

**WORKING GROUP ON FAIR AND EQUITABLE GOVERNMENT POLICIES
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION**

1. DEFINE “FAIR AND EQUITABLE” GOVERNMENT POLICIES IN EACH JURISDICTION
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Main Idea:

- What, exactly, does this phrase mean for each country?

Course of action suggested by the group:

- Each country should determine what constitutes “fair and equitable government policies” and tailor a course of action based upon this.

2. FOSTER PUBLIC POLICIES: IDENTIFY MEANINGFUL GOALS TO PURSUE

Main idea:

- It was suggested that in many countries, members of the profession would encounter difficulty addressing certain topics because of the political sensitivities. Taking this into consideration, it was agreed that at least four topical challenges of regional concern not affected by political complexities could be identified.

Course of action suggested by the group:

- The four topics identified as feasible to pursue are:
 - o Transparency
 - o Access to Justice
 - o Judicial Reform
 - o Support of the Third (Nonprofit) Sector

3. IDENTIFY STRATEGIES FOR COLLABORATION

Main idea:

- Strategies to coordinate the efforts of the different components of the legal profession are needed in order to achieve stated goals.
- For example, it was suggested that:
 - i. Bar associations can and should lead and continue discussions on each of the “4 Pillars”, and should reach out to the Third Sector to ensure its active participation.
 - ii. Disseminating U.S. and international standards related to, for example, pro bono and access to justice policies in law firms, and firm-NGO relations, could be helpful.
 - iii. Diversity should be promoted as an end in itself in all institutions comprising the profession.
 - iv. Young lawyers should be supported within firms in carrying out access to justice work.
 - v. Civil society must be supported, encouraged and strengthened. Law firms should have a very special role in this task.
 - vi. Rule of law has to be supported. To this end, a central focus should be judicial reform as it related to ensuring greater access (e.g. reform of civil procedures and the processes of judicial selection).