



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

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Prevention

Saudi Arabia and United Arab Emirates: draft resolution

Enhancing integrity by raising public awareness

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

Welcoming the commitments of the States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹ to achieving appropriate policies and preventive measures to enhance integrity and combat corruption,

Acknowledging the multiplicity and diversity of approaches to preventive measures, and that such approaches may require context-based, sector-specific and country-specific adaptation, bearing in mind the Convention as a starting point,

Noting the corrosive impact that corruption has on the development of the rule of law, including by undermining the legitimacy and effectiveness of key public institutions,

Reaffirming the need to implement chapter II of the Convention to prevent and combat corruption,

Recognizing that, while the implementation of the Convention is the responsibility of States parties, the promotion of a culture of integrity, transparency and accountability and the prevention of corruption are responsibilities shared by all stakeholders and sectors of society, in accordance with chapter II of the Convention,

Recalling article 7, paragraph 1 (d), of the Convention, in which States parties are called upon to promote education and training programmes to enable public officials to meet the requirements for the correct, honourable and proper performance of public functions, including specialized training to enhance their awareness of the risks of corruption inherent in the performance of their functions,

Recognizing the important contribution of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations and institutions, such as the International Anti-Corruption Academy, in providing technical assistance and training to raise public awareness and enhance integrity,

Recalling article 13 of the Convention, in which each State party is called upon to take appropriate measures, within its means and in accordance with fundamental principles of its domestic law, to promote the active participation of individuals and

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.



groups outside the public sector, such as civil society, non-governmental organizations and community-based organizations, in the prevention of and the fight against corruption and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption,

Convinced that effective measures for the prevention of corruption promote good governance in all sectors, reinforce trust in public institutions and increase corporate social responsibility, in both the public and private sectors,

Recalling the adoption of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development,² and that Sustainable Development Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda addresses the need 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 stressing the importance of target 16.5 to substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all its forms,

Bearing in mind the decision of the General Assembly in its resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003 to designate 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day,

1. *Calls upon* States parties to promote awareness of the concept of corruption and point out its dangers and effects, as well as the importance of maintaining integrity and of self-monitoring and the non-tolerance of corruption;

2. *Encourages* States parties to implement article 13 of the Convention, including by promoting the participation of the private sector and academia in the prevention of and the fight against corruption, and to raise public awareness regarding the existence, causes and gravity of and the threat posed by corruption;

3. *Encourages* States parties to use technological innovations, including e-government instruments, and social media to promote public awareness and disseminate information aimed at contributing to the non-tolerance of corruption;

4. *Encourages* States parties to raise awareness of administrative procedures for accessing information regarding anti-corruption laws and programmes and to make them available to those interested in accordance with domestic laws;

5. *Also encourages* States parties to consider, where appropriate and without prejudice to the protection of privacy and personal data, the use of technology systems to raise public awareness of and provide relevant information on anti-corruption laws and regulations, noting that, in accordance with the principles of domestic laws, such information may include:

(a) Relevant information on the rights and obligations of public servants and the general public;

(b) Information on the evaluation of the performance of government programmes;

(c) The functions, responsibilities and roles of the designated public servants or offices;

(d) The decision-making process for obtaining public services;

6. *Calls upon* States parties to raise public awareness of the use of public communication channels to facilitate public reporting on corrupt practices by highlighting ways for reporting cases of corruption and, when appropriate, publish relevant statistical reports on corruption;

7. *Urges* States parties to increase public awareness of means for reporting instances of corruption, including by disseminating information regarding the rights and responsibilities of whistle-blowers in accordance with domestic legislations;

² General Assembly resolution 70/1.

8. *Encourages* States parties to establish national educational programmes to build a culture of zero tolerance for corrupt practices, as a tool to raise awareness and enhance integrity among young people in order to mitigate risks of corruption;
 9. *Also encourages* States parties to take advantage of capacity-building and training programmes provided by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other relevant international organizations and institutions, such as the International Anti-Corruption Academy, to increase public awareness and integrity;
 10. *Invites* States parties, through their relevant entities, to raise public awareness of the threat posed by corruption and to launch national awareness campaigns, within their means and in accordance with the fundamental principles of their national laws, on the importance of integrity and the dangers of corruption;
 11. *Emphasizes* to States parties the importance of raising public awareness of the threat posed by corruption and its consequences by means of public displays, such as billboards, text messages and broadcast advertising;
 12. *Also emphasizes* to States parties the need to take appropriate measures to promote the active participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, so that the conditions are present for their effective contribution to achieving the objectives of the Convention, such as measures for respecting, promoting and protecting the freedom to seek, receive, publish and disseminate information concerning corruption, and for civil society institutions and the media to organize and operate independently and without fear of reprisal because of their efforts in that regard, consistent with relevant international norms and in accordance with domestic laws;
 13. *Encourages* States parties that have not already done so to designate 9 December as International Anti-Corruption Day as an instrument to raise public awareness on the threat posed by corruption.
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