

Effective Prosecution Service in the Technological Age







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WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE IAP VICE-PRESIDENT (ASIA AND PACIFIC)



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The First Deputy Prosecutor General of the Supreme People's Procuratorate of the People's Republic of China, Class One Grand Prosecutor Vice-President of the International Association of Prosecutors

国际检察官联合会亚太地区会议作为国际检察官联合会重要的地区会议之一,在亚太地区司法 检察领域影响广泛,在推动亚太地区各国司法检察业务交流和务实合作方面发挥了重要作用。本次 会议的召开,再次充分彰显了亚太地区各国检察机关深化交流合作的强烈共识,体现了与会国家共 同推动亚太地区法治建设的共同愿望。

香港素有"东方之珠"的美誉。在中国中央政府领导下,在"一国两制"、"港人治港"、高度自治方针指引下,香港经济持续发展、社会和谐稳定、人民安居乐业。法治是香港繁荣发展的保障,也是香港的核心优势。本次会议在香港召开,来自亚太地区的检察同仁围绕"科技时代的高效检控工作"共享经验、共促合作、共话未来。我非常期待与各位同仁在会议期间深入交流。

谨向各位与会代表莅临中国香港参加第十一届国际检察官联合会亚太地区会议表示诚挚欢迎, 预祝会议取得圆满成功!

The Asia and Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Prosecutors, as one of the important regional conferences of the International Association of Prosecutors, has a profound influence in the judicial and prosecutorial fields of the Asia-Pacific region. It plays a pivotal role in promoting exchanges and practical cooperation among the judicial and prosecutorial sectors of countries in the region. The convening of this conference once again amply demonstrates the strong consensus among the prosecutorial agencies of countries in the Asia-Pacific region to deepen communication and cooperation and reflects the common desire of participating countries to promote the rule of law in the Asia-Pacific region.

Hong Kong has long been known as the "Pearl of the Orient". Under the leadership of the Central People's Government of the People's Republic of China and guided by the principles of "One Country, Two Systems", "Hong Kong people administering Hong Kong" and a high degree of autonomy, Hong Kong's economy has continued to prosper, society remains stable and harmonious, and citizens live and work in peace and contentment. The rule of law is the guarantee of Hong Kong's prosperity and development, as well as its core advantage. This conference is convened in Hong Kong, where colleagues from the Asia-Pacific region will share experiences, promote cooperation, and discuss the future around the theme of "Effective Prosecution Service in the Technological Age". I look forward to in-depth exchanges with all of you during the conference.

I would like to extend a sincere welcome to all representatives attending the 11th Asia and Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Prosecutors in Hong Kong, China, and wish the conference great success!

WELCOME MESSAGE FROM THE SECRETARY FOR JUSTICE OF THE HKSAR



Paul TK Lam, SBS, SC, JP
The Secretary for Justice of the HKSAR

It gives me great pleasure to welcome you to Hong Kong for the 11th Asia and Pacific Regional Conference of the International Association of Prosecutors, organised and hosted by the Department of Justice of the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region.

Hong Kong is a fascinating cosmopolitan city where the best of the East and West coalesce. It has continuously been recognised as an international business, financial and cultural centre. As part of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area, and being a place filled with history and modern development, Hong Kong is excited and privileged to welcome delegates from all over the world.

The theme of the conference, "Effective Prosecution Service in the Technological Age", invites us to consider how we can collectively strengthen efforts in combatting technology crimes on an international level. While modern technology improves the quality and efficiency of our daily lives, it also gives criminals an opportunity to further their criminal agendas in new and creative ways. The conference provides an opportunity for jurisdictions to exchange views and best practices on a range of pertinent topics, including the challenges posed by decentralisation, the handling of digital evidence, and the impact of technological advancements on criminal evidence and procedure.

I wish you an excellent stay in Hong Kong and I look forward to our meaningful discussions on how we can join hands to build a united front against technology crime.

CONFERENCE THEME

The theme of the 11th Asia and Pacific Regional Conference is "Effective Prosecution Service in the Technological Age". The relationship between crime and technology is becoming increasingly intricate in today's digital age. Incessant technological advancements and the rapid growth of global markets are increasingly being exploited by a new breed of criminals. The possibility of adopting anonymous online identities and the ease of global reach provide incentives for engaging in criminal behaviour in the virtual world, resulting in the emergence of novel criminal trends and an increasing prevalence of cybercrimes. While technological innovations pose considerable challenges to law enforcement agencies and prosecuting authorities in tracking and identifying criminals, they play a pivotal role in crime prevention, detection and investigation.

Against this background, the conference will explore how law enforcement agencies and prosecuting authorities can better equip themselves in combatting crime in the technological age. Jurisdictions will have an opportunity to engage in extensive and in-depth discussions on topics such as the importance and effectiveness of law reform in addressing new criminal trends, and potential collaboration between counterparts in tackling the challenges of decentralisation. The conference will also look into how technology can be incorporated into the criminal justice system to facilitate prosecution services. Jurisdictions will explore topics such as the handling of digital evidence, and the impact of digitalisation and artificial intelligence on evidence gathering and analysis.



CONFERENCE PLENARY SESSIONS



Updating and modernising the armoury the need, the challenges, the effect and sharing of experience in law reform to combat technology crime

Technological advancement has brought about welcome changes to modern societies in recent years, including more convenient communication methods, more powerful social media platforms, and new investment products and opportunities. Yet, it has also incentivised novel ways of committing traditional crimes, creating new types of cybercrimes and increasing levels of risk exposure in virtual assets. Such effects of technological advancement raise novel and considerable concerns.

For instance, offensive content and fraudulent advertisements often hide amongst useful information online. Unauthorised interception of computer data and illegal interference or hijacking of computer systems followed by ransom demands are not uncommon. The collapse of virtual asset trading platforms has made headlines in different jurisdictions in recent years. Are conventional criminal offences like theft or criminal damage adequate in addressing such problems? Is there a regulatory regime empowering authorities to, for example, direct internet service providers to take down objectionable content? Is the trading of virtual assets regulated?

Questions and challenges such as these are faced by jurisdictions around the world and must be addressed. The time is ripe for jurisdictions to consider the ways in which existing laws can be updated and modernised so as to create a more robust legal framework against emerging technology crimes. While law reform efforts are actively being pursued in a number of jurisdictions, new laws targeting illicit cyber-related activities have already been enacted in others. Amidst the increasing prevalence of technology crimes, this session provides a valuable opportunity for jurisdictions to exchange ideas and experiences on relevant law reform efforts. Doing so will be conducive to the development of more comprehensive legal frameworks on which future investigation and prosecution of emerging technology crimes rely.



Plenary 2

Rising above the changing landscape and challenges of decentralisation in the technological age – from social media, DeFi to virtual assets

Decentralisation has emerged as a disruptive force in the fast-paced technological age, unlocking innovative potentials and boosting accessibility and flexibility, but also creating new battlefields against misinformation, anonymity, and pseudonymity in prosecution. With industries reshaped and established norms disrupted, prosecutors and law enforcement agencies face myriad challenges in information dissemination, evidence collection, and digital forensics.

The advent of decentralised social media has introduced new obstacles for content moderation, privacy preservation, and information integrity. Social media platforms have become breeding grounds for cybercrime, misinformation, and online harassment, calling into question the adequacy of existing laws. Identifying perpetrators has become increasingly difficult due to the proliferation of fake accounts and manipulative information.

Decentralised finance (DeFi) enables transactions to be carried out without traditional intermediaries, leaving minimal traces. Virtual assets, also decentralised in nature, allow criminals to obscure the origins of illicit crime proceeds and move them across borders with greater impunity. Together, they bring about legal and regulatory implications, and pose considerable challenges to the tracing of illicit proceeds and related prosecutions. Whilst new financial technologies (in particular DeFi and the rise of virtual assets) create a haven for money laundering activities, they also engender ever-evolving methodologies and practices of financial crime investigation.

Prosecutors must adapt and remain agile amidst the challenges presented by decentralisation. This involves overcoming legal ambiguity, closing regulatory gaps, addressing anonymity, fostering collaboration, developing adaptive legal strategies, and embracing innovation, all while deepening our knowledge and understanding of emerging technologies. It is only by sharpening our own legal weaponry that we may ultimately prevail and rise above the challenges that await.

This plenary session will delve into the multifaceted challenges posed by decentralisation, providing prosecutors with valuable knowledge, insights and strategies to navigate this rapidly-changing field.

Experience sharing in prosecuting cyber offences - obtaining and handling digital evidence

Cyber offences inevitably involve the use of digital technology. As computing power becomes increasingly accessible and affordable and with a growing number of institutions moving towards paperless operation, the use of digital evidence in criminal cases is expected to become increasingly common. Digital means may be used by offenders to communicate with one another, commit offences, and handle proceeds of crime. Important evidence such as transaction and communication records, video and audio recordings, and assets and properties now exist in digital form.

On the one hand, digital evidence can be accurate, reliable and detailed records which do not deteriorate over time. Such evidence can play an important role in identifying offenders, tracing virtual assets, and reconstructing sequences of events. Yet, on the other hand, digital evidence may be encrypted or hidden. As a result, its provenance, integrity and admissibility may be challenged in court.

This plenary session will explore how digital evidence can be properly obtained, decrypted, and preserved, so as to ensure that it is admissible and properly adduced in criminal proceedings. The application of legal principles, expert evidence and cutting-edge technology in this area will also be discussed.



Plenary 4

Digital transformation of the court and the prosecution office the impact of technological advancements on criminal evidence and procedure

In recent years, the rapid advancement of artificial intelligence (AI) has sparked conjecture and debate on its potential to supplant human roles within the legal profession. Amidst these speculations, a fundamental question persists: is AI destined to serve merely as a complementary tool, enhancing the efficacy of judicial processes, or does it harbour the capacity to fundamentally redefine the roles of judges and prosecutors?

Traditionally, prosecution offices and courtrooms alike have been besieged by paperwork, with files and bundles of documents accumulating over time. The advent of technology presents a much-anticipated opportunity to alleviate the heavy reliance on paper-based processes. Indeed, this digital shift holds the promise of revolutionising the preparation of cases and the conduct of trials and appeals, potentially streamlining these processes to an unprecedented degree. Jurisdictions that have already embraced this digital transformation stand poised to offer invaluable insights derived from their experiences navigating this paradigm shift.

This plenary session will explore the digital transformation of the court and the prosecution office, focusing on the profound impact of technological advancements on criminal evidence and procedure. We will explore how digital technologies have revolutionised the gathering, analysis, and presentation of evidence, thereby necessitating improvements and breakthroughs in courtrooms and prosecution offices. The discussion will also cover the challenges and opportunities presented by emerging technologies such as AI and forensic data analysis. Participants will gain valuable insights into the ever-evolving landscape of criminal justice and the transformative role of technology in shaping its future.

Special Plenary Session

Strengthening international cooperation through mutual legal assistance in criminal matters and tackling new challenges

There is little dispute that mutual legal cooperation in criminal matters is often a powerful, indispensable and effective tool in the fight against transnational crimes and the due administration of criminal justice. Mutual legal assistance may be rendered in many forms including intelligence exchange in criminal investigations, provision of evidence for use in court proceedings, as well as restraint and confiscation of proceeds of crime. Enhancing efficiency in the provision of assistance to international cooperation partners is always high on the agenda.

With the rapid development and expansion of the digital economy, the last decade has witnessed a dramatic rise in cross-border crimes involving the use of the internet. This shift in the criminal landscape has brought about new challenges in the investigation and prosecution of illicit criminal activities.

In this session, we will explore why and how mutual legal assistance in criminal matters plays an integral part in strengthening international cooperation to tackle transnational technology crimes.



CONFERENCE VENUE INFORMATION

The conference will be held at the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC), one of the largest convention and exhibition centres in Hong Kong. The iconic architecture of the HKCEC stands proudly on the waterfront of Hong Kong's world-famous Victoria Harbour. Besides being a major landmark on the Hong Kong Island skyline, the HKCEC has also received numerous industry awards and is recognized regionally and internationally as a world-class conference venue.

From the Airport to the Hong Kong Convention and Exhibition Centre (HKCEC)

Facing the world-famous Victoria Harbour, the HKCEC is located in a quiet oasis in the vibrant Wan Chai District.

Address: 1 Expo Drive, Wan Chai, Hong Kong

How to Get There

The HKCEC is accessible from the Hong Kong International Airport via taxi, the Mass Transit Railway (MTR), or bus.



By Taxi

Estimated Journey Time

Service Hours

35 minutes

24 hours

Estimated Cost: HK\$400 including tolls, excluding levy for luggage and road tunnels

By MTR

Estimated Journey Time

Service Hours

45 minutes

0600 hours to 0030 hours

Estimated Cost: HK\$120 for a single journey

Route Details:

- Board the Airport Express at Airport Station and alight at Hong Kong Station;
- 2 Walk underground from Hong Kong Station to Central Station;
- 3 Board the MTR at Central Station and take the Island Line towards Chai Wan direction. Alight at Admiralty Station for interchange; and
- 4 Interchange at Admiralty Station for the East Rail Line towards Lo Wu/Lok Ma Chau and alight at Exhibition Centre Station.

By MTR & Taxi

Estimated Journey Time

Service Hours

40 minutes

0600 hours to 0030 hours

(for Airport Express)

Estimated Cost: HK\$115 single journey (for Airport Express) +

HK\$50 (for Taxi) including tolls, excluding levy for luggage

Route Details:

- Board the Airport Express at Airport Station and alight at Hong Kong Station; and
- 2 Take a taxi outside Hong Kong Station to HKCEC.

By Bus

Estimated Journey Time

Service Hours

80 minutes

0535 hours to 0030 hours

Estimated Cost: HK\$42 for a single journey

Route Details:

- 1 Board Route No. A11 at the Hong Kong International Airport, alight at "Fleming Road, Hennessy Road" bus stop; and
- Walk for 15 minutes.

Useful links:

https://www.mtr.com.hk/en/customer/tickets/more_airport_express.html https://mobile.citybus.com.hk/nwp3/index.php?golang=EN

SECURITY AND ACCESS TO EVENT

Please be aware that entry to the conference venue and evening events will not be permitted unless you are wearing a valid identification badge. Ensuring your safety and security throughout the conference is our top priority.

All participants, including security personnel, interpreters, staff, and partners attending the evening events, will be issued a personalised name badge with a photo. Your name badge must be worn visibly at all times during the conference, including throughout the social programme.

Conference Badges

Conference badges will display your name and the jurisdiction or organisation you represent.

Lost Badges

If you lose your badge during the conference, please visit the information counter immediately. You will need to provide proof of identity to receive a replacement badge, so please have identification with you.

The information counter is located at the entrance of the conference venue at the HKCEC.



CONFERENCE INFORMATION

Collection of Conference Pack and Registration

Overseas participants may collect their welcome pack including their name badge from our ambassadors assigned to assist them during the conference. Participants should carry their name badge throughout the conference.



Conference Materials

The conference booklet and speakers' biography can be found at the attendee portal. Participants may log into the attendee portal by scanning the QR code printed on their name badge.

Wi-Fi

Free public Wi-Fi is available at the HKCEC.

Lost Property

In the case of any lost property, please contact any Local Organising Committee members who will be wearing identification badges and will follow up on the matter with the personnel of the HKCEC.

Bilateral Meetings

Bilateral meetings will be held in Room N209/N210, 2/F of HKCEC. Conference delegates are responsible for making the arrangements for bilateral meetings themselves. After a meeting is agreed between the parties, please make a reservation of the room by sending an email to iap2024@doj.gov.hk, specifying the date, time and participants of the intended bilateral meeting. The conference team will confirm details of the room reservation via email upon successful registration.

IAP Contact Numbers

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Local Organising Committee Contact Numbers

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SOCIAL PROGRAMME

Welcome Dinner

Date: 27 November 2024, Wednesday

Time: 18:00 - 21:00 Venue: The Millions,

Hong Kong Jockey Club Racecourse, Happy Valley

Dress Code: Business attire

The Welcome Dinner will be held at The Millions, situated at the Happy Valley Racecourse of the Hong Kong Jockey Club. The restaurant features a balcony adjacent to the racetrack, allowing guests to immerse themselves in the thrill of live horseraces while enjoying delicate culinary delights.

Buffet Luncheon

Date: 28 November 2024, Thursday

Time: 12:30 - 14:15

Venue: Tiffin, Grand Hyatt Hong Kong

Dress Code: Business attire

Following the first plenary session of the conference, guests will be escorted to Tiffin at Grand Hyatt Hong Kong where they will enjoy a carefully curated lunch buffet featuring cuisines from all over the world.

Gala Dinner

Date: 28 November 2024, Thursday

Time: 19:30 - 22:30

Venue: Oriental Pearl Harbour Cruise

Dress Code: Business attire / National dress

The Gala Dinner will take place on the Oriental Pearl, Hong Kong's newest and one of the most spectacular harbour cruises. Guests will be able to enjoy a 360-degree view of the renowned Victoria Harbour, while taking in captivating sights of landmarks and buildings illuminated by "A Symphony of Lights", a colourful and vibrant multimedia light show, as well as other on-board performances.

Luncheon and Cultural Visit

Date: 29 November 2024, Friday

Time: 13:45 - 15:00 (Luncheon)

15:00 - 17:30 (Cultural Visit)

King Lung Heen, Venue:

Hong Kong Palace Museum (Luncheon)

Hong Kong Palace Museum, West Kowloon Cultural District

(Cultural Visit)

Dress Code: Smart casual

Guests will enjoy exquisite Cantonese dim sum and delicacies prepared in a contemporary way at King Lung Heen, a restaurant located within the Hong Kong Palace Museum which features a stunning view of the Victoria Harbour.

After the luncheon, there will be a cultural visit to the Hong Kong Palace Museum which is located at the West Kowloon Cultural District. The Museum, officially opened in July 2022, features a unique architectural design combining traditional Chinese architecture and contemporary aesthetics. It presents over 900 priceless artefacts from the Palace Museum in Beijing, many of which are exhibited in Hong Kong for the very first time. The Museum also presents special exhibitions featuring art and culture from China and other parts of the world.

Farewell Reception

Date: 29 November 2024, Friday

Time: 18:00 - 20:30

sky100 Hong Kong Observation Deck, International Commerce Centre Venue:

Dress Code: Smart casual

The Farewell Reception will be held at sky100, an observation deck situated on the 100th floor of the International Commerce Centre, the tallest building in Hong Kong. At sky100. guests will be able to enjoy an unobstructed view of Hong Kong's evening skyline and sunset, while discovering Hong Kong's local tales, anecdotes and history from new perspectives through multimedia and interactive experiences - all combining together to create a meaningful and memorable close to the conference.

INFORMATION ABOUT HONG KONG

Not just an international city, Hong Kong is a Special Administrative Region of the People's Republic of China and part of the Guangdong-Hong Kong-Macao Greater Bay Area. With its international background and being part of China, Hong Kong has one of the most unique and diverse characters. From an international financial centre to one of the world's most visited tourist destinations; from a place teeming with historical buildings to a city filled with modern arts, you are not visiting just another city but Hong Kong.

Hong Kong is also a fast-paced and bustling city with something to offer around the clock. From hiking trails offering serene mountain views and ancient temples with fascinating history, to modern towering skyscrapers and busy urban streets canopied by neon-lit signs, there is just so much to see and experience.

Under the Basic Law, HKSAR enjoys executive, legislative and independent judicial power, including that of final adjudication, and the common law system is preserved in Hong Kong, making it the only common law jurisdiction in China.

The HKSAR is committed to the rule of law and its robust legal system.



USEFUL INFORMATION



Emergency Services

The emergency number for the police, ambulance service, fire department and other emergency services is **999**, available 24 hours a day. For the speech or hearing impaired, a call for assistance may be made via SMS to **992**.





Healthcare

The healthcare system in Hong Kong runs on a dual-track system encompassing the public and private sectors. For more details, please visit:

https://www.gov.hk/en/residents/health/hosp/overview.htm.



Time Zone

The standard time zone in Hong Kong is eight hours ahead of UTC (UTC+08:00).



Smoking

Smoking is prohibited in all indoor public places in Hong Kong, including restaurants, bars, malls and karaoke venues. The smoking ban is also implemented on public transport carriers, within public transport facilities, and in both the indoor and outdoor areas of some premises, including public beaches, swimming pools and escalators.



Currency

The official currency in Hong Kong is the Hong Kong dollar (HKD), which is pegged to the US dollar at a rate of about 7.80 HKD to 1 USD, although exchange rates may fluctuate slightly.



ATMs

ATMs can be found almost everywhere. Most ATMs take international cards and some also provide foreign currency withdrawal service.



Changing Money

You can exchange your cash at any authorised money exchanger. Please refer to https://www.discoverhongkong.com/eng/plan/qts/shops-results.html?category=Money for money exchangers accredited by the Quality Tourism Services (QTS) Scheme. Most money exchangers within the city are open until the evening. Currency exchange counters at the Hong Kong International Airport are open from early morning till late at night.



Payment Methods

International credit cards, such as American Express, VISA, and MasterCard, are welcome at many hotels, shops, and restaurants in Hong Kong. Some stores also accept mobile payment. You can find out which payment methods are accepted by checking the signs displayed at the entrance or cash register of the store.

Another convenient option is the Octopus card, a stored value smart payment tool that allows you to pay cash-free at major public transports, convenience stores, supermarkets, and restaurants with just a simple tap. The cards can be bought and topped up at 7-Eleven and Circle K stores and MTR stations, or you can download the Octopus App for Tourists on your mobile phone. For more details, please visit:

https://www.octopus.com.hk/en/consumer/tourist/choices/index.html



Shopping and Opening Hours

Retail shops generally open from 10:00 to 19:00 daily, although those in popular shopping areas such as Causeway Bay and Tsim Sha Tsui often stay open until 21:30 or even later, especially on weekends.

Restaurants tend to stay open until around 23:00, while bars and clubs, as well as some fast food outlets, will close in the early hours of the morning, with plenty of them operating all night, particularly in popular nightlife hubs such as Lan Kwai Fong and Wan Chai.



Sales Tax

All goods, other than alcohol and tobacco, are tax-free in Hong Kong. However, all retail businesses will charge a minimum levy of HK\$1 for each plastic shopping bag provided to customers in order to reduce waste and protect the environment



Country Calling Code

The country calling code for Hong Kong is +852.



Wi-Fi

Free Wi-Fi services are widespread in Hong Kong. In particular, there are many Wi-Fi.HK hotspots widely available across the city in locations such as major tourist attractions, shopping malls, parks and gardens, visitor centres, sports venues, museums, ferry terminals, cooked food centres and government buildings, which offer wireless internet connection completely free or free for a period of time.

Free wireless internet access is also available at most seating and public areas in the passenger terminals of the Hong Kong International Airport, and in the concourse and platforms of every MTR station.



Electricity

The standard electrical voltage in Hong Kong is 220 volts AC, 50 Hz. The majority of electrical outlets in Hong Kong take a three-pronged UK-style plug.



Religion

Hong Kong residents enjoy freedom of religion. Religions practised in Hong Kong include Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, Christianity, Islam, Sikhism, Hinduism, Judaism and other religions.



Public Transport

Hong Kong has a well-developed public transport network. A multitude of operators provide various forms of rail-based and road-based services as well as ferry routes to different destinations.



Taxis

With the exception of some very remote areas, taxis are plentiful throughout Hong Kong. They can be hailed on the street (except in restricted areas) or summoned by phone. All are metered, relatively cheap, air-conditioned and clean.

Taxis are categorised by three colours, each indicating a geographical area. All taxis can travel to and from the Hong Kong International Airport as well as the Hong Kong Disneyland:



Taxis in Hong Kong can carry up to four or five passengers and the green sign at the rear of the vehicle with "4" or "5" indicates the maximum passenger capacity. For taxi fares and additional charges, visit:

https://www.td.gov.hk/en/transport_in_hong_kong/public_transport/taxi/taxi_fare_of_hong_kong

Mass Transit Railway (MTR)

Getting around Hong Kong couldn't be easier with the quick and efficient Mass Transit Railway (MTR) system. It covers all major districts in the territory, including stops at the boundary with Mainland China, namely Lo Wu Station and Lok Ma Chau Station.

Buses

Buses in Hong Kong are plentiful, comfortable and air-conditioned. Especially popular are the double-deckers that offer great views of the surrounding city from the top deck. Route number and destination are displayed.

Minibuses

Minibuses are small buses that carry up to 19 people. Green minibuses operate along specific routes at fixed prices. Red minibuses operate along routes that are not always fixed and passengers can get on and off anywhere along the route, except where special prohibitions apply.

Trams

Awarded with the Guinness World Record™ for the "largest double-decker tram fleet in service" in 2021, Hong Kong's historic street trams still operate on the north corridor of Hong Kong Island and continue to be an affordable, inexpensive and fun way to get around.

No matter how far you travel, each tram ride costs the same flat fare. You need to get on the tram at the back and then pay the exact fare at the front when you're getting off.

Ferries

As a coastal city, Hong Kong regularly operates ferry routes that connect Hong Kong Island, Kowloon and the Outlying Islands. The cross-harbour ferries are a fun way to hop between Hong Kong Island and Kowloon. Enjoy the stunning harbour view as you sail between Central and Hung Hom, or on the Star Ferry routes between Central or Wan Chai and Tsim Sha Tsui.

WHAT TO DO IN HONG KONG

Gaze across Hong Kong and Kowloon from The Peak

The Peak, located near Central, the city's central business district, offers stunning views of Hong Kong both during the day and at night. Visitors will be able to catch sights of the iconic Victoria Harbour, Kowloon peninsula, and Hong Kong Island from a bird's-eye view. Visitors may take the Peak Tram from Central, a short ride up top with scenic views along the way. Alternatively, hike up to the Peak Galleria via the Morning Trail for a greener route up. However and whenever you get there, be sure to snap a photo or two of the signature postcard view of Hong Kong, from the very top of it all.

Hong Kong Big Bus Unlimited Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Tours

Discover Hong Kong's top sightseeing spots aboard the "Big Bus Hop-On Hop-Off Sightseeing Tour", which takes you through must-see landmarks on Hong Kong Island and Kowloon on an open-top bus. Explore multiple daytime routes at your own choosing, with attractions including the Ladies Market, Victoria Peak, Man Mo Temple, SoHo and Stanley Market. Equally captivating is the "Big Bus Night Tour", showcasing the best of Hong Kong nightlife in the heart of the Kowloon area. The tour takes you on highlights along the ambient and neon-lit Nathan Road, before ending by the harbourside where you can enjoy "A Symphony of Lights", a free public light show beginning at 20:00 nightly.

Hop on the iconic Star Ferry

The Star Ferry is a historic icon of Hong Kong which still forms part of modern life in the city. The Star Ferry takes passengers across the Victoria Harbour separating Kowloon and Hong Kong Island. While being a convenient mode of transport in its own right, the route is renowned for offering some of the best views of the Hong Kong skyline and Victoria Harbour, along with a relaxing seaside breeze. Be sure to get a seat on the upper deck for great views of the waterfront. Hop on during the day and at night for two equally impressive views.

Ngong Ping 360 Round Trip "Crystal+" Cable Car

Explore Lantau Island starting with a ride on the crystal cabin cable car at Ngong Ping 360. The fully transparent floor-to-ceiling cabin brings you an all-around view of the Hong Kong-Zhuhai-Macao Bridge, the Big Buddha, and the panoramic mountains of Lantau Island. The ride takes you to Ngong Ping Village where you may sample local snacks, shop for souvenirs, and enjoy multimedia and interactive attractions. Be sure to visit the nearby Big Buddha, the world's second largest outdoor seated bronze Buddha statue. A set of 268 steps leads you to the base of the giant statue for a closer look. Conclude your tour by visiting the century-old Po Lin Monastery, adjacent to the Big Buddha.

Get Arty at Galleries, Museums and Mores

Delve into Hong Kong's past by perusing exhibitions inside Tai Kwun, a former police station now turned into a cultural hub located in Central. Across the harbour, immerse yourself in the world of fine arts at the Hong Kong Museum of Art, or explore the wonders of the cosmos at the Hong Kong Space Museum. When visiting the latter, be sure to also check out the Space Theatre, an audio-visual theatre featuring a hemispherical screen of 23 meters in diameter which screens a variety of shows from time to time. For an evening night stroll, take a walking tour of the Tsim Sha Tsui area filled with shops of all kinds, or the Avenue of Stars, a glamourous waterside promenade area dedicated to celebrating the stars of the Hong Kong film industry.

Get a Thrill at Theme Parks

Ocean Park, Hong Kong's homegrown theme park, has been entertaining kids and adults alike for over 45 years, with its thrilling rides and real-life encounters with wild animals. Alternatively, visit Hong Kong Disneyland where you can meet Disney characters, enjoy live performances, and gaze at the mesmerizing Castle of Magical Dreams illuminated by night lights.



A visit to a "dai pai dong" is a unique culinary experience in Kong that food Hong no enthusiast should miss. These establishments, characterised by green-painted steel exterior and foldable tables and chairs. are renowned for their fiery woks that cook authentic local dishes. Hong Kong boasted as many as 40 dai pai dongs in the 1950s. Today, only slightly over 20 of these food stalls remain to preserve and bring old Hong Kong flavours into the future.

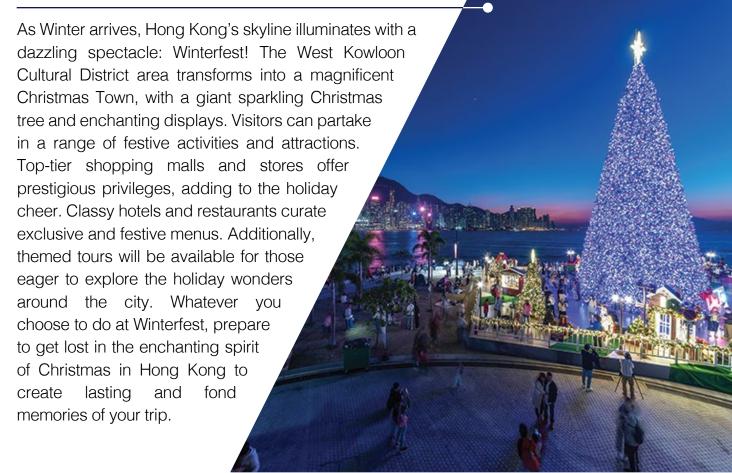
A Taste of Temple Street

Temple Street, situated in the heart of the Kowloon area, presents captivating nightlife experiences with its lively atmosphere and revitalizing vibes. Adorned with colourful decorations, Temple Street offers irresistible photo opportunities for visitors. It is also lined with roadside food stalls tempting you with a wide variety of delicious local snacks and specialty products. Embark on an evening stroll around the area and discover the unique nightlife Hong Kong has to offer!



Hong Kong WinterFest

22 November to 1 January 2025



The International Association of Prosecutors (IAP) is a non-governmental and non-political organisation and is the only worldwide association of prosecutors. It was established in June 1995 at the United Nations Offices in Vienna and was formally inaugurated in September 1996 at its first General Meeting in Budapest, which was attended by 149 participants from 49 countries.

The initial idea for an international association of prosecutors followed on from discussions at the Eighth United Nations (UN) Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders in 1990 on the role of prosecutors. Delegates recognised that although "the Universal Declaration of Human Rights enshrines the principles of equality before the law, the presumption of innocence and the right to a fair and public hearing before an impartial tribunal, frequently there still exists a gap between the vision underlying those principles and the actual situation". They also recognised that prosecutors play a crucial role in the administration of justice and in ensuring compliance with these principles. The UN Congress subsequently adopted Guidelines on the Role of Prosecutors, designed to assist Member States in their tasks of securing and promoting the effectiveness, impartiality and fairness of prosecutors in criminal proceedings.

There was also a growing recognition amongst prosecutors of the need for greater international cooperation between prosecutors and for greater speed and efficiency in the use of mutual legal assistance, asset tracking and other international cooperation measures to tackle the rapid growth in serious transnational crime including drug trafficking, money laundering and fraud.

Since its inception, the IAP has been committed to setting and raising standards of professional conduct and ethics for prosecutors worldwide, and to the promotion of the rule of law, fairness, impartiality and respect for human rights. The IAP also aims to improve and strengthen international cooperation to combat crime by building networks between prosecuting agencies and supporting an increased pace and efficiency in the transfer of information and the provision of mutual legal assistance.

In addition to individual members, the IAP network includes over 130 prosecution agencies, 42 associations of prosecutors and seven international associations, including the International Criminal Court (ICC) and Eurojust. Today, the IAP has a membership of over 250,000 prosecutors around the world. The IAP has also been granted a special consultative status with the United Nations.

The IAP delivers its objectives through three principal strands of activity. Firstly, to safeguard the role of the prosecutor and their role as a legal officer, the IAP actively advocates the functional independence and legal accountability of prosecutors and develops practical responses to challenges to that independence.

Furthermore, the IAP monitors threats to the safety and security of prosecutors and supports the development of practical strategies for relevant authorities to respond to those threats.

The IAP also manages a worldwide programme for prosecutors in difficulty, responding to prosecutors' requests for assistance when they report facing challenges as a result of carrying out their prosecutorial duties.

Secondly, the IAP builds and maintains a worldwide community to enable prosecutors to share experiences and challenges in a trusting professional environment.

Through annual conferences and regional meetings, training sessions, workshops and webinars, the IAP routinely brings together frontline prosecutors, specialists and heads of prosecution services to network, collaborate, cooperate, and share best practice and knowledge. Through our rapidly growing online network, the IAP provides a digital database and platform of prosecution contact points and specialists to facilitate the exchange of information and provision of casework assistance.

Thirdly, the IAP produces the world's leading statements of professional standards of prosecution, as well as best practices and guidelines in relation to a wide range of criminal activity. The IAP also facilitates specialised learning programmes in international criminal justice.

Areas of focus include mutual legal assistance, counter-terrorism, cybercrime, financial crime, trafficking in persons, international crimes, and crimes of sexual violence.

To promote the **effective**, **fair**, **impartial and efficient** prosecution of criminal offences.

To **respect** and seek to **protect human rights** as laid down in the Universal Declaration of Human Rights proclaimed by the General Assembly of the United Nations on 10 December 1948.

To promote **high standards** and **principles** in the administration of criminal justice, including procedures to guard against or address miscarriages, in support of the rule of law.

To **promote and enhance** those standards and principles which are generally recognised internationally as necessary for the proper and independent prosecution of offences.

To assist prosecutors internationally in the fight against organised or other serious crime, and for that purpose:

- to promote international co-operation in gathering and providing evidence; in tracking, seizing and forfeiting the proceeds of serious crime; and in the prosecution of fugitive criminals;
- to promote speed and efficiency in such international co-operation.

To promote measures for the **elimination of corruption** in public administration.

To promote the professional interests of prosecutors and to **enhance recognition** of their crucial role in achieving criminal justice.

To promote good relations between individual prosecutors and prosecution agencies; to facilitate the exchange and dissemination among them of information, expertise and experience; and, to that end, to encourage the use of information technology.

To promote **examination of comparative criminal law and procedure** and to assist prosecutors engaged in justice reform projects.

To **co-operate with international juridical organisations** in furtherance of the foregoing objects.

STRUCTURE OF THE IAP

The General Meeting is the body of supreme authority in the IAP. It consists of all organisational members, individual members, honorary members, and members of the Senate.

The **Executive Committee** is the managing and administrative body of the Association. Members of the Association elect the members of the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee comprises of a President, up to nine Vice-Presidents, and up to twenty-one ordinary members. The geographical make-up of the Executive Committee reflects the regions of the world from where the IAP has members.

The Executive Committee appoints a **Secretary-General** who is the chief executive of the Association, a **General Counsel** who is responsible for the development of the professional programme and for providing legal advice to the Association, and an **Executive Director** who is responsible for the day-today management of the Association.

The **IAP Senate** consists of past members of the Executive Committee who elect to join the Senate on their retirement from the Executive Committee. The Senate serves as an advisory body in relation to the objectives and functions of the Association.

In addition to the Executive Committee, the IAP has a series of committees and sub-committees which assist in carrying out functions relating to the objectives and activities of the Association.



Committee / Sub-committee	Function
Conflict Committee	To consider submissions on and resolve any conflicts relating to the application and interpretation of the IAP Constitution
Financial Review Committee	To assist the Executive Committee in fulfilling its duty to oversee the financial management of the Association, including its financial sustainability
Standing Committee on Prosecutors in Difficulty	To consider requests for assistance received from an IAP member and to determine what assistance, if any, can be provided
Stichting Treasury Committee	To act as board members for the Stichting Foundation Treasury for the Association
Award Committee	To assess nominations for the IAP awards and to make recommendations for suitable candidates for each of the awards/decorations to the Executive Committee for their consideration
Funding Committee	To determine strategies to secure funding from external sources to support the objectives and activities of the IAP
Granting Programme Committee	To determine the allocation of grants to support attendance at IAP annual conferences
Prosecutors Exchange Programme Committee	To encourage and facilitate the establishment of bilateral exchanges between prosecution offices
Succession Planning Committee	To consider succession planning for members of the IAP Secretariat

Committee / Sub-committee	Function
Civil Society Organisations Sub-committee	To determine complaints made by non-members alleging a serious breach of the IAP Standards/IAP Objects by the IAP or an IAP member
Global Training Academy Sub-committee	To ensure that IAP members are provided with a coherent programme of training and capacity building that is globally and/or regionally accessible and developed through partnerships with international and regional organisations, national authorities, and the private sector
Regional Office Sub-committee	To assist in identifying regions that may benefit from the establishment of a regional office and to make recommendations to the Executive Committee as to the allocation of regional offices



EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

President

Juan Bautista Mahiques

Attorney General of the Autonomous City of Buenos Aires, Argentina

Vice-Presidents

Kamran Aliyev

Prosecutor General of the Republic of Azerbaijan

Lloyd Babb

Director of Public Prosecutions, Northern Territory, Australia

Shamila Batohi

National Director of Public Prosecutions, South Africa

Manuel Pinheiro Freitas

Director General of the Superior Law School of the Public Prosecution, Brazil

Giorgi Gogadze

Deputy Chief Prosecutor and National Member of Georgia at Eurojust, Office of the Chief Prosecutor, Georgia

Michael Leitner

Deputy Procurator General, Austria

Nayef Mahmood

Senior Advocate General, Bahrain

Kathleen Roussel

Former Director of Public Prosecutions and Deputy Attorney General, Canada

Tong Jianming

First Deputy Prosecutor General, Supreme People's Procuratorate, People's Republic of China

Immediate Past President

Cheol-Kyu Hwang

Chair Professor of Kyonggi University and Attorney-at-Law, Republic of Korea

Ordinary Members

Jane Abodo

Director of Public Prosecutions, Uganda

Rashid Ahmine

Director of Public Prosecutions, Mauritius

Mohammed Hassan Abdul Rahim

Advocate General, Dubai Public Prosecution, United Arab Emirates

Abdulaziz Farhad Alqorony

Prosecutor, The Public Prosecution of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Saudi Arabia

Immaculate Angutoko Draru

President of the Uganda Association of Prosecutors and Chief State Attorney, Uganda

Stefan Blättler

Attorney General, Switzerland

Sally Dowling SC

Director of Public Prosecutions, New South Wales, Australia

Renato Finocchi Ghersi

Advocate General, General Prosecution Office at the Italian Supreme Court, Italy

Jeanette Manning

Chief Officer, National Association of Attorneys General, United States of America

Kate Matthews

President of the Canadian Association of Crown Counsels, Canada

Manoel Victor Sereni Murietta e Tavares

President of The National Association of Members of the Public Prosecution Service of Brazil (CONAMP), Brazil

Grace Ononiwu CBE

Director of Legal Services, Crown Prosecution Service, United Kingdom, England and Wales

Laureline Peyrefitte

Director of Criminal Affairs and Pardons, Ministry of Justice, France

Catherine Pierse

Director of Public Prosecutions, Ireland

Phairach Pornsomboonsiri

Attorney General, Thailand

Ip Son Sang

Prosecutor General, Macao SAR of People's Republic of China

Woo Jung Shim

Prosecutor General, Republic of Korea

Edina Soltész

Public Prosecutor, Hungary

Bruce Swartz

Deputy Assistant Attorney General and DOJ Counselor for International Affairs, United States of America

Angel Valencia

Prosecutor General, Chile

MEMBERSHIP OF THE IAP

Organisational membership of the IAP is open to:

- An association of prosecutors organised on a country or a jurisdictional basis;
- A prosecution service organised on a country or a jurisdictional basis;
- An organisation, agency or foundation established for the promotion of crime prevention measures, whose functions are closely connected with the prosecution of crime or an international unit, body, organisation or forum established by a state or prosecution service to stimulate and improve coordination and cooperation between competent national prosecuting authorities.

Individual membership of the IAP is open to:

- A lawyer who is or has been a prosecutor, namely someone who has been appointed by or on behalf of a state or other public authority, including an international public authority, to institute or conduct criminal proceedings or to perform other functions in a prosecution service in accordance with the law or who is elected for that purpose. It includes a lawyer who has regularly been retained by a prosecutor so appointed or elected to conduct or assist in the conduct of criminal prosecutions and also includes an examining magistrate;
- In addition, the General Meeting may, on the recommendation of the Executive Committee, elect any person who has made an outstanding contribution to the Association's work as an honorary member.

IAP STANDARDS OF PROFESSIONAL RESPONSIBILITY AND STATEMENT OF THE ESSENTIAL DUTIES AND RIGHTS OF PROSECUTORS

One of the most important objectives of the IAP is to "promote and enhance those standards and principles which are generally recognised internationally as necessary for the proper and independent prosecution of offences" (Article 1.3(d) of the IAP Constitution). In support of that objective, the IAP Standards of Professional Responsibility and Statement of the Essential Duties and Rights of Prosecutors ("the Standards") were developed and adopted by the IAP in 1999. The Standards serve as an international benchmark for the conduct of individual prosecutors and of prosecution services. They are designed to be a working document that prosecuting authorities can use to develop their own standards of practice.

The IAP Standards were endorsed by the United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice in 2008, and Member States were invited to encourage their prosecution services to take the IAP Standards into consideration when reviewing or developing rules for prosecutorial conduct in their own countries. Notwithstanding the different legal systems and traditions around the world, the Standards are of general applicability to all prosecutors as they carry out their functions.

The Standards recognise that prosecutors play a crucial role in the administration of justice. They highlight standards of professional conduct that prosecutors must adhere to, including the need to be consistent, independent, impartial, to protect and serve the public interest and to protect the rights of the accused to a fair trial. They outline the role and duties of prosecutors in criminal proceedings and underscore the need for prosecutors to cooperate with other national or international actors in the criminal justice sphere to ensure the fairness and effectiveness of prosecutions. They also require prosecutors to render assistance to the prosecution services of other jurisdictions in accordance with the law and in a spirit of mutual cooperation – highlighting the importance of international collaboration.

Finally, the Standards also stress that prosecutors should be protected against arbitrary action by governments and that they are entitled to carry out their professional functions without intimidation, hindrance, harassment, or improper interference.

PROSECUTORS' INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION PLATFORM (PICP)

The Prosecutors' International Cooperation Platform ("PICP") – to be launched soon.

One of the main challenges of international cooperation is knowing who to contact in a specific jurisdiction when assistance is needed from them. PICP aims to tackle this challenge as part of the IAP's wider drive to enhance the operational effectiveness of the organisation for the benefit of our members.

PICP is primarily a tool to enable members to identify the right person in another organisation to contact, to facilitate that first contact, to progress general enquiries and to establish relationships to progress international casework and other matters of mutual interest.

PICP will provide a contact database of all individual members, prosecuting services and associations of prosecutors. Users of PICP will be able to identify contact points in other jurisdictions with ease, and will be able to communicate in real time via their computer or mobile phone, sending messages and participating in forums.

Prosecuting authorities will be invited to register Specialist Contact Persons – prosecutors within their organisation – in relation to a range of specialisms and in relation to the IAP Specialist Networks. They will also be required to register Specialist Contact Persons for mutual legal assistance (MLA), extradition and asset recovery.

All individual members can also set up a membership profile listing their specialisms, which will automatically link them into a relevant Special Network as well.

PICP will therefore create directories of specialist prosecutors in many fields. However, as with all databases, PICP will only be effective as a tool to further international cooperation if the data that it contains is comprehensive and up to date.

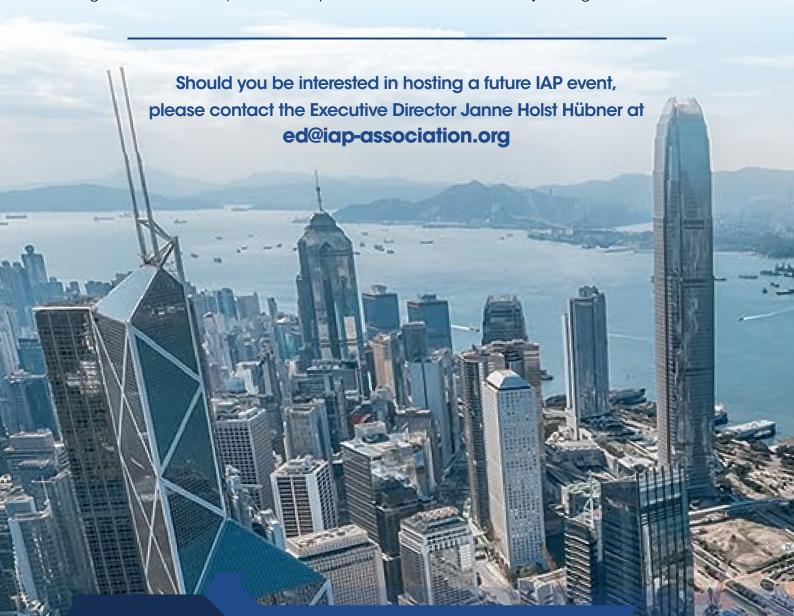
It is the responsibility of prosecuting authorities and individual members to ensure that they populate the database and ensure that the data is accurate so that PICP can be operationally effective.

REGIONAL AND ANNUAL CONFERENCES

The IAP has a longstanding tradition of organising annual and regional conferences with prosecution authorities or associations of prosecutors around the world to enable prosecutors to discuss global challenges, share ideas, knowledge and best practice, and network with other colleagues to further international cooperation.

As the host of a conference, you have a unique opportunity to share your expertise, knowledge, legal traditions and culture with prosecutorial colleagues from other jurisdictions.

Working with the General Counsel, you will be heavily involved in determining the theme and professional content of the conference, giving you the opportunity (especially for regional conferences) to focus on particular areas of interest for your region.



IAP SECRETARIAT

The IAP Secretariat is based in the Hague, Netherlands.

Roel Dona Secretary-General on secondment from the Public Prosecution Office Netherlands g sg@iap-association.org **Shenaz Muzaffer** General Counsel on secondment from the Crown Prosecution Service **England and Wales** @ qc@iap-association.org Janne Holst Hübner **Executive Director S** Denmark @ ed@iap-association.org Irina Beridze **Executive Programme Manager** on secondment from the Office of the Prosecutor General @ epm@iap-association.org 🚻 Georgia

Benn van Alphen

Executive Administration Manager on secondment from the Public Prosecution Office



Netherlands



pcm@iap-association.org

ABOUT THE DEPARTMENT OF JUSTICE, HKSAR

Article 63 of the Basic Law provides that the Department of Justice ("DOJ") of the HKSAR shall control criminal prosecutions, free from any interference. The Prosecutions Division is responsible for prosecuting trials and appeals on behalf of the HKSAR, providing legal advice to law enforcement agencies upon their investigations, and generally exercising on behalf of the Secretary for Justice the discretion whether or not to bring criminal proceedings in the HKSAR. In addition, counsel in the division provide advice and assistance to government bureaux and departments in relation to any criminal law aspects of proposed legislation.

The Prosecutions Division is led by the Director of Public Prosecutions. The DPP initiates and conducts the prosecution of cases on behalf of the HKSAR. The DPP is responsible to the Secretary for Justice for:

- a. directing public prosecutions;
- advising the Secretary on criminal law related matters, except in specific matters in which the Secretary has authorised the DPP to determine the matter on his or her own;
- c. advising law enforcement agencies in respect of prosecutions generally or in respect of a particular investigation that may lead to a prosecution;
- d. developing and promoting prosecution policy;
- e. advising the Government on the development, enforcement and implementation of the criminal law; and
- f. pledges to apply the Prosecution Code of the DOJ in relation to criminal proceedings.

Prosecutors of the division pledge to apply the Prosecution Code of the DOJ in relation to all criminal proceedings. The Prosecution Code not only provides a code of conduct for prosecutors and to promote fair, just and consistent decision-making at all stages of the prosecution process, but also makes the community aware of how the public prosecutions system operates. Openness and accountability, together with principled professionalism and independence, are the key objectives of a prosecutor in the pursuit of justice.









