UNODC Launches TRACK Portal and Anti-Corruption Legal Library



[Link to TRACK Portal]

1 September 2011 UNODC has launched a web based anti corruption portal known as TRACK (Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge).

The portal features the Legal Library on the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), providing a unique gateway to an electronic database of legislation and jurisprudence relevant to UNCAC from over 175 States systematized in accordance with the requirements of the Convention.

The TRACK portal brings together legal and non-legal knowledge on anti-corruption and asset recovery enabling Member States, the anti-corruption community and the general public to access this information in a central location. Information in the Legal Library is searchable by country, by UNCAC article and other criteria such as legal systems and levels of human development.

An anti-corruption learning platform is also incorporated, providing a common space where analytical tools generated by partner organizations can be searched and accessed by users world-wide.

A further key objective of TRACK is to create a community of practice where registered users can communicate, exchange information and schedule events. The common workspace is intended for partner institutions, anti-corruption practitioners and experts to communicate and collaborate directly with each other.

Commenting on the new portal, the Chief of UNODC's Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, Dimitri Vlassis, said, "The Implementation Review Mechanism of the UNCAC has shown how important knowledge on legislation is for all countries around the world, which can be inspired from each other's challenges and successes. The Legal Library is aimed to be the tool to meet this need." The Review Mechanism, a peer review process on the implementation of the Convention by its 154 States parties, is currently in its second year of operation.

At present TRACK's partner organizations include the African Development Bank, the Asian Development Bank, the Council of Europe's Group of States against Corruption, the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, the Basel Institute on Governance, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, the U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre, the United Nations Development Programme, the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, the UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative and the United Nations Global Compact.

The technology necessary to develop the blueprint for the initiative was provided by Microsoft Corporation, as a pro bono contribution to the anti-corruption work of the United Nations. The launch of the portal marks another example of the growing role of the private sector in the fight against corruption.