

7 October 2021

**ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES
TENTH SESSION**

Doc #: AOP10-Res-1

**RESOLUTION
ON GENERAL MATTERS**

The Assembly of Parties,

Recalling the commitment to the *Agreement for the Establishment of the International Anti-Corruption Academy as an International Organization* (hereinafter referred to as "the Agreement"),

Marking the 10th Anniversary of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) and *acknowledging* the significant role the Academy has played in facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and the 2030 Agenda with its 17 Sustainable Development Goals; *appreciating* the efforts of the Academy, which is the only international organization with a mandate focused solely on preventing and fighting corruption through education, research, cooperation, and technical assistance delivery,

Acknowledging in this context IACA's contribution to the implementation of UNCAC through its academic programmes, trainings, research, and awareness-raising activities related to anti-corruption conducted at the national, regional, and international levels; and *looking forward* to the substantive contribution of the Academy to the 9th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC,

Concerned about the challenges and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies; undermining the institutions and values of democracy, ethics, and justice; and jeopardizing equal opportunities, sustainable development, and the rule of law,

Recalling the Resolution A/RES/68/122, adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 16 December 2013, with which the General Assembly expressed its wish to promote cooperation between the United Nations and IACA, and decided to invite IACA to participate in the sessions and the work of the General Assembly in the capacity of observer,

Recalling further the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals, especially Goal 16 dedicated to the promotion of peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, the provision of access to justice for all, and building effective, accountable institutions at all levels, and its target 16.5 to substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms,

Referring to the United Nations Special Session of the General Assembly against corruption 2021 and the Political Declaration adopted entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation", particularly

paragraphs 1, 2, 20, and 66 which call for the strengthening of anti-corruption efforts, inter alia, through education, and for IACA to strengthen its relationship with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and other relevant United Nations entities,

Acknowledging further the need for IACA to maintain closer contacts with the United Nations Headquarters in New York/USA in order to increase its visibility and engagement in the anti-corruption work of the United Nations,

Commending IACA for providing high-quality anti-corruption and compliance programmes and activities to professionals from all regions of the world, and *encouraging* IACA to continue enhancing its services to Parties and Signatories to the Agreement and other stakeholders, taking into account, where appropriate, principles of equal opportunities, non-discrimination, gender balance, different legal systems, and geographical distribution,

Welcoming IACA's inclusion in the OECD's Annex 2 List of ODA-eligible international organisations which allows for core budget (unearmarked) contributions to the Academy to be reported as Official Development Assistance (ODA), thereby making IACA a more attractive organisation for donors,

Welcoming the participation of IACA in the activities of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group, and taking note of its involvement in discussions on corruption measurement in this context.

Welcoming further IACA's role as a platform for continued exchange of best practices and expertise on developments in the area of preventing and fighting corruption among the public and private sectors, as well as in academia and civil society,

Recognizing the need for IACA's programmes and activities to be affordable and accessible to professionals from all sectors and regions,

Commending the creation of two IACA Dedicated Scholarship Programmes, to support students to participate in IACA's programmes and specifically to empower women in LDCs through education and training, both of which aim to support the inclusive participation from all IACA Parties and beyond, especially for those who cannot afford to receive world class education and training in anti-corruption,

Commending further IACA's strong response and adaptation to the circumstances created by the COVID-19 pandemic in which all trainings and classes were transferred to an online delivery format in a matter of weeks without any loss of quality,

Appreciating voluntary financial and in-kind contributions as well as other support provided by Parties to the Agreement and by other donors to facilitate the implementation of the mandate of the organization,

Expressing particular gratitude to Parties to the Agreement, which continuously contribute to IACA's financial resources,

Expressing also special gratitude to the Siemens Integrity Initiative for their sustained support since 2011, particularly in the framework of the current Golden Stretch round, which has enabled students from least developed countries (LDCs) as defined by the United Nations, and for citizens from IACA Parties listed under the World Bank Classification of Countries by Income as the lower-middle- and upper-middle-income economies to participate in IACA's activities and academic programmes and the opportunity to bring the concept of the International Anti-Corruption Summer Academy to different regions of the world,

Underlining the importance of providing IACA with adequate budget funding pursuant to the Agreement to be able to implement its mandated activities,

Taking note of the existing scheme of incentives and rewards, which establishes a clear link between financial support to IACA and the types and extent of benefits and discounts enjoyed by the donor Parties and, when appropriate, their nationals,

Acknowledging the efforts of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Financial Matters and other Administrative and Substantive Aspects of IACA Activities to identify measures to enhance IACA's financial stability,

Taking further note of the continuously growing constituency of IACA, currently comprised of 80 Parties to the Agreement, including both States from all regions as well as International Organizations, and the growing number of cooperation frameworks between IACA and relevant stakeholders in the anti-corruption field,

Expressing satisfaction with IACA's continuous support to its ever-growing alumni network of anti-corruption and compliance professionals, comprised of over 3,500 professionals from around the globe,

1. **Welcomes** the accession of Kenya in August 2020 and Myanmar in November 2019, and **invites** other United Nations Member States and intergovernmental organizations to accede thereto in order to benefit from full membership in the organization and participate in the work of its governing bodies;
2. **Invites** the Signatories to the Agreement to fulfil the internal procedures in accordance with their national legislation in order to become Parties to the Agreement;
3. **Reiterates** its firm commitment to and full support for effective anti-corruption efforts and the purpose, mandate, and holistic approach of IACA in the prevention of and fight against corruption;
4. **Recognizes** anti-corruption education as an important means for the achievement of the United Nations 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development by strengthening capacity-building, promoting integrity and accountability, and raising awareness of the negative effects of corruption on all sectors of society;
5. **Encourages** all Parties and Signatories to the Agreement and other stakeholders to use IACA as a first-choice capacity-building and technical assistance provider in order to enhance intersectoral dialogue and cooperation with academia, civil society, the private sector, and other international stakeholders to effectively respond to the challenges posed by corruption;
6. **Encourages also** all Parties and Signatories to the Agreement and other stakeholders to continue making full use of IACA as a platform for the exchange of best practices, knowledge, and expertise in the field of anti-corruption;
7. **Invites** IACA to identify opportunities for increased cooperation with related regional and international organizations;
8. **Calls upon** IACA to strengthen its cooperation with the UNODC and other relevant United Nations entities, as called for in the political declaration adopted at the Special Session of the General Assembly against corruption, particularly with a view to developing joint activities to facilitate the implementation of UNCAC; and in this context **approves** the establishment of a Permanent Observer Office for the IACA to United

Nations Headquarters in New York/USA and **requests** the Dean and Executive Secretary to take all necessary actions in this regard;

9. Reiterates the call upon all organs of IACA, within their respective mandates, to implement the following recommendations as contained in paragraph I of the Report of the IACA Open-Ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Financial Matters:

- enhance reporting, transparency, and accountability towards its Parties concerning IACA's financial status and the use of voluntary contributions;
- develop a sustainable financial model with realistic budget provisions and a larger share of income generated by IACA's activities and programmes with a view to achieving the long-term goal to make the Academy self-sustainable, as reflected in Article XI of the Agreement;
- increase transparency and predictability in the process of elaboration and execution of the budget of IACA;
- increase the visibility of those Parties who provide voluntary financial contributions as well as other contributions to IACA;
- review IACA's programmes, activities, and institutional structure in close consultations with Parties, with a view to optimizing its operations and related expenditures, bearing in mind the financial capabilities of IACA;
- implement all activities of IACA pursuant to Article II of the Agreement with an increased focus on analysis and research on all aspects of corruption as well as adapting the Work Programme 2021-2024, if necessary, in light of the ongoing work of the Board of Governors;
- intensify outreach to States not yet Party to the Agreement in order to accede to and contribute to the Organization;
- strengthen IACA's activities and programmes aimed at increasing cooperation with other related international and regional organizations,
- work with Parties, organizations, and fora, as referred to above, to increase national capacities to implement the provisions of UNCAC as well as to promote the realization of Sustainable Development Goal 16 through programmes and activities of IACA;
- increase cooperation with public or private entities which can contribute to the Academy's work and increase voluntary contributions from the private sector and other donors, while ensuring that the integrity of IACA's activities and programmes is preserved;

10. **Calls further on** the Parties and other stakeholders to assist the Academy, including through providing necessary financial support, in:

- enhancing service delivery to the Parties to the Agreement, including by facilitating their participation in the Academy's academic programmes, and initiatives in the core areas of education, professional training, and technical assistance;
- developing its research capacities, ensuring that all the best and relevant anti-corruption practices at the global and regional levels are taken into account, adequately reflected, and dealt with in the framework of the pertinent programmes and activities of the Academy, as well as seeking research collaboration with relevant national and international universities and academic institutions in the area of anti-

corruption, establishing the IACA's Global Research Network, building an open online repository of research on anti-corruption, compliance and collective action, and assisting professional training academies of relevant law-enforcement agencies of the Parties, upon their request, in designing, implementing, or improving anti-corruption training curricula;

- enhancing meaningful and result-oriented dialogue and fostering cooperation with bilateral and multilateral stakeholders to respond to current challenges in the area of preventing and fighting corruption;

11. **Encourages strongly** all Parties and Signatories to the Agreement as well as donors from the public and private sectors to make contributions to IACA on a voluntary basis, taking into account the inclusion of IACA in the OECD's Annex 2 list of ODA-eligible international organisations, and that special emphasis should be given to the provision of a suitably well-funded budget allocation; furthermore, **invites** them to provide such contributions on a multi-annual basis in order to increase predictability of funds in line with Article XI of the Agreement;

12. **Also encourages** all Parties to the Agreement to financially support IACA's two Dedicated Scholarship Programmes to support students to participate in IACA's programmes, and specifically to empower women in LDCs through education and training;

13. **Further encourages** Parties to the Agreement to actively support the participation of their nationals in IACA's various academic degree programmes, open trainings, and other activities, including through financial and other support to them, and to take steps to inform those of their nationals who might be interested in participating in such programmes and activities about the benefits under the existing preferential treatment arrangements, including about the relevant fee discounts;

14. **Invites** Parties and Signatories to the Agreement as well as donors from the public and private sectors to contribute voluntarily to the IACA Scholarship Fund, with the aim of increasing the possibilities for nationals from LDCs as defined by the United Nations, and for citizens from IACA Parties listed under the World Bank Classification of Countries by Income as the lower-middle- and upper-middle-income economies to attend the organization's programmes and trainings;

15. **Requests** all Parties and Signatories to the Agreement as well as other stakeholders to consider volunteering to host and provide support to IACA Regional Summer Academies, modules of its master's programmes, and other activities;

16. **Invites** Parties and Signatories to the Agreement to promote and support IACA in all relevant regional and international organizations;

17. **Appeals** to Parties and Signatories to the Agreement, if necessary, to take measures in accordance with their national legislation in order to recognize IACA's academic degree programmes;

18. **Appreciates** the efforts of IACA in considering the highest possible qualifications and principles of staffing policy, in particular principles of equal opportunities, non-discrimination, gender balance, different legal systems, geographical distribution, and renewal, when selecting qualified staff, participants, and lecturers for its programmes and activities;

19. **Takes note with appreciation** of the audit statement of IACA's accounts as conducted by the independent external auditors and approved by the Board of Governors;
20. Requests the Board of Governors to provide summaries of its deliberations to Parties;
21. **Invites** the Secretariat to share with the relevant regional and international fora, which have mandates in the field of preventing and combating corruption, the outcome of this session of the Assembly of Parties;
22. **Requests** the relevant organs of IACA to report to the eleventh session of the Assembly of Parties on progress made in respect of this Resolution.