

BAHAMAS

The new government, which came into office on the 2nd May, 2002 has announced the appointment of a constitutional commission to look at the constitution of the Bahamas in all of its aspects, some of which would undoubtedly touch upon the Bahamas' obligations in respect of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption.

Additionally, the prime Minister has issued to members of the Cabinet a Code of Conduct which sets standards of probity in public life. These standards are in addition to the previously existing Public Disclosure Act which requires a disclosure of the income, assets and liabilities of all senior civil servants and all persons running for elective office.

The Government has also committed itself to a process of consultation with members of civil society on major matters of policy and legislation. Before significant pieces of draft legislation are presented to Parliament for approval, the draft legislation is circulated to interest groups within society and on some occasions would even be published in the print media. The draft legislation would also generally be available from Parliament.