



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

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# News Release

## Bi-partisan Parliamentarians Join Hands to Fight Corruption in Australia

### 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** – The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) congratulates Australia’s legislators on their successful inauguration of the GOPAC Australia national chapter.

For two days over 23-24 August 2012, a group of Australian state legislators from both the Labor and Liberal parties met in Melbourne to compare the operations of state anti-corruption commissions, develop strategies to combat corruption across the country, and chart a multi-partisan plan of action to uphold democratic oversight of government.

The meeting was convened by John Hyde MLA, Chair of GOPAC Australia, and supported by Dr Lesley Burns, the GOPAC Secretariat’s Global Task Force Advisor on Parliamentary Oversight. Charles Chauvel MP also participated as Chair of GOPAC New Zealand.

As a result of the deliberations, the legislators resolved to make anti-corruption commitment part of the induction process for new parliamentarians, promote parliamentary participation in the biennial Australian Public Sector Anti-Corruption Conference, and accept a nurturing role in growing the anti-corruption movement across Melanesia, with New Zealand MPs to nurture Polynesian nations. GOPAC’s Global Secretariat will wholeheartedly support implementation of these plans.

“We commend Mr Hyde and the members of GOPAC Australia for their leadership in standing up for integrity in government,” said Akaash Maharaj, Chief Operating Officer of GOPAC. “This gathering made a powerful statement that the fight against corruption transcends state borders and political partisanship, and we are honoured to welcome GOPAC Australia into our global coalition of parliamentarians.”

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 50 national chapters on 5 continents. GOPAC supports its members’ efforts through original research, global anti-corruption capacity building, and international peer support.

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