



NETWORK OF CORRUPTION
PREVENTION AUTHORITIES

Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities

Plenary Meeting

December 5th, 2022

Minutes

On December 5th, the fourth 2022 Plenary Meeting of NCPA (hereafter PL) took place with the participation of the Hellenic National Transparency Authority (NTA) as Chair and the participation of the representatives of Croatia, Ecuador, Moldova, Morocco, Palestine, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia and the representative of Transcrime University. The representatives of France and Italy had informed the NCPA Secretariat that they couldn't attend the meeting due to other commitments.

The meeting was held online via ZOOM platform.

After the PL approved the minutes of the 3rd PL Meeting, adopted the Agenda of the meeting without any amendments. On behalf of the Chair, the Head of Strategic Planning, and International Relations of NTA, Mr. Georgios Kasapas, expressed his appreciation to all members participating in the session. The NCPA Chair, then, gave the floor to the NCPA Secretariat to inform the Plenary on the **1st Item of the Agenda - Updates & Developments in terms of ongoing projects & Roundtable**.

Regarding the **webinars** the NCPA Secretariat informed that the agenda and the link of the last webinar on Tackling Corruption in Public Procurement, scheduled to take place on Thursday, December 15th at 15:30 (Athens' time), are going to be sent by the end of the week.

As regards the **1st Guide on National Anti-Corruption Plans and Anti-Corruption Strategies**, the NCPA Secretariat informed the Plenary that the first part of the guide (*the closed type questions' responses*) has been processed and the results have been sent to the Co-ordinating Authorities (AL, IT). By 15/12/2022 the processing of the 2nd and 3rd part will be completed by the coordinators.

With respect to the 2nd Guide on Gender and Corruption, the Serbian colleagues, after thanking the members for their contribution and the NCPA Secretariat for its final compilation, informed the members of the network that the Guide will be released soon.

Regarding the 3rd Guide on Cooling-off periods, the NCPA Secretariat has informed the plenary that a first draft has been prepared and sent to the WG members; with the comments of the coordinating Authority (HR) to follow. The Coordinating Authority (HR), then, took the floor and stated that "Conflict of Interest" is an interesting topic for all the members of the network and that the Guide will be completed by the end of the year.

The Palestinian colleagues have informed the plenary **about the Annual Report**; they will send the contribution and material regarding the 4th Annual International Conference that they have organized recently to be included in the events section of the report. The annual report is coordinated by the NTA and is scheduled to be released by the end of 2022.

As for the Joint Field Missions, the NCPA Secretariat informed the NCPA members that despite the efforts made by the interested parties, the conditions were not favorable to proceed with the necessary arrangements for the joint missions to be completed. The initiative can be discussed further (JFM conditions and requirements) in the coming year and organized based on the members' interest and requests. At this point, the representative of the Croatian Authority underlined that many members were probably reluctant, due to COVID conditions, but the in-person missions are better than the virtual ones and that members can agree to participate by their means and expense and prepare and proceed with the organization of the mission next year.

As regards the DATACROS II project, the NCPA Secretariat informed the Plenary that the Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) has been signed and sent to the university *(as shared by email on 9/11/2022; since no objections or comments have been received)*.

With regard to the 2nd item - **Updates on new members, observers and partners**, the NCPA Secretariat:

- has received and shared the letter/application of the ÓRGANO INTERNO DE CONTROL (OIC) of MEXICO to join the NCPA network as a partner. The NCPA Secretariat, following the SC meeting, has requested by the Authority more information on its mandate¹ and is waiting for the OIC's reply. As soon as the information is received, the representative of the OIC could be invited to a plenary meeting to present the mandate and the operational framework of the authority.
- has received a request on the conditions of joining the NCPA Network (as a partner) from the Association of Lawyers of Serbia and has informed the Association of the Charter's relevant rules. Given that the Charter doesn't contain specific criteria on the status of Partner and Observer, the NCPA Secretariat reminded the plenary of the minutes of December 2019 *(with regard to the definition of an "Observer" and "Partner")* and the members agreed to discuss the matter in the next plenary. The Serbian colleagues will also discuss the request of the Lawyers' Association internally. Then, the Croatian representative emphasized the importance of keeping the network open in general as well as the need for more attention with regard to confidential information. However, all agreed that a general rule for private associations must be applied in a systematic and coherent way *(same criteria to assess whether an agency is qualified as an observer/partner etc.)*.

As for the 3rd Item - **Election of the 2023 NCPA President, Vice-presidents and SC members**, the representative of **Croatia** posed orally her candidature for the **Chair of the Network** and the representatives of **Ecuador, Greece, Ecuador** have expressed their willingness to continue to support the work of network **by posing their candidatures for Vice-Chairs**. The representative of the **Palestinian Authority** has orally submitted his candidature as a **Member of the Steering Committee**.

¹ In particular: on the INEGI's relationship with the Auditoría Superior de la Federación (ASF) of Mexico, on the OIC's territorial competency, and on the existence of a National Anticorruption Agency in Mexico.



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Given the limited participation of the NCPA members, the NCPA Chair proposed that the NCPA Secretariat send an email tomorrow to all the NCPA members as a reminder of the elections and as an encouragement for the members to submit their candidacies within a two-week notice.

Finally, the Chair gave the floor to participants for their closing remarks. The representatives of Morocco, Slovakia thanked the NTA-Presidency for its excellent cooperation and expressed their gratitude for the creation and the maintenance of the NCPA- microsite.

The Chair concluded the fourth PL meeting for 2022 by thanking all the participants for their active involvement in a fruitful discussion.
