Anti-corruption experts all over the world will gather in Manila later this month to discuss the best practices in institutionalizing good governance.

Among the speakers for the 5th Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC), to be held from January 30 to February 2, are Ombudsman Conchita Carpio-Morales and Justice Secretary Leila de Lima.

The conference will be held at the Philippine International Convention Center in Pasay City.

A GOPAC press statement said Carpio-Morales, former associate justice of the Supreme Court, will give a talk on Parliamentary Oversight and the Role of Good Audit in the Fight Against Corruption.

“The session will tackle the debate between the seemingly conflicting ideas of the immunity granted to lawmakers in the realm of legislative debate, and the oversight powers they are given to hold other government agencies and officials accountable,” the statement said.

The country’s anti-graft body chief is expected to share her views on how this privilege affects the work of a constitutionally created and autonomous body such as the Office of the Ombudsman, as well as the importance of audit and transparency in governance.

The session also features Mr. Dimitri Vlassis of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and incumbent GOPAC chairperson Dr. Naser Al Sane.

De Lima, on the other hand, is one of the speakers in the Right to Information and Civil Society Participation in the Fight Against, and Prevention of Corruption, along with Hugette Labelle, head of Transparency International, and Ms. Maria Ressa.

Transparency International, the Berlin-based anti-corruption coalition best known for publishing the annual Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) for the last 18 years, is one of the world’s most respected organizations for transparency and accountability.

“Freedom of Information (FOI) is just one of the many relevant and controversial topics that will be tackled in the conference, as critical to the development of citizen’s capacity to form informed opinions,” the GOPAC statement said.

In a separate statement, Sen. Edgardo Angara, GOPAC vice president, said the conference will be a good opportunity not only to showcase the anti-corruption strides achieved by the Philippine government but to learn from leading anti-corruption experts as well.

“Anti-corruption must be an integral element in the culture of politics in the Philippines and in other countries worldwide,” he said.

In the latest Corruption Perceptions Index (CPI) released in December 2012, the Philippines ranked...
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good job Mr President sana mabos na ang mga kurap na politician sa ating bansa.

**Castronaut**

Ang galing naman, napagsama sama lahat tayo host. astig!

**TylerZO**

Woah, this is quite exciting. Fight against corruption is definitely a fight worth fighting.

**corymoran**

Tama! sana maging succesful :) hopeful naman ako.

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