Ottawa, Canada – The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) congratulates the Honourable Osei Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu of Ghana and Senator Marie-Claire Mukasine of Rwanda on their election as Chair and Vice-Chair respectively of the African Parliamentarians’ Network Against Corruption (APNAC). The elections were held at APNAC’s Biennial General Meeting (BGM) in Kampala, Uganda, on 26 April 2013.

“GOPAC’s success is due in large part to the strength of our regional and national chapters and APNAC has been a steadfast leader in the fight against corruption since its inception,” said GOPAC Chair Senator Edgardo J. Angara. “It is with great honour that I welcome the Hon Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu and Senator Mukasine as the new leaders of the APNAC Board and I look forward to working with them to fight corruption in Africa and around the world.”

The Hon Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu and Senator Mukasine are joined on the Board by regional representatives who were also elected at the BGM. The Hon Louis Vlavonou (Benin) and the Hon Oumar Sarr (Senegal) will represent West Africa; the Hon Margaret Kiboijana (Uganda) and Hon. Dr Mary Mwanjejwa (Tanzania) will represent East Africa; the Hon Ouchar Tourgoudi (Chad) and the Hon Madi Maina Tchari (Chad) will represent Central Africa; and the Hon Willias Madzimure (Zimbabwe) and the Hon Ana Rita Sithole (Mozambique) will represent Southern Africa.

In his acceptance speech, Hon. Kyei-Mensah-Bonsu observed that “corruption as a canker is increasingly assuming different dimensions and proportions and therefore calls for a multi-faceted, collaborative effort in order to combat it.” He promised on behalf of his Executives “to build on the foundations erected by our forebears and work towards capacitating parliaments and parliamentarians in Africa, where poverty is most pervasive, to ensure that the wealth of the nations is optimally utilized to benefit all our people, and not just a few.”

GOPAC is a worldwide alliance of parliamentarians working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law. Based in Ottawa, Canada, GOPAC has 53 national chapters on 6 continents. GOPAC supports its members’ efforts through original research, global anti-corruption capacity building, and international peer support. Visit GOPAC on the web at gopacnetwork.org, on Twitter at twitter.com/GOPAC_Eng, and on Facebook at facebook.com/gopacnetwork

Contact:
Ann Marie Paquet
Communications Officer, GOPAC Global Secretariat
+1.613.366-3164 x 304, annmarie.paquet@gopacnetwork.org