

Regional Conference
“Promoting Judicial Independence and Impartiality”
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
April 10-11, 2002

Wednesday, April 10

8:15-9:00 **REGISTRATION: CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**

9:00-9:25 **Welcoming Comments and Overview of the Conference and its Objectives**

James Michel, IFES, Former US Ambassador to Guatemala and Former USAID Advisor

Frank Almaguer, US Ambassador to Honduras

Porfirio Lobo Sosa, President of the Congress of the Republic of Honduras

Wilma Cecilia Morales, President of the Honduras Supreme Court

Ricardo Maduro, President of the Republic of Honduras

- (i) Sharing Lessons Learned and Best Practices Across Borders;
- (ii) Implementing Emerging International and Regional Judicial Independence Norms and Obligations;
- (iii) Prioritizing Regional and Country Judicial Independence Issues and Challenges; and
- (iv) Building Broad-based Constituencies and Targeted Strategies for Reform and Monitoring Progress.

9:25-9:40 **BREAK**

9:40-9:45 **Overview of the Program: Participation and Recommendations**

Henry N. Schiffman, USAID/Washington

9:45-10:45 **International Experts Panel Discussion**

9:45-10:00 **James Michel**

10:00-10:15 **Margaret Popkin**, Executive Director of the Due Process of Law Foundation

10:15-10:30 **Luis Fernando Solano**, President of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Costa Rica

10:30-10:45 **Luciana Sánchez**, Program Director of the Justice Studies Center of the Americas (CEJA)

Facilitator: Henry N. Schiffman

“Highlights from *Guidance for Promoting Judicial Independence and Impartiality* (USAID 2001): Key Priority Issues; Strategic Challenges and Barriers to Reform from a Global and Regional Development Perspective”

10:45-11:30 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**

- 11:30-12:30 **International and Regional Experts Panel Discussion**
“Key Priority Issues, Strategic Challenges and Barriers to Judicial Independence Reform Confronting Targeted Central American Countries”
- 11:30-11:45 **César Barrientos**,
11:45-12:00 **Helen Mack**, Director of the Myrna Mack Foundation
12:00-12:15 **Carlos Enrique Marín**, Magistrate of the Judicial Council (*Consejo Superior de la Judicatura*) of Colombia
12:15-12:30 **José Eduardo Gauggel**, Magistrate of the Central American Court of Justice
Facilitator: Paola Barragán, USAID/Honduras
- 12:30-1:15 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 1:15-2:30 **LUNCH**
- 2:30-3:45 **International and Regional Experts Panels**
- 2:30-2:50 **Miguel Estrada**, Judicial Nominee to the Court of Appeals of the District of Columbia
2:50-3:10 **César Barrientos**
“International Experts: Striking a Balance between Judicial Independence and Accountability”
- 3:10-3:25 **Luis Fernando Solano**
3:25-3:45 **Carlos Enrique Marín**
Facilitator: Álvaro Herrero, IFES Rule of Law Specialist
“The Diverse Roles of Judicial Councils; the Selection, Promotion and Disciplinary Process”
- 3:45-4:30 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 4:30-4:45 **BREAK**
- 4:45-5:15 **Regional Experts Panel**
- 4:45-5:00 **Francisco Álvarez**
5:00-5:15 **Helen Mack**
5:15-5:30 **Albane Prophette**, INECIP – Central America
Facilitator: Margaret Popkin
“Building Coalitions for Judicial Independence Reform and a Rule of Law Culture”
- 5:30-6:15 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 6:15-7:30 **RECEPTION**

Thursday, April 11

- 8:00-9:00 **CONTINENTAL BREAKFAST**
- 9:00-9:45 **International and Regional Experts Panel**
- 9:00-9:15 **José Eduardo Gauggel**
9:15-9:30 **Luis Fernando Solano**
9:30-9:45 **Miguel Estrada**
 Facilitator: Carlos Alberto Marín
- “Promoting Judicial Independence through Constitutional Courts and Judicial Review”
- 9:45-10:15 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 10:15-10:30 **IFES Experts: Announcements and Discussion of Conference Survey Results**
- “Priority Judicial Independence Issues and Barriers to Reform”
- James Michel**
 Álvaro Herrero
- 10:30-10:45 **BREAK**
- 10:45-11:45 **International Experts Panel**
- 10:45-11:05 **Margaret Popkin**
11:05-11:25 **Henry N. Schiffman**
11:25-11:45 **Luciana Sánchez**
 Facilitator: James Michel
- “International Judicial Independence Obligations and Emerging Norms: Emerging Methodologies for Diagnosing and Monitoring Judicial Reforms”
- 11:45-12:00 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 12:00-12:30 **International and Regional Experts Panel**
- 12:00-12:15 **Alberto Binder**, Executive Director of INECIP
12:15-12:30 **Helen Mack**
 Facilitator: Paola Barragán
- “The Effect of Criminal Justice Procedure Reforms on Judicial Independence (The Role of Judges and Civil Society)”
- 12:30-1:00 **Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis**
- 1:00- 2:15 **LUNCH**

2:15-4:00	Simultaneous Working Groups: Central American (Cross-Country) Experience in Judicial Reforms
Group I	Building Coalitions for Reform and the Role of the Media Facilitator: Francisco Álvarez
Group II	Judicial Selection Facilitator: Luis Fernando Solano
Group III	Increasing Judicial Transparency and Efficiency Facilitator: Henry N. Schiffman
Group IV	Judicial Councils: Membership and Functions Facilitator: Paola Barragán
4:00-4:15	BREAK
4:15-5:30	Discussion of the Working Group Recommendations Facilitator: Paola Barragán

Honduras Country Workshop
“Promotion of Judicial Independence and Impartiality”
Tegucigalpa, Honduras
April 12, 2002

<i>08:00 – 08:30 am</i>	REGISTRATION OF PARTICIPANTS
<i>08:30 – 10:30 am</i>	INTERNATIONAL EXPERTS DISCUSSION PANEL
<i>08:30 – 08:45 am</i>	James Michel , Former US Ambassador to Guatemala and Former USAID Mission Director
<i>08:45 – 09:00 am</i>	Margaret Popkin , Executive Director of the Due Process of Law Foundation
<i>09:00 – 09:15 am</i>	Carlos Enrique Marín , Magistrate of the Judicial Council (<i>Consejo Superior de la Judicatura</i>) of Colombia
<i>09:15 – 09:30 am</i>	Luis Fernando Solano , President of the Constitutional Chamber of the Supreme Court of Costa Rica
<i>09:30 – 11:00 am</i>	Questions and Comments from Attendees and Summary Analysis
<i>10:30 – 10:45 am</i>	BREAK
<i>12:00 – 01:30 pm</i>	LUNCH
<i>01:30 – 03:30 pm</i>	SIMULTANEOUS WORKING GROUPS:
Group I	Composition and selection process of the Judicial Council Facilitator: TBD
Group II	Attributions of the Judicial Council Facilitator: TBD
Group III	Selection of judges and judicial career Facilitator: TBD
Group IV	Strategic framework to strengthen judicial independence in Honduras Facilitator: TBD
<i>03:30 – 04:30 pm</i>	DISCUSSION OF THE WORKING GROUP RECOMMENDATIONS
<i>05:00 – 06:00 pm</i>	Reception