



International
Code of Conduct
Association

Update regarding ICoCA Development – 27 April 2015

The ICoCA General Assembly and Board of Directors continue to work on the development of the Association's key governance and oversight functions. These functions include certification of member companies, reporting by members, monitoring of members' implementation of the ICoC (including in the field), assessment of member performance under the ICoC, and the development of a complaints/grievance mechanism. The 12-person Board of Directors are selected by the General Assembly, with 4 Board Directors coming from each of the three Pillars (Industry, Civil Society, and Governments). The Board has, in turn, subdivided itself into three-person Working Groups, with one representative from each of the three Pillars, and with each Working Group designed to develop expertise in order to focus development work on one of the key oversight functions described above.

Initial development work has focused on the certification function. Following an extensive process of consultation of stakeholders from all Pillars and with outside parties and experts, the Certification Working Group has drafted and recommended to the Board a Draft ICoCA Certification Procedure that meets the requirements of Article 11 of our Articles of Association. The full Board will meet this week to discuss the Draft and, if it approves it, the Draft will then go out to the General Assembly for consideration with a vote to take place in early to mid-June. If the General Assembly approves a Certification Procedure, we expect the ICoCA to be in a position to begin certifying companies in accordance with the procedure by late summer. Further information about the Articles of Association and its discussion of Certification can be found on the ICoCA website (www.icoca.ch). If the Board approves the Draft Certification Procedure, we anticipate having that Draft Procedure posted on the website as well.

The ICoCA anticipates significantly greater development work to begin in the next few weeks on its Reporting, Monitoring, and Assessment of Performance functions. Development of these functions will involve extensive stakeholder outreach, including with clients of PSCs as well as with organizations with experience collecting information on and monitoring of human rights. Assuming the continued availability of supportive funding, we are optimistic that these functions can reach the Draft Procedure stage and be submitted for approval to the General Assembly by early 2016. Further information about the architecture of these functions can also be found in the Articles of Association.

Finally, the ICoCA continues its work to promote awareness of the International Code of Conduct, its Association, and the positive role it plays in encouraging and overseeing the

responsible provision of private security services by its members. We were invited to attend the Annual Plenary of the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights in March, and have used that as a spring board to further develop outreach of VPs members and other extractive and private industry clients. We also continue our outreach of governments, and appreciate the launch, last December, of a working group within the Montreux Document Forum where Montreux Document states can interface with the ICoCA.

Increasingly, we are seeing our promotional activity bear fruit as several PSC clients (including government and private industry clients) have approached the Association to discuss making membership in the ICoCA a requirement for contracting with them. Many will already be aware of the Swiss law that will go into effect this year, requiring ICoCA membership both for Swiss-based PSCs operating abroad and for all PSCs that wish to contract with the Swiss government to provide protective services to its diplomatic missions and facilities in high-threat environments. Recently, the U.S. State Department has similarly indicated in a pre-solicitation notice that ICoCA Membership will be a Minimum Mandatory Requirement for potential contractors for its Worldwide Protective Services program. These are important milestones in the increasing recognition of the role the ICoCA can play in raising standards of performance across the industry.

We look forward to the opportunity to further discuss these and any other matters of interest with all who share the objectives of the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers, and its Association, to promote the responsible provision of security services and respect for human rights and national and international law in accordance with the Code.