



Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Election Campaign Activities and Appointments

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CONTENTS

Page

1.	PURPOSE AND SCOPE	3
2.	PRINCIPLES.....	3
3.	FINANCIAL SUPPORT, GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT	3
4.	CONFIDENTIALITY AND COMMUNICATIONS	4
5.	USE OF THE ORGANIZATION’S PROPERTY AND ASSETS	4
6.	INFORMATION ON NOMINATIONS AND CANDIDATES	4
7.	COMPLIANCE.....	4
8.	ASSESSMENT AND REVISION	4

1. PURPOSE AND SCOPE

1. The purpose of this Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Election Campaign Activities and Appointments (hereinafter “the Code”) is to promote an open, fair, equitable and transparent process for ICPO-INTERPOL (hereinafter “INTERPOL” or “the Organization”) elections and appointments and related campaign activities (hereinafter “the campaign activities”) and to set clear guidelines for the behaviour of member countries in this context.
2. The Code applies to all INTERPOL member countries.
3. “Elections and appointments” includes the election of the members of the Organization’s Executive Committee, the election of the members of the Commission for the Control of INTERPOL’s Files (hereinafter “the CCF”), the appointment of the Secretary General, and any other election or appointment by the General Assembly or its subsidiary bodies.
4. “Campaign activities” includes all means used and activities carried out by a member country in order to present nominations or candidates for election or appointment, beginning with the communication of the call for nominations or candidates, or similar, until the day of the election and/or appointment.

2. PRINCIPLES

5. Member countries shall uphold and promote the integrity of campaign activities. They shall therefore avoid any conduct that may jeopardize the integrity of campaign activities, whether of their own campaign activities or those of others, and shall not disrupt or impede them.
6. Member countries shall promote a respectful environment during campaign activities. They shall therefore avoid any negative campaigning against other nominations and personal attacks on other candidates. This includes, but is not limited to, the inappropriate use of social media that could discredit the Organization, its Members or candidates or nominations.

3. FINANCIAL SUPPORT, GIFTS AND ENTERTAINMENT

7. Member countries shall avoid any attempt to improperly influence the outcome of the election or appointment process or the appearance thereof.
8. Therefore, all member countries shall comply with the following conditions concerning presentation of a nomination or a candidate for election or appointment:
 - (i) It is strictly forbidden to pay or provide to another member country any financial or other benefits, such as payment for travel or any type of expenses to attend the Organization’s meetings; and
 - (ii) The organization of events aimed at promoting member countries’ nominations or candidates shall comply with the present Code and the Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Meetings. These events shall be modest in nature and therefore avoid being, or appearing to be excessive or extravagant. Member countries shall give reasonable notice of their intention to organize events and inform other member countries, in a transparent manner, of the arrangements and expenses involved.

4. CONFIDENTIALITY AND COMMUNICATIONS

9. Member countries are required to respect the standards of conduct relating to communications as specified in the “Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Meetings”.

10. Member countries shall respect the confidentiality of proceedings and the secrecy of votes and shall refrain from communicating or publicizing the proceedings through any means, including social media and electronic devices.

5. USE OF THE ORGANIZATION’S PROPERTY AND ASSETS

11. Member countries are required to respect the standards of conduct relating to the use of the Organization’s property and assets as specified in the “Code of Conduct for INTERPOL Meetings”.

12. Member countries shall not, therefore, use the Organization’s property or assets, such as equipment or conference rooms, for the purpose of conducting their campaign activities unless such use has been expressly approved by the Organization and is equally available to all member countries presenting nominations or candidates. Member countries may announce a nomination or a candidate through INTERPOL’s I-24/7 communications system, however they should limit such use to one message for each election or appointment.

6. INFORMATION ON NOMINATIONS AND CANDIDATES

13. Information regarding nominations and candidates shall be made available in a fair and equal manner by the General Secretariat to all member countries as soon as possible following their submission by a member country and, where applicable, the General Secretariat shall publish the list of nominations and candidates submitted by member countries.

7. COMPLIANCE

14. All member countries are expected to respect the standards and requirements set out in the Code and shall ensure that their representatives, delegations, and candidates do likewise. Member countries may consult the presiding officer of the meeting during which the election or appointment is to take place to obtain an opinion on whether or not a situation is compatible with the Code.

15. 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 member countries concerned and urge them to abide by the Code. If that does not suffice, the presiding officer may decide to inform all member countries, thereby drawing their attention to a case of non-compliance and discouraging similar conduct in the future.

8. ASSESSMENT AND REVISION

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