THEMATIC COMPILATION OF RELEVANT INFORMATION SUBMITTED BY IRAQ

ARTICLE 5 UNCAC

PREVENTIVE ANTI-CORRUPTION POLICIES AND PRACTICES

IRAQ (TENTH MEETING)

A. Successes and good practices:

1. The Commission of Integrity (COI) had previously prepared and issued the first Anti-Corruption Strategy for (2010-2014) in response to Article 5 of the UNCAC, also the COI finalized preparing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy for (2016-2020) and was presented to The Council of Ministers Secretariat (COMSEC) for approval, which focuses on three main goals (Prevention and deterrence, Proactivity, Development and Reforms).

2. The existence of Iraqi legislations that deal with the oversight bodies with mandates to confronting and fighting corruption, which hasn't been new to Iraq, where many oversight bodies has been established with mandates to curb and fight corruption such as: The Board of Supreme Audit in 1927 to which many laws were enacted to regulate the work of this institution, the last of which was law No. (31) of 2011, and the Commission of Integrity in 2004 according to law No. (30) of 2011 and the Inspector General's Offices according to law No. (57) of 2004.

3. The constant Follow up of the legislation process related to the field of fighting corruption and suggesting many other draft laws.

4. The establishment of the Iraqi Anti-Corruption Academy which contributed to providing a specialized education and many courses of training within the field of fighting corruption, which represents the COI commitment to raise awareness and professionalism in fighting corruption.

5. Tremendous efforts exerted by COI to raise public awareness of its role in preventing and fighting corruption.

6. Many legislations were enacted in response to the UNCAC provisions, mostly suggested by COI, such as the law of protecting whistle blowers, witnesses, experts as well as victims No. (58) of 2017, Instructions of the financial disclosure No. (2) of 2017, the law of fighting money laundering and terrorism fund No. (39) of 2015, the first amendment of the COI law No. (30) of 2011, the draft law of illegal earnings, and others.

7. The Establishment of the Supreme Council of Fighting Corruption, according to the decree No. (70) of 2018 which was announced during the government plan in 25/10/2018, in response to the provisions of the UNCAC and in realization to the menace of corruption in order to guarantee the quick completion of the Anti-corruption Legal System, also to ensure the commitment of the oversight bodies to complete the requirements of their works whether in the legal, institutional and operational framework and to evaluate their performance along with reviewing their policies and programs in accordance to the amount of challenges and responsibilities.

8. The work to apply the (National Integrity Index) in order to find a national reference that depend on the objective evaluation mechanism, of the public sector efforts, to strengthen integrity and provide best services to the citizens. Also to create motivational and competitive environment among different public sector institutions to enhance their levels within the integrity index. Such index would assist Iraq to implement its commitments of UNCAC through simulating international experiences.
B. Challenges:

1. Delay in legislating many important draft laws in relation to the field of fighting corruption, such legislations were prepared by the COI and presented the competent authorities, to be processed.

2. The attempt of signing bilateral MOUs between COI and International partners to enhance tracking and circulating funds.

3. Keeping strengthening legal and procedural scope to enhance transparency and access to information.

4. Taking additional measurements to strengthen integrity in the private sector, including cooperation with the law enforcement authorities with a possibility of establishing a coordination center of the private sector in COI.

5. Keeping strengthening legal scope of the conflict of interest and depending on an active legislation to strengthen transparency in the field of funding parties.

C. Technical Assistance Needs:

1. The COI requested Technical Assistance Needs during the mission of UNODC Middle East and North Africa / Cairo, such assistance will include the preparation of the Anti-Corruption Strategies according to international standards.


3. Strengthening the support provided by the UNODC, World Bank, and STAR Initiative in preventing money laundering.

4. Specialized courses of training in the field of framing draft legislations according to modern theories in the field of legislative formulation.