

# Role of Ethics Offices in Preventing Corruption and Promoting Integrity

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August 2011

**EthicsOffice**



# Common Definition of Ethics

*Ethics is the set of criteria or principles that we use when selecting a course of action in the face of competing values.*



# **An ethical culture based in integrity helps prevent corruption**

- ✓ Values are explicit
- ✓ Clear rules and expectations
- ✓ Speaking up is OK
- ✓ Train and communicate
- ✓ Respect for moral judgment
- ✓ Align rewards with right conduct
- ✓ Rules stay same in good and bad times
- ✓ Rules are enforced and consequences understood by all

# Ethics Network of Multilateral Organizations



UN



ILO



FAO



UNESCO



WHO



IFAD



WTO



WIPO



UNHCR



UPU



ITU



UNFPA



UNICEF



UNIDO



UNDP



UNRWA



WBG



IMF



IAEA



WFP



WMO

## **From Most to Least Common EO Services**

1. Confidential ethics advice
2. Outreach, communication, training
3. Research and policy development
4. Conflicts of interest prevention
5. Financial disclosure systems
6. Protection against Retaliation
7. Hotlines/Helpines/Whistleblowing systems
8. Intake on misconduct allegations
9. Investigations
10. Disciplinary action
11. Proponent of cultural and organizational change
12. Ethics and reputational risk assessment
13. Technical assistance to governments/others

# Ethics Offices offer an Ethical Framework



# Four Practical Undertakings to Promote Integrity

- Transparency
  - Financial Disclosure Programmes
- Protection
  - Whistleblowing systems
  - Protection against Retaliation
- Confidentiality
  - Ethics advisory services
- Development
  - Investing for the future



# Financial Disclosure Programme Goals

- Manage risks and enhance public trust in the integrity and reputation of the UN
- Identify, mitigate and resolve personal conflicts of interest

**→ while protecting the confidentiality and privacy of personal information**

**→ However, the FDP is not designed to detect unjust enrichment**



## **FDP is Honour Based**

- Disclose in confidence
  - to an independent authority and not to management
- Identify potential conflicts of interest arising from a staff member's
  - Assets and liabilities
  - Personal interests and affiliations
  - Outside activities
- Provide confidential advice as how best to manage any potential personal conflicts of interest in the interests of the Organization

Whistleblowing Systems are successful when they include:

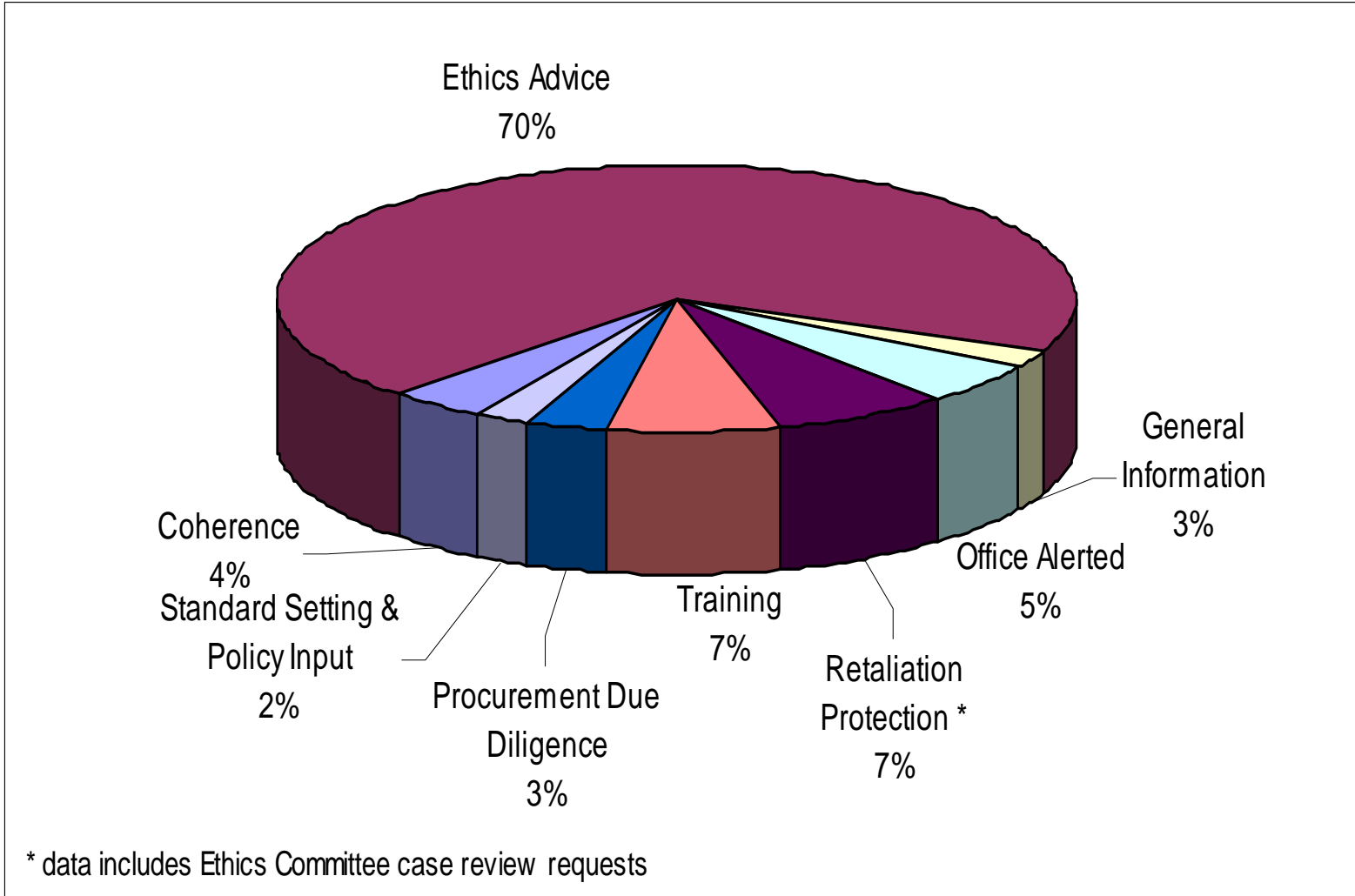
1. Reporting channels
2. Cultural support
3. Investigative process based on fairness and respect
4. Protection against retaliation





# Most Requested Service is Ethics Advice

Requests for UNEO Services 2010-2011



# Investing in the Future-- Leadership Development





## Contact the Ethics Office

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***Click, call or come visit.  
We are here to assist you.***