

We network against corruption.

# Dear Ladies and Gentlemen, Dear Colleagues and Friends,

We have the pleasure of presenting you with the latest edition of our newsletter. Topic proposals for the next newsletter and suggestions for improvement are most welcome.

Your Secretariat

# **Annual Professional Conference and General Assembly 2015**

Generously hosted by the French General Inspectorate of the National Police (IGPN), the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Professional Conference and General Assembly will take place in less than two weeks from now, 18 - 20 November. Around 120 participants, representing more than 50 EPAC and EACN members and observers have registered, among them several (general) directors and heads of authorities.

Two plenary sessions are on the agenda. The first one will focus on ensuring ethical, efficient, impartial and transparent oversight of police bodies, while the second one will concentrate on the link between prevention and repression in fighting corruption. As in previous years, the two strands will also have separate workshops. Anti-corruption authorities will examine the rules and practices on gifts and gratuities to public servants, while police oversight bodies will address the effective handling of public complaints. The latest draft programme is available in the Annual Conference section of our website.

In the framework of this conference, the IGPN will celebrate the 130<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the national police internal control. Some of the highest French national police and gendarmerie authorities as well as representatives of other ministerial internal control inspectorates will be present. This commemoration will give participants the opportunity to attend a historical presentation on the evolution of the French national police since 1885.

# Adoption of the new Sustainable Development Agenda

On 25 September, the United Nations Sustainable
Development Summit in New York formally adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, with 17 goals and 169 targets to wipe out poverty, fight inequality, and tackle climate change over the next 15 years. The comprehensive goals and targets are integrated, indivisible, and aim to build on the work of the history Millennium Development Goals.

The prevention of and fight against corruption is recognized as a building block for achieving progress, particularly under Sustainable Development Goal 16, with specific targets to "substantially

reduce corruption and bribery in all its forms", "promote the rule of law at the national and international levels, and ensure equal access to justice for all", and "develop effective, accountable, and transparent institutions at all levels".

The United Nations Sustainable Development Summit was attended by dozens of Heads of State and government.

# Handbook of best practices for the self-assessment of law enforcement forces

The 15<sup>th</sup> EPAC/EACN Annual Professional Conference will also be the occasion for presenting the "Handbook of best practices for the self-assessment of law enforcement forces to prevent corruption and enhance integrity". This document, based on the experience of the French National Police and Gendarmerie Inspectorates, was led by the International Co-operation Directorate and finalized by experts from seven EU Member State (Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, Slovenia, and Spain). It was officially adopted on 6 July 2014 by the 28 members of the Law Enforcement Working Party (LEWP) meeting of the European Union.

The purpose of this handbook, which is available for download from the Annual Conference section of our website, is to provide a framework for evaluating the weaknesses and the vulnerability of a law enforcement authority in terms of the integrity of its organization and its members.

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#### Sixth Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC

The sixth Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption currently convenes, from 2 to 6 November, in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, to discuss key issues regarding review of the implementation of the Convention, asset recovery, prevention and technical assistance. Representatives of States Parties, particularly from government agencies for preventing and combatting corruption, as well as international and non-governmental organizations attend the event. The session was complemented by several side events on a wide variety of anticorruption topics, from Sustainable Development Goals over climate change to education. For more information, please visit the official host country website.

The conference was preceded by the Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of International Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), also hosted by the Russian Federation, from 31 October to 1 November. The main theme of the conference was "Prevention and Education."

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### 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Anticorruption Conference

The Polish Central Anticorruption Bureau will organize the 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Anticorruption Conference on 9 and 10 December 2015 in Warsaw, Poland. This year the annual meeting will focus on

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"International Cooperation in the fight against corruption", which forms part of the implementation of the national anti-corruption strategy in Poland.

The aim of the annual event is to get familiar with daily problems, exchange of best practices and experiences in the area of anticorruption. The conference will also be a platform for discussions and strengthening of relations between anticorruption professionals from all over Europe. The target group are high level officials and management of institutions involved in the fight against corruption.

The 6<sup>th</sup> Annual Anticorruption Conference is planned for two days. The first day will be open to the public in the form of a General Assembly, while the second day will be held in the form of closed groups, where delegates will have the opportunity to discuss the crucial problems which they face in the fight against corruption in their institutions and countries in their daily work. Invitations will be distributed soon.

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# **IACA Regional Summer Academy - Latin America**

The International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) is offering a new seven-day programme in Buenos Aires, Argentina, from 21 to 27 November. The IACA Regional Summer Academy – Latin America, is a spinoff of IACA's annual Summer Academy and targets Spanish-speaking professionals seeking to sharpen their anti-corruption work in this part of the world. An exceptional range of lecturers will deliver the programme, among others, Luis Moreno Ocampo, former Chief Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Ronald MacLean-Abaroa, former mayor of La Paz and World Bank expert, and Claremont Graduate University Professor Robert Klitgaard.

For more information, visit **IACA's website**.

#### Fourth session of IACA's Assembly of Parties

The fourth session of the International Anti-Corruption Academy's (IACA) Assembly of Parties will take place in Vienna, Austria, from 9 to 11 December. The start of the session symbolically coincides with International Anti-Corruption Day. Major topics on the agenda this year include Board of Governors elections, achievements in implementing the Work Programme 2014 - 2016, the 2016 budget, and fundraising. In addition to the 64 Parties that form part of IACA's global constituency to date, Observers are also invited to attend the session. For more information, please visit the Assembly of Parties section of IACA's website.

Editorial Deadline: 4 November 2015