EDITORIAL

The CMJA Secretariat welcomed back Ms Temi Akinwotu in May following her maternity leave. Since getting back to the office, she has been working hard, with our Professional Conference Organiser, Jo Twyman on the preparations for the CMJA Conference which was held in Zambia from 7-11 September 2014. We are very grateful to the judiciary of Zambia and to the Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association of Zambia for all their assistance in making this a successful conference. The theme of the Conference this year was: “Judicial Independence: The Challenges of the Modern Era”. 200 delegates and 40 accompanying guests from over 35 jurisdictions participated in the Conference.

The CMJA Secretariat has also been working on the preparations for the next Triennial Conference being held in Wellington, New Zealand. It will be the first time that the CMJA has held a triennial Conference in New Zealand.

The Conference will be held between 13-18 September 2015. The theme of the Conference is: “Independent Judiciaries, Diverse Societies”.

In June 2014, the CMJA jointly organised a one day conference on “Legal and Judicial Legacies of Empire” with the Commonwealth Legal Education Association (CLEA), the Institute of Commonwealth Studies (ICS) and the Overseas Services Pensioners Association (OSPA) at Senate House in London. A report on this can be found below.

Co-incidentally the UK Supreme Court, which also now houses the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council, held a summer exhibition this year on “Empire, Lawyers and the Rule of Law”.

As always judicial independence and human rights issues have focussed the CMJA attentions. We have been following with concern developments in Swaziland in particular though we keep a watching brief on the situation in other jurisdictions.

The CMJA was accredited to attend the Commonwealth Law Ministers Meeting (CLMM) held in Gabaronne, Botswana as observers at the beginning of May. We are deeply grateful to our Regional Vice President for East, Central and Southern Africa, Justice Charles Mkandawire for participating in this meeting which proved to be particularly challenging. The report produced by the CMJA on behalf of the Latimer House Working Group on the implementation of the Commonwealth (Latimer Principles) in the Commonwealth and due to be presented by Mr Colin Nicholls QC (Life President of the CLA and member of the Latimer House Working Group) was withdrawn by Senior Officials of Law Ministers at their meeting a day before the start of the Law Ministers Meeting as a number of governments objected to their countries being named in the report. The issues were discussed during the meeting and it was agreed that:

“As a paper by the Latimer House Working Group was not presented by Senior Officials to Ministers, due to the fact that Senior Officials could not reach a consensus on the paper, it was agreed that, rather than as a separate agenda item, Ministers could raise the Commonwealth (Latimer House) Principles in their discussions throughout the agenda wherever relevant. Ministers later, during the presentation of the report by the Commonwealth Magistrates’ and Judges’ Association (CMJA), agreed to mandate the Secretariat to prepare a paper on the implementation of the Latimer House Principles in the Commonwealth for consideration at the next Law Ministers’ Meeting. In preparing the paper, the Secretariat should consult widely with member countries and with the Latimer House Working Group.” (Article 2 of the Communiqué).

The CMJA is extremely grateful to both Colin Nicholls and Charles Mkandawire for all their work in ensuring that the Commonwealth (Latimer House) Principles remain on the agenda of the Law Ministers. We are also indebted to the former Deputy Secretary General (Political), Mrs Masire-Mwamba for her assistance during the CLMM.

The CMJA is also participating in the East African Magistrates and Judges Association Conference taking place in Nairobi from 13th to 18th October 2014.

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The CMJA was delighted to hear about the elevation of our Regional Vice President, Justice Margaret Ramsey-Hale to the position of Chief Justice of Turks and Caicos. We wish her every success in her new post.

Justice Ramsay-Hale at her inauguration.

The CMJA are also delighted to inform Members that they welcomed two new members of Council, Mrs Pamela Beckles of Barbados and Mrs Nicole Stoneham of Bermuda who were appointed on 1 August 2014, in line with Article 6.7 of the CMJA Constitution:

“6.7 In the event of any vacancy arising among Regional Vice Presidents or other Regional Council members either due to an insufficient number of persons having been elected at a Regional Meeting to satisfy the conditions set out in Articles 6.2(c) and 6.2(d) or due to any casual vacancy arising prior to the next General Assembly, such vacancy or vacancies may be filled by the Council until the conclusion of the next General Assembly provided:

(a) the Council shall not be required to fill any vacancy which may occur,

(b) the person appointed shall be from the Region where the vacancy occurs, and

(c) a person can only be appointed if article 8.6 is complied with.”

This one day conference was held on 17 June 2014 at Senate House, London and attracted over 80 participants. The Keynote Speech was given by the former Lord Chief Justice of England and Wales, Lord Judge who, in anticipation of the forthcoming 800th anniversary of the Magna Carta in 2015, gave his views on how the Magna Carta had influenced democracy across the Commonwealth and beyond.

Former Chief Justice Lehohla of Lesotho spoke about the application of English law and other legal systems in the Empire and after independence. Dr Haji Mohd Nai’m Mokhtar provided an interested insight into the use of English legal procedures in the Shariah Courts of Malaysia. Former Attorney General of Hong Kong, Michael Thomas CMG, QC outlined the legacy left following the return of Hong Kong to Chinese sovereignty and the role played by the Chinese government in the interpretation of the Hong Kong Basic Law, Hong Kong’s constitutional document. Of course, this was before the announcement of the new electoral system proposed by the Chinese government for Hong Kong which has, unfortunately not followed the commitments made at the time of the adoption of the Basic Law. The CMJA’s Executive Vice President, Judge Tim Workman spoke about the evolution of the magistracy in England and Wales and its influence across the Commonwealth, whilst Justice Desiree Bernard, former Justice at the Caribbean Court of Justice, gave an insight into the legacy of the British Empire on the Caribbean legal systems.

The Dark Side of the Moon (ie: the more problematic legacy of Empire) was discussed as well with Prof Paul McHugh from Cambridge University outlining some of the issues surrounding aboriginal and Maori land rights. Ms Téa Braun, the Director of Human Dignity Trust spoke eloquently about sexual offences legislation inherited from the English common law which still applies in many jurisdictions and contributes to the continued discrimination against women including the notion of rape within marriage not being recognised in law in many jurisdictions. Tea Braun also touched on the archaic laws relating to LGBT rights. Prof Fareda Banda of SOAS as the discussant for this session regretted the continued narrow definition of gender which has affected people who cannot be identified as either gender, ending her points by stating that “We give people rights not because we agree with them but because they are human”.

These human rights were also discussed during the session on Human Rights and the New Common Law of the Commonwealth. Prof William Twinning FBA, QC, Emeritus Quain Prof of Jurisprudence at UCL outlined the constitutional situation. Joe Middleton, barrister at Doughty Street Chambers, and James Guthrie QC, barrister at 3 Hare Court Chambers, drew on their experience of human rights cases in particular the death penalty cases they have had to deal with to demonstrate that there was still much work to be done in this area.

Mrs Katalaina Sapolu, the Director of the re-launched Rule of Law Division (formerly the Legal and Constitutional Affairs Division) of the Commonwealth Secretariat and Judge Keith Hollis, former CMJA Director of Programmes provided their views on the day during the round up session at the end of the Conference and how some of the ideas which emerged could be used to develop the rule of law across the Commonwealth.

A copy of the proceedings for the Conference will be available in due course.
CMJA NEWS – Volume 36: October 2014

EMPIRE, LAWYERS AND THE RULE OF LAW EXHIBITION.

HISTORY OF THE JUDICIAL COMMITTEE OF THE PRIVY COUNCIL EXPLORED

More than 25,000 people are estimated to have discovered more about the history of the Commonwealth’s historic highest court of appeal this summer, when the UK Supreme Court hosted a special exhibition on the role of the Privy Council in determining appeals from across the British Empire.

The exhibition – prepared by a team of academics led by Dr Charlotte L. Smith from the University of Reading’s School of Law and Dr Nandini Chatterjee and Dr Stacey Hynd from the University of Exeter’s Department of History – offered snapshots from the caseload of the JCPC from its modern formation in 1833 to the emergence of the Commonwealth in the 1950s.

The exhibition used a range of case studies to explore how the JCPC served as an evolving hub of the British Empire - both shaping and being shaped by a wide range of different cultures and communities - and how the judges serving on the JCPC applied the common law to both translate and mediate at the crossroads of Britain’s colonial interests.

Appeals highlighting the diversity of the judicial committee’s past caseload include those of the descendant of Colonel James Skinner, who died in India as a wealthy man with a large and complex family. In 1871, the JCPC decided his great-granddaughter should be removed from her widowed mother’s custody because the latter had allegedly converted to Islam and wished to enter a polygamous marriage.

The crux of the matter was that the mother denied having undergone any form of religious conversion. Much of the proceedings and even the judgment was concerned with the problem of diagnosing a person’s religious affiliation. 130 years later, the issue came to the fore again in Malaysia with the Moorthy Maniam case in 2005.

Other cases cited included that of the ‘famous five’ Canadian women who, in 1929, successfully challenged their Supreme Court’s decision that women were ineligible to hold seats in the Canadian Senate under British North America Act 1867.

Although the exhibition was only open to the public during the UK Supreme Court’s summer recess, information about the research can be found at: http://www.jcpc.uk/visiting/stories-from-the-jcpc.html

CMJA ZAMBIA CONFERENCE

The 2014 CMJA Annual Conference was held from the 7-11 September 2014 at the Zambezi Sun. We wish to acknowledge the generosity of the Judiciary of Zambia, the Magistrates and Judges Association of Zambia, the Law Society of Zambia and the Members of the Local Organising Committee. The Theme for the Conference this year was: “Judicial Independence: The Challenges of the Modern Era”

The Conference was open to all Commonwealth judicial officers and others interested in the administration of justice in the courts of the Commonwealth. 200 delegates and 40 accompanying guests from 35 Commonwealth jurisdictions participated.

The Conference got off to a good start despite some initial delays, with the welcome from the CMJA President, His Hon. John Vertes, who reminded those present of the aims of the CMJA. The Conference was opened by the Hon. Guy Scott, Vice President of Zambia. Keynote speeches were given by the Acting Chief Justice of Zambia, Justice Lombe P Chibesekunda and by Justice Vertes. Justice Chibesekunda spoke about the need for judges to be independent both on a personal and institutional level. She also spoke about the need to have a balance between the three branches of government and that judicial independence was “cardinal to the promotion and protection of justice, and an incentive for economic development by promoting investor confidence in the judicial system, by analogy it is the oxygen of an active and inspiring judiciary”.

The Hon. John Vertes spoke about the role of the Chief Justice in promoting judicial independence. He spoke about the challenges that have been faced in certain countries where chief justices have been impeached or been removed from office for “unsubstantiated” reasons. Chief Justices have a duty to set the “direction and tone of the judicial system”. “A strong and able Chief Justice can personify the independence of the judiciary and exemplify that independence in the conduct of judicial proceedings in his or her court. A weak Chief Justice, however, will undoubtedly have a debilitating effect on the other judges and detrimentally affect the public’s trust and confidence in the justice system.”

He went on to outline some of the internal and external challenges faced by Chief Justices. “The Chief Justice must foster a culture of excellence”.

The Conference also dealt with building public confidence and former Chief Justice of Zambia, Justice Annel Silungwe and the Chief Justice of Malta, Justice Silvio Camilleri spoke on this issue. Chief Justice Chande Mohamed Othman of Tanzania and Justice Charles Mkandawire spoke of the challenges faced in progressing of the Nairobi Plan of Action for Africa on
Whilst the Bangladesh parliament had misconduct or incapacity are proved. impeach/remove judges if allegations of Amendment Act allowing Parliament to of Bangladesh passed the 16th In September 2014, the Legislature jurisdictions where issues have arisen. following are some of the reports on watching brief of developments. The independence of the judiciary. discussions amongst delegates. For the first time, the CMJA introduced a specific “learning element” (at the request of delegates from previous conferences) to its programme with a session on “Producing Succinct and Quality Judgments in a Timely Manner” inspired by the work that Lord Hope, who chaired the session, had done in this area. Chief Justice Christopher Gardner of the Falkland Islands ably outlined what was required in producing succinct and quality judgments at this session. In addition a number of breakout sessions were held to discuss ways of identifying and eliminating corruption in the legal system as well as the challenges faced in ensuring better gender, ethnic, social and religious diversity in the judiciary as a whole.

JUDICIAL INDEPENDENCE AND HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUES

The CMJA continues to keep a watching brief of developments in Commonwealth countries. The following are some of the reports on jurisdictions where issues have arisen.

BANGLADESH

In September 2014, the Legislature of Bangladesh passed the 16th Amendment Act allowing Parliament to impeach/remove judges if allegations of misconduct or incapacity are proved. Whilst the Bangladesh parliament had originally been given power to remove judges in the 1972 Constitution (when the President would need to get a 2/3rds majority in the Legislature to remove a judge) this power was vested after the coup in 1975 in a Supreme Judicial Council composed of the Chief Justice and two supreme court judges. Following the adoption of the 16th amendment, a new law setting out the process for the investigation and the gathering of evidence against judges accused of incapacity or misconduct will be formulated. Senior lawyers and members of the opposition parties have criticised the Act as eroding judicial independence in the country.

GHANA

In June 2014, the CMJA received a copy of a statement from the Bar Association of Ghana decrying the lack of funding for the judiciary which has led to the closure of provincial courts of appeal, affecting access to justice across Ghana. The Chief Justice of Ghana has supported the statement from the Bar Association of Ghana. The Ghana government has disputed the facts claiming that the Judicial Services Commission did not apply for adequate funding when drawing up its annual budget.

FIJI

On 2 August 2014, Pacific leaders indicated that they would lift Fiji’s suspension from the Pacific Islands Forum in September following the long awaited elections. In the run up to the elections a number of opposition leaders were refused the right to stand. The first elections since the coup in 2006 took place on 17 September 2014. The party of the military ruler Voreqe Bainimarama won 32 of the 50 seats in parliament. 84% of voters turned out and despite political parties contesting the election, international observers stated that they saw no evidence of fraud and that the elections were credible. Time will tell whether or not these elections will lead to the re-establishment of the separation of powers in Fiji especially as judicial independence continues to be tenuous according to press reports. In the meantime, the Commonwealth Ministerial Action Group has re-admitted Fiji as a full member of the Commonwealth. See full report at: http://thecommonwealth.org/media/press-release/fiji-rejoins-commonwealth-full-member

INDIA

According to a report on the Bar Association of Sri Lanka’s website, the government of India is also currently considering reforms to the judicial appointments system that might remove the role of the Supreme Court in the process of appointments. The Judicial Appointments Commission Bill which was proposed in 2013 amends provisions related to appointment and transfer of judges to the higher judiciary taking away the rights of the judicial collegium comprising four of the most senior judges of the Supreme Court and the Chief Justice of India and three most senior judges in a high court of the state in which the appointment is to be made including its Chief Justice. This system has been criticised as being secretive and non-transparent. The judicial collegium system was the result of three Supreme Court cases (S. P. Gupta v. Union of India – 1981, Supreme Court Advocates-on Record Association vs Union of India – 1993 and In re Special Reference 1 of 1998). These cases led to the removal the right of the Executive to make appointments to the judiciary. However, in 2013, the government introduced a new bill which seeks to establish a Judicial appointments system and gives Parliament the rights to enact laws providing for the composition, functions and procedures of the JAC. The JAC Bill, 2013 states that the JAC shall comprise:

(i) the Chief Justice of India (CJI),
(ii) two other senior most judges of the Supreme Court,
(iii) the Union Minister for Law and Justice, and
(iv) two eminent persons to be nominated by the Prime Minister, the CJI and the Leader of Opposition of the Lok Sabha (Parliament).

The functions of the JAC include making recommendations for appointments of the CJI, Supreme Court Judges, Chief Justice and other High Court judges, and transfer of High Court judges.

Whilst the National Judicial Appointments Bill has been accepted by Cabinet and Parliament, The Supreme Court Advocates on Record Association have challenged it as impeding judicial independence as it pits the three judicial officers against the three non-judicial Commissioner and does not give the judiciary a majority vote and thus affects the independence of the judiciary.
In April, the suspended President of the Court of Appeal, Justice Ramodebedi, lost his appeal against the setting up of a tribunal by the Prime Minister to hear the case for his impeachment. He had claimed that the setting up of the tribunal alone would have a detrimental effect on his reputation. However, the three judges who heard the appeal felt that appointment of the tribunal was in the best interest of the judge president as he would be able to make his arguments to refute the allegations made against him which include:

• bringing the integrity of the judiciary into disrepute due to his long public dispute with former Chief Justice Lehohla
• instructing his driver to submit a false insurance claim when his driver wasn’t driving the vehicle in question but this was being driven by Justice Romodebedi’s son
• overcharging on his allowances
• holding two posts (ie President of the Court of Appeal of Lesotho and that of CJ of Swaziland) in contravention of the Constitution
• Abuse of office in his capacity as CJ of Swaziland, which included complaints of sexual harassment, abuse of financial resources of the judiciary and refusal to recuse himself in the disciplinary case against Justice Masek

In late August 2014, there was an attempted coup by the army in Lesotho which led to the Commissioner of Police and Prime Minister fleeing the country on a temporary basis. Court work was suspended temporarily. However, the Prime Minister and Commissioner of Police have both returned to the Kingdom. A new Chief Justice was appointed by the King in September.

MAURITIUS

Following the report in the last newsletter, we are delighted to inform readers that in the case of Dhooharika vs the Director of Public Prosecutions, the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council (JCPC) quashed the conviction of Mr Dhooharika (a journalist and editor in chief of the French language newspaper Samedi Plus) for “scandalising the Court”. He had published a number of allegations about the former Chief Justice by a former barrister who had claimed the judge was biased in deciding a number of cases. Lord Clarke in the judgement said: there is considerable force* that the crime of scandalising the courts should be abolished. He went on to say that if judges were criticised, “they have to shrug their shoulders and get on with it”. The crime of scandalising the court was abolished in England and Wales in 2013 and New Zealand are considering abolishing the crime. The JCPC, in its judgement, has made it the responsibility of the prosecution to prove beyond reasonable doubt, that what the editor or journalist published intended to undermine the administration of justice and that this was done in bad faith.

NAURU

Following the dismissal and deportation of the Resident Magistrate, Peter Law and resignation of Chief Justice Eames in March 2014, the CMJA has been keeping a watching brief on developments in Nauru. In May, three opposition MPs in Nauru’s very small parliament were banned for talking to foreign journalists. They had been critical of the government’s deportation of the resident magistrate and revocation of the Chief Justice’s visa. In June 2014, another two opposition MPs were suspended ahead of discussions on the budget.

In August 2014, the government announced the appointment of a new Chief Justice, new resident magistrate and two new Supreme Court Judges. The new Chief Justice is former judge of Fiji, former Vice President of Fiji, Ratu Joni Mandraiwiwi. The two Supreme Court judges are Justice Mohammed Shafi, a Fijian barrister who has practised in Australia and Justice Jane Elizabeth Hamilton-White, former principal magistrate in the Solomon Islands. They will join Resident Magistrate Ropate Cabealawa of Fiji who was appointed following the deportation of Peter Law.

On hearing of the appointment, The Hon. Geoffrey Eames stated:

“Long before the government cancelled my visa I had urged it to appoint two additional Supreme Court judges so as to improve efficiency and ensure that decisions by a single judge could be reviewed by an appeal court. I am pleased that the government has taken my advice, in that regard at least.

I hope that the new judges have taken heed of the events that led to the removal of Mr Law and myself. I wish them well, as I fear that their independence and courage will be tested many times.”

However, shortly after taking up his appointment, Resident Magistrate Ropate Cabealawa is reported to have left his post.

SADC TRIBUNAL

Readers will remember that the Tribunal was disbanded in 2012 following a long review of its mandate. In August 2014, the SADC Council of Ministers who met in Victoria Falls, Zimbabwe adopted a new protocol for the re-launch of the Tribunal. This new protocol takes away the right of individuals to petition the tribunal and limits the mandate, much to the dismay of many in the region, to inter-state disputes and SADC treaty matters. Readers will recall that the CMJA, CLA and CLEA issued two joint statements condemning the move to limit the mandate in 2011/2012. The Communiqué at the end of the SADC Council of Ministers meeting stated: “the summit received a report from the committee of ministers of justice and attorneys-general relating to progress on negotiating a new protocol on the SADC Tribunal and adopted the new protocol on the SADC Tribunal” though not all governments have signed the protocol. The President of Botswana refused to sign the protocol. It is reported that he continues to be concerned with the lack of good governance in the region and in particular the appalling human rights record of Zimbabwe, which was on the receiving end of most judgements from the Tribunal.

SRI LANKA

Following the report in the last CMJA News that the UN Human Rights Council had passed a resolution for an inquiry into allegations of war crimes and past violations of human rights law, the government of Sri Lanka have made it clear that they will not cooperate with UN investigators. They have also, according to news reports clamped down on civil society organisations who have been trying to encourage witnesses to come forward to give evidence to the UN. Intimidation has taken the form of organised pro-government protests, the banning of NGOs holding meetings
or issuing press statements or even speaking to journalists. On 1 August 2014, the US Embassy urged the Sri Lankan government to abide by the rule of law and the right of every citizen to freedom of speech and assembly.

On 19 September 2014, the International Bar Association Human Rights Institute issued a Statement expressing concern at the escalating intimidation of lawyers and civil society organisations working on rule of law issues and in particular the death threats against two of the members of the Sri Lankan Bar Association.

SWAZILAND

Following the report in the last newsletter, the CMJA has been following developments in the case against the human rights lawyer, Mr Thulani Maseko and the Swazi editor, Bhekithemba Makhubu. Following the setting aside of the case against them on 6th April 2014 by Justice Dlamini, the two defendants were promptly rearrested. On 17th July 2014, Judge Mpendulo Simelane found them guilty of contempt of court and were sentenced to two years in prison. The Media Institute of Southern Africa stated: “Arresting and charging journalists with criminal offences for doing their job is an unjustifiable restriction on freedom of expression. MISA urges the government of Swaziland to remember their international obligations under the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the African Convention on Human Rights and the African Charter on Human and People’s Rights, as well as the Constitution of the Kingdom of Swaziland, to uphold and protect the right to freedom of expression.” Bhekithemba Makhubu has filed an appeal against his sentence.

The Chief Justice of Swaziland, CJ Ramodedebedi, also issued arrest warrants in May 2014 for three judges (Justices Muncy Dlamini, Bhekithemba Makhubu and Mbutfo Mamba) who had contravened his orders in some way. Although the arrest warrants have been suspended, news reports allege that the Chief Justice believes that the judges were being used “to overthrow the monarch”. On 1 August 2014, the Swazi Law Society lost the case they had brought to court challenging the appointment by the King of some of the High Court Judges, namely in this particular instance Judge Mpendulo Simelane, who did not meet the constitutional 10 years’ experience required for appointment as he had only five years’ experience. The Law Society has indicated they will appeal the decision.

TONGA

In August 2014, the Tongan Parliament passed an Act to amend the Constitution and to change the appointments system for judicial officers. Parliament removed the responsibilities of the Lord Chancellor and the Judicial Appointments and Discipline Panel (JADP) in appointments and voted re-establish a Judicial and Legal Services Commission (JLSC) to make recommendations for the appointment of judges, the Attorney General and the Director of Public Prosecutions. The Judicial and Legal Service Commission Act 2014 provides for a JLSC chaired by the Lord Chief Justice of Tonga with the Chairman of the Public Services Commission, the President of the Law Society and two representatives from the public of good character appointed by the Ministry of Justice. The CMJA welcomed the news and looks forward to receiving confirmation that the legislation has received royal assent.

UGANDA

In August 2014, the Constitutional Court of Uganda found that the appointment of the former Chief Justice, Justice Ben Odoki by the President of the Republic was illegal. They also found in a majority decision 4-1 that the positions of Justice Stephen Kavuma, as Acting Chief Justice since Justice Odoki’s retirement in June 2014, and Justice Remmy Kasule, as Acting Deputy Chief Justice were unconstitutional. The court also found that Justice Kavuma has not been appointed as Deputy Chief Justice prior to Justice Odoki’s retirement, he has only been appointed as Acting Deputy Chief Justice following the death of Justice Constance Byamugisha. Therefore in the opinion of the Court, he should not have been able to take on the role of Acting Chief Justice. Justices Kasule, Mwangusya, Prof Tibatemberwa and Bossa ruled that there was no provision in the Constitution providing for the reappointment of a retired chief justice in the same position with Justice Aweri dissenting. The government is appealing the decision of the Constitutional Court.
DIARY OF EVENTS

2015
10-11 April - “Transnational Legal Education: Commonwealth Perspectives”
Organised by Commonwealth Legal Education Association Conference
See: http://www.clea-web.com/events-conferences/glasgow-2015/ for further details

11-12 April - International Conference in Law Reform- Edinburgh, Scotland
organised by the Commonwealth Association of Law Reform Agencies
Contact: Michael Sayers (email: thesayers@hotmail.com) for details

13-16 April - “Resources, Responsibilities and the Rule of Law”
19th Commonwealth Law Conference- Glasgow, Scotland
Organised by the Commonwealth Lawyers Association,
See: www.clc2015.co.uk for further details

13-18 September - “Independent Judiciaries, Diverse Societies”
CMJA 17th Triennial Conference, Wellington, New Zealand
Contact CMJA for further details.

FEEDBACK / CONTRIBUTIONS
We welcome feedback and contributions. Please send these to:
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SOME PHOTOS OF THE ZAMBIA CONFERENCE
How you can contribute further to the CMJA’s activities

The CMJA has recently signed up to Give as you Live to encourage our supporters to raise funds for us every time they shop online - but how much are we doing ourselves?

We are asking our Members to do their online shopping through Give as you Live - money can be raised on every train ticket we buy, every piece of stationery we order and that’s just while we’re at work! Thousands of top retailers including Amazon, Play.com, John Lewis and Expedia have signed up to donate a percentage to the CMJA every time we shop online through Give as you Live, so if you haven’t already, go to the website http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/cmja and get started.

Don’t forget, shopping through Give as you Live is no different to shopping online normally, it’s just as secure and your shopping won’t cost you a penny more. In fact, the only difference is the difference it could make to our donation total.

Please sign up to Give as you Live today!

http://www.giveasyoulive.com/join/cmja