

Dennis Pantin: Abstract for 10-11 Jan, 2007 First Parliamentary Workshop

Title: The potential role of a civil society based Senate in the evolving Caribbean Parliamentary system

The paper will make the case for a civil society based Senate in the evolving parliamentary systems of the English speaking Caribbean with a case study of Trinidad and Tobago.

The paper will begin by critiquing the limitations of the current Senate system. It will then review the proposals made for reform of the Senate including those for a civil society based Senate. The latter discussion will include identification of the questions that have been raised in terms of a policy role for persons who have not directly faced the polls.

The paper will conclude by identification of some of the operational modalities which need to be addressed for implementation of <<Nov 27, 2007 dp proposed paper on senate for Jan 10-11,07.doc>>