

# Annex 1

## Biographies of COG Members

### **HE Dr Bakili Muluzi (Malawi) – Chair**

Dr Bakili Muluzi graduated from Thisted College of Technical Education, Denmark, and Huddersfield College of Education in the United Kingdom. He became Principal of Nasawa Technical Training College. He was elected to Parliament in 1973 and served in several Cabinet Ministerial Positions of Youth and Sports, Education, Transport and Communications, Minister in the President's Office and Secretary General of the Malawi Congress Party. Whilst serving as a Member of Parliament he also served as Secretary of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association (CPA) Malawi branch.

Dr Muluzi was the first democratically elected President of the Republic of Malawi and served between 1994 to 2004.

Dr Muluzi served as Chairperson of the Southern African Development Community (SADC). He also served as Chairperson of the Common Market for Eastern and Southern Africa. Whilst serving in these positions he got involved in peacekeeping missions in Democratic Republic of Congo, Angola, Burundi, Zimbabwe, Sudan, and Uganda.

### **Mrs Rina Ray (India)**

Mrs Rina Ray graduated with a First Class First in Political Science (Honours) and joined the Indian Administrative Service in 1984.

As a member of India's premier civil service, she has worked in different areas including Finance, Health, Urban Development, Women & Child Development, Culture, Tourism, Rural Development and Planning.

Mrs Ray is presently working as Chief Electoral Officer, Delhi. She has initiated steps to encourage young people to enrol and to vote. Online enrolment has been introduced through the website [ceodelhi.nic.in](http://ceodelhi.nic.in) and this has proved to be a big success. Mrs. Ray is an amateur astronomer and a voracious reader. She has taken a Masters Degree in Sociology and is currently doing a Diploma in Child Rights Laws.

### **Mr Aloisious A C Nthenda (Malawi)**

Aloisious Nthenda has for the past 15 years worked with civil society organisations and communities in Malawi and Southern Africa (SADC region) in the field of human rights, democracy, elections and governance. He has organised, supervised, monitored and observed elections in Africa and the United Kingdom. He was a member of the first ever team of election observers for the 2010 UK elections. He is an Election and Governance Expert. He is the Executive Chairman for Malawi Electoral Support Network (MESN) and SADC Electoral Support Network (SADC ESN).

**Aminath Majdha (Maldives)**

Aminath Majdha is Assistant Director (Head of Voter Registration Section) Elections Commission of Maldives. Ms Majdha has been working in the Elections Commission of Maldives since 2004, and has been managing the voters' roll since 2009. She is a semi-accredited BRIDGE facilitator.

**Dr Rajendra Prasad MP (New Zealand)**

Dr Prasad is currently serving his second term in Parliament and is the Labour Party spokesperson for Ethnic Affairs and Associate Spokesperson for Social Development and Employment.

Dr Rajen Prasad is a former Associate Professor in Social Policy and Social Work from Massey University. He was New Zealand's Race Relations Conciliator and Human Rights Commissioner from 1996 to 2001 and served in 2003/4 as a Member of the Residence Review Board. He was the founding Chief Commissioner of the Families Commission from 2004 to 2008.

**Mr Med S K Kaggwa (Uganda)**

Mr Kaggwa is the Chairperson of the Uganda Human Rights Commission since 2009. He is also a Commissioner and a Special Rapporteur on Prisons and Places of Detention at the African Commission on Human and People's Rights based in Banjul, The Gambia. He is also an Expert on the OIC Independent Human Rights Commission, Jeddah, Saudi Arabia. He is a Senator and Vice Chairman of Kayambogo University Council. He previously worked as a Member of the East African Legislative Assembly, Arusha, Tanzania, a Member of Parliament in Uganda, a Minister of State in the President's office, a Member of the Constituent Assembly, a Constitutional Commissioner, a Councillor at Makerere University Council, a Board Secretary with Uganda Revenue Authority, a Bank Secretary with the Libyan Arab Foreign Bank, a practising Lawyer and a Lecturer at the Law Development Centre (Bar School).

**Mr Orin Gordon (United Kingdom)**

Orin Gordon is a media and communications consultant based in London. Originally from Guyana, he's been a radio and TV studio broadcaster, field reporter, newsroom manager and writer for more than 20 years. Most of this time was spent with the BBC World Service, covering the big stories including 9/11, Obama's election, the 2008 financial crisis, and war zone reporting of Haiti for 10 years. He's written for publications such as The Guardian and Wisden Cricketer.

As a communications consultant, he provides services in communications strategy, planning, project management, change management, communications management consulting – internal and external communications, radio and TV journalism training and coaching of executives and corporate media teams.

He's a keen amateur photographer, runner and squash player.

**Commonwealth Secretariat Staff Team**

Mr Linford Andrews, Political Affairs Officer, Political Affairs Division – Team Leader

Mr Julius Mucunguzi, Communications Officer, Communications & Public Affairs Division

Dr Tres-Ann Kremer, Political Affairs Officer, Political Affairs Division

Mrs Madonna Lynch, Administrative Assistant, Political Affairs Division