



ಸುಸ್ಥಾನೀಯ ದೃಶ್ಯ

ಸುಸ್ಥಾನೀಯ ದೃಶ್ಯ 7 ನೇ ಸಂಚಿಕೆ

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ಸುಸ್ಥಾನೀಯ ದೃಶ್ಯ 7 ನೇ ಸಂಚಿಕೆ (11 ನೇ ಸಂಚಿಕೆ)

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committee in regard to creating the right plan. And I think I will let Philippa go into detail about how this can be done and the kind of assistance that she will be able to provide for you. And I think once we actually do this sort of part of exercise with the Human Right Committee this can also be inserted in other committees as well. This is also help WFD sort of go further into the kind of activities that we are planning in the introductory meeting as well. Including, providing technical expertise to further inquiries that you have in your plan and also the follow ups on the gender inquiry report that we discussed as well. And we do want to look into this kind of collaborations that you might we think you have to invite the Human Rights Commission and the kind of oversight that you have with this kind of independent institutions as well. Maybe I can full in Philippa now to sort of give you an idea of what we were thinking we can do in regards to the work back.

Philippa Helme - Consultant for Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)

Maldives Speaking:

Good morning. Can you hear me, ok?

Chairman speaking:

Yeah, perfectly well.

Philippa Helme - Consultant for Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD)

Maldives Speaking:

Great, it's a pleasure to be with you again today. Now the idea we, my colleagues at WFD and I have is that we might be able to assist you first in drawing up work plan. So, the system thing that we couldn't finished today we can talk about it today elements of it. But it would require some further work and would provide you with an ongoing work plan. So, as I understand it you have two years now for the remainder of this parliament. So, that would be a good time frame to work to initially although you might want to look in some elements further ahead commissioning work for the future parliaments for example. But the first proposition to you is that we would help you develop a work plan for the next two years. Now it's for you to just decide whether you want that work plan to be an internal working document or a more public document. And there are advantages and disadvantages to each of those things. Obviously, a public document is more transparent and helps engagement and it might be something that you wish to consult on to make sure that you are doing what your constituents wants, other



parties in Maldives think what you should be doing and then perhaps hold you account to doing it. The downside of the public approach is that it's more difficult to change your mind which more difficult to be flexible. But you know you could think about those two options. And the first stage is the same anyway thinking about what element should be in it. Now the elements that I would imagine that you wanted to include in this work plan are both the your proactive work and your reactive work. So, the big elements would be the major inquiries you would like to carry out. And you may know all of those now for the next 2 years or you may want to just leave space for things you don't have to decide every element immediately. I think when we spoke before you thought you had sort of capacity for one inquiry at a terms which I take to mean perhaps three inquiries a year. But that is for you to clarify. But I think you also thought you might have capacity to squeeze in smaller inquiries alongside or between inquiries. So, that would be something that the plan to look into account of how this work should be sequenced and in order to decide what your capacity is you have to think both about your member, you, the members what capacity you have for work. But also, what your staff time is on what other parties might be able to contribute. Because you are the members don't have to do everything. You are obviously going to be leading the work of your committee. But some work can be done below the threshold of member time if you understand you know some monitoring by your staff and work like that. So, the part of the advantage of the plan is seen how this work is going to be sequenced and how, who is going to be doing it. Apart from the inquiries I thought that you might want your work time to include some follow up work to previous inquiries. So, you might want to decide which of the your previous recommendations you wish to follow up. And then I imagined that you have some work you need to program in which is, what I might called "reactive". So, you know, do you know what government legislation a proposal for legislation is going to come up. Are you going to have to scrutinize that? How is that going to fit in to your timetable? Are they going to public appointments that you're going to have to scrutinize? Now you may know, you may already have a good program for this, or you may not. I don't know. And I don't know how good the government is in giving you pre information about when things are happening. But it may not be possible to you predict everything. But you want to try and build in planning for this reactive work. You might want to build in, I don't know what you do already. And you will scrutiny sessions with Ministers. For example, so, if there are sort of key events or things you wish to do regularly you could put those in your program to make sure time is available. And you might want to fact in committee outreach activity.



Now that could just be part of inquiries, or you might want to do some outreach activity about your role more generally. And so that would have been how that would have to fit in. We spoke before about potentially commissioning work from others. Now that may have a certain lead time that might be the sort of first stage of the inquiry. But you might, for example, in terms of sequencing work you might want now to be commissioning work which is going to lead to the inquiry you want to do next year. So, its if you like you might work, some kind of Gantt Chart or Chart of some kind showing how this work connects. There are different ways of presenting this and you are very much for you and your staff how you like to do it. And then the final thing I would say is the important thing is to leave enough space and flexibility for you to respond to new things. So, you know, planning is good. But in politics and the world the unexpected happens and you won't be able to cope with that. So, I would end there and would like to ask whether that is helpful, and if it is helpful, we would approach in different ways. We could have an initial meeting with your staff if you like to fill in the facts and then perhaps the discussion with you, the chair about priorities and then finally perhaps a meeting with the committee to validate the plan. But it's in to, we are telling your hands to do what is useful for you. Thank you.

Chairman speaking:

Thank you Philippa. I think that sounds just about perfect for now. And I think I'm particularly interested in the Gantt chart of how one work will correspond lead to an overlap and also support the other. Which is exactly what I was thinking in terms of inquiry work. How about we try and fit in or squeeze in our outreach work into the inquiry. So, for instance one of the areas that this committee is interested and what is going to really happen is, there is going to be a resolution on scrutinizing and looking at how WDCs and the female councilors of councils are fulfilling their mandate and what are the challenges that they are facing. And when this comes, I think one thing we can definitely do as Gender Committee is something that I had in mind is the committee goes out there and meets the WDC members, female councilors and really take part in information gathering, interfacing which will then perhaps help if you know the research team is travelling with us. Feed into the inquiry as well. And it will be an outreach exercise one that takes us to the islands and atolls as well. And also capitalizing on this little window for opportunity that we have with you know the permission to travel in the Maldives with the covid situation. And so maybe really do it quickly before things change otherwise and with war going around in the world. I don't



know how much of you know how much space there is to fulfil for us to undertake something like this. So, maybe you know combine outreach with the inquiry or take on an inquiry very wisely after thinking through on to things that we can fit in or squeeze in an outreach activity as well. And so, if that could be you know depicted in the Gantt's charter, I think that would be really good. And so yes, so, I think as you suggested let's work on, let's start with the draft. May be perhaps with my staff you can sit and get on a draft, spaces where you can you know leave it and open to would be you know the second inquiry. We haven't really you know finalize, been able to finalize on what the second inquiry will be. But we, I, you know one big inquiry and one or two small inquiries a year smaller in scope based on the need I think we have to leave one open for you know the political situation or social or human rights situation as well. We have to leave that space there. And but then we definitely want one small inquiry and one big inquiry fitted in our, into our work plan. And I may be that's not so ambitious. And then yes, I think we already have set out for us very clearly the laws that we can work on in term of implementation and that is the child rights protection act, the juvenile justice acts, and the amendments to the sexual offences act. And I think those were the three major or other the one on human trafficking as well. The law on human trafficking and the law on transitional justice. Transitional justice is the very robust one. It's happening as we speak public inquiries are, public hearings are being held etc. So, maybe we think about the and focus on at least for year, maybe perhaps this year focus on the laws on children and then since the other that is sexual offences law was passed on the December last year which is just three months into it. Maybe it's a little early for us to get. Because there is a six-month grace period as well in the law for government and state authorities to prepare themselves for its implementation. So much not would have been done anyway. And then we will be getting into it, you know maybe June, August or perhaps you know maybe we wait there out and then start with that next year. And so, maybe we can focus on the two laws on children, start with that for now. And also see how it works with Human Rights Commission. But I am very conscious of working with Human Rights Commission, but also maintaining very stringently a role of the oversight body. You know, if we can, you know while we draft the work plan, we can keep that line very clear of while you know oversight function. Because we also appoint and dismisses commission members. So, we do not want to be seen so much as you know working together with Human Rights Commission. But also, more like on jabbering information from them. And then also holding them to account on their role of oversight. And so, if that can be fitted into it will be great. Otherwise, I think we go



ahead with your plan. I think we need to put sometime in the annual work plan and the work load the committee gets on individual complains as well. So, if that is something that we can discuss with staff, they will be able to now gage the load of work we get throughout a year on individual cases as well. I think we have to factoring the kind of work we had and the load of work we had before covid, pre covid. Because, during covid the situation is different and people we were not able to reach on the people much and they were not able to reach on to us as much as we were able to before. So, maybe expect a little bit more than what we have had work from in terms of individual cases in the past years. But also factoring the fact that in 2019 this committee was established for the first time. So, they were, you know a large of cases coming in on any and everything which sometimes were not something we can cater to, because it was not the parliaments mandate. And so now that people are a bit more aware of what the parliament can do and what the parliament committee can do I think there is a relaxation of number of cases as well. And because we now from the cases that we get we can now Infor clearly that they understand what the, most people understand what the parliament committee can do. And so, they only ask for things that the committee can do. So, which is, some education has happened. Which is good. Which will have a good impact, positive impact on the load of cases as well. Leaving a small room to work on things like inquiries and implementation and scrutiny. And other think I would like to factor in this year's budget and every years would be the scrutiny of the state budget when it's submitted from gender lenses, from human rights lenses. And so that would be in November. Budget will be submitted in November. Usually end of October and then we scrutinize it in November and then December the budget will be approved. So, I think from October onward it's important that we focus, we leave time from October and onwards for the budget securitizing. And so, yes, that is from me. Alright, so that's from us for now. If, I think the plan to sit with the secretariate, and then her perhaps one on one, one on one with me, and then we sit together again with the secretariate and then get back to the committee that sounds perfect.

Aryj Hussain - Country representative for Westminster Foundation for Democracy (WFD) Maldives Speaking:

That sounds like a prefect plan. So, we will reach out to the secretariate to finalize on the session with Philippa.

Chairman speaking:



Alright, great. Since I think all members present here in agreement with how we are heading towards with this I think we can very safely say bye for now and see you very soon. Thank you so much.

