



Engaging GOPAC Members

Issue: *Only engaged members contribute to GOPAC results.* Engagement implies an awareness of GOPAC policy positions and initiatives, as well as a commitment to GOPAC mission and objectives. The GOPAC Executive as well as partnering organizations have identified membership engagement as a weakness in several parts of the world. Active Country Chapters and appropriately funded Regional Chapters engage individual members. Conferences occur only every two years and not all members can find funding to participate. What are the additional steps the GOPAC Global Board, Executive and Secretariat should take to enhance engagement?

Considerations and current actions:

- The preparation of country assessments for the GOPAC **Global Monitoring Report** provides a good opportunity for engagement. Members, in consultation with colleagues, experts, and civil society, assessing the strengths and weaknesses regarding their capacity and performance (re GOPAC policy positions) provides for learning, and building consensus around practical improvements. GOPAC, with UNDP, has provided a self-assessment toolkit to support the analysis. Where it has been used, it seems to play a useful learning and engagement role. As noted in the Monitoring Report, coverage of countries chapters has been good. But, there is scope for both better coverage and greater participation.
- There is a **UNDP initiative** to engage their country offices in working with parliamentarians for a more structured assessment using the GOPAC-UNDP Toolkit. Such a more elaborate assessment would further expand members' knowledge of corruption prevention through improved governance.
- GOPAC **GTF Website** documentation: Over the last 12 months the programming part has been developed, focusing on the 4 GTFs that have been active. In addition to GTF activities, these sites provide links to related information and tools of partnering organizations. The site also provides personal links to the GOPAC GTF Secretaries for interested members. With Newsletters to all members highlighting new material, this provides an additional means of engagement.
- **Membership Code of Conduct, Renewal of Membership Fee:** Not all chapters have formal membership renewal practices and consistent application of Members Code of Conduct.
- **Other parliamentary networks:** There likely is considerable value in engaging GOPAC members to the knowledge, skills and initiatives of other parliamentary organizations.



Draft Resolutions on Greater Engagement Of Members GOPAC should:

- establish the GOPAC Monitoring Program as a continuing activity, beginning with seeking additional reports from countries that have not yet responded, and initiating an annual update process, which documents strengths, weaknesses, improvements and priority further initiatives; and
- establish full application of the GOPAC Code of Conduct and regular practices for membership renewal, where now not in place.