



# **International Conference of Information Commissioners**

## **Strategic Priorities 2024 – 2027**

**September 2024**

## **Introduction**

As a result of the election process for the Chair-Secretariat of the International Conference of Information Commissioners (ICIC), the National Institute for Transparency, Access to Information and Personal Data Protection (INAI) of Mexico, begins a second term as head of the ICIC Chair-Secretariat for the period 2024-2027.

In this regard, the Secretariat introduces three strategic priorities, which are aligned with the goals of the Johannesburg Charter and are aimed to strengthen the ICIC capacity, expanding membership, intensifying the visibility of the network, increasing collaboration with regional networks, strengthening its links with cooperation partners, as well as consolidating the activities of the Working Groups for the period 2024-2027 through 11 specific actions.

These priorities will have an impact on promoting international cooperation in transparency and access to information through the promotion, strengthening and dissemination of activities within the ICIC; linking with cooperation partners and identifying potential members; as well as the consolidation of existing Working Groups and the creation of new ones, in order to respond to the prevailing trends in technological disruption context, Artificial Intelligence (AI) and the promotion of inclusive approaches to transparency and access to information in the medium term.

This document is the result of both, the exchange of proposals and discussions regarding the future of the ICIC at the annual Conference held in the city of Tirana, Albania in June 2024, and the results of the survey of strategic priorities launched to the full membership during the month of July, which included the participation of 22 ICIC members.

**ICIC Chair-Secretariat**

## Priority 1: Strengthening ICIC's capacity and capability to carry out its mission and vision

### Related Charter Goals:

- a. Protect and promote access to public information.
- b. Promote and support dialogue and mutual cooperation.
- c. Encourage the development and sharing of information and best practices, including peer-learning.
- e. Develop the capacity of the ICIC.
- f. Help to develop the capacity of its registered members and increase membership.
- h. Act as a collective voice in the international community to raise awareness of issues that impact access to public information.
- i. Promote the development and adoption of international standards in access to public information in all regions across the world, including the establishment of independent oversight bodies.

### Actions:

- Linkage with cooperation partners
  - Organization of joint workshops and seminars with UNESCO, the World Bank, the Carter Center and the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD).
  - Explore possible Memorandums of Understanding.
- Strengthening the link between ICIC members
  - Hold virtual sessions aimed to disseminate and inform about the Executive Committee agreements, Working Groups actions, as well as relevant aspects of the annual conference.
  - Distribute reports, best practices, Public Statements and ICIC updates.
- Update and consolidate the presence of the ICIC on social networks and website
  - Monitoring relevant information from each ICIC member to disseminate it.
  - Explore options of webinars or workshops among the Membership.
  - Update membership information on ICIC website.

- ICIC Newsletter Preparation
  - Preparation of a quarterly newsletter with relevant information and trends from members and cooperation partners
  - Elaboration of special newsletters related to the global commemoration of the International Day of Universal Access to Information (IDUAI) and other specific ICIC activities.

## **PRIORITY 2: Expand and consolidate ICIC membership**

### **Related Charter Goals:**

- b.** Promote and support dialogue and mutual cooperation.
- e.** Develop the capacity of the ICIC.
- f.** Help to develop the capacity of its registered members and increase membership.

### **Actions:**

- Encourage regional ICIC leadership
  - Identify regional leaders to act as a spokesperson.
  - Link ICIC with the activities of regional networks on transparency and access to information.
- Rebuild and promote ICIC identity
  - Consolidate new memberships.
- Develop an analysis for the ICIC expansion
  - Identify countries, national authorities and key subnational authorities with the potential to join ICIC.
  - Evaluation of the incorporation of civil society and academic actors based on regional suggestions.

### **PRIORITY 3: Consolidate activities of the Working Groups**

#### **Related Charter Goals:**

- c.** Encourage the development and sharing of information and best practices, including peer-learning.
- d.** Undertake and support research on issues integral to access to public information.
- e.** Develop the capacity of the ICIC.
- g.** Facilitate reflection and learning from case work on systemic issues.
- h.** Act as a collective voice in the international community to raise awareness of issues that impact access to public information.
- i.** Promote the development and adoption of international standards in access to public information in all regions of the world, including the establishment of independent oversight bodies.

#### **Actions:**

- Support Working Groups activities
  - Monitoring of their agreements and reports.
  - Dissemination of the products generated.
- Working Groups issues
  - Preparation of the repository of legislation on access to information and integration.
  - Dissemination of the Relevant Cases of the Law Cases working group.
  - Elaboration of a compendium of the state of access to information of ICIC member countries, to be commented on and integrated by ICIC membership.
  - Integration and dissemination of digital training tools report of the training working group.
  - Organize webinars and workshops with the Access to Information Principles, Training and Gender and People in Vulnerable Situations Working Groups.
  - Incorporate civil society, academic and youth groups into ICIC Working Groups activities.

- Establishment of the Information Integrity Working Group
  - Establish links between Media and Information Literacy (MIL) actions.
  - Identify the role of the emerging technologies and the AI challenges.
  
- Explore partnership opportunities with other organizations related to transparency and access to information
  - Articulate a strategy with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and the Asia Maritime Transparency Initiative.
  - Collaborative actions with the Aarhus Convention and the Global Conference on Transparency Research.

## **Conclusions**

The implementation of ICIC Strategic Priorities will allow to consolidate the network with greater resonance in each of its activities. They will also allow to enrich, consolidate and give a continuity to the discussions within the annual conferences and Working Groups activities.

Likewise, these priorities will contribute to the modeling and identification of good practices in terms of access to information with the participation of actors from civil society, academia and cooperation partners.

These priorities envision a Conference capable of providing new ideas and positively influencing the improvement of the global ecosystem of access to information in the period 2024-2027.