



MEXICO DECLARATION

IV INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION (GOPAC)

**Hosted by the Senate of Mexico and the Mexican Chapter, Mexico City,
March 11-13, 2011**

We the members of parliament of forty-six countries gathered at the IV Conference of Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) in Mexico City on March 11-13, 2011, recognize and thank the leadership of Mexico for kindly hosting our assembly.

Our meeting took place amidst the unprecedented and dramatic events occurring in North Africa and the Middle East, a popular upheaval rooted in misgovernment and corruption. These events exemplify the enormous adverse consequences of corruption and its impact on the poorest and on governance.

We understand the huge expectation and the rising demands of people everywhere for citizen participation, greater transparency and accountability.

Hence, we recommit ourselves to prevent and fight corruption through every democratic means at our disposal.

We reaffirm the essential role of Parliaments and parliamentarians to reflect the will of the people, to hold government to account and enact legislation and policies to conform with the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC).

We believe GOPAC is uniquely positioned to help parliamentarians build the political will for action and provide them with the necessary skills and tools to effectively prevent and fight corruption.

We in GOPAC have achieved significant results to date, and we have a plan of action, the key elements of which are the following:

1. broaden the network of GOPAC members, and help establish additional country chapters of active parliamentarians, enabling them to play an effective role in preventing and fighting corruption;
2. establish and enable a GOPAC network of women parliamentarians;
3. implement the substantive action plans developed by the five GOPAC global task forces (GTFs):
 - UNCAC Implementation and Monitoring
 - Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct System
 - Parliamentary Oversight
 - Anti-Money Laundering
 - Participation of Society
4. assist parliamentarians in evaluating the effectiveness of their performance based on the GOPAC developed benchmarks; and
5. engage the public through all available communication channels and strengthen GOPAC ties with partners in gaining understanding of the enormous cost of corruption and the role of Parliaments and parliamentarians in preventing and fighting corruption.