



## Country Chapter Development

**Issue:** Perhaps the greatest limitation of the current approach to effective programming is the lack of operational country chapters.

### Considerations and current actions:

- The **assessments** prepared by country chapters for the Global Monitoring report provide a good vehicle for learning, identifying needed actions and developing parliamentary and other stakeholder support for corrective measures, related to GOPAC Policy Position.
- **UNCAC** has been ratified in many countries where GOPAC does not have members, including many countries where global assessments of corruption indicate significant negative effects. Ratification by a country's government suggests a commitment to preventing corruption and an additional measure of openness to improving the contribution of parliamentarians to its effective implementation. GOPAC could assign priority to the creation of chapters in these countries.
- **Regional chapters:** The operational regional chapters (APNAC, ARPAC, LAPAC and SEAPAC) have been the most active in creating country chapters where they have the resources to do so. This is a good approach and GOPAC should continue to urge the creation of similar chapters in other regions, its Core Global Program could be augmented to include a chapter development activity – something that is not part of its current programming.
- While most country chapters are in two regions – APNAC and ARPAC – there is considerable diversity and experience in how they are organized and their links to civil society organizations and their parliaments. Therefore, there is a considerable body of experience to draw from. A recent section has been added to the GOPAC website to capture these **lessons learned**. This could be expanded.
- **Formal, but unfunded, regional chapters also can be effective.** They can encourage country chapter formation, provide links to complementary regional initiatives and provide members for international initiatives.

### Draft Resolutions on Country Chapter Development:

- GOPAC should reconfirm the importance of country chapters by continuing to encourage regional chapters to support the creation of country chapters within their regions, but also encourage the Global Executive and its Secretariat to support the creation of country chapters where operational regional chapters do not yet exist; and
- to support this work, the Global Secretariat should establish a distinct component on its website for guidance on country chapter development and operations and summarize effective practices.