



PROTOCOL FOR GOVERNING THE INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF PROSECUTORS' APPROACH TO COMMERCIAL SPONSORSHIP

Whereas the International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) is an independent non-governmental organisation;

Recognising that the IAP needs to generate funds, over and above annual dues and conference registration fees, so that it can carry out its work in support of its objectives; and

Acknowledging that members of the IAP have genuine and reasonable concerns about the risks, both in terms of reality and perception of commercial sponsorship;

The IAP Executive Committee recommends as follows:

1. The IAP will not seek commercial sponsorship to offset its day to day running costs. However, it should not refuse to consider seeking and accepting appropriate offers of commercial sponsorship to support its work programmes and projects and to subsidise activities such as its conferences and training events.
2. However, the IAP should take steps:
 - a. to ensure that any such sponsorship is appropriate and consistent with the objectives of the IAP; and
 - b. to prevent any likelihood or any suggestion of possible improper influence being exerted by the sponsor upon the IAP or its members or any delegates likely to attend an sponsored IAP conference or training event or on the IAP work programme.
3. Accordingly, the IAP will convene a panel comprised of one IAP Vice-President and two members of the Executive Committee to consider and decide upon sponsorship opportunities, bids and offers referred to the panel by the Secretary General . The sponsorship committee will advise the Secretary General of any decisions for any necessary action and will report its decisions and the reasons therefor at each meeting of the Executive Committee. In the event of a weak majority within the sponsorship committee [1 against-2 for] the matter should be referred to the Executive Committee for decision

4. In order that this panel operate to the satisfaction of the membership, it is necessary that its decision-making processes be transparent and understood. To that end the

Reviewed October 2010

panel will use the following criteria when deciding whether commercial sponsorship should be sought and accepted :

a. In seeking assistance for projects and other work in support of its objects the IAP will limit any approaches for commercial sponsorship to organisations whose work is wholly or partly related to the field of criminal justice. Such organisations could include, but are not limited to :

- Legal publishers
- Law firms
- Firms of accountants
- Consultants
- Banks.
- IT firms and other areas of industry with an interest in conducting crime prevention activities and advancing the rule of law

b. In seeking assistance with the funding of its conferences the IAP may approach any of the above but also organisations with standing in the local or wider community and which in the opinion of the panel will not cause embarrassment to the membership. In considering any such approach or approval members of the panel may consult such members of the IAP or others as seem to them to be appropriate.

c. When seeking commercial sponsorship, the IAP will make it clear that : -

The sponsor can expect no professional favours from the IAP or its members;

- The sponsor should not contact directly or indirectly any member of the IAP without the permission of the IAP Secretariat. Should the sponsor wish to contact a member, it should be done via the Secretary-General or General Counsel, who will contact the member. Should the member decline to have contact with the sponsor, that refusal will prevail and the Secretary-General or General Counsel will inform the sponsor.
- The sponsor may advertise its products and/or services at the conference venue and/or at the venues of social activities in an unobtrusive and tasteful way without compromising the independence of the IAP. No advertising will be permitted in the main conference hall and the workshop rooms.
- The sponsor will be entitled to send representatives to the conference venue and/or the venues of social events. They will not be invited to address plenary sessions or other working sessions of the conference, unless their presentation is relevant to the theme of the conference and they have expertise in the area or show that they can otherwise substantially contribute to the discussion of the topic.

- Gifts from the sponsor, other than food and drink at social events, should be confined to "give away" items of minor value normally used for the promotion of the sponsor's goods or services.