

News Release

Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC)

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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. Based in Ottawa, Canada, GOPAC has 57 national chapters on 5 regions. GOPAC supports its members' efforts through original research, global anti-corruption capacity building, and international peer support.

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GOPAC's Message on the International Anti-Corruption Day 2016

Jakarta, Indonesia – GOPAC believes that parliamentarians are powerful agents of change -- through their constitutional mandates; parliamentarians can be valuable partners in ensuring accountable, inclusive, participatory and transparent sustainable development for all. As one of the main stakeholders to ensure the achievement of SDGs, the parliament should take part to support this movement. The pivotal role of parliament is also recognized in the [Transforming our World: the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development](#) document, declared at the UN Summit in 2015.

GOPAC has been actively promoting the role of parliamentarians to make progress in achieving these goals, especially Goal 16, which has bottom-line in tackling corruption and promoting public accountability which underpins the achievement of the entire 2030. This year, we piloted a project on [Strengthening the Role of Parliamentarians in Ensuring the Effectiveness of Development Resources in Support of the SDGs Implementation](#). We develop a parliamentary handbook, which illustrates effective approaches with practical examples of how these parliamentarians have engaged in such work already.

As stated in [GOPAC's Jakarta Declaration](#) on 31 August 2016, we affirm that parliamentarians have a critical role to undertake more effective oversight of proposed laws, budgets, programs and policies to assess their contribution to SDGs implementation. We commit to fight corruption at home and abroad, including through implementation of the [UN Convention Against Corruption](#), to ensure that domestic and foreign resources are effectively, efficiently and accountably utilized for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda and SDGs in accordance with Goal 16.

On this year's International Anti-Corruption Day, GOPAC urges everyone, particularly parliamentarians over the world, to be [#UnitedAgainstCorruption](#) and collaborate with international community, government bodies, independent authorities and civil society to support inclusive, transparent and accountable implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

In addition, we also encourage everyone to fight against impunity and other efforts that could weaken the anti-corruption movement. We noted those attempts could also be done by utilizing the legislation framework. If this happens, it will decrease the public trust towards the parliament, and undermine the anti-corruption efforts. Therefore, to combat those political jockey and ward-heeler, parliament must be the visible forefront in any action of anti-corruption regime in each country.

We truly believe when parliament and parliamentarians are fully aware to the SDGs, each country will take its benefit. Let us take part in making sure the fulfillment of this international pledge of a sustainable world by 2030.

Dr. Fadli Zon
GOPAC Chair