Achievements Report

ACHIEVEMENTS OF THE GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK FOLLOWING ITS LAUNCH IN APRIL 2018
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LAUNCH OF THE GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK
Introduction

Corruption in the justice system - whether actual or perceived - poses a real threat to confidence in the rule of law. With this in mind, boosting judicial integrity is an integral part of the Doha Declaration Global Programme.

The creation of the Global Judicial Integrity Network represents an important milestone in global efforts to strengthen judicial integrity and the implementation of article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The Network is a platform that enables judiciaries and judges to share good practices and experiences, address new challenges, join forces in the development of tools and provide peer-to-peer support.

The idea to establish the Network was born under the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration back in 2016. What followed was a nearly two-year long process of extensive consultations, meetings and exchanges. In total, UNODC consulted nearly 4,000 judges and other justice sector stakeholders from across the globe on the idea of the Network.

These efforts culminated in the official launch of the Global Judicial Integrity Network in Vienna in April 2018. The launch event is an achievement in itself, as it was the largest and most diverse meeting of judges and other justice sector stakeholders ever organized under the auspices of the United Nations.

In less than two years of existence, the Network has achieved a considerable number of successes, has reached judges from across the world and has created a space for open and inclusive discussions and assistance. It can be said that the Network has become a truly global movement and a driving force for positive change. Many judiciaries have looked up to the Network for advice and leadership.

The purpose of the present paper is to summarize the key successes of the Global Judicial Integrity Network following its launch for the participants of the second High-Level Meeting of the Global Judicial Integrity Network that will take place in Doha in February 2020.

The paper has been developed by UNODC in its capacity as the secretariat of the Global Judicial Integrity Network and has been endorsed by the Network’s Advisory Board.
The Advisory Board was established at the launch of the Network in April 2018. The Terms of Reference of the Network established an Advisory Board to guide the work of the Network, including the identification of priority areas for the Network’s attention and the development of a concrete workplan. The composition of the first Advisory Board of the Global Judicial Integrity Network was endorsed at the launch event. Since then, the Advisory Board has been guiding the activities of the Network and has been instrumental in the Network’s work and achievements. The Advisory Board members have been acting as ambassadors for the Network, promoting its work and services through national and regional leadership activities, as well as proactively seeking opportunities at the regional and international levels to engage new stakeholders.

FURTHER INFORMATION

To read about the individual Advisory Board members, please visit: unodc.org/ji.
The 2018-2019 workplan was developed by the Advisory Board in May 2018. It takes into consideration the Declaration on Judicial Integrity adopted at the launch event. The workplan prioritizes key issues of judicial integrity, including, but not limited to:

- Creation of guidelines on the use of social media by judges;
- Raise awareness about gender-related integrity issues in the judiciary;
- Exchange of good practices in the investigation of judicial misconduct;
- Exchange of good practices in financial disclosure regimes for judges;
- How to draft, review, and implement judicial codes of conduct;
- Support the Judicial Integrity Group review of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct (and Commentary on the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct);
- Finalization of the judicial ethics training tools and training of trainers;
- Exchange of good practices in judicial ethics training;
- Exchange of good practices in the selection and appointment of judges;
- Exchange of good practices in transparency and community outreach;
- Supporting networking among anti-corruption courts;
- Facilitation of peer-to-peer support;
- Guidelines for the development of court and case management software in line with the Bangalore Principles and
- Maintain and expand the online resources of the Global Judicial Integrity Network website.
Advisory Board Meetings and Outcomes

The meetings of the Advisory Board are organized in accordance with the Terms of Reference of the Network that envisage a minimum of one meeting of the Advisory Board per year.

To date, the Advisory Board has convened twice — once on 23-24 January 2019 in Doha, Qatar, and a second time on 28-29 August 2019 at UNODC headquarters in Vienna, Austria.

Both meetings reviewed the progress made in the implementation of the 2018-2019 workplan and the Board members provided guidance regarding its further implementation. The Board members discussed the preparations, format and outcomes of the second High-Level Meeting of the Network in Doha, Qatar and exchanged views on the successes of the Network to date, as well as on the opportunities that have not yet been tapped into and could be explored beyond the scope of the 2018-2019 workplan.

In addition, the Board members discussed the question of the criteria for the selection of the Advisory Board and developed Guidelines for the Selection of the Members of the Advisory Board of the Global Judicial Integrity Network. With regard to the work of the Network beyond 2019, the Board members believe that it is important to continue with the current topics of the workplan and ensure that the Network’s knowledge products and tools are not only finalized, but also widely disseminated. The Network should also focus on additional thematic areas and the next High-Level Meeting will play a key role in identifying them. Synergies and strategic partnerships should continue to be built with other ongoing local and regional initiatives and networks, as well as with relevant UN bodies, institutions, associations, research centres and legal colleges with a view to amplifying the impact and results. The Network should continue to serve as a hub to connect all of these existing efforts.

Each Board member has made efforts in 2018-2019 to promote the Network, including through their participation in various meetings and conferences worldwide, as well as bilateral meetings with other high-level representatives of judiciaries. In total, over 2,000 people, have learned about the work of the Global Judicial Integrity Network from the Advisory Board members’ participation in external events worldwide.
Judicial Conduct and Ethics Training Tools

Under the umbrella of the Network, an interactive and innovative training package on conduct and ethics has been developed. In the preparatory stage in the lead up to the launch of the Network, the need to strengthen judicial ethics training was repeatedly emphasized as of great importance.

The tools are designed to equip judges with the necessary skills to effectively resolve ethical dilemmas potentially arising in the context of carrying out judicial functions. The tools are based on the universally recognized Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct and the requirements of article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

The package aims to be easily adaptable to different jurisdictions and adopts the universally accepted approach of blended learning.

All three components are available in Arabic, English, French, Spanish, Russian and Portuguese.

1. **E-learning course**: A widely applicable and interactive electronic course consisting of three separate modules dealing with various aspects of judicial ethics.

2. **Self-directed course**: A course intended for those judges and judiciaries where access to the internet may be a problem. It reflects, to the greatest extent possible, the content of the e-learning course. The self-directed course is available in two formats: an interactive version meant to be used offline on a computer where participants can type notes and complete exercises, and a hard-copy version which is meant to be printed and written upon. Both versions can be downloaded as PDFs.

3. **Trainers’ manual**: A guide for national trainers to develop and design their own training courses and tailor them to the needs and circumstances of various jurisdictions, so that they can conduct face-to-face workshops following the completion of one of the other two components.
More than 45 jurisdictions from all regions of the world have committed to be training sites for the implementation of the training tools, meaning that they have committed to organize national or regional training activities based on the tools.

The recommended approach is ‘blended learning’, i.e. judges are first asked to complete the e-learning or self-directed course, followed by a more in-depth face-to-face training based on the trainers’ manual. However, there may be instances where this approach is not possible and the jurisdictions are welcome to use the training tools in a way that best fits the needs of their jurisdiction. One of the advantages of the training tools is their flexibility and adaptability to any national context.

To support the training sites, several train-the-trainers workshops have been organized with the aim to train judicial trainers on how to use the Judicial Conduct and Ethics Training Tools and design training activities based on them. To date, 110 trainers have been trained in three global and two regional train-the-trainers workshops. UNODC wishes to thank the Judicial College of England and Wales for their important role in the delivery of these training workshops.

It is encouraging to see that numerous sites have already rolled out national or regional training activities based on the tools, and that more than 1,500 members of judiciaries worldwide have already completed the training. It is equally encouraging to see that training sites have also supported each other in the design and organization of training activities, including through providing peer-advice and providing judicial trainers to support the delivery of training. Such approach is fully in line with the objectives of the Global Judicial Integrity Network.
Knowledge Products

Substantial progress has been made on several key workplan issues. Four knowledge products have been developed under the umbrella of the Network, namely: Non-binding Guidelines on the Use of Social Media by Judges; a Discussion Paper on the Role of Judicial Immunities in Safeguarding Judicial Integrity; a Guide on How to Develop Codes of Judicial Conduct; and an Issue Paper on Gender-Related Judicial Integrity Issues.

All these knowledge products are based upon the expertise and feedback of Network participants. Apart from the organization of dedicated expert group meetings, targeted discussions and the dissemination of an online survey, the knowledge products have also undergone wide online consultations through the Network’s website with the aim to gather comments and views from all Network participants.

Discussion Paper on

The Role of Judicial Immunities in Safeguarding Judicial Integrity

The Network’s Advisory Board decided in January 2019 to prioritize the topic of judicial immunities, in particular the elements that constitute the building blocks of judicial integrity and judicial independence, and how immunities, for example immunity from a suit for damages for a judicial act, security of tenure, rights of judges and conditions of work, contribute to safeguarding the fundamental principles of judicial conduct. The discussion paper discusses what the elements of a framework for judicial protection are in order to balance judicial accountability and judicial independence.

Non-binding Guidelines on

The Use of Social Media by Judges

The finalized Non-binding Guidelines on the Use of Social Media by Judges provide practical guidance to judges on how to navigate through the world of social media, including risks and opportunities when using social media, content that could be shared on social media and digital relationships between judges and other parties. The guidelines also provide tips on the organization of training on the use of social media by judges.

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<tr>
<th>ONLINE SURVEY OF NETWORK PARTICIPANTS</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Of the Network participants who completed the survey on social media:</td>
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<tr>
<td>85% use social media</td>
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<tr>
<td>74% have no social media training</td>
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<tr>
<td>81% would like social media training</td>
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How to Develop Codes of Judicial Conduct

This practical guide on how to develop codes of judicial conduct provides advisory information on substantive content, based on the content of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct and relevant examples from other regional and national instruments, as well as on the possible structure and scope of the code ('What').

The guide also discusses other pertinent questions, such as the binding or non-binding nature of codes of conduct.

Issue Paper on Gender-Related Judicial Integrity Issues

The issue paper aims to raise awareness about various existing gender-related judicial integrity issues, including sextortion, sexual harassment, biases, prejudices, sex-based discrimination or inappropriate sexual relations. The paper analyzes various existing national, regional and international rules, guidelines and policies on these issues and examines various criminal and disciplinary cases that address them. The paper also collects good practices and experiences in providing gender sensitivity training to judges and accountability mechanisms specifically aimed at monitoring and implementing gender guidelines and policies. The paper offers recommendations on the issues and content to possibly be addressed in guidelines on gender-related integrity issues for judiciaries.
Other Thematic Areas

In addition to the key knowledge products that were developed in 2018-2019, the Global Judicial Integrity Network has made progress in several other thematic areas.

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<tr>
<th>Thematic Area</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tr>
<td>Investigation of Judicial Misconduct</td>
<td>The Global Judicial Integrity Network has assisted in the sharing of good practices in judicial misconduct investigations. A restricted section of the database on the Network website now hosts approximately 90 disciplinary cases from a variety of countries. Furthermore, the Network has published an opinion piece on the topic by an external expert.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Judicial Appointments</td>
<td>The Southern African Chief Justices Forum adopted the Lilongwe Principles and Guidelines on the Selection and Appointment of Judicial Officers on 30 October 2018. The Lilongwe Principles provide basic criteria that should be ensured during the selection and appointment process to uphold the integrity of the judiciary. The Global Judicial Integrity Network has assisted in the promotion of the Lilongwe Principles via its website, including the publication of two opinion pieces by Network participants.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Bangalore Principles Review</td>
<td>The Global Judicial Integrity Network has supported the Judicial Integrity Group as it has embarked on the updating of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct and its accompanying Commentary. Suggested updates include incorporating emerging issues of judicial integrity that did not exist at the time of its drafting. Among other topics, the review of the Bangalore Principles was discussed at the Expert Group Meeting on judicial immunities that was held at UNODC Headquarters in August 2019.</td>
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<tr>
<td>Artificial Intelligence in the Judiciary</td>
<td>The Network has promoted the exchange of good practices on digitization of court processes, as well as the appropriate use of artificial intelligence in the judiciary, through a series of opinion pieces and podcasts. In collaboration with the Judicial Policy Research Institute (JPRI) in the Republic of Korea, the Network organized and participated in a session on judicial transparency and artificial intelligence at the 2018 JPRI International Conference.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lilongwe Principles</td>
<td>The Lilongwe Principles and Guidelines on the Selection and Appointment of Judicial Officers were finalized and adopted at the Southern African Chief Justices’ Forum in October 2019. The Global Judicial Integrity Network has assisted in their promotion and dissemination.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bangalore Principles</td>
<td>The Global Judicial Integrity Network supported the Judicial Integrity Group’s review of the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct by providing a forum for discussion with international legal experts at the Expert Group Meeting held in August 2019.</td>
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Website Developments

Since its launch, there have been approximately 100,000 pageviews of the website by over 40,000 website users. 950 judicial stakeholders have registered and may contact each other via the Network’s restricted contact database, truly making this a Network by judges, for judges. The website continues to be enriched in terms of its content and new innovative and user-friendly features.

The monthly podcast series and monthly opinion editorial series have received regular contributions from Network participants. The podcast series has featured 20 experts and been listened to roughly 4,500 times. The ‘Views’ opinion pieces have been equally successful, with 18 articles from 22 participants on a range of topics, such as sextortion and artificial intelligence.

New features since the launch include a corner dedicated to multimedia items of partner organizations, an online newsletter and information pages on the high-level event.

The resource database has grown to 2,000 documents in 39 languages and now has a restricted section for judicial disciplinary proceedings documentation, the option to ‘bookmark’ useful sources and receive email updates about new additions, as well as the possibility to sort documents by thematic topics.

The website has been used to disseminate a variety of materials, in addition to the database resources. Consultations on the knowledge products of the Network were conducted via the website and the online comment submission function to ensure broad dissemination.

The website also hosts the new Judicial Conduct and Ethics Training Tools. These pages are available in the six languages in which the training materials are available. In addition to pages for the materials themselves, there are two further pages for useful documents and the contact information for the national training focal points.

Through the social media efforts of the UNODC secretariat, the updates of the Global Judicial Integrity Network have been able to reach additional users via Twitter and Facebook.

100,000
Following its launch in April 2018, the Global Judicial Integrity Network website has been viewed 100,000 times.

2,000
Documents on topics of judicial integrity are now in the Network’s online resource database. These include everything from codes of conduct and disciplinary cases, to resources on emerging issues, such as artificial intelligence.

950
Judges have registered for the restricted area of the website since its creation.
In addition to the concrete knowledge products created by the Network following the launch event, the Global Judicial Integrity Network and its Advisory Board have been promoting networking through virtual and face-to-face opportunities for dialogue on good practices and experiences in the implementation of standards. These discussions are a priority of the Network and are conducted to advance the exchange of knowledge and mutual support.

The Network has been presented at 46 events, including meetings of regional and international judges’ associations, such as the International Association of Judges, International Association of Women Judges, European Judicial Training Network and Southern African Chief Justices’ Forum.

The Global Judicial Integrity Network has been able to reach 145 countries with its awareness-raising activities.

UNODC trained 110 judicial trainers on how to organize and facilitate judicial conduct and ethics training workshops in their jurisdictions.

The judicial trainers trained by UNODC went on to train over 1,500 members of the judiciaries on judicial conduct and ethics.

The Network has reached 5,250 people through awareness-raising activities. The Advisory Board was involved in 2,075 cases, the Network Secretariat in 2,900 cases, and both in 275 cases as of December 2019.

*Awareness-raising figures accurate as of December 2019*
THE GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK IS A UNIQUE PLATFORM THAT PROVIDES PEER-TO-PEER LEARNING AND CONNECTS JUDGES WORLDWIDE. THIS IS A NETWORK CREATED BY AND FOR JUDGES; THIS IS YOUR NETWORK.