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GOPAC Pressed for Stronger Fight Against Corruption by International Community and Parliamentarians at UN Hearings in New York

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OTTAWA, ONTARIO—(Marketwired - Nov. 15, 2013) - The Global Organization of Parliamentarians Against Corruption (GOPAC) urged parliamentarians and the international community to take a greater role in the fight against corruption, emphasizing that what the world loses to corruption in a single year would be enough to end the worst forms of human misery and transform human civilisation, at least a dozen times over. The call came on 15 November 2013 at the second day of the Annual

Parliamentary Hearings at the United Nations Headquarters in New York, jointly organized by the Inter-Parliamentary Union (IPU) and the United Nations. GOPAC has Observer status at the IPU.

In support of this call, GOPAC reminds participants of the Guidelines to Strengthen Oversight Through Parliamentarian-Donor Collaboration, developed by GOPAC and the Parliamentary

Network on the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. The guidelines encourage parliamentarians, governments, and International Financial Institutions to establish frameworks for regular cooperation to ensure improved governance in the use of development funds.

"These guidelines allow parliamentarians and donor organizations to improve how funding is monitored and to reduce the opportunities for corruption," said Donya Aziz, a member of GOPAC's Parliamentary Oversight Global Task Force. "Together we can ensure that project funding and loans benefit the citizens they were intended to support."

GOPAC also urges the United Nations to commit to a stand-alone goal on governance in the Post 2015 UN Development Framework. Inclusion of this goal in the sustainable development goal (SDGs) is instrumental in ensuring that governments and the international community concentrate on improving governance structures, reducing bribery and corruption.

"Corruption in international aid is theft from the world's most destitute and vulnerable people," said Akaash Maharaj, GOPAC's Executive Director. "We recognized that defeating such corruption requires co-operation between parliamentarians, international institutions, and citizens."

GOPAC is a worldwide alliance of parliamentarians working together to combat corruption, strengthen good government, and uphold the rule of law. Based in Ottawa, Canada, GOPAC has



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48 national chapters on 5 continents. GOPAC supports its members' efforts through original research, global anti-corruption capacity building, and international peer support. Visit GOPAC on the web at gopacnetwork.org, on Twitter at twitter.com/GOPAC_Eng, and on Facebook at facebook.com/gopacnetwork.

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