

**Welcome Remarks
by
The Honourable Bridgid Mary Annisette-Geroge,
Speaker of the House of Representatives**

**Parliamentary Training by the International Centre for
Parliamentary Studies
Parliament of the Republic of Trinidad and Tobago
February 15 &17, 2016**

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Salutation

- President of the Senate, The Honourable Christine Kangaloo;
- Members of Parliament from both Houses;
- Facilitators from the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies;
- Specially Invited Guest;
- Members of the Media;
- Members of staff of the Office of the Parliament;
- Ladies and Gentlemen.

Good Morning,

It is my pleasure to address you this morning and bring greetings, as we are gathered for this training, facilitated by the International Centre for Parliamentary Studies.

When we were called to serve by the people, the best was expected of us and will be demanded from us at all times. Thus improving and strengthening the capabilities of parliamentarians, is a crucial step in ensuring our ability to effectively serve our constituency. Being called to serve is no easy task and assistance is often needed to keep one on track and ever focused in achieving the goals set out before us.

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It is said, that the best “way to find yourself is to lose yourself in the service of others¹” However, to provide persons with the best, often requires a degree of assistance from competent and well versed personnel in management and leadership. Such competence and versatility can be found with our facilitators, who are here with us for this two (2) day training exercise.

The International Centre for Parliamentary Studies, provides assistance to parliaments in effective policy making and promoting good governance practices through the tri-partite structure of Parliament, Government and Stakeholders in society.

During the course of the proceedings, areas such as the process for making and implementing decisions, the role of parliaments, scheduling parliamentary business, the role of the executive and legislative arms of state, are but a few of the subject areas to be explored during these interactive sessions.

Without further ado, I trust that our training exercise will be most informative and build on our knowledge so we can be better positioned to serve.

I thank you!

¹ Mahatma Gandhi- <http://www.brainyquote.com/quotes/keywords/service.html#xsYoEvm67reRESz2.99>