new logo was unveiled in June to give a more modern, professional look to CLGF publications and information.

The 2002 European members meeting was held in

During 2002/3 CLGF members received

- regular updates on CLGF activities, issues and events through the CLGF newsletter CLGF Bulletin.
- copies of the Commonwealth Local Government Handbook 2003.

The CLGF website is updated regularly for members to access the latest information on projects, events and local government issues.

I N C O M E A N D E X P E N D I T U R E A C C O U N T

F O R T H E Y E A R E N D E D 3 1 M A R C H 2 0 0 3

PROJECTS FUND

	Balance of funding held at 01.4.2002 £	Income £	Expenditure in year £	Transfers between projects £	Balance of funding held at 31.3.2003 £
DEMOCRATIC VALUES & GOOD GOVERNANCE					
St Lucia Mission	-	2,595	2,595	-	-
PARTNERSHIPS AMONG SPHERES OF GOVERNMENT					
Research Project	(51)	57,205	27,372	-	29,782
Commonwealth Local Government conference 2003		185,667	182,161		3,506
CAPACITY BUILDING					
Pacific Local Government Capacity Building Project	28,218	-	40,897	-	(12,679)
Caribbean Local Government Training Project	10,015	-	-	-	10,015
TECHNICAL PARTNERSHIPS / COMMONWEALTH LOCAL GOVERNMENT GOOD PRACTICE SCHEME					
Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme	8,221	217,900	84,116	-	142,005
INFORMATION EXCHANGE					
Regional Information Centre (Southern Africa)	24,450	-	45,980		(21,530)
OTHER ACTIVITIES					
Follow-up activities	6,529	-	1,553		4,976
TOTAL	£77,382	£463,367	£384,674	-	£156,075

Donors

CLGF would like to thank the following donors for their contributions to CLGF's programmes, conferences, research work, and other events and conferences in 2002-2003:

AusAID, Australia
Commonwealth Foundation
Department for International Development, UK
European Union
Foreign and Commonwealth Office, UK
Local Government International Bureau, UK
Office of the Deputy Prime Minister, UK

City of Tshwane, South Africa
Department of Provincial and Local Government, South Africa
Government of Gauteng, South Africa
Deloitte and Touche South Africa
Development Bank of Southern Africa
Equality Foundation
Johannesburg Water
Macquaire Bank
South African Local Government Association

CLGF would also like to thank its members and other organisations and individuals who have given their time and other in-kind contributions to support its work.

CLGF also thanks the following sponsors who have supported its work, including the Commonwealth Local Government Conference 2003:

ESTABLISHMENT CORE FUND

	2003 £	2002 £
INCOME		
Grants	127,000	105,000
Membership subscriptions	158,000	141,443
Project management fees	27,582	16,544
Miscellaneous	16,162	15,993
Profit on exchange	-	2,007
Bank interest	2,465	5,457
	£331,209	£286,444
EXPENDITURE		
Salaries and pension contributions	241,829	215,061
Rent and service charge	37,963	21,485
Communications	8,786	8,073
Printing and stationary	6,936	3,339
Equipment hire and maintenance	7,129	6,533
Publications and subscriptions	7,173	9,312
Staff and members meeting expenses	20,149	18,184
Professional fees	367	940
Audit and accountancy	2,008	1,789
Depreciation	5,954	5,611
Bank charges	957	878
Taxation	-	544
	339,251	291,749
(DEFICIT) FOR YEAR	(8,042)	(5,305)
Balance at 1 April 2001	58,648	63,953
Balance at 31 March 2002	50,606	58,648

BALANCE SHEET AS AT 31 MARCH 2003

	2002 £	2001 £
FIXED ASSETS		
Office furniture & equipment	11,833	9,977
CURRENT ASSETS		
Debtors and prepayments	95,462	84,809
Bank current accounts	5,037	17,368
Bank deposit accounts	149,766	115,215
	250,265	217,392
CREDITORS FALLING DUE WITHIN ONE YEAR		
Creditors and accruals	55,417	90,793
Corporation tax	-	546
	55,417	91,339
NET CURRENT ASSETS	194,848	126,053
TOTAL ASSETS LESS CURRENT LIABILITIES	206,681	136,030
LESS BALANCE OF PROJECTS FUND	156,075	77,382
	50,606	58,648
CAPITAL AND RESERVES		
Establishment core fund	50,606	58,648

2002-2003 round up

MAY 2002

CLGF Director addresses World Urban Forum in Nairobi and visits partners in Kenya and Uganda

JUNE 2002

CLGF launches new logo

12 CLGF European and UK members meeting held in Winchester, Hampshire

CLGF Director addresses Caribbean conference on Decentralisation and Local Government in Georgetown, visits Dominica and attends the world executive of the International Union of Local Authorities in Mexico

JULY 2002

CLGF mission to St Lucia to advise on local government reform

8-11 CLGF holds Southern Africa Regional Workshop in Maputo, Mozambique

16-17 CLGF Pacific Project Technical Advisory Committee meets in Lautoka, Fiji

New Board elected for Southern Africa Regional Information Centre

CLGF assists St Lucia with action plan for local government reform

AUGUST- SEPTEMBER 2002

26-4 CLGF attends local government session at World Summit on Sustainable Development in Johannesburg

SEPTEMBER 2002

CLGF Director visits Fiji, Australia and New Zealand

CLGF Director and EU-African Caribbean Platform Chair meet with EU officials and ACP ambassadors in Brussels to discuss ACP local government projects

24-25 CLGF has exhibition stand at the Commonwealth Finance Ministers meeting in London.

OCTOBER 2002

21-22 CLGF Board meeting in New Delhi agrees CLGF work programme

22 CLGF launches Commonwealth Local Government Good Practice Scheme in India

22 CLGF Chair gives keynote address at Convention on Cityscapes run by the Ministry of Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation and the Federation of Indian Chambers of Commerce in New Delhi. CLGF Board members and staff also participated in the conference.

NOVEMBER 2002

CLGF mission to Tonga to advise on local government reform

DECEMBER 2002

CLGF delegation visits Nigeria to meet with the Minister for Intergovernmental Affairs and Association of Local Government of Nigeria to discuss the Nigerian local government elections and other issues.

MARCH 2003

3 CLGF Board meeting, Tshwane, South Africa

4-6 Second Commonwealth Local Government Conference, Tshwane, South Africa. The theme of the conference was Local Government Service Partnerships

5 Launch of Commonwealth Local Government Handbook 2003

6 SALGA and LGIU sign accord in Tshwane to launch Good Practice Scheme in South Africa

7 CLGF General Meeting of members in Tshwane, South Africa

CLGF Staff

CLGF headquarters based in London, UK:
Carl Wright, Director
Lorna Nicholas, PA to the Director
Lucy Slack, Senior Policy Adviser
Randal Smith, Policy and Research Adviser
Rahima Begum, Project Officer
Dzifa Tay, Membership and Personnel Officer
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CLGF Board Members 2002-2003

Chairperson:

Len Duvall OBE, Local Government Association of England and Wales, UK*

Members:

Father Smangaliso Mkhathshwa, President, South African Local Government Association

Charles Katiza, Secretary-General, Africa Union of Local Authorities

Clr Peter Woods, Lgov New South Wales, Australia

Clr Jocelyne Guertin, Federation of Canadian Municipalities*

Deputy Mayor Larel Thomas, Association of Local Government Authorities, Jamaica*

The Hon Kwadwo Baah-Wiredu, Minister of Local Government and Rural Development, Ghana

Rt Hon Nick Raynsford MP, Minister for Local Government and the Regions, UK

The Hon Ananth Kumar, Minister for Urban Development and Poverty Alleviation, India

The Hon Shanta Kumar, Minister for Rural Development, India

The Hon Matthew Walter, Minister of Community Development and Women's Affairs, Dominica

Dato Lokman Hikim bin Mohd Jasan, Secretary General, Ministry of Housing and Local Government, Malaysia

Dr Jatin V Modi, President, All India Institute of Local Self Government, India

Professor Michael Clarke, Pro-Vice Chancellor, University of Birmingham, UK

Alternates:

Clr Pat Watters, President, Convention of Scottish Local Authorities, UK

Clr P S Siyovelwa, Chairman, Association of Local Authorities of Tanzania

Col Max Ng'andwe, Local Government Association of Zambia

Clr Dr Helen Nkandi-Shiimi, President, Association of Local Authorities of Namibia

Mayor Basil Morrison, President, Local Government New Zealand

Mayor Irving John, Castries City Council, St Lucia

The Hon Wilson Tuckey MP, Minister for Regional Services, Territories and Local Government, Australia

The Hon Sydney Mufamadi, Minister for Provincial and Local Government, South Africa

Professor P S Reddy, University of Durban-Westville, South Africa

Keith Sonnet, Head of Local Government Service Group, UNISON, UK

Michael Ashley, Director, Local Government International Bureau, UK (*Honorary Treasurer*)*

Carl Wright, (*Director*)*

* Member of Sub-Committee on Finances and Membership

CLGF would like to thank other colleagues who served as Board members or alternates during 2001-2:

Councillor Joseph Jella served until his death in October 2002 and Mr Charles Katiza and Hon Kwadwo Baah-Wiredu served from 1 April 2002 to 7 March 2003. At this latter date Hon Esther Audu, Mr John Emilly Otekat, Hon Kouambo Adrien, Hon Pons'o Suzan Matumelo Sekatle, Mayor Irving John, Hon Matthew Walter, Hon Chris Carter, Hon Ananth Kumar Mayor Basil Morrison and Councillor Dr Helen Nkandi-Shiimi were elected for March 2003- 2005 at the CLGF General Meeting in Tshwane in March 2003.