Conclusions of the Workshop on Corruption*

1. In conclusion, the workshop has identified the following themes:

a) Corruption is an ancient phenomenon with multiple meanings, and it is caused by different cultural reasons, for example, the difficulties to separate the public from the private sector.

b) Although most of the countries have adopted international instruments to fight against corruption, penal measures are not effective as they should be, especially in developing countries.

c) In many countries, non-penal measures have been more successful, considering social and cultural aspects that can determine corrupted practices.

d) The seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing development and the rule of law.

2. Based on the above, the participants of the workshop can make the following suggestions:

a) A multidisciplinary approach shall be taken in order to face corruption, by the adoption of effective preventive measures, such as assets declaration and financial disclosure, prohibition to receive gifts, prohibition of business relations with public authorities and other measures for the prevention of conflict of interest of public officials.

b) Efficient and effective penal and administrative measures shall be taken, considering the discussions that have been led by international organizations such as the United Nations, the Council of Europe, the Organization of the American States and Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development.

c) Efficient and effective measures should be implemented in order to develop and reaffirm the resolutions adopted by the General Assembly of the IAPL in Beijing (Section II, XVIth Congress of Penal Law, 2004).

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