

**Partnership to Curtail Corruption in the Pacific by
UNODC, UNDP and GOPAC Oceania under the 'UN Pacific Regional Anti-
Corruption' (UN-PRAC) Project.**

October 7, 2015 11.15 – 13.00 Partner Sessions

Royal Ambarrukmo Hotel, Yogyakarta, Indonesia

I. Background

Corruption is a global phenomenon. The link between corruption and poverty is well documented, with clear evidence that corruption undermines development and sustains poverty, inhibits economic growth, drives political instability, enables the unsustainable use of natural resources, impacts the delivery of services and undermines good governance and the rule of law.

In this light, the General Assembly adopted the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in October 2003 to create a comprehensive international legal framework for combating corruption. As of 26 March 2015, the Convention had been ratified by 177 States, including the European Union. In the Pacific, there are 11 States parties to the Convention (Papua New Guinea in 2007, Fiji in 2008, Palau in 2009, Vanuatu, Cook Islands and Marshall Islands in 2011, Solomon Islands, Federated States of Micronesia and Nauru in 2012, Kiribati in 2013 and Tuvalu in 2015).

The UN Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the UN Development Programme (UNDP) jointly implement the UN Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project, a four-year initiative in the Pacific. It aims to help Pacific Island countries fight corruption by (i) supporting ratification of UNCAC, (ii) implementing UNCAC through the strengthening of anti-corruption policies, laws, measures and institutional frameworks and (iii) enhancing Pacific Islands States' active participation in the UNCAC processes, including the UNCAC Review Mechanism.

The Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC) was founded in October 2002 as a result of a Global Conference in Ottawa, Canada which brought together over 170 parliamentarians and 400 observers dedicated to fighting corruption and improving good governance. GOPAC is unique in that it is the only international network of parliamentarians focused solely on combating corruption. Its members represent more than 50 countries in all regions of the world. They are current or former legislators.

GOPAC's world conference in Yogyakarta on October 6-8, 2015 gives UN-PRAC the opportunity to showcase the benefits of the participation and the comparative advantages of the different organizations: GOPAC, UNDP and UNODC. GOPAC and UNDP also collaborated to produce a toolkit for parliamentarians on UNCAC, which has been trialled by UN-PRAC in the Tonga Parliament. UN-PRAC will present a partnership session on October 7, 2015.

II. Objectives of the Workshop

Building on the on-going dialogue with Pacific Governments and Parliaments, and the increased awareness of the impact of corruption with Pacific States parties to UNCAC, this Workshop is intended to:

- a. Inform Parliamentarians and Partner Agencies in the Pacific and elsewhere of the benefits of the partnership between UNODC, UNDP and GOPAC Oceania through the UN-PRAC Project;
- b. Inform Pacific Parliamentarians on the requirements and good practices of anti-corruption implementation, including the adoption of UNCAC;
- c. Stimulate further consideration of anti-corruption reforms in Pacific nations, consistent with UNCAC;
- d. Explore the establishment of further GOPAC chapters in Pacific Parliaments, as well as discuss the role of parliamentary committees and a plan of action for Members of Parliaments;
- e. Continue to transfer knowledge on parliamentary oversight and introduce international best practices;

III. Location & Participants

The venue will be the Royal Ambarrukmo Hotel in Yogyakarta, Indonesia.

The intended participants of the Workshop are the Members of Parliament in Pacific Island countries, the Speakers, Members of Parliament and Parliamentary Secretariat Staff of other international Parliaments attending the GOPAC World Conference. Four priority Parliamentarians from the Pacific nations will be attending as part of the UN-PRAC delegation along with two Fiji Parliamentarians supported by the UNDP Strengthening Governance Programme in Fiji.

Members of Parliament and Parliamentary Staff from the West Australian Parliament (twinned with the Cook Islands) and the South Australian Parliament (twinned with Tonga) are attending (supported by their Home Parliaments).

IV. Resource People and Organizational role

UNODC and UNDP, namely Ms. Annika Wythes, UNODC's Regional Anti-Corruption Advisor – Pacific and Ms Luisa Senibulu, UNODC/UNDP's Anti-Corruption Programme Associate, will take the lead in the partnership session, assisted by Mr. John Hyde, the Chair of GOPAC Oceania.

The GOPAC International Secretariat will arrange the Workshop venue.

AGENDA
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11.15 -13.00 - October 7, 2015

11.15-11.30	Welcome Remarks and Introduction; Objectives of Workshop	Annika Wythes, UNODC Anti-Corruption Adviser and John Hyde, Chair of GOPAC Oceania
11.30-12.00	Introducing UN-PRAC, Pacific engagement with UNCAC through Parliamentarians, civil society, media and the private sector	Facilitator: Luisa Senibulu, UN-PRAC Programme Associate
12.00-13.00	Panel session: Pacific Parliamentarians engaged in ending corruption – Four perspectives: established GOPAC chapter; Standing Committee on Anti-Corruption; Role of Women Parliamentarians; and public accounts oversight.	Moderator: John Hyde Hon Nandi Glassie, Chair, GOPAC Cook Islands; Lord Fusitu'a, Chair, GOPAC Tonga & Standing Committee on Anti-Corruption; Hon Puakena Boreham, Parliament of Tuvalu; Hon Dr Biman Prasad, Chair of Fiji Public Accounts Committee;
13.00: Lunch		