



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

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**Australia, Cook Islands, Kiribati, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru,
Norway, Tuvalu and Vanuatu: revised draft resolution**

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,

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 the status of its implementation,¹

Concerned about the seriousness of problems and threats posed by corruption to the stability and security of societies, undermining the institutions and values of democracy, ethical values and justice and jeopardizing sustainable development and the rule of law,

Emphasizing the importance to Member States of the Sustainable Development Goals, contained in the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 70/1 of 25 September 2015, 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, and acknowledging that efforts to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption² also contribute to the achievement of that Goal,

Highlighting that the fight against corruption should be 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,

Welcoming the progress made by small island developing States in giving effect to the Convention against Corruption, while recognizing that greater efforts must still be made to achieve the effective implementation thereof,

¹ CAC/COSP/2017/9.

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



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,

Highlighting 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,

Noting that, while the implementation of the Convention is the responsibility of States parties, promoting integrity, transparency and accountability and preventing corruption are responsibilities to be shared by all sectors of society involved in the fight against corruption, as corruption not only affects Governments, but can also have a significant negative impact on the private sector and civil society by impeding economic growth, harming consumers and businesses, distorting competition and presenting serious health, safety, legal and social risks, and underlining the necessity of increasing the efforts of States parties, in accordance with article 12 of the Convention, to prevent and fight corruption involving the private sector, as highlighted in Conference resolution 6/5 of 6 November 2015,

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

Welcoming the establishment of the Small Island Developing States Anti-Corruption Research Platform by the Independent Commission against Corruption of Mauritius, together with the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, 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,

Welcoming the work of the United Nations Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project, which, as a result of close cooperation between the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the United Nations Development Programme, may serve as a model for collaboration on anti-corruption issues among United Nations entities,

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

1. *Welcomes* the accession to the United Nations Convention against Corruption² by Belize in December 2016 and Niue in October 2017, and urges small island developing States that have not yet done so to ratify or accede to the Convention;

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 make every effort to implement the recommendations arising from the reviews;

3. *Urges* States parties and interested donors, including development partners, to support small island developing States in their efforts to implement the Convention, including those aspects that will contribute to the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16;

4. *Encourages* States parties and interested donors, including development partners, upon request, and with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, within its existing mandate, to continue supporting the implementation of

³ General Assembly resolution 69/15, annex.

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;

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

6. *Encourages* small island developing States to further share with each other information, research and best practices specific to small island developing States on the implementation of the Convention;

7. *Also encourages* small island developing States to continue efforts aimed at building integrity and preventing and eliminating corruption in the public and private sectors, and invites other States parties and interested donors to support small island developing States at their request in this regard, including with the assistance of other development partners and relevant United Nations agencies, within their existing mandates;

8. *Urges* small island developing States to strengthen anti-corruption frameworks as part of their steps to enhance good governance in the area of land and ocean resources management, 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;

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. *Encourages* small island developing States to consider the recommendations contained in the report of the Secretariat on the status of implementation of Conference resolution 6/9;¹

11. *Recognizes* the progress made and challenges faced in the implementation of Conference resolution 6/9, and urges States parties to continue supporting technical assistance efforts focused on the needs of small island developing States, including assistance with ratification of or accession to the Convention, as well as meeting the legislative and other technical requirements to effectively implement the Convention, upon request, and with the assistance of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime;

12. *Invites* States parties and other donors to provide extrabudgetary resources for the purposes identified in the present resolution, in accordance with the rules and procedures of the United Nations.