



8 March 2019

E.3.19. 2019

TO: ALL BRANCH SECRETARIES
c.c. Members of the Executive Committee
Regional Secretaries
Members of the CWP Steering Committee

Commonwealth Day 2019

I am pleased to enclose **Commonwealth Day** information on "**A Connected Commonwealth**". As you may already be aware, hard copies of the **Commonwealth Day Poster**, published by the Commonwealth Secretariat, have been sent to CPA Branches. We hope you will be able to display the poster suitably or use it for some other purpose connected with your celebration of Commonwealth Day. Additional information on Commonwealth Day 2019 can be accessed via this link: <http://thecommonwealth.org/commonwealthday> Soft copies of the Commonwealth Day posters can also be accessed via the following: http://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/inline/D16441_Commonwealth_Theme_A_Connected_Commonwealth_Poster_LANDSCAPE_FA_2.pdf

The Commonwealth Day Message from Her Majesty The Queen is attached for your attention. I must draw your attention to the **strict time embargo** on Her Majesty's Message. **Please note the embargo on this message: It must not appear in public in printed or broadcast form before 00.01 (local time) on Monday 11 March 2019. It may be read at public occasions from Sunday 10 March 2019.**

Those Branches with meeting rooms for Members may wish to put the message on prominent display there.

The theme of Commonwealth Day 2019 is "**A Connected Commonwealth**" and we hope that this message is given wide publicity by all Branches. The practice in many Parliaments is for the Presiding Officer to read the Queen's message from the Chair at the opening of proceedings. We would like to take this opportunity to encourage all Branches to hold a debate on or around Commonwealth Day to promote our shared Commonwealth political values; to call for the strengthening of democratic governance in our legislatures and Parliaments; raise the profile of the CPA; and to mark the challenges and opportunities facing Commonwealth citizens in the 21st Century.

With best wishes for Commonwealth Day.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'K. Akbar Khan'.

Mr. Akbar Khan
Secretary-General
Commonwealth Parliamentary Association

Please Address All Correspondence to the Secretary-General

Patron: Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II, Head of the Commonwealth

Secretary-General of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association: Mr Akbar Khan

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