

Module 5

International Anti-Corruption Framework

Chapter 4

International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was adopted by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 31 October 2002 to strengthen international cooperation in fighting and preventing corruption. At the conference held in Merida, Mexico in December 2003 for signing the UNCAC, the delegates suggested that an international anti-corruption organisation should be established to help implement UNCAC effectively.

Accordingly, International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA) was established in 2006. It is an independent and non-political anti-corruption organisation with the mandate to promote the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and assist anti-corruption agencies (ACAs) worldwide in the prevention of and fight against corruption. Up to now, over 150 ACAs from different countries and regions have joined IAACA as members.

Mission

- ❖ Promote the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
- ❖ Assist anti-corruption authorities internationally in the prevention of and fight against corruption

Current Leadership of IAACA

In January 2022, Mr Simon Peh, then-Commissioner of the Independent Commission Against Corruption, Hong Kong, China (Hong Kong ICAC), was elected as the President of IAACA and Hong Kong ICAC took over the office of the IAACA Secretariat at the same time.

Past Leadership of IAACA

- ❖ 2006-2015: Supreme People's Procuratorate, China
- ❖ 2016-2021: Attorney-General's Office, Qatar

Executive Committee

The IAACA Executive Committee consists of a President, four Vice-Presidents, 14 Organisational and Honorary Members, two Advisers and an Observer. IAACA work closely with the EC members to sustain IAACA's existing programmes, implement new initiatives and chart a clear way forward for the Association. IAACA's aim is to strengthen its role as the focal point of international anti-corruption collaboration, and to enable the IAACA to take centre stage of the international anti-corruption mission.

Regional Coordination Mechanism

Under the new regional coordination mechanism agreed by the ExCo, members of the IAACA are categorized under five regional groups with reference to the United Nations Regional Groups of Member States. The President and four Vice-Presidents will take up the role of Regional Coordinators to deepen communication and collaboration with ACAs within their regions, and arrange tailor-made training activities for them.

Past Activities

Since its inception, the IAACA has organised annual conferences and general meetings in China, Indonesia, Ukraine, Morocco, Malaysia, Panama, the Russian Federation and Austria with a view to gathering members, anti-corruption practitioners and experts to explore effective ways to implement UNCAC as well as exchanging expertise and experiences on advancing international cooperation against corruption.

Training Committee

With the setting up of the IAACA Training Committee in 2017 to propose, oversee and evaluate training-related activities, two international IAACA Training Programmes were organised in Hong Kong in 2019 and Malaysia (online) in 2021 respectively.
