



International Police Association - IAC

International Administration Center

UN General Assembly Informal Thematic Debate on Drugs and Crime as a Threat to Development

26 June 2012

Statement from NGO International Police Association to support the Position of the Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Preventing Government, Law Enforcement and Judicial Corruption

The goal of the criminal justice system is to enhance the safety and security of the country's residents and those of neighbouring countries. However, when political, police and judicial officials are the predominant actors within a corrupt system, the public is the one that pays, not only in sacrificing their civil rights and freedoms, but also in punishing those who are not politically connected or those who can not afford the illegal bribery fees.

As such, it is imperative that the member states of the United Nations ensure that corruption is promptly addressed, rooted out, and properly and swiftly punished. It is also critical that organizations (e.g. United Nations, European Union, League of Arab Nations, African Union, etc.), member nations, NGOs and other donor agencies that are assisting developing regions ensure that local authorities eliminate corrupt officials from office and ensure a legitimate democratic environment. This can be accomplished through a number of initiatives:

- Develop a functional anti-corruption agency free of political interference
- Properly screen and vet government, law enforcement and judicial officials
- Ensure that those who have been criminally charged with serious crime and corruption are suspended from office
- Cooperate with UN member countries to bring serious criminals and corrupt officials to justice
- Develop effective criminal justice mechanisms that are transparent and legitimate
- Design legislature that supports the rule of law
- Provide guidance and support criminal justice program development
- Initiate training and educational opportunities to ensure the professionalism of all criminal justice actors
- Donate equipment and funding to promote anti-corruption, crime prevention, and criminal justice endeavours

While these ideas may not appear novel, they must be effectively instituted to ensure that corrupt officials do not take disadvantage of funding for their own use or that government leaders inhibit the proper implementation of these initiatives. One recurring failure is that funding and assistance to developing regions is routinely commenced without first creating a system for accountability. Donor organizations and countries must ensure that all funding and resources are properly accounted for through auditing mechanisms and regular progress reports. Any deficiencies should be immediately addressed and funding and assistance should be suspended for suspected serious violations and discrepancies.

The International Police Association is working in close and successful cooperation with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, with the Alliance on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice, with International Police Association member nations, and with other NGOs to promote and ensure legitimate democracy, protection of civil and human rights, implementation of justice, and effective rule of law across the globe.

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