EPAC

EUROPEAN
PARTNERS
AGAINST
CORRUPTION

We network against corruption.

# Dear Ladies and Gentlemen,
# Dear Colleagues and Friends,

It is our pleasure to present you with the last newsletter for this year, which also marks the tenth anniversary of the entry into force of the landmark United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Apart from EPAC/EACN's own 15th annual conference and General Assembly, this issue also features stories on the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC, International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)'s Assembly of Parties, the international conference of the Central Anti-Corruption Bureau (CBA) and the upcoming IACA Summer Academy.

If you wish to provide input for one of our forthcoming newsletters, please let us know. Your proposals are most welcome.

We wish you happiness for the festive days and every success in 2016,

Your EPAC/EACN Secretariat

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## 15th Annual Professional Conference and General Assembly

Over 80 delegates from 53 anti-corruption authorities and police oversight bodies came together for the 15th EPAC/EACN Professional Conference, hosted by the French General Inspectorate of the National Police (IGPN). The annual forum was held in Paris, just days after heinous terrorist attacks.

The conference examined how to ensure an ethical, efficient, impartial and transparent oversight of police bodies and discussed the link between prevention and repression in the fight against corruption. The results of two EPAC/EACN Working Groups, set up by the General Assembly in 2014 to develop policy recommendations for the EU Anti-Corruption Report and to prepare a dedicated EPAC/EACN communication tool within the Europol Platform for Experts (EPE), were also presented.

As tradition has it, anti-corruption authorities (ACAs) and police oversight bodies (POBs) broke into thematically focused parallel sessions. While ACAs discussed practices on gifts and gratuities to public servants, police oversight bodies elaborated on the effective handling of public complaints.

The conference culminated with a General Assembly session and the adoption of the Paris Declaration.


Ministère de l'Intérieur/DICOM/J.ROCHA

The presidency welcomed one new member, Dominique Devos-Cavier from IGPN, as Vice-President for POBs. In addition, the Ukrainian National Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Azerbaijani Prosecutor's Office and Anti-Corruption Directorate were accepted into EPAC.

More detailed information and presentations are available on the newly launched dedicated EPE platform for members of EPAC and EACN https://epe.europol.europa.eu/. In case of questions, please contact the Secretariat.

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## Sixth COSP in St. Petersburg



The sixth Conference of the States Parties (COSP) to the UNCAC convened in St. Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November, to discuss key issues regarding asset recovery, prevention, and technical assistance. More than 160 States Parties took part.

The conference resulted in ten resolutions devoted to anti-corruption education, public-private partnerships, asset recovery, civic and administrative procedures, and IT technologies, among others. States Parties also agreed to launch the second cycle of the Review Mechanism next year, focusing on corruption prevention and asset recovery.

For more details and the documents of the sixth session, please visit www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CAC/CAC-COSP-session6.html.

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## IACA Assembly of Parties



The fourth session of IACA's Assembly of Parties, hosted in Vienna, closed successfully on 11 December with the unanimous adoption of five Resolutions and the election of new members to the Academy's Board of Governors.

The annual forum, which opened on International Anti-Corruption Day, 9 December, attracted more than 250 delegates from 70 countries around the world. Delegates included Deputy Heads of State and Government, and Ministers. They voiced their strong support for IACA and underlined the importance of its global work in anti-corruption education, research, networking, and cooperation. The Assembly reiterated that the anti-corruption capacity-building activities provided by IACA could further contribute to achievements of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

More information is available at www.iaca.int/governance/assembly-of-parties.html.

## Sixth International Anticorruption Conference

On 9 and 10 December, the sixth International Anticorruption Conference, entitled "Strengthening international cooperation in preventing and combating corruption" took place in Warsaw. Organized by the CBA, the event featured a high-level segment on the first day, which was followed by expert panels on the second day.

The main theme of the conference was chosen in line with the Polish Government's Anti-Corruption Programme for the years 2014-2019 and centred on strengthening international cooperation in the aspect of preventing as well as combating corruption.

More information is available on the organizer's website, www.cba.gov.pl/en.
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## IACA Summer Academy Applications Open in January

IACA will offer its sixth annual Summer Academy from 30 June to 8 July 2016. The application period will open on 15 January and close on 15 March. Representatives from EPAC/EACN authorities are encouraged to apply.

The Summer Academy is an intensive programme designed for familiarizing participants with contemporary insight in selected areas of corruption theory and anti-corruption practice. The programme aims to foster a culture of the reflective practitioner while providing knowledge and tools for helping bridge the gap between theory and practice.

Detailed information on the Summer Academy, including the online application form, will be available at www.iaca.int/opentrainings/summer_academy.html.
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Wishing you a happy holiday season and a prosperous New Year !

Giovanni Kessler
(President EPAC/EACN)