



Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Meetings

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1. AIM AND SCOPE

1. The aim of the present Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Meetings (“the Code”) is to ensure the highest standards of conduct during the meetings of the ICPO-INTERPOL (hereinafter “INTERPOL” or “the Organization”), thus maintaining and promoting public trust in the Organization.
2. The Code applies to all INTERPOL meetings with representation from member countries, (hereinafter “the meetings”). It does not apply to the meetings of the Executive Committee or of the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL’s Files for which a specific code and standards have already been set and adopted.
3. The Code shall apply to all participants attending the meetings, which include representatives of member countries and observers, and other persons invited to attend the meetings (hereinafter “the participants”).
4. Participants shall abide by the present Code and the Organization’s Constitution, rules and regulations.

2. CONDUCT OF DISCUSSIONS

5. Participants shall comply with the Code and the relevant procedural rules applicable to the meeting that they are attending.
6. Discussions are conducted by a presiding officer, whose authority on all matters related to the meeting shall be respected by all participants.

3. GENERAL CONDUCT OF PARTICIPANTS

7. Participants must uphold the integrity and reputation of the Organization. They must ensure that their conduct reflects this responsibility and avoid even the appearance of impropriety.
8. Participants shall observe the highest standards of conduct at all times during the meetings and shall be mindful of and fully respect the habits and customs of the member countries hosting the meetings.
9. The diversity of backgrounds and customs of participants shall be acknowledged and respected, including, but not limited to, their nationality, gender, race, religion and age. Participants shall not tolerate any form of abuse or harassment which should be immediately reported to and dealt with by the presiding officer. Participants shall treat one another with dignity.

4. SHARING of INFORMATION AND PROTECTION OF CONFIDENTIAL INFORMATION

10. Participants shall respect the confidentiality of the information, in all forms, to which they have access in advance of and during the meetings and shall protect it from unauthorized disclosure. Such an obligation of confidentiality shall continue to apply after the meetings.
11. Participants shall comply with the Organization’s policy on the disclosure of information and the confidentiality of discussions and documents relating to the meetings.

5. ACCESS TO MEETINGS AND COMMUNICATIONS

12. Participants shall respect the rules of access to the meetings, in particular when they provide that (i) the meetings shall not be public; and (ii) access to the meetings is restricted to authorized participants.

13. Participants shall not record any sound or images of the meetings – unless otherwise authorized – with a view to their disclosure or publication.

14. Participants shall not publish on social media or through other means, any information subject to the Organization's Confidentiality Regime that is shared during meetings, whether it is of a procedural or substantive nature. This is particularly the case when the press or observers have not been allowed access to the meetings by the presiding officer.

15. Without prejudice to the Organization's Confidentiality Regime, participants shall exercise discretion and restraint in their interactions on social media and comments to the press. They shall ensure that their publications and public statements strictly reflect the opinion or acts of the country or organization that they represent and not those of INTERPOL or of other member countries.

16. Participants shall exercise the utmost restraint and good judgment when publishing names, photographs and videos of individuals and shall not publish such materials without the individuals' consent.

6. USE OF THE ORGANIZATION'S PROPERTY AND ASSETS

17. Participants shall carefully and responsibly manage the Organization's property and other assets that are made available to them, such as equipment and conference rooms. They shall avoid any misuse of the Organization's property and assets for their own personal benefit or for the benefit of third parties.

7. GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

18. To avoid the appearance of improper influence in the performance of their official duties, participants shall exercise the utmost restraint and good judgment when determining whether to accept favours, gifts or entertainment.

19. In particular, participants shall avoid the acceptance of favours, gifts or entertainment that could give rise to the perception of improper influence, especially whilst exercising their right to vote.

20. The usual courtesies of international business and diplomacy may be offered and accepted.

21. Substantial or unusual gifts, favours and entertainment, and other services of significant monetary value, shall not be offered or accepted.

8. COMPLIANCE

22. It is the responsibility of the participants to respect the standards and requirements set out in the Code. The participants shall mutually encourage one another to abide by the Code and discourage breaches of the Code. The participants may consult the presiding officer to obtain an opinion on whether or not a situation is compatible with the Code.

23. The presiding officer shall review those cases that are reportedly non-compliant with the Code. Where applicable, the presiding officer may summon, warn and call to order the participant(s) concerned and urge them to abide by the Code. If that does not suffice, the presiding officer may decide to inform all participants of the meeting, thereby drawing their attention to a case of non-compliance and discouraging similar conduct in the future.

9. ASSESSMENT AND REVISION

24. The General Assembly shall assess the implementation of the Code on a regular basis and revise it as deemed appropriate.
