

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

SUMMARY OF RESOLUTIONS

GTF-UNCAC should:

- pursue establishing chapters in countries that have ratified the UNCAC and where parliamentarians seek to contribute to its effective implementation;
- oversee GOPAC's global monitoring of parliamentary capacity and performance as related to GOPAC policy positions/benchmarks;
- engage GOPAC members and other parliamentarians in the formal UNCAC CoSP review process, as well as the review practices of related international conventions; and
- explore incorporation of international anti-bribery in the UNDP-GOPAC Toolkit and other ways to support the implementation of the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.

GTF-PO should promote:

- oversight of the UNCAC;
- with regard to public natural resources and contract transparency, that:
 - final signed contracts for extraction of resources are disclosed to the public at large;
 - terms of extraction set in legislation and publicly available model contracts which contain only the key terms and conditions;
 - Parliaments consider strategies to routinely analyse contracts and monitor their implementation to ensure companies and governments uphold their commitments;
- at the regional and country level, the identification of oversight training needs on specific issues and build partnerships with experts and funders; and
- preparation of guidance for parliamentarians on the oversight of procurement.

GTF-PEC should:

1. welcome the publication of the Handbook on Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct (the Handbook) as resolved in Arusha and Kuwait;
2. encourage all parliamentarians, particularly GOPAC chapters and members, to use the Handbook and further develop or establish, where needed, appropriate and effective ethics and conduct regimes in their own countries;
3. maintain GTF-PEC to further develop its mandate, particularly to:
 - a. monitor the use of the handbook;
 - b. regionalize approaches and provide assistance where feasible;
 - c. develop an international "community of practice" for systems of parliamentary ethics and conduct;
 - d. expand the ethics and conduct library, including codes and legislation, good or bad practices and case studies;
 - e. further develop the Handbook based on experience; and
 - f. develop an evaluation tool to assess existing systems of ethics and conduct.

GTF-AML should:

- finalize the GOPAC AML Action Guide for Parliamentarians and the Strategic Plan to roll it out, incorporating conference workshop advice; and
- approve the updated GOPAC AML policy position and the related updating of the AML section of the *UNDP/GOPAC UNCAC Monitoring and Assessment Toolkit*.

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
- full application of the GOPAC Code of Conduct and regular practices for membership renewal, where now not in place.

On Harmonizing Programming:

- the GOPAC Board should put in place procedures to harmonize programming, consistent with its global agenda and policy positions on one hand, and disciplined and informed annually updated country assessments on the other. Memoranda of Understanding outlining how this would work should be considered by the GOPAC Executive and operational regional chapters.
- GOPAC should seek deeper partnering relations with our principal partners that undertake governance improvement initiatives where they support or complement the harmonized global GOPAC plan, as this can support corrective measures that country chapters feel are helpful.
- GOPAC Executive Committee should provide active support of regional chapter proposals that respond to GOPAC's policy commitments and global plans.

On Country Chapter Development - GOPAC should:

- affirm the importance of country chapters and encourage regional chapters to support their creation.
- encourage the creation of country chapters where operational regional chapters do not yet exist; and
- establish a distinct component on its website for guidance on country chapter development.

On GOPAC Funding Issues, GOPAC should:

- maintain the financial independence of regional chapters, but develop an integrated global program demonstrating how regional and global activities support improvements in countries;
- pursue continuing support for basic global programming from the Canadian government; however if that proves unsuccessful, seek another country to sponsor the global secretariat and program; and
- include, within the global secretariat, expertise in supporting funding proposals of regional chapters, where they are aligned to the global plan (the plan which integrates global task forces and regional Chapters activities in support of country chapters - consistent with the GOPAC).

For GOPAC Women's Network:

GOPAC resolves to pursue the creation and funding of a GOPAC Women's Network of current and former women parliamentarians and supporting partners, including men parliamentarians, international agencies, representatives from civil society and others such as academia.

Parliamentary Oversight of Public Procurement:

Parliamentarians in their oversight role have a responsibility to strengthen the confidence of their citizens in the public procurement process. They must ensure that public procurement results in the full implementation of the principles of: fairness, openness and transparency. It must be carried out in an accountable and ethical manner and be able to withstand the test of public scrutiny.

The key decision points which require vigilance and intervention by Parliamentarians include:

- Legislation
- Regulations
- International Agreements
- Resource Allocation
- Reports from Oversight Bodies
- Parliamentary Committee Hearings, reports and follow-up.

GOPAC confirms its commitment to assist its members with guidance, training and methodology to carry out this responsibility.

Engaging Citizens - GOPAC should:

- review and make available successful existing and creative anti-corruption practices from various regions of the world involving the participation of society, in the form of a handbook, including assessing related information from the country assessments of the Monitoring Report;
- encourage each regional Chapter to develop an approach to engagement of society and outline how parliamentarians and parliaments can help prevent corruption; and
- encourage GOPAC chapters to form coalitions with society to have a structured way to work together in the fight against corruption.