



IAP
INTERNATIONAL
ASSOCIATION OF
PROSECUTORS

Annual Report 2023

Raising standards for prosecutors worldwide; Improving international cooperation to combat crime

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Introduction



Introduction

The International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) is a non-governmental organisation and the only worldwide organisation of prosecutors. It was established on 06 June 1995 at the United Nations offices in Vienna and was formally inaugurated in September 1996 at its first general meeting in Budapest.

The initial idea for an international association of prosecutors followed from discussions at the Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in 1990 on the role of prosecutors. Delegates recognised that although "the Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrines the principles of equality before the law, the presumption of innocence and the right to a fair and public hearing before an impartial tribunal, frequently there still exists a gap between the vision underlying those principles and the actual situation". They also recognised that prosecutors play a crucial role in the administration of justice and in ensuring compliance with these principles. The UN Congress subsequently adopted Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors, designed to assist Member States in securing and promoting prosecutors' effectiveness, impartiality and fairness in criminal proceedings. There was also a growing recognition amongst prosecutors of the need for greater international cooperation between prosecutors and for greater speed and efficiency in the use of mutual legal assistance, asset tracking and other international cooperation measures to tackle the rapid growth in serious transnational crime, including drug trafficking, money laundering and fraud.

Since its inception, the IAP has been committed to setting and raising standards of professional conduct and ethics for prosecutors worldwide and to promoting the rule of law, fairness, impartiality, and respect for human rights. The IAP also aims to improve and strengthen international cooperation to combat crime by building networks between prosecuting agencies and supporting an increased pace and efficiency in transferring information and providing mutual legal assistance.



The IAP delivers its objectives through three principal strands of activity:

1

To safeguard the prosecutor's role and their role as a legal officer, the IAP actively advocates for prosecutors' functional independence and legal accountability and develops practical responses to challenges to that independence. The IAP monitors threats to the safety and security of prosecutors and supports the development of practical strategies for relevant authorities to respond to those threats. The IAP also manages a worldwide programme for prosecutors in difficulty, responding to their requests for assistance when they report facing challenges due to carrying out their prosecutorial duties.

The IAP builds and maintains a worldwide community, enabling prosecutors to share experiences and challenges in a trusting professional environment. Through annual conferences and regional meetings, training sessions, workshops and webinars, the IAP routinely brings together frontline prosecutors, specialists, and heads of prosecution services to network, collaborate, cooperate, and share best practices and knowledge. Through its rapidly growing online network, the IAP provides a digital database and platform of prosecution contact points and specialists to facilitate information exchange and casework assistance.

2

3

The IAP produces the world's leading statements on professional prosecution standards, best practices, and guidelines concerning a wide range of criminal activity. The IAP also facilitates specialised learning programmes in international criminal justice. Areas of focus include mutual legal assistance, counterterrorism, cybercrime, financial crime, trafficking in persons, international crimes and asset recovery.

The IAP's membership now includes more than 250,000 prosecutors in over 170 countries and territories across the globe. In addition to individual members, the network includes 133 prosecuting agencies, 45 associations of prosecutors and 9 international organisations, including the International Criminal Court (ICC), the United Nations International Residual Mechanism for Criminal Tribunals (IRMCT), and Eurojust. The IAP also holds special consultative status with the United Nations, and observer status with The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units and with the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE).



IAP Vision Statement

To support and empower prosecutors worldwide to uphold the rule of law and fully implement the IAP Standards.

IAP Mission Statement

We are committed to promoting and safeguarding the role of prosecutors in maintaining and advancing the rule of law to deliver fair and just outcomes and to setting and raising standards of professional conduct and ethics through training, networking and the exchange of knowledge and expertise.

IAP Objects

The objectives of the IAP are as follows:

01

To promote the effective, fair, impartial, and efficient prosecution of criminal offences;

02

To respect and seek to protect human rights as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948;

03

To promote high standards and principles in the administration of criminal justice, including procedures to guard against or address miscarriages, in support of the rule of law;

04

To promote and enhance those standards and principles which are generally recognised internationally as necessary for the proper and independent prosecution of offences;

05

To assist prosecutors internationally in the fight against organised or other serious crimes, and for that purpose: (a) to promote international cooperation in gathering and providing evidence, in tracking, seizing, and forfeiting the proceeds of serious crime, and in the prosecution of fugitive criminals; and (b) to promote speed and efficiency in such international cooperation;

IAP Objects

06

To promote measures for the elimination of corruption in public administration;

07

To promote the professional interests of prosecutors and to enhance recognition of their crucial role in achieving criminal justice;

08

To promote good relations between individual prosecutors and prosecution agencies; to facilitate the exchange and dissemination among them of information, expertise and experience; and, to that end, to encourage the use of information technology;

09

To promote examination of comparative criminal law and procedure and to assist prosecutors engaged in justice reform projects;

10

To co-operate with international juridical organisations in furtherance of the foregoing objects.

About the IAP



Education



Inspiration



Networking

The International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) is the only worldwide organisation of prosecutors.

Since its inception in 1995, its network has grown to welcome 133 Prosecuting Agencies, 45 Associations of Prosecutors and nine international organisations from over 170 different countries and territories.

IAP activities include:

- The IAP Annual Conference, where our members can network and share experiences and expertise on specific prosecutorial topics
- IAP Regional Conferences
- Webinars
- Specialist Networks
- Training events and guidance
- Quarterly newsletters
- The Prosecutor's Exchange Programme
- The IAP Granting Programme
- The SCPID

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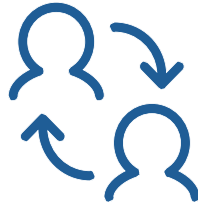
different countries

250,000+
prosecutors

Membership Benefits



Access to specialist training and webinars



Build global networks to share best practice and exchange knowledge and expertise



Access to our online contact database to facilitate the exchange of information and progress casework



Access to the IAP Specialist Networks



IAP



Ability to participate in the IAP annual and regional conferences



Quarterly newsletters and updates on IAP activities and announcements



Access current and archived IAP publications, including the IAP Standards, the IAP Human Rights Manual, training material and Specialist Network materials



Opportunity to apply to participate in the Prosecutors Exchange Programme and for the Granting Programme

The IAP Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is the IAP's managing and administrative body with responsibility for providing leadership and direction to the Association and governing the affairs of the Association on behalf of its members. The powers and duties of the Executive Committee members are set out in Article 8.2 of the IAP Constitution.

The members of the IAP Executive Committee (2023 – 2024) are as follows:

President

Juan Bautista Mahiques, Attorney General of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Vice-Presidents

1. Mohammed Hassan AbdulRahim, Advocate General, Dubai Public Prosecution, UAE
2. Kamran Aliyev, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan
3. Lloyd Babb, Director of Public Prosecutions, Northern Territory, Australia
4. Josip Cule, Deputy Attorney General and National Member for Croatia at Eurojust, State's Attorney Office of the Republic of Croatia, Croatia
5. Manuel Pinheiro Freitas, Prosecutor General, Public Prosecution Service of the State of Ceará, Brazil
6. Giorgi Gogadze, Deputy Chief Prosecutor, Office of the Chief Prosecutor, Georgia
7. Kathleen Roussel, Director of Public Prosecutions and Deputy Attorney General, Canada
8. Tong Jianming, First Deputy Prosecutor General, Supreme People's Procuratorate, People's Republic of China

Immediate Past President

Cheol-Kyu Hwang, Chair Professor of Kyonggi University and Attorney-at-Law

Ordinary Members

1. Jane Abodo, Director of Public Prosecutions, Uganda
2. Rashid Ahmine, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius
3. Djama Souleiman Ali, Prosecutor General, Djibouti
4. Abdulaziz Farhad Alqorony, Head of the International Division, Public Prosecution Service of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia
5. Immaculate Angutoko Draru, Vice-President, Uganda Association of Prosecutors, Uganda
6. Shamila Batohi, National Director of Public Prosecutions, South Africa
7. Stefan Blättler, Attorney General, Switzerland
8. Sally Dowling SC, Director of Public Prosecutions, New South Wales, Australia
9. Max Hill KC, Director of Public Prosecutions, England and Wales
10. Michael Leitner, Deputy Prosecutor General, Prosecutor General's Office, Austria
11. Nayef Mahmood, Advocate General, Bahrain
12. Jeanette Manning, Director of NAGTRI, National Association of Attorneys General, USA
13. Kate Matthews, Vice President, Canadian Association of Crown Counsels, Canada
14. Manoel Victor Sereni Murietta e Tavares, President, The National Association of Members of the Public Prosecution Service of Brazil (CONAMP), Brazil
15. Catherine Pierse, Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland
16. Phairach Pornsomboonsiri, Acting Deputy Attorney General (co-opted), Office of the Attorney General, Thailand
17. Ip Son Sang, Prosecutor General, Macao SAR of People's Republic of China
18. Woo Jung Shim, Vice Minister of Justice, Republic of Korea
19. Edina Soltész, Public Prosecutor, Central Chief Prosecution Office of Investigation, Hungary
20. Bruce Swartz, Deputy Assistant Attorney General/Counsellor for International Affairs, US Department of Justice, USA
21. Angel Valencia, Prosecutor General, Chile



Members of the Executive Committee, London 2023

The following person retired from the Executive Committee in 2023:

- Wongsakul Kittipomwong, former Attorney General of Thailand

The following people resigned from the Executive Committee in 2023:

- Frédéric Fèvre, former President of AIPPF
- Noordin Haji, former Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya

The following former Executive Committee members elected to join the Senate in 2023:

- Paris Adamis, former member of Eurojust for Greece
- Han Moraal, former Secretary-General of the IAP

Message from the President



Juan Bautista Mahiques, IAP President

Dear colleagues,

As we reflect on 2023, I am filled with immense pride and gratitude for the remarkable progress that the IAP has achieved. This year has been a testament to our collective dedication and shared goals.

This Annual Report makes an account of the IAP's activities and achievements throughout 2023. As you will read along these pages, a major highlight of the year was our Annual Conference and General Meeting in London, an event with unprecedented attendance. Such a successful conference not only allowed us to share insights and possible solutions to the challenges of investigating and prosecuting modern crime, but also provided a perfect backdrop for strengthening our bonds.

Training activities and webinars are resources that the IAP offers so that our members can keep up to date with the latest developments and share best practices and knowledge. 2023 was a fruitful year on that front, having delivered webinars on various subjects ranging from environmental to financial crimes, just to name a few.

A significant milestone was this year's expansion of our Association's global footprint. As you know, one of the goals of my presidency is to contribute to widen the IAP reach. I believe the influx of members brings new perspectives and expertise, enriching our association immensely. In this regard, it's worth underlining the major role the Regional Conferences in Fortaleza, Brazil and Istanbul, Türkiye, played in the recruitment process.

Another high point of the year, very close to my heart, was the formalization of our partnership with the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP). The MoU with AIAMP establishes a solid foundation for a very promising relationship of mutual collaboration and takes us one step forward towards strengthening the IAPs presence in Latin and Ibero-American countries.

Continuing on the path of strengthening the IAP's global outreach, in 2023 the Executive Committee approved a proposal to start a process to open IAP Regional Offices that will further contribute to overcome existing challenges to member recruitment and engagement caused by language barriers and geographical distance.

Looking ahead to 2024, we are excited about finally launching our new website and the PICP. These initiatives are set to revolutionize the way we collaborate and share knowledge, further enhancing our impact in the legal world.

Moreover, this year will see us celebrating our Annual Conference and General Meeting in Baku, Azerbaijan. A big shout out to Kamran Aliyev, Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for organizing what promises to be an outstanding event. We will also be organizing quite a few Regional Conferences, turning 2024 into one of our busiest years yet. I want to acknowledge the tremendous effort and dedication that will be required from both our hosts and the Secretariat to make every one of these events a success.

I am confident that the IAP is on a path to unprecedented growth and influence. Your support, commitment and enthusiasm are the driving forces behind these achievements. Let us continue to work together, embracing the challenges and opportunities that lie ahead, as we strive to make a lasting impact in the fight against crime.

Finally, allow me to take this opportunity to extend a heartfelt thanks to our outgoing Secretary-General, Han Moraal, for his invaluable service, and to welcome Roel Dona to the IAP family.

Thank you for a wonderful 2023!

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a large, stylized 'J' followed by a vertical line and a short horizontal stroke at the end.

Juan Bautista Mahiques
IAP President

2023 in Review



IAP Awards 2023

The IAP's Special Achievement Award is presented to a prosecutor or a team of prosecutors for carrying out prosecution duties in the face of hardship or diversity or to recognise other outstanding achievements, including special dedication to the rule of law. In 2023, there were three recipients of the IAP Special Achievement Award.

The prosecution team in the George Floyd case, United States of America, received a Special Achievement Award in recognition of the complexity of the case and its international and historical significance.

On 25 May 2020, George Floyd was murdered in Minneapolis by four on-duty police officers. The video of George Floyd slowly losing his life over 9 minutes and 29 seconds as bystanders begged the officers to stop rocketed around the world. Minnesota Attorney-General Keith Ellison assembled a team to prosecute the case. The team needed to cope with the tremendous pressure arising from the notoriety of the case, the race issues involved, and the impact that the verdict might have on public safety across the United States.

To secure convictions, prosecutors had to prove not only that the assault that the officers committed against George Floyd was a substantial causal factor in his death, but also that it was unreasonable from the perspective of a reasonable police officer to use such force.

The team, consisting of senior prosecutors, a paralegal, and a victim services manager, prepared for months in advance of the trial. Derek Chauvin was found guilty by a jury on charges of second-degree murder and second-degree manslaughter in April 2021. In May 2022, Thomas Lane pleaded guilty to the charge of second-degree manslaughter.



The prosecution team in the George Floyd case receive their award from the IAP President

In October 2022, J. Alexander Kueng also pleaded guilty to the charge of second-degree manslaughter. The remaining defendant, Tou Thao, agreed to a stipulated bench trial on the charge of second-degree manslaughter for which a verdict was rendered in April 2023.

Ms Lilian Obuo-Okumu, Chief of Staff for the Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya, received a Special Achievement Award in recognition of all her efforts leading to better outcomes for the Kenyan prosecution service.

As a prosecutor for twenty-three years and Chief of Staff for the DPP, Lilian Obuo-Okumu has taken on greater leadership and management challenges within the Office of the DPP over time. She is the contact person in the Office of the DPP for international engagement and cooperation. Under her leadership the prosecution service has increased both its regional and



Lilian Obuo-Okumu receives her award from the IAP President

international footprint, including though the development of agreements with various countries to facilitate mutual legal assistance and exchange best practices. She spearheaded a wholesale review of practices and policies within the Office of the DPP, leading to important institutional reform, including new policies in respect of the decision to charge, plea bargaining and diversion. She updated the service's products for the training of prosecutors and led the development of a policy related to human rights abuses and violence by police. Her efforts have allowed the service to install a new, modern, automated case management system, which has now become integrated with the country's e-filing system for criminal matters. Lilian Obuo-Okumu has also taken on a public advocacy campaign to better inform the public about the role of the prosecution service and their rights.

Mr John Pallas, Assistant Attorney General for the Michigan Department of the Attorney-General, United States of America, received a Special Achievement Award in recognition of his outstanding career achievements and his dedication to the ideals of fairness.

An expert in appellate law, John Pallas has always been a champion for victims of crime and has dedicated himself to fairness and equity in the criminal justice system. In championing the public interest, John Pallas has vigorously advocated for victims before both the courts and the parole board. In one case, he obtained an emergency stay of a release order for a dangerous offender who had been convicted twenty-eight years previously for kidnapping, assault, and rape. John Pallas successfully delayed the offender's release and reversed the parole board's decision on behalf of the victim.

Recently, John Pallas joined the prosecution team for the "Wolverine Watchmen", a right-wing extremist group who were intent on causing civil unrest and who planned to attack police, storm the Capitol Building and kidnap the Governor of Michigan. The prosecution was the first of its kind in the state, utilising the terrorism provisions. John Pallas remains dedicated to providing ongoing support for victims during the appeal



John Pallas receives his award from the IAP President

period, ensuring that they remain well informed. He doesn't hesitate to review cases as they arise where there may be an indication of a wrongful conviction. The goal for John Pallas is ensuring that victims and accused receive fair treatment, rather than winning at all costs.

The IAP congratulates the prosecution team in the George Floyd case, Ms Lilian Obuo-Okumu and Mr John Pallas on their achievements and thanks them for their invaluable contributions to upholding the rule of law.

In addition to the Special Achievement Award, the IAP also awards Certificates of Merit as an expression of the IAP's gratitude to individual or organisational members for the pursuit of the Objects of the Association. During the 28th Annual Conference and General Meeting in London in September 2023, the IAP awarded eleven Certificates of Merit.

Certificates of Merit were awarded to the following recipients for their involvement in hosting IAP events:

- **Office of the Prosecutor General**, Georgia
- **Paris Adamis**, former National Member for Greece at Eurojust
- **Georgios Kotsiras**, Deputy Minister of Justice, Greece
- **Vasilios Pliotas**, Prosecutor General of the Hellenistic Supreme Court, Greece
- **Office of the Prosecutor General of the Supreme Court of Türkiye**
- **Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Ceará** (MPCE), Brazil
- **National Association of Prosecutors of Public Ministries** (CONAMP), Brazil.

Certificates of Merit were awarded to the following recipients as former members of the Executive Committee:

- **Wongsakul Kittypomwong**, former Attorney General, Thailand
- **Paris Adamis**, former National Member for Greece at Eurojust
- **Noordin Haji**, former Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya.

A Certificate of Merit was also awarded to **Isfandiyar Hajiyev**, Deputy Head, Organizational and Information Support Department of the Anti-Corruption Directorate, Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for his considerable efforts to recruit and retain members on behalf of the IAP.

Honorary Membership

Whilst not specifically an award, the same General Meeting elected five individuals as honorary members of the IAP in recognition of their outstanding contributions to the work of the IAP.

Honorary Membership was granted to the following recipients:

- **Satyajit Boolell**, former IAP Vice-President and former Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius
- **Gerhard Jarosch**, former IAP President and former President of the Austrian Prosecution Association
- **Claire Loftus**, former IAP Executive Committee member and former Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland
- **Irakli Shotadze**, Prosecutor General of Georgia
- **Christopher Toth**, former IAP Vice-President and former NAAG Executive Director

IAP Granting Programme 2023

The IAP is committed to ensuring that its activities and programmes are inclusive and accessible to all members of the Association. All members, regardless of seniority, gender, religious or cultural background are eligible to participate in all IAP projects and programmes and are encouraged to do so actively.

The IAP Annual Conference is one of the most effective platforms for prosecutors to better their understanding of international cooperation and meet and build relationships with counterparts from around the globe. During this event, prosecutors can learn from others, share knowledge, and discuss challenges and ideas in an open and friendly environment.

Access to high-level specialist training in some jurisdictions and limited financial resources to allow prosecutors to attend global training programmes and events is a significant impediment to successful cross-border cooperation in the fight against organised crime.

To fill this void, the IAP established the IAP Granting Programme in 1996, which allows the IAP to financially support prosecutors from developing (UN DAC) countries to attend IAP Annual Conferences to further their education and exposure to the international best practices of prosecutors. Prosecutors with significant experience and a promising future career as a prosecutor are given preference, as are those who can demonstrate that participation in the conference will add considerable value to their work as prosecutors and/or the organisation for whom they work.

The annual donation period takes place between two General Meetings. In addition to an earmarked reserve of 10,000 Euros from the annual budget, the IAP Granting Programme is financially supported by generous donations from individual Association members as well as income from the sale of IAP merchandise. In 2023 twenty-two individual members very generously donated money to the Granting Programme, and the IAP Secretariat would like to extend a special and heartfelt thanks to them. No grants were received from organisational members.

The programme has previously received financial support from the governments of Denmark, Ireland and Norway, and the IAP encourages its members to look into whether their national governmental organisations, including the Ministry of Foreign Affairs or Ministry of Justice, may be able to provide additional funding to this programme through their development aid and reform project programmes.

The AP Granting Programme Protocol governs the Granting Programme. On behalf of the Executive Committee, a Granting Programme Committee comprised of the Secretary-General (chair) and two members of the Executive Committee considers and selects suitable candidates for the programme.

The numbers for 2023 are summarised below:

- Total number of grantees: 10
- Total amount spent: EUR 22,653.07

Recipients of a grant in 2023 were:

- **Immaculate Angutoko Draru**, Chief State Attorney and Vice President of the Uganda Association of Prosecutors, Uganda
- **Prem Nath Prabhakaran**, Deputy Director of Prosecutions, India
- **Oleksandr Pikul**, Prosecutor and Head of the Department of Procedural Management in Criminal Proceedings of the Investigators of the Territorial Administration, State Bureau of Investigation, Prosecutors Office, Ukraine
- **Oluwakemi Oloyede-Naiyeju**, Prosecutor and Assistant Manager/Legal, Federal Inland Revenue Service, Nigeria
- **Malike Kellier**, Assistant Director of Public Prosecutions, Jamaica
- **Nchimunya Munkombwe**, Senior State Advocate and Second Provincial Head in Eastern Province, National Prosecution Authority, Zambia
- **Fathimath Meesha**, Public Prosecutor, Prosecutor General's Office, Maldives
- **Dumitru Obadă**, Seconded senior prosecutor from the General Prosecutors' Office before the ECHR, Moldova
- **Surya Raj Dahal**, Joint Government Attorney, Nepal
- **Musa Bala Zakari**, Prosecutor, Nigeria

You may read the full reports from the grantees on the IAP website.

For more information about the Granting Programme, please contact the Secretary-General on sg@iap-association.org.

IAP Membership

Membership recruitment visits

With an important objective to assist prosecutors in fighting cross-border criminality, it is crucial that the IAP's network is constantly strengthened and expanded. While digital outreach methods like targeted recruitment campaigns and social media engagement positively affect network expansion, the IAP also appreciates the importance of personal contact in building relationships.

Whilst the IAP officials use all opportunities to promote the benefits of membership when attending conferences and meetings around the world, they also arrange some targeted recruitment visits to regions of the world where the network can be further strengthened.

Bilateral meeting between the IAP President and Diana Salazar Méndez, Attorney General of Ecuador

10 March 2023

On 10 March, IAP President Juan Bautista Mahiques received the Attorney General of Ecuador, Diana Salazar Méndez, at the headquarters of the Prosecution Service of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. They shared a very fruitful meeting in which they discussed pressing issues that concern prosecutors in the Latin-American region. These issues included breaches to the personal safety of prosecutors and other alarming intrusions on the independence of the prosecutorial function.

President Mahiques stated that these matters are being addressed within the IAP. Moreover, he invited the Attorney General to incorporate the Attorney General's Office of Ecuador into the Association



IAP President Juan Bautista Mahiques and Attorney General of Ecuador, Diana Salazar Méndez

and to participate Office of Ecuador into the Association and to participate in the Latin American Regional Conference to be held in Fortaleza, Brazil, in June 2023. The proposal was very well received by Attorney General Salazar Méndez, who committed herself to evaluate it as soon as possible.

31st General Meeting of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP)

14 November 2023

During the 31st General Meeting of AIAMP, the IAP President took the opportunity to meet with representatives from prosecution services in Paraguay, Peru, Bolivia and Andorra to discuss the benefits of organisational membership of the IAP.

Membership expansion

The following organisations joining the IAP network during 2023:

- Asociación de Fiscales y Functionaries del Ministerio Publico de la Asociación de la Provincia de Santa Fe, Argentina
- Argentinian Association of Prosecutors (AAF), Argentina
- Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions, Cayman Islands
- Parquet Général pres la Cour de Cassation et le Conseil d'Etat, Cote D'Ivoire
- Prosecutor General's Office of the Court of Cassation, Italy
- Prosecutors' League of the Philippines, Philippines
- The Anti-Corruption Commission, Seychelles
- The Land Transport Authority, Prosecutions Division, Singapore

The following organisations left the IAP in 2023:

- The Public Prosecution Service of Nova Scotia, Canada
- The Mongolian Association of Prosecutors
- The Attorney-General's Office of Afghanistan

New organisational members commit to the IAP Standards

Previously, organisational members committed to the IAP Standards by ticking a box on the digital application form. However, that has now been deemed to be insufficient given the importance of upholding the Standards. As a result, in 2022 the Executive Committee decided to reinstate the practice of inviting new organisational members to sign a declaration of commitment to the IAP Standards during the General Meeting.

At the 28th Annual Conference and General Meeting in London in September 2023, new organisational members were invited onto the stage to sign the declaration, symbolising their commitment to uphold and enforce the IAP Standards.

The following members attended the signing ceremony:

- Dilip Vasu Theavan, Deputy Director, Legal Division, The Land Transportation Authority, Singapore
- Simon Davis, DPP, Cayman Islands
- Renato Finocchi Gherzi, Advocate General, Prosecutor General's Office at the Court of Cassation, Italy
- May de Silva, Commissioner, Anti-Corruption Commission, Seychelles
- Jargalsaikhan Banzragch, Prosecutor General, Mongolia (joined 2022)
- Nestor Maragliano, First Instance Prosecutor for Criminal Matters, Misdemeanours and Petty Offences, Asociación de Fiscales y Functionaries del Ministerio Publico de la Asociación de la Provincia de Santa Fe, Argentina
- Djama Souleiman, Prosecutor General, Djibouti (joined 2022)



Representatives of new organisational members of the IAP at the signing ceremony

Events 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Meeting between the
Prosecutor General of the
Republic of Azerbaijan and
the IAP Secretariat
20 January 2023

Washington, D.C., USA
IAP participates in the StAR
Expert Working Group
Meeting
13-14 February 2023

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Meeting between the IAP
President and the Attorney
General of Ecuador
10 March 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
IAP-UNESCO MOOC on
Investigating and
Prosecuting Crimes Against
Journalists
27 February - 24 March 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Meeting between the
Institute of Justice of the
Republic of Korea and the
IAP Secretariat
19 April 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Mid-year meeting of the
Global Forum of Associations
22 April 2023

Buenos Aires, Argentina
Bilateral meeting between
the IAP President and the
Prosecutor General of
Georgia
24 April 2023

Istanbul, Türkiye
1st IAP Pan European
Regional Conference
02-05 May 2023

Buenos Aires, Argentina
The IAP President hosts an
international cybercrime
conference
11-12 May 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Meeting between the
Philippine Department of
Justice and the IAP
Secretariat
23 May 2023

Montreal, Canada
The IAP participates in the
22nd HoPAC
06-08 June 2023

Vienna, Austria
The IAP participates in the
European Law Institute
Forum
13 June 2023

New York, USA
The IAP delivers a
presentation during UN
Counter-Terrorism week
22 June 2023

Fortaleza, Brazil
7th IAP Latin American
Regional Conference
28-30 June 2023

Abu Dhabi, UAE
The IAP participates in the
Egmont Group of FIU's
Plenary Meeting
03-07 July 2023

Vienna, Austria
The IAP participates in the
4th Plenary Meeting of the
Globe Network
11-13 July 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Webinar - The Importance of
the Nuremberg Principles
18 July 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Webinar - An Introduction to
Wildlife Crime
14 September 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
The IAP obtains observer
status with the Egmont
Group of FIU's
18 September 2023

Lyon, France
The IAP participates in the
FATF-Interpol Roundtable
Engagement II
19-20 September 2023

London, England
28th IAP Annual Conference
and General Meeting
24-27 September 2023

Nadi, Fiji
The IAP participates in the
8th Pacific Prosecutors'
Association Conference
05-06 October 2023

Strasbourg, France
The IAP participates in the
18th Plenary Meeting of the
CCPE
19-20 October 2023

Ankara, Türkiye
The IAP participates in the
2nd Meeting of the Council of
Prosecutors General of the
Organisation of Turkic States
23 October 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Webinar - Waste Crime
25 October 2023

Rio de Janeiro, Brazil
The IAP participates in the
International Conference on
Cooperation in relation to
Cybercrime
06 November 2023

Salvador, Brazil
The IAP participates in the
XXV Congresso Nacional Do
Ministério Público
08-10 November 2023

Turin, Italy
Finalisation of the
Prosecutor's Guide to
Radiological and Nuclear
Crimes
09 November 2023

Buenos Aires, Argentina
MoU between the IAP and
the Ibero-American
Association of Public
Ministries (AIAMP) signed
14 November 2023

Marrakesh, Morocco
The IAP participates in the
Arab Prosecutors' General
Annual Meeting
30 November 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Webinar - An Introduction to
Financial Intelligence Units
and the Egmont Group
04 December 2023

The Hague, Netherlands
Webinar - Cooperation
between FIU's and Public
Prosecutors
05 December 2023

Mexico City, Mexico
Meeting between the IAP
President and the Attorney-
General of Mexico
12 December 2023

News Updates

New IAP General Counsel

01 January 2023

The International Association of Prosecutors were pleased to announce the appointment of Shenaz Muzaffer as General Counsel of the IAP, effective from 01 January 2023. She succeeded Gary Balch, who served as General Counsel from 2019 to 2022.



IAP General Counsel, Shenaz Muzaffer

Shenaz Muzaffer is a Deputy Chief Crown Prosecutor with the Crown Prosecution Service of England and Wales. Prior to joining the IAP, she was head of the CPS International Division and one of the deputy heads of the CPS Serious Economic Organised Crime and International Division. She graduated from the University of Nottingham with an LLB Law (Hons) (1st Class) and is a member of the Bar of England and Wales.

Shenaz has extensive experience in prosecuting a wide range of crimes, including serious sexual and violent offences, drug offences, homicide, piracy and complex fraud. She has been deployed overseas on behalf of the CPS as a liaison prosecutor, undertaking postings in Seychelles, the UAE and the USA, where she specialised in mutual legal assistance, extradition and asset recovery matters. She took up her position as head of the CPS International Division in August 2019, overseeing a network of CPS liaison prosecutors deployed overseas in up to twenty countries and leading for the CPS in relation to international engagement.

Building on the work done by the Secretariat previously, Shenaz's focus throughout 2023 and going forward is to continue the drive to enhance the operational effectiveness of the IAP for the benefit of its members.

The IAP Secretariat marked the passing of its former General Counsel

12 July 2023

The Secretariat of the International Association of Prosecutors was deeply saddened to inform all IAP members that our former General Counsel, Gary Balch, passed away on 12 July 2023.

Gary was a very talented, professional and well-respected lawyer, with a keen interest in international cooperation and collaboration that spanned his career. As a member of the Crown Prosecution Service of England and Wales, he developed an expertise in domestic and international asset recovery, working within the CPS Proceeds of Crime unit and also as the UK liaison prosecutor to the United States. Gary joined the IAP in April 2019 and served as our General Counsel until September 2022.



Former IAP General Counsel, Gary Balch

During that time, Gary played a significant role in the initial development of PICP (Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform) and led the IAP's development of its professional programme through the Global Training Academy, the Specialist Networks and the regional and annual conferences. Those who worked with Gary will recall his great sense of humour, infectious laugh, positive outlook, kindness and dedication to his work. Gary was a highly valued and well-liked colleague and friend, and he will be greatly missed by the IAP Secretariat and our wider membership.

Collaboration and Partnerships

GlobE Network observer status granted to the IAP

July 2023

The IAP was delighted to announce that we have been granted observer status with GlobE – the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities. Our application for observer status with GlobE was validated during their 4th Plenary Meeting in Vienna in July 2023.

The GlobE Network aims to provide a platform for facilitating transnational cooperation in combatting corruption and to strengthen communication exchange and peer learning between independent anti-corruption law enforcement authorities. Whilst the name of the network references law enforcement agencies, that is interpreted widely to include prosecutorial agencies, and indeed a number of IAP organisational members are also members of GlobE. As their name suggests, their focus is on anti-corruption and economic crime. They are a new network – approximately three years old – established under the auspices of the UNODC.

The other observers of GlobE are the Basel Institute on Governance, Europol, the Forum of FIUs of the GIABA Member States, the Network of Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa, the StAR Initiative, the International Anti-Corruption Academy, the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries, the Eastern African Association of Anti-Corruption Agencies and the ARIN-EA.

The Secretariat will explore collaboration opportunities with GlobE and its members going forward. IAP members are also encouraged to visit the GlobE website to view their wide range of online resources that can be accessed for free.

The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units granted observer status to the IAP

September 2023

The IAP was delighted to announce that we have been granted observer status with the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs). Our application for observer status was recommended by the Egmont Committee and endorsed by the Heads of FIUs in mid-2023.

The Egmont Group is a united body of 170 Financial Intelligence Units. FIUs are uniquely positioned to support national and international efforts to counter terrorist financing. FIUs are also trusted gateways for sharing financial information domestically and internationally per global anti-money laundering and counter-financing of terrorism (AML/CFT) standards. The Egmont Group provides FIUs a platform to securely exchange expertise and financial intelligence to combat money laundering, terrorist financing (ML/TF), and associated predicate offences.

The Egmont Group recognises that international cooperation is imperative in the fight against money laundering, terrorist financing, and associated predicate crimes, and so they are seeking to expand cooperation and collaboration with partner organisations, like the IAP. By obtaining observer status, the IAP joins many other international organisations, including CARIN, Europol, FATF, Interpol, UNODC and the World Bank as observers.

The Secretariat immediately began to explore collaboration opportunities with the Egmont Group and the ECOFEL (Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership, which is the training and capacity-building arm of the Egmont Group). The first collaborative outcome took place in December 2023 with two joint webinars between the IAP and the Egmont Group.

Finalisation of the Prosecutor's Guide to Radiological and Nuclear Crimes

November 2023

The threat of acquiring, producing and disseminating radiological and nuclear hazardous material for deliberate use has substantially increased over the past ten years. Following the development and publication of 'A Prosecutor's Guide to Chemical and Biological Crimes' in May 2022, UNICRI (the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute) have led on an initiative to develop 'A Prosecutor's Guide to Radiological and Nuclear Crimes'. The initiative has been developed in conjunction with the International Atomic Energy Agency, UNODC, the Nuclear Forensics Centre of the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission, and the IAP. This guide will significantly assist investigators and prosecutors as they work to prosecute radiological and nuclear crimes.

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, participated in the initiative as one of the thirty experts involved in the drafting, writing sub-chapters on human rights (including reference to the IAP Standards) and international cooperation. The final review meeting took place in November 2023, and the Guide is due to be published in early 2024. Copies will be freely available to all IAP members. The IAP will continue to engage with UNICRI and the other stakeholders on the next steps aimed at operationalising and conducting practical capacity building and training components to further enhance the skills and capabilities of the users of the Guide.

The IAP and the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP) signed an MoU formalising mutual cooperation between both associations

14 November 2023

On 14 November 2023 the IAP, represented by its President, Juan Bautista Mahiques, and the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP), represented by its President, Francisco Barbosa Delgado, Attorney General of Colombia, signed an MoU formalizing cooperation between both Associations.

The objective of the MoU is to foster cooperation between AIAMP and IAP to promote the exchange of information, good practices, and successful experiences. Furthermore, the MoU seeks to promote the support of educational and training programs within both organisations - in line with the IAP Global Training Academy - as well as to contribute to institutional strengthening through projects agreed upon in accordance with the needs and capacities of each Association.

The Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP) is a non-profit organisation founded in 1954 that brings together the Public Prosecution Services of Latin American countries, Spain, Portugal and Andorra. They aim to strengthen the links of cooperation, solidarity, and reciprocal professional enrichment among them and establish common strategies on issues such as organised crime and the treatment of victims and witnesses. To date, twenty-two Public Prosecution Services are members of AIAMP.

Similar to the IAP, AIAMP has eight specialist networks, including the Network of Anti-Drug Prosecutors (RFAI - Red de Fiscales Antidrogas de Iberoamérica), which has strongly contributed to the prosecution of several high-profile cases, mainly regarding transatlantic maritime drug trafficking.

The RFAI has put together the document "Good Practices Guide in Drug Matters", issued in 2014 and updated in 2022.



IAP President and AIAMP President

This document advocates good practice mechanisms to tackle some of the main challenges in the criminal prosecution of drug-trafficking organisations, such as the use of special investigative techniques, agile international cooperation mechanisms, the design of criminal prosecution strategies, and taking a gender-based approach to cases. In November 2022, the IAP held a webinar on “Good Practices in the Investigation of Illicit Trafficking of Narcotic Drugs”, where RFAI experts shared their experiences in cooperating on a daily basis in the investigation and prosecution of these crimes.

This MOU is the result of many years of working towards setting the foundations of very promising mutual collaboration and strengthening the IAP's presence in Latin and Ibero-American countries.

Training



Training

The IAP's collaboration with international organisations worldwide yields significant benefits, including valuable training opportunities for prosecutors globally.

IAP-UNESCO Massive Open Online Course on “Investigating and Prosecuting Crimes Against Journalists, Promoting Freedom of Expression”

27 February to 24 March 2023

In partnership with UNESCO, the IAP delivered a Massive Open Online Course (MOOC) on “Investigating and Prosecuting Crimes against Journalists, Promoting Freedom of Expression”. The course took place from 27 February to 24 March 2023.

The MOOC was developed to promote consistent international and regional standards on freedom of expression and the effective prosecution of crimes against media workers.

Aimed at stimulating an international dialogue amongst prosecutors and legal professionals, this five-module, two-week training programme brought together more than 1600 prosecutors and legal professionals from more than ninety jurisdictions.



It was a powerful demonstration of the IAP's reach and its ability to draw together prosecutors, legal practitioners, journalists, professors, and students to help end the impunity of crimes against media professionals.

The MOOC was notably built on the IAP-UNESCO co-produced Guidelines for Prosecutors on Cases of Crimes Against Journalists (2020)(available into more than twenty languages) which provides insight on the conduct or supervision of investigations, identifies stages and determination for proceedings in cases of crimes against journalists, and proposes a series of elements to be considered to proceed with the investigation and prosecution of these cases.

The course was led by former prosecutors and international experts on freedom of expression, Sabin Ouellet, former Chief-Prosecutor, Canada, and Simon Clements, former Chief Crown Prosecutor, England and Wales, along with twelve high-level guest speakers.

The IAP thanks UNESCO for its valuable partnership and effective cooperation.

The Importance of the Nuremberg Principles Webinar

18 July 2023



The International Nuremberg Principles Academy is dedicated to advancing international criminal law and human rights. It supports the fight against impunity for universally recognised international core crimes - genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and crime of aggression. In July 2023, the IAP held a joint webinar with the International Nuremberg Principles Academy.

The webinar aimed to raise prosecutors' awareness of the mission and activities of the Nuremberg Academy, as well as of the resources that are available to prosecutors. The session was designed to deepen an understanding of the importance of the Nuremberg Principles for prosecutors and the professional standards of the IAP that are aligned with these Principles.

Speakers at the webinar were Dr. Viviane Dittrick, Deputy Director of the Academy, Alexander Fernandes-Köhler, Project Officer at the Academy, and Shenaz Muzaffer, General Counsel, IAP

An Introduction to Wildlife Crime Webinar

14 September 2023

Organised in collaboration with the Wildlife Justice Commission (WJC), an NGO that works to curb wildlife crime globally, the webinar introduced the scope and impact of this form of transnational organised crime, its drivers, challenges and impact, frequent convergence with other forms of serious organised crime and applicable legal frameworks.

The session speakers provided examples of best practices and

successful results in investigating and prosecuting wildlife crime, and demonstrated the need for and importance of recognising and treating wildlife crime as a serious transnational organised crime.

Speakers at the webinar were Lisa Hartevelt, Director of External Relations, WJC, Sylvia Shweder, Southeast Asia Regional Resident Legal Advisor for Counter Wildlife Trafficking, U.S. Embassy in Vientiane, Laos, Suriyon Prabhasavat, Executive Director of the Investigation Division, Office of the Attorney General of Thailand, and Shenaz Muzaffer, General Counsel, IAP.



Webinar on Waste Crime

25 October 2023

The IAP Global Training Academy (GTA) and the United Nations Institute for Training and Research (UNITAR) Sustainable Cycles (SCYCLE) Programme developed a joint webinar in October 2023.

The webinar was designed to increase knowledge and awareness amongst prosecutors of waste crime, its links with other forms of organised criminal activity, the challenges associated with prosecuting such crimes, and also to demonstrate the need to enhance international collaboration to tackle this (non-traditional) form of transnational organised crime.



Speakers at the webinar were Vittoria Luda di Cortemiglia, UNITAR, SCYCLE Programme, Elena D'Angelo, UNITAR, SCYCLE Programme, and Irina Beridze, Executive Programme Manager, IAP.

IAP - Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units Webinars (2)

04 December 2023 – 05 December 2023

Two joint webinars were organised by the IAP Global Training Academy and the Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units (FIUs) to learn more about the work of the Egmont Group and ECOFEL (the Egmont Centre of FIU Excellence and Leadership). The webinars explored the work of FIUs in combatting financial crime and increased knowledge and awareness of the relationship between FIUs and prosecutors and how FIUs can assist in investigations and prosecutions.



The first webinar was on 'An Introduction to Financial Intelligence Units and the Egmont Group'. The speakers were Silvana Rivarola, ECOFEL Program Manager, and Rafael Abad, ECOFEL Senior Officer.



The second webinar was on 'Cooperation between Financial Intelligence Units and Public Prosecutors'. The speakers were Diego Bartolozzi, Head of Division, Bank of Italy, Italian FIU, Max Braun, Head of Luxembourg's FIU, and Han Moraal, Secretary General, IAP.

Over 170 prosecutors from more than 40 countries and regions attended both of the webinars.

IAP meetings and conferences



IAP Meetings and Conferences

The IAP hosts conferences in all regions of the world. The conferences provide a forum for prosecutors to join in discussions with colleagues from other countries/jurisdictions and legal systems to gain inspiration and new insight into tackling challenges which they face on a daily basis.

1st IAP Pan European Regional Conference, Istanbul, Türkiye

02 - 05 May 2023

The 1st Pan European Regional Conference took place in Istanbul from 02-05 May 2023. Hosted by the General Prosecution Office of the Supreme Court of Appeal of Türkiye, the conference brought together over one hundred delegates from the region and beyond to discuss the conference theme of 'Effective Investigation in the Age of Digitalisation'. The plenary sessions covered the appearance and effects of digitalisation in criminal procedure, fighting against economic crimes in the age of digitalisation, and artificial intelligence in criminal procedure. Speakers from Türkiye, Italy, Azerbaijan, Belgium, Switzerland, UK, USA, Germany, Austria, Netherlands and eu-LISA all contributed constructive and informative presentations, which, coupled with an outstanding networking/cultural programme, meant that this conference was an extremely successful event.

After the conference, a training session was delivered to approximately one hundred local prosecutors by the IAP General Counsel and presenters from the UK and the ECHR on 'Ensuring fairness in the criminal justice process', with a focus on the IAP Standards and their applicability to the work of prosecutors worldwide.

The IAP would like to thank the General Prosecution Office of the Supreme Court of Appeal and the Local Organising Committee for delivering such a valuable and enjoyable conference.



Bekir Sahin, General Prosecutor of the Supreme Court of Appeal of the Republic of Türkiye.

7th IAP Latin American Regional Conference, Fortaleza, Brazil

28 - 30 June 2023

Over 400 prosecutors from the Latin American region and multiple other countries joined the 7th Latin American Regional Conference in Fortaleza, Brazil, in June 2023. The conference was co-hosted by the Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Ceará (MPCE), the National Association of Members of the Public Prosecution Service of Brazil (CONAMP) and the IAP.

The conference theme - 'Perspectives and Challenges to Prosecution Services' - generated constructive and informative discussions on various topics including cybercrime, environmental crime, money laundering, corruption, and the safety and independence of prosecutors in the region.

The IAP was delighted that 95 individual prosecutors and three organisations joined the IAP as new members during the 7th Latin American Regional Conference.

The IAP would like to thank the Local Organising Committees from the Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Ceará (MPCE) and the National Association of Members of the Public Prosecution Service of Brazil (CONAMP) for delivering a constructive and enjoyable conference.



IAP Secretary-General, Manuel Pinheiro Freitas (Prosecutor General of the State of Ceará), IAP General Counsel

28th IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting, London, United Kingdom

24 - 27 September 2023

The 28th IAP Annual Conference, hosted by Max Hill KC, Director of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales, and the Crown Prosecution Service of England and Wales, brought together prosecutors from every region of the world. The four-day event was attended by 433 participants from 93 different countries. With the theme of 'The Changing Nature of Crime in the 21st Century', the conference enabled participants to explore how we can best prevent criminals from exploiting the differences in legal systems, practices and procedures to evade justice and how we can collectively work to prevent and combat organised crime, terrorism and other serious criminal activity.

Plenary sessions took place on re-evaluating the organisation and operations of prosecution agencies, digital/electronic evidence and technological advances and non-traditional methods of tackling crime and securing the recovery of assets, with workshops on specialist teams/units, end-to-end investigations and prosecutions, managing digital/electronic evidence, encryption and 'going dark', recovering the proceeds of crime and maintaining public confidence in the criminal justice system. In addition, there were Specialist Network Sessions and Special Interest Group Sessions on anti-corruption, trafficking in persons, cybercrime, heads of prosecution agencies, military prosecutions, the prosecution of minor offences, the global forum of associations and security of prosecutors, and a session to share best practice on obtaining the best evidence from victims and witnesses. The Keynote Opening Speech was delivered by Sally Dowling SC, DPP of New South Wales, Australia, and the Keynote Closing Speech was delivered by James Babbage, Director General Threats, National Crime Agency. Fireside chats took place with Anton du Plessis, Deputy NDPP, South Africa and Simon Davis, DPP, Cayman Islands.

With the social programme taking place at Guildhall, St. Martin-in-the-Fields and Banking Hall, the conference also provided an excellent opportunity for participants to network, to renew old contacts and to make new ones.

The IAP would like to thank the Crown Prosecution Service of England and Wales, and in particular the Local Organising Committee, for hosting a very successful, beneficial and enjoyable Annual Conference.



Delegates of the 28th IAP Annual Conference, London

Other Meetings and Conferences

IAP participates in StAR Expert Group Meeting

13 – 14 February 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, participated in an Expert Group Meeting on 'Equivalent-Value Based Confiscations and the Return of Proceeds of Corruption' held by the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR), World Bank, in Washington, D.C., in February 2023. Participants shared their national experiences in using value-based confiscation in corruption cases, considered the challenges to international cooperation when applying value-based confiscation, and also looked at how best to promote the use of equivalent-value based confiscation in corruption cases.

Mid-year meeting of the Global Forum of Associations

22 April 2023

The mid-year meeting of the Global Forum of Associations took place online on 22 April 2023. The meeting was hosted by the Portuguese Prosecutors Association (SMMP) and was chaired by Kate Matthews, Canadian Association of Crown Counsel (CACC). The topic of the meeting was "Barriers to Justice: Shedding light on the mental health and wellbeing of prosecutors". The meeting featured a presentation from the CACC on the results of a recently commissioned mental health study of Canadian prosecutors, and there was then an open discussion about strategies that can be employed to further the health of prosecutors.

The session had almost eighty registrants from associations all across the world, including South Africa, Mongolia, Portugal, Canada, Ukraine, Belarus, India, Mozambique, Angola, The Netherlands, Afghanistan, Guinea-Bissau, and Latvia. Attendees heard a terrific presentation from Dr. Lisa Kitt, the Canadian psychologist who conducted the study.

There followed a vigorous discussion which revealed much common ground with respect to the trauma experienced by prosecutors, and suggestions on what can be done to mitigate the harm. This was the first time a virtual mid-year meeting was held. The high turnout from associations across the globe confirmed that this method of connecting was a great success and will be repeated.

Bilateral meeting between the IAP President and Irakli Shotadze, Prosecutor General of Georgia

24 April 2023

Following the exchanges and meetings held in Tbilisi, Georgia, during the IAP General Meeting and Annual Conference in September 2022, the IAP President Juan Bautista Mahiques received Irakli Shotadze, Prosecutor General of Georgia, at the headquarters of the Prosecution Service of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires. The purpose of the high-level visit was to strengthen inter-institutional cooperation between both Prosecution Services.

During the meeting, President Mahiques and Prosecutor General Shotadze discussed the importance that the upcoming launch of the PICP holds to international cooperation in criminal matters within the IAP and its unique role in bringing prosecutors together across borders.

President Mahiques thanks and congratulated Prosecutor General Shotadze on hosting a successful annual conference in Tbilisi.



IAP President, Juan Bautista Mahiques, and Prosecutor General of Georgia, Irakli Shotadze

The IAP President hosts an international cybercrime conference

11 - 12 May 2023

The international cybercrime conference, which took place in the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires on 11 and 12 May, was co-organised by the Prosecution Service of the City of Buenos Aires, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and the US Department of Justice.

With more than 400 people in attendance, the conference featured international leaders and experts from both the public and private sectors, sharing the latest trends and resources to respond to the constantly changing and growing phenomenon of cybercrime.

IAP President Juan Bautista Mahiques opened the event by highlighting the essential role of international cooperation and forums like the IAP in defending the independence of Public Prosecutor's Offices and building up their capacity to fulfil their mission. President Mahiques was accompanied by fellow Executive Committee member and Prosecutor General of the State of Ceará, Brazil, Manuel Pinheiro Freitas, Francisco Barbosa Delgado, Prosecutor General of Colombia and President of the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries (AIAMP), Ángel Valencia Vásquez, Prosecutor General of Chile and Executive Committee member, and Luciano Oliveira Mattos De Souza, Prosecutor General of the State of Rio de Janeiro, Brazil.

The encounter proved once again that strengthening international and regional cooperation bonds amongst prosecutors is the correct path towards pursuing more effective and efficient responses to prevent and combat crime.



22nd HoPAC, Montreal, Canada

06 - 08 June 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, attended the 22nd Heads of Prosecuting Agencies Conference (HoPAC) in June in Montreal, Canada. Hosted by the Public Prosecution Service of Canada, the conference brought together DPPs, Attorneys-General and senior delegates from Canada, Australia, New Zealand, Scotland, England and Wales, Northern Ireland, Ireland, Singapore, South Africa, Uganda, Jamaica, Trinidad and Tobago, St Vincent and the Grenadines, Guyana and Barbados.

Attendees had the opportunity to discuss important topics including prosecutor wellness, the assessment of the public interest and best practices in dealing with sexual and domestic violence.

The General Counsel also had the opportunity to present to the delegates about the IAP, our objectives, and the professional programme.

IAP participates in European Law Institute (ELI) forum

13 June 2023

On 13 June 2023, Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, participated in a high-level forum organised by the European Law Institute (ELI) on Mutual Admissibility of Evidence and Electronic Evidence in Criminal Proceedings in the EU to discuss the recently published ELI Legislative Proposal on the topic and potential legislative avenues aimed at providing more clarity in this area.

The IAP General Counsel was joined by representatives of EU Ministries of Justice, Prosecutor General Offices and/or Supreme Courts from 18 different EU Member States, representatives of the Council of Bars and Law Societies of Europe (CCBE), the European Criminal Bar Association, the European Network of Forensic Science Institutes - ENFSI, Europol, and other distinguished academics and practitioners in the field.

IAP presentation during the UN Counter-Terrorism week 2023

19 - 23 June 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, presented at a side event during the UN Counter-Terrorism Week 2023 on the theme "Addressing the linkages between the destruction and the illicit trafficking of cultural property and terrorism - scope of the threat and responses to the phenomenon", organised jointly by UN CTED, UNESCO and the Permanent Mission of Italy to the UN. The event was a wonderful opportunity to outline a proposed tripartite initiative between the IAP, UN CTED and UNESCO that aims to enhance criminal justice responses to the terrorist dimension of the destruction and illicit trafficking of cultural property.

IAP participation at the Egmont Group of FIUs plenary meetings

03 - 07 July 2023

The Egmont Group of FIUs hosted its plenary meetings in Abu Dhabi (UAE) from 03 to 07 July 2023.

Mohammed Hassan AbdulRahim, Advocate General from the Dubai Public Prosecution Service and IAP Vice-President, attended the plenary meeting to represent the IAP. He explained the goals of the IAP and the benefits of cooperating with the IAP at the conference.



IAP Vice-President Mohammed Hassan AbdulRahim at the Egmont plenary meeting

IAP participation in the 4th Plenary Meeting of the GlobE Network

11 - 13 July 2023



Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, attended the 4th Plenary Meeting of the GlobE (the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities) in Vienna in July.

During the meeting, the IAP were one of eight organisations to be granted observer status with GlobE, along with the Network of National Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa, the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative, the International Anti-Corruption Academy, the Ibero-American Association of Public Ministries, the Eastern African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Eastern Africa and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development. During the meeting, she explained the work of the IAP and synergies with GlobE.

IAP participation in the FATF-Interpol Roundtable Engagement (FIRE) II

19- 20 September 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, attended the FATF-Interpol Roundtable Engagement (FIRE) II on 'Igniting Global Asset Recovery' in Lyon, France, in September 2023. She moderated a session on 'Formal International Cooperation Mechanisms', focusing on the powers, tools and strategies that support more effective asset tracing and recovery in an international context. Speakers on the panel were from the Ministry of Justice in Israel, the United States Department of Justice, and Eurojust. Over 200 global experts were present at the event.

IAP participation in the 8th Pacific Prosecutors Association Conference

04 - 06 October 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, represented the IAP at the 8th Pacific Prosecutors Association Conference in Fiji in October. The conference was co-organised by UNODC, the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade of the Australian Government and the IAP, with the theme 'Emerging Transnational and Cybercrime Trends in the Pacific Region - Challenges for Prosecutors'.

The conference brought together heads of prosecution agencies and senior prosecutors from the Pacific Island region for fascinating and constructive discussions on the prosecution of cybercrime, international cooperation, transnational organised crime, encryption, prosecutorial codes, continuing professional development and the prosecutor's role in sentencing. The President of Fiji opened the conference. A joint Communique was signed at the end of the conference.



The President of Fiji opening the PPA Conference

IAP participation in the 18th plenary meeting of the Consultative Council of European Prosecutors (CCPE)

19 - 20 October 2023

Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, was present at the 18th Plenary Meeting of the CCPE (Consultative Council of European Prosecutors) at the Council of Europe Agora in Strasbourg in October 2023 for discussions around CCPE Opinion No.18 (2023) on the Councils of Prosecutors as key bodies of prosecutorial self-governance. The general tendency towards increased prosecutorial independence across member States is to be encouraged, and reflects the principles outlined in the IAP Standards of Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors (which are now referenced in the Opinion).

IAP presentation at the 2nd Meeting of the Council of Prosecutors General

23 October 2023

Janne Holst Hubner, IAP Executive Director, and Shenaz Muzaffer, IAP General Counsel, participated in the 2nd Meeting of the Council of Prosecutors General of the Organization of Turkic States in Ankara, Türkiye in October. Shenaz presented on the important topic of 'Legal Regulations and Country Practices on International Judicial Assistance - Challenges and Solutions' to Prosecutors General, Attorneys General and delegates from Türkiye, Azerbaijan, Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, Uzbekistan, and the Turkish Republic of Northern Cyprus.



Delegates at the meeting

IAP participation at the International Conference On Cooperation in relation to Cybercrime

06 November 2023

Juan Bautista Mahiques, IAP President, gave a presentation during the Opening Ceremony of the conference, which took place in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil. Han Moraal, IAP Secretary-General, and Janne Holst Hübner, IAP Executive Director, also attended the conference. The Executive Director had several bilateral meetings during the event with the aim of recruiting new organisational members - including a meeting with the Office of the Attorney General of Rio de Janeiro, with whom a dialogue is still ongoing.

IAP participation at the XXV Congresso Nacional Do Ministério Público

08-10 November 2023

Juan Bautista Mahiques, IAP President, delivered a presentation during the Opening Ceremony and also during the professional programme section of the Congress. The theme of the Congress, which took place in Salvador, Brazil, was 'Public Ministry and Resolution in the Era of 5.0 Technologies'.



Meeting delegates

Manuel Pinheiro Freitas, IAP Vice-President, Han Moraal, IAP Secretary-General, and Janne Holst Hübner, IAP Executive Director, also attended the event. The Executive Director, with the support of the IAP President, recruited forty-five new individual IAP members and started a dialogue with four potential new organisational members during the Congress.

IAP participation in the Arab Prosecutors General Meeting

30 November - 01 December 2023

The President of the International Association of Prosecutors, Juan Bautista Mahiques, attended the annual meeting and international seminar of the Association of Arab Prosecutors General held in Marrakesh, Morocco, from 30 November to 01 December.

The President's speech opened the forum, focusing on the theme: "Efforts of Public Prosecutions in Arab Countries in Combating Corruption Crimes: Money Laundering, Migrant Smuggling, and Human Trafficking – Challenges and Constraints".

His insights set the tone for a productive dialogue, emphasising the need for a unified and coordinated approach among countries and stakeholders in tackling and investigating crimes such as corruption, money laundering, migrant smuggling, and human trafficking. The President highlighted the relevant role that organisations such as the IAP play in forging formal and informal cooperation relations and enabling fluid and swift communication channels between prosecution offices anywhere in the world.

The annual meeting and international seminar was organised by the Kingdom of Morocco and the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The event was attended by Ladislav Hamran, President of the European Union Agency for Criminal Justice Cooperation (EUROJUST), and experts from the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS), in addition to Attorneys General and senior officials from several Arab countries.

Bilateral meeting between the IAP President and Dr Alejandro Gertz Manero, Attorney General of Mexico

12 December 2023

The IAP President Juan Bautista Mahiques met with Dr. Alejandro Gertz Manero, Attorney General of the Republic, in Mexico City as part of President Mahiques' institutional visit to that country.

They shared a very fruitful meeting, during which President Mahiques welcomed Dr. Gertz Manero and the Office of the Attorney General of the Republic (FGR) of Mexico to the IAP family, having recently been inducted as an organizational member.

Dr. Gertz Manero was very grateful for President Mahiques' keen interest and efforts in making this possible. Among other pressing issues, they discussed the importance of fostering strong cooperation relations between prosecution services across the world and how the IAP is the best mechanism for bringing together key players in this regard. They also talked about the security of prosecutors in Latin America and the actions that the IAP is taking on this matter. Dr. Gertz Manero was particularly enthusiastic about the upcoming launch of the PICP in 2024, and they agreed it will be a game changer for informal cooperation between prosecutors.



IAP President and Dr Alejandro Gertz Manero, Attorney General of Mexico

Delegate visits

Meeting between the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan and the IAP Secretariat

20 January 2023

On 20 January, a meeting was held with a delegation led by IAP Vice President and Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, Kamran Aliyev, at the IAP Secretariat in The Hague. Several organisational issues regarding the Association's 29th Annual Conference and General Meeting, which will be held in Azerbaijan in September 2024, were discussed during the meeting.



Delegation from the Republic of Azerbaijan visit the IAP office

Meeting between the Institute of Justice of the Republic of Korea and the IAP

19 April 2023

The IAP were pleased to welcome a senior delegation from the Institute of Justice of the Republic of Korea to the IAP Secretariat to discuss continued collaboration in the development of training materials and resources for IAP members. The meeting followed the signing of an MoU between the organisations in September 2022 to strengthen mutual cooperation to facilitate capacity-building, technical assistance, outreach and support for the rule of law.



Delegation from the Republic of Korea visit the IAP office

Meeting between the Philippine Department of Justice and the IAP

23 May 2023

The IAP were pleased to welcome a delegation from the Philippine Department of Justice to the Secretariat to discuss ongoing collaboration and the work of the IAP. The delegation comprised of the Department of Justice Undersecretary Jesse Hermogenes T. Andres and Hazel C. Decena-Valdez, Senior Deputy State Prosecutor.



Delegation from the Philippines visit the IAP office

The IAP Standards



The IAP Standards

The IAP Standards for Prosecutors, officially called the “Standards for the Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors”, are at the core of IAP’s existence. Traditionally, at every General Meeting, the Secretary-General reminds the members of the IAP Standards by underlining some important aspects that prosecutors should keep at the forefront of their minds when exercising their professional duties. He encourages the members to act according to these standards and to promote them among their colleagues. This was also the case during the General Meeting in London, United Kingdom, on 24 September 2023.

One year after the IAP was established, the General Meeting approved the Objects of the Association, which are written down in Article 2.3 of the Association’s Constitution. One of the most important of these Objects is to “...promote and enhance those standards and principles which are generally recognised internationally as necessary for the proper and independent prosecution of offences”.

A special committee of the Association produced a first draft set of standards for prosecutors in 1998, following which the Executive Committee approved a final version at its Spring meeting in Amsterdam in April 1999. The International Association of Prosecutors’ “Standards for Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors” were born. Since that time, the Standards have served as an international benchmark for the conduct of individual prosecutors and prosecution services.

The full Standards are on our website on this [page](#). In summary, the Standards require prosecutors, prosecution services, and governments to act according to the following principles:

1

Prosecutors have a duty to uphold the honour and dignity of their profession, to always conduct themselves professionally and in accordance with the law and the ethics of their profession, to be consistent, transparent and independent, and to protect the rights of the accused to a fair trial.

Prosecutors should be impartial, objective, and have regard for all relevant circumstances, irrespective of whether they are to the advantage or disadvantage of the suspect.

2.

3.

Prosecutors should perform their duties fairly, consistently, and expeditiously.

Prosecutors should cooperate effectively with national and international colleagues to ensure the fairness and effectiveness of prosecutions.

4.

5.

Prosecutors should be empowered and protected against arbitrary actions by governments. A prosecutor should have a fair chance of advancing their career, and governments should secure the safety of prosecutors and their families.

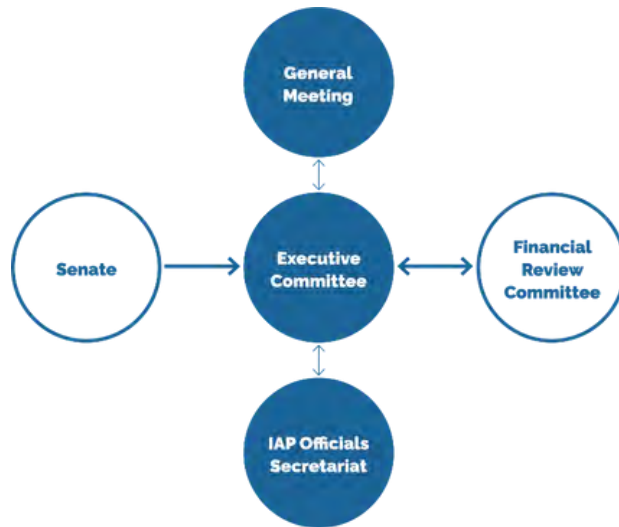
It is intended that the Standards are not merely a statement but a tool for prosecution services to develop and enforce their own standards. It is for the IAP to make efforts to promote the Standards and their use by prosecutors globally.

Governance

IAP Operational Structure

General Meeting

The General Meeting takes place annually and is open to all IAP members. The members elect representatives to serve on the Executive Committee. The members can also vote and decide on several other organisational matters.



Executive Committee

The Executive Committee is the strategic governing body of the Association, subject to the authority of the General Meeting, which is the body of supreme authority in the Association. The Association elects a President, up to nine Vice-presidents and up to twenty-one ordinary members. They represent IAP members in all world regions. The Executive Committee appoints the IAP officials, namely the Secretary-General, the General Counsel and the Executive Director of the IAP.

Secretariat and IAP Officials

The Secretariat performs the IAP's day-to-day administrative and professional work. The Secretariat is led by the Secretary-General, who is the chief executive. The Executive Director is responsible for the Association's day-to-day management, including finances, technical support, communication, membership administration, and community outreach. The General Counsel is the principal professional representative of the Association and is responsible for the professional programme and providing legal advice to the Association. These three officials lead the IAP administrative organisation. In 2023, they were assisted by a Communication Manager, an Executive Administration Manager and a Community Engagement Officer, all working under the Executive Director, and a Senior Legal Advisor and an Executive Programme Manager, both working under the General Counsel.

The Senate

The Senate of the Association consists of past Executive Committee members. They elect to join the Senate upon their departure from the Executive Committee and are eligible if, in the opinion of the President and the Executive Committee, they are fit and proper persons of good standing and reputation in the Association. The Senate is an advisory body and executes powers to promote the IAP Objects.

The Financial Review Committee

This Committee safeguards the Association's financial interests and assists the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duty to oversee the Association's financial management, including its financial sustainability. The Committee ensures the highest level of accountability and transparency in the Association's financial administration. It is authorised to oversee Treasury operations to ensure the Association acts per its Constitution, Protocols, governance documents, and established accounting principles.

Report of the General Meeting of the IAP 2023

The IAP President, Juan Bautista Mahiques, chaired the meeting. Han Moraal (Secretary-General), Shenaz Muzaffer (General Counsel) and Janne Holst Hübner (Executive Director), were also on the panel.

1. Opening by the President

The President opened the General Meeting by welcoming the members and thanking Max Hill KC, the Director of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales, for hosting the 28th IAP Annual Conference and General Meeting. He reminded members that all meeting material was digitally available and, more importantly, that the General Meeting is the body of supreme authority in the Association.

2. Adoption of the Rules of Procedure

The Secretary-General informed the General Meeting that the proposed Rules of Procedure for General Meeting ('the Rules') were issued on 21 August 2023 and that members were given one calendar month to provide any objections or comments. No objections had been received in advance of the meeting. He asked whether anyone present at the meeting had any objections, but none were raised.

The President concluded by stating that the Rules of Procedure were deemed to be adopted and that the Meeting would proceed in accordance with the Rules.

3. Commitment to the IAP Standards and Signing Ceremony (new organisational members)

The Secretary-General reminded the General Meeting of the IAP Standards and their fundamental importance to the role of prosecutors, before encouraging members to promote the IAP Standards among their colleagues.

New organisational members were then invited to sign Certificates of Commitment to demonstrate their commitment to upholding and promoting the IAP Standards. For full details, see page 28.

4. Adoption of the minutes from the previous meeting (Tbilisi 2022)

No objections to the minutes from the 27th General Meeting held in Tbilisi, Georgia, in September 2022 were raised, and so the minutes were therefore adopted by the General Meeting.

5. Annual Report 2022

The President and the Secretary-General delivered a comprehensive overview of the key highlights from the Annual Report 2022. The Secretary-General drew particular attention to the Prosecutors in Difficulty Programme and related matters. He also highlighted the membership benefits of the IAP as explained in the Annual Report.

6. Working Programme of the Association

The Secretary-General and the General Counsel provided the General Meeting with a status update on the Association's projects and priority areas, including the following:

- Confirmation that the principal objectives of the IAP's professional programme are to ensure that the IAP is operationally relevant for prosecutors through the development and delivery of training and capacity building programmes; to bring prosecutors together to share their knowledge, expertise and experience; and to improve formal and informal channels of international cooperation;
- Confirmation that the IAP is developing webinars through partnerships with international, national and regional organisations, the private sector and NGO's. Recent webinar topics included international criminal justice, wildlife crime and waste crime. Further webinars were in development for 2024;
- Provision of a status report on ongoing projects with partners including UNICRI, UNESCO, UN CTED, the Siracusa Institute, and the Council of Europe;
- Confirmation that the IAP has obtained observer status with GlobE and The Egmont Group of Financial Intelligence Units in 2023;
- Outline of an ongoing review of the Specialist Networks to ensure that they are operationally relevant and provide the best resources and support to members.

Members were reminded to keep a close watch for announcements regarding webinars and training which were sent via email and posted on the IAP website and social media pages, and to register as soon as possible for such events.

The Executive Director provided an update regarding the delays in developing the Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP). However, she also conveyed positive news that the platform is on track to be fully operational before the end of the year.

In addition, she emphasised the importance of maintaining up-to-date contacts and specialists within the IAP database and encouraged both individual and organisational members to participate actively to ensure the success of PICP.

Furthermore, the Executive Director presented an update on network expansion and expressed her appreciation for the cooperation with the regional conference hosting teams. The regional conferences are very important in terms of promoting membership recruitment for both individual and organisational members.

7. Financial statements 2022

The Secretary-General gave a brief update on the finances of the Association, including details of the income and outgoings, with particular reference to the software development project. The 2022 financial year closed with a net outcome of minus 45,000 Euros, which was largely related to the software development. He concluded that the financial situation of the Association was healthy.

The Secretary-General explained that the Financial Review Committee (FRC) had concluded that they were satisfied with all aspects of the finances for 2022, and so the Executive Committee had concluded that he had fully discharged his duties in relation to them.

The President then invited any member to make comment or to request clarification from the Secretary-General or the Executive Director on any issues related to the financial statements for 2022. No questions or comments were received.

8. Composition of IAP Committees

The Secretary-General presented the candidates for election to the Executive Committee as detailed below:

Candidate for Vice-President:

Latin America:

1. **Manuel Pinheiro Freitas**, Prosecutor General of the State of Ceará, Brazil (1st term)

Candidates for Ordinary Membership:

Africa and Indian Ocean:

1. **Rashid Ahmine**, Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius (1st term)
2. **Shamila Batohi**, National Director of Public Prosecutions, South Africa (2nd term)
3. **Immaculate Angutoko**, President of the Ugandan Association of Prosecutors (1st term)

Europe:

1. **Stephan Blättler**, Attorney General, Switzerland (1st term)
2. **Edina Soltész**, Head of International Division, Office of the Prosecutor General, Hungary (2nd term)

Latin America:

1. **Manoel Murrieta**, President of CONAMP, Brazil (1st term)
2. **Angel Valencia**, Prosecutor General, Chile (1st term)

North America and Caribbean:

1. **Kate Matthews**, Vice-President of Canadian Association of Crown Counsels (2nd term)
2. **Bruce Swartz**, Deputy Assistant Attorney General and Counsellor for International Affairs, Department of Justice, USA (2nd term)

It was confirmed that no nominations for election to the Executive Committee had been received from the membership pursuant to Article 8.6A of the Constitution. With that, the President announced that the candidates nominated by the Executive Committee were deemed to be elected.

The President also informed the General Meeting that all members of the Executive Committee who were standing down from the Executive Committee would be awarded a Certificate of Merit and would be invited to join the IAP Senate upon their departure. He thanked them for their service to the Executive Committee.

Conflict Committee:

The Secretary-General then outlined the functions and importance of the Conflict Committee. He confirmed that the five existing members of the Conflict Committee had all agreed to stand for re-election. The General Meeting then approved the appointment of the following five members to the Conflict Committee for a further term of three years:

1. **Thomas Burrows**, IAP Senator, USA
2. **Carlos Donoso Castex**, IAP Senator, Argentina
3. **Nicholas Cowdery**, Chair of IAP Senate and IAP Medal of Honor recipient, NSW, Australia
4. **Francois Falletti**, IAP Senator and Past President of IAP, France
5. **Wendy Stephen**, IAP Senator, British Columbia, Canada

9. Election of candidates for Honorary Membership 2023

The Secretary-General presented the following candidates for Honorary Membership:

1. **Satyajit Boolell**, former IAP Vice-President and former Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius
2. **Gerhard Jarosch**, former IAP President and former President of the Austrian Prosecution Association
3. **Claire Loftus**, former IAP Executive Committee member and former Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland
4. **Irakli Shotadze**, Prosecutor General of Georgia
5. **Christopher Toth**, former IAP Vice-President and former NAAG Executive Director.

The General Meeting approved the award of Honorary Membership to each candidate.

10. The 2nd IAP Awards Ceremony

During the 2nd IAP Awards Ceremony, the Secretary-General presented the Certificate of Merit to the following individuals for their involvement in IAP events:

1. **Office of the Prosecutor General of Georgia**, for hosting the 27th Annual Conference and General Meeting of the IAP in Tbilisi, Georgia, September 2022.
2. **Paris Adamis**, former member of the Executive Committee, Greece, for hosting the 55th IAP Executive Committee Meeting in Athens, Greece, April 2022.
3. **Georgios Kotsiras**, Deputy Minister of Justice, Greece, for hosting the 55th IAP Executive Committee Meeting in Athens, Greece, April 2022.
4. **Vasilios Pliotas**, Prosecutor General of the Hellenistic Supreme Court, Greece, for hosting the 55th IAP Executive Committee Meeting in Athens, Greece, April 2022.
5. **Office of the Prosecutor General of the Supreme Court of Türkiye**, for hosting the 1st Pan European IAP Regional Conference in Istanbul, Türkiye, May 2023.
6. **Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Ceará (MPCE), Brazil**, for hosting the 7th Latin American Regional Conference in Fortaleza, Brazil, June 2023.
7. **National Association of Prosecutors of Brazil (CONAMP), Brazil**, for hosting the 7th Latin American Regional Conference in Fortaleza, Brazil, June 2023.

He also presented the Certificate of Merit to the following former Executive Committee members:

1. **Wongsakul Kittipomwong**, former Attorney General, Thailand
2. **Paris Adamis**, former National Member for Greece at Eurojust
3. **Noordin M. Haji**, former Director of Public Prosecutions, Kenya

A Certificate of Merit was also presented to **Isfandiyar Hajiyev**, Deputy Head, Organizational and Information Support Department of the Anti-Corruption Directorate, Office of the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan, for his commitment to the projects of the Association and his significant contribution to the day-to-day management of the Association.

11. Future conferences and meetings

The President thanked the General Prosecutor's Office of the Supreme Court of Appeal of Türkiye for hosting the 1st Pan European Regional Conference in Istanbul, Türkiye, from 02 – 05 May 2023, on the topic "Effective Investigation in the age of Digitalisation" . The conference was attended by 100 delegates from 33 countries.

He also thanked The Public Prosecutor's Office of the State of Ceará, Brazil (MPCE) and the National Association of Prosecutors of Brazil (CONAMP) for hosting the 7th IAP Regional Conference in Latin America in Fortaleza, Brazil, from 28 – 30 June 2023 on the topic "Perspectives and Challenges to Prosecution Services". The conference was attended by 430 delegates from 13 countries.

The Executive Director updated the Meeting about the 29th Annual Conference and General Meeting preparations and her satisfaction with the status of those preparations. The General Counsel explained the following themes and sub-themes for the Annual Conference in Baku:

Conference theme: The Role of the Prosecutor in Upholding the Rule of Law

Sub-themes:

1. National approaches to balancing the three main pillars of an independent criminal justice system – challenges and responses
2. Victims and witnesses within the criminal justice system
3. The role of the prosecutor in upholding the rule of law in the digital age – challenges and responses

The conference will take place from 28 September – 02 October 2024.

The Executive Director confirmed that the Executive Committee had approved for Singapore to host the Annual Conference in 2025. The General Counsel outlined the proposed conference theme, namely "The Versatile Prosecutor and the Administration of Criminal Justice", to include sub-themes on climate change, attracting and retaining talent in prosecution offices, cryptocurrency and cybercrimes, and international cooperation.

The Executive Director also confirmed that the 11th IAP Regional Conference for the Asia and Pacific Region is set to take place in Hong Kong in November 2024, following the Executive Committee's approval of the bid. The conference will address the following topics:

Conference theme: Effective Prosecution Service in the Technological Age

Sub-themes:

1. Combating Crime in the Technological Age
2. The Use of Technology in the Criminal Justice System

The conference will take place from 27-29 November 2024.

Finally, the Executive Director confirmed that she is engaged in discussions with various other organisations regarding the hosting of regional conferences, including Chile, Zambia, Malta and the Cayman Islands.

The Executive Director encouraged more organisations to come forward as candidates to host IAP events.

12. Closing remarks

The Secretary-General thanked the membership for the trust he received from the Executive Committee and the membership. He announced that the Executive Committee had appointed a new Secretary-General, Roel Dona from the Netherlands, during their meeting earlier that week in London. Roel Dona will take up the position as from 01 January 2024 and he wished the new Secretary-General all success.

The President thanked all members for their participation in the General Meeting. He also thanked the outgoing Secretary-General for his extensive contribution to the work of the IAP since his appointment.

55th Executive Committee Meeting Report

Athens, Greece, 23-24 March 2023

1. Introduction

The meeting of the Executive Committee was chaired by the IAP President, Juan Bautista Mahiques, and attended by twenty-one members and one substitute member. The President thanked the hosts of the Executive Committee meeting – Paris Adamis (IAP Senator), Georgios Kotsiras (Deputy Minister of Justice) and Vasilios Pliotas (Prosecutor General of the Supreme Court).

2. Amendment of terms of reference of IAP Committees

The Executive Committee discussed reviewing all protocols/terms of reference governing the IAP Committees over the next six to nine months to ensure that they are (i) consistent in content (ii) consistent with the Constitution (iii) consistent in style and format and (iv) properly established under the Constitution. It was agreed that the General Counsel would review and submit a package of amended protocols/terms of reference to the Executive Committee for approval.

3. Dialogue with African Prosecutors Association (APA) and UN regarding observer status

The United Nations is open to exploring having observer status on the Executive Committee. Discussions with the APA have stalled at present. The IAP are keen to restart a dialogue. Shamila Batochi took the initiative to assist in reaching out to the APA to restart discussions.

4. Executive Committee appointments

The Executive Committee reaffirmed the principles in the Kampala Agreement. Following a closed voting procedure, twelve candidates were nominated for confirmation by the General Meeting in London, while a nomination to reserve a seat for Spain was unsuccessful.

5. Stichting Treasury Committee appointment

Giorgi Gogadze and Catherine Pierse volunteered to sit on the Stichting Treasury Committee to replace Claire Loftus and Josip Cule. The Executive Committee approved both appointments.

6. IAP Committees

The Executive Committee approved Lloyd Babb's re-election for a second term on the IAP Award Committee. It also approved the re-election of Chris Toth, Nick Cowdery, Nicola Mahaffy, and Jean-Francois Thony for a second term to the Global Training Academy Committee.

Lloyd Babb and Jane Abodo were elected to the Granting Programme Committee, and Jeanette Manning and Lloyd Babb were elected to the Prosecutors Exchange Programme Committee to replace Nick Cowdery and Nicola Mahaffy from 2023.

It was agreed that terms of reference/protocols for the committees are to be re-drafted as part of the wider review of the IAP protocols that is being conducted by the General Counsel.

Following approval by the Executive Committee, Juan Bautista Mahiques was appointed to the Succession Planning Committee.

All five existing members of the Conflict Committee expressed a willingness to extend their terms. It was agreed that a request for any other applicants would be issued prior to the General Meeting.

7. IAP Awards

The Executive Committee approved three nominations for the IAP Special Achievement Award. It was agreed that, as all prosecutors should uphold the IAP Standards, awards should only be given to prosecutors who have done more than that as a minimum. Nominations should be written in such a way as to allow the Award Committee to assess them properly against the awards criteria.

Two action items came out of the discussion: (i) Consideration to be given to amending the criteria for the Prosecutor of the Year Award to also include a Prosecution Team of the Year as part of the wider review of the IAP protocols; and (ii) Consideration also to be given to renaming the Special Achievement Award to properly recognise the importance and prestige of this award.

8. Honorary Membership

The Secretary-General proposed four candidates. The Awards Committee updated the Executive Committee with their advice regarding the four nominations. Following a vote, all four nominations were approved for nomination for Honorary Membership.

9. Promotion of IAP Standards

The IAP Standards of Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors are being promoted in IAP activities by (i) all new organisational members participating in the Signing Ceremony at the AGM (ii) a requirement that all IAP training activities include express reference to the IAP Standards (iii) a requirement that any training materials that the IAP contributes to include a section on the IAP Standards and (iv) training sessions for local prosecutors being run at the conclusion of regional conferences.

The Executive Committee will consider whether nominations for awards and / or Executive Committee Activity Reports should include express reference to work done to promote and adhere to the IAP Standards at a future meeting.

10. Succession planning

It was confirmed that the tenure of Shenaz Muzaffer, General Counsel, would be extended to March 2025 to provide continuity for ongoing workstreams.

The Executive Committee discussed the draft advert for the Secretary-General position, particularly the requirement that the successful candidate should have extensive leadership, networking, and management skills. It was agreed that any candidate would need to be in The Hague regularly and that preference would be given to candidates who were funded by their home authority.

The IAP Secretariat confirmed that they would launch a recruitment campaign with a view to interviews taking place over the summer.

11. Network expansion and membership

The Executive Director provided an update on new and potential members. The Executive Committee approved the admission of the Mongolian Prosecutor General's Office and the AAF as organisational members.

12. Suspension of Organisational Members

Concern was raised by the Executive Director that disproportionate time and resources were being expended on following up with organisational members who had defaulted on their membership payments.

The Executive Committee discussed the criteria for the waiver of membership fees and, in particular, whether the concept of 'exceptional circumstances' needed to be further defined.

The Executive Committee considered the request by the Prosecutor General's Office of Belarus for a waiver based on their inability to make a bank transfer due to EU sanctions. It was agreed that their membership fee would be deferred (not waived) until such time as they were able to pay.

Executive Committee members would follow up with organisational members who had defaulted on payment of membership fees within three months.

13. Members paying below standard criteria

The Executive Director presented a list of organisational members who were either paying less for their annual subscriptions than prescribed by the Financial Protocol or where it was not known if they were paying in accordance with the Protocol as their budget was not known. It was agreed that a fair standard to determine the level of membership fees was on the basis of the size of an organisation's budget.

The Executive Director would contact organisational members on the list to establish the level of their budget and, where necessary, begin renegotiations over the level of their membership fees. It was agreed that the position of organisational members with budgets over 20 million Euros would be discussed at the Executive Committee meeting in London.

14. IT and software development

The Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP) remains a substantial project which is taking up considerable time and resources for the IAP Secretariat. It was stressed that the success of PICP will be reliant on individual and organisational members ensuring that their contact details are correctly entered and up to date.

15. Communication and Branding

The Executive Director expressed her thanks to the IAP President's design team, led by Sol Purita, for their work on creating the Brand Identity Book. The Communication Manager presented the proposed IAP Vision Statement and the Benefits of Joining the IAP document. It was agreed that the Vision Statement and Benefits document be circulated to Executive Committee members for further input and feedback.

16. Specialist Networks

The General Counsel confirmed that a review of all of the Specialist Networks would take place to ensure that they were operationally relevant and had active leadership. Proposed new networks and network names were discussed.

17. Global Training Academy

It was highlighted that lessons had been learned regarding funding projections following the IAP's collaboration with UNESCO for the recent course relating to crimes against journalists.

There was a discussion around potential plans to run an online course focusing on prosecutors' physical and online safety.

The General Counsel provided an update on ongoing projects including a collaboration with OPCW and UNICRI to develop a Prosecutors' Guide to Radiological and Nuclear Crimes, a project with UNESCO and UN CTED to develop guidelines and training for criminal justice responses to the terrorist dimension of the destruction and illicit trade of cultural property, collaboration with the Institute of Justice in South Korea pursuant to the MOU signed in 2022, and a Specialisation Course for Prosecutors on International and Transnational Criminal Justice and International Cooperation with the Siracusa Institute. The General Counsel also provided an update on several new potential partnerships, and also on the re-drafting of the IAP Human Rights Manual in collaboration with the Council of Europe.

As a result of the discussions the following action items were agreed upon: (i) General Counsel to conduct a review of the Specialist Networks, including a reconsideration of the proposed new names (ii) IAP Secretariat to continue to develop and test PICP, and prepare plans for launch

(iii) General Counsel to continue to explore collaboration with multiple external organisations (both new and existing partners) to develop webinars and training courses and (iv) General Counsel to continue to liaise with Council of Europe on a re-drafting of the IAP Human Rights Manual.

18. Review of the IAP Constitution and protocols

The General Counsel indicated that all IAP Protocols required revision to remove inconsistencies and to bring them up to date. A review of the Constitution was also required. Terms of Reference were required for the sub-committee that will assist with the reviews. The General Counsel will commence a review of all IAP Protocols and Constitution.

19. Financial Review Committee

Kathleen Roussel presented the Financial Review Committee report. There was a discussion around additional costs that had been incurred for a software update/maintenance that exceeded the normal approval levels.

Juan Bautista Mahiques raised a query regarding the use of IAP funds to pay for expenses associated with the President carrying out his/her functions. His office indicated that they would submit a proposal before the London Executive Committee meeting.

The Secretariat confirmed that they would undertake additional work to amend the Procurement Protocol and Procurement Manual. It was agreed that the issue of funding for the IAP President and other Executive Committee members for expenses related to the carrying out of their functions for the IAP would be further discussed at the Executive Committee meeting in London.

20. Report on the financial statements 2022

The total income for 2022 was EUR 849,000, with a total expenditure of EUR 894,000. The report and the financial statements for 2022 were approved.

21. Proposed budget for 2023

The budget for 2023 was put forward and was approved. There was a discussion around the amount of fees that should be charged to delegates from low-income countries to attend conferences. It was emphasised that the IAP's revenue is derived primarily from conferences.

A discussion would take place in London regarding potential ways to increase conference attendance for delegates from low-income countries without placing a higher financial burden on the IAP or the conference host.

22. Reports

Reports were presented on:

- The activities of the Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty
- The Prosecutors Exchange Programme
- The activities of the Senate
- The Activity Reports of the Executive Committee members

23. IAP regional offices

Following approval by the Executive Committee, it was agreed that all Vice-Presidents should sit on the Regional Offices Committee.

24. IAP conferences and other events

The Annual Report from the 27th Annual Conference in Tbilisi, Georgia was presented and feedback from the conference was discussed.

An update on preparations for the 28th Annual Conference and General Meeting in London in September 2023 was given. Owing to space constraints, there is a limit of 500 delegates for the event, with a maximum of six delegates per organisational member.

Bids to host annual conferences from Saudi Arabia and Singapore were discussed. It was recommended that Saudi Arabia consider hosting a regional conference first. There was agreement that Singapore meets the criteria for hosting an annual conference. A vote on the hosting of the annual conferences for 2025 and 2026 was adjourned until the Executive Committee meeting in London.

It was confirmed that the Annual Conference in Baku, Azerbaijan would be hosted in September 2024, with the theme of "Prosecution and Judiciary: Synergy for the Rule of Law".

The Executive Committee also discussed the forthcoming regional conferences in Istanbul, Türkiye, with the theme of "Effective Investigation in the Age of Digitalisation", and Fortaleza, Brazil, with the theme of "Perspectives and Challenges to Prosecution Services".

56th Executive Committee Meeting Report

London, England, 23rd September 2023

1. Introduction

The 56th Executive Committee meeting was chaired by President Juan Bautista Mahiques and attended by nineteen members (including the President) and four substitute members. Two observers also participated – the Chair of the Senate and the Chair of the Financial Review Committee – along with the IAP officials, namely the Secretary-General, the General Counsel and the Executive Director. Apologies were noted from eight Executive Committee members.

The President welcomed participants to the meeting and expressed gratitude to Max Hill KC, Director of Public Prosecutions for England and Wales, and the Crown Prosecution Service of England and Wales (CPS), for hosting the meeting. Max Hill KC paid tribute to former General Counsel Gary Balch, a member of the CPS, who sadly passed away in July 2023.

Nick Cowdery attended his final meeting as Senate Chair. The Executive Committee recognised and appreciated his years of service as an Executive Committee member, President, and Senate Chair.

The minutes of the 55th Executive Committee meeting in Athens, Greece, were approved.

2. Composition of IAP Committees

The Executive Committee discussed its composition and the vacancy for the position of Vice-President from the Africa and Indian Ocean Region, following the resignation of the DPP of Kenya on his appointment as Director General of the National Intelligence Service. It was decided to co-opt the Acting Deputy Attorney General of Thailand, Phairach Pornsomboonsiri, as a member of the Committee for the Asia and Pacific Region until the 2024 General Meeting in Baku.

The General Counsel confirmed that a review of the IAP Protocols governing the IAP Committees was underway, and that it was hoped that a draft would be ready for the Executive Committee meeting to consider in Macau in 2024.

Following the resignation of Claire Loftus from the Civil Society Organisations (CSO) Committee, Catherine Pierse, DPP of Ireland, was appointed to the CSO Committee.

3. Awards

In addition to the awards that had previously been approved by the Executive Committee in Athens, the Executive Committee also decided to award a Certificate of Merit to Isfandiyar Hajiyev (Anti-Corruption Directorate, Azerbaijan) for his substantial contribution to managing and processing 300 membership applications from prosecutors in Azerbaijan.

The Executive Committee declined to create a special award to mark prosecutors who made a particular contribution to the Specialist Networks or their themes, concluding that the scope of the current awards was broad enough to mark such activity if needed. The Executive Committee also concluded that a specific award to mark adherence to the IAP Standards was unnecessary, as an award recipient was expected to uphold the IAP Standards as a pre-requisite in any event.

4. Appointment of a new Secretary-General

After reviewing twelve applications, four candidates who met the criteria were interviewed by the Succession Planning Committee. A Senior Advocate General of the Netherlands, Roel Dona, emerged as the chosen candidate by the Succession Planning Committee, who unanimously voted to appoint him as IAP Secretary-General from 01 January 2024.

5. IAP Granting Programme 2023

The IAP Granting Programme for 2023 awarded grants to eleven prosecutors from ten countries worldwide. There was a surplus budget under the programme, which would be re-allocated to the programme in 2024.

6. Constitutional position of the Secretary-General, General Counsel and Executive Director

The Executive Committee intends to consider amendments to the Constitution at their next meeting in Macau in April 2024 to clarify the roles of and procedures for appointing, suspending and dismissing the Secretary-General, General Counsel and Executive Director. The changes will be presented for election at the 29th General Meeting in Baku in 2024.

7. Network expansion and membership situation

The Executive Director confirmed that approximately 350 individual members had joined the IAP since the Executive Committee meeting in Athens, and that eleven organisational members had been recruited so far in 2023.

The Executive Committee agreed to waive the membership fees for the Office of the Prosecutor General of Ukraine due to the exceptional circumstances ongoing in the country. It also agreed to suspend (defer) payment of the membership fees by the Office of the Prosecutor General of Belarus until they can find a way to transfer the funds without breaching EU sanctions.

It was confirmed that twelve organisational members face suspension from the IAP as they had not paid their membership fees for at least two years. Ten of them would be notified of the suspension, and the other two would be contacted directly for payment discussions.

8. Update on development of new CMS, MMS and PICP

The Secretariat updated the Executive Committee about the progress of the software development, which is proceeding at a slower pace than hoped and expected due to challenges with the developers. The Secretariat is continuing to commit significant resources to finalising this project as soon as possible.

9. IAP merchandise

At each Annual Conference, a limited-edition mug featuring the host city's skyline will be given to those who donate a minimum of 25 Euros to the Granting Programme. The anticipated revenue is approximately 3,000 Euros per conference.

10. Professional Working Programme

The General Counsel updated the Executive Committee on the Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform (PICP), emphasising the need for organisational members to ensure that their updated contact details were maintained on the IAP database. She summarised ongoing projects and potential collaborations with organisations including UNICRI, UNESCO, the World Bank and UN CTED. She outlined the webinars that have taken place in 2023 and gave a forward-look for proposed training and webinars for 2024. The Executive Committee endorsed integrating the IAP Standards into the core themes of webinars, training sessions, and conferences to highlight their relevance and importance to the operational work of prosecutors.

11. Cooperation agreements and MoUs

The President shared a proposed MoU with the Ibero-American Association of Public Prosecutors (AIAMP), recognising it as an opportunity to expand the IAP's membership in Latin America and southern Europe. The Executive Committee approved the proposal to enter into the MoU with AIAMP.

Following discussions, the Executive Committee decided to terminate the MoU with the AIPPF (Association Internationale des Procureurs et Poursuivants Francophones) due to a lack of performance under the MoU by the AIPPF, and instead agreed to explore alternative ways to cooperate and provide future support to Francophone members.

12. Review of the IAP Constitution and Protocols

The Executive Committee discussed a proposed amendment to the IAP Funding Protocol to ensure that financial support for travel costs was available for the IAP President, in appropriate circumstances, so that concerns about funding did not deter potential candidates from standing for election. It was agreed that the current wording of the Funding Protocol was sufficient to cover this scenario if needed, but that the preamble/wording of the Protocol would be amended to ensure that there was no ambiguity around the position.

13. Finance Reports

The Secretary-General presented the Half-year Profit/Loss vs. budget report.

He noted that there had been a significant increase in the amount of the accountancy fees over 2023, and confirmed that the IAP were in discussions with the accountants to obtain compensation and secure lower costs going forward.

The Chair of the Financial Review Committee gave an overview following the Committee's review of the accounts, confirming that no substantive discrepancies had been found.

The proposed operating budget for 2024 was approved.

14. Funding Strategy

The Secretary-General updated the Executive Committee on the development of a Funding Strategy, based on the conclusion reached in Siracusa that medium-sized projects with external partners would fit well with the capabilities of the IAP. He noted the need to review the Funding Protocol, especially regarding non-commercial sponsorship funding. The Chair of the Global Training Academy (GTA) Committee praised the General Counsel and the IAP team for their work, highlighting the GTA's significant role in attracting and enhancing members' prosecutorial abilities. Recognising the opportunity for further advancement, the need for a secure and sustainable funding stream was emphasised.

15. Safety of prosecutors

The security and safety of prosecutors is of utmost importance. The Executive Committee discussed various options for recognising prosecutors who lost their lives in the line of duty. Whilst the importance of doing so was recognised, potential challenges such as the risk of omission and the definition of "in the line of duty" were also discussed. The Committee decided on a future in-depth discussion, with the General Counsel tasked to draft a paper for consideration at an upcoming Executive Committee meeting.

16. IAP Regional Offices

The President proposed to establish an IAP regional office in Latin America to overcome existing challenges to engagement caused by the language barrier and geographical distance, noting that a regional office will also be likely to encourage the addition of new members to the IAP in Latin America. The Regional Office Standing Committee will be asked to advise and present a proposal on how best to proceed in this regard.

17. IAP conferences and other events

The Secretariat updated the Executive Committee on preparations for the 28th Annual Conference in London, noting the addition of a session to share best practice and two fireside chats on the agenda.

An update was also provided regarding the 29th Annual Conference in Baku, including confirmation of the amended date to 29 September-02 October 2024.

Following a vote, the Executive Committee approved for the Attorney-General's Chambers of Singapore to host the 30th Annual Conference in 2025. Additionally, the Executive Committee approved a bid by the Prosecutions Division of the Department of Justice, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China, to host the 11th IAP Regional Conference in the Asia-Pacific region from 27-29 November 2024.

Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty Report 2023

Summary of Activities for 2023

In 2023, the IAP's Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty (SCPID) marked its tenth anniversary. Since its inception, it has operated in accordance with The Protocol for the Conduct of Cases of Prosecutors in Difficulty, which the IAP adopted in 2012 and revised in 2021.

In 2023, the SCPID comprised three IAP Senators. It was chaired by Grenville Cross SC (Hong Kong, China), and comprised William J Downer SC (South Africa) and Christopher Toth (USA). In discharging its duties, it liaised closely with the IAP Secretary-General and his staff.

Although most of the twelve cases handled by the SCPID were referred to it by the Secretary-General, it also advised on cases it had itself identified, including that involving the issuing of a Russian arrest warrant against the Prosecutor of the International Criminal Court, Karim Khan KC (to whom the IAP sent a message of support).

The SCPID advised both generally on cases and in relation to specific requests for assistance from prosecutors around the world. They included requests from Guinea Bissau, Afghanistan, Israel, Colombia, Bulgaria, Ecuador, Mexico and Lithuania. The requests were varied, sometimes involving violence to prosecutors or threats to their safety. In Ecuador, for example, two prosecutors were assassinated in the line of duty, as also were two prosecutors in Mexico. An attempt was also made on the life of the then Prosecutor General of Bulgaria, Ivan Geshev.

After reviewing local circumstances, the SCPID often advised the IAP to take advantage of its global standing and moral authority to try to influence particular situations positively. This was typically by way of letters to state leaders, urging better protections for prosecutors, and the issuing of public statements of support. On occasion, the SPCID advised the IAP to exercise caution, and to be wary of attempts to draw it into domestic politics. It also alerted the IAP to requests it considered frivolous (as with the prosecutor who, after his dismissal, wanted the IAP to pay him a monthly salary).

In 2023, the SCPID discharged its assignments within a reasonable timeframe, and the IAP Secretariat ensured it was fully serviced. Its conclusions were unanimous, and its advices on the way forward were accepted. The existing mechanisms worked well, and the IAP was able to respond realistically to the requests for assistance of prosecutors who found themselves in difficulty.

IAP Standing Committees

Committees are an integral part of IAP's governance. While the General Meeting is the IAP's highest legislative power and the Executive Committee is the executive body dealing with the key issues and main policy lines, many subtopics are dealt with by multiple committees. Some are temporary committees primarily related to projects, and others are more permanent standing committees. Some of those standing committees are of such importance for the IAP that the General Meeting grants them an official establishment.

Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty

In 2021, the Executive Committee proposed a new Prosecutors in Difficulty (PID) Protocol that established the Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty (SCPID) as an official committee of the Association, in accordance with Article 8.2.m of the IAP Constitution, to the General Meeting.

The new Protocol was adopted by the General Meeting in 2021, underlining the importance of the Committee for the Association. You can find more information about the work of this Committee at page 83 onwards in this report.

The members of the Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty for 2023 were Grenville Cross (Chair), William Downer and Christopher Toth.

Financial Review Committee

In 2021, the Executive Committee agreed with the newly drafted Financial Review Committee Protocol and the official establishment of the new Financial Review Committee.

The Financial Review Committee oversees the review of the Association's financial situation and advises the Executive Committee on the financial auditing of the Secretary-General.

The 26th General Meeting of the IAP approved the Financial Review Committee Protocol, underlining the importance of the Financial Review Committee and putting it on a par with the SCPID.

Furthermore, given its importance for the transparency of the organisation, the Protocol also stated that the appointment of members of the FRC was the responsibility of the General Meeting.

The members of the Financial Review Committee for 2023 were Jean-Francois Thony (Chair), Christopher Toth, Kathleen Roussel and Runar Torgersen.

Global Training Committee

Although not a standing committee, the Global Training Committee is key to the Association's operational work, and deals with the development of the IAP's training facilities and its partnerships with third parties for the purposes of training and development.

The members of the Global Training Committee for 2023 were Christopher Toth (Chair), Nick Cowdery, Nicola Mahaffy, Jean-Francois Thony, Cheol-Kyu Hwang, Shamila Batohi, Manuel Pinheiro Freitas and Juan Bautista Mahiques.

Report of the Financial Review Committee

To fulfil its duties, the Financial Review Committee (FRC) receives the financial statements issued by the IAP Secretariat twice a year (mid-year review) or from Baker Tilly, the accounting firm (annual statements).

After reviewing the documents, the FRC routinely holds a meeting in The Hague to discuss the financial statements with the Secretary-General and the staff of the Secretariat. It conducts checks of the bookkeeping and will also hold a meeting with officers from Baker Tilly to discuss and clarify the accounting documents.

The FRC met in The Hague on 06-07 March 2024.

The conclusions of the Financial Review Committee were:

- The FRC were satisfied that financial procedures are strictly followed by IAP staff and the Secretary-General;
- Random checks did not demonstrate any variations from the financial procedures.

However, the FRC noted with concern that the working capital of the Association is at a low level and recommends that steps be taken in the future to ensure a reserve that would allow for a safety net in case of problems in the future. It recommends to further review the existing procedures regarding the reimbursement of expenditures by staff, and to explore whether more competitive offers could be identified regarding accounting charges. It also expresses the wish that information may be given to the Executive Committee as to the evolution of IT costs in the recent period, which cannot be deduced from a direct reading of the accounting documents, for the reasons outlined in the full FRC report.

The full report of the FRC can be viewed via the IAP website.

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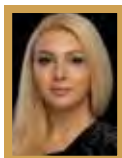
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