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## What's New

# IDEA speaks at the General Assembly of the Southeast Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption

*Posted: 2013-10-24*

[Read the speech](#) (also available in Bahasa Indonesia)

International IDEA's Director for Asia and the Pacific, Andrew Ellis, spoke at the General Assembly of the Southeast Asian Parliamentarians Against Corruption (SEAPAC) today. The General Assembly is meeting between 23-24 October 2013 in Medan, Indonesia under the theme "Corrupt-free Southeast Asia: Common Goal, Common Action".

In his presentation on "Combatting Corruption: The Role of Political Finance" Ellis noted that money and power always involve strong

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vested interests, and that:

“Legislators have a key role in the battle against corruption: they not only set the rules, but put issues on the agenda and helping to set the climate of public opinion. The laws and regulations they produce shape the incentives that can encourage or inhibit corruption.”

He ended his presentation by extending International IDEA’s admiration to SEAPAC:

“The fight for transparency and against corruption is an essential part of democratic change, and we extend our admiration to SEAPAC for actively standing up and engaging in work for that change”.

2013

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