

APROBAT

În ședința Biroului permanent al
Camerei Deputaților

din data de 3.09.2007

Nr. 947



**Parlamentul României
Camera Deputaților**

Parlamentul României
Camera Deputaților

B.P. Nr. 947 din 31.08.2007

De acord
Mr. Mîstresu
31.08.2007

DIRECȚIA GENERALĂ AFACERI EXTERNE

Nr.58/2/1256

31 august 2007

MEMORANDUM INTERN

Către: Mihai Unghianu, secretar general adjunct al Camerei Deputaților

Tema: Participarea la conferința parlamentară a Organizației Globale a Parlamentarilor împotriva Corupției (GOPAC)
Tirana, Albania, 3- 5 octombrie 2007

În perioada 3-5 octombrie 2007, la Tirana, Albania, va avea loc conferința parlamentară a organizației GOPAC.

Reuniunea este organizată de Parlamentul Republicii Albania în vederea creării unei filiale pentru sud-estul Europei a Organizației Globale a Parlamentarilor împotriva corupției (GOPAC).

Prin crearea unei filiale a GOPAC la nivel regional, parlamentarii din regiune vor beneficia de o bază solidă de dezvoltare și implementare a cunoștințelor și a inițiativelor.

GOPAC este o organizație parlamentară mondială cu autonomie regională ai cărui membri sunt angajați în procesul de combatere a corupției prin creșterea eficienței parlamentelor în elaborarea legislației specifice.

Încă de la înființare, din anul 2002, GOPAC s-a extins rapid în întreaga lume, organizația fiind reprezentată în prezent de aproximativ 80 de țări.

Termenul limită de înregistrare a participanților comunicat de către organizatori este 15 septembrie 2007.

Acțiunea are caracter parlamentar conform art.3 lit.c din HBP nr.5/2007.

Propunem:

- Comisia juridică, de disciplină și imunități să desemneze 2 parlamentari care să participe la această acțiune, urmând ca secretariatul acțiunii să fie asigurat de un specialist din cadrul Direcției generale afaceri externe.

Director

Nadia Ionescu

Red. D.R.G

58/2/ 1244 / 29.08. 2007

**MINISTERUL AFACERILOR EXTERNE**

28 august 2007

Nr. B 2-1/5027

Stimată doamnă director,

Vă aducem la cunoștință că Parlamentul Republicii Albania va organiza, în perioada 3-5 octombrie 2007, la Tirana, o conferință parlamentară în vederea creării unei filiale pentru sud-estul Europei a Organizației Globale a Parlamentarilor împotriva Corupției (GOPAC).

Vă transmitem, anexat, copia invitației, programul reuniunii, precum și informații despre GOPAC, cu rugămintea de a comunica Ministerului Afacerilor Externe și Ambasadei României la Tirana, până la 15 septembrie 2007, componența delegației parlamentare române care va participa la reuniune.

Vă rog să primiți, doamnă director, asigurarea considerației mele.


Irina Zidă
Director

Doamnei director Nadia Ionescu
Direcția Relații cu Adunări și Organisme Parlamentare Internaționale
Camera Deputaților



**GOPAC Conference South East Europe
Tirana, Albania – September 2007**

The purpose of the conference is to bring together parliamentarians from countries in South East Europe to create a regional chapter of the Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC).

Establishing a regional chapter of GOPAC will provide parliamentarians in the region with a solid, global, base of support for developing knowledge and implementing anti-corruption initiatives. Parliamentarians will benefit from participating in a global organization, which provides: a) peer support b) opportunities for developing knowledge and skills; and c) political leadership and mechanisms through which to develop coalitions to implement both regional and global anti-corruption agendas. Participating parliamentarians will subsequently be equipped to create national chapters of GOPAC in their respective countries.

The Parliament of Albania has graciously accepted to host the proposed conference.

Conference date: 3rd to 5th October, 2007

Expected participants: 60-80 parliamentarians from the following parliaments: Albania, Serbia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Macedonia, Montenegro, Kosovo, Bulgaria, Romania, Slovenia (TBC) and Croatia.

Venue: Parliamentary Precinct, Tirana, Albania

Programme

Monday, October 3

Opening Reception

Evening

Welcoming Address

Hon. Jozefina Çoba Topalli, Speaker of the Parliament of Albania
John G. Williams MP, Chair of GOPAC
Representative from funding agency (USAID)

Tuesday, October 4

I. Introduction: Setting the Stage

9:00 a.m. – 10:15 a.m.
to Controlling Corruption

Participatory Democracy and Improved Governance: the Road

Speaker J

Speaker 2
Discussion

10:15 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. *Break*

10:30 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Corruption: a Detriment to Prosperity**

Speaker 1 The Economic Effects of corruption

Speaker 2 Corruption and National Security

Discussion

12:00 p.m. – 1:30 p.m. **LUNCH**

II. Parliaments and the Fight Against Corruption – the Role of the Parliamentarian

1:30p.m. – 3:30 p.m. **GOPAC's Mission**

Defining Accountability

GOPAC Overview

John G. Williams, Chair GOPAC

Edith Mastenbroek, Chair, GOPAC-Europe

3:30 p.m. - 3:45 p.m. *Break*

III. Regional Engagement

3:45 p.m. – 5:00 p.m. **Discussion and vote on “Will to Establish a South East Europe Chapter of GOPAC”**

Circulation of Constitution

Wednesday, October 5

9:00 a.m. – 10:30 a.m. *Adoption of Constitution*
Election of Board of Directors and Executive Body

10:30 a.m. – 11:00 a.m. *Break*

11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. **Building a Work plan**

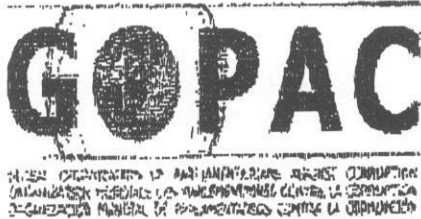
Global Task Forces

Regional Chapter development and Coordination

Creating a National Chapters

1:00 p.m. **Excutive meeting of SEUPAC**

*Uruează invitație în original
rebut*



August __, 2007

Dear Hon. Speaker,

It is with the utmost pleasure that we extend an invitation for a delegation of members from your parliament to attend a regional conference of the Global Organization of Parliaments Against Corruption (GOPAC) to be held in the Parliament of Albania in Tirana from 3rd to 5th October, 2007. The conference is the joint initiative of the Parliament of Albania (National Security Committee) and GOPAC.

This premiere event will bring together parliamentarians from various parliaments in South East Europe, who share the common objective of combating corruption, to establish the consensus to advance anti-corruption agenda both regionally and globally. This will engage parliamentarians in the region to become leaders in the fight against corruption with the desired outcome of establishing a regional chapter of GOPAC.

GOPAC was founded in 2002 at a global conference hosted by the Parliament of Canada. Since 2002, GOPAC has expanded rapidly and is now represented in close to 80 countries around the world. Membership is continues to grow and GOPAC is gaining recognition as a democratic voice, promoting parliamentary oversight as one of the fundamental weapons in the fight against corruption.

GOPAC has a clear mission to reduce corruption by improving the effectiveness of parliaments as democratic institutions of oversight of government. To accomplish this mission, GOPAC activities supported by three pillars:

1. **Peer support for parliamentarian.** In many parts of the world, standing up against corruption is a challenging and sometimes perilous task for a parliamentarian to undertake. Membership in an informed and credible goal organization of peers provides an additional measure of security for individual parliamentarians challenging corruption in difficult circumstances.
2. **Education for Parliamentarians.** We send our young people to university to become lawyers, doctors, engineers and accountants, but who teaches parliamentarians how to do their job of overseeing the work of government? Parliamentarians need to understand their constitutional rules, powers, authorities and responsibilities in order to work effectively. Providing access

to expert organizations, experienced colleagues, and training opportunities are key steps in building effective parliamentary oversight.

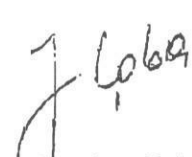
3. **Leadership for results.** Parliamentarians need to be leaders in the fight against corruption. Parliament has the constitutional authority and responsibility to hold its government accountable. Parliamentarians have political capacity, which, when combined with the technical capacity of expert agencies and key stockholders can significantly advanced anti corruption initiatives.

We would greatly appreciate your assistance in identifying 6-10 parliamentarians who have shown a strong commitment to the fight against corruption. In choosing these candidates, please keep in mind equitable representation of women and of both governing and opposition political parties in parliament.

For more information about GOPAC and the proposed conference, please refer to the attached briefing note and draft program. Please find also enclosed the forms for conference registration and hotel reservation for those delegates you select to attend.

We look forward to welcoming a delegation from your parliament to this event.

Yours truly


Hon. Jozefina Ceba Topalli
Speaker
Parliament of Albania

John Williams, MP (Canada)
Chair
Global Organization of
Parliamentarians Against Corruption

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Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption - GOPAC

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Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption - GOPAC



Informed parliamentarians working with others to reduce corruption through improving legislation, engaging citizens, and active oversight of government

About GOPAC

The Global Organization Against Corruption (GOPAC) is an international network of parliamentarians dedicated to good governance and combating corruption throughout the world. Founded in 2002 at a conference hosted by the Canadian House of Commons and Senate, GOPAC has over 400 members around the world, organised into regional and national chapters.

What Does GOPAC do?

Incorporated under Canadian law as a not-for-profit organization, GOPAC is guided by a global Board of Directors selected by regional chapters. The Board's Executive Committee is chaired by John Williams, Member of Parliament, Canada. Musikari Kombo (MP, Kenya) and Dr. Naser Al-Sane (MP, Kuwait) are its Vice Chairs.

In addition to developing regional chapters, member information services, and building alliances, GOPAC has identified a number of specific agenda items for 2002-2006, including:

- Handbook for parliamentarians on controlling corruption;
- A training/orientation package for parliamentarians on the budgetary and financial oversight role of parliamentarians;
- A code of conduct for parliamentarians;
- Indicators of performance for parliamentary oversight;
- Parliamentarians with an anti-money laundering agenda; and
- Implementing the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC).

GOPAC focuses on three pillars to build an effective organization.

1. Peer Support

Every organization needs to support its members and that is especially important for GOPAC and its regional chapters. In some parts of the world, legislators are in fear of their lives if they speak out against corruption. They need to know that they do not stand alone, there are legislators who are prepared to speak out with them and there is strength in numbers.

2. Education

It is becoming increasingly obvious that there is a serious need for education of parliamentarians on what is their role and responsibilities as parliamentarians. Many parliamentarians are confused and do not understand the separate roles of government and parliament. These are two distinct institutions with totally different roles

and responsibilities.

In a democracy, a government has the authority to govern, subject to the approval and oversight of the parliament, which in turn is accountable to the electorate through fair open transparent and competitive elections.

There are four fundamental responsibilities of a parliament in the exercise of oversight of government.

To debate, modify, approve or reject legislation.

To debate, modify, approve or reject authority for government to raise revenues through taxation and other means.

To debate, modify, approve or reject proposed expenditures by government.

To hold executive accountable for its governance of society.

Far too often, parliamentarians see their roles as supporting the government at any cost if they are a member of the governing party or opposing the government regardless of the merits of its proposals when they are in opposition.

In a properly functioning democracy, a government is accountable to the parliament as a whole, where the members bring a diversity of opinion to the debate but are still required to exercise their considered judgement on the proposals by government and the performance of government.

3. Clear objectives, measurable results

Members of an organization develop stronger affinity to the organization when they clearly understand what is expected of them. Each Chapter of GOPAC is entitled to identify and develop its own objectives and be accountable for the results.

For example, our Latin American Chapter has chosen to identify the progress (or lack thereof) that their governments have made in introducing the legislation necessary to implement the Santiago Convention Against Corruption. In the Caribbean, the new Chapter has recognized the need to improve the effectiveness of the Public Accounts Committees which are Standing Committees of the Legislature focused on accountability.

The Parliamentary Centre and GOPAC

The GOPAC secretariat is located in the Parliamentary Centre in Ottawa, Canada. It is, however, an independent financial entity within the Centre. GOPAC purchases secretariat services from the Parliamentary Centre as they are used. Relations between GOPAC and the Parliamentary Centre are described in a memorandum of understanding. The Executive Secretary of GOPAC, an associate or employee of the Parliamentary Centre, reports directly to the Chair on GOPAC business and is responsible for all resources assigned to it by GOPAC.

GOPAC Website:

www.gopacnetwork.org

Parliaments as Peacebuilders

Parliaments as Peacebuilders

Parliaments play critical roles in conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction.

Peace and security requires executive bodies to act with efficiency and effectiveness, but it also requires representation and accountability: two core functions of parliaments. Parliaments connect citizens with the state and hold governments to account. They are natural places for mediation, where competing points of view are articulated and where dialogue can build consensus. These core functions are essential in mitigating and resolving conflict.

More and more emerging democracies are interested in developing parliamentary capacity in the areas of conflict prevention, peacebuilding and post-conflict reconstruction and the Parliamentary Centre together with partners around the world are responding to this opportunity.

This section of our website aims to:

- Share Parliamentary Centre research and writing;
- Describe our initiatives in this area and what we are learning from conflict-affected contexts; and
- Provide a map to the work of our partners who are engaged in these areas.

Parliamentary Centre Research

The Parliamentary Centre provides capacity-building support to representative institutions around the world, including in countries affected by conflict.



Re-tooling for New Challenges: Parliaments as Peace-builders by Hon. David Pratt



Democratizing Security for a Safer World Parliaments as Peacebuilders Rasheed Daman



Parliaments and Security Sector Oversight An Emerging Area for Capacity Development By Craig Kowalik

Other Resources and Further Reading

The United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Interparliamentary Union (IPU) are leading a series of international meetings and have conducted research on strengthening the role of parliaments in crisis prevention and recovery. The organizations have produced a report that combines regional case studies: Strengthening the Role of Parliaments in Conflict and Post-conflict Situations.

The Geneva Centre for Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF) is a leading organization conducting research and providing support services on security sector oversight. DCAF is author of a comprehensive handbook for parliamentarians on oversight of the security sector: Handbook on Parliamentary Oversight of the Security Sector.

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Parliaments as Peacebuilders

- The National Democratic Institute for International Affairs conducts research and offers capacity-building programs in the realm of security sector oversight.

The World Bank Institute (WBI) has published a paper on the role of Parliaments as Peacebuilders. The publication includes a focus on security sector oversight.

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