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## **New Cooperation Arrangement between OLAF and the Integrity Vice Presidency of the World Bank Group**

**On 8 October 2014, Giovanni Kessler, the Director-General of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) and Leonard McCarthy, the Integrity Vice President of the World Bank Group (INT) signed a Cooperation Arrangement between their two Institutions.**

Mr Kessler welcomed the signature of the Arrangement by saying that it *"marks a new step in the longstanding and successful cooperation between OLAF and our counterparts in the World Bank Group. In an ever more globalised world, we have to join forces to successfully fight fraud"*.

*"Our cooperation with OLAF and other international investigators is a cornerstone of the efforts to global and national authorities in preventing and managing fraud and corruption risks impeding development progress,"* said Leonard McCarthy World Bank Integrity Vice President.

The Arrangement sets out a practical framework for the relations between OLAF and INT and will allow the two bodies to coordinate their anti-fraud activities more efficiently, within the scope of their respective mandates. In particular, the Arrangement foresees enhanced cooperation through the exchange of information and operational assistance. It also foresees the possibility for organising joint investigations. It will allow OLAF and INT to further strengthen their joint fight against fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities affecting the financial interests of the EU and the World Bank.

The Arrangement was signed on the fringes of the Conference of International Investigators hosted by OLAF in Riva del Garda on 8-10 October.

### **OLAF**

The mission of the European Anti-Fraud Office (OLAF) is threefold: it protects the financial interests of the European Union by investigating fraud, corruption and any other illegal activities; it detects and investigates serious matters relating to the discharge of professional duties by members and staff of the EU institutions and bodies that could result in disciplinary or criminal proceedings; and it supports the EU institutions, in particular the European Commission, in the development and implementation of anti-fraud legislation and policies.

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[www.worldbank.org/integrity](http://www.worldbank.org/integrity)