

UNODC and UNDP participants at the High-Level Segment of the 18<sup>th</sup> International Anti-Corruption Conference in Copenhagen re-iterate the UN commitments made at the London Anti-Corruption Summit in May 2016 to scale up the UN's efforts to combat corruption. At the occasion of the commemoration of the 15<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption in New York in May 2018, the UN Secretary General Antonio Guterres reminded the international community *of the important role of the United Nations in the global fight against corruption and that the members of the United Nations Organisation will continue to support Member States every step of the way, from helping to engage and empower citizens in this fight, to helping build and enhance institutions that can deliver on their promise.* The UN will continue to work with Member States, other international organisations, the private sector and civil society groups to promote compliance with the international standards of integrity and transparency.

## **Scaling up the UN response to Corruption**

### **UN commitments made at the London Anti-Corruption Summit (May 2016)**

The Secretary General has welcomed the Summit as a timely effort to reinvigorate the international response to corruption. The members of the United Nations Organisation therefore commit, within their mandates, to do their utmost to contribute to making the ambitious goals of the summit a reality. The UN will work with Member States, other international organisations, the private sector and civil society groups to promote compliance with international standards of integrity and transparency.

To this end, UNODC and UNDP will seek to rally the agencies, funds and programmes of the United Nations, in concert with other international organisations, governments and stakeholders to accelerate the practical implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and of SDG 16 (promote peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, provide access to justice for all and build effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels), in particular the targets that relate to bribery and corruption, illicit financial flows and the return of stolen assets, effective and accountable institutions, and national institutions to prevent violence and combat terrorism and crime.

For that purpose, following the summit, and subject to the availability of resources and further implementation arrangements endorsed by the relevant UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes, UNODC and UNDP will:

1. Coordinate the development of a UN wide action plan that will set out ways in which the UN system will better work together to support States parties in prioritising the implementation of UNCAC. This plan will be harmonized with the system-wide mechanisms established to support the implementation of Goal 16.
2. Build, in collaboration with other partners, sub-regional and regional platforms/coalitions of countries with a view to ensure timely and effective follow up - by countries and international development partners - to address challenges and needs in pursuing the outcomes of the UNCAC country reviews. This follow-up will also identify good practices and proposals for implementing relevant Goal 16 targets as well as mainstreaming anti-corruption in the implementation of all the Sustainable Development Goals;
3. Roll out, in collaboration with the UN Staff College and other UN entities such as the UN Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI), system-wide training efforts to ensure a common UN approach on how to integrate anti-corruption efforts in UN programming processes at the country level
4. Promote, in line with the Secretary General's plan of Action for the Prevention of Violent Extremism, good governance and the fight against corruption in our country programmes.
5. Work, under the Global Focal Point for Police, Justice and Corrections in Crisis Countries, with other UN agencies to foster integrity in the justice and security sector.
6. Support efforts to fight corruption in fragile and conflict affected settings. Failure to address corruption in these environments blights the lives of people and communities, undermines peacebuilding and state building, thwarts efforts to build peaceful, just and inclusive societies and increases the likelihood of a relapse into conflict. We will

therefore work with the Peacebuilding Support Office and UN Agencies, Funds and Programmes to combat corruption in societies in crisis or emerging from conflict or disaster.

7. Support efforts to ensure integrity in service delivery that matter for people's daily lives. We will therefore amplify our efforts to prevent corruption in key social sectors (health, education, water and sanitation) working with the corresponding lead UN agencies such as WHO, UNICEF and UNESCO. Working with WHO, we will support global, regional and country initiatives that strengthen the transparent procurement of health commodities.
8. Strengthen our efforts to support Member States in building accountable and transparent criminal justice systems, to advance integrity through education, and to explore innovative approaches in preventing and combatting corruption, through research (in collaboration with UNICRI) and the use of modern technology;
9. Support the development of new practitioner partnerships on institutional integrity, in coordination with international organisations, to drive up standards in sectors such as tax, customs, public expenditure, budget formulation, extractives, and fiscal transparency. We will support broader efforts to promote public integrity, including in improving public sector management and private sector standards and incentives, and co-operation on training and education.
10. Promote information technologies and other innovative approaches that can help people, local communities, civil society organisations and the media in partnering in the monitoring of institutional integrity.
11. Take all necessary measures to prevent and combat corruption in our activities and operations, by enforcing compliance with our ethical values and standards, and ensuring the effective governance and integrity of all procurement processes.
12. Co-host, in collaboration with the UK and relevant partners, a follow-up high-level meeting to the UK Summit, in the margins of the Ministerial week of the 72 Session of the General Assembly (September 2017 in New York),
13. UNDP will continue its support to developing countries to increase domestic resource mobilization, through the OECD-UNDP Joint initiative on "Tax Inspectors without Borders". We will also work within the framework of dialogue provided by the United Nations Committee of Experts on International Cooperation in Tax Matters which gives special attention to developing countries and countries with economies in transition.
14. UNODC will partner with international sports bodies in the development of tools, approaches and initiatives in support of the effective implementation of the high level principles;
15. UNODC, including through its Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (StAR) jointly implemented with the World Bank, will step up its efforts to advance an international policy environment more conducive to the effective recovery and return of stolen assets and support individual countries in pursuing asset recovery efforts at domestic and international levels. UNODC will further support through StAR the launch and implementation of a Global Forum on Asset Recovery.

16. UNODC and OECD propose a joint initiative to fast track introduction of the foreign bribery offence (article 16 of UNCAC) in parties to UNCAC other than parties to the OECD Anti Bribery Convention, and to provide assistance in the preparation and handling of mutual legal assistance requests in relation to foreign bribery in line with chapter IV of UNCAC and with the OECD Anti Bribery Convention.
17. The UN agencies, funds and programmes, members of the International Aid Transparency Initiative (IATI), reiterate their commitment to comply with the data standard set by the IATI as a way to enhance transparency and to build increased accountability amongst each other and with donors.