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to the United Nations  
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**Other matters**

**Statement submitted by the International Police Association,  
a non-governmental organization in consultative status with  
the Economic and Social Council\*\***

The following document is being circulated in accordance with paragraph 1 (i) of resolution 4/6 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and rule 17, paragraph 3 (b), of the rules of procedure for the Conference.

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\* CAC/COSP/IRG/2013/1.

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## **Statement of the International Police Association**

### **Nature of Corruption — Prevention**

Corruption has existed ever since antiquity as one of the worst and, at the same time, most widespread forms of behaviour which is inimical to the administration of public affairs when indulged in by public officials and elected representatives. In the last hundred years, it has come to encompass behaviour within the purely private domain.

### **Definition of Corruption**

Corruption is like a prism with many surfaces. The United Nations Convention against Corruption contains the following provisions in its Article 15:

#### **Criminalization and law enforcement**

##### *Bribery of national public officials*

Each State Party shall adopt such legislative and other measures as may be necessary to establish as criminal offences, when committed intentionally:

(a) The promise, offering or giving, to a public official, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties;

(b) The solicitation or acceptance by a public official, directly or indirectly, of an undue advantage, for the official himself or herself or another person or entity, in order that the official act or refrain from acting in the exercise of his or her official duties.

### **Prevention**

Prevention of corruption should be independent of the case giving rise to corruption.

Prevention of corruption concerns all areas of society. The introduction of a coordinating agency (coordinator, etc.) seems essential.

In areas vulnerable to corruption, complete transparency in the decision-making process must be established and opportunities for corruption eliminated.

The public should be encouraged to report any grounds for suspicion of corruption. Within the law enforcement authorities, care must be taken that such reports can be examined and processed rapidly and efficiently.

In connection with the award of public contracts, the fight against corruption calls for appropriate importance to be attached also to the aspect of specification of requirements.