For Immediate Release

Monday, 3 June 2013

News Release

GOPAC Calls on Parliamentarians to Strengthen Oversight of the Management of Donor Funds

Ottawa, Canada – The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) called on parliamentarians to take a more active role in the oversight of the management of donor funds at the 11th annual conference of the Parliamentary Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund, in Baku, Azerbaijan, 24 May 2013. This appeal came as part of a panel GOPAC hosted on strengthening oversight, which drew over a hundred conference delegates.

GOPAC will use the discussion stemming from the panel to produce guidelines for collaboration between parliamentarians and international financial institutions. Adherence to these guidelines will improve the dialog between parliamentarians and donor agencies and strengthen oversight of the management of donor funds. It will also help monitor donor funds to ensure they are used as they are intended.

“The fight against corruption requires strong oversight mechanisms,” said Donya Aziz, a member of GOPAC’s Parliamentary Oversight Global Task Force and a former parliamentarian in Pakistan. “By providing these guidelines, we are ensuring that our members have the tools and knowledge to hold their executives to account and to promote good governance in their countries.”

Prior to the conference, the GOPAC delegation met with members of Parliament from Azerbaijan to encourage the formation of a GOPAC national chapter in the country. Headed by GOPAC Chair, Senator Edgardo J. Angara, the delegation emphasized the importance of the anti-corruption movement, reviewed the steps to chapter formation, and shared success stories from GOPAC chapters.

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

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