ParlAmericas Anti-Corruption Policy

Key Terms and Definitions
Fraud and corruption include, but are not limited to:

- **Corrupt practice** - offering, giving, receiving, or soliciting, directly or indirectly, anything of value to influence improperly the actions of another party.
- **Fraudulent practice** - any act or omission, including a misrepresentation, that knowingly or recklessly misleads, or attempts to mislead, a party to obtain a financial or other benefit or to avoid an obligation.
- **Collusive practice** - an arrangement between two or more parties designed to achieve an improper purpose, including influencing improperly the actions of another party.
- **Coercive practice** - impairing or harming, or threatening to impair or harm, directly or indirectly, any party or the property of the party to influence improperly the actions of a party.

Context and Purpose
ParlAmericas promotes parliamentary engagement with the inter-American agenda and to this end ascribes to the values and principles laid out in the INTER-AMERICAN CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION. The conduct of ParlAmericas staff, representatives and partners shall correspond to the values and mission of the organization. ParlAmericas promotes responsibility, respect, honesty, and professional excellence. ParlAmericas is an open and transparent organization, and does not tolerate fraud and corruption of any form.

The goal of ParlAmericas anticorruption statement is to prevent fraud and corruption in ParlAmericas programs and projects, and in contracts at the local, national, regional and international levels.

ParlAmericas Anti-Corruption Policy should be read in conjunction with and is supported by the **ParlAmericas Code of Conduct** (Chapter XVIII of the **ParlAmericas Regulations**) and the **ParlAmericas Acceptance of Funds Guidelines**.

The policy affirms that:

1. **For ParlAmericas personnel and individuals representing ParlAmericas:**
   1.1 ParlAmericas shall apply a strict no-tolerance policy where it has determined through an investigative process that its staff, consultants or individuals acting as representatives of ParlAmericas have engaged in fraudulent, corrupt, collusive or coercive practices.
   1.2 ParlAmericas will pursue all allegations falling under the scope of this policy and appropriate sanctions will be applied where the allegations are substantiated.
   1.3 ParlAmericas will continue to improve its internal controls so as to ensure that it is effective in preventing, detecting and investigating fraudulent, corrupt, collusive and coercive practices pertaining to its staff, consultants or its representatives.
1.4 ParlAmericas shall take all possible actions to protect from reprisals individuals who submit allegations of corrupt practices in its activities and operations and individuals subject to unfair or malicious allegations.

2. For ParlAmericas program and project activities:
   2.1 ParlAmericas shall apply a strict no-tolerance policy where it has determined, through an investigation performed by ParlAmericas, a partner or another competent entity, that fraudulent, corrupt, collusive or coercive actions have occurred in a project or program implemented by ParlAmericas.
   2.2 ParlAmericas will pursue all allegations falling under the scope of this policy and appropriate sanctions will be applied where the allegations are substantiated.
   2.3 This policy applies to ParlAmericas activities whether supervised directly by ParlAmericas or by a cooperating institution.
   2.4 ParlAmericas will continue to improve its internal controls, including controls inherent in or pertaining to its project activities, so as to ensure that it is effective in preventing, detecting and investigating fraudulent, corrupt, collusive and coercive practices.
   2.5 ParlAmericas shall take all possible actions to protect from reprisals individuals who help reveal corrupt practices in its project or program activities and individuals or entities subject to unfair or malicious allegations.