



AGENDA

Workshop for Caribbean Parliamentarians *Better Practices in Legislation, Policy, and Financing Subsidised Care Systems: Using the “5R” Approach and Principles*

April 16-17, 2026 | St. George’s, Grenada

Thursday, April 16, 2026

08:30 Registration in meeting room

09:00 – 09:30 **Opening remarks**

- **Alisha Todd**, Director General, ParlAmericas
- **Isiuwa Iyahan**, Head of Office a.i., UN Women Multi-Country Office - Caribbean
- The Honourable Dr. **Dessima Williams** (Grenada), President of the Senate and ParlAmericas Council Member

Special opening remarks

- The Honourable **Dickon Mitchell**, M.P. (Grenada), Prime Minister and Minister for National Security, Home Affairs, Public Administration, Information and Disaster Management, Infrastructure and Physical Development, Public Utilities, Civil Aviation and Transportation

09:30 – 09:45 **Group photo**

09:45 – 11:30 **Panel and dialogue: Understanding Care and the 5R Approach**

This session will provide an introduction to core concepts on the care economy, data on paid and unpaid care work, and relevant international agreements and frameworks to provide a foundation for meeting discussions.

Moderator:

- The Honourable **Emma Hippolyte** (Saint Lucia), Minister for Equity, Social Justice, Gender, Older Persons, Labour, Co-operatives and Consumer Welfare

Panellists:

- **Isiuwa Iyahan**, Head of Office a.i., UN Women Multi-Country Office - Caribbean
- **Miosotis Rivas Peña**, Director, ECLAC Sub-Regional Headquarters for the Caribbean
- **Claudia Nicholson**, economist and socioeconomic researcher

11:30 – 11:45 Break

11:45 – 13:15 **Interview and parliamentary exchange: Current National Care Laws and Policies**

This session will provide an understanding of the current state of legislative and policy frameworks in the Caribbean region on care. Following an expert presentation, a representative from each parliamentary delegation in attendance will be invited to

provide a brief overview of the core laws and policies in place in their country on care themes.

Moderator:

- The Honourable **Joseph Isaac** (Dominica), Speaker of the House of Assembly and ParlAmericas Council Member

Panellist:

- **Camille Bennett-Campbell**, UN Women technical expert and attorney-at-law specialising in labour and employment law

Presentations by national delegations:

- Senator the Honourable **Gloria Thomas** (Grenada), Minister for Social and Community Development, Housing, and Gender Affairs
- The Honourable **Osbert Frederick** (Antigua and Barbuda), Speaker of the House of Representatives and ParlAmericas Council Member
- **Sharmie Farrington** (The Bahamas), Director, Gender and Family Affairs, Ministry of Social Services, Information and Broadcasting
- The Honourable **Godwin Haylock** (Belize), Member of Parliament
- Dr. **Techar Cuffy** (Dominica), Director of Social Services in the Ministry of Health and Social Services
- **Sharon Coburn-Robinson** (Jamaica), Principal Director of the Bureau of Gender Affairs
- The Honourable **Latoya Jones** (Saint Kitts and Nevis), Deputy Speaker of the National Assembly
- The Honourable **Emma Hippolyte** (Saint Lucia), Minister for Equity, Social Justice, Gender, Older Persons, Labour, Co-operatives and Consumer Welfare
- The Honourable **Sarah Wescot-Williams** (Sint Maarten), President of Parliament
- **Mireille Ngadimin** (Suriname), Deputy Head, Bureau Gender Affairs
- The Honourable Dr. **Aiyana Ali** (Trinidad and Tobago), Member of Parliament and Deputy Speaker of the House of Representatives
- The Honourable **Laverne Gibson-Velox** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Minister of the Family and Gender Affairs, Persons with Disabilities, and Labour

13:15 – 14:45 Lunch

14:45 – 17:00 **Panel and dialogue: Emerging Good Practices in Care Policy and Legislation**

This panel will feature representatives from parliament, government and multilateral organizations sharing concrete good practices and tools to support the provision of care and related laws and policies, as well as strategies that were effective in facilitating their adoption.

Moderator:

- The Honourable **Lanein Blanchette** (St. Kitts and Nevis), Speaker of the National Assembly and First Vice-President for the Caribbean of the ParlAmericas Parliamentary Network on Security

Panellists:

- Senator the Honourable **Claudette Joseph** (Grenada), Attorney General of Grenada and Minister for Legal Affairs, Labour and Consumer Affairs

- The Honourable **Mischka White-Griffith** (Guyana), Member of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretary in the Ministry of Education
- The Honourable **Arthur Holder** (Barbados), Speaker of the House of Assembly and ParlAmericas Council Member
- **Chantal La Roche**, Director of Legal Services, Parliament of Trinidad and Tobago
- **Beatriz Piñeres**, Specialist, Inter-American Commission of Women, Organization of American States (CIM-OAS)

17:00 **Close of day 1**

18:00 - 19:00 **Reception hosted by the Parliament of Grenada**

Friday, April 17, 2026

09:00 – 09:30 **Overview of key takeaways from day 1**

09:30 – 11:30 **Presentation and dialogue: Financing Care Systems - Evidence, Gaps, and Policy Options**

Recognizing the importance of mobilizing resources to support the implementation of comprehensive care measures, this session will focus on strategies for opening fiscal space for public investment in childcare, eldercare, and care for persons with disabilities and other financing options, with content oriented to inform parliamentarians’ legislative and budgetary responsibilities.

Facilitator:

- **Mahalia Jackman**, UN Women technical expert and Head of the Department of Economics, The University of the West Indies - Cave Hill Campus

11:30 – 11:45 **Break**

11:45 – 13:15 **Presentation and dialogue: Gender-Responsive Social Protection and Care Service Delivery**

This session will provide insight into the delivery of social assistance services and opportunities for strengthening the delivery of care and other services in support of parliamentarians’ legislative and oversight work, providing greater insight into effective implementation of measures to be included in policy and legislative frameworks.

Facilitator:

- **Kimberly-Ann Gittens-Baynes**, UN Women technical expert and researcher in social protection, health policy, and economic evaluation

13:15 – 14:30 **Lunch**

14:30 – 15:45 **Working session: Parliamentary Actions to Strengthen Care Legislation and Policy**

In this session, participants will engage in thematic small-group discussions to outline strategies for parliamentarians’ contributions to strengthening national level action on care, including through legislation, public education, and budgetary and policy oversight.

Working tables moderators:

- The Honourable **Leo Cato** (Grenada), Speaker of the House of Representatives, First Vice-President for The Caribbean of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network
- The Honourable Senator **Rozel Arana** (Belize)
- **Arianna Beharry** (Guyana), Deputy Permanent Secretary, Ministry of Human Services and Social Security
- The Honourable **Shevern John** (Saint Vincent and the Grenadines), Minister of Social Welfare and Community Empowerment, Ecclesiastical Affairs and National Heritage
- Senator **Allison Jean** (Saint Lucia)
- Member of Parliament **Ludmila de Weever** (Sint Maarten)
- Member of Parliament **Christian Birchwood** (Trinidad and Tobago)

15:45 – 16:45 **Report-back and dialogue on working session outcomes**

16:45 – 17:30 **Closing session**

- Review of outcome document
- Vote of thanks
 - **Alisha Todd**, Director General, ParlAmericas
- Closing remarks
 - **Isiwa Iyahan**, Head of Office a.i., UN Women Multi-Country Office - Caribbean
 - The Honourable **Leo Cato** (Grenada), Speaker of the House of Representatives, First Vice-President for The Caribbean of the ParlAmericas Open Parliament Network



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