

PARLIAMENTARY SEMINAR

“Protecting Human Rights, Combating Discrimination and Addressing HIV/AIDS of Persons with Diverse Sexual Orientation and Gender Identities”

Presented by: Zenita Nicholson

Secretary, Board of Trustees, SASOD

Country Coordinator (Guyana), Caribbean Vulnerable Communities Coalition



SOCIETY AGAINST SEXUAL ORIENTATION
DISCRIMINATION

SASOD'S 3 H AGENDA

- HUMAN RIGHTS
- HOMOPHOBIA (S)
- HEALTH PROMOTION

GUYANA'S PARLIAMENT

- National Assembly
- Unicameral Legislature
- Total of 65 Parliamentarians

SASOD'S GENESIS AND PARLIAMENTARY ENGAGEMENT

- 2003 – Constitutionally Amended Bill was unanimously passed
- Included sexual orientation as a ground for discrimination
- Pressure from conservative religious forces
- Approved Bill sent back for reconsideration
- Forum with ALL MPs held on June 7, 2003
- Only 3 MPs from the opposition attended (then PNCR)

RECOMMENDED PARLIAMENTARY MEASURES TO ADDRESS DISCRIMINATION AGAINST LGBT GUYANESE

- Repeal Guyana's discriminatory Laws
- Expand existing legislative protections

ENGAGING PARLIAMENTARIANS IN GUYANA



1. NATIONAL LEVEL

THROUGH CONSULTATIVE PROCESSES

2. REGIONAL LEVEL

The Organisation of American States (OAS) provides opportunities for engaging Government Ministers who are also parliamentarians.

3. INTERNATIONAL ADVOCACY

- UN Human Rights Council and the Universal Periodic Review
- UN Treaty Bodies

SASOD'S ONLINE RESOURCES

Website: www.sasod.org.gy

Blog: www.sasod.blogspot.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/groups/sasod

YouTube: www.youtube.com/user/sasodguyana

LinkedIn: www.linkedin.com/company/sasod

Twitter: www.twitter.com/SASODGuyana

Email: sasod@sasod.org.com