



**International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA)
Executive Committee
Notes of Third Meeting (Online)**

**Thursday, 8 December 2022
4:30pm, Hong Kong Time (UTC+8)**

Present:

President **Mr Simon Peh**
Special Adviser
Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC)
Hong Kong, China

Vice-Presidents **H.E. Mr Fikrat Mammadov**
Minister of Justice, Republic of Azerbaijan

Advocate JL Andy Mothibi
Head and Chief Executive
Special Investigating Unit (SIU), South Africa

Mr Charles Duchaine
Director
French Anti-Corruption Agency (AFA), France

Members **Datin Paduka Hajah Anifa Rafiza binti Haji Abdul Ghani**
Director
Anti-Corruption Bureau (ACB), Brunei Darussalam

Ms Alexandra Rogkakou
Interim Governor
National Transparency Authority (NTA), Greece

Mr Jackson Mue, OGW

Director
Ethics and Anti-Corruption Commission (EACC), Kenya
[On behalf of **Mr Twalib Mbarak, CBS**
Secretary/Chief Executive Officer, EACC]

Hon. Tan Sri Dato' Sri Haji Azam bin Baki

Chief Commissioner
Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission (MACC), Malaysia

Mrs Nandita Sunechur-Nunkoo

Assistant Director
Corruption Prevention and Education Division
Independent Commission Against Corruption, Mauritius
(ICAC, Mauritius)
[On behalf of **Dr Navin Beekarry,**
Director-General, ICAC, Mauritius]

Mrs. Alexandra Lăncrăjan

Chief Prosecutor of the Liaison Bureau
National Anticorruption Directorate (DNA), Romania
[On behalf of **Mr Crin-Nicu Bologa,**
Chief Prosecutor of the Directorate, DNA]

Mr Jeffrey Wang

Senior Deputy Director
Intelligence Analysis & International Affairs
Corrupt Practices Investigation Bureau (CPIB), Singapore
[On behalf of **Mr Denis Tang,** Director, CPIB]

Secretary-
General

Ms Sally Kwan

Director of International Cooperation and Corporate
Services, ICAC, Hong Kong, China

Adviser to
Executive
Committee

Mr Giovanni Kessler

Former Director General
European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF)

Observer **Ms Kari Ann Lucas**
Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Officer
United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC)
[On behalf of **Ms Brigitte Strobel-Shaw**
Chief of Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC]

IAACA Secretariat **Mr Lawrence Chung**
Assistant Director/International Cooperation
ICAC, Hong Kong, China

In Attendance:

Mr Adil Abilov
Director of International Cooperation Department
Ministry of Justice, Republic of Azerbaijan

Ms Izadora Zubek
International Affairs Officer
AFA, France

Mr Giorgos Kasapas
Head of Strategic Planning and International Relations Unit
NTA, Greece

Mr Konstantinos Spanos
Strategic Planning and International Relations Unit
NTA, Greece

Mr Francis Makori
Legal Counsel
EACC, Kenya

Mrs Nik Nurzai binti Mohd. Zainudin
Assistant Commissioner
MACC, Malaysia

Ms Poh Hong Ting

Senior Executive
International Affairs & Liaison Branch
CPIB, Singapore

Mr. Thulani Mkhungo

Chief Risk Officer
SIU, South Africa

Ms. Neptune Masombuka

Chief Human Capital Officer
SIU, South Africa

Ms Nosihle Pearl Gumbi

Senior Manager (Corporate Secretariat)
SIU, South Africa

Absent with Apologies:

Last President **H.E. Dr Ali Bin Fetais Al-Marri**
(Supernumerary
Member)

Vice-President **Mr Jorge Bermúdez**
Comptroller General
Office of the Comptroller General, Republic of Chile

Members **Dr Eduardo Vetere** (Honorary Member)
Former Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs
UNODC

Dr Giuseppe Busia
President
National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC), Italy

H.E. Mr Mohamed Bachir Rachdi
Chairman
National Authority for Probity, Prevention and Fight
Against Corruption (INPPLC), Morocco

Ms Karen Chang

Director and Chief Executive
Serious Fraud Office (SFO), New Zealand

Mrs Seynabou Ndiaye Diakhate

Chair
National Office for Combating Fraud and Corruption
(OFNAC), Senegal

Mr Alejandro Luzón Cánovas

Chief Prosecutor
Special Public Prosecution Office Against Corruption and
Organised Crime (ACPO), Spain

Adviser

Hon. Tan Sri Hj. Abu Kassim bin Mohamed

Chairman, National Financial Crime Centre, Malaysia

Opening Remarks by the President

The President welcomed Members to attend the 3rd meeting of the Executive Committee (the ExCo) and briefed Members on his new position as Special Adviser of ICAC after retiring from the position of Commissioner, ICAC, Hong Kong, China from July 2022. The President stated that he was appointed by the new Commissioner as the delegated official of ICAC in IAACA and would continue as President to steer IAACA towards the mission of fostering the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

2. The President informed the meeting that there were new heads to three organisational members in the ExCo, namely Datin Paduka Hajah Anifa Rafiza binti Haji Abdul Ghani, Director of ACB of Brunei, Ms Alexandra Rogkakou,

Interim Governor of NTA of Greece and Ms Karen Chang, Director and Chief Executive of SFO of New Zealand. The President invited Madam Rafiza and Ms Rogkakou who were at the meeting to say a few words:

- (a) Madam Rafiza expressed her gratitude for serving as one of the ExCo members. She undertook to strengthen her role as the sub-regional coordinator of the Middle East countries in the Asia-Pacific Region by establishing contacts with anti-corruption agencies (ACAs) there and hammering out a work plan for 2023. ACB would attend the 1st Ministerial Meeting of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Agencies in the Member States of the Organization of Islamic Cooperation (OIC) on 20 and 21 December 2022 in Saudi Arabia. She would make use of the platform to connect with ACAs in the region. Madam Rafiza emphasised that taking part in IAACA remained to be an important task for ACB. She was grateful for the guidance and support provided by the Secretariat all along.
- (b) Ms Rogkakou stated that it was an honour and pleasure to participate in the meeting and expressed appreciation to all ExCo members as well as to the President for his leadership. She gave an overview of NTA's contribution to the national anticorruption efforts through the implementation of flagship initiatives which was acknowledged by the European Commission. She added that NTA was a strong believer that well-structured multilateral initiatives could become an important building block in the mutual efforts to enhance the capacity of national anti-corruption mechanisms, strengthen public integrity safeguards and promote a value-driven anti-corruption culture. Hence, she supported the values and goals of IAACA and reiterated

NTA's willingness to constructively contribute to the work of the Association.

3. The President thanked the new heads for continuing to serve in the ExCo and their commitments to the Association. He also informed Members that the new Commissioner of ICAC Mr Danny Woo would greet IAACA members and say a few words at the General Meeting held immediately after this ExCo meeting.

Confirmation of minutes of the last meeting

4. The Secretary-General sought Members' views on the draft minutes of the 2nd ExCo meeting at Annex I. Members unanimously agreed without amendment.

Adoption of the Agenda

5. The meeting adopted the Agenda at Annex II without amendment.

Matters arising from minutes of the last meeting

6. The Secretary-General informed Members of the matters arising from the last meeting as follows:

- (i) Para. 23 of the minutes i.e. *"The President invited RCs to share with Members their plans for implementing the capacity building programmes in their region in the next ExCo meeting after gathering the relevant information from their ACAs."*;
- (ii) Para. 28 i.e. *"Mr Mammadov suggested ways to enhance the publicity of IAACA"*;

- (iii) Para. 10 i.e. *“Ms Strobel-Shaw suggested that IAACA could send a video message to UNODC to promote the work of the Association in the regional meeting for fast-tracking the implementation of UNCAC held in Mexico in March 2022.”*;
- (iv) Para. 14(c) i.e. *“Adv Mothibi mentioned that the Annual Regional Conference for Anti-Corruption Agencies in Commonwealth Africa would be held in Rwanda in May 2022. He would request for a timeslot for making a presentation on IAACA as the Conference was a useful platform to reach out to Member States in Africa.”*;
- (v) Para. 21 i.e. *“Mr Binis invited the President to attend NCPA’s next webinar which would be held in March 2022.”*; and
- (vi) Para. 24 i.e. *“The Secretariat was planning to conduct a revamp of the website in the coming year to enhance its features and functionality. Members were welcome to contribute ideas on the enhancement.”*

She remarked that (i) and (ii) would be reported in agenda items 5 and 7 respectively while the rest would be covered in agenda item 7.

Report on the work progress by Regional Coordinators (RCs)

7. The Secretary-General mentioned that the RCs and ExCo members of their respective regions had been working closely together to take forward the Regional Coordination Mechanism with admirable results. She invited RCs to report the work progress of their respective regions.

8. Advocate Mothibi reported the progress of the African region as follows –

- (a) The 2nd Regional Meeting for African States was convened on 26 October 2022 to discuss a number of issues including the IAACA membership, training needs of ACAs, outreach to regional anti-corruption networks and the 3-year work plan;
- (b) The granting of observer status to prominent anti-corruption networks in the region was raised in the regional meeting and it was suggested that the idea should be discussed thoroughly at the coming ExCo meeting;
- (c) With regard to training needs, Southern African Development Community (SADC) region had developed a standardised curriculum through its Secretariat, EACC had offered peer-to-peer training to some African ACAs and there was a training academy in Nigeria for the Western African region;
- (d) To promote IAACA in the region, presentations were made at the 12th Regional Conference of Heads of ACAs in the Commonwealth Africa in Rwanda in May 2022, SADC Sub-Committee on Anti-Corruption and General Assembly of African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA), both in June 2022. All these organisations expressed keen interest in collaborating with IAACA including the signing of Memorandum of Understanding (MoU);
- (e) SIU would host the General Meeting of AAACA tentatively in March/April next year and the RC would ensure proper coordination and synergy between IAACA and AAACA. The RC also suggested the Secretariat to attend the above meeting;
- (f) The regional group agreed to divide the ACAs into five sub-regions for better coordination, namely Eastern Africa by coordinated by EACC, Northern Africa by INPPLC, Western Africa by OFNAC, SADC region by

ICAC Mauritius and Central Africa by SIU. The work plan for 2022-2024 was also adopted by the regional group members; and

- (g) The RC would continue to identify and analyse the regional and sub-regional training needs for better coordination of the training programmes in the future. Besides, the regional group members would finalise the outstanding sub-regional work plans and submit to the RC soon.

9. The President reported the progress of the Asia-Pacific region as follows –

- (a) Two regional meetings were convened on 9 February and 5 December 2022 respectively. The regional group agreed to divide Asia-Pacific States into four sub-regions namely Middle East, Pacific, Central and South Asia, Southeast and East Asia, with the Regional Coordinator and the three ExCo members each overseeing one sub-region;
- (b) There were 56 countries and 125 ACAs in the entire Asia-Pacific region and currently only 41 ACAs (i.e. 33%) from 31 countries (i.e. 55%) were IAACA members. There was much to do to recruit more ACAs in the region. In February this year, a proforma for applying for membership and updating members' information as well as a questionnaire survey on training needs were sent to ACAs in the region. Four ACAs joined IAACA eventually while 16 questionnaires were received;
- (c) In order to reach out to more ACAs, assistance was sought from close working partners like UNODC and its Field Office in Central Asia, UNDP, Consulates, etc. As a result, IAACA was connected to the ACAs in the Republic of Uzbekistan, United Arab Emirates, Fiji, Republic of Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan;
- (d) Findings of the questionnaire survey indicated that "Financial

Investigations” and “Enhancing Public Sector Integrity Awareness and Partnership” topped the list. It would serve as a good reference when deciding the themes of future regional and sub-regional seminars;

- (e) In 2022, ICAC conducted training for ACAs in Sri Lanka, Thailand, Laos, Jordan, United Arab Emirates and Uzbekistan to enhance anti-corruption practitioners’ capabilities in preventing and tackling corruption. Opportunities were taken to promote IAACA to these ACAs;
- (f) Through the joint efforts of ICAC, MACC, CPIB and Central Vigilance Commission (CVC) of India, an online training on forensic investigation was scheduled for February 2023. As the topic was of common interest among ACAs worldwide, it would be opened to all ACAs and turned from a regional programme to an IAACA training programme;
- (g) In addition, Fiji Independent Commission Against Corruption and IAACA planned to jointly organise a regional conference on anti-corruption for the Pacific Islands States in 2023. The RC was closely liaising with the parties concerned; and
- (h) The RC and sub-regional coordinators would continue their efforts in reaching out to ACAs to understand their training needs in the coming year, organise sub-regional seminars to facilitate experience sharing and ride on the networks in the region to promote IAACA.

10. Mr Mammadov reported the progress of the Eastern European region as follows –

- (a) 15 countries in the region had expressed their desire to participate in the activities of IAACA and the RC continued to raise the issue of cooperation with IAACA at various bilateral meetings with

counterparts outside the region including the Uzbekistani Ambassador to Azerbaijan, Attorney General of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia and Vice President of the General Inspection Organization of Iran.

- (b) The RC met with Mr Žydrūnas Bartkus, Director of the Lithuanian Special Investigation Service (STT) and President of the European Partners Against Corruption and the European Contact-Point Network Against Corruption (EPAC/EACN) in March 2022. EPAC/EACN responded positively to the proposal of cooperation between the two networks and agreed on mutual participation in each other's events;
- (c) The IAACA Regional Seminar on "Asset Recovery in the Fight against Corruption" was held successfully on 30 June 2022 in Baku, Azerbaijan in hybrid format. The event was attended by more than 100 anti-corruption and law enforcement officials from 11 countries, including 8 from Eastern Europe while partners with relevant experience were invited as speakers. The seminar was the first event where the IAACA and EPAC/EACN participated together, following the agreement on cooperation;
- (d) A meeting was conducted with Mr Vladimir Kozin, Regional Anti-Corruption Advisor of the UNODC Office for Central Asia and the South Caucasus and an agreement was reached to hold joint events between the Office and UNODC; and
- (e) The RC paid an official visit to Georgia in early December 2022 and participated in the bilateral Georgian-Azerbaijani legal forum. Participants showed great interest in fostering cooperation with IAACA. The RC reiterated that the efforts to promote IAACA would continue.

11. Mr Duchaine said AFA recognised its key role in coordinating the work of IAACA and was committed to the promotion of international cooperation in the fight against corruption. Ms Zubek then, on behalf of Mr Duchaine, reported the progress of the Western European region as follows –

- (a) The 1st Regional Meeting was convened on 14 September 2022 with the participation of the other three ExCo members namely ANAC of Italy, NTA of Greece and ACPO of Spain. Regional group members exchanged views on how to take forward the mechanism and enhance the promotion of IAACA in the region. Initial findings of the survey on training needs revealed that “the use of technology in identifying corruption risks” and “enhancing private sector integrity and partnership” were topics of common interests. Members agreed to organise a regional webinar in the first semester of 2023 and the topics would be decided in due course;
- (b) Regional group members also recognised the importance of fostering synergies with active anti-corruption networks in the region and such synergies were considered as a valuable mean to pool resources and increase the outreach of IAACA; and
- (c) IAACA had developed fruitful working relationships with the Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities (NCPA) and EPAC/EACN. Assistance was sought from the IAACA Secretariat in collecting input from its members through a questionnaire for developing NCPA’s Guide on Designing, Implementing and Monitoring Strategic Anti-Corruption Plans.

12. The Secretary-General informed Members that Mr Jorge Bermudez, RC of Latin American and Caribbean States, could not attend the meeting and she reported the progress for this region on his behalf. In gist,

- (a) The RC helped promote the work of IAACA at the meeting of the Commission for the Fight against Transnational Corruption of the Organization of Latin American and Caribbean Supreme Audit Institutions (OLACEFS) held in June 2022; and
- (b) The Secretariat held online meetings with UNODC Regional Office for Central America and the Caribbean and Field Offices for Mexico, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Peru and the Southern Cone Countries to explore collaboration on expanding IAACA's outreach in the region. Eventually, online meetings were conducted with the Council for Citizen Participation and Social Control (CPCCS) of Ecuador and the Executive Secretariat of National Anti-Corruption System (SESNA) of Mexico. The latter joined IAACA after the meeting. The Secretary-General thanked UNODC for rendering assistance to IAACA in connecting with the ACAs in the region.

13. The President was delighted to note the significant outcomes in the first year of the implementation of the regional coordination mechanism. He hoped the RCs and ExCo Members could continue to push forward this mechanism and looked forward to more fruitful results in coming years. The President also stated that it should be the united target of IAACA to leave no ACA behind in the journey to rid corruption from our societies. The President appealed to Members to continue to promote IAACA in different regional and international platforms, enhance communication with ACAs in their regions, recruit them as IAACA members, and together, advance the global fight against corruption.

Report on the work progress by the Training Committee

14. The meeting noted that one of the major initiatives of the Training Committee is to co-host the 3rd IAACA Training Programme with the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Center (ROLACC) of Qatar in the first quarter of 2023. Dr Yasser Refaie of ROLACC provided the latest update to the President cum Convenor of the Training Committee as he was not able to attend this meeting. Due to unforeseen circumstances, the Training Programme was tentatively postponed to the summer in 2023.

15. The President recapped that IAACA would organise a 2-day online training on forensic investigation for all members and ACAs around the world through the joint efforts of ICAC, MACC, CPIB and CVC in February next year. More details would be announced later. He encouraged Members to take part in the seminar and mobilise ACAs in their regions to enrol.

Report on IAACA's work in 2022 by the Secretariat

16. The Secretariat was supporting the President and working closely with ExCo members in sustaining IAACA's existing programmes and implementing new initiatives. Substantial achievements were made in the past 11 months –

- (a) The Secretary-General reported that 32 ACAs had submitted application for joining IAACA. The Secretariat had verified that these ACAs all fulfilled the organisational membership criteria set out in Article 2 of the IAACA Constitution. She asked and Members unanimously agreed to recommend these 32 ACAs to the General Meeting (GM) for endorsement of membership according to Article 9(C)(g) of the Constitution. She added that upon endorsement at GM,

the IAACA membership would become 155 and overall, there would be a 25% increase in the membership size this year. She appealed to Members to keep the momentum to recruit more ACAs to join IAACA next year;

- (b) Mr Lawrence Chung continued to report that the President, Vice-Presidents, Secretary-General and ExCo Members had made huge efforts to enhance IAACA's presence and involvement in the international community by participating in different regional and international meetings, seminars and conferences to promote the work of IAACA and bring the visibility of IAACA to a new level. He encouraged Members to continue to promote IAACA through suitable platforms and approach the Secretariat for arranging representatives to participate in the events if necessary; and
- (c) The Secretariat had published three issues of electronic newsletters to keep members and other ACAs abreast of IAACA's latest development, major anti-corruption initiatives and important insights shared by members. Ad-hoc e-alerts were issued to promote anti-corruption and related events of IAACA's partner institutions. The Secretariat was also developing a new IAACA website with more functionalities.

Major initiatives for 2023

17. The Secretary-General briefed Members on the major initiatives of IAACA in 2023 to foster its work in the three strategic directions –

- (a) There were around 450 ACAs worldwide and only 155 were IAACA members. Among the remaining 300 non-member ACAs, the Secretariat had the contact information of around 200 of them. There was much room for IAACA to reach out to these ACAs and expand the

network in different regions. The Secretary-General sought the assistance of the RCs and ExCo Members to reach out to ACAs and encourage them to join IAACA;

- (b) Capacity building was an important part of international cooperation and regional groups were encouraged to organise capacity building activities for their ACAs so as to consolidate relationship;
- (c) Training Committee of this term was going to convene the 2nd meeting in mid-2023 to pave the way for the 4th IAACA Training Programme, which would be held in Hong Kong in 2024;
- (d) As a joint project among UNODC, ICAC and IAACA, a Policy Guide on the Meaningful Engagement of Youth in Anti-Corruption Efforts for Policymakers and National ACAs would be produced to celebrate the 20th Anniversary of UNCAC next year. A questionnaire survey on initiatives implemented by ACAs on youth engagement would be conducted and the Secretariat would invite all ACAs to contribute to this survey in early January 2023 with a submission deadline on 31 January 2023;
- (e) In support of the call of the UN to strengthen cooperation between Supreme Audit Institutions and ACAs, IAACA was seeking collaboration with the International Organization of SAIs (INTOSAI) and related organisations such as The Organization of Latin American and Caribbean SAIs;
- (f) IAACA was planning to form a delegation to participate in the 10th session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC to be held in December 2023 in the United States as in the previous years;
- (g) The Secretariat was setting up a new office with meeting and training facilities in Hong Kong and the new office was expected to start

- operation in April next year;
- (h) New features would be added to the new IAACA website so as to facilitate information sharing and experience exchange. There would be an “e-Forum” which allowed members to conveniently communicate with each other by posting their messages and a repository of anti-corruption resources for reference of the members;
 - (i) With a circulation of over 350 ACAs and some 300 international and regional organisations, Members were highly encouraged to contribute articles that would be of interest to the anti-corruption community to the IAACA newsletter.

Long-term Goals of IAACA

18. The President shared with Members the long term goals of IAACA and highlighted the important mission of IAACA to fight against corruption under the UNCAC and contribute to the attainment of the United Nations’ Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16.5 to substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms by 2030.

19. The President appealed to Members to connect with ACAs in the region and provide technical assistance to them as far as possible. Members were encouraged to update the work plan on implementation of the Regional Coordination Mechanism and send it to the Secretariat for consolidation before the end of February 2023 to facilitate discussion at the 4th ExCo meeting to follow in April.

Any Other Business

20. The Secretary-General reported that an item was received from Mrs Diakhate of OFNAC, Senegal, who would like to know the amount of membership fees that Members were required to pay every year.

21. The President explained that the issue had been discussed in previous ExCo meetings. At this moment, no membership fee was levied on any Member and there was no intention to collect membership fee in the foreseeable future.

Date of next meeting

22. The next meeting was tentatively scheduled for 26 April 2023. The President said it would be a face-to-face meeting to be held in Hong Kong to tie in with the opening of the Secretariat's office on the same day. He extended his invitation to Members, adding that bilateral meetings with the Commissioner of ICAC and technical visit to ICAC facilities would also be arranged. The invitation would soon be sent out to Members.

23. There being no other business, the meeting was closed at 5:50pm (Hong Kong Time).



**IAACA Secretariat
23 December 2022**