



## **BROADCASTING COMMONWEALTH PARLIAMENTS**

The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association sent a questionnaire to Parliaments and Legislatures and the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association sent a similar questionnaire to broadcasting organizations. The aim of the survey has been to gather information covering both radio and television in order to find out how countries in the Commonwealth report the work of their Parliaments, for how long and whether live or in recorded form. The results of the CPA survey may be found on pages 20 to 224.

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## Foreword

As a former Member of the first Commonwealth Parliament to air its proceedings on radio, the New Zealand House of Representatives, I am keenly aware that broadcasting parliamentary debates makes an enormous contribution to the strengthening of the Commonwealth's democratic tradition. Today, 67 years after New Zealand's pioneering introduction of microphones into its debating Chamber, citizens throughout the Commonwealth are able to listen — and in many nations to watch — as their elected representatives make decisions which directly affect their lives.

People gather around portable radios in the square in front of the Saint Lucian Parliament in Castries to hear the budget address. Villagers in Papua New Guinea who have access to community televisions gather together as the Parliament's televised Question Time stimulates local political debates. And more than a million Canadians a day tune in to cable television networks to watch House of Commons and parliamentary committee meetings. Channelling many of these broadcast feeds through parliamentary web sites in turn brings proceedings to computer screens around the world. It is probably possible, through the combination of broadcast feeds and Internet connections, to monitor a Parliament in session somewhere 24 hours a day.

The ability to actually watch and listen as laws and policies are made has today been dramatically extended from the relative handful of people who can sit in Parliament's public galleries to virtually the entire nation through the media of radio, television and now the Internet. People today are therefore better able to assess for themselves the performance of their elected Parliaments and governments, and this enhanced access is growing as more Assemblies open their doors to the electronic media.

Greater involvement is essential for the advancement of the democratic process and for the development of a society which both understands and cherishes the rights that democracy preserves. The Commonwealth Parliamentary Association and the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association have co-operated in ground-breaking conferences of politicians and journalists in 2000 and 2002 which both agreed that Parliaments should open Chamber and committee proceedings to all media and that in turn the media should cover these meetings responsibly so citizens have an opportunity to be well informed about the issues affecting their governance.

We took these principles further in February 2003 when a CPA Study Group of Commonwealth Parliamentarians expert in parliamentary procedure and media law included the following among its “Recommendations for an Informed Democracy”:

(8.1) Parliaments should provide as a matter of administrative routine all necessary access and services to the media to facilitate their coverage of proceedings. Parliament should not use lack of resources as an excuse to limit media access and should use its best endeavours to provide the best facilities possible.

(8.8.i) Given the importance of broadcast and other electronic access to the proceedings of Parliament both in Chambers and committees, Parliament should either provide an uninterrupted feed or access for broadcasters to originate their own feed, if appropriate on a pool basis. Guidelines for electronic coverage should be as flexible as possible.

(8.8.ii) Guidelines for electronic coverage should ordinarily be put in place in consultation with broadcasters. Terms of availability should not be discriminatory between different media outlets and access to such feeds should not be used for censorship or sanctioning.

(8.8.iii) Parliaments should be encouraged to provide live coverage of their proceedings on a dedicated channel and/or online.

8.9) Committee meetings should be open to the public except in cases where it is determined in public that it is necessary to hold parts of a committee’s proceedings in private. The Group notes that this is the practice, for example, in South Africa and commends this to other Parliaments.

That is why the CPA was pleased to join the Commonwealth Broadcasting Association and UNESCO in supporting this valuable survey of parliamentary broadcasting and the rules governing it. The survey will assist those Houses which are considering expanding the coverage of their proceedings by their own or broadcasters’ cameras and microphones. It provides a guide to the various ways that this can be accomplished and points to leaders in the field who will be happy to do what the Commonwealth does better than any other organization: share information and expertise so every Commonwealth nation can develop the best processes to suit their own situations.

Hon. Denis Marshall, QSO  
Secretary-General  
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

## **BROADCASTING PARLIAMENT SPREADS THROUGHOUT THE COMMONWEALTH**

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### **A BRIEF BACKGROUND HISTORY**

Some sixty countries throughout the world now allow television cameras and radio microphones to record the proceedings of their legislatures - including the great majority of Commonwealth states. In several of them, such as Australia, Britain, Canada, New Zealand and Samoa, the national broadcaster is required by law to carry daily or weekly reports on their country's Parliamentary proceedings.

As far as the Commonwealth is concerned, the real pioneers of Parliamentary broadcasting are Australia and New Zealand, with New Zealand beginning radio broadcasts of the proceedings of its House of Representatives in 1936. A decade later, Australia followed suit. The national broadcaster, the ABC, had a correspondent giving nightly reports on radio from Parliament in Canberra as early as 1942 but the actual broadcasting on radio of Parliamentary proceedings began on 10 July 1946 as the result of an enquiry by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting which drew heavily on the experiences of its New Zealand neighbour.

### **THE SITUATION NOW: THE MAXIMUM OPTION - SOME EXAMPLES**

In **Australia**, under the Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act of 1946, and subsequent amendments, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation has a statutory obligation to broadcast the proceedings of the Senate and House of Representatives and joint sittings of both houses on radio and television. Towards the end of 1988 a radio network was established to carry the broadcasts of Parliament and related material only. The original Act was very specific. It laid down that these broadcasts "should be carried on an AM frequency by a national broadcasting station in the capital city of each state." It has since evolved to be part of a live 24 hours national news network, ABC NewsRadio, which carries live coverage from both Houses on days when Parliament is sitting. This totals an average of about 42 hours a week. Parliament provides the equipment and the technical feeds for the broadcaster. Exactly how the Parliamentary radio broadcasts work, which debates are to be covered and from which House, are regulated by a committee - the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings - drawn from both Houses. This committee was established by the original 1946 act and has nine members, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. The other seven members consist of 5 members appointed by the House and two from the Senate and reflect party strengths in Parliament. In coming to their decision on coverage, the law states that "the Committee shall take into account the importance of the impending debate and public interest attaching thereto in deciding in the allocation" An official of the Australian Parliament explained how the system works: "Radio broadcasts cover the full day of proceedings, not just Question Time. The Committee has determined the allocation based on the business that is conducted in each of the Houses on particular days. For example, a sitting Monday in the House of Representatives is devoted to Private Members' Business and the Committee has decided that this is to be one of the broadcast days of the House of Representatives." It is intended that the division of coverage between the two houses will even out over a session.

Televising of Senate proceedings began in 1990 and the House of Representatives the following year. When Parliament is in session, proceedings are broadcast on ABC TV in the afternoon, late evening and early morning. Unlike with radio, it is the ABC, not Parliament, which determines the allocation of the television broadcast of Question Time. It alternates its coverage between the two Houses, with the House that is not covered live having its Question Time broadcast in the evening. ABC told the survey: "For television, dedicated or packaged extracts from Parliament occurs for five hours each sitting week. There are four Delayed Question Times and one hour of highlights.

For radio, dedicated or packaged extracts from Parliament occurs for four hours each sitting week, i.e. four Delayed Question Times.” Clips from speakers in Parliament are also used in news programmes.

Australia’s Parliament is accessible on Internet from the ABC’s website “The Public Record”. (<http://abc.net.au/public/Parliament>). Links to Parliamentary broadcasts from Parliament are also available from ABC NewsRadio’s website. (<http://abc.net.au/newsradio/>).

**Canada** claims to be the first Commonwealth country to televise LIVE Parliamentary debates, beginning with the Speech from the Throne by Queen Elizabeth during visit to Ottawa in 1977. Two years later, the national broadcaster, the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation, was given the exclusive license to cover Parliament by the regulatory body, the Radio-Television and Telecommunications Commission (CRTC). Originally CBC had a dedicated channel for the broadcast of Parliament, but ceased running it in 1991 because of cutbacks in its budget. A newly-formed consortium of the country’s major cable companies stepped in - with the support of Parliament - to ensure continued coverage of Parliament so that, as it said in its application for the license, “millions of Canadian cable households would continue to receive House of Commons broadcasts at no cost to taxpayers or subscribers”. The consortium contributes more than five million dollars a year to fund the channel. Day to day operations and editorial decisions are the responsibility of CPAC staff.

The cable broadcasters in Canada estimate that Parliamentary proceedings amount to about 24 percent of their schedule. Viewers can follow in English or French or what is called “floor sound” - the language of the member speaking. It is estimated that over one million Canadians view the House of Commons broadcasts. The cable consortium says “Canada’s cable industry believes that unbiased and widespread access to the institutions, processes, individuals and events that shape Canadian public policy is a vital public service.” Today CPAC broadcasts the Chamber proceedings live and the televised committee proceedings on a delayed basis to its cable and satellite affiliates located across the country and it estimates that over a million Canadians tune in to the House of Commons broadcasts.

The national broadcaster, CBC, does not broadcast Parliament live except on special occasions such as the Speech from the Throne or the delivery of a new Budget. “Our coverage of Parliament is indirect through newscasts and current affairs on our main radio and TV networks. It is quite common on a weekday for clips from “Question Period” to be featured on newscasts on pertinent issues. CBC Radio has a regular one hour Saturday morning programme, “The House”, which provides an overview of Parliamentary issues.”

In **Britain**, by contrast, it was a major and lengthy struggle to get the cameras and microphones into Parliament. The BBC first suggested broadcasting Parliament’s proceedings as long ago as the 1920s but the idea was rejected. Twenty years later, at the height of the Second World War, the government argued that proceedings in Parliament were too technical to be understood by the ordinary listener who would be liable to get quite a false impression of the business transacted.

It was felt it would be better to let the professional political correspondents explain the mysteries to the public. In fact the arguments went on for years. The BBC carried out several broadcasting experiments and permanent radio coverage was eventually allowed in 1978. But television was another matter. Supporters of televising proceedings argued that it would lead to greater public understanding of the work of Parliament; it would involve the public more in politics and it would also help to make the politicians more accountable. As a former Conservative leader of the House of Commons told his colleagues: “to televise Parliament would, at a stroke, restore any loss it has suffered to the new mass media as the political education of the nation.”

Against this, it was claimed that television would trivialize and distort the work of Parliament, MPs would be tempted, by the presence of cameras, to play to the gallery to get themselves on television. And the equipment - the cameras, the bright lights, wires trailing everywhere, and technicians operating the equipment - would all be too intrusive.

It was the Upper House, the Lords, who were first to agree to let themselves be televised - in 1985 - and then only on an experimental basis. It took almost another five years for the House of Commons to admit the cameras.

In Britain, too, the national broadcaster the BBC is required to “broadcast an impartial account, day by day, prepared by professional reporters of the proceedings of Parliament”. It has always done this by a programme “Today in Parliament” on the its main speech-based channel, Radio 4, which is heard nationwide. It goes out in the late evening and is repeated, with updates as necessary to include material from late night or overnight sittings. This used to be a simple script version lasting about 15 minutes summarizing proceedings, quoting Ministers, MPs and Peers as appropriate. Now it has been updated in format and extended, including voice extracts from both the House of Commons and the Lords. BBC Radio broadcasts the Prime Ministers Questions on a Wednesday at midday (a relatively recent innovation) and transmits Question Time live on Tuesdays and Thursdays as well. Important events such as the State Opening of Parliament with speeches by the Prime Minister and the Leader of the Opposition are traditionally broadcast live, together with the Chancellor of the Exchequer’s presentation of the budget and the remarks by the Opposition Finance spokesman, or a crucial debate on a matter of importance - for example possible military action against Iraq in February 2003, which made the main headlines in all the media, radio, television as well as the newspapers. Radio 5, a highly popular nationwide current affairs and sport news network, for example, dipped in and out of the debate. Extracts were used in the main current affairs programmes.

Television, too, provides occasional live coverage of debates, usually from the House of Commons. Britain now has three twenty-four hours news channels (BBC News 24, Independent Television News and Sky Television News) on satellite and digital terrestrial. They dip in and out of Parliament as editors feel is merited by the news agenda of the day. They use clips from their video-recordings in news bulletins and news programmes. The BBC’s rolling news channel News24, carries a late evening 30 minute programme “The Day in Parliament” summarizing the day’s proceedings.

For those in Britain who want more there is a special dedicated Parliamentary channel, BBC Parliament. First launched in 1992, by a group of cable companies as a non profit venture, and taken over by the BBC six years later, it provides continuous unedited coverage of proceedings but is available only on satellite, cable or digital terrestrial television. The debates are shown live, and uninterrupted without commentary. To help viewers understand and follow proceedings, there are captions at the bottom of the screen, naming the MP speaking and which party he or she belongs to. For example, early in March 2003, there was a debate to mark international Women’s’ Day. The caption named the speaker which was leading member - appropriately a woman - of the Opposition Conservative Party, and had as explanation: “Only one of the 100 leading companies quoted on the Financial Times Stock Exchange index is run by a woman.” This channel also broadcasts the whole sequence of meetings of key committees and gives them a regular place in the schedule at weekends. There is a daily review half hour long of the work of Parliament that particular day shown last thing in the evening and repeated early the next day, and a weekly overview - also repeated. BBC Parliament is also a platform for the regional assemblies - the Scottish Parliament and the Assembly of Wales which are shown for a combined total of eight hours at weekends when the Parliaments do not meet. During the Parliamentary recess, programmes are shown on BBC Parliament aimed at helping viewers better understand the work of the two Houses. During the Easter recess of 2003, for example, they explained in great detail, using archive material, the work of the House of Commons specialized committees. All in all, the BBC calculates that it dedicates 39 hours of live coverage on TV of House of Commons proceedings with about the same amount recorded. With select committees something like 110 hours is recorded for debates from Westminster. It is all part of the broadcaster’s remit to inform.

In **New Zealand**, responsibility for the broadcasting of Parliament rests with Radio New Zealand. (RNZ) the national radio service, is required by statute to broadcast Parliament.

It puts out some 17 hours a week of live broadcasting on RNZ's AM frequency when Parliament is in session and just over an hour in packaged extracts.

TV New Zealand's TVONE channel, which puts out more serious programmes with news, current affairs and information aimed at "a mature audience" does not broadcast live from Parliament but it told the survey that "it streams parliament's Question Time on its web portal (nzoom.com). It has cameras in Parliament for this purpose and uses the footage in its news programmes every day where appropriate.

## **OTHER MODELS FOR THE BROADCASTING OF PARLIAMENT**

Live broadcasting on the British, Canadian, or Australian models is not the pattern of Parliamentary coverage in most of the Commonwealth. Most of the Commonwealth states in Africa, the Pacific and the Caribbean simply do not have the resources. The great majority of Commonwealth countries broadcast live on radio and TV the important Parliamentary occasions. There is general agreement on what these amount to: the opening of Parliament when the government's plans for the forthcoming session are outlined, the budget and major legislation. And there are other events which may be of sufficient importance that it would appropriate to accord them live coverage. Television **Jamaica** speaks for many national broadcasters who replied to the survey: "we carry live broadcast of any matter deemed by the station to be of great importance to the nation or of significant interest to viewers"

While **Nigeria's** international station, VOICE OF NIGERIA, says it does not dedicate specific time to Parliamentary reporting, "Decisions regarding this are made depending on the newsworthiness of matters being discussed."

Of course what is considered important by the public varies from country to country. To take some examples from debates in Parliament in different Commonwealth countries in the first half of 2003: Britain has been pre-occupied with the government's decision to join the US in attacking Iraq and overthrowing Saddam Hussein and with its plans for the future of the state-run hospitals. Debates on these issues have received widespread coverage on both radio and TV. Australian MPs have been voicing concern about the suitability for office of the Queen's representative, the Governor General. India is concerned with future relations with Pakistan and finding a solution to the Kashmir question.

In **Sierra Leone**, according to SLBS, the matters causing great public interest deemed to warrant live coverage included: "the passage of the Anti-Corruption measure, the Minister of Lands answering questions on the demolition of illegal buildings in Freetown."

In **India**, one of the world's biggest democracies, Parliament is frequently shown live on TV but not on radio. Special events such as the President's address to members of both Houses are shown live as are other big occasions like the national budget and the budget for the railways - highly important in a country where some ten million people are said to travel by train every day and where fares are highly subsidized. Major government announcements are also shown live, such as that in early May 2003 by Prime Minister Atal Bihari Vajpayee, of the government's decision to resume dialogue with Pakistan, which was also shown on the international satellite channels and seen throughout the world. The state-owned All India Radio has always been the only station permitted to broadcast news on radio. It records Question Hour which is then broadcast later the same day on the National Channel of All India Radio. AIR told the survey it does not provide daily live coverage but broadcasts daily summaries, one hour a day, containing voice clips from Parliament when it is in session. AIR's regional stations arrange live coverage of the Governor's Address to the State Assemblies and the presentation of the Budget by the state Finance Ministers. The state TV broadcaster, Doordarshan puts out one hour of live Parliamentary broadcasting a day. Parliament is also seen on the burgeoning private channels such as New Delhi Television and the satellite channel, Zee TV.

NDTV told the survey that it carries footage of Parliamentary proceedings in its news bulletins as merited by newsworthiness. The feed is taken from the Prasar Bharati Corporation which is the only Indian organization allowed to cover Parliamentary proceedings. They do a complete live broadcast of Indian Parliamentary proceedings when Parliament is in session. They also carry a packaged broadcast each evening in English and Hindi. NDTV's news bulletins are shown on a cable and satellite channel specifically dedicated to Parliamentary coverage.

Unlike, for example, the Parliaments in the Old Commonwealth, the Indian Lok Sabha is frequently in uproar and , disrupted by opposition walkouts - scenes which viewers can see. Correspondents report lots of shouting and scuffles, with noisy members being escorted out of the House by marshals. A recent (May 2003) sitting of the Lok Sabha had to be suspended because of chaotic scenes with the Speaker's chair being mobbed as opponents of a bill to reserve one third of seats for women in Parliament and state legislatures tried to halt the measure. They mobbed the Speaker's chair and refused to return to their seats till the sitting was suspended.

**Pakistan** did not have a Parliament for the three years before October 2002 when the military stepped aside and civilian government was restored. After the new government took office on November 22 following a general election, Pakistan Television reported live on the installation of the newly elected National Assembly, the election of the Prime Minister and the Speaker and Deputy Speaker. Pakistan Television Corporation told the survey that they do not carry live reports from Parliament but report its proceedings in news bulletins and news programmes on radio and TV. A decision has yet to be taken, the Pakistan Television Corporation says, regarding the coverage and telecast of the national Assembly proceedings.

In **Sri Lanka**, none of the channels broadcast Parliamentary proceedings.

**Singapore** follows the practice in many countries of broadcasting Parliament live only on big occasions on an ad hoc basis. Otherwise, MediaCorp Radio and MediaCorp TV told the survey, "extracts, within news or current affairs programmes, are broadcast only when Parliament sits." They are in the form of news reports with and without soundbites and live speeches, on an ad hoc basis. A very rough estimate of total output per day when Parliament is sitting about 100 minutes across all radio services."

Radio Television **Brunei** does not broadcast Parliament live, but plans to do so early in 2003 with the launch of its digital station.

## **THE MEDITERRANEAN COMMONWEALTH**

**Malta**'s national broadcaster, Public Services Broadcasting Limited, puts out live Parliamentary debates on the radio channel (106.6FM known as Ten Sixty Six). This amounts to 12 hours per week. On TV it is only the Budget speeches which are carried live - in all about five hours of debate. The usual practice is to show packaged extracts totalling two hours a week.

**Gibraltar** broadcasts Parliament live but on radio only on the 25-30 days per year when the House of Assembly meets.

The **Cyprus** Broadcasting Corporation reported that it only broadcasts Parliament once or twice a year when the annual budget is being debated and approved.

## THE CARIBBEAN

In the Caribbean, both **Bahamas** and **Bermuda** give extensive time to live coverage of their legislatures. The Broadcasting Corporation of the **Bahamas** told the CBA that when Parliament is sitting, an entire day's proceedings - that is about 7 hours - are shown live on the main terrestrial channel. It must also be carried on the country's Cable TV network. "And there is a packaged re-broadcast of two hours a night until all Parliamentarians are given coverage." **Bermuda's** Defontes Broadcasting Corporation reports that it devotes 15-20 hours per week, with two hours a day dedicated to packaged extracts. The broadcasts go out on AM radio and on terrestrial TV.

**Dominica** concentrates mainly on radio coverage. The state broadcaster, Dominica Broadcasting Service, covers the House of Assembly live on AM while regular programmes continue on the FM frequencies. On an average day, House proceedings begin at 10am, running through till 11pm. There is a two-hour break in the middle of the day followed by another later, lasting 60 minutes. Both are at the direction of the Speaker. The cable broadcaster, Marpin, has permission to film on special occasions such as the President's address and the budget.

The position is similar in **St. Vincent and the Grenadines**. The National Broadcasting Corporation broadcasts live on radio the entire day's proceedings of the islands' Parliament. Coverage. The NBC told the survey: "This can range from 5-8 hours daily, generally once a month. During budget debates it can go on for five days. " As in Dominica, the format is "to join at start, break for regular programming during their breaks, and resume when Parliament does."

The practice for covering Parliament in **Guyana** is to prepare packages for showing on the country's only TV channel. On days when Parliament is sitting, it broadcasts reports averaging two hours a day. The cameras are allowed into the house. The film is then edited for broadcast. - a situation very common in developing countries.

**Jamaicans** get live coverage of big set-piece occasions on both TV stations on the island: the budget debate, speeches by the Prime Minister and Leader of the Opposition, the Finance Minister and the Opposition Finance Spokesman. CVM TV has a Parliamentary reporter who provides inserts for its newscasts at least twice a week - in all these may amount to ten minutes per week in airtime. Television Jamaica has minimum commentary. The anchor during live broadcasts, whether on screen or voicing over a report, performs the opening and closing of the proceedings. No other commentary is made.

In **Trinidad and Tobago**, moves are under way in Parliament to have all proceedings broadcast live on radio and television - including committee proceedings. At present only major occasions are covered live.

**Barbados** reported that coverage of Parliament there is on a limited scale - mostly in news clips in bulletins. **Antigua** told the survey it does not cover Parliament live while the radio on **Montserrat** said it "does not broadcast Parliamentary coverage." **Anguilla and St. Lucia** both broadcast select proceedings.

## AFRICA

The tendency in African Commonwealth countries is to broadcast major occasions on radio and television - but TV, as a medium, is far less important for conveying information than radio. Often it has only about half the reach of radio. So radio is a far better option for governments, in for example, health campaigns like combating the spread of AIDS, for getting messages across.

Radio **Mozambique**, at one end of the scale, broadcasts more than four hours of live radio coverage a day when Parliament is sitting. It also does packaged extracts of Parliamentary proceedings amounting to one and a half hours weekly.

The **South African** Broadcasting Corporation told the survey that its Parliamentary coverage is only carried live. It dedicates eight hours a week to reporting live from the floor of the national Assembly during Parliamentary sessions - but this could be reduced for special broadcasts such as the Earth Summit, which was held in Johannesburg in August and September 2002. SABC's TV news bulletins, including packaged reports from Parliament, is also available on Internet. An independent information service, the Parliamentary Monitoring Group, provides detailed reports on the proceedings of more than forty Parliamentary committees.

"We hope the minutes will provide the public with an insight into the Parliament of South Africa and its daily activity. The Group said it decided to set up its website ([www.pmg.org.za](http://www.pmg.org.za)) as there is no official record of the various committee proceedings.

These, it says, are the engine room of Parliament and this type of information is needed by civil society to lobby the Parliament of South Africa on legislation and matters of democratic government.

African national broadcasters in many cases opt for compiling packaged reports of about 30 minutes a day and reporting Parliament in news bulletins with voice clips as appropriate, though two countries, **Kenya** and **Uganda** are making arrangements for live TV coverage of their Parliaments. **Nigeria** hopes "very soon" to be reporting live while a fourth, **Zambia**, has been experimenting with one hour of live television coverage of debates as part of a Parliamentary reform project. This will also provide for live coverage of Parliament on FM radio. But that is for the future. At present, **Kenya** Broadcasting Corporation told the survey: "We package for delayed transmission....about 30 minutes a day." **Nigeria's** Federal Radio Corporation has occasional live reports from the national Assembly but in the main "Parliamentary correspondents package proceedings". Nigeria's international broadcaster Voice of Nigeria told the survey that it "broadcasts packaged coverage in the form of news reports, special reports and features". It does not have a fixed duration for these - it all depends on the newsworthiness of the item concerned. VON added that "some broadcasters have also been known to have covered live sessions of committee hearings of parliaments especially if it concerns controversial matters."

**Namibia** falls into the pattern of broadcasting packaged programmes. It estimates its coverage amounts to three hours per week. "partly summarized by journalists and partly sound bites." But television's reach is limited mainly to those living in urban areas. Most Namibians get their information from reports in radio news bulletins. It is estimated that 98 percent of the population have access to radio broadcasts "and they get their information through news bulletins".

Neighbouring **Botswana** broadcasts live on both radio and television the big occasions such as the President's State of the Nation address and the official opening of the budget session. "Otherwise," Radio Botswana told the survey, "we package Parliamentary coverage on a daily basis while Parliament is in session". The packages are made by radio reporters and are half an hour in the evenings and 15 minutes in the morning five days a week. Botswana television shows the big events live, but they do not have any packaged programmes like the radio.

**Sierra Leone's** national broadcaster, Sierra Leone Broadcasting Service, does not dedicate any specific length of time to covering Parliament - though a twenty minutes packaged report is broadcast on Wednesdays and Fridays on both radio and television. Journalists who were once barred from Parliamentary committees are now allowed into their hearings. Like most Commonwealth national broadcasters Sierra Leone TV covers special occasions. "When we have to do things live on these occasions we put a link man for radio and TV who does a commentary on the event, introducing the MPs and interviewing other MPs or pundits". **Gambia** offers thirty-minute news reports and compilations of proceedings in its news magazine programmes on both radio and television.

**Tanzanian** national TV, TvT, echoes this idea of its Parliamentary coverage acting as a spur for discussions programmes. "We have a one hour programme in which we pick a few topics raised in the house and debate the issues." The station says that it allocates one hour per day to Parliamentary debates. There is no live television of Parliament's proceedings. Logistically, TvT says it is a problem: "We have to transport tape from Parliament House to the station for broadcast."

**Malawi** reports broadcasting Parliament, but on a limited scale - five to six hours per week. Malawi also points out it has very limited resources, including only three television cameras. Radio is far more effective as a means of communication. Something like 70 per cent of the people have access to it while fewer than 100,000 Malawians out of a total population of eleven millions own television sets.

**Lesotho** Television broadcasts prerecorded Parliamentary coverage on its main terrestrial channel. The amount of time given to coverage of Parliamentary affairs varies and is at the discretion of a producer.

## THE PACIFIC ISLANDS

**Samoa's** national radio 2ap broadcasts Parliamentary sittings "live and uninterrupted in Samoan and English in their entirety". The length of the broadcasts depends on when they sit, and how long they sit, both day and night time sessions." The regional Parliament is also shown on New Zealand's TVOne network's "new from the beehive". Televising Samoa's coverage is a few minutes per day, in its news bulletins.

Neither **Vanuatu** nor **Tonga** broadcast their Parliaments, but the **Solomon Islands** Broadcasting Corporation puts out the proceedings live on television, breaking in for news bulletins during peak listening time. "Parliament's proceedings are recorded and important items are rebroadcast as packaged programmes in current affairs coverage. These are a maximum of 15 minutes in duration, three times a day.

**Fiji** TV and Radio only broadcast live on special occasions: the opening of Parliament, the budget debate and important ministerial statements. When Parliament is in session, it puts out a daily summary of about 30 minutes on radio every day. Sometimes this is a straight report without clips of speakers, sometimes it includes extracts of MPs speaking. Fiji Broadcasting says it intends to begin live daily Parliamentary broadcasts in 2003.

**Kiribati** broadcasts coverage of Parliament on radio only. It still does not have television. Radio Kiribati puts out daily reports when Parliament is meeting.

Television in **Papua New Guinea** transmits Question Time which is usually about an hour long. Otherwise Parliamentary coverage is confined to items in news bulletins. Media Niugini told the survey that it requires Parliament's broadcasting Committee's permission to cover proceedings. "At present we are restricted to 'Question Time' only"

## RULES FOR BROADCASTERS

While they welcome greater public access to their work, the great majority of Parliaments in the Commonwealth are very conscious of their dignity and keen to uphold it. To this end they have established a series of rules to control the way the broadcasters operate. These do not vary much between the various countries. Under rules drawn up by a House of Commons Select Committee on Televising the House of Commons in the **UK**, for example, filming in the chamber is very strictly controlled; there are rules on how the cameras can operate and rules on the use of film footage of Parliamentary proceedings. Broadcasters are banned from most of the Palace of Westminster, the premises of the UK Parliament, and even in the House of Commons chamber: “the director should seek, in collaboration with the Supervisor of Broadcasting, to give a balanced, fair and accurate account of proceedings, with the aim of informing viewers about the work of the house.....in carrying out this task, the director should have regard to the dignity of the House and to its function as a working body rather than as a place of entertainment. Coverage should give an unvarnished account of the proceedings of the House, free of subjective commentary and editing techniques designed to produce entertainment rather than information.”

Thus the cameras focus on the speaker, cut-away reaction shots are not permitted, except of those named in the debate. You cannot see things which you would be able to notice if you were sitting in the public gallery - for example human interest items like the black Labrador guide dog which accompanies Britain's blind Home Secretary everywhere and sits at his feet in the Chamber. The cameras cannot show MPs yawning or dozing on the green baize benches, unless they happen to be in the frame behind the MP who is speaking or sitting next door. This happened in the early months of 2003 when the cameras, which were focusing on the Prime Minister, showed a senior colleague who had just returned from high level meetings in the United States, clearly jet lagged and trying, without much success, to stay awake throughout.

If there is disruption - as for example happened in 1987 when a Labour MP hurled papers at a Minister, grabbed the Mace, the symbol of the Speaker's authority and threw it to the floor, or when a leading Conservative front bencher grabbed the mace and whirled it above his head, or when a young woman MP from Northern Ireland tried to grab the lapels of a Conservative government minister - the rules require that the cameras must not show disorderly scenes and focus on the Speaker instead. There have been two more incidents within the past year. In one of the state parliaments in **Australia**, a young woman MP startled her colleagues on her first day in Victoria's state Parliament by breast-feeding her 10-day-old baby. A sergeant at arms immediately told the lady that her behaviour was unacceptable and escorted both mother and child from the building. Officials ruled that the child could not enter the chamber as she had not been elected to Parliament. Then in April 2002, an MP in Parliament in **Ottawa** grabbed the mace as a protest at tactics used to kill a bill he was sponsoring, shouting “Canada isn't a democracy”. Neither Australians or Canadians saw the offending behaviour on TV. A senior Canadian Parliamentary journalist explained why: “It was not because we were not allowed to show the incident. We can show any footage provided to us by House of Commons Broadcasting. House of Commons Broadcasting, however, does not show these kinds of incidents. Their instructions are to broadcast individual Members only when they have been recognized by the Speaker of the House or as a group when they are voting. At other times, the camera is aimed at the Speaker's chair. While this may afford a variety of shot lengths, the shot is always of the Speaker even if he/she is not speaking or ruling from the chair.” But the episode was picked up on microphones near the protesting MP and broadcast on radio.

Another area where the parliaments are concerned to protect their dignity is over the use which can be made of any recordings or footage. The wording of directives issued by the **British** and **Australian** parliaments, for example, are very similar.

The Guidelines issued by **Australia**'s Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings spell out that reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of different views: "recordings of proceedings (of the Senate and the House of representatives) are only to be used for the purposes of providing fair and accurate reports of proceedings. They are not be used for:

- "a) for political party advertising
- b) satire or ridicule
- c) commercial sponsorship or advertising.

No extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be used in any form of advertising, promotion or other form of publicity

No extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be used in any light entertainment programme or in a programme of political satire, though extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be included in broadcast magazine programmes which also contain music or humorous features provided that the different types of items are kept separate."

**Canada** emphasizes the need for a fair and impartial account. CBC journalists are told: "This means that for Parliamentary events approximately equivalent treatment should be given to the leading speaker for each of the parties." Then the rules go into detail about how the broadcasters may film. In Australia, it is a requirement that the cameras should focus on the Member speaking: "As a general principle, focus on the member called to speak. Shots should be no closer than head and shoulders." The Canadian guidelines stipulate much the same: "The cameras should cover the members that are recognized by the Speakers in the Chamber and the Committee Chair in committee meetings." It is the same in the British House of Commons: "The standard format depicting the Member who has the floor should be a head and shoulders shot, not a close up. The camera should normally remain on the Member speaking until he or she has finished."

The camera is allowed to switch to another Member in certain circumstances. Here are the Australian rules: "Reaction shots of a member are permitted

1. when a member has sought information which is being supplied by the MP speaking
2. when the member is referred to in debate
3. if the member is in the designated seat.

On this point, the **British** Parliament is almost identical: "occasional cutaway shots to illustrate individual reactions are allowed - but only to show a Member who has been referred to by the Member speaking."

This pattern is followed in other Commonwealth parliaments. Guidelines issued by a joint Select Committee of Parliament in **Trinidad** stated: "Coverage should reflect a full a full appreciation of Parliamentary proceedings. That is to say the aims and objectives of Bills and arguments for and against them." The Trinidad guidelines state that the press and public galleries should not be shown. Special care should be taken so that shots are not shown of the Presiding Officer of Parliament getting advice from the Clerk of the Table. "Roving or reaction shots may be taken but opportunities to embarrass unsuspecting members i.e. shots not connected with the proceedings should not be used." Cameras are told to ignore "deliberate misconduct designed to secure television coverage. Deliberate misconduct designed to secure TV coverage ought not to achieve this aim."

Interruptions and demonstrations in the gallery should in no circumstances be televised as they do not constitute Parliamentary Proceedings. In cases of unparliamentary behaviour, “ i.e. should any member be in defiance of the Chair, the camera should normally focus on the Presiding Officer not on the member behaving out of turn.” And on occasions of grave disorder, the guidelines say, “the camera should focus on the occupant of the Chair for as long as proceedings continue or until order has been restored”.

The **UK** House of Commons rules are very similar: neither interruptions from nor demonstrations in the galleries are “proceedings and as such they should in no circumstances be televised. If such an incident should occur, the director should cut either to a wide-angle shot of the chamber which does not show the offending incident, or to the occupant of the Chair”. The press and public galleries, officers and visitors boxes behind the Speaker’s Chair - not being directly related to the proceedings - should not be shown other than unavoidably as part of wide-angle or other authorized shots of the Chamber.”

The **Australian** and **British** Parliaments also prohibit the cameras from showing close up shots of members’ papers. And great care must be taken in showing the Speaker. Westminster gives this directive to the camera operator: “Shots designed to show the Speaker receiving advice from a clerk at the table should not be used. Officers of the House and Doorkeepers attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown unless they are taking an active part in the proceedings. In no case should close-up shots of members or officers’ papers be taken.”

The **Malta** and **Bahamas** regulations say that the cameras must “focus on the Member recognized by the Speaker and show just the head and torso of the Member. Wide-angled and over the shoulder camera shots of the Member is permitted.” **Kenyan** MPs have been told not to bring their mobile telephones in the Chamber. **Uganda**’s Parliament is drawing up rules for the press to follow while covering Parliament. So far little details have been given about what they will say but according to Radio Uganda, in one of its bulletins in February 2003, Parliament has been told that: “Issues like reading a newspaper, sleeping or dozing, and talking among MPs, are among the issues that the press would be barred from running on their station”.

Sanctions for breaking these directives are much the same throughout the Commonwealth - restrictions on access and in more serious cases censure and suspension.

## **GUIDELINES FOR JOURNALISTS**

In the larger states of the Commonwealth, the main public service broadcasters - Australia’s ABC, CBC in Canada and the BBC in Britain - have all drawn up comprehensive guidelines for their journalists. They place special store on objective journalism and in their guidelines to their editorial staff emphasize the need not to allow their professional judgment to be influenced by pressures from political, commercial or other sectional interests or their own views (ABC Guidelines p 18 6.3.1). **ABC** seeks through its broadcasts to be “a pace setter in community discussion, not for the purpose of shaping community views and values”. ABC says that for the proper functioning of representative government, it is essential that the public should be fully informed of the issues of current debate and the position and policies of those parties competing for political office. This is based on several assumptions: that the airwaves are public property and the public is entitled to hear the principal views on all questions of importance; that broadcasting must not fall under the control of individuals or of organized pressure groups and that the right to hear alternative policies and points of view is inherent in the concept of objective reporting and impartiality. The ABC’s Charter of Editorial Practice lists its 4 key values as honesty, fairness, independence and respect: “All programme makers should present a wide range of perspectives and must not unduly favour one over others.

Editorial staff must observe the highest standards and not allow their professional judgment to be influenced by pressures from political, commercial or other sectional interests or by their own personal views.....There must be no external interference in the presentation or content of programmes.”

The **Canadian** guidelines say that to achieve balance and fairness, a journalistic organization should ensure that the widest possible range of views is expressed.....the challenging of accepted orthodoxies should be reported but so also should the established views be clearly put. CBC does not expect a journalist not to have views. But these must not be allowed to come through: And the journalist must not succumb to bias or prejudice.

“It is important that a balanced, overall view of controversial matters to avoid the appearance of promoting particular opinions or being manipulated into doing so by events.”

In an open society, the CBC guidelines say credibility is an essential attribute of a journalistic organization. Credibility is dependent not only on qualities such as accuracy and fair reporting but also upon avoidance by both the organization and its journalists of associations or contacts which could reasonably give rise to perceptions of partiality. Any situation which could cause reasonable apprehension that a journalist or the organization is biased or under the influence of any pressure group whether ideological, political, financial social or cultural must be avoided.

The guidelines issued to all producer and journalists at the **BBC** says due impartiality lies at the heart of the BBC. “All programmes...should be open minded and fair and show a respect for truth. No significant strand of thought should go unreflected or under-represented.” And like its Canadian counterpart, the BBC is concerned to maintain its credibility. It is important that audiences must be able to trust the integrity of BBC programmes.

They should be confident that decisions are made only for good editorial reasons, not as a result of improper pressure, be it political, commercial or special interest.

Commonwealth countries, no matter how developed or poor, are no different to people in other parts of the world. Most people get their news from the bulletins and programmes they watch on TV or hear on radio. These newscasts increasingly include clips of Prime Ministers, Cabinet Ministers and MPs speaking in their national Parliaments, announcing new measures or making statements or answering questions. Most of those who replied to the survey said that they had not made any formal surveys of audiences. Nevertheless they felt able to tell from indicators like their postbags, phone-in programmes, and telephone calls to their stations, that their broadcasts were having some impact. The survey reveals that very little formal research has been carried out in audiences specifically for the coverage of Parliament. Nevertheless some facts emerge clearly.

There is only a tiny audience in countries such as Australia and Britain for the live broadcasts of the proceedings of Parliament in those countries - and in the case of **Britain**, it is carried on a digital channel which can be seen by about 40 percent of the total viewing population. The Editor of BBC Parliament said that they had not done any audience research into the viewing figures but he gave this profile of the niche audience which does watch: “BBC Parliament is watched by people already committed to a strong interest in politics - the channel does not seem to reach many people who are not already interested in political life.”

**Australia's** ABC also reported having no figure for its radio audience to broadcasts from Parliament so the impact was difficult to assess. But the average weekly television audience for LIVE coverage of the house of representatives was nearly 160,000. the early afternoon transmission (1400 - 1500) drew an average of 59,600 viewers while more watched the late evening transmission: just under 66,000. Early morning viewing of the Senate proceedings of the previous day was estimated at 26,000.

**Radio New Zealand** also reported that its Parliamentary broadcasts “do not attract a mass audience”. Malta and Bermuda gave similar replies. Bermuda said the live Parliamentary coverage had the capacity to reach a mass audience but “were not listened to by the majority”.

**South Africa’s** national broadcaster, SABC, noting a similar trend, gives an explanation for the low viewing figures in its case. “SABC’s figures for August and September 2002 - which are consistent with previous surveys - show an audience rating of 1.1 to 1.3 percent which equates to an average audience of 15,000 to 17,000 viewers. This is extremely low and could be attributed partly to the time of the broadcasts which is 1400 to 1600 on weekdays.” Hardly a peak viewing time.

But if the LIVE broadcasts of Parliament in countries such as Australia, Britain and South Africa attract only “niche” audiences, the other, almost universal, form of coverage such as packaged reports in news bulletins and news programmes do win big audiences and viewers. Especially the news bulletins. The **Canadian** national broadcaster CBC says that “clips on news and current affairs on CBC radio and TV meant they reach a mass audience” Doordarshan, **India’s** state-owned TV, told us its programmes were attracting mass audiences, particularly in rural areas: “Since we telecast the proceedings of Parliament, voters get to know the performance of their elected representatives and also live transmission brings on an awareness among the people on how the legislature is dealing with issues pertaining to public and national interest. On the other hand, members of Parliament, are aware of the fact that they are constantly being watched by their electorate and tend to play a more active role in the proceedings of the House which benefits the functioning of the legislature.”

All India Radio too reported that it reached a large audience. Asked what impact Parliamentary broadcasting was having, it answered: “it is educational and informative and welcomed by the public.”

In fact scenes over the Women’s Reservation Bill (to keep a certain number of seats for women), and scenes of MPs mobbing the Speaker in an attempt to bring proceedings to a halt and abort the measure, triggered widespread debate and anger in the Indian media - audible too on Internet.

One of **Jamaica’s** TV stations, CVM Television asked whether its Parliamentary coverage was reaching a mass audience replied: “It has the capability to do so. Whether people are actually watching the live broadcasts has never been tested. Certainly a mass audience, nearly 80 percent of potential viewers, watch the daily summaries during the major nightly newscasts.” And the Jamaican station summed up the position which would appear to apply in many Commonwealth countries. “The public is interested to know what their representatives are doing and how the affairs of the country are progressing. It has fostered an expectation that the public should have access to Parliamentary happenings.”

Television Jamaica also reported that no research had been done into viewing figures. It points to audiences being attracted based on what the issues are and how they are perceived. For Jamaica, as for many countries in the Commonwealth, the problem is one of resources. The government on the island is so keen for its voice to be heard, in what is an election year, that the government’s Information Agency has been providing Television Jamaica with help in the form of technical equipment (a multi camera unit) and with a presenter and local stations on the island have been taking a feed. Television Jamaica feels this is a cost effective solution to the problem of costly equipment.

With other Caribbean countries, **Guyana**, for example, Parliamentary broadcasts play an important role, the broadcasters say, in keeping citizens informed and making them aware of the issues. The state broadcaster in **Dominica**, the Dominica Broadcasting Corporation, says the value of its AM Parliamentary broadcasts is: “It allows the electorate to understand the issues affecting them, especially new bills being passed in Parliament and to understand how well those whom they have elected are representing their interests.”

**St Vincent and the Grenadines** said they could tell their broadcasts were having an impact. “Audiences tune in to hear about specific issues. Frequently, references are made about this during calls to programmes.”

The views expressed by the Caribbeans are very much echoed by the island states of the Pacific. Broadcasters in **Fiji, Kiribati, the Solomon Islands and Papua New Guinea** are convinced their Parliamentary broadcasts are helping to produce better-informed citizens. Both **Fiji and Papua New Guinea** told us their listeners at the grass roots were getting an insight into what their MPs are saying and doing in Parliament”. **Kiribati** noted that “older listeners seem to be very well informed of what is going on in Parliament and the government.”

**Solomon Islands** Broadcasting Corporation, the only national broadcaster in the islands, had not done any audience survey but “from the public responses to Parliament discussions, it is evident that a lot of people throughout the country follow our Parliamentary broadcasts.”

In Africa, the problem as much as anything else is audience reach. For most countries on the continent, radio is the most important medium of mass-communication. It is radio, not television, which is the most important source of information, a complete opposite to the situation in the developed world. Radio is often the only medium available to the vast majority living in rural areas where literacy levels are often low. Radio **Mozambique** reckons that it manages to reach around 70 percent of the population. Its programmes are downloaded from satellite by all the country’s ten regional relay stations. In both **Sierra Leone and Malawi**, for example, radio listening far outnumbers TV viewing and the broadcasters in those countries say their Parliamentary broadcasts are keeping the populations informed of events and issues . In **Malawi** fewer than 100 000 out of a population of 11 million own television sets, while in **Sierra Leone**, large areas of the country do not have access to television. And for those with access to television, there is a further complication: frequent power cuts.

In both **Kenya and Nigeria**, where democracy has been restored after years of either one party rule or military dictatorship, new governments see Parliamentary broadcasting as having a vital role to play in the development of their countries. The new **Kenyan** government, which came to power after the December 2002 elections, declared that freeing the airwaves was to be one of its priorities. And it has decided to begin live broadcasting of the National Assembly. The Assembly Speaker told MPs in March 2003 that broadcasting equipment was being installed soon, together with facilities for a National Assembly web site and a modern library provided with the latest information. A later report in the country’s main newspaper, the Daily Nation, said that the main chamber was being given a facelift in preparation for the arrival of the broadcasters. Kenyans, the Nation Assembly Speaker was quoted as telling MPs, were “more politically aware and would sharply focus on the performance of the House. With more alert citizens and a reform minded civil society this Parliament will definitely experience substantial challenges and responsibilities in Kenyan politics and society.”

**Botswana** broadcasters say the effect of their broadcasts is that “the electorates get to know what their parliamentarians are saying about their welfare and a lot of other things that concern them and whether they are being well represented or not.”

**Uganda**, too, recently announced (March 2003) it would be carrying live coverage on both radio and TV of Parliamentary proceedings. Ironically this was something rejected by Ugandan MPs only last year. Supporters of allowing the cameras into Parliament argue that Uganda was simply following the practice in the United States, the United Kingdom and other parts of the world. And for the MP moving the proposal, a major point in favour was that “Radio Uganda and Uganda TV should relay what was happening so as to make MPs more accountable to their clients.” Parallel with this efforts are being made to ensure that the whole country could be reached by Uganda Radio and TV.

**Zambia** has drawn up a number of Parliamentary reforms, agreed with the United States in exchange for aid, aimed at bringing about greater democracy. As part of this package, debates of the Zambian Parliament were to be shown live on television on a trial basis and audibility improved. The reach of the transmitter carrying the live debates was being boosted in range from ten to fifty kilometres.

Similar moves to improve audience reach are being made in **Tanzania**. Only the state owned Radio Tanzania and Televisi ya Tarifa are licensed to broadcast over the entire country. TvT says: "At the moment, only a limited number of the population gets our signal. This situation is going to change in the very near future." Despite this limited audibility, it feels that its one-hour daily programme of packaged extracts of Parliament's proceedings, plus reports in the main news bulletins, is having an impact. Even though the station had not done any survey, "we do get feedback through telephone calls and letters in newspapers and to the government."

## **OUTSIDE HELP TO THE THIRD WORLD BROADCASTERS AND PARLIAMENTS**

**Tanzania** is one of a number of Commonwealth countries getting assistance from outside bodies in its attempts to make Parliament more accessible to the general public. The United Nations Development Programme, UNDP, is working together with bodies such as the Inter-Parliamentary Union, the Southern African Development Community and Foundations in Canada and Germany to spread democracy in developing countries. It is involved in projects throughout Africa and Asia to provide advice and training and develop communications strategies and guidelines for communications practices. In the case of Tanzania, for example, the government is keen to improve communication with the public and achieve better relations with the media as part of its commitment to good governance, openness and accountability. The UNDP's aim in Tanzania is "to help strengthen the capacities of Parliament as the people's voice as well as an institution that provides a forum for the expression and obtaining consensus on conflicting interests."

The **South African** Parliament has an extensive website which sets out on a daily basis the business of both Houses, together with press releases and general information about its work. This website has been established with help from the European Union's Parliamentary Support programme. The group - set up to monitor the work of the South African Parliament's various committees - is receiving funding from the Open Society Foundation, the Dutch and Norwegian Embassies in Cape Town, the Westminster Foundation for Democracy and the Canadian High Commission in South Africa.

**Zimbabwe** did not respond to the CBA survey's request for information on Parliamentary broadcasting there. But UNDP is actively involved in training legislators to communicate more effectively with their constituents. For instance the new UNDP-supported web-site for the Parliament of Zimbabwe allows everybody with Internet access to contact their parliamentarians and to study committee reports, bills and Parliamentary debate.

Outside Africa, UNDP is also helping to strengthen Parliamentary democracy in **Bangladesh** - a country wracked by political violence in recent years and bitter confrontation between the two main political parties, the Awami League and the Bangladesh National Party which have alternated in power since the end of military rule. As part of their tactics, these parties, when in opposition, resort to walkouts and boycotting Parliament in an attempt to oust their rivals. Neither Bangladesh Betar, nor Bangladesh Television, responded to our request for information but it is possible from other sources to discern something of the coverage of Parliament there. With help from UNDP, the Bangladesh Parliament has established its own web-site ([www.parliamentofbangladesh.org](http://www.parliamentofbangladesh.org)) which carries detailed information in English as well as Bengali about the work of Parliament, its place in the constitution, rules of procedure. And it has set up its "Institute of Parliamentary Studies" which produces a monthly newsletter reporting on the proceedings of Parliament. In addition there are other web sites reporting the proceedings of Parliament. UNDP is also organizing courses for MPs to learn how to benefit from TV.

## CONCLUSION

“It is expensive and requires a lot of broadcasting time”. So said one of the smaller broadcasters in the Commonwealth. But covering Parliament is constantly expanding throughout the Commonwealth. As is clear from the reaction of viewers and listeners, knowing what legislators are doing is a vital part of democracy.

Even though democracy is increasing throughout the Commonwealth, there are still some problems. African editors from 30 countries, meeting earlier this year in South Africa, demanded that the state owned media in their members’ countries should “desist from being used as their respective governments’ propaganda mouthpieces.” To take one example: the Information minister of **Swaziland** announced that his country’s media, including state owned radio and television, would not be allowed to report stories considered controversial or embarrassing to the government.

A Bill calls for journalists to be licensed and for the authorities to be able to revoke the licenses of anyone it sees fit, with draconian penalties, prison and heavy fines as well.

Even where countries have emerged from a period of dictatorship - or one party rule with stifling control of the media - there is still the problem of self censorship. The International Journalists’ Network Organization points out that in **Malawi** nearly a decade after “President for life” Hastings Banda stepped down, “a thirty year legacy of self censorship among journalists remains strong. There is no provision in the statutes of the Malawi Broadcasting Corporation that opposition views be given equal - or any - coverage on MBS broadcasts.” And Botswana is familiar with the problem. One of its editors told the survey: “In the past we had a situation where we emphasized the importance of covering issues and not just personalities; but the politics of the whole matter dictated otherwise when we were accused of being biased towards some party.”

It is helpful to have Guidelines to aid journalists in their reporting of Parliament, emphasizing the need for fairness, balance and impartiality and to present a wide range of opinions. Traditionally, smaller countries have turned to the long established Parliamentary broadcasters like Australia, Canada and Britain for advice. Now, as Parliamentary broadcasting spreads, and adoption of Guidelines widens, the smaller countries are beginning to be able to turn to their neighbours for information and advice.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes No  
- TV Yes No  
- Internet Yes No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
Yes No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio Yes No  
TV Yes No  
Cable TV Yes No  
Satellite TV Yes No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings Yes No  
- selected proceedings Yes No  
- major proceedings Yes No  
- highlights Yes No  
- news clips Yes No

- |      |   |       |    |
|------|---|-------|----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | Yes   | No |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes   | No |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes   | No |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |       |    |
|      | - all proceedings   | Yes   | No |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes   | No |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes   | No |
|      | - highlights  | Yes   | No |
|      | - news clips  | Yes   | No |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | ----- |    |

### **Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |    |
|------|---|-----|----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes | No |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes | No |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | Yes | No |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |     |    |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes | No |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes | No |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes | No |
|      | - fines   | Yes | No |
|      | - other   |     |    |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |    |
|------|--|-----|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes | No |
|------|--|-----|----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |     |    |
|------|--|-----|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes | No |

### **Hansard**

- |      |  |     |    |
|------|--|-----|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes | No |
|------|--|-----|----|

## Content

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |     |    |
|----------------------------|-----|----|
| - Question Time            | Yes | No |
| - Government Business      | Yes | No |
| - Opposition Business      | Yes | No |
| - Private Members Business | Yes | No |
| - Adjournment debates      | Yes | No |
| - Other – please list      |     |    |
- -----

## Audience

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? Yes No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

## Archive

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Internet No
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster Parliament
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No

**BRANCH: ALDERNEY**

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? -----

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? No
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
  - Question Time No
  - Government Business No
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business No
  - Adjournment debates No
  - Other – please list
  - Radio and TV journalists report on debates and conduct interviews with Members.

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

### **Authority to Broadcast**

(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No

(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No

(3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

(4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

### **Facilities**

(5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster

(6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No

(7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio Yes  
Cable TV Yes

### **Scope of Broadcasts**

(8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes

(9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings Yes No

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year  
does your Parliament sit? -----

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot  
be covered by broadcasters?  
If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. No
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of  
government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House No
  - suspension from the House No
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No
  - other

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use  
of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted  
by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
| - Question Time                                    | Yes |
| - Government Business                              | Yes |
| - Opposition Business                              | Yes |
| - Private Members Business                         | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates                              | Yes |

**Audience**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|--|----|

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | Yes |
|--|-----|

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
a) broadcasting equipment—from Parliament  
b) personnel — from Parliament and broadcaster  
c) feed— from Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio Yes  
TV No  
Cable TV Yes  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
 Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 70 days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes in relation to the Senate. See attachment on page 38.
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes, see page 23.
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?

No, although refer to paragraph 1.(3) of Broadcasting of Proceedings on page 27.

- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
- censure in the House No
  - suspension from the House No
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No
  - other - in relation to the House of Representatives, such penalty as determined by House of Representatives members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings.

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

### Privilege

(18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?

Members are covered by absolute privilege in respect of statements made in the House when the House is being broadcast.

(19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings?

Only qualified privilege may be held to attach to the broadcast of excerpts of proceedings, and it may be considered that this situation is appropriate given the fact that those involved in the broadcasting of excerpts act essentially on their own initiative.

Authorised broadcasters, acting pursuant to statute, are covered by absolute privilege in relation to broadcasts or delayed broadcasts, or rebroadcasts, of proceedings (s. 15 of the Act, at page 34).

### Hansard

(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes

### Content

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?

|   |     |
|---|-----|
| - Question Time   | Yes |
| - Government Business   | Yes |
| - Opposition Business   | N/A |
| - Private Members Business  | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates   | Yes |
| - Other – see section on Allocation of broadcast time on page 29. |     |

### Audience

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

### Archive

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament?

Video recordings—the policy is that all televised chamber and committees meetings are archived indefinitely. The current holdings are of most recordings made since 1988, and all recordings made since 1991.

Audio recordings are stored on Hansard digital audio system. These are archived for 18 months only.

### **Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings**

The Australian Parliament establishes the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings under the *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946* (a copy of the Act may at page 30). The committee has nine members, including the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate. Pursuant to the Act, the Speaker is the chairman and the President is the vice chairman of the committee.

The remaining seven committee members are appointed by motion from their respective Houses, of which, five are Members of the House of Representatives and two are Senators. The committee composition reflects the members of the different political parties in proportion to the relative strength of each group in each House.

The primary focus of the committee is the regulation of the radio broadcast of the proceedings of Parliament. The committee also regulates any re-broadcast of proceedings, and in the event of a joint sitting, the committee regulates any live or recorded televising of proceedings.

In particular, the committee specifies the general principles applying to determine the days and periods during which the proceedings of each chamber are to be broadcast. General principles were developed by the committee and adopted by each House in 1994 (a copy of the general principles is at page 35). The committee determines the allocation of broadcast between the two Houses, and the conditions for re-broadcast of the proceedings. The committee adopted standing determinations in 1994 (a copy of the standing determinations is at page 36).

Conditions for granting access to parliamentary proceedings for the purpose of recording and broadcasting excerpts were adopted by the committee in 1986 and revised in 1994 (a copy of the conditions is at page 38).

### **Origins of the broadcastings**

Radio broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings commenced on 10 July 1946 following an inquiry and report by the Parliamentary Standing Committee on Broadcasting. The committee's recommendations drew heavily on the experiences of the New Zealand Parliament, where the proceedings of the House of Representatives had been broadcast since 1936.

Under the Act, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation (ABC) has a statutory obligation to make a radio broadcast of the proceedings of the Senate, the House of Representatives, or any joint sitting.

In late 1988 a network was established to carry the broadcast of proceedings of Parliament and related material only. This has subsequently evolved to be part of a live 24 hour national news network, NewsRadio.

### **Televising of parliamentary proceedings**

The televising of Senate proceedings commenced in 1990 and the House of Representatives in 1991. The *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946* does not provide for the regulation of the televising of proceedings to the same extent as it does for radio broadcasts. The Act only refers to the televising of joint sittings of Parliament, which are relatively rare.

Guidance on the televising of parliamentary proceedings is provided separately by the House of Representatives and the Senate. Each House authorises the televising of its proceedings by means of resolutions and sets its own conditions on broadcasters. Failure to adhere to the principles laid down by the two Houses can result in a denial of access.

### Allocation of broadcast time for radio and television

The committee determines the allocation of broadcast time in relation to radio broadcasts of parliamentary proceedings. The allocation it has decided upon is shown in Column A of Table 1.

Radio broadcasts cover the full day of proceedings, not just Question Time. The committee has determined the allocation based on the business that is conducted in each of the Houses on particular days. For example, a sitting Monday in the House of Representatives is devoted to private Members' business and the committee has decided that this is to be one of the broadcast days of the House of Representatives.

The ABC, not the Parliament, determines the allocation of the television broadcast of Question Time. It alternates its coverage of Question Time between the House of Representatives and the Senate, with the House that is not covered live having its Question Time broadcast in the evening. The general pattern of live coverage is shown in Column B of Table 1.

**Table 1**

| Day       | Column A<br>Radio broadcasts | Column B<br>Television broadcasts<br>(Question Time) |
|-----------|------------------------------|--|
| Monday    | House of Representatives     | Senate   |
| Tuesday   | Senate                       | House of Representatives                             |
| Wednesday | Senate                       | Senate   |
| Thursday  | House of Representatives     | House of Representatives                             |



# Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946

## Act No. 20 of 1946 as amended

This compilation was prepared on 8 September 2000 taking into account amendments up to Act No. 3 of 1994

The text of any of those amendments not in force on that date is appended in the Notes section

Prepared by the Office of Legislative Drafting, Attorney-General's Department, Canberra

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## Notes

# An Act to provide for the Broadcasting of the Proceedings of the Houses of the Parliament, and for other purposes

## 1 Short title [see Note 1]

This Act may be cited as the *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946*.

## 2 Commencement [see Note 1]

This Act shall come into operation on the day on which it receives the Royal Assent.

## 3 Interpretation

(1) In this Act, unless the contrary intention appears:

*joint sitting* means a joint sitting of the members of the Senate and of the House of Representatives convened by the Governor-General in pursuance of section 57 of the Constitution or held pursuant to any Act.

*national broadcasting station* means a radio station used to provide national broadcasting services within the meaning of section 13 of the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992*.

*the Committee* means the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings appointed under this Act.

(2) In this Act:

- (a) a reference to televising shall be read as a reference to the transmission from a television station of visual images, with or without accompanying sound; and
- (b) a reference to re-broadcasting of proceedings shall be read as a reference to broadcasting from a sound recording of proceedings.

(3) Sections 14, 15 and 16 apply in relation to proceedings of a joint sitting as if:

- (a) a reference to broadcasting of proceedings included a reference to televising of proceedings; and
- (b) a reference to re-broadcasting of proceedings included a reference to televising from a recording of proceedings.

## 3A Application to the Territories

This Act extends to all the external Territories.

## 4 Broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings

(1) Notwithstanding anything contained in the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation shall broadcast the proceedings of the Senate, the House of Representatives or a joint sitting from:

- (a) a medium-wave national broadcasting station in the capital city in each State and in the city of Newcastle in the State of New South Wales; and
- (b) such other national broadcasting stations (including shortwave national broadcasting stations) as are prescribed;

upon such days and during such periods as the Committee determines.

(2) Notwithstanding anything contained in the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, but subject to subsection (3) of this section, the Australian Broadcasting Corporation may televise the whole or a part of the proceedings of a joint sitting.

(3) The Committee may make determinations requiring the Australian Broadcasting Corporation to exercise its powers under subsection (2) or otherwise relating to the exercise of those powers, and the Corporation shall act in accordance with any such determination.

## **5 Constitution of Committee**

- (1) At the commencement of the first session of every Parliament, a Joint Committee of nine members of the Parliament, to be called the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings, shall be appointed according to the practice of the Parliament with reference to the appointment of members to serve on Joint Select Committees of both Houses of the Parliament.
- (2) One of the members of the Committee shall be the President of the Senate, one member shall be the Speaker of the House of Representatives, and, of the other seven members of the Committee, two shall be members of, and appointed by, the Senate and five shall be members of, and appointed by, the House of Representatives.

## **6 Tenure of office of members of Committee**

The members of the Committee shall hold office as a Joint Committee until the House of Representatives for the time being expires by dissolution or effluxion of time.

## **7 Resignation**

- (1) Any member of the Committee (other than the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives) may resign his seat on the Committee by writing under his hand addressed to the President of the Senate if he be a Senator, or to the Speaker of the House of Representatives if he be a member of the House of Representatives.
- (2) The seat of any member of the Committee shall be deemed to have become vacant if he ceases to be a Senator or a member of the House of Representatives (as the case may be).

## **8 Vacancies**

Where the seat of any member of the Committee (other than the President of the Senate or the Speaker of the House of Representatives) becomes vacant, it shall be filled by appointment according to the practice referred to in section 5 within fifteen sitting days after the happening of the vacancy if the House of the Parliament of which he is a member is then sitting, or, if not, then within fifteen sitting days after the next meeting of that House.

## **9 Chairman and Vice-Chairman**

There shall be a Chairman and a Vice-Chairman of the Committee, who shall be elected by the members of the Committee at their first meeting, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

## **10 Quorum and procedure at meetings**

At any meeting of the Committee:

- (a) five members shall form a quorum;
- (b) the Chairman or, in his absence, the Vice-Chairman or, in the absence of both the Chairman and the Vice-Chairman, a member elected by the members present, shall preside;
- (c) all questions shall be decided by a majority of the votes of the members present; and
- (d) the Chairman or other member presiding shall have a deliberative vote and, in the event of an equality of votes, shall also have a casting vote.

## **11 Power to sit during recess etc.**

The Committee may sit and transact business during any adjournment or recess as well as during the session, and may sit at such times (including times while either House of the Parliament is actually sitting or during a joint sitting) and in such places, and conduct their proceedings in such manner, as they deem proper.

## **12 Functions of Committee**

- (1) The Committee shall consider and specify in a report presented to each House of the Parliament, the general principles upon which there should be determined the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of the Senate and the House of Representatives shall be broadcast.
- (2) The Committee shall, in accordance with general principles specified by the Committee and adopted by each House of the Parliament, determine the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of either House of the Parliament shall be broadcast.
- (3) The Committee shall determine the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of a joint sitting shall be broadcast.

## **13 Delegation to Sub-Committee**

- (1) The Committee may delegate to a Sub-Committee of the Committee, consisting of two Senators and two members of the House of Representatives, the power to determine the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting shall be broadcast or its power to determine any matter in accordance with subsection (3) of section 4, and any determination of the Sub-Committee shall, for the purposes of this Act, be deemed to be a determination of the Committee.
- (2) Two members of the Sub-Committee shall form a quorum.
- (3) No delegation under this section shall prevent the exercise of any power by the Committee.
- (4) The Sub-Committee may sit and transact business during any adjournment or recess as well as during the session, and may sit at such times (including times while either House of the Parliament is actually sitting or during a joint sitting) as they deem proper.

## **13A Recording of parliamentary proceedings**

- (1) In this section, *Corporation* means the Australian Broadcasting Corporation.
- (2) The Corporation may make a sound recording of any proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting and shall make a sound recording of any such proceedings when directed so to do by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
- (2A) The Corporation may, with the consent of the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Committee, make a visual recording, with or without accompanying sound, of any proceedings of a joint sitting, and shall make such a recording when directed so to do by the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Committee.
- (3) The Corporation shall, within such period as the Committee from time to time directs, deliver to the Chairman or Vice-Chairman of the Committee any recording made by the Corporation in pursuance of this section.
- (4) Where the Committee considers that a recording made by the Corporation in pursuance of this section is of sufficient historic interest to justify its being permanently preserved, the Committee may make such arrangements as it thinks fit for the permanent safe keeping of the recording.
- (5) Where the Committee does not make arrangements for the permanent safe keeping of a recording, the Committee shall cause the recording to be destroyed.

#### **14 Re-broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings**

- (1) The Committee shall have power to determine the conditions in accordance with which a re-broadcast may be made of any portion of the proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting.
- (2) No re-broadcast shall be made of any portion of the proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting otherwise than in accordance with the conditions so determined.

#### **15 No action for broadcasting parliamentary proceedings**

No action or proceeding, civil or criminal, shall lie against any person for broadcasting or re-broadcasting any portion of the proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting.

#### **16 Section 117 of Broadcasting and Television Act inapplicable**

The provision of sections 79A and 79B of the *Australian Broadcasting Corporation Act 1983*, clauses 3, 4 and 5 of Part 2 of Schedule 2 to the *Broadcasting Services Act 1992* and sections 70A and 70B of the *Special Broadcasting Services Act 1991* shall not apply to the Broadcasting or re-broadcasting of any proceedings of either House of the Parliament or of a joint sitting.

#### **17 Regulations**

The Governor-General may make regulations, not inconsistent with this Act, prescribing all matters which, by this Act, are required or permitted to be prescribed or which are necessary or convenient to be prescribed for carrying out or giving effect to this Act.

## General principles relating to the radio broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings

*Resolution adopted by both Houses on 20 September 1994*

1. *Days upon which proceedings shall be broadcast and their allocation between the Senate and the House of Representatives*

The proceedings of Parliament shall be broadcast on each day on which either House is sitting. While there will be a usual allocation of broadcasts between the Senate and the House of Representatives, the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings or its Sub-Committee shall take into account the importance of the impending debate and the public interest attaching thereto in deciding on the allocation. It is anticipated that, over time, the coverage of each House will be approximately equal.

2. *Rebroadcast of questions and answers*

- (a) The following Parliamentary Proceedings shall be rebroadcast by the Australian Broadcasting Corporation at the conclusion of the broadcast of live proceedings from either House unless otherwise ordered by the Committee

Senate proceedings—Questions without notice and answers thereto;

House of Representatives proceedings—Questions without notice and answers thereto;

- (b) The rebroadcast shall be of the House that is not allocated the broadcast;
- (c) When a member makes a personal explanation in rebuttal of misrepresentation contained in a question asked that day or an answer thereto, the question and answer shall, subject to the next succeeding sub-paragraph, be excluded from the re-broadcast; and
- (d) The Presiding Officer may, in his or her discretion, refer any case to the Joint Committee for decision as to whether such a question and answer shall be excluded from the rebroadcast.

3. The general principles specified here and adopted by both Houses shall be observed generally by the Joint Committee in making determinations in accordance with the *Parliamentary Proceedings Broadcasting Act 1946*, but nothing in those general principles shall be taken to prevent the Joint Committee from departing from those general principles in order to meet any unusual or special circumstances.

## **Standing determinations relating to the radio broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings**

**Adopted by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings on 21 September 1994 and amended on 13 April 2000**

### *Transfer of broadcast from one House to another*

1. When both Houses are meeting on the one day and the House whose proceedings are being broadcast adjourns for the day or suspends its proceedings for an extended period, the broadcast may be transferred to the other House at the earliest opportunity.
2. On any day when both Houses are meeting and on which the House to which the broadcast for the day has not been allocated meets prior to the allocated House, the proceedings of the House first mentioned shall be broadcast from the time of its meeting until the latest time for transfer of the broadcast to the allocated House for the commencement of its proceedings.

### *Allocation of broadcasts*

3. The allocation of broadcasts shall be as follows unless the Joint Committee or its subcommittee decides there are significant issues under debate in the House not allocated the broadcast that warrant the transfer of the broadcast:

|           |                           |
|-----------|---------------------------|
| Monday    | —House of Representatives |
| Tuesday   | —Senate                   |
| Wednesday | —Senate                   |
| Thursday  | —House of Representatives |
| Friday    | —House of Representatives |
| Saturday  | —Senate                   |
| Sunday    | —House of Representatives |

### *Rebroadcast of questions and answers*

4. When points of order or other extraneous matter are eliminated from the rebroadcast of questions and answers, this should be indicated by an appropriate announcement.

### *Rebroadcast of Governor-General's speech*

5. On the first sitting day of each session of the Parliament the Australian Broadcasting Corporation shall rebroadcast the speech of the Governor-General at the earliest convenient time available on the Parliamentary Broadcast Network.

*Announcements from control booths*

6. The following general principles apply to announcements made from the control booths:
  - (a) announcements can include a description of procedure, and business before the allocated House or of business before the other House or of procedures and/or business before joint committees or committees of either House;
  - (b) general information can be provided about the context of debates or particular proceedings as long as political views or forecasts are not included;
  - (c) the announcement of each Senator or Member receiving the Call includes the following particulars—
    - (i) name,
    - (ii) parliamentary office or portfolio,
    - (iii) political party,
    - (iv) electorate or state; and
  - (d) names of members intending to speak may be announced.

## **Conditions for granting access to proceedings of the Senate and the House of Representatives for the purpose of recording and broadcasting excerpts**

**Adopted by the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings on 2 June 1986 and revised on 7 June 1994**

1. Excerpts may be taken from proceedings of each House or of the Main Committee of the House of Representatives (whether or not the proceedings are being continuously broadcast) commencing at the time fixed for the meeting of the House until the adjournment of that House until the next sitting.
2. Excerpts shall be recorded from the audio signal of proceedings transmitted by the House monitoring system throughout Parliament House, Canberra.
3. Excerpts are not to be used for the purposes of satire or ridicule.
4. Excerpts shall not be used for the purposes of political party advertising or in election campaigns.
5. Fairness and accuracy and a general overall balance should be observed.
- 5A. Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn shall be available for re-broadcast provided the withdrawal is also reported.
6. Excerpts must be placed in context. Commentators should identify Senators and Members at least by name.
7. Events in the Galleries are not part of the proceedings and excerpts in relation to such events, as far as is practicable, should not be used.
8. Qualified privilege only shall apply to broadcasters in the use of excerpts.
9. The instructions of the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House of Representatives or their delegated representatives on the use of recorded excerpts, shall be observed at all times.
10. Where the excerpts are used on commercial networks, the station should try to ensure that advertising before and after excerpts is of an appropriate nature.
11. Where the audio excerpts of proceedings are used on television, their use may be that of audio over still frames, or overlay material.
12. Access to proceedings for the purpose of recording excerpts shall be on the basis of undertaking to observe these guidelines.

**Extract from *Standing Orders and other orders of The Senate***  
—as at February 2003

**Broadcasting of Senate and committee proceedings**

**1 Radio and television broadcasting of Senate proceedings**

- (1) The Senate authorises the broadcasting by Australian Broadcasting Corporation television of question time in the Senate.
- (2) If the House of Representatives allows the television broadcasting of question time in that House, the distribution of the television broadcast between the 2 Houses shall be in accordance with the distribution of the radio broadcast, provided that the Senate is broadcast on not less than 3 days in any 2-week sitting period.
- (3) The Senate authorises the broadcasting of radio and television stations of excerpts of its proceedings in accordance with the following conditions:

*Conditions governing the broadcasting of excerpts of proceedings by radio and television stations*

1. Access to the proceedings of the Senate for the recording and broadcasting of excerpts of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to observe, and to comply with, the following conditions.
2. Recordings and broadcasts may be made only from channel 2 on the house monitoring system.
3. Broadcasts of excerpts shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
  - (a) political party advertising or election campaigns;
  - (b) satire or ridicule; or
  - (c) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.
4. Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views.
5. Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be broadcast only if the withdrawal is also reported.
6. The instructions of the President of the Senate or his or her delegates in respect of the broadcasting of excerpts, which are not inconsistent with these conditions, shall be observed.

## **2 Radio and television broadcasting of committee proceedings**

The following rules apply in relation to radio and television broadcasting, including rebroadcasting, of the proceedings of a committee.

- (1) Recording and broadcasting of proceedings of a committee may occur only in accordance with the authorisation of the committee by a deliberate decision of the committee.
- (2) A committee may authorise the broadcasting of only its public proceedings.
- (3) A committee may determine conditions, not inconsistent with these rules, for the recording and broadcasting of its proceedings, may order that any part of its proceedings not be recorded or broadcast, and may give instructions for the observance of conditions so determined and orders so made. A committee shall report to the Senate any wilful breach of such conditions, orders or instructions.
- (4) Broadcasting of committee proceedings shall be for the purpose only of making fair and accurate reports of those proceedings, and, in particular:
  - (a) shall not be the subject of commercial sponsorship or be used for commercial advertising; and
  - (b) shall not be used for election advertising.
- (5) Recording and broadcasting of proceedings of a committee shall not be such as to interfere with the conduct of those proceedings.
- (6) Where a committee intends to permit the broadcasting of its proceedings, a witness who is to appear in those proceedings shall be given reasonable opportunity, before appearing in the proceedings, to object to the broadcasting of the proceedings and to state the ground of the objection. The committee shall consider any such objection, having regard to the proper protection of the witness and the public interest in the proceedings, and if the committee decides to permit broadcasting of the proceedings notwithstanding the witness's objection, the witness shall be so informed before appearing in the proceedings.

## **3 Broadcasting of proceedings of legislation committees when considering estimates**

The public proceeding of legislation committees when considering estimates may be relayed within Parliament House and broadcast by radio and television stations in accordance with the conditions contained in paragraphs (4) and (5) of the order of the Senate relating to the broadcasting of committee proceedings, and in accordance with any further conditions, not inconsistent with the conditions contained in those paragraphs, determined by a committee in relation to the proceedings of that committee.

#### **4 Access to video recordings of Senate proceedings**

Persons other than television stations may make use of video recordings of Senate proceedings, subject to the following conditions:

Recordings of proceedings are to be used only for the purposes of:

- (a) providing fair and accurate reports of Senate proceedings; or
- (b) providing information about the proceedings and operations of the Senate,

and shall not be used for:

- (c) political party advertising or election campaigns;
- (d) satire or ridicule; or
- (e) commercial advertising.

#### **5 House Monitoring Service—extension**

- (1) The Senate authorises the extension of the House Monitoring Service television coverage of the proceedings of the Senate and Senate committees to persons and organisations, as determined by the President, on terms and conditions determined by the President.
- (2) The President shall report to the Senate on persons and organisations in receipt of the service and on any terms and conditions determined under paragraph (1).

#### **6 Electronic broadcasting of Senate and committee proceedings**

The Senate authorises the publication by electronic means, including by the Internet, in sound and visual images, of proceedings of the Senate and its committees, subject to the rules applying to radio and television broadcasting of Senate and committee proceedings.

## **Broadcasting of Proceedings— Conditions for Broadcasters**

*Resolution adopted 1 May 1996*

That the conditions for broadcasters of the live broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee be amended to read as follows:

1. Access to the proceedings of the House of Representatives and its Main Committee for the recording and broadcasting of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to observe, and to comply with, the following conditions:

- (1) Broadcasting and recordings may only be made from the official and dedicated composite vision and sound feed provided by the Sound and Vision Office (channels 1 and 5 on the House Monitoring System);
- (2) Broadcasts shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
  - (a) political party advertising or election campaigns;
  - (b) satire or ridicule; or
  - (c) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising;
- (3) Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views;
- (4) Excerpts of proceedings which are subsequently withdrawn may be rebroadcast only if the withdrawal also is rebroadcast;
- (5) The instructions of the Speaker of the House of Representatives, or the Speaker's delegate, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.

2. Non-compliance with the guidelines listed above may incur penalties. Breaches of the guidelines and penalties are determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings. The following is a general guide to the penalties which may be imposed on stations or programs:

- (a) first breach—access to the broadcast withdrawn for three sitting days;
- (b) second breach—access to the broadcast service withdrawn for six sitting days;  
and
- (c) third or subsequent breaches—such penalty as is determined by the House members of the Joint Committee on the Broadcasting of Parliamentary Proceedings.

## Guidelines for camera operators

1. As a general principle cameras should focus on the Member with the call. Shots should be no closer than "head and shoulders."
2. Fine tuning or variations to depths of field at the discretion of the operator is acceptable.
3. Wide-angle shots of the Chamber may be used during Divisions and Question Time. Sparing use of the wide-angle shot may be used at other times.
4. Reaction shots of a Member are permitted:
  - when the Member has sought information which is being supplied by a Member having the call; or
  - when the Member is referred to in debate; and
  - if the Member is in the designated seat.
5. If an exchange between Members is too fast to permit normal camera switching, then a wider camera shot incorporating those involved in the exchange, including the Chair, is permitted.
6. Coverage of the Galleries and the advisers' seats is not generally permitted except when distinguished visitors are referred to by the Speaker or the Deputy Speaker. In this case, the camera may focus briefly on that section of the Speaker's Gallery where the distinguished visitors are located.
7. In the event of unparliamentary behaviour or disturbance by strangers on the floor of the House, the camera is to focus on the Chair or a slightly wider angle shot of the Chamber which incorporates the Chair and the dispatch boxes area, but which does not show the offending incident.
8. Limited panning along the Benches is permitted in appropriate circumstances.
9. No split-screen shots shall be permitted.
10. No close-up shots of Members' papers shall be permitted.
11. Instructions from the Speaker, or the Speaker's delegate, in relation to the operation of the sound and vision equipment in the House of Representatives, shall be observed.

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes – This is also at the Speaker's discretion under the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting of Proceedings) Act 1997*.
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
 Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 41

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes  
 Copy of the rules attached below.
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
- censure in the House Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No
  - other

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes

Withdrawn comments must be deleted from the broadcast. It is rare to delete words from Hansard.

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time No
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates No

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No



**LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY**

**Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure**

Wayne Berry, MLA (Chair)

Roslyn Dundas MLA; John Hargreaves MLA, Bill Stefaniak MLA; Kerrie Tucker MLA

Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001

**Conditions of broadcasting proceedings  
and delegation of power to withdraw right  
to broadcast**

February 2002

## **Terms of Appointment**

In 1995, the Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory ('the Assembly') adopted Standing Order 16, which established the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure ('the Committee'). The members of the Committee for the Fifth Assembly ('the Members') are:

The Speaker (Presiding Member)  
Roslyn Dundas, MLA  
John Hargreaves, MLA  
Bill Stefaniak, MLA  
Kerrie Tucker MLA

Secretary: Mark McRae  
Assistant Secretary: Janice Rafferty

Inquiry Secretary: Tom Duncan

Standing Order 16 authorises the Committee to inquire into and report on, among other things, the practices and procedure of the Assembly.

## **Terms of Reference for Inquiry**

On 13 February 2002, the Committee resolved:

'That the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure inquire into and report on the conditions of broadcasting pursuant to sub-section 5(2) of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001* and the power to delegate the right to withdraw approval for broadcast, pursuant to section 6 of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001*.

For further information on this and other inquiries by the Committee contact the Committee Secretary on (02) 6205 50191 or by email at [committees@act.gov.au](mailto:committees@act.gov.au). Alternatively view the Committee's website at [www.legassembly.act.gov.au](http://www.legassembly.act.gov.au).

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## Summary of Recommendations

### Recommendation 1

**The motions shown at Attachment A, pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001* which determine conditions for broadcasting of Legislative Assembly and committee proceedings and the delegation of the right to withdraw broadcasting, be moved and agreed to in the Legislative Assembly.**

## Section One - Introduction

### *Background to Inquiry*

1 In May 1995, a private member's bill was introduced into the third Assembly to establish procedures for the broadcast of Assembly proceedings.<sup>1</sup> The Assembly referred the bill to this Committee for review. It was largely on the basis of the Committee's recommendations that the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting of Proceedings) Act 1997* was drafted and subsequently enacted.<sup>2</sup>

2 In March 1999 (during the fourth Assembly) the Assembly referred the operation of that Act to the Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure. In June 2000 the Committee presented its report to the Assembly. Based on the Committee's report, on 9 August 2001 the government introduced the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Bill 2001*, which was subsequently passed on 21 August 2001. The *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001* ('the Act') was notified in the *Gazette* on 10 September 2001, and is scheduled to commence operation on 10 March 2002.

3 The Act streamlines the procedures for broadcasting of proceedings by enabling all public proceedings of the Legislative assembly or a committee to be broadcast.

4 This report sets out the committee's views on the conditions to be observed by persons broadcasting, or recording for broadcast, Assembly proceedings.

### *Provisions of the Act*

5 Sub-section 5(1) of the Act sets out the provisions whereby a person may broadcast the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly or a committee of the Assembly. Subsection 5 (2) states that:

6 The Legislative Assembly may, by resolution, determine the way rights given by subsection (1) must be exercised.

9 The conditions that are suggested by the committee are shown at Attachment 1

### *What should be broadcast?*

10 The committee has noted the views of the previous committee of the Fourth Assembly contained in its report of June 2000 that the guidelines to be adopted by the Assembly should carry the condition that only those Assembly proceedings that, in the opinion of the Speaker, can be broadcast. The Speaker, in deciding whether to authorise the filming of proceedings, was to consider the importance of the proceedings and the possible level of interest in the proceedings within the community.

11 The Act has, in some way, superseded that recommendation by providing that a person may broadcast all or part of public proceedings of the Legislative assembly or a committee of the Assembly. It appears that the intent of sub section 5(1) is that all proceedings are subject to be broadcast, and the committee concurs with that view. The conditions therefore are framed to allow broadcast of all the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly, or a committee of the Assembly. The conditions provide, however, that any person wishing to record visual images in the Chamber and the Committee rooms must seek the approval of the Speaker (in the case of the Assembly) or the Committee Chair (in the case of a Committee) in writing giving reasonable notice.

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<sup>1</sup> Legislative Assembly (Broadcast of Proceedings) Bill 1995.

<sup>2</sup> Standing Committee on Administration and Procedure, *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting of Proceedings) Bill 1995*, February 1996.

12 The conditions also stipulate the rules governing the camera crews filming in both the Chamber and committees. These conditions are identical to the ones that have been in existence for a number of years, and are intended to ensure that the proceedings are filmed in a fair and accurate manner, whilst balancing the needs of the working environment of the Chamber and the Committee rooms.

13 The conditions also contain the usual prohibition on the use of proceedings for the purpose of satire and ridicule, advertising for or by political parties or electioneering or commercial advertising or sponsorship. It also prevents the rebroadcast of points of order and remarks withdrawn, although if the proceedings are broadcast live to air then these prohibitions do not apply.

14 Witnesses at a public hearing of a committee who do not wish their evidence to be broadcast do have, under the proposed conditions, an opportunity to object to the recording and /or broadcast of their evidence.

#### *Power to withdraw the right to broadcast*

15 The draft motions make provision for the power of withdrawal of the right to broadcast to be delegated to the Speaker (in the case of a broadcast of the Assembly) or the relevant committee (in the case of a broadcast of a committee proceeding). If the conditions of broadcast were not met, then it would be expected that the Speaker or the Committee would consider withdrawing the right to broadcast for a specified period.

#### *Forms for electronic access to proceedings*

16 Section 7 of the Act prescribes that a person who wishes to transmit public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly or a committee of the Assembly must apply in writing to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly for access to the recording and transmission facilities of the Legislative Assembly.

17 Attached at Attachment B are suggested forms for this purpose. The first form is for the broadcast, or recording for broadcast, of public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees. It is anticipated that the media would use these forms.

18 The second form is for the broadcast of live audio broadcast of public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees. It is envisaged that the form would be used for persons in the Legislative Assembly building, government departments and other agencies receiving broadcasts.

19 The Committee recommends:

Recommendation 1

**The motions shown at Attachment A, pursuant to sections 5 and 6 of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001* which determine conditions for broadcasting of Legislative Assembly and committee proceedings, be moved and agreed to in the Legislative Assembly.**

Wayne Berry, MLA  
Speaker

February 2002

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY FOR THE  
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY

NOTICE OF MOTION

Draft motion

I move....

- 1) that, pursuant to Section 5 of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001*, the following guidelines apply to the broadcast, or record for broadcast of public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly or a committee of the Assembly.

**Guidelines for the Broadcasting of Public Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its Committees**

The broadcasting, or recording for broadcasting, of proceedings is only permitted subject to the conditions outlined below. Permission to broadcast or record for broadcast proceedings shall be on the basis of an undertaking to observe these conditions.

- i. A person who has been granted electronic access to proceeding shall observe the following conditions:
  - (a) as a general principle, cameras should focus on the Member or witness with the call;
  - (b) reaction shots of a Member are only permitted:
    - (i) if the Member is referred to in debate;
    - (ii) if the Member has sought information which is being supplied by a Member having the call;
  - (c) coverage of the Galleries is not permitted;
  - (d) panning along the Benches is not permitted;
  - (e) close-up shots of Members' papers are not permitted;
  - (f) camera positioning is not to interfere with the proceedings of the Assembly; or of the conduct of a public hearing of a committee of the Legislative Assembly;
  - (g) any instruction from the Speaker or the Speaker's delegate is to be observed.
- ii Broadcast of proceedings shall be from the signal transmitted by landline or from the Assembly's narrowcast to building occupants.
- iii Broadcasts of public proceedings should contain a fair and accurate reporting of events and must not be used for:
  - (i) the purpose of satire or ridicule;
  - (ii) advertising for or by political parties or electioneering; nor
  - (iii) commercial advertising or sponsorship.
- iv Points of order and remarks that are withdrawn may not be rebroadcast.

- v A witness at a public hearing of a committee shall be advised in advance of appearing that the proceedings may be recorded and broadcast. A witness shall be given reasonable opportunity to object to the recording and/or broadcast of their evidence and state the ground of the objection.
- vi Persons/organisations wishing to broadcast or record for broadcast the public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees must complete the relevant form.
- vii Persons/organisations intending to record visual images in the Chamber and/or Committee Rooms must seek the approval of the Speaker (in the case of the Assembly) or the Committee Chair (in the case of a Committee) in writing giving reasonable notice.

**and**

- 2) **That, pursuant to Section 6 of the *Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001*, the Legislative Assembly:**
  - (a) **delegates to the Speaker the power to withdraw the right of a person to broadcast, or record for broadcast, public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly or a committee of the Assembly; and**
  - (b) **delegate to each committee formed by resolution or standing order of the Assembly the power to withdraw the right of a person to broadcast, or record for broadcast, public proceedings of that committee.**

|  |                           |  |                    |
|--|---------------------------|--|--------------------|
| <b>Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory</b>   |                           | <b>Request to Receive Live Audio Broadcast of the Public Proceedings the Legislative Assembly and its Committees</b>   |                    |
| To be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly   |                           |  |                    |
| Name:  |                           |  |                    |
| Government Department/ Other:  |                           |  |                    |
| Mailing Address:   |                           |  | Date:              |
| Telephone:   |                           | Fax:   |                    |
| Details of request and (in the case of an agency) the number of staff utilising the broadcasts:  |                           |  |                    |
| I hereby agree to abide by the rules and guidelines set out below  |                           |  | Signature<br>_____ |
| <b>GUIDELINES</b><br><i>please read carefully before submitting request</i>  |                           |  |                    |
| <b>Guidelines for the receipt of live audio broadcast of the public proceedings of the Chamber of the Legislative Assembly and its Committees</b>  |                           |  |                    |
| Reference in these guidelines to ‘broadcasting’ is to the audio and/or visual broadcasting or rebroadcasting of proceedings or excerpts of public proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.   |                           |  |                    |
| <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Audio only recordings of proceedings shall be from the signal transmitted by landline or from the Assembly’s narrowcast to building occupants.</li> <li>2. Access to the transmission facilities of the Legislative Assembly for transmission to the applicant is subject to Section 7 of the <i>Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001</i>.</li> <li>3. Access will be granted if the Clerk is satisfied <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(a) that the recording and transmission facilities of the Legislative Assembly have the capacity to satisfactorily support the equipment the applicant proposes to connect to them; and</li> <li>(b) the mode of access requested is reasonable for the purpose for which it is sought; and</li> <li>(c) the applicant’s right to receive the proceedings for which the application is made has not been withdrawn under this Act; and</li> <li>(d) the applicant enters into a written agreement with the Territory to— <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(i) comply with any determination in effect under section 5 (2) of the <i>Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001</i>.; and</li> <li>(ii) provide, or arrange for the provision of, the telecommunication lines and other equipment necessary for the access (the <b>access equipment</b>); and</li> </ol> </li> <li>(iii) pay the costs and expenses of connecting the access equipment to the recording and transmission facilities of the Legislative Assembly; and <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>(iv) pay the costs and expenses of maintaining the access equipment; and</li> <li>(v) pay the costs and expenses of the Legislative Assembly secretariat in giving access to the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its committees by the access equipment.</li> </ol> </li> </ol> </li> <li>4. The submission of this “Request to Receive Live Audio Broadcast” form signifies the applicant’s agreement to comply with these guidelines, the guidelines for the Broadcast, or Recording for Broadcast, of the Public Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its Committees and meet all costs under Section 7 (2) (d) of the Act.</li> </ol> |                           |  |                    |
| Date lodged:<br><br>/ /  | Approved<br><br>YES / NO: | Clerk’s Signature<br>_____   |                    |
| <b>Legislative Assembly for the Australian Capital Territory</b>   |                           | <b>Request to Broadcast, or Record for Broadcast the Public Proceedings of Legislative Assembly and its Committees</b> |                    |

Name:

Network/Broadcaster/Department/Newspaper/Other:

Mailing Address: Date:

Telephone: Fax: Audio  Visual

Details of request:

**I hereby agree to abide by the rules and guidelines set out below** **Signature**  
\_\_\_\_\_

**GUIDELINES *please read carefully before submitting request***

**Guidelines for the Broadcast, or Recording for Broadcast, of the Public Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its Committees**

The broadcasting, or recording for broadcasting, of proceedings is only permitted subject to the conditions outlined below. Permission to broadcast or record for broadcast proceedings shall be on the basis of an undertaking to observe these conditions. *(See also Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001)*

- i. A person who has been granted electronic access to proceeding shall observe the following conditions:
  - (a) as a general principle, cameras should focus on the Member or witness with the call;
  - (b) reaction shots of a Member are only permitted:
    - (i) if the Member is referred to in debate;
    - (ii) if the Member has sought information which is being supplied by a Member having the call;
  - (c) coverage of the Galleries is not permitted;
  - (d) panning along the Benches is not permitted;
  - (e) close-up shots of Members' papers are not permitted;
  - (f) camera positioning is not to interfere with the proceedings of the Assembly; or of the conduct of a public hearing of a committee of the Legislative Assembly;
  - (g) any instruction from the Speaker or the Speaker's delegate is to be observed.
- ii Broadcast of proceedings shall be from the signal transmitted by landline or from the Assembly's narrowcast to building occupants.
- iii Broadcasts of public proceedings should contain a fair and accurate reporting of events and must not be used for:
  - (iv) the purpose of satire or ridicule;
  - (v) advertising for or by political parties or electioneering; nor
  - (vi) commercial advertising or sponsorship.
- iv Points of order and remarks that are withdrawn may not be rebroadcast.
- v A witness at a public hearing of a committee shall be advised in advance of appearing that the proceedings may be recorded and broadcast. A witness shall be given reasonable opportunity to object to the recording and/or broadcast of their evidence and state the ground of the objection.
- vi Persons/organisations intending to record visual images in the Chamber and/or Committee Rooms must seek the approval of the Speaker (in the case of the Assembly) or the Committee Chair (in the case of a Committee) in writing giving reasonable notice.

|                                |   |                                       |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|
| <b>Date lodged:</b><br><br>/ / | <b>Approved</b><br><br><b>YES / NO:</b> | <b>Clerk's Signature</b><br><br>_____ |
|--------------------------------|---|---------------------------------------|

**To be submitted to the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly**

|   |      |                                |                                 |
|---|------|--------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Name:   |      |                                |                                 |
| Network/Broadcaster/Department/Newspaper/Other:                   |      |                                |                                 |
| Mailing Address:  |      |                                | Date:                           |
| Telephone:  | Fax: | Audio <input type="checkbox"/> | Visual <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Details of request:   |      |                                |                                 |
| I hereby agree to abide by the rules and guidelines set out below |      |                                | Signature<br>.....              |

**GUIDELINES *please read carefully before submitting request***

**Guidelines for the Broadcast, or Recording for Broadcast, of the Public Proceedings of the Legislative Assembly and its Committees**

The broadcasting, or recording for broadcasting, of proceedings is only permitted subject to the conditions outlined below. Permission to broadcast or record for broadcast proceedings shall be on the basis of an undertaking to observe these conditions. *(See also Legislative Assembly (Broadcasting) Act 2001)*

- i. A person who has been granted electronic access to proceeding shall observe the following conditions:
  - (a) as a general principle, cameras should focus on the Member or witness with the call;
  - (b) reaction shots of a Member are only permitted:
    - (i) if the Member is referred to in debate;
    - (ii) if the Member has sought information which is being supplied by a Member having the call;
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  - (d) panning along the Benches is not permitted;
  - (e) close-up shots of Members' papers are not permitted;
  - (f) camera positioning is not to interfere with the proceedings of the Assembly; or of the conduct of a public hearing of a committee of the Legislative Assembly;
  - (g) any instruction from the Speaker or the Speaker's delegate is to be observed.
- ii Broadcast of proceedings shall be from the signal transmitted by landline or from the Assembly's narrowcast to building occupants.
- iii Broadcasts of public proceedings should contain a fair and accurate reporting of events and must not be used for:
  - (vii) the purpose of satire or ridicule;
  - (viii) advertising for or by political parties or electioneering; nor
  - (ix) commercial advertising or sponsorship.
- iv Points of order and remarks that are withdrawn may not be rebroadcast.
- v A witness at a public hearing of a committee shall be advised in advance of appearing that the proceedings may be recorded and broadcast. A witness shall be given reasonable opportunity to object to the recording and/or broadcast of their evidence and state the ground of the objection.
- vi Persons/organisations intending to record visual images in the Chamber and/or Committee

Rooms must seek the approval of the Speaker (in the case of the Assembly) or the Committee Chair (in the case of a Committee) in writing giving reasonable notice.

|                                |                                  |                                   |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| <b>Date lodged:</b><br><br>/ / | <b>Approved</b><br><br>YES / NO: | <b>Clerk's Signature</b><br>..... |
|--------------------------------|----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
- all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 60

### **Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
- censure in the House Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No
  - other N/A

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

### **Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? No

- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates No

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

Legislative Assembly of New South Wales

AGREEMENT BETWEEN G. KAY PRODUCTIONS PTY LTD

AND THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR THE FILMING OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

THIS AGREEMENT is made the nineteenth day of February 2002 between G. Kay Productions Pty Ltd (“the Company”) AND the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales (“the Assembly”)

1. the agreement shall commence on the twenty- sixth day of February 2002 and shall conclude on the day immediately preceding the first sitting of the 53<sup>rd</sup> parliament in 2003.
2. the Company undertakes to provide and audio-visual signal of broadcast quality of such proceedings within the Assembly Chamber as are agreed to by the Speaker and the Company on each day the Assembly sits during the period of the Agreement.
3. (a) the Assembly agrees to pay to the Company the sum of seven hundred dollars and fifteen (\$715.00) per day, being the fee of \$650 plus 10% GST for each day of sitting during the remaining period of the Agreement.  
(b) the Company undertakes to provide a taxation invoice in a format approved by the Australian Taxation Office to facilitate the Assembly to claim a taxation input credit for the GST component of the payment.
4. the Assembly retains ownership of any audio-visual signal created by the Company within the Assembly Chamber.
5. the Company will facilitate distribution to such media organizations as are specified by the Assembly in such manner as will facilitate the use of such signal for broadcast purposes.
6. the Company will provide a copy of the signal to the Assembly
7. nothing contained in this Agreement restricts the exercise of the powers and privileges possessed by the Speaker otherwise than under this Agreement.
8. subject to the Broadcasting Act, absolute privilege is to apply to live broadcasts. Qualified privilege only shall apply to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcasting of proceedings.
9. copyright shall vest in the Assembly

10. the Company shall not assign or part with any of the rights or obligations which are the subject of this agreement or of any part of it
11. the camera crew shall at all times be neatly and appropriately dressed, including jacket and tie.
12. the camera operator shall observe the following guidelines whilst filming in the Assembly Chamber,
  - (a) filming shall be continuous during authorized periods
  - (b) as a general principle cameras should focus on the Member with the call. Shots should be no closer than head and shoulders.
  - (c) Fine-tuning or variations to depths of field at the discretion of the operator is acceptable.
  - (d) Wide-angle shots of the Chamber may be used during Question Time and Divisions. Sparing use of the wide-angle shot may be used at other times.
  - (e) Reaction shots of a Member are permitted when the Member has sought information, which is being supplied by a Member having the call; or when the Member is referred to in debate;
  - (f) If an exchange between Members is too fast to permit normal camera switching, then a wider camera shot incorporating those involved in the exchange, including the Chair, is permitted.
  - (g) Coverage of the Galleries and the advisers' seats is not permitted.
  - (h) When the Chair is on his feet or in the event of unparliamentary behaviour or disturbance by strangers on the floor of the Chamber or galleries, the camera is to focus on the Speaker's Chair
  - (i) No panning along the Benches shall be permitted.
  - (j) No close-up shots of Members' papers shall be permitted.
  - (k) Instructions from the Speaker, or the Speaker's delegate, in relation to the operation of the sound and vision equipment in the Assembly, shall be observed.

This Agreement is duly executed this nineteenth day of February 2002 by John Henry Murray, Speaker, for and on behalf of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales in presence of Russell Grove, Clerk of Legislative Assembly and Greg L. Kay, G Kay Productions Pty Ltd

New South Wales Legislative Assembly

AGREEMENT BETWEEN TELEVISION CHANNELS  
ABN CHANNEL 2, ATN CHANNEL 7, NINE NETWORK AUSTRALIA AND NETWORK TEN  
LIMITED

AND THE

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NEW SOUTH WALES

FOR THE FILMING OF PROCEEDINGS

IN THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY CHAMBER

THIS AGREEMENT is made the twelfth day of March 2002 between Television channels ABN Channel 2, ATN Channel 7, Nine Network Australia and Network Ten Limited, (“the Channels”) AND the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales (“the Assembly”)

1. the agreement shall commence on the twelfth day of March 2002 and shall conclude on the day immediately preceding the General Election in 2003.
2. the Assembly undertakes to provide and audio-visual signal of broadcast quality of such proceedings and may be filmed within the Assembly Chamber as are agreed to by the Speaker and the Company on each day the Assembly sits during the period of the Agreement.
3. (a) the Channels agree to pay to the Assembly the sum of seven hundred and fifteen dollars, being the fee of \$650 plus 10% GST for each day of sitting during the remaining period of the Agreement. Each Channel shall be jointly and severally liable for the said payments.

(b) the Assembly undertakes to provide a taxation invoice in a format approved by the Australian Taxation Office to facilitate the Channels to claim a taxation input credit for the GST component of the payment.

4. the Assembly retains ownership of any audio-visual signal created by the Company within the Assembly Chamber.
5. the audio-visual signal will be provide to the Channels by the Assembly’s agent, G. Kay Productions Pty Ltd in such manner as will facilitate the use of such signal for broadcast purposes.

the Assembly authorizes live broadcast and rebroadcast of the proceedings and excerpts of the proceedings of the Assembly on television filmed during the period of the Agreement.

Broadcast

6. and rebroadcast may occur either as live telecast, rebroadcast of daily proceedings, a summary of proceedings, short extracts within daily news segments or current affairs programs.
7. subject to the Broadcasting Act, absolute privilege is to apply to live broadcasts. Qualified privilege only shall apply to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcasting of proceedings.
8. copyright shall vest in the Assembly
9. nothing contained in the Agreement restricts the exercise of the powers and privileges possessed by the Speaker otherwise than under this Agreement.
10. the Channels shall not assign or part with any of the rights or obligations, which are the subject of this agreement or of any part of it.

11. the Channels shall observe the following conditions when broadcasting the proceedings of the Assembly.
- a. Broadcast and rebroadcast may occur and recordings may only be made from the audio-visual signal provided to the Channels by D. Kay Productions Pty Ltd.
  - b. Television shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
    - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns;
    - (ii) satire or ridicule;
    - (iii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.

Note: Where excerpts are used on commercial networks, the station should ensure that advertising before and after excerpts is of an appropriate nature.

- c. Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views.
  - d. Excerpts of proceedings are to be placed in context and if re-used at a later date shall carry the words "file tape" or similar wording.
  - e. Points or order, and matters claimed to be points of order may be rebroadcast except as provided in (f) and (g).
  - f. Remarks in respect of which a Member claims misrepresentation or otherwise seeks withdrawal, and which are subsequently ordered to be withdrawn, or are voluntarily withdrawn, are not to be rebroadcast.
  - g. If the Speaker orders that a remark be deleted from Hansard, either at the time the remark was made or at a later time, the remark, the Speaker's direction and the proceedings relating to the matter, are not to be rebroadcast.
  - h. Footage must be broadcast at normal speed, with synchronized sound and vision.
  - i. Events in the galleries are not a part of the proceedings and should not be covered.
  - j. The instructions of the Speaker, or the Speaker's delegate, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.
12. Non-compliance with the conditions listed above may incur the following penalties for the Channels involved:
- (a) first breach-access to the broadcast service withdrawn for two sitting days;
  - (b) second breach-access to the broadcast service withdrawn for four sitting days;
  - (c) third and subsequent breaches – eight days or such other penalty as may be imposed by the Speaker. Any decision of the Speaker regarding penalty is final.

This Agreement is duly executed this twelfth day of March 2002.

By John Henry Murray, Speaker, Russell Grove for and on behalf of the Legislative Assembly of New South Wales, Representatives for and on behalf of ABN Channel 2, a representative from and on behalf of ATN Channel 7

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?

No/ Not available

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?

No/ Not available

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:

- Radio No

- TV No

- Internet No

Not available

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?

No

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?

Broadcaster (funded by the government)

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?

No, the broadcaster charges the Parliament

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?

Radio Yes

TV No

Cable TV No

Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:

- all proceedings Yes

|  |
|--|
| <b>BRANCH: NORFOLK ISLAND, AUSTRALIA</b> |
|--|

- |      |   |         |
|------|---|---------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No      |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No      |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No      |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |         |
|      | - all proceedings   | No      |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No      |
|      | - major proceedings   | No      |
|      | - highlights  | No      |
|      | - news clips  | No      |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 13 Days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | No  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | No  |
|      | - fines   | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes    |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes

(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes Subject to permission .  
- TV Yes On an ad hoc Basis by each committee.  
- Internet Yes

(3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

(4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

(5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster (Radio ITV) Parliament (Internet)

(6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No

(7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

(8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes



**Privilege**

(18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes No  
\*

(19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes No

\* Unsure due to recent Australian High Court Ruling

**Hansard**

(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes No

Hansard is verbatim a records only relevant interjections – Broadcasters may Broadcast Interjections

**Content**

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?  
- Question Time Yes excepts  
- Government Business No ) \*  
- Opposition Business No ) \*  
- Private Members Business No ) \*  
- Adjournment debates No ) \*  
- Other – please list

\* Matters of Public Importance  
Some of above if topical but not usually

**Audience**

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament?  
Sound recordings Yes  
Video No  
Hansard is Tape Based

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
N/A
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |               |
|------|---|---------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No            |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No            |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No            |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |               |
|      | - all proceedings   | No            |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes           |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes           |
|      | - highlights  | Yes           |
|      | - news clips  | Yes           |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 48-50 Days/Yr |

### **Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | Yes |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | Yes |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | No  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - fines   | No  |
|      | - other   |     |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No  |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

### **Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (21) | Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
|      | - Question Time                               | Yes |
|      | - Government Business                         | No  |
|      | - Opposition Business                         | No  |
|      | - Private Members Business                    | No  |
|      | - Adjournment debates                         | No  |

**Audience**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (22) | Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (23) | Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | No |
|------|---|----|

LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY

TELEVISIONING AND BROADCASTING OF PROCEEDINGS

54th Parliament

Session 1999-2000

(Resolution adopted 18 February 1998 and as amended 1 June 2000)

That —\*(1) this House authorizes —

- (a) sound transmissions from (he Legislative Assembly chamber to offices within Parliament House; and
  - (b) sound transmissions from the Legislative Assembly chamber to government offices outside Parliament House in accordance with the approval of Mr. Speaker except sound transmissions of anything occurring in the Legislative Assembly chamber prior to the time fixed for the meeting of the House or after the adjournment of the House; and
  - (c) publication in electronic form of the record of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly; and
  - (d) sound and/or visual transmissions and broadcasts from the Legislative Assembly chamber and sound and/or visual broadcasts and re- broadcasts of recordings of proceedings of the Legislative Assembly except sound and/or visual transmissions or broadcasts of, or sound and/or visual broadcasts or rebroadcasts of recordings of anything occurring in the Legislative Assembly chamber prior to the time fixed for the meeting of the House or after the adjournment of the House;
- (2) the following conditions be required to be observed by media organizations making sound and/or visual transmissions or broadcasts from the Legislative Assembly chamber or sound and/or visual broadcasts or re-broadcasts of recordings of proceedings of the Legislative Assembly pursuant to paragraph (1)(d) and any breach of the exceptions and these conditions may result in the immediate suspension of privileges by Mr. Speaker:
- (a) Media organizations or individuals must be accredited by Mr. Speaker.
  - (b) Sound shall be recorded only from the audio signal of proceedings transmitted by die House monitoring system by representatives of accredited media organizations or individuals. No alteration to the sound relay equipment is permitted without the permission of Mr. Speaker. The use of separate recording equipment is not permitted unless authorized by Mr. Speaker.
  - (c) Visual and/or sound recordings and excerpts of visual and/or sound recordings shall not commence until the conclusion of the prayer and shall be used only for me purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings and reasonable balance between both sides of the House is to be achieved by avoiding undue concentration on any one Member.

- (d) Visual and/or sound recordings and excerpt? of visual and/or sound recordings shall not be used for.
  - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns; or
  - (ii) satire or ridicule; or
  - (iii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising; or
  - (iv) television advertisements or promotion,
- (e) Visual and/or Bound recording of any particular proceeding must provide equality between Government and Non-government Members
- (f) Visual and/or sound transmission or broadcasts or re-broadcasts of recordings of, proceedings shall be such as to provide in context a balanced presentation of differing views and may not include the transmission or broadcast of, or broadcast or re-broadcast of a recording of events in the chamber unrelated to the proceedings of the House.
- (g) Visual and/or sound excerpts of recordings of proceedings must be placed in context Commentators should identify Members at least by name.
- (h) Visual and/or sound excerpt? of recordings of proceedings shall not misrepresent any proceeding before the House, or the seating position, or office held by any Member of the House.
- (i) When making visual and/or sound transmissions or recordings, camera operators shall operate within the guidelines issued by the Speaker,
- (j) The visual and/or sound transmission of points of order or remarks withdrawn are not to be rebroadcast.
- (k) Media personnel are inquired to obey any instruction given by Mr. Speaker or Mr. Speaker's delegates;
- (3) this resolution continues in force unless and until amended or rescinded by the House in this or a subsequent Parliament.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |   |         |
|------|---|---------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No      |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No      |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No      |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |         |
|      | - all proceedings   | No      |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No      |
|      | - major proceedings   | No      |
|      | - highlights  | Yes     |
|      | - news clips  | Yes     |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 66 Days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

Conditions

Access to the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly for the broadcast of proceedings is subject to an undertaking to comply with a number of conditions. Non-compliance with the conditions may incur penalties for stations including withdrawal of access for such time as is appropriate. If it appears that the conditions may have been breached, that matter will be considered by the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly.

The conditions are:

- 1 Source of Recording  
Broadcast and rebroadcast may occur and recordings may be made only from the official composite vision and sound program provided by the Parliamentary Television Unit.
- 2 Fair and Accurate Reporting  
Program material shall be used only for the purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
  - (i) political party advertising or election campaigns;
  - (ii) satire, ridicule or denigration;
  - (iii) commercial sponsorship or commercial advertising.
- 3 Balanced Reporting  
Reports of proceedings shall be such as to provide a balanced presentation of differing views.
- 4 Withdrawn Remarks  
Remarks which are subsequently withdrawn may be rebroadcast only if the withdrawal is also rebroadcast.
- 5 Sale of Program Material  
No program material may be sold to any person or organization without the written permission of the Speaker.
- 6 Speaker's Instructions  
The instructions of the Speaker of the Legislative Assembly, in respect of broadcasting, shall be observed.

- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? No
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
  - Question Time No
  - Government Business No
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business No
  - Adjournment debates No

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

At the moment the rules are determined by the Speaker

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Parliament does not provide the Broadcasting feed.
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |   |     |         |
|------|---|-----|---------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |         |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |         |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes | See (9) |

- |      |  |     |  |
|------|--|-----|--|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of: |     |  |
|      | - all proceedings                              | No  |  |
|      | - selected proceedings                         | Yes |  |
|      | - major proceedings                            | Yes |  |
|      | - highlights                                   | Yes |  |
|      | - news clips                                   | Yes |  |

- |      |  |    |  |
|------|--|----|--|
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 10 |  |
|------|--|----|--|

**Guidelines**

- |      |  |     |  |
|------|--|-----|--|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? | Yes |  |
|------|--|-----|--|

Committee of Supply

65 — (1) There shall be a Committee of the whole House, to be called the Committee of Supply, the deliberations of which shall not take place in public.

(2) The Estimates shall, upon presentation to the House, stand referred to the Committee of Supply, and the Appropriation Bill, on being read a second time, shall stand committee to that Committee. The Committee shall also consider and report on all proposals for expenditure from public Revenue or other funds which are not included in the Estimates, including proposals for supplementary or unforeseen expenditure, and any other matter which may be referred to it by resolution of the House.

- |      |   |     |  |
|------|---|-----|--|
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | Yes |  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |  |
|------|--|-----|--|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |  |
|------|--|-----|--|

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? No
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
**Yes on Campus**

The audio of all public committee meetings are broadcast in English, French and ‘floor’ (uninterpreted) languages on the Parliamentary Radio Network, across the parliamentary campus in Ottawa. The live audio feeds are made available to members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery.

- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
**Yes**

Today, CPAC (Cable Public Affairs Channel, a consortium of privately held distributors located across the country) in partnership with the House of Commons, broadcasts the Chamber proceedings live and the televised committee proceedings on a delayed basis to its cable and satellite affiliates located across the country. The House has two committee rooms equipped for the televising and broadcast of committee proceedings. The televised proceedings are also broadcast live on campus via the Parliamentary Television Network and live video feeds are made available to members of the Parliamentary Press Gallery.

- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
**Yes**

In September 2002, the House initiated a pilot to carry out user and technical tests of ParlVu (our streaming web site). The pilot phase is near completion and ParlVu will soon be made available on the Intraparl (internal) web site. This will include the web broadcast of the televised Chamber and televised Committee proceedings and the web broadcast of the audio from all public Committee meetings that are presently available to listeners on campus via their radio receiver.

Following the implementation of web broadcast services on the Intraparl, the House will proceed to web broadcast the televised Chamber and Committee proceedings on the Parliamentary Internet site ([www. parl.gc.ca](http://www.parl.gc.ca)).

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
- Radio **Yes (on campus)**
  - TV **Yes**
  - Internet **Yes**

With regard to the use of the televised proceedings, the following copyright message appears at the beginning and at the end of each televised broadcast:

"The Speaker of the House of Commons hereby grants permission to record the televised proceedings of the House of Commons and its committees for use in schools and for other purposes such as private study, research, criticism, review or newspaper summary.

Television and radio broadcasting undertakings, licensed by the Canadian Radio Television and Telecommunications Commission, may make use of recorded excerpts of these televised proceedings in the news or public affairs programs. Any other commercial use of rebroadcast of these proceedings requires the express prior written approval of the Speaker of the House of Commons."

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
**Yes**

An agreement with the House of Commons to broadcast the proceedings of the House of Commons is a condition of the broadcasting license given to CPAC by the CRTC (Canadian Radio and Television Communications Commission) and certain classes of cable distributors are required to carry it as part of their programming.

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
**Yes**

**See above information regarding copyright.**

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
**Parliament**

The House of Commons manages and operates all television equipment for the purpose of televising Chamber and Committee proceedings. In addition, the House of Commons provides television services to the Senate of Canada.

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
**No**

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
- |              |            |                           |
|--------------|------------|---------------------------|
| Radio        | <b>Yes</b> | <b>(on campus)</b>        |
| TV           | <b>Yes</b> | <b>(CPAC)</b>             |
| Cable TV     | <b>Yes</b> | <b>(CPAC)</b>             |
| Satellite TV | <b>Yes</b> | <b>(Bell, StarChoice)</b> |

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all **public** proceedings? **Yes (on campus)**  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech?

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- |                        |           |
|------------------------|-----------|
| - all proceedings      | <b>No</b> |
| - selected proceedings | <b>No</b> |
| - major proceedings    | <b>No</b> |
| - highlights           | <b>No</b> |
| - news clips           | <b>No</b> |

The media (radio, TV and print) all cover parliamentary events on an on-going basis. To support them in that important role, the Parliamentary Press Gallery is provided with services that provide its members access to the parliamentary process and that includes access to the video and audio feeds of Chamber and public Committee events.

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all **Chamber** proceedings? **Yes**
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all **public committee** proceedings **Yes**
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? **- 135**

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? **Yes No**

See copyright above. The House of Commons was the first legislature to televise its proceedings when the House approved it in 1977. The House of Commons administration captures the proceedings and guidelines are in place to govern the use of cameras in the Chamber and in Committee meetings.

- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? **Yes No**

**See copyright above.**

- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? **No**

Special rules are not required given that proceedings are captured and broadcast in their entirety and the guidelines stipulate that the cameras cover those members that are recognized by the Speaker in the Chamber and the Committee Chair in committee meetings.

- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House **Yes**
  - If the House adopted a motion to that effect.
    - suspension from the House **No**
    - restrictions on access **Yes**
  - If the House adopted a motion to that effect or if the Speaker, as chief administrator of the House, decided on such restrictions (depending on the nature of the violation).
    - fines **No**
    - Other

Our practice would be to have the matter of the violation raised as either a point of order or a question of privilege depending on the nature of the violation. If the violation was raised as a point of order and was viewed as a disregard for the broadcasting guidelines, the Speaker could order corrective measures and/or look into the matter.

If the matter was raised as a question of privilege and was accepted as such, the House could take any action it wished barring imposing any pecuniary penalty.

(17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? **No**

Television coverage of the public and diplomatic galleries is provided when the Speaker acknowledges visitors to the galleries.

**Privilege**

(18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?

**Yes (in the case of live broadcasts)**

Article 9 of the *Bill of Rights, 1689* provides that freedom of speech in parliamentary proceedings is one of the fundamental rights of Members. To quote *Parliamentary Privilege in Canada* by Joseph Maingot, 2<sup>nd</sup> edition, 1997, pages 49-50:

“As in the case of the printed *Hansard*, the electronic *Hansard* now provided in the Canadian House of Commons is a verbatim report of what has transpired audibly and in the case of television, visibly. The debates, whether or not broadcast, are nonetheless still part of ‘debates in Parliament’ per Article 9 of the *Bill of Rights, 1689*. The publication of the debates by broadcasting is still a publication of a full report of the debates, and while a defamatory statement may be uttered and thereby affect third parties outside, it nevertheless emanates from within the ambit of the function of the Member during a debate in Parliament, and accordingly, as in the case of the printed *Hansard*, the Member’s immunity is not affected.”

In the case of extracts, a fair and impartial account would be clothed with qualified privilege and any plaintiff could only succeed if malice could be proved (Maingot, page 51).

(19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? **Yes No**  
**See question 18.**

**Hansard**

(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? **No**

The proceedings of the Chamber are broadcast live and gavel to gavel, in accordance with the terms and conditions of the agreement signed between the House of Commons and CPAC and in accordance with the broadcasting license provided to CPAC by the CRTC. The taped record of the proceedings maintained by the House of Commons and the National Archives of Canada are not altered.

**Content**

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? **All**  
- Question Time **Yes**  
- Government Business **Yes**  
- Opposition Business **Yes**  
- Private Members Business **Yes**  
- Adjournment debates **Yes**

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts?

**Yes**

While Parliament has not conducted audience research for the Parliament broadcasts, our partner CPAC does so on a regular basis. It is estimated that over a million Canadians view the House of Commons broadcasts.

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament?

**Yes**

Although has never been formally given the mandate to do so, the House of Commons has retained the video tapes of all House proceedings and most committee meeting proceedings since it began televising in 1977. The House of Commons is working in partnership with the National Archives of Canada to transfer select portions of that collection to ensure their preservation and safekeeping.

**Authority to Broadcast**

(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes. Audio only at present.

(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes However, they  
- TV Yes are not  
- Internet Yes currently broadcast

(3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

(4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

(5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster – equipment & personnel  
Parliament – audio feed

(6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No

(7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

(8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Occasionally

(9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No  |
|      | - major proceedings   | No  |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | Yes |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 65  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |                |
|------|---|----------------|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes, see p. 91 |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes            |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | See guidelines |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |                |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes            |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes            |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes            |
|      | - fines   | No             |
|      | - other   |                |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |                   |
|------|--|-------------------|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No-see guidelines |
|------|--|-------------------|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No  |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
| - Question Time                                    | Yes |
| - Other – please list                              |     |
| Daily Routine (TV)                                 | Yes |
| Throne Speech                                      | Yes |
| Budget Address                                     | Yes |
| Occasional broadcast of special debates            | Yes |

**Audience**

- |  |              |
|--|--------------|
| (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | Not recently |
|--|--------------|

**Archive**

- |  |  |
|--|--|
| (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | Video of daily routine   |
|  | Audio of recent sittings available on Assembly website. Audio CDs available in library |
|  | Audiotapes of all House proceedings retained by Provincial Archives.                   |

Point 13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?

*Property of the Assembly.* The rights to all material produced until Agreement, including copyright, are the sole property of the Assembly without any further payment or compensation to the Contractor.

*Rules of the House.* The Contractor's staff shall adhere to all rules of the House and direction of the Speaker as given from time to time.

*Shot Restrictions.* Shots shall include only the Member of the Legislative Assembly who has the floor at the time with the following two exceptions:

wide-angle shots of the whole Chamber; and,  
wide-angle shots of the galleries during Introduction of Visitors and Introduction of Guests.

*Captions.* The name, constituency and portfolio of the Member of the Legislative Assembly who is speaking shall be shown on the lower portion of the frame. Other captions may be included at the option of the LAO.

*Music and Titles.* All music and titles used at the beginning and end of the program are subject to the approval of the Speaker.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV Yes
  - Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes (May)
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

**BRANCH: BRITISH COLUMBIA, CANADA**

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of: (Parliament)  
- all proceedings (House) Yes  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights No  
- news clips No
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 85

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  
- censure in the House Yes  
- suspension from the House Yes  
- restrictions on access Yes  
- fines No  
- other

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list
- Swearing in Ceremony  
Open Cabinet Meetings

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes. Library of Parliament

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |   |       |
|------|---|-------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No    |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes   |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes   |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |       |
|      | - all proceedings   | No    |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes   |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes   |
|      | - highlights    Question Period   | Yes   |
|      | - news clips  | Yes   |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | ----- |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |           |
|------|---|-----------|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No        |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No        |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No        |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |           |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes    No |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes    No |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes    No |
|      | - fines   | Yes    No |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |           |
|------|--|-----------|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes    No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes    No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business No
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business No
  - Adjournment debates No
  - Other – please list Budget Speech

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
- |            |   |
|------------|---|
| - Radio    | No  |
| - TV       | Yes, occasionally if requested by Committee |
| - Internet | No  |
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
- |              |     |
|--------------|-----|
| Radio        | No  |
| TV           | No  |
| Cable TV     | Yes |
| Satellite TV | No  |

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- 9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- |                        |    |
|------------------------|----|
| - all proceedings      | No |
| - selected proceedings | No |
| - major proceedings    | No |
| - highlights           | No |
| - news clips           | No |

(10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?

Yes, until 4.30 p.m. each day when cable T.V is interrupted for community programming”.

(11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:

- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| - all proceedings      | No  |
| - selected proceedings | Yes |
| - major proceedings    | Yes |
| - highlights           | Yes |
| - news clips           | Yes |

(12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?

68 Days

**Guidelines**

(13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?

Yes

If yes, please send us a copy of the rules.

See p.101.

(14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?

Yes

To be used for rebroadcast or news coverage – not to make video or used in Other ways.

(15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?

No

These rules are internal to Parliament – television companies are provided tapes Which can be used for news clips, cannot dictate what they decide to show.

(16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:

- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| - censure in the House      | Yes |
| - suspension from the House | Yes |
| - restrictions on access    | Yes |

other :            Could take any action deemed necessary including not renewing contract

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

(17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers’ seats prohibited?

Yes

**Privilege**

(18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?

No

(19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings?

Yes    No

Permission is given for Television companies to rebroadcast proceedings or use selected slips - should not distort image in such a way as to diminish respect owed to Parliament and its Members

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

This has never accrued and as proceedings are televised live, it would be too late.

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list : Gavel to gavel coverage from Speaker’s procession to 4.30 p.m. Each House sits

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? Yes No

Cable company has – finding indicated a large audience

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

Findings are an internal company reprint that we do not have access to.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

New Brunswick, Canada

## **TELEVISION GUIDELINES**

### **• RECOMMENDATIONS:**

That the guidelines for the television coverage of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly of New Brunswick be as follows:

- 1 The proceedings in the Legislative Chamber beginning with the Speaker's procession and Prayers until the daily adjournment of the Assembly shall be recorded and may be broadcast including proceedings in Committee of the Whole and Committee of Supply.
- 2 Only the Member who is on his or her feet and has been recognized by Mr. Speaker shall be recorded by the audio visual cameras.
- 3 The shot of the Member shall be of his or her head-and-shoulders, or a medium close-up shot showing some of the Members who are seated on either side of the speaking Member.
- 4 When Mr. Speaker is on his feet, the camera facing him shall be the one which will be active. This overview of the Chamber shall be the view shown when Mr. Speaker is on his feet and between close-up shots of the Member speaking or during recorded divisions in the Chamber.
- 5 When in Committee of the Whole or Committee of Supply, the overall view of the Chamber shall be used when the Chairman of Committees of the Whole House is speaking or during a division in Committee.
- 6 Head-and-shoulders close-ups of Mr. Speaker or the Chairman in Committee may be taken when he is giving a ruling or calling the House to order.
- 7 Applause' shots may be taken, however a great deal of care must be exercised to ensure that these are in good taste and reflect the decorum of the Chamber.
- 8 Split-screen shots will not be permitted.
- 9 The audio-video editor shall produce and show on the screen the name of the Member and the name of the Members' constituency or portfolio while he or she is speaking.
10. The guidelines shall be enforced by Mr. Speaker. Specific complaints by Members regarding the televising of the proceedings in the Legislative Assembly should be raised with Mr. Speaker in the Speaker's Chambers. Broad reviews of the whole matter of the television of the debates should be referred to the Standing Committee on Legislative Administration.
11. The overall philosophy behind the guidelines is that the audio and video production should be as accurate and factual as possible showing Mr. Speaker and those Members who are speaking in the Chamber. The cameras should not dramatize in any way.
12. The audio-video tapes which are produced by the Legislative Assembly may be shown by television stations and/or cable casters live or by means of recordings. The broadcasts should be shown with discretion and without any purposeful distortion.

13. Members of the Legislative Assembly or of the Press Gallery Association may obtain audio-video copies of the proceedings from the Legislative Assembly staff who are operation the equipment. Press Gallery Members requesting a copy of the proceedings will receive the service for a fee. It is the responsibility of the Members requesting a copy to provide their own audio videotape.
14. Members can obtain copies of the audio video tape of their own speeches in the Chamber for public consumption and can obtain and use copies of other Members' speeches if those Members give their written permission for such use to Mr. Speaker.
15. The use of the audio videotapes of the Legislative proceedings shall be forbidden during any New Brunswick provincial election or by-election.
16. After prorogation of each Session, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly shall ensure that the complete audio visual record of the Session is deposited in the Provincial Archives. Access to these documents shall be in accordance with procedures established by the Legislative Assembly in consultation with the Provincial Archives.

Item. 15 was not formally adopted and I doubt if we could agree that it cannot be used.

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV Yes  
Cable TV Yes  
Satellite TV Yes

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |                               |
|------|---|-------------------------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | Yes                           |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No                            |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes                           |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |                               |
|      | - all proceedings   | No                            |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No                            |
|      | - major proceedings   | No                            |
|      | - highlights  | No                            |
|      | - news clips  | No                            |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 60 days + with night sittings |

### **Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:<br>Have not experienced this problem yet.                                  |     |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes    |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes No |

### **Hansard**

- |      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes No |
|------|--|--------|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| - Question Time            | Yes  |
| - Government Business      | Yes  |
| - Opposition Business      | Yes  |
| - Private Members Business | Yes  |
| - Adjournment debates      | Yes  |
| - Other – please list      | Gavel to gavel coverage of House proceedings |

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

## Television Guidelines

1. The philosophy of television coverage of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly should be an accurate, factual and coherent record of the legislative proceedings which will allow the viewing public to clearly understand how the legislative process works without dramatizing the proceedings.
2. The coverage of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly shall be recorded in the Official Languages of the Northwest Territories as identified in the *Official Languages Act*.
3. All proceedings in the Legislative Chamber, beginning with the Speaker's procession and Prayers until the daily adjournment of the Assembly, shall be recorded, with the exception of recesses. Proceedings in Committee of the Whole shall also be recorded.
4. The Member who is on his or her feet and has been recognized by the Speaker shall be shown on camera and shall be identified periodically by his or her full name and constituency, or for a Minister, his or her full name and portfolio titles. When a Minister makes a Member's Statement he or she shall be identified by name and constituency.
5. Information as to the status of the House and current business shall be displayed on the television screen periodically during proceedings.
6. The shot of the Member shall be of his or her head and shoulders, or a medium close up shot showing some of the Members who are seated on either side of the speaking Member. In addition, an occasional establishing shot may be taken to help orient viewers to the Chamber. On special occasions such as the Opening Address and the Budget Address, cutaway shots of individuals or groups of Members or guests to the House may be shown.
7. When the Speaker is speaking or is on his or her feet, the camera facing the Speaker that best reflects the activities of the House, shall be used at the discretion of the Television Director.
8. When in Committee of the Whole, or in a Standing or Special Committee, a variation of wide, medium and close shots may be used to best reflect the activities of the Committee. Ministers may be shown consulting with their officials. Officials or witnesses may be shown on cameras as introduced by Ministers or the Chair of the Committee, or when answering questions at the direction of the Chair of Committee of the whole.
9. Head and shoulder close-up shots of the Speaker or the Chair in Committee may be taken when he or she is giving a ruling.
10. Applause shots and orientation cut-away shots may be taken provided that care is taken to ensure that the shots are in good taste and reflect the decorum of the Chamber.
11. Split screen shots will not be permitted.

12. Medium close-up shots may be taken of distinguished visitors sitting in the Gallery. These guests must be seated in a predestinated location and the Speaker or the Chair of Committee of the Whole will instruct the Television Director when such introductions will be made.
13. Pursuant to the provisions of the *Copyright Act (Canada)*, the Legislative Assembly of the Northwest Territories has copyright in the audio/video record of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.
14. Access to and use of the audio/video record of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly may be made available to media organizations upon permission being obtained from the Speaker's office.
15. Members of the Legislative Assembly or members of the public may obtain an audio/video copy of the record of the proceedings from the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly. This service will be provided free of charge but it is the responsibility of the requester to provide the audio/video tape.
16. After the prorogation of each session of the Legislature, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly shall ensure that the master audio/video records of the proceedings made during that session are deposited in the Northwest Territories Archives, following which access to this record shall be had in accordance with procedures established by the Territorial Archivist following which access to this record shall be had in accordance with procedures established by the Territorial Archivist.
17. The following conditions apply to the use of the record of proceedings of the Legislative Assembly by any person or organization:
  - 1) the person or organization shall have a bona fide public interest in the use of that record;
  - 2) the person or organization shall not use that record with purposeful distortion; and Rules of the Legislative Assembly
  - 3) the person or organization shall not use that record as part of any paid advertisement Any breach of these conditions or of the *Copyright Act (Canada)* is an offence and may be prosecuted accordingly, or may be otherwise enforced by the Speaker and the Assembly.
18. These guidelines shall be enforced by the Speaker. Specific complaints by Members regarding the television of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly should be raised with the Speaker in the Speaker's office.
19. The Speaker will establish a broadcasting schedule that will afford the viewing public an opportunity to observe a broad perspective of the daily proceedings of the Legislative Assembly.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV Yes
  - Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |  |                           |
|------|--|---------------------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                        | Yes                       |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                         |                           |
|      | - all proceedings  | Yes                       |
|      | - selected proceedings   | Yes                       |
|      | - major proceedings  | Yes                       |
|      | - highlights   | Yes                       |
|      | - news clips   | Yes                       |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | approximately 80-120 days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | No |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |    |
|      | - censure in the House  | No |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No |
|      | - restrictions on access  | No |
|      | - fines   | No |
|      | - other   |    |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| - Question Time            | Yes |
| - Government Business      | Yes |
| - Opposition Business      | Yes |
| - Private Members Business | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates      | Yes |

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

Presently we do not have a Committee with a specific mandate to review access to Parliamentary proceedings. In 1985, the Standing Committee on Procedural Affairs was established with terms of reference to “review the Standing Orders and other matters.” It was during this review that the Committee recommended to the House the installation of an in-house operated television system for the Legislature. The House adopted the Committee’s report and the cameras rolled the next year!

## TELEVISION GUIDELINES

1. The television coverage of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly should be an accurate, factual and coherent record of the legislative proceedings which is understandable to the viewing public and which does not dramatize or editorialize such proceedings.
2. The guidelines shall be enforced by the Speaker- Specific concerns of members regarding the televising of the proceedings of the Legislative Assembly should not be raised in the House. Such concerns should be raised in private with the Speaker. The television guidelines shall stand referred to the Standing Committee on the Legislative Assembly. The Committee shall conduct periodic reviews of the televising of the legislative proceedings and consider such matters or concerns as may be referred to the Committee by the Speaker, and it shall report its opinions and observations upon any matters referred to it.
3. The proceedings in the Legislative Chamber beginning with the Speaker's Parade and Prayers until the adjournment of the Assembly shall be recorded and may be broadcast. Proceedings of any standing or select committee may be recorded and broadcast by agreement of the House leaders.
4. Only the member who is on his or her feet and has been recognized by the Speaker shall be recorded by the audio-visual cameras.
5. The initial shot of the member shall be of his or her head-and-shoulders, or medium close-up shot showing some of the members who are seated on either side of the speaking member.
6. When the Speaker is standing, the camera facing the Speaker shall be the one which will be active. This overview of the Chamber shall be the view shown when the Speaker is on his feet and between close-up shots of the member speaking or during recorded divisions in the Chamber.
7. In Committee of the Whole House, the overview of the Chamber shall be used when the Chair of the Committee of the Whole House is speaking or during a division in Committee.
8. When the Speaker or the Chair of the Committee of the Whole House is giving a ruling or calling the House or Committee to order, the initial shot of the Speaker or the Chair shall be a head-and-shoulders close-up.
9. Except as provided in paragraph 10, coverage of the legislative proceedings should be limited to the strict confines of the floor of the House and cameras should not deliberately record shots of public interruptions or demonstrations.10. Medium dose-up shots may be taken of any distinguished visitors sitting in the Speaker's Gallery and introduced by the Speaker.
11. Applause shots may be taken, however care should be taken to ensure that the decorum of the Chamber is maintained.
12. The name, constituency, portfolio and political affiliation of a member, as the case may be, shall be shown periodically on the screen while he or she is speaking.
13. Factual information shall be shown in print across the bottom of the screen ,from time to time to explain the proceedings. Such information should shown only after consultation with the Clerks-at-the-Table.

14. The audio-video tapes which are produced by the Legislative Assembly may shown by television stations and/or cable casters live or by means of recordings.

15. Copies of the audio-video tapes of the Legislative Assembly may be obtained from the Manager, Broadcast and Recording Service. Access to this service shall be according to the following priority: members of the Legislative Assembly, members of the press, officers and officials of the House, and the general public. This service shall be provided free of charge but it is the responsibility of each person to provide his or her audio-video tape and to pay for any delivery charge.

16. At the end of each Session day, the Clerk of the Legislative Assembly shall ensure that the complete audio-visual record of the day's proceedings is deposited with the Executive Director of the legislative Library. Access to these tapes shall be in accordance with procedures established by the Executive Director of the Legislative Library.

17. After prorogation of each Session, the Clerk of the legislative Assembly shall ensure that the complete audio-visual record of the Session is deposited with the Archivist of Ontario. Access to these tapes shall be in accordance with procedures established by the Archivist of Ontario.

Adopted on Thursday, 16 October 1986.

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament provides the feed, Broadcaster takes it from there.
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 45

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes  
We believe it does!
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

## Content

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| - Question Time             | Yes |
| - Government Business       | No  |
| - Opposition Business       | No  |
| - Private Members Business  | No  |
| - Adjournment debates       | No  |
| - Other – please list       |     |
| Throne Speech Budget Speech |     |

## Electronic Hansard Guidelines

It is the policy of the House, as determined by the Standing Committee on Legislative Management and administered by the Speaker, that all regular proceedings of the House, excluding committees, are to be available to be broadcast, both audio and /or video, to the residents of Prince Edward Island.

Broadcasting of legislative proceedings is the exclusive authority of the House and the Speaker as its Chief Presiding Officer, and is to be carried out under agreement with public and private broadcasters.

The following “electronic Hansard” guidelines for television will ensure that the dignity of the House is respected and that Members are presented fairly and unobtrusively.

## Specific Guidelines

1. The television reporting of the debates and proceedings of the Legislative Assembly will be accurate, factual, and complete and will in no manner attempt to editorialize or dramatize the proceedings.
2. All proceedings of the Assembly, commencing with the Ordinary Daily routine “Matters of Privilege and Recognition of Guests” until the adjournment of the sitting, will be recorded by the cameras with the following exceptions:
  - (a) waiting periods leading to divisions;
  - (b) recesses.During the above breaks, a wide chamber shot will be maintained with audio reduced to ambient sound. Full sound will be restored for calling of a Recorded Division.
3. Only the Member who has been recognized by the Speaker or Chairperson, or the Speaker or Chairperson, shall be recorded by the television camera.
4. The camera shot of each Member will be framed in a consistently similar manner, approximately from the waist to just above the head.
5. Camera shots of the Speaker or Chairperson may vary: medium chamber shot when Members are being recognized; a medium or close-up shot when rulings or points of order are being addressed; and possible alternative camera shots to facilitate smooth camera switching.
6. Split screens, cut-away, or reaction shots will not be permitted.
7. Members speaking will be identified on screen by name with either Party affiliations, and District, if a private Member, or portfolio if a member of Cabinet. As well, the Leaders of the Opposition parties will be identified as such.
8. Textual information detailing the business or proceedings in which the House is engaged will be shown on screen, depending on time constraints, in an effort to keep viewers fully informed.

- 9. Broadcasts of the proceedings may be shown by television stations and/or cable operators live or by means of recordings. Such broadcasting is to be done without purposeful distortion.
- 10. Master tapes of the current Session, as recorded, will be stored in the Provincial Archives. Hansard technicians, through Audio Visual Services, will provide copies for Members and Officers of the Assembly as time permits. Individuals wishing a copy must supply their own blank tape.
- 11. Members or Officers of the Assembly wishing to view a videotape of a House sitting, or a portion thereof, can do so upon request to the Office of the Legislative Assembly, where viewing facilities and an up-to-date VHS videotape collection of all sittings will be available.
- 12. After prorogation of each session, the Speaker shall ensure that the complete audio-visual record of the Session is depositing in the Public Archives of Prince Edward Island. Access to these tapes will be in accordance with procedures established by the Speaker's Office in consultation with the Provincial Archivist.
- 13. The use of audio-video tapes of the debates and proceedings of the Assembly, or any portion thereof, is forbidden during any Prince Edward Island provincial election, by-election, or any public event of a politically-partisan nature.
- 14. The foregoing guidelines shall be enforced and administered by the Speaker. Specific concerns of Members regarding the broadcasting of proceedings shall not be raised in the House. Such concerns should be raised in private with the Speaker.
- 15. The electronic Hansard guidelines shall stand referred to the Legislative Management Committee. The Committee may conduct periodic reviews of the broadcasting of House proceedings and consider such matter and concerns as may be referred to the Committee by the Speaker, on the request of a Member, or the House.
- 16. a breach of these guidelines will be considered a contempt of the House.

**Audience**

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?

*-Radio broadcasting was permitted from 1946 until 1983 when television broadcasting began.*

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?

Yes

*-Again this is produced in-House.*

(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:

- Radio No
- TV Sometimes
- Internet Not yet

(3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?

No

*- We pay the costs of distributing our signal via satellite to cable companies throughout the province*

(4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

No

*-Not necessary as produced in-House.*

**Facilities**

(5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?

Parliament

(6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?

No

(7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?

- Cable TV Yes
- Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

(8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No

Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No

Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips Yes
  
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes  
 -Cable  
 Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
 Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes  
 -Network Stations
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes  
 -Question Period Replays
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips Yes
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 75 days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes  
 If yes, please send us a copy of the rules.  
 -Rules for our in-House broadcast
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
  
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House No
  - suspension from the House No
  - restrictions on access No
  - fines No
  - other

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes  
-Yes except for dignitaries, diplomats and very special guests  
by prior agreement

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list
- All proceedings of the Assembly and Committees of the Whole House are televised*

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

- Video tapes and now DVD's of all proceedings are held by the Saskatchewan Archives for public use.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Cable TV Yes
  - Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- |      |  |   |
|------|--|---|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                         |   |
|      | - selected proceedings   | Yes   |
|      | - major proceedings  | Yes   |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 78 days (house)<br>1233 hours<br>(committees) |
|      |  | Re: Activity Report 2001-2002                 |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  | N/A |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (21) | Which of the following are usually broadcast?  |     |
|      | - Question Time                                | Yes |
|      | - Government Business                          | Yes |
|      | - Opposition Business                          | Yes |
|      | - Private Members Business                     | Yes |
|      | - Adjournment debates                          | Yes |
|      | - Other – please list                          |     |
|      | - Special events                               |     |
|      | - simulation of parliament (students; seniors) |     |
|      | - inter-parliamentary meetings                 |     |

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

P.S.:

At the national Assembly of Quebec, the debate broadcasting directorate is in charge of the broadcasting of all proceedings.

Director : Mrs Lise Grondin  
National Assembly of Quebec  
Parliament Building  
Quebec City (Quebec)  
Canada G1A 1A3 Phone: (418) 643-2890

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes, although permitted it has never been done.
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes although permitted,
  - TV Yes it is very rarely done
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
  
Broadcasters have choice of accessing our radio feed or taping from Our sound system.
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio Yes
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No

Answers to questions 8 & 9 are in reference to our own radio broadcast and private broadcasters may broadcast live on taped recordings of anything they wish.

|                              |
|------------------------------|
| <b>BRANCH: YUKON, CANADA</b> |
|------------------------------|

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No  |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | No  |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | Yes |

Note: The Yukon Legislative Assembly pays for video recording and tape-delayed broadcast of the first hour of each day's proceedings. Private broadcasters can do live or tape-delayed broadcast of whatever they wish to cover.

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 60 |
|------|--|----|

### **Guidelines**

- |      |   |                                     |
|------|---|-------------------------------------|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes                                 |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | No                                  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No                                  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |                                     |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes                                 |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes                                 |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes                                 |
|      | - fines   | Yes No                              |
|      | - other   | No such actions has ever been taken |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?  
- Question Time Yes  
- Government Business No  
- Opposition Business No  
- Private Members Business No  
- Adjournment debates No

**Audience**

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No

Note: Selected video recordings are retained for transmitted to the Yukon Archives.

**Yukon Legislative Assembly  
Television Coverage Guidelines**

1. Camera crews are restricted to using the space provided in the public gallery for television coverage of the Assembly.
2. Camera crews should be as unobtrusive as possible; they should not interfere with the proceedings of the Assembly and should make every effort not to hinder the view or comfort of those people attending in the public gallery.
3. When more than one camera crew is to present, they are expected to work with each other on a cooperative basis.
4. Additional lighting may not be installed.
5. Camera crews should make every effort to be in place prior to the opening of a sitting. Crews should also be attentive to what is taking place in the House. For example, it is not appropriate to be setting equipment up or conferring with each other when the Speaker is reading prayers or when the House is observing a moment of silence.
6. It is understood that a crew may need to depart the Chamber prior to the proceedings of the House being completed for the day. In such situations, crews should be sensitive to what is transpiring in the House and to pack up and leave at appropriate times and in as unobtrusive a manner as is possible.
7. Filming should take place only if the Member who is on his or her feet and has been recognized by the Speaker. The camera should not dramatize or editorialize in any way and, in particular, there should be no reaction shots.
8. Overall views of the Chamber are permitted so long as they do not violate the general intent of guideline #7.
9. Complaints from members regarding the television of the proceedings in the Legislative Assembly should be raised with the Speaker.
10. Individual exceptions to these rules may be approved by agreement of the House Leaders upon receipt of written requests by the Speaker.
11. Broad reviews and the granting of broad exceptions to these rules are the responsibility of the Member's Services Board.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No. The broadcasters charge government for air-time.
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio Yes No
  - TV Yes No
  - Cable TV Yes No
  - Satellite TV Yes No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No, Committee stage, not broadcast
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 14 days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes
- If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. See p.130.
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
  
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
  
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
| - Question Time                                    | Yes |
| - Government Business                              | Yes |
| - Opposition Business                              | Yes |
| - Private Members Business                         | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates                              | No  |

**Audience**

- |  |                                       |
|--|---------------------------------------|
| (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No.<br>One such poll is in the making |
|--|---------------------------------------|

**Archive**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | Yes |
|--|-----|

LAWS OF DOMINICA

Parliamentary Proceedings

4 Chap. 2:50 Broadcasting

Note : This chapter contains no Subsidiary legislation.

PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS

BROADCASTING ACT

23 of 1974 AN ACT to provide for the broadcasting of proceedings of the House of Assembly and for purposes connected therewith.

29<sup>th</sup> August 1974

*Commencement.*

**Short title**

1. This Act may be cited as the -  
PARLIAMENTARY PROCEEDINGS  
BROADCASTING ACT.

*Interpretation.*

2. In this Act -

"Committee" means the Committee on the broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings appointed under this Act;

"House" means the House of Assembly;

"National Broadcasting Station" means Radio Dominica;

**Power to Broadcast or rebroadcast parliamentary proceedings**

3. The National Broadcasting Station shall in keeping with the provisions of this Act broadcast or rebroadcast the proceedings of the House from its broadcasting station

**Constitution of Committee**

4. (i) As soon as conveniently practicable after the commencement of this Act, and thereafter at the commencement of the this Act, and thereafter of the commencement of the first session of every Parliament, a Committee of five persons to be called the Committee on the broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings shall be appointed.

(2) The Committee shall consist of -

(a) the Speaker of the House who shall be the Chairman;

(b) the Attorney General or a member of his staff;

(c) the Public Relations Officer; and

(d) two elected members of the House appointed by the House from among the panics represented therein.

5. The members of the Committee shall hold the office until the (*Tenure of office of members of the Committee*) House for the time being expires by dissolution or by the efflux effluxion of time.

6. (1) Any member of the Committee other than the Speaker of the House (*Resignation*) Attorney General and Public Relations Officer may resign his scat on the Committee by writing under his hand addressed to the Speaker of the House.

(2) The scat of a member of the Committee who is an elected member of the House shall be deemed to have become vacant if he ceases to be a member of the House.

7. Where the seat of any member of the Committee appointed (*Vacancies*) under section 4(2)(d) becomes vacant, it shall be filled by appointment according to the provisions of section 4(2) within three days after the happening of the vacancy if the House is then sitting, or, if not, then three days after the next meeting of the House.

8. There shall be a Vice-Chairman of the Committee, who shall be (*Vice-Chairman.*) elected by the members of the Committee at their first meeting, or as soon thereafter as is practicable.

9. At any meeting of the Committee three members thereof shall (*Quorum*) form a quorum.

10. The Committee may sit and transact business during any (*Sittings of Committee*) adjournment of recess as well as during the session, and may sit at such times (including times while the House is actually sitting) and in such places, and conduct its proceedings in such manner as it thinks proper.

11. (1) The Committee shall consider and specify in a report (*Functions of Committee*) presented to the House, the general principles upon which and the days upon which, as well as the periods during which, the proceedings of the House shall be broadcast or rebroadcast.

(2) The Committee shall, in accordance with general principles specified by the Committee and adopted by the House, determine the days upon which, and the periods during which, the proceedings of the House shall be broadcast or rebroadcast.

L.R.O. (1991)

(3) The Committee shall have power to edit speeches made in the House before broadcasting them over the National Broadcasting system, and to determine the conditions in accordance with which a rebroadcast may be made of the proceedings of the House.

(4) The Committee shall have power to delegate its functions under subsection (3) to one or more of its members.

### **Broadcasting and recording of parliamentary proceedings**

12. (1) The National Broadcasting Station may in keeping with conditions laid down by the Committee make live broadcasts of the proceedings of the House.

(2) The National Broadcasting Station may make a sound recording of any proceedings of the House and shall make and broadcast a sound recording of any such proceedings when directed to do so by the Chairman of the Committee.

(3) The National Broadcasting Station shall, within such period as the Committee from time to time directs, deliver to the Chairman of the Committee any recording made by it in pursuance of this section.

(4) Where the Committee considers that a recording made by the National Broadcasting Station in pursuance of this section is of sufficient historic interest to justify its being permanently preserved, the Committee may make such arrangements as it thinks fit for the permanent safe keeping of the recording.

(5) Where the Committee does not make arrangements for the permanent safe keeping of a recording, the Committee shall cause the recording to be destroyed.

(6) No broadcast or rebroadcast shall be made of the proceedings of the House otherwise than in accordance with the conditions determined by the Committee.

*No action for broadcasting parliamentary proceedings.*

13. No action or proceeding, civil or criminal, shall lie against any member of the Committee or against any person for broadcasting any speech made in any proceedings of the House.

*Regulations.*

14. The President may make Regulations prescribing all matters which by this Act are required or permitted to be prescribed for giving effect to this Act.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights No  
- news clips No

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 25 to 30

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? No
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes No
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes No
  - fines Yes No

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? N/A

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? N/A

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? N/A

**Content**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
| - Question Time                                    | Yes |
| - Government Business                              | Yes |
| - Opposition Business                              | Yes |
| - Private Members Business                         | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates                              | Yes |

**Audience**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|--|----|

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | No |
|--|----|

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Cable TV Yes
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of: |    |
|      | - all proceedings                              | No |
|      | - selected proceedings                         | No |
|      | - major proceedings                            | No |
|      | - highlights                                   | No |
|      | - news clips                                   | No |

- |      |  |         |
|------|--|---------|
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 50 days |
|------|--|---------|

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | No  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | No  |
|      | - fines   | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No  |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes No |
|------|--|--------|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business No
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business No
  - Adjournment debates No
  - Other – please list
- Governor’s Address Budget Speech  
Chief Minister’s Reply to Governor’s address  
Leader of Opposition Speech on Governor’ address

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio? No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television? Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting? No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses? No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings? Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed? Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters? No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights No  
- news clips No

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No  |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - highlights  | No  |
|      | - news clips  | No  |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 25  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
|      | A Sub-Committee of the Presiding Officers is deliberating on this aspect                  |     |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - fines   | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time No
  - Government Business No
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business No
  - Adjournment debates No
  - Other – please list
- Lieutenant Governor’s Address  
Budget Speech of the Finance Minister

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes, sound only.

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
Yes
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Not applicable
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights No  
- news clips No

- |      |   |                 |
|------|---|-----------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No              |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes             |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes             |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |                 |
|      | - all proceedings   | No              |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes             |
|      | - major proceedings   | No              |
|      | - highlights  | No              |
|      | - news clips  | No              |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 40 working days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?    | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                               | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:<br>- suspension from the House | Yes |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No  |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| - Question Time            | Yes |
| - Government Business      | No  |
| - Opposition Business      | No  |
| - Private Members Business | No  |
| - Adjournment debates      | No  |
| - Other – please list      |     |

Highlights of question hour are permitted to broadcast for About half an hour in a week.

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights No  
- news clips No

- |      |   |                 |
|------|---|-----------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No              |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No              |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes             |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |                 |
|      | - all proceedings   | No              |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes             |
|      | - major proceedings   | No              |
|      | - news clips (Question House)   | Yes             |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | Average 50 days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | No  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - fines   | No  |
|      | - other   |     |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes    |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?  
- Question Time Yes  
- Other – please list  
Governors’ Address  
Budget Speech  
Election of Speaker

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**KERALA LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY**

Instructions on Broadcasting and Telecasting of Governor's Address and Assembly Proceedings issued under Rule 306 of the Rules of Procedure and Conduct of Business

1. All camera units shall obtain prior permission from the Speaker to enter the Assembly precincts. The crew members and the correspondents shall exhibit the photo identity cards issued from the Legislature Secretariat so as to enable the watch and ward to identify them.
2. Permission for live telecast/broadcast will be given only to Doordarshan/All India Radio on special occasions such as Governor's Address and Budget Speech. They will also be permitted to record the question hour for deferred telecast.
3. On request submitted to the Speaker, permission may be obtained by the Private TV Channels to record the proceedings of the special occasions and the question hour for deferred telecast.
4. To ensure solemnity and dignity of the Governor's Address the cameras shall be focused most of the time on the dignitary.
5. Only wide-angle shots of the members of both the sides shall be taken occasionally
6. Cameras shall not be focused on press and public galleries.
7. Cameras shall not record any interruption/disorder or walk-out during the Address. In case of any such eventuality the cameras shall be focused only on the dignitary.
8. Great care shall be exercised in showing the occupant of the chair. Shots of the presiding officer shall be taken while he is giving a ruling or making an observation/intervention.
9. During the presentation of the Budget, Camera shall be focused most of the time on the Finance Minister.
10. Occasional group shots may be taken either for the purpose of showing the reaction of a group of members or in order to establish the geography of a particular part of the Chamber.
11. Shots of the Presiding Officer giving any instructions to the officers or receiving advice or any paper from them shall not be taken.
12. In no circumstances should close up shots of papers before Members or officers be taken.
13. While taking the wide angle shots, as far as possible, officers of the House and others shall not be shown.
14. Neither interruptions from, nor demonstrations in, the galleries are "proceedings" and as such they should in no circumstances be televised.
15. On occasions of disorder or unparliamentary behaviour, the cameras shall focus on the Speaker until order has been restored.
16. Camera units/Audio Recording units shall record the proceedings of special occasions and the question hour from the Gallery on the left side of the Speakers podium.

17. Any order from the Chair to close down the cameras at any point of time shall be complied with immediately.

18. The portions of the proceedings which are not permitted by the chair to go on record or which are expunged subsequently should be erased from the cassettes/CDs so as to bring them in conformity with the written record.

19. The proceedings of the Assembly shall be fairly and accurately reported so as to project the dignity of the House and its function as a working body rather than a place of entertainment.

20. The recordings shall not be used for satire or ridicule.

21. The recordings shall not be utilized for advertisements, election campaigns or commercial purposes.

22. All private television/broadcasting/news agencies shall keep video/audio cassettes of the telecast version for a period of thirty days from the date of its transmission.

In the event of any complaint by any aggrieved party, the Legislature Secretariat would reserve the right to call the relevant video/audio cassette and take appropriate action under rules.

23. The entire proceedings of the House telecast/recorded should carry at the beginning a reference of the date of the proceedings, as that would help to authenticate the cassettes/CDs being privileged under Article 194(2) of the Constitution.

24. Breach or violation of any of the conditions mentioned above would involve action under the relevant provisions relating to breach of agreement, misconduct or breach of privilege of the House.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio? No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television? No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting? No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses? Yes
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings? Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed? Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters? No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights No  
- news clips No

- |      |   |            |
|------|---|------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No         |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No         |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes        |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |            |
|      | - all proceedings   | No         |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No         |
|      | - major proceedings   | No         |
|      | - highlights  | No         |
|      | - news clips  | No         |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 35-40 days |

### Guidelines

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No, but there are certain conventions. |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No                                     |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No                                     |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |  |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes                                    |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes                                    |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes                                    |
|      | - fines   | Yes                                    |
|      | - other   |  |

### Acknowledgement of Galleries

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

### Privilege

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

### Hansard

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?

- Question Time No
- Government Business No
- Opposition Business No
- Private Members Business No
- Adjournment debates No
- Other – please list

Governor’s Address  
Budget Speech

**Audience**

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts?

No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament?

No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
N/A
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
N/A

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV Yes  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |         |
|------|---|---------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | Yes     |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No      |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes     |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |         |
|      | - all proceedings   | No      |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No      |
|      | - major proceedings   | No      |
|      | - highlights  | Yes     |
|      | - news clips  | Yes     |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 10 days |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              | N/A |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |    |
|------|--|-----|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | N/A |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? Yes   No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No  |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |   |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes   |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes   |
|      | - highlights  | Yes   |
|      | - news clips  | Yes   |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | Approximately 30-36 days. It is differs according to the circumstances. |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No   |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No, the media is expected to report truly and fairly |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |  |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes  |
|      | - fines   | Yes  |
|      | - other   |  |

The matter may be dealt with in accordance with the procedure prescribed for the question of breach of privilege and contempt of the House. Restriction on access may also be imposed

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

### **Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes

The Chair may order for not broadcasting or televising or printing any part of the proceedings of the house which is expunged.

### **Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |    |
|----------------------------|----|
| - Question Time            | No |
| - Government Business      | No |
| - Opposition Business      | No |
| - Private Members Business | No |
| - Adjournment debates      | No |
| - Other – please list      |    |

Only budget Speech or other specific item, if any, is telecast through the recorded cassettes with the permission of the Hon. Speaker.

### **Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

### **Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Not Applicable
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV No
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? Approximately 70 days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? No
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken: Not Applicable

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Not Applicable
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Not Applicable

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Not Applicable

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
  - Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No – this is not necessarily because the Assembly would not allow it but is more so because no local broadcaster wishes to take footage of the proceedings

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?

Not at present but we are hoping to broadcast sound on the States Assembly internet site in the future

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
- |            |    |
|------------|----|
| - Radio    | No |
| - TV       | No |
| - Internet | No |

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

No (but sound radio only – all proceedings are broadcast live on local radio)

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?

Electronic infrastructure to allow sound broadcasting is provided by the Assembly as it is part of the sound system used for recording the proceedings and linked to amplification through microphones etc. The local radio broadcaster provides the actual studio equipment required to transmit the proceedings and one member of staff from the local radio (who doubles up as a commentator) is present to oversee the operation of the equipment.

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
- |              |  |
|--------------|--|
| Radio        | No although the proceedings are broadcast on the AM local radio frequency whilst normal programming continues on FM wave band. |
| TV           | No   |
| Cable TV     | No   |
| Satellite TV | No   |

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes (all proceedings are broadcast)
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No (all done live)
  - selected proceedings No (all done live)
  - major proceedings No (all done live)
  - highlights Yes (during news broadcasts)
  - news clips Yes (as above)
  
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No television coverage
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - highlights No
  - news clips No
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? approx 30

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? No
- If yes, please send us a copy of the rules.
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
  
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken: n/a

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? n/a (radio only)

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? n/a (no Hansard at present)

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? (all proceedings are broadcast)
- Question Time
  - Government Business
  - Opposition Business
  - Private Members Business
  - Adjournment debates

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - Highlights Yes
  - new clips Yes
  
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? No
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings No
  - major proceedings No
  - Highlights Yes
  - new clips Yes
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 10 days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? No
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used. No
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government an opposition? No
  
  
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the house Yes
  - suspension from the House Yes
  - restrictions on access Yes
  - fines No

**Acknowledge of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (21) | Which the following are usually broadcast? |    |
| -    | Question Time                              | No |
| -    | Government Business                        | No |
| -    | Opposition Business                        | No |
| -    | Private Members Business                   | No |
| -    | Adjournment debates                        | No |

**Audience**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (22) | Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

**Archive**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (23) | Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament. | Yes |
|------|---|-----|

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?
- |    |                       |
|----|-----------------------|
| 1. | Official Opening      |
| 2. | Budget Special        |
| 3. | Chief Minister Speech |

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
No

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes: Selected Proceedings

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
- |            |    |
|------------|----|
| - Radio    | No |
| - TV       | No |
| - Internet | No |

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?
- |             |            |
|-------------|------------|
| Broadcaster | Parliament |
|-------------|------------|

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
- |              |    |
|--------------|----|
| Radio        | No |
| TV           | No |
| Cable TV     | No |
| Satellite TV | No |

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
 Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
- |                        |     |
|------------------------|-----|
| - all proceedings      | No  |
| - selected proceedings | Yes |
| - major proceedings    | Yes |
| - highlights           | Yes |
| - news clips           | Yes |

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | Yes |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 30  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - other - Selection Act, libel and slander Action   |     |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No  |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |  |
|----------------------------|--|
| - Question Time            | Yes  |
| - Government Business      | Yes  |
| - Opposition Business      | No, one member only                          |
| - Private Members Business | No   |
| - Adjournment debates      | No   |
| - Other – please list      | - Budget Speech<br>- Chief Minister’s Speech |

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

Broadcaster recordings are retained by Parliament.  
Our own recordings are retained by us.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio? Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television? Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
     - Radio No  
     - TV No  
     - Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses? No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings? No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters? No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
     Radio Yes  
     TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
 Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
     - all proceedings Yes  
     - highlights Yes  
     - news clips Yes
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
 Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                         |     |
|      | - all proceedings  | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - highlights   | Yes |
|      | - news clips   | Yes |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 84  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | Yes |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No  |
|      | - restrictions on access  | No  |
|      | - fines   | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

### Authority to Broadcast

(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes

(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No

(3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No

(4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No, subject to guidance from the Speaker

### Facilities

(5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster

(6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Not applicable

(7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

(8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes. Budget Speech and Presidential Address

(9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings No  
- major proceedings No  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

- |      |   |  |
|------|---|--|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No   |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No   |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes.<br>Budget Speech/<br>Presidential Address |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |  |
|      | - all proceedings   | No   |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No   |
|      | - major proceedings   | No   |
|      | - highlights  | Yes  |
|      | - news clips  | Yes  |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 36 Days  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |   |
|------|---|---|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | No, but subject to guidance from Speaker                |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No, but equally requires that they get their fair share |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:<br>- Other (Action is taken by the House on a privileged complaint)        |   |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Not Applicable

**Content**

(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?  
- Question Time Yes  
- Government Business Yes  
- Opposition Business Yes  
- Private Members Business Yes  
- Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

(23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes, video when required.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes, but not Yet.
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips No

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | No  |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 105 |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |        |
|------|---|--------|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No     |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No     |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No     |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |        |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes No |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes No |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes No |
|      | - fines   | Yes No |
|      | - other   |        |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | No |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list
- Proceedings of the House is broadcast from beginning to the end

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? No

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?

No

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:

- Radio Yes

- TV Yes

- Internet No

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?

No

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?

Broadcaster

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?

Non-Applicable

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?

Radio Yes

TV Yes

Cable TV No

Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No

Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes

Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes

- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:

- all proceedings No

- selected proceedings Yes

- major proceedings Yes

- highlights Yes

- news clips Yes

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of: |     |
|      | - all proceedings                              | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings                         | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings                            | Yes |
|      | - highlights                                   | Yes |
|      | - news clips                                   | Yes |

- |      |  |          |
|------|--|----------|
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? | 181 days |
|------|--|----------|

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No |
|------|---|----|

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? | No |
|------|---|----|

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No |
|------|---|----|

- |      |  |                  |
|------|--|------------------|
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken: |                  |
|      | - censure in the House                                       | Yes No           |
|      | - suspension from the House                                  | Yes No           |
|      | - restrictions on access                                     | Yes No           |
|      | - fines  | Yes No           |
|      | - other  | (Non Applicable) |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business No
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
Yes No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio Yes No  
TV Yes No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

|                            |
|----------------------------|
| <b>BRANCH: SAINT LUCIA</b> |
|----------------------------|

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 12 Days

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  
If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. No
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? No
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes No
  - suspension from the House Yes No
  - restrictions on access Yes No
  - fines Yes No

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? Yes

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
  - Question Time Yes No
  - Government Business Yes No
  - Opposition Business Yes No
  - Private Members Business Yes No

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
 - Radio No  
 - TV No  
 - Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
Yes
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
 Radio Yes  
 TV Yes

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
 - selected proceedings Yes  
 - highlights Yes
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
 Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:  
 - highlights Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? Vary widely.  
 E.g. 1992 – 77 days  
 1998 – 50 days  
 2001 – 25 days

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?    | Yes |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                               | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:<br>- suspension from the House | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- |      |  |  |
|------|--|--|
| (21) | Which of the following are usually broadcast?<br>All proceedings are broadcasted |  |
|------|--|--|

**Audience**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (22) | Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

**Archive**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (23) | Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | Yes |
|------|---|-----|

**Authority to Broadcast.**

**(1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?**  
Yes

**Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?**  
Yes

**Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?**  
Yes (although facilities are not available)

Broadcasting (by radio or TV) and reporting electronically (on the Web) are forms of publication. Section 29 of the Powers and Privileges of Parliament Act 91 of 1963 is broad enough to cover the broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings under the authority of Parliament and the reporting of proceedings electronically. (However, the section was clearly not drafted with this in mind.) The Draft legislation which is currently being formulated to provide for the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament, therefore contains the following provision:

**“Broadcasting of proceedings**

**23** (1) No person may broadcast or televise or otherwise transmit by electronic means any part of the proceedings of a Legislature or of a committee except by the authority of the Speaker or the Chairperson and in accordance with the conditions, if any, determined by the Speaker or Chairperson

(2) No person is liable to civil or criminal proceedings in respect of the broadcasting, televising or electronic transmission of any part of the proceedings of a Legislature or a committee if its has been authorised under subsection (1) and complies with the conditions, if any determined under that subsection.”

**(2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its committee proceedings on**

**Radio** Yes

**TV** Yes

**Internet**

In terms of the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa, (Act 108 of 1996), the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces have the power to determine and control their internal arrangements, proceedings and procedures, and make rules and orders concerning its business, with due regard to representative and participatory democracy, accountability, transparency and public involvement.

To that end, the Rules of both Houses provide that except in specific instances, the meetings of committees and subcommittees are open to the public, including the media.

- (3) **Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licences?**  
No
- (4) **Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?**  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) **Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?**  
Parliament
- (6) **If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?**  
No, it does not.
- (7) **Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?**

|                     |  |
|---------------------|--|
| <b>Radio</b>        | No   |
| <b>TV</b>           | (Limited time slot of one or two hours on week days dedicated to coverage) |
| <b>Cable TV</b>     | No   |
| <b>Satellite TV</b> | Yes  |

**Scope of Broadcasts:**

- (8) **Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings?** No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?** No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech?** No
- (9) **Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:**
- |                             |     |
|-----------------------------|-----|
| <b>All proceedings</b>      | No  |
| <b>Selected proceedings</b> | No  |
| <b>Major proceedings</b>    | No  |
| <b>Highlights</b>           | Yes |
| <b>News Clips</b>           | Yes |

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
- |                      |     |
|----------------------|-----|
| All proceedings      | No  |
| Selected proceedings | Yes |
| Major proceedings    | Yes |
| Highlights           | Yes |
| News Clips           | Yes |

- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?

We have a bicameral parliament, consisting of the National Assembly and the National Council of Provinces.

For the year 2002, the National Assembly had 80 plenaries, the National Council of Provinces had 45 plenaries and there were 4 Joint Sitings

### Guidelines

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  
If yes, please send a copy of the rules

Our parliament is currently in the process of adopting a broadcasting policy. A copy of the draft document may be found on page 191. The policy document covers the information required to answer questions which follow

- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?  
See response to 13.

- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?  
See response to 13.

**(16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:**

- **Censure in the House**
- **Suspension from the House**
- **Restrictions on access**
- **Fines**
- **other**

In terms of section 28 of the Powers and Privileges of Parliament Act 91 of 1963, they would be guilty of an offence and liable upon conviction by a court of competent jurisdiction to imprisonment for a period not exceeding three years.

The Draft legislation which is currently being formulated to provide for the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament, contains provision to the effect that where broadcasters have contravened the Act, they would have committed an offence and would be liable to a fine or to imprisonment for a period not exceeding 12 months or to both the fine and the imprisonment.

**Acknowledgment of Galleries**

**(17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited?**

See response to 13

The Draft policy provides the following:

" SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR PICTURE DIRECTION

- (a) The press and public galleries, the officials' and visitors' boxes, and the area behind the Chair, not being directly related to proceedings, should not be shown, other than unavoidable shots as part of wide-angle or other shots authorised by the Chair (i.e. when the presiding officer recognises a person or group in one of those areas).
- (b) Great care should be exercised in showing the occupant of the Chair. Shots showing the Presiding Officers receiving advice from the Table, should be avoided. Officials of the House attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown, unless they are taking an active part in the proceedings.
- (c) During divisions, a wide-angle shot of the Chamber may be used. In addition, the following events relating to divisions may be shown using the standard format in subparagraph 2 (a): Putting the Question, both initially and after the bells have rung; any points of order which may arise, together with any response by the Chair; and announcement by the Chair of the voting result.
- (d) In no circumstances should close-up shots of Members' or Officers' papers be taken."

**Privilege**

**(18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?**

Broadcasting (by radio or TV) and reporting electronically (on the Web) are forms of publication. Section 29 of the Powers and Privileges of Parliament Act 91 of 1963 is broad enough to cover the broadcasting of parliamentary proceedings under the authority of Parliament and the reporting of proceedings electronically. (However, the section was clearly not drafted with this in mind. The Draft legislation which is currently being formulated to provide for the Powers, Privileges and Immunities of Parliament, has a provision dealing specifically with broadcasting of proceedings

At present, to be protected by absolute privilege, broadcasting and electronic reporting must be "under the authority of Parliament". If it is not "under the authority of Parliament", the broadcaster will have to rely on the common-law defence of qualified privilege in cases of defamation (ie would be privileged if fair and accurate, and not malicious).

**(19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings?**

See response to 18 above

**Hansard**

**(20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings?**

No

**Content**

**(21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?**

- |                                 |                               |
|---------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| <b>Question Time:</b>           | Yes                           |
| <b>Government Business</b>      | Yes                           |
| <b>Opposition Business</b>      | Yes (subjects for discussion) |
| <b>Private Members Business</b> | Yes                           |
| <b>Adjournment Debates</b>      | Yes                           |
| <b>Other: Please list</b>       |                               |

The parliamentary programme is structured in such a way that a number of matters can be dealt with during one plenary. Therefore if there are Questions in one of the Houses on a particular day, that could be followed by the voting on legislation ( i.e. Government Business) and a subject for discussion (in the name of a Member of the opposition). The broadcast would therefore cover the business of the House.

**Audience**

**(22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts?**

No

**Archive**

**(22) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament?**

Yes

## Television Broadcasting

### “DRAFT RULES OF COVERAGE”

The following are rules for the televising of proceedings of Parliament:

#### STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES

The camera director should seek, in close collaboration with the Manager of Sound and Vision, to give a full, balanced, fair and accurate account of proceedings, with the aim of informing viewers about the work of the Houses.

[Note: In carrying out this task, the director should have regard to the dignity of the Houses and to their functions as working bodies rather than places of entertainment.]

#### SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR PICTURE DIRECTION

- (a) The press and public galleries, the officials' and visitors' boxes, and the area behind the Chair, not being directly related to proceedings, should not be shown, other than unavoidable shots as part of wide-angle or other shots authorised by the Chair (i.e. when the presiding officer recognises a person or group in one of those areas).
- (b) Great care should be exercised in showing the occupant of the Chair. Shots showing the Presiding Officers receiving advice from the Table, should be avoided. Officials of the House attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown, unless they are taking an active part in the proceedings.
- (c) During divisions, a wide-angle shot of the Chamber may be used. In addition, the following events relating to divisions may be shown using the standard format in sub-paragraph 2 (a): Putting the Question, both initially and after the bells have rung; any points of order which may arise, together with any response by the Chair; and announcement by the Chair of the voting result.
- (d) In no circumstances should close-up shots of Members' or Officers' papers be taken.

#### 2. Style and Presentation:

- (a) The standard format for depicting the Member who has the floor should be a head-and-shoulders shot, *not* a close-up.
- (b) Subject to sub-paragraphs (c) to (g) below, the camera should normally remain on the Member speaking until she or he has finished.
- (c) Wide-angle shots of the Chamber may be used from time to time. For example, while the director is seeking a closer shot of a Member who has just been called, at times when no single Member has the floor, and to establish the geography of the House for the benefit of viewers.
- (d) As a matter of general practice, the director should switch to a picture of the occupant of the Chair whenever she or he addresses the House; this principle should be applied all the more strictly during any incidence of disorder or altercations between the Chair and other Members. So long as it is clear to the director to which Member is being referred, a reaction shot is permitted.
- (e) Occasional cut-away shots to illustrate individual reactions are allowed, but only to show a Member who has been referred to by the Member speaking.
- (f) Medium-angle shots, including over-the-shoulder shots, are permissible where the director wishes to show both the Member who has the floor and another Member intervening or seeking to do so.
- (g) Occasional group shots - mid-way between the standard head and shoulders shot and the wide-angle shot - are permitted; such shots may be used either for the purposes of showing the reaction of a group of Members, or in order to establish the geography of a particular part of the Chamber.

- (h) Under no circumstances are “dead” shots to be shown, i.e. shots such as empty benches or any others which are not relevant to the proceedings of the House.
- (i) The main objective of the director is to provide a means, in conformity with acceptable standards of dignity, propriety and decorum, by which the proceedings of Parliament should be made available through accurate and impartial coverage of the debates of Parliament and the public meetings of its committees.

## 2. Special Camera Techniques:

- (a) Occasional panning along the benches is permitted but only as a wide-angle shot.
- (b) Zoom shots should only be used at the adjournment of the House from the Chair to a concluding wide shot.

## TREATMENT OF DISORDER

### 1. Disorder in the Galleries:

- (a) Neither interruptions from, nor demonstrations in, the galleries are “proceedings”, and as such they should in no circumstances be televised.
- (b) If an incident of the sort described in sub-paragraph (a) above occurs in such a way as to interfere with an otherwise permissible shot, the director should cut either to a wide-angle shot of the Chamber which does not show the offending incident, or to the occupant of the Chair.

### 1. Disorder on the Floor of the House:

Televising may continue during incidents of grave disorder or unparliamentary behaviour for as long as the sitting continues, but only subject to the following guidelines:

- (a) On occasions of grave disorder, the director should normally focus on the occupant of the Chair for as long as proceedings continue, or until order has been restored. (By “grave disorder” is meant incidents of individual, but more likely collective, misconduct of such a seriously disruptive nature as to place in jeopardy the continuation of the sitting.)
- (b) In cases of unparliamentary behaviour, the director should normally focus on the occupant of the Chair. Occasional wide-angle shots of the Chamber are acceptable. (The phrase “unparliamentary behaviour” is intended to signify any conduct which amounts to defiance of the Chair but which falls short of grave disorder.)

## CONDITIONS OF AUTHORITY TO BROADCAST

### 1. Live broadcast and rebroadcast on television of the proceedings and excerpts of proceedings of Parliament, is authorised on the following conditions:

- (a) Broadcast and rebroadcast may occur, and recordings may be made, only from the official composite vision and sound feed provided by the Sound and Vision Unit of Parliament.
- (b) Televising shall respect the dignity and decorum of Parliament, shall only be used for purposes of fair and accurate reports of proceedings, and shall not be used for:
  - (i) Party-political propaganda of any kind;
  - (ii) Satire, ridicule or light entertainment;
  - (iii) Commercial sponsorship or advertising.
- (c) Fairness and accuracy must be observed, and reports of proceedings shall provide a balanced presentation of different views.
- (d) Excerpts of proceedings are to be placed in context.
- (e) Where excerpts are used on commercial television, any advertising that occurs immediately before or after the excerpts are shown, should not in any way reflect on or detract from those proceedings.

### 1. Guidelines with specific reference to televising of committee proceedings:

Broadcasting of proceedings is at all times at the discretion of the committee, which may at any time withdraw approval for broadcasting. It is also subject to availability of this facility.

(Where a committee intends to broadcast its proceedings, a witness to appear before the committee shall be given reasonable opportunity before appearing to object and state grounds for her/his objection. The committee shall consider any such objection, having regard to the proper protection of the witness and the public interest in the proceedings, and if the committee decides to proceed notwithstanding the witness' objection, the witness shall be so informed before appearing in the proceedings.

2. Editing and Broadcasting Decisions:

- (a) Parliament's responsibility is confined to provide a feed of the proceedings of whatever House is sitting, and of any committee which has been decided to televise. Any process of editing or selection of feeds is the responsibility of the broadcaster.
- (b) Control of broadcasting falls under the Presiding Officers and chairpersons, with the Manager of Sound and Vision Unit as the hands-on manager.
- (c) Instructions of the Presiding Officers and Chairpersons of Committees, in relation to the operation of the sound and vision equipment in the Chambers, shall be observed.
- (d) The instructions of the Speaker in respect of broadcasting shall be observed.

1. Monitoring and Archiving:

- (a) Coverage should be monitored for compliance with the above conditions.
- (b) A complete archive of the clean feed of the proceedings of the two Houses should be maintained.
- (c) Members of Parliament should pay a nominal charge for archive material.
- (d) Authority of the Presiding Officers must be obtained for the providing of copies of proceedings to any other person or organisation. The cost thereof to be determined by the Secretary to Parliament.

3 September 2001

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV Yes
  - Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No  |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of: |     |
|      | - all proceedings                              | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings                         | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings                            | Yes |
|      | - highlights                                   | Yes |
|      | - news clips                                   | Yes |

(12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?

**Guidelines**

|      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? | No |
|------|--|----|

|      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? | No |
|------|---|----|

|      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No |
|------|---|----|

|      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken: |        |
|      | - censure in the House                                       | Yes No |
|      | - suspension from the House                                  | Yes No |
|      | - restrictions on access                                     | Yes No |
|      | - fines  | Yes No |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

|      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

|      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

|      |  |        |
|------|--|--------|
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes No |
|------|--|--------|

**Hansard**

|      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
| - Question Time                                    | Yes |
| - Government Business                              | Yes |
| - Opposition Business                              | Yes |
| - Private Members Business                         | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates                              | Yes |

**Audience**

- |  |    |
|--|----|
| (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|--|----|

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- |  |     |
|--|-----|
| (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | Yes |
|--|-----|

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio No
  - TV Yes
  - Internet No
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No: (Confirmed)
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
No

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - Radio No
  - TV Yes
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV Yes

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

|   |
|---|
| <b>BRANCH: WESTERN CAPE, SOUTH AFRICA</b> |
|---|

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | Yes |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 40  |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  | No  |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | No  |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | No  |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - fines   | No  |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes, only on request.

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

**BRANCH: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO**

- |      |   |                |
|------|---|----------------|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No             |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes            |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes            |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |                |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes            |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes            |
|      | - highlights  | Yes            |
|      | - news clips  | Yes            |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 90 (45 and 45) |

**Guidelines**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

Guidelines suggested by a Joint Select Committee of Parliament appointed to consider and report on all matters pertaining to the broadcasting of Parliamentary proceedings – 1991.

1. Coverage should reflect a full appreciation of parliamentary proceedings, that is to say, the aims and objectives of Bills or Motions and arguments for and against them.
2. The Press and Public galleries and the area behind the Presiding Officer’s Chair not relating to the proceedings, should not be shown, except where unavoidable as part of wide-angled shots of the Chamber.
3. Great care should be exercised in showing the occupant of the Chair. Slots designed to show the Presiding Officer receiving advice from the Clerk at the Table, or speaking with members who are invited to the Dais, should not be used.
4. The standard format for depicting Members on the floor should be a “head and shoulder” shot.
5. Wide angled shots of the Chamber may be used from time to time.
6. Roving or reaction shots may be taken, but opportunities to embarrass unsuspecting Members, i.e. shots not connected with the proceedings, should not be used.
7. As a matter of general practice the camera should focus on the occupant of the Chair whenever he rises; this principle should be applied all the more strictly during incidents of disorder or altercations between the Chair and other Members.

8. Deliberate misconduct designed to secure television coverage ought not to achieve this aim.
9. Interruptions from and demonstrations in the gallery should in no circumstances be televised, as they do not constitute “parliamentary proceedings”.
10. In cases of unparliamentary behaviour i.e. should any Member be in defiance of the Chair, the camera should normally focus on the occupant of the Chair and not on such Member.
11. On occasions of grave disorder, the camera should focus on the occupant of the Chair for as long as proceedings continue or until order has been restored.
12. Journalists representing the electronic media should be mindful of what is relevant to the business under consideration by the House. It is only such relevant material that is intended for public information.
13. Proceedings filmed are to be used only for reports of such proceedings and on no other occasion except with the express permission of the President of the Senate/Speaker of the House

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?                             | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? | Yes |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:                              |     |
|      | - censure in the House  | Yes |
|      | - suspension from the House   | Yes |
|      | - restrictions on access  | Yes |
|      | - fines   | No  |
|      | - other   |     |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers’ seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No  |

### **Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

|                                    |
|------------------------------------|
| <b>BRANCH: TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO</b> |
|------------------------------------|

**Content**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (21) | Which of the following are usually broadcast? |     |
|      | - Question Time                               | Yes |
|      | - Government Business                         | Yes |
|      | - Opposition Business                         | Yes |
|      | - Private Members Business                    | Yes |
|      | - Adjournment debates                         | Yes |

**Audience**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (22) | Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? | No |
|------|---|----|

**Archive**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (23) | Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? | No |
|------|---|----|

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
No
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio No  
- TV No  
- Internet No
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes No

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Broadcaster
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes No
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV No  
Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

|   |
|---|
| <b>BRANCH: TURKS AND CAICOS ISLANDS</b> |
|---|

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | No |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | No |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | No |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |    |
|      | - all proceedings   | No |
|      | - selected proceedings  | No |
|      | - major proceedings   | No |
|      | - highlights  | No |
|      | - news clips  | No |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 15 |

**Guidelines**

- |      |   |    |
|------|---|----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | No |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | No |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:  |    |
|      | - censure in the House  | No |
|      | - suspension from the House   | No |
|      | - restrictions on access  | No |
|      | - fines   | No |
|      | - other   |    |

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | Yes |

**Hansard**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | Yes |
|------|--|-----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| - Question Time            | Yes |
| - Government Business      | Yes |
| - Opposition Business      | Yes |
| - Private Members Business | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates      | Yes |
| - Other – please list      |     |
- Debates on Committee Reports

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? Yes
- If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**Authority to Broadcast**

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
  
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
  
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:
  - Radio Yes
  - TV Yes
  - Internet Yes
  
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
Yes
  
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

**Facilities**

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Equipment Parliament operating costs Broadcasters.
  
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Not Applicable.
  
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?
  - TV Yes
  - Cable TV No
  - Satellite TV No

**Scope of Broadcasts**

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? No
- Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes

**BRANCH: UNITED KINGDOM**

- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes
- Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
  
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:
  - all proceedings No
  - selected proceedings Yes
  - major proceedings Yes
  - highlights Yes
  - news clips Yes
  
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit? 201 days (2002)

**Guidelines**

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?  
See a copy of the rules below. Yes
  
- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
  
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? Yes No
  
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
  - censure in the House Yes (This has never happened)

**Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? Yes

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? Yes
  
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? No

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- Question Time Yes
  - Government Business Yes
  - Opposition Business Yes
  - Private Members Business Yes
  - Adjournment debates Yes
  - Other – please list
- Select Committees
  - Standing Committees
  - Sittings in Westminster Hall

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

## **Rules of Coverage**

The following is a consolidated version of the rules of coverage, incorporating both the original recommendations of the then Select Committee on Televising of Proceedings of the House" and the modifications subsequently approved by the Committee.

### **1 STATEMENT OF OBJECTIVES**

The director should seek, in close collaboration with the Supervisor of Broadcasting, to give a full, balanced, fair and accurate account of proceedings, with the aim of informing viewers about the work of the House.

(Note: In carrying out this task, the director should have regard to the dignity of the House and to its function as a working body rather than a place of entertainment.)

### **2 SPECIFIC GUIDELINES FOR PICTURE DIRECTION**

#### **(2) 1 Restriction of Filming Certain Parts of Chamber, etc.**

(1) 1 The press and public galleries, the officials' and visitors' boxes, and the area behind the Speaker's Chair, not being directly related to proceedings, should not be shown, other than unavoidably as part of wide-angle or other authorized shots of the Chamber.

(1)2 Great care should be exercised in showing the occupant of the Chair. Shots designed to show the Speaker receiving advice from a Clerk at the Table should not be used. Officers of the House and Doorkeepers attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown, unless they are taking an active part in the proceedings,

(1)3 During Divisions, a wide-angle shot of the Chamber may be used: In addition, the following events relating to Divisions may be shown using the standard format described in sub-paragraph II(b)(i): The putting of the Question, both initially and after the two minute interval; the announcement of the names of the Tellers; any points of order which may arise, together with any response by the Chair; and the announcement by the Tellers and the Chair of the voting figures.

(1)4 In no circumstances should close-up shots of Members' or Officers' papers be taken.

#### **(2)2 Style and Presentation**

(2)1 The standard format for depicting the Member who has the floor should be a head and shoulders shot, *not* a close-up.

(2)2 Subject to sub-paragraphs (iii) to (vii) below, the camera should normally remain on the Member speaking until he or she has finished.

(2)3 Wide-angle shot of the Chamber may be used from time to time: for example, while the director is seeking a closer shot of a Member who has just been called, at times when no single Member has the floor, and to establish the geography of the House for the benefit of viewers. (A second feed, showing a continuous single wide-angle shot from the end of the Chamber, is made available. This feed may be used only for editing purposes: it may not be used for separate live transmissions, nor for mixing electronically with the main feed for live transmission. The second feed is time-coded and extracts from it may only be employed in their correct chronological order sequence within the proceedings of the House. During incidents of disorder when the director is required to focus on the Chair, the second feed is withdrawn.)

(2)4 As a matter of general practice, the director should switch to a picture of the occupant of the Chair whenever he or she rules; this principle should be applied all the more strictly during incidents of disorder or altercations between Chair and other Members. (See guidelines regarding the treatment of disorder)

(2)5 Occasional cut-away shots to illustrate individual reactions are allowed, but only to show a Member who has been referred to by the Member speaking. (It is not necessary for the Member's constituency or, in the case of a Minister his office, to be specifically mentioned. So long as it is clear to the director which Member is being referred to, a reaction shot is permitted.)

(2)6 Medium-angle shots, including over-the-shoulder shots, are permissible where the director wishes to show both the Member who has the floor and another Member intervening or seeking to do so.

(2)7 (2)8 Occasional group shots - mid-way between the standard head and shoulders shot and the wide-angle shot— are permitted; such shots may be used either for the purposes of showing the reaction of a group of Members, or in order to establish the geography of a particular part of the Chamber.

### (2)3 Special Camera Techniques

(3)1 In no circumstances are split-screen shots to be used.

(3)2 Palming shots along the benches should not normally be used.

(3)3 Occasional zoom shots are permitted.

## 3 TREATMENT OF DISORDER

### (3)1 Disorder in the Galleries

(1)1 Neither interruptions from, nor demonstration in, the galleries are "Proceedings", and as such they should in no circumstances be televised.

(1)2 If an incident of the sort described in sub-paragraph (i) above occur in such a way as to interfere with an otherwise permissible shot, the director should cut either to a wide-angle shot of the Chamber which does not show the offending incident, or to the occupant of the Chair,

(3)2 Disorder on the Floor of the House

Televising may continue during incidents of grave disorder or unparliamentary behaviour for as long as the sitting continues, but only subject to the following guidelines:

(2) 1 On occasion of grave disorder, the director should normally focus on the occupant of the Chair for as long as proceedings continue, or until order has been restored. \*By “grave disorder” is meant incidents of individual, but more likely collective, misconduct of such a serious disruptive nature as to place in jeopardy the continuation of the sitting.)

(2)2 In cases of unparliamentary behaviour, the director should normally focus on the occupant of the chair, and should certainly do so if he or she rises, but occasional wide-angle shots of the Chamber are acceptable. (The phrase “unparliamentary behaviour” is intended to signify any conduct which amounts to defiance of the Chair but which falls short of grave disorder.)

(a) Archive material should not be used in any way likely to lower the dignity or damage the reputation of the House, or of any individual Member.

(b) Archive material should not be used in any way which infringes the legitimate rights of individual Members, in particular by purporting, without their authority, to enlist their support for, or endorsement of, any product, organization, cause or political party.

(c) That, in the case of compilations or summaries of proceedings distributed in video - or audio-cassette form, there may be no internal editing of extracts such as to distort the timing of events or the meaning of any words spoken; that there should be a clear indication of subject and time changes; and that due regard must be had to the requirements of political balance.

(d) That no archive material should be used in any form of advertising or publicity.

**Use of the Signals**

The guidelines for the use of the signals are:

- (1) no extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be used in any light entertainment programme or in a programme of political satire;
- (2) subject to paragraph (a) above, extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be included in broadcast “magazine” programmes which also contain music or humorous features provided that the different types of items are kept separate;
- (3) extracts from Parliamentary proceedings may not be used in party political broadcasts;
- (4) no extracts of Parliamentary proceedings may be used in any form of advertising, promotion or other form of publicity, except in the form of trailer for programmes which use extracts within the requirement of these guidelines and where the trailers also comply with those requirements; and

The user shall at all times comply with all rules of coverage, guidelines and directives laid down from time to time by the relevant select committee of each House in reports issued by them and otherwise.

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?

Yes

Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?

Yes

The Parliament broadcasts all proceedings live on the Internet at:

[www.scottish.parliament.live.com](http://www.scottish.parliament.live.com)

- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:

- Radio Yes

- TV Yes

- Internet Yes

- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?

Yes

Core Broadcaster BBC, SMG, SKY and Channel 4 all pay license fee and are Provided with TV and audio of all proceedings

No

No obligation to broadcast proceedings

- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?

Yes

Scottish Parliament Television Rules of Coverage

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?

Parliament

For all plenaries and committee 1 & 2 audio only in committee Rooms 3&4

Broadcasters can if they wish to supply their own cameras & personnel in Rooms 3&4 but at their own cost.

- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?

Yes

- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?

Radio No

TV No

Cable TV No

Satellite TV No

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Major proceedings live occasionally
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- major proceedings Yes  
- news clips Yes
- (10) Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
“Holywood Live” twice weekly occasionally
- (11) Does television broadcast taped recordings of:  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes
- (12) Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?  
34 weeks with plenary sittings one and a half day a week and committees one and a half-day a week.

### Guidelines

- (13) Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters? Yes  
If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. (See Rules below)

## **Rules of Television Coverage for the Scottish Parliament**

### **The Main Chamber**

1. The Director should always adhere to the precedence of the Presiding Officer.
2. The Member who is selected to speak shall be shown on camera by medium close-up.
3. The camera should normally remain on the Member speaking until he or she is finished although cutaways are allowed.
4. The arrival of prominent Members in the Chamber and shots of the public gallery are allowed.
5. Cutaways as outlined in paragraphs 3 and 4 should be at the discretion of the television director.
6. Long shots of the chamber are acceptable at any time.
7. An interruption or disruption by an MSP should be medium shot switching where Appropriate to the Presiding Officer for his/her ruling.
8. Officers of the Parliament and doorkeeper/security personnel attending in the Chamber should not normally be shown unless actively involved in the proceedings.
9. There should be no close up shots of Members' or Officials' papers or the electronic voting console.
10. Broadcasters should not distort the meaning of Members' speeches in edits.

### **Special Techniques**

11. Special effects should not in principle be ruled out although the equipment being installed will not permit these. Requests from broadcasters, who wish to use these techniques, at their expense, will be considered.

### **Committee Sittings**

12. When in Committee a variation of wide, medium and close up shots may be used to best reflect the activities of the Committee. Officials or witnesses may be shown on camera as introduced by Ministers or the Committee Convener, or when answering questions at the direction of the Committee Convener.

- (14) Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used? Yes
- (15) Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition? No
- (16) If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:
- |                             |     |    |
|-----------------------------|-----|----|
| - censure in the House      | Yes | No |
| - suspension from the House | Yes | No |
| - restrictions on access    | Yes | No |
| - fines                     | Yes | No |
| - other:                    |     |    |

To date this has not happened. No set rule on violation although license agreement can be terminated.  
Clause in license agreement

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- (17) Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? No

**Privilege**

- (18) Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts? No  
 Defamation  
 Copyright held by Parliament core broadcasters granted a non-Exclusive licence in respect of licensed rights to reproduce and use materials (incl. cut, edit reproduce)
- (19) Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? Yes

**Hansard**

- (20) Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? No

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast? Yes  
 - Question Time Yes

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

### Authority to Broadcast

- (1) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on radio?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings on television?  
Yes
- Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of its proceedings via web broadcasting?  
Yes
- (2) Does your Parliament permit broadcasting of committee proceedings on:  
- Radio Yes  
- TV Yes  
- Internet Yes
- (3) Is the broadcasting of Parliament a requirement under broadcasters' licenses?  
No
- (4) Must broadcasters agree to abide by a set of rules determined by Parliament in order to gain access to proceedings?  
Yes

### Facilities

- (5) Who provides the broadcast equipment, personnel and feed?  
Parliament
- (6) If Parliament provides the broadcasting feed, does it charge broadcasters?  
Yes
- (7) Are there any dedicated channels for the broadcasts of Parliament?  
Radio No  
TV No  
Cable TV Yes (digital)  
Satellite TV Yes (digital)

### Scope of Broadcasts

- (8) Does radio broadcast LIVE all proceedings? No  
Does radio broadcast LIVE selected proceedings? Yes  
Does radio broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? Yes
- (9) Does radio broadcast taped recordings of:  
- all proceedings No  
- selected proceedings Yes  
- major proceedings Yes  
- highlights Yes  
- news clips Yes

|                                      |
|--------------------------------------|
| <b>BRANCH: WALES, UNITED KINGDOM</b> |
|--------------------------------------|

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (10) | Does television broadcast LIVE all proceedings?                             | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE selected proceedings?                        | Yes |
|      | Does television broadcast LIVE major proceedings such as the budget speech? | Yes |
| (11) | Does television broadcast taped recordings of:                              |     |
|      | - all proceedings   | No  |
|      | - selected proceedings  | Yes |
|      | - major proceedings   | Yes |
|      | - highlights  | Yes |
|      | - news clips  | Yes |
| (12) | Normally, approximately how many days a year does your Parliament sit?      | 120 |

### **Guidelines**

- |      |   |     |
|------|---|-----|
| (13) | Are there parliamentary rules specifying what can and cannot be covered by broadcasters?<br>If yes, please send us a copy of the rules. | Yes |
| (14) | Are there parliamentary restrictions on how coverage is used?   | Yes |
| (15) | Are there parliamentary rules stipulating balanced coverage of government and opposition?   | No  |
| (16) | If broadcasters violate the rules, what action can be taken:<br><br><i>This situation has not yet arisen.</i>                           |     |

### **Acknowledgement of Galleries**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (17) | Is coverage of the galleries and the advisers' seats prohibited? | No |
|------|--|----|

### **Privilege**

- |      |  |     |
|------|--|-----|
| (18) | Does absolute privilege apply to LIVE and other broadcasts?  | Yes |
| (19) | Is only qualified privilege applied to broadcasters in the use of excerpts and delayed broadcast of proceedings? | No  |

### **Hansard**

- |      |  |    |
|------|--|----|
| (20) | Must comments deleted from Hansard also be deleted by broadcasters before they transmit taped proceedings? | No |
|------|--|----|

**Content**

- (21) Which of the following are usually broadcast?
- |                            |     |
|----------------------------|-----|
| - Question Time            | Yes |
| - Government Business      | Yes |
| - Opposition Business      | Yes |
| - Private Members Business | Yes |
| - Adjournment debates      | Yes |
| - Other – please list      |     |

*Coverage on the digital parliamentary channel (S4C2) is limited mainly by Time. Otherwise they strive to broadcast all proceedings.*

**Audience**

- (22) Has Parliament conducted any audience research for Parliament broadcasts? No

If yes, please send us a copy of the findings if possible.

**Archive**

- (23) Are video and sound recordings of all debates retained by Parliament? Yes

**NATIONAL ASSEMBLY FOR WALES  
CODE OF CONDUCT FOR BROADCASTING PROCEEDINGS**

1. The host broadcaster should ensure that the signal provides a full, fair and accurate account of the proceedings of the Assembly.
2. The host broadcaster should provide coverage which follows the proceedings of the Assembly and its Committees. This means that the coverage should concentrate primarily on the Assembly Member who is speaking. However, a variety of shots may be used to illustrate the geography of the Chamber.
3. The host broadcaster should provide coverage which clearly shows the method of voting in the Assembly.
4. The host broadcaster should switch to a picture of the Presiding Officer whenever he or she is speaking. A close-up or a wide-angle shot would be permissible.
5. The host broadcaster should not show any demonstration or interference from the public which may take place inside the Chamber or Assembly committee rooms. In this situation the host broadcaster should switch to a picture of the Presiding Officer.
6. When using the signal in their programmes, all broadcasting organisations should pay heed to the dignity of the Assembly. It would not be appropriate to use extracts from the coverage in any way which might trivialise the proceedings or undermine the authority of the Assembly.

November 2002