



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



Global Judicial Integrity Network

Article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (**UNCAC**) emphasizes the crucial role of the Judiciary in combating corruption and recognizes that, in order to play this role effectively, the Judiciary itself must be free of corruption and its members must act with integrity. Accordingly, it requires each State Party to take measures to strengthen judicial integrity and to prevent opportunities for corruption among members of the Judiciary.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) has been providing assistance to Member States in strengthening judicial integrity, accountability and professionalism since 2000. Most notably, UNODC supported the work of the **Judicial Integrity Group** in developing the **Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct** as well as the **Commentary on the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct**. The Office further prepared the **Resource Guide on Strengthening Judicial Integrity and Capacity** and the **Implementation Guide and Evaluative Framework for Article 11**. UNODC has assisted Judiciaries around the world in taking actions to enhance integrity and prevent corruption in the justice system, including through the drafting of codes of conduct, the design of disciplinary and complaints mechanisms, the improvement of case management systems, the conduct of surveys and assessments to determine the scope, nature and prevalence of corruption and other forms of misconduct in the justice system, and the development of strategies and action plans aimed at enhancing the integrity and capacity of the Judiciary.

In 2015, Member States at the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice adopted the **Doha Declaration**, reaffirming their commitment to “make every effort to prevent and counter corruption, and to implement measures aimed at enhancing transparency in public administration and promoting the integrity and accountability of our criminal justice systems, in accordance with the United Nations Convention against Corruption.”

With a view to provide sustained support and technical assistance to Member States in implementing this ambitious goals of the Doha Declaration, UNODC launched in 2016, with the generous support of the State of Qatar, a **Global Programme for Promoting a Culture of Lawfulness**. The **four-year programme** covers specific areas addressed in the Doha Declaration, including strengthening judicial integrity and the prevention of corruption in the justice system.

One of the key objectives of the Global Programme is the establishment of a **Global Judicial Integrity Network**. Harnessing the expertise and experience of judges, regional and national judicial associations and other stakeholders from around the world, the **Global Judicial Integrity Network** will become a platform to support Judiciaries in the following areas:

- **Exchange of best practices and lessons learned** on priority challenges and emerging issues in judicial integrity and the prevention of corruption through regular in-person and virtual meetings of the Global Network;
- Creation of a **database of relevant resources** ;

- Development of **tools, practical guidance manuals and training programmes**, that can be tailored to the relevant legal system, professional cultures and national challenges;
- Provision of **peer-to-peer advisory services**, training and other capacity-building support in the area of judicial integrity and professionalism;
- **Assessments of integrity risks** in the criminal justice chain and in the development of effective responses to the risks identified; and
- Development and implementation of **codes of conduct** and the establishment of effective oversight and accountability mechanisms for Judiciaries and judicial support staff .

In preparing for the launch of the Network, UNODC is presently holding a series of regional meetings of senior members of the Judiciary and reaching out to judicial institutions and associations as well as other relevant stakeholders to raise awareness about the initiative, collect recent developments and good practices, and solicit judges' feedback and expectations concerning the Network.

UNODC will support the Global Judicial Integrity Network through effective secretariat support services, including the development of a website, resource database, and outreach strategy, culminating in a **High-Level Launch of the Global Judicial Integrity Network** with an inaugural Conference in late 2017 or early 2018.

In order to ensure that the Global Judicial Integrity Network will meet the expectations and needs of Judiciaries around the globe, UNODC kindly requests assistance in:

1. Informing UNODC of any international, regional or national events bringing together judicial officers in the course of 2017, during which UNODC could deliver a presentation on the proposed Global Network and obtain feedback from participating judges to guide the further conceptualization and establishment of the Network;
2. Providing UNODC with materials, resources or links relevant to the strengthening and upholding of judicial integrity and the prevention of corruption in the justice sector that could be made available through the website of the Global Network; and
3. Providing UNODC with your contact details in case you would like to continue receiving information on the further development of the Global Network.

For more information about the Global Judicial Integrity Network and how to participate, please contact:

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