Eighth Forum of Parliamentarians
Special Event at the Conference of State Parties to the UNCAC
Abu Dhabi, UAE – Wednesday 18 December 2019, 9am-10am

Time: 9am-10am
Location: Conference Room 6

Keynote Speakers: Executive Director, UNODC, Yury Fedotov and President of Kiribati, HE Taneti Maamau

<u>Panel: Parliament's Role in Enhancing Holistic Governance</u>

I. INTRODUCTION

Parliamentary oversight is a key component of good practice UNCAC implementation. As open government develops and borders shrink, more players and partnerships are actively contributing to preventing and tackling more sophisticated corruption. This panel session explores innovative, holistic roles Parliaments have to take on.

II. GOALS AND EXPECTED OUTCOME

The panel will focus on the engagement of parliamentarians and the role they can play to promote the implementation of the UNCAC and the innovative strategies needed to achieve national holistic integrity.

Goals:

1. Enhance the capacity of parliamentarians to localise the UNCAC by adapting international standards to national needs and to play an important oversight role in the monitoring and review of the national effort to implement the UNCAC.

2. Expand parliamentary representation at the Conference of States Parties to the UNCAC to advance popular understanding and support for the Convention as well as to emphasize the Convention's ability to advance public accountability through public representatives.

3. Parliamentarians can more effectively collaborate with UN-PRAC, international agencies and civil society organizations on anti-corruption initiatives.

4. Inform Parliamentarians and Partner Agencies in the Pacific and elsewhere of the benefits of the partnership between UNODC, UNDP and GOPAC Oceania through the UN-PRAC Project;

5. Explore the establishment of further GOPAC chapters in Parliaments, as well as discuss the role of parliamentary committees and a plan of action for Members of Parliaments;
6. Continue to transfer knowledge on parliamentary oversight and introduce international best practices.

Expected Outcome:

Increased parliamentarian awareness of the critical role they can play in the ratification and implementation of the UNCAC and implementation of SDG16 in their respective States.

III. PANELLISTS

Keynote speakers: UNODC Executive Director & President of Kiribati, HE Taneti Maamau

Panelists:
- Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Mr Yury Fedotov
- President of Kiribati, HE Taneti Maamau;
- APNAC & GOPAC Kenya President, Speaker Rt. Hon. Justin Muturi, E.G.H, MP;
- UN-PRAC: Annika Wythes, Regional Anti-Corruption Adviser - Pacific, UNODC;
- Hon Aliyoum Fadil, Member of the National Assembly, Cameroon

IV. FORMAT AND AGENDA

Bringing together parliamentarians and partners from the Pacific and globally, GOPAC seeks to step up the engagement process for parliamentarians in helping to achieve effective national anti-corruption frameworks. Experience can be drawn from the UN Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption (UN-PRAC) Project and GOPAC Oceania's activities in the Pacific region to illustrate good practices and common challenges. The panel will also discuss the tools and technical assistance available to parliamentarians to address these common challenges.

Moderator: Secretary of GOPAC Oceania, John Hyde

Topics:
1. Executive Director, UNODC on role of parliamentarians
2. Role of Pacific Unity Against Corruption;
3. Building blocks of Governance: Parliament's niche role;
4. UN-PRAC assistance in partnerships;
5. Parliament's role in a National Anti-Corruption Plan / Strategy; GOPAC Committees in Parliaments;