



The Global Judicial Integrity Network

*Promoting fair gender
representation to strengthen
the judiciary and judicial
integrity*

Thursday, 10 March 2022 marks an important milestone in global efforts to ensuring gender equality. For the very first time, we will celebrate the International Day of Women Judges, pursuant to the UN General Assembly Resolution 75/274 of 2021. The initial impetus for this International Day stems from the 2020 High-Level Meeting of the Network in Doha, where the Chief Justice of the State of Qatar and the then President of the International Association of Women Judges announced their intention to jointly submit a proposal to the General Assembly for this International Day.

The establishment of the International Day builds upon the ongoing efforts of the Network in addressing gender-related judicial integrity issues.

The GA Resolution notes with appreciation the work of the Global Judicial Integrity Network "to incorporate women's representation issues into judicial systems".

With its mandate rooted in the UN Convention against Corruption, the Global Judicial Integrity Network has been emphasizing the crucial role of the judiciary in fighting corruption. Fair gender representation strengthens the judiciary. Women judges contribute to the quality of decision-making and help to build trust in the judiciary. The fight against corruption and other crimes can only be successful if the judiciary is inclusive, diverse and offers different gender perspectives.

Special Events

On the occasion of the first International Day of Women Judges, we are delighted to invite you to attend the following special events on
10 March 2022:

High-level event organized by the Judiciary of the State of Qatar and the Global Judicial Integrity Network

The event will feature high-level speakers and experts discussing key aspects of gender equality, fair gender representation and integrity in the judiciary.

High-level event "Women in Justice/for Justice" organized by UNODC

The event will celebrate women and gender champions in law enforcement and the judiciary, and launch a new initiative by UNODC, "Women in Justice/for Justice", to promote gender balance and gender responsiveness across the spectrum of justice.



*Key Messages by
the Global Judicial Integrity Network Advisory Board*

The statement is available on the Network's website [here](#)

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Including women in the judiciary is not simply about ensuring that “her” perception is relevant to resolving cases about women. It is about integrating the gender perspective and giving equal visibility to women.

Justice Ayesha Malik
Pakistan

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Judges have an important role in challenging the narrative that men were born to lead, women to care.

Justice Mary Rose Gearty
Ireland

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The emergence of a female-dominant judiciary in Jamaica is an outstanding feature in our nation's history that should take centre stage. However, we should also seize the moment for reasoned reflection concerning the plight of “our” men.

Justice Marva McDonald-Bishop
Jamaica

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An excellent and meritorious judiciary should be just as diverse and inclusive as the country that it represents.”

Justice Lynne Leitch
Canada

THE TIME IS NOW
ADDRESSING THE GENDER DIMENSIONS OF CORRUPTION

Gender-related Judicial Integrity Issues

PRODUCED BY THE GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK



CASE STUDY 6 THE VENERABLE JUDGE

(SCENARIO AND RELEVANT PRINCIPLES)

Judge R is venerable, charming and much loved. He is the second most senior judge in your courthouse. He is also very slow, and his cases take an average twice as long to complete as those of his colleagues because, he says, he is “thoughtful”. He likes women, and often comments on their appearance when they attend as witnesses or counsel in his court. He has always ensured that if at all possible he has a female clerk to assist in the running of his court, as he says, “women are more reliable and hardworking than men”. One of his favourite sayings over lunch with fellow judges in the courthouse is “don’t be a lawyer”, but it is not usually clear to what context. Since you joined as the youngest female judge in the courthouse, he had been keen that you sit next to him when you attend such lunches, so he can “show you the ropes”. Most of the other young judges are male and he does not seem to have the same need to show them any “tricks”. You are unhappy and feel compromised. What should you do?

PRINCIPLE 5: Ensuring equality of treatment to all before the courts is essential to the due performance of the judicial office.

PRINCIPLE 8: Competence and Diligence are prerequisites to the due performance of judicial office.

PRINCIPLE 8.5: A judge shall perform all judicial duties, including the delivery of reserved judgments.

GLOBAL JUDICIAL INTEGRITY NETWORK PODCAST

Sexortion and Gender-Related Issues

These sources concern gender-related issues in the judiciary, such as sextortion, sexual harassment, and the representation of women.

ELIMINATING GENDER BIAS AND STEREOTYPES DURING ADJUDICATORY PROCESSES

FEATURING JUDGE ZONES

Visit [here](#) the Network's webpage dedicated to gender-related judicial integrity issues to access, among others, the Network's issue paper on the topic, opinion pieces, webinars, podcasts and other resources. Moreover, you can also read UNODC's report [The Time is Now – Addressing the gender dimensions of corruption](#) which was launched on International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December 2020 with the aim to shed light on the links between corruption and gender and, importantly, to move from word to action. The report is available in Arabic, English, French, Spanish, as well as English Braille.

