Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in small island developing States

The Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,

Concerned about the threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies and its devastating impact on sustainable development,

Emphasizing the importance of the Sustainable Development Goals, and recalling that Sustainable Development Goal 16 is to promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels,

Recognizing that acting against corruption is imperative to the achievement of all of the Sustainable Development Goals, and highlighting that the fight against corruption is therefore a priority for the international community, including small island developing States,

Recognizing that small island developing States have specific contextual characteristics that necessitate affordable and sustainable anti-corruption reform, as well as tailored technical assistance,

Recalling its resolution 6/9 of 6 November 2015, entitled "Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in small island developing States", and taking note with appreciation of the report of the Secretariat on its implementation,¹

Welcoming the progress made by small island developing States in undertaking reform to give effect to the United Nations Convention against Corruption,² while recognizing that efforts must still be made to achieve its full and effective implementation,

Recognizing that small island developing States have the same legal obligations as all States parties to the Convention, despite generally having smaller administrative capacities and limited resources,

² United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.





^{*} CAC/COSP/2017/1.

¹ CAC/COSP/2017/9.

Highlighting, in particular, the importance of building integrity and of preventing and eliminating corrupt practices in public institutions and the public sector, given the severe impact of corruption on the efficiency of public services, citizens' confidence in public institutions and the cost of public transactions,

Highlighting also the need to strengthen governance systems in ocean and land resources management to protect the environment and livelihoods of small island developing States and the need to improve anti-corruption frameworks to strengthen and build the resilience of small island developing States to the impacts of climate change,

Welcoming the efforts of Mauritius in the establishment of a dedicated anti-corruption research platform for small island developing States, in line with Conference resolution 6/9, for the purpose of research and the sharing of best practices specific to small island developing States,

Recalling the SIDS Accelerated Modalities of Action (SAMOA) Pathway,³ the outcome document of the third International Conference on Small Island Developing States, held in Apia from 1 to 4 September 2014, which is of significance to the Pacific island countries,

Recognizing the important role of regional and international partnerships and the relevance of peer-to-peer learning among small island developing States,

1. Urges small island developing States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the United Nations Convention against Corruption;²

2. *Calls upon* States parties that are small island developing States to enhance their active participation in the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and to undertake every effort to implement the recommendations arising from the reviews;

3. *Encourages* the Secretariat, States parties and other development partners to continue supporting, upon request, the implementation of anti-corruption reforms in small island developing States through the provision of technical assistance at the bilateral, regional and international levels, including by addressing technical assistance needs identified through the Implementation Review Mechanism;

4. Urges States parties and other development partners to support small island developing States in their efforts to achieve and monitor progress towards achieving Sustainable Development Goal 16;

5. *Encourages* States parties and other interested donors with relevant expertise applicable to the contexts of small island developing States to share, upon request, their best practices with small island developing States through existing and future bilateral, regional and international cooperation mechanisms;

6. *Encourages* States parties, in particular small island developing States, to further share information, research and best practices specific to small island developing States and to strengthen and maintain the online platform established by Mauritius;

7. Urges States parties, in particular small island developing States, to continue efforts aimed at building integrity and preventing and eliminating corruption in the public sector, and requests the support of other States parties and relevant donors in this regard;

8. Urges small island developing States to take steps to strengthen good governance in the area of land and ocean resources management, as well as anti-corruption frameworks, with the aim of building resilience to the impacts of climate change in small island developing States, with the support of the international community and relevant United Nations bodies;

³ General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

9. *Requests* the Secretariat to submit to the Conference of the States Parties a report on the progress made and the challenges encountered in the implementation of the present resolution;

10. *Invites* States parties and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes identified in the present resolution.