



KONRAD ADENAUER FOUNDATION (KAF)

EU-Project

Support to the Legislative Assembly in Liberia



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OFFICE OF THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION IN LIBERIA

Study Tour 2: African-European Sharing of Parliamentary Experiences

Overall Study Tour Objective:

To observe modern parliaments at work and gather related background information that can be transferred domestically.

Study Tour Cities:

Luxembourg, Grande Duchy of Luxembourg
Hamburg, Germany

Expected Outcomes:

This Study Tour is a mixture of parliamentary lessons and will as well give information on concrete chances for cooperation with international agencies on a number of different aspects which play important roles in the reorganization and progress of the country.

Luxembourg: The stay in Luxembourg will be used to get a profound insight of the working mechanisms of a Parliament and its Committees in a relatively small European State. The relatively small unicameral Legislature may be more easily matched to that of Liberia. As such modern parliamentary practices in this setting will be more easily transferred to the Liberian case.

Hamburg: The stay in Hamburg will be used to acquaint the parliamentarians with a number of institutions related to their respective legislative committees. Additionally, the Hamburg Parliament will provide a model for the interaction of the Legislators and local government leaders in the run up to anticipated local elections. For example, what are the responsibilities of the Representatives and Senators in local jurisdictions versus those mandated for local officials like County Superintendents, etc. What is the power balance? Should it be legislated? How do they work together for the enhancement of their respective constituents?

Hamburg Institutions

The **Bernard-Nocht Institute (Institute for Tropical Diseases)**, has a long history in Liberia, has shown interest in working in the health sector in Liberia. -- Members of the Health Committee will visit this organization with a focus on Healthcare policy and ways to legislate improvements.

The **UNESCO Institute of Education** which deals mainly with Alphabetization and Adult Learning has expressed great interest in working with the Liberia Government in its illiteracy reduction campaign. – Members of the Education Committee will be matched to this organization in order to gather background information that will inform Health Policy legislation.

The Kremer Foundation which gives support for the Promotion of Democracy and the Rule of Law has shown willingness to assist the Liberian Legislature in building capacity for the above mentioned project areas. The entire group will meet with their representatives in order to gather information on the Rule of Law.

The International Court for Maritime Law will facilitate a special workshop for the Lawmakers on Maritime issues related to Liberia. In light of the current climate, this will provide important insight to those Legislators on the Maritime Committee on the formulation of an advisory of Maritime, etc.

The highlight of the trip will be a German government sponsored symposium where a number of well known scholars will deliver papers on the history and the current situation in Liberia. Once again, this information will be utilized as research information for potential legislation on these related issues (Please see attached Symposium schedule). It is expected that the Legislators would gain significant capacity building experiences and the country could gain from this in a number of ways. The participants were selected based on their Committee assignments and in collaboration with the Senate Pro Tempore and the Speaker of the House.

Tentative Legislative European Itinerary

City	Institution	Date
Luxembourg Hamburg	Luxembourg Parliament	May 24, 25
	Participation in the Symposium on Liberia	May 29
	Participation in the Official Town Hall Ceremony (<i>see attached programme</i>)	
	Lunch with Senate (<i>see attached programme</i>)	
	Workshop w/Senators and Parliamentarians of the Hamburg Parliament	May 30,
	31	
	Working Session with the UNESCO Institute for Education	
	Working Session with the B. Nocht Institute	
	Workshop with the International Court for Maritime Affairs	
	Working Session with the Kremer Foundation: Promotion of Democracy and the Rule of Law	
	Meeting with LIBU: German/Liberian Association	