



For Immediate Release

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News Release

GOPAC Calls for Greater Parliamentary Involvement in National UN Anti-Corruption Convention Initiatives

Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption

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GOPAC is a worldwide alliance of parliamentarians working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law.

Ottawa, Canada – The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) urged government to fully involve parliamentarians in national initiatives and reviews of their nations UN Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) achievements, during a session at the 16th International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC) in Putrajaya, Malaysia, on 3 September 2015.

The session built on recommendations to be sent to the UNCAC Conference of State Parties being held in St Petersburg, Russia in November.

“Parliament needs to receive commitments made by governments so achievements and recommendations can be transparent and have a meaningful chance of being implemented properly,” GOPAC Oceania Chair John Hyde told civil society, UN officials and parliamentarians at the session.

Kenyan MP and Chair of APNAC-Kenya, our national chapter in Kenya, Shakeel Shabbir Ahmed said the review of UNCAC was very important.

“Parliamentarians should be consulted and made aware of their governments and officials’ commitments at these UN meetings,” he said.

Akaash Maharaj, GOPAC Chief Executive Officer and a panelist in the session, drew strong support for his call for a special rapporteur to be established to monitor, name and shame perpetrators of grand corruption and for the establishment of a complaints mechanism within the UNCAC.

Other GOPAC parliamentarians at the session included Chair of our regional chapter in the Arab region Dr Azmi Shuaibi, from Palestine, GOPAC Kiribati MP Alexander Teabo and GOPAC Malaysia MP Dato’ Kamarudin Jaffar.

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 57 national chapters on 5 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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