



Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
Dear Colleagues and Friends,

As you may already know, the first session of our Assembly of Parties took place at the end of November, bringing an end to the transition period and setting the stage for collective ownership. The Assembly unanimously took a number of important decisions for the continuation of IACA's work and way forward.

The Board of Governors was subsequently elected, and came together for its first meeting on 30 November. Eleven members form the Board, serving in their individual capacity. It is my privilege to inform you that the Board of Governors tasked me to continue the development of the Academy in the capacity of Dean; a position I am most honoured for being afforded the opportunity to fulfill, and one which I aim to carry out in the best interests of the Academy.

A number of bilateral meetings took place around the Assembly, where we met with officials from, inter alia, Australia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Libya, Luxembourg, Morocco, Nigeria, and the Republic of Moldova. In the weeks preceding the Assembly, we received delegations from Brazil, Mozambique, and South Africa, and have since then co-sponsored and taken part in conferences in Peru and the Republic of Moldova. I am also happy to announce that Luxembourg and Nigeria recently ratified the IACA Agreement, bringing the total number of Parties to 37.

In terms of academic developments, we launched our Master in Anti-Corruption Studies programme in the framework of the Assembly of Parties through a panel discussion. Our second in a series of "Best of" seminars concluded last week, with the next one scheduled for June 2013.

In concluding, I would like to warmly thank all of IACA's constituency, staff, partners, contributors, friends, as well as all anti-corruption stakeholders around the globe for a most busy yet successful year. Let me also express my hope and trust to continue proceeding on this path of joint forces in 2013.

Wishing you a most festive and enjoyable holiday period,

(Dean & Executive Secretary)

Assembly of Parties

On 29 and 30 November, delegations representing 34 Parties to the Agreement for the Establishment of IACA as an International Organization and 54 Observers came together for the first session of the Assembly of Parties in Vienna, Austria. One Deputy Head of State and over a dozen Ministers delivered national statements during the high-level segment of the Assembly.



Delegates at the 1st session of the Assembly

The Assembly of Parties unanimously adopted a total of five resolutions, dealing with rules of procedure, elections, general matters, the report, and the convening and agenda of the next session. Eleven members were elected to the Board of Governors for periods of six or three years. Documents forming part of the Academy's *acquis*, such as cooperation arrangements, the financial framework and external audit, were endorsed by the Assembly, and all the accomplishments and work conducted during the transition phase commended. The Assembly recognized the need for a well-funded general

budget, allowing IACA to pursue its mission and objectives while maintaining its integrity and independence, and called on Parties, Observers, the private sector and wider international community to consider contributing to IACA.

This event represented the official end of the transition phase. The Provisional Commission, an interim organ of IACA credited with preparing the groundwork for the Assembly, and led by Ambassador Eugenio Curia (GRULAC), as well as the International Transition Team, were commended for all the work achieved and eventually dissolved.

Upon the generous offer of the Government of the Kingdom of Thailand, the next session of the Assembly of Parties will take place in Thailand in the fourth quarter of 2103.

Board of Governors and Dean Elected

Eleven members were elected to IACA's Board of Governors on 29 November, the first day of the Assembly of Parties. Two have been appointed by Austria and UNODC as initiating Partners and nine come from IACA States Parties. There are no Board members from the African Group as there were no States Parties to the Agreement for the Establishment of IACA as an International Organization from this group at the time of the Assembly of Parties.

The Assembly, however, strongly encouraged all Signatories which have not yet concluded the ratification process of the IACA Agreement and called upon UN Member States and international organizations which have not yet acceded to the Agreement, to do so at their earliest convenience so that they can enjoy the benefits of full membership, and so that stable geographical diversity, including participation from the African Group, can be ensured with all organs of the Academy.

Board members serve in their individual capacities, six elected for a six-year term and five for a three-year term. Bulgaria's Vice President, Margarita Popova, will preside over the Board in its first year, whereas Dato' Sri Abu Kassim bin Mohamed, Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, is its Vice President for the same term.



Board members (two missing) and the Dean

At its first meeting on 30 November, one of the Board's first decisions was the unanimous appointment of the Dean. Martin Kreutner, former Chair of the International Transition Team, was appointed Dean for a four-year term. Having been the Executive Secretary to the former Provisional Commission, he is now also the Executive Secretary to the Assembly of Parties.

The Board of Governors serves as IACA's main governing organ, enjoying a vast mandate with the power to decide on the strategy, policies and guidelines of the Academy. The Dean, supported by the IACA staff and accountable to the Board, is responsible for the daily management of the Academy and its substantive programme.

The Master in Anti-Corruption Studies Launched

The world's first post-graduate and inter-disciplinary academic programme dedicated to the study of anti-corruption was launched on 29 November. Three international anti-corruption experts and one programme participant held a panel discussion in the framework of the Assembly of Parties.



MACS panel discussion

They discussed the necessity of anti-corruption education, the benefits of the Master in Anti-Corruption Studies' (MACS) unique design, and its role in preparing participants to better tackle the challenges of tomorrow. The panellists included Ivan Atayambe, a MACS participant, Birgit Forstnig-Errath, Director of Collective Action at Siemens AG,

Dato' Abu Kassim bin Mohamed, Chief Commissioner of the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission, and Nikos Passas, member of the MACS Programme Consortium. The programme's first core module will take place at the IACA campus in February 2013. The MACS is a two-year, part-time programme designed for working professionals who wish to remain fully employed while pursuing their degree.

New Phase of Cooperation with the United Nations

UNODC, acting on behalf of the United Nations, and IACA, concluded a Cooperation Agreement on 9 November, pledging to closely cooperate in activities of mutual interest in the field of anti-corruption. Yuri Fedotov, Executive Director of UNODC, signed on behalf of the United Nations and Martin Kreutner, IACA's Dean and Executive Secretary, on behalf of the Academy.

The signing ceremony took place in the presence of Austrian President Heinz Fischer as guest of honour and a number of ambassadors and members from the diplomatic community in Vienna. The UN Office on Drugs and Crime was one of IACA's initiating partners, and this new agreement represents the latest step forward in a stable relationship between the two organizations.



UNODC Executive Director Yuri Fedotov, Austrian President Heinz Fischer, IACA's Dean Martin Kreutner

Seminar with Professor Bo Rothstein

Students from a number of different countries visited Laxenburg to take part in the Academy's "Best of" seminar, the second in a series, on 6 and 7 December. Renowned Swedish political scientist and Head of the August Röhss Chair of Political Science at the University of Gothenburg, Bo Rothstein, came to lecture and share the best of his work. Professor Rothstein talked about the quality of government, how to create



Participants in the Best of Bo Rothstein seminar

political legitimacy, and explained to the participants the political and moral logic of corruption.

He observed that while most political scientists are primarily interested in the input side of the political system, only few actually focus on the output in their work. Not too long ago, the phenomenon of corruption seemingly did not play a major role in political science. This is now changing, partly due to greater interest from the media, better data, and anti-corruption initiatives all around the globe. There was room for lively discussions and the participants

were able to actively participate throughout the seminar. The next "Best of" will feature Professor Robert Klitgaard and is scheduled to take place in June 2013.

Three new Partners

Within the last few weeks, the Academy has entered into three Memoranda of Understanding. These agreements serve as the basis for joint efforts in preventing and combatting corruption and building capacity in the field, foreseeing cooperation through joint projects, the exchange of knowledge and technical assistance. Chisinau, Republic of Moldova provided the venue for the conclusion of a Memorandum of Understanding between the Academy of Public Administration under the President of the Republic of Moldova and IACA on 11 December. Two weeks prior, the Ministry of Civil Service and Modernization of the Administration of the Kingdom of Morocco and the International Ombudsman Institute (IOI) also signed Memoranda of Understanding with IACA in the framework of IACA's Assembly of Parties in Vienna, Austria.



Moroccan Minister Abdelaâdim Guerrouj and Dean Martin Kreutner signing the Memorandum of Understanding

Anti-Corruption Conference in Chisinau

Upon invitation, Martin Kreutner and a small IACA delegation participated as guests of honour in a national anti-corruption conference in Chisinau, Republic of Moldova last week.



Participants in the national anti-corruption conference, Chisinau

The conference focused on the progress and prospects in repressing corruption in the country, and addressed issues such as the necessity of waiving the immunity of judges in case of allegations of corruption and the importance of integrity in police bodies and the judicial system.

The event also saw statements and interventions by representatives of, inter alia, UNDP, the Council of Europe and the European Commission, as well as the US Ambassador to Moldova. Following the conference, Mr. Kreutner had bilateral meetings with

Prime Minister Vlad Filat and President of Parliament Marian Lupu, both of who reaffirmed the country's commitment to the Academy's mission.

Anti-Corruption Conference in Lima

On 13 and 14 November, the General Comptrollership Office of Peru hosted their third annual anti-corruption conference, co-sponsored by IACA, in Lima, Peru. IACA was represented by Martin Kreutner, Dean, and Suzanne Hayden, Senior Academic Programme Advisor, who presented discussions on new perspectives on corruption and building integrity in the public sector.



IACA's Suzanne Hayden speaking in Lima

The event was attended by over 400 participants from the private and public sectors as well as academics and NGOs. Experts from throughout the world spoke on a broad range of topics that are integral to fighting corruption, from building integrity, to the roles of education and the media, vulnerabilities in the oil and gas sector, and the use of punishment as prevention in the fight against corruption. IACA and the Comptroller General's Office indicated their interest to continue their efforts, also for joint events in the future.

Number of Parties Grows

Last week, two Signatories ratified the Agreement for the Establishment of IACA as an International Organization, bringing the number of Parties to the agreement to a total of 37. Luxembourg, a Founding Member of the Academy, deposited its instrument of ratification on 11 December. Nigeria followed suit three days later on 14 December, becoming the first Party to the IACA Agreement from the African Group.



IACSA Applications Open on 15 January

The third annual International Anti-Corruption Summer Academy (IACSA) will take place from 4 to 13 July at IACA's campus in Laxenburg. IACSA is a ten-day programme designed for familiarizing participants with contemporary insight in selected areas of corruption theory and anti-corruption practice.

Through lectures, workshops and networking, the programme aims to foster a culture of the reflective practitioner while also developing and enhancing skills useful for the workplace.

The application period will open on 15 January and close on 15 March 2013. All applications are to be submitted online. Anti-corruption practitioners from the private and public sector as well as students and researchers in areas closely related to anti-corruption are encouraged to apply. Detailed information on the programme, as well as the online application form, will become available on our website in the first half of January.



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