



GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION  
ORGANISATION MONDIALE DES PARLEMENTAIRES CONTRE LA CORRUPTION  
ORGANIZACIÓN MUNDIAL DE PARLAMENTARIOS CONTRA LA CORRUPCIÓN

# ANNUAL REPORT 2010-2011







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## A Message from our Chair



For GOPAC, 2010-2011 has been a year of inner reflection. We examined the work that has been done and set forth a plan to ensure we continue to motivate and inspire parliamentarians around the world to fight for a corruption-free society.

Among our many accomplishments, we count our most successful biennial Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption to date. Held in March 2011 in Mexico City, the conference showed that GOPAC is an energetic organization with dedicated and hardworking members. The conference co-hosts, our Mexico Chapter and the Mexican Senate, organized an event for all to be proud of – one where GOPAC members, prospective members and stakeholders could gather together to explore the issues and seek out solutions.

In follow-up to the conference, our Mexican hosts continued to display the high level of professionalism required to host such a large international event. Under the leadership of the Chapter Chair and Vice-President of GOPAC, Senator Ricardo García Cervantes, the team provided quality documentation that shines the spotlight on the dedication of our GOPAC members, all of them volunteers.

This year also saw GOPAC gain the trust and support of major funding players in the world of development. The Government of Kuwait generously pledged its support providing GOPAC with funding for three years starting in June 2011. In addition, the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) gave us support to expand and work on a new business model. From these funding opportunities, we decided to strengthen the capacity of our Global Secretariat in Ottawa by hiring permanent staff to help support our members worldwide. We also adopted a new five-year plan which opened the door for new opportunities for GOPAC and the promise of chapter development within existing chapters as well as countries that are not yet part of GOPAC.

GOPAC could not succeed without the help of solid partnerships which ensure our message of anti-corruption gets out to the widest audience. GOPAC has solid relationships with a number of world players dealing with similar issues and we continued to build on these this year.

Finally, I commend our Regional and National Chapters for the dedication they have shown this past year to advance our anti-corruption agenda locally. This is where true collaborations flourish



and drive change. In the years ahead I urge our members to remain determined and steadfast in their fight against corruption using all the tools that GOPAC continues to develop and make readily available.

I wish all our members, Chapters and Global Task Forces the best and look forward to working together to build a solid wall against corruption.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Naser Al Sane', with a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Dr. Naser Al Sane  
GOPAC Chair



## A Message from the CEO and Founder of GOPAC



The Arab Spring in 2011 was a revolution throughout the Middle East that few saw coming. Like all great events, its roots could be traced back to a small spark, in this case the self-immolation of Mohamed Bouazizi. He was a struggling street merchant in Tunisia whose only desire was to feed and clothe his family. Constant police harassment including seizures of his property and produce combined with insults and humiliation finally drove him to the extreme measure of taking his own life.

This act of courage and desperation resonated with a large segment of Tunisian society, people who were also eking out a life of poverty and despair. They had no future, only the daily grind of hard struggle to barely make enough to feed their families. This frustration was the tinderbox waiting for the spark of Mohamed Bouazizi. His selfless act galvanised public opinion that life as it was, was worthless and dying for a better future was worthwhile. Riots ensued and within days President Ben Ali and his family fled Tunisia.

The three elements of revolution were all in place: a rich elite who had acquired and maintained their wealth and power through corrupt means; a population down trodden, who wanted but lacked the voice to express themselves; and a spark that spoke the minds of the masses. Then the revolution!

That formula would replicate itself throughout the Middle East. From Tunisia it was on to Egypt. From there it moved to Libya where the struggle was fierce. Other countries had uprisings, some successful others not so. And Syria, at the time of writing, a blood bath with the end uncertain. But we do know, that in the end, in the final analysis the people will win, if not this time, then the next time. If not the next time, it will be another time – but in the end, the people will win.

All of this brings me to the fight against corruption which is also the fight against tyranny; because they go hand in hand. Corruption diverts wealth from the unrepresented to the rich who use it to build a power base. More wealth and power entrenches the disparity. The elite enforce their position of privilege by ensuring the rules protect their position until one day, a spark, a revolution, and the dictator is gone.



GOPAC seeks to prevent governments surrounded by ruling elites from entrenching themselves into a special position in their societies. The privilege of governing comes with the responsibility to serve. Parliamentarians, elected by the people, have the duty to ensure that government serves the people not themselves. Unfortunately, in far too many parts of the world, this concept is strange indeed where winning an election is seen as a ticket to good fortune and wealth; wealth obtained through corruption at the expense of the people who voted for honest government that would provide education, jobs and services such as health care that everyone wants.

GOPAC stands for parliamentarians who want ethics and honesty in government. I believe that in every country, no matter how corrupt and dictatorial, there are people in elected positions who want to serve their society by controlling corruption but cannot move forward alone. They need a coalition to fight corruption and they need a political agenda that can be promoted to fight corruption.

GOPAC is that coalition and GOPAC has the agendas to fight corruption. Through its Global Task Forces (GTFs) comprised of parliamentarians from around the world focussed on political agendas to prevent and curb corruption progress can be made. GOPAC is a home for parliamentarians who are dedicated to serving their citizens with honesty and integrity.

Through participation in GOPAC parliamentarians can build a coalition big enough to exercise accountability over governments; and governments that are accountable will serve society rather than steal from society.

Controlling corruption has to be one of the noblest causes that a parliamentarian can participate in and promote. As GOPAC grows and involves more parliamentarians, its capacity through engagement of parliamentarians will bring the rule of law, education, prosperity and services to societies that can only dream of such things today.

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2011 has been a watershed year for GOPAC. We had a very successful global conference in Mexico City with much appreciation to our hosts, the Congress and Government of Mexico. The conference demonstrated to the world that parliamentarians were prepared to stand up and be counted in the fight against corruption; parliamentarians who recognised their responsibility to be leaders in their societies. The conference was the opportunity for parliamentarians to recognise that they do not stand alone in their fight against corruption but that they have many friends around



the world who are willing to do the same. Parliamentarians were joined by institutions such as the UNDP, WBI, development agencies and others, all on the same agenda – fight corruption to build prosperous societies.

Behind the scenes we also had our struggles. Finances were extremely difficult in the spring of 2011 and we thank the Canadian International Development Agency (CIDA) for a funding extension that allowed us to continue. Shortly afterwards, the Government of Kuwait gave GOPAC a grant of US \$2,000,000.00 per year for three years.

With this funding we have laid the foundation of a strong secretariat based in Ottawa, Canada to serve our members in the years ahead. Our focus is service to our members, and our National and Regional Chapters.

I thank the staff of the Secretariat who are committed to building GOPAC into a world class organisation that leads in the fight against corruption. Through their efforts in support of our membership, we can be much more effective in our work.

I am also grateful to the many parliamentarians around the world who are providing voluntary service to GOPAC by developing chapters and workplans to fight corruption in their countries. This is where the fight against corruption takes place. In the parliament, in the committees, through the engagement of society in political affairs, giving voice to those who want a better world!

As more parliamentarians become engaged, our coalition against corruption grows larger and therefore more effective. Parliamentarians are the leaders of the world, and the time has come for parliamentarians to stand united and lead the world to a better place where peace, prosperity and a brighter future is there for all.

We are just starting. The future is ahead of us. Through GOPAC that future can be brighter and better for millions of people because their parliamentarians joined together in GOPAC to fight for a corruption-free world.





I look forward to meeting you all again at our next global conference in Manila in January 2013.  
Remember, bring your friends.

With sincerity and best wishes

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "John G. Williams".

John G. Williams  
Member of Parliament (Canada) (retired)  
CEO - GOPAC.



## Looking Forward



### GOPAC's plan of action

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.

Establish and enable a GOPAC network of women parliamentarians.

Implement action plans developed by the GOPAC GTFs.

Assist parliamentarians in evaluating the effectiveness of their performance based on the GOPAC developed benchmarks.

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.

Since its inception, the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) has had a mission to connect parliamentarians the world over with the resources and networks necessary for a successful fight against corruption.

In its ninth year, GOPAC felt that 2011 needed to be a year of review and reflection and with that we underwent a formal examination of the organization and its objectives, activities and funding. The result of which produced a Strategic Business Plan that laid out a clear five-year strategy.

The plan is based on three interrelated objectives that seek to strengthen the organization and ensure our members are informed, motivated and inspired. By building our capacity, subject matter expertise and momentum, we can endeavour to achieve improved democratic accountability and instill a serious fight against corruption.

### Building Capacity

In the next five years, GOPAC has committed to strengthening existing National Chapters and building new ones. Through a series of workshops for both current and prospective members, GOPAC will increase anti-corruption knowledge that can be applied at the national level. These workshops will provide GOPAC members with knowledge necessary for peer-to-peer support and ultimately enable them to advance anti-corruption legislation and monitoring initiatives in their countries.

### Building Subject Matter Expertise

Through the establishment of Global Task Forces (GTFs) on specific corruption issues, GOPAC will cultivate its own experts that can share knowledge with members. In 2011, GOPAC solidified four GTFs in areas key to the fight against corruption: anti-money laundering, the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, parliamentary oversight, and parliamentary ethics and conduct. Additional topics and GTFs will be explored in the years to come.

### Building Momentum

In the coming five years, GOPAC will strive to position itself as the leader in the fight against corruption with the leading source of expertise and resources for parliamentarians around the world. In 2011, GOPAC improved its Global Monitoring Survey which will lead to more in-depth and concise information gathered for the Global Monitoring Report to be release in 2012.



## Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption

Parliaments and parliamentarians play an essential role in ensuring the will of the people is respected, holding government to account and enacting legislation and policies to conform to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). 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.

A key to developing an engaged, informed and motivated membership is providing members with a venue to share and discuss anti-corruption issues and initiatives. We need to inspire them with successes from one country to the next. In recognition of this, GOPAC created the biennial Global Conference of Parliamentarians Against Corruption.


March 11-13, 2011, over 350 leaders, members, prospective members, and stakeholders from 46 countries gathered in Mexico City, Mexico for the fourth Global Conference.

The conference took place as a revolutionary wave of demonstrations and protests spread across North Africa and the Middle East. The unrest reflected the current state of governments in those regions, rife with corruption and little accountability. These events only served to reinforce the importance of parliamentarians working together to fight for good governance, transparency and accountability in government.

During the three day event, parliamentarians participated in more than 15 round table workshops dealing with various anti-corruption issues. Included as part of the workshops were sessions on monitoring, reviewing and planning for four GOPAC Global Task Forces (GTFs) on anti-money laundering; the UNCAC; parliamentary oversight; and parliamentary ethics and conduct. Each GTF workshop ended with the passing of a resolution outlining future commitments.

At the close of the conference, members passed a declaration in which GOPAC recognized the need for greater citizenship participation, transparency and accountability in government. They also renewed their commitment to prevent and counter corruption through every democratic means available.





*GOPAC seeks to prevent governments surrounded by ruling elites from entrenching themselves into a special position in their societies. The privilege of governing comes with the responsibility to serve. Parliamentarians, elected by the people, have the duty to ensure that government serves the people not themselves. Unfortunately, in far too many parts of the world, this concept is strange indeed where winning an election is seen as a ticket to good fortune and wealth; wealth obtained through corruption at the expense of the people who voted for honest government that would provide education, jobs and services such as health care that everyone wants.*



## Partnerships and Collaborations

Partnerships and collaborations build a strong foundation on which to grow an organization. Over the past year GOPAC has reached out to like-minded organizations and institutions to offer its members the most updated information and tools to fight corruption.

In September 2011, GOPAC senior management traveled to Washington to participate in the International Monetary Fund/World Bank Annual General Meeting. Part of the event included a Civil Society Policy Forum during which GOPAC co-hosted a panel discussion on parliamentary ethics, conduct and social accountability with the World Banking Institute and the Partnership for Transparency Fund. The panel was moderated by John Williams, GOPAC CEO. In addition to moderating the panel, Mr. Williams presented on parliamentary ethics and conduct, introducing participants to GOPAC's *Handbook on Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct*. The event also provided GOPAC with the opportunity to forge relationships with the World Bank and USAID.



### Partners 2010-2011

Civil Service Commission  
of the Philippines

Financial Action Task Force

Friedrich Ebert Stiftung

International Monetary Fund

Interpol

Organisation for Economic  
Co-operation and Development

ParlAmericas

Parliamentary Centre

Philippine Senate

Revenue Watch Institute

Senate of Mexico

United Nations Development  
Program

United Nations Office  
on Drugs and Crime

World Bank Institute



## Knowledge Sharing



One of the benefits of having a large network of members is the invaluable breadth of knowledge which can be shared around the globe. Lessons learned in one country can easily be transferred to help parliamentarians in another country. GOPAC enables this transfer of knowledge through hosting workshops and imparting information we have learned since the beginning. GOPAC workshops empower parliamentarians and provide them with the resources to take control of their fight against corruption.

### United Nations Convention Against Corruption Workshop

In October 2010, 36 parliamentarians from 13 countries, including Philippine Senators and Members of the House of Representatives, gathered in Manila to affirm their commitment to the global fight against corruption. The two-day GOPAC workshop was designed to equip lawmakers with tools to implement the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC). The event was spearheaded by GOPAC and its Regional Chapter, South East Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC).

The series of meetings focused on formulating strategies in combating corruption; promoting transparency; and upholding public accountability and good governance among SEAPAC member countries – with parliaments playing a key role.

In order to better help our members, a portion of the workshop concentrated on assessing the performance of each member country in their fight against corruption – their own roles in preventing corruption through legislation, oversight and representation. It also facilitated the identification of strengths and weaknesses as well as areas for technical assistance and parliamentary strengthening in corruption prevention. This assessment was completed with the help of the *Parliamentarians Toolkit* developed by GOPAC and the Oslo office of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP).

### Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct Workshop

GOPAC was invited by Casals & Associates as part of the Mobilizing Action Against Corruption Project funded by USAID to present a workshop to parliamentarians and parliamentary staff in the Parliament of Armenia, May 19-20, 2011. The workshop focused on the concepts of democratic governance, the UNCAC, parliamentary ethics and conduct, and the possible creation of a chapter of GOPAC in the Armenian Parliament.

Knowledge was shared through the two GOPAC representatives presenting at the event: John Williams, CEO of GOPAC, and Hon. Ghassan Moukheiber, MP, Lebanon, Chair of GOPAC's Regional Chapter Arab Parliamentarians Against Corruption and Chair of the GOPAC Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct Global Task Force.



It became clear on the first day of the workshop that Armenia could greatly benefit from GOPAC's knowledge sharing network. GOPAC representatives recognized that despite Armenia having signed and ratified the UNCAC, participants in the workshop had little knowledge of what this meant for the Government of Armenia. GOPAC reminded participants that while parliament is not prominently identified in the convention, civil society looks to its elected representatives for the motivation to prompt a recalcitrant government to move forward on implementing the UNCAC.

Following the event, there was great interest on the part of participants to move towards creating a GOPAC National Chapter in Armenia. It would provide a vehicle for Armenian parliamentarians to promote better governance and fight corruption in their Parliament and around the world.



## Global Secretariat



The GOPAC Global Secretariat is the point of contact for GOPAC and its Regional and National Chapters. It collects and disseminates information concerning GOPAC and Chapters, and co-ordinates and facilitates the activities of Global Task Forces.

The many projects, workshops and conferences in 2010-2011 could not have taken place without the tireless work of our Global Secretariat staff:

John Williams, CEO

Andrea Blake, Director

Roy Cullen, Member of Management Committee

John McCook, Director Partnerships

Lesley Burns, GTF Program Advisor, Parliamentary Oversight and Parliamentary Ethics and Conduct

Pamela Groh, Program Officer, Latin America

Emilie Lemieux, Program Assistant

Ann Marie Paquet, Communications Officer

Lynda Sprague, Finance Officer

Priya Sood, GTF Program Advisor, UNCAC and Anti-Money Laundering

Shelley Ziola, Executive Assistant to the CEO





## Board of Directors

The GOPAC Board of Directors is comprised of current and former parliamentarians from each of the GOPAC Regional Chapters. They donate their time and energy to ensure the organization runs smoothly and championing GOPAC and our anti-corruption message around the world.



### Executive Committee

#### Chair

Dr. Naser Al Sane  
Kuwait

#### Vice-Chair

Sen. Edgardo J. Angara  
Philippines

#### Vice-Chair

Sen. Ricardo Garcia Cervantes  
Mexico

#### Vice-Chair

Hon. Given Lubinda  
Zambia

#### Secretary

Hon. Mary King  
Trinidad and Tobago

#### Treasurer

Hon. Roy Cullen  
Canada

### Board Members

Dr. Mamdouh Al Abbadi  
Jordan

Hon. Mahi Bahi Ammar  
Algeria

Hon. Ndeye Gaye Cissé  
Senegal

Hon. Musikari Kombo  
Kenya



## Funders



The fight against corruption is long and arduous and requires the support of many different organizations and individuals around the world. In 2010 and 2011, GOPAC's success was due in part to the generous support of its funders.



Government  
of Canada

Gouvernement  
du Canada



# Independent Auditors Report

To the Board of Directors of:

## GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION

### Report on the Financial Statements

We have audited the accompanying financial statements of GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION, which comprise the Statement of Financial Position as at September 30, 2011, and the Statements of Operations and Changes in Net Assets, and Cash Flows for the year then ended, and a summary of significant accounting policies and other explanatory information.



### Management's Responsibility for the Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation and fair presentation of these financial statements in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles, and for such internal control as management determines is necessary to enable the preparation of financial statements that are free from material misstatement, whether due to fraud or error.

### Auditors' Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on our audit. We conducted our audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted auditing standards. Those standards require that we comply with ethical requirements and plan and perform the audit to obtain reasonable assurance about whether the financial statements are free from material misstatement.

An audit involves performing procedures to obtain audit evidence about the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements. The procedures selected depend on the auditor's judgment, including the assessment of the risks of material misstatement of the financial statements, whether due to fraud or error. In making those risk assessments, the auditor considers internal control relevant to the organization's preparation and fair presentation of the financial statements in order to design audit procedures that are appropriate in the circumstances, but not for the purpose of expressing an opinion on the effectiveness of the organization's internal control. An audit also includes evaluating the appropriateness of accounting policies used and the reasonableness of accounting estimates made by management, as well as evaluating the overall presentation of the financial statements.

We believe that the audit evidence we have obtained is sufficient and appropriate to provide a basis for our audit opinion.



### Opinion

In our opinion, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of GLOBAL ORGANIZATION OF PARLIAMENTARIANS AGAINST CORRUPTION as at September 30, 2011, and its financial performance and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles.

Parker Prins Lebano Chartered Accountants Professional Corporation  
Authorized to practice public accounting by The Institute of Chartered Accountants of Ontario  
Ottawa, Ontario  
December 19, 2011

# Financial Summary

SEPTEMBER 30, 2011

	2011	2010
<b>ASSETS</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Cash and unrestricted cash equivalents	\$ 1,574,317	\$ 201,396
Accounts receivable	44,422	164,370
Prepaid expenses	22,632	-
	<u>1,641,371</u>	<u>365,766</u>
RESTRICTED CASH EQUIVALENTS (note 7)	<u>100,000</u>	<u>-</u>
	<u>\$ 1,741,371</u>	<u>\$ 365,766</u>
<b>LIABILITIES</b>		
<b>CURRENT</b>		
Accounts payable and accrued liabilities	\$ 114,145	\$ 283,773
Deferred revenue	32,836	10,882
North American Parliamentarians Against Corruption (NAPAC) fundsheld in trust	1,615	1,615
Due to Parliamentary Centre Le Centre parlementaire	6,353	27,459
	<u>154,949</u>	<u>323,729</u>
NET ASSETS	<u>1,586,422</u>	<u>42,037</u>
	<u>\$ 1,741,371</u>	<u>\$ 365,766</u>





	2011	2010
<b>REVENUE</b>		
Canadian International Development Agency grant	\$ 648,459	\$ 952,508
Canadian International Development Agency grant (Core program)	-	24,524
Canadian Parliamentary Association	-	7,224
Kuwait government	1,960,682	-
U.S. Agency for International Development grant (ARPAC program)	166,995	221,824
U.S. Agency for International Development grant (Core program)	-	7,197
United Nations Development	-	13,915
Interest and miscellaneous	-	50
	<u>2,776,136</u>	<u>1,227,242</u>
<b>EXPENSES</b>		
Employee salaries, benefits and overhead	783,434	687,755
Executive secretary fees	24,225	21,582
Financial audit	6,565	6,466
Office expense	168,564	162,259
Programming expense	91,487	130,754
Travel	157,476	186,153
	<u>1,231,751</u>	<u>1,194,969</u>
<b>EXCESS OF REVENUE OVER EXPENSES</b>	1,544,385	32,273
<b>NET ASSETS, BEGINNING OF YEAR</b>	<u>42,037</u>	<u>9,764</u>
<b>NET ASSETS, END OF YEAR</b>	<u>\$ 1,586,422</u>	<u>\$ 42,037</u>

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**[www.gopacnetwork.org](http://www.gopacnetwork.org)**



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