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GOVERNANCE DESCRIPTION

Document	Governance Description
Organization	Non-Governmental Organization "International Anti-Corruption Assembly" (NGO "IACA")
Version	7.0
Approved	February 25, 2026
Approved by	Secretary General of the Central Committee of NGO "IACA"
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1. General Provisions

This document describes the governance system of the Non-Governmental Organization “International Anti-Corruption Assembly” (hereinafter referred to as the “Organization” or “IACA”), including its governing bodies, distribution of powers, governance principles, and management mechanisms.

The Organization operates within Ukraine and in 15 countries worldwide, maintains international partnerships, and plans further expansion of its global cooperation. This Governance Description has been developed in accordance with the Charter of the Organization (2019 revised edition), the legislation of Ukraine, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), the recommendations of the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) for non-governmental organizations, international nonprofit governance standards (including ISO 37001 and the Principles of Good Governance for NGOs), as well as the legislation and best practices of the countries in which representatives of the Organization conduct activities.

This document serves as the foundation for all internal policies and ensures transparency, accountability, effectiveness, and compliance with international standards.

2. Purpose of the Document

- To clearly define the governance structure and allocation of responsibilities within an international operating environment;
- To ensure an appropriate balance between strategic oversight and operational management;
- To uphold the principles of integrity, transparency, accountability, and independence (Independence-First);
- To establish a unified and universally applicable governance system suitable for international partnerships, donor assessments, and obtaining consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

3. Legal Framework

- Charter of IACA;
- Law of Ukraine “On Public Associations”;
- Law of Ukraine “On Prevention of Corruption”;
- United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), particularly Article 13;
- International standards and guidance, including UNCAC, United Nations recommendations for NGOs, Transparency International guidance, ECOSOC requirements, USAID standards, and EU Guidelines;
- National legislation of countries in which the Organization operates.

4. Governance Structure

4.1 Supreme Governing Body

The General Assembly of Members is the supreme governing body of the Organization. It approves the Charter, elects the Central Committee and the Audit Commission, and adopts strategic decisions.

4.2 Governing Body

The Central Committee (CC) is the collegial governing body acting between meetings of the General Assembly. It provides overall governance and strategic oversight of the Organization’s activities.

4.3 Executive Head

The General Secretary (Viacheslav Saienko) serves as the sole executive body of the Organization. The General Secretary leads operational management, represents the Organization in Ukraine and internationally, signs official documents, and acts as the authorized manager of the Organization’s funds and assets.

The General Secretary holds the casting vote within the Central Committee in the event of a tied vote.

4.4 Oversight Body

The Audit Commission conducts independent financial and operational oversight and control. It is accountable exclusively to the General Assembly.

4.5 Advisory Body

The Council of the Organization is an advisory body established by decision of the Central Committee.

5. Governance Principles

- Democracy, collegiality, and inclusiveness;
- Transparency, accountability, and effectiveness;
- Segregation of powers and internal control;
- Hybrid operating model (effective from 2026);
- Independence-First - maintaining professional and institutional independence even when receiving international grants and external funding;
- Zero tolerance for corruption, fraud, and misconduct;
- Compliance with internationally recognized nonprofit governance standards.

6. Transition to the Hybrid Operating Model

Beginning in January 2026, the Organization shall transition to a hybrid operating model that preserves a strong volunteer foundation while allowing for the engagement of salaried employees to perform key functions.

This approach enables the Organization to scale its international activities while maintaining its independence and high standards of governance.

7. Interaction of Governing Bodies

- The General Secretary is accountable to the Central Committee and the General Assembly;
- The Audit Commission operates independently from the executive leadership;
- All key decisions, including budgets, strategic plans, major expenditures, and international agreements, shall be approved through collegial decision-making processes.

8. Related Documents

- All internal policies of the Organization, including but not limited to the Risk Management Policy, Financial Procedures, Anti-Corruption Policy, Whistleblowing and Whistleblower Protection Policy, PSEA Policy, and related governance documents;
- Charter of IACA;
- Code of Conduct;
- Risk Management Policy.

9. Final Provisions

This Governance Description shall enter into force on 25 February 2026.

The document shall be reviewed whenever amendments are made to the Charter, the Organization expands its international activities, or relevant international governance standards are revised.

Approved by:

General Secretary of the Central Committee
NGO "International Anti-Corruption Assembly"



Viacheslav Sayenko