Communications received from the President of the Global Forum VI on Fighting Corruption & Safeguarding Integrity

The Secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties wishes to bring to the attention of the Conference, for its information and appropriate consideration, communications received from the President of the Global Forum VI on Fighting Corruption & Safeguarding Integrity transmitting the results of the Global Forum VI on Fighting Corruption & Safeguarding Integrity Conference which was held in Doha, Qatar, from 7 to 8 November 2009.
Mr. Vlassis Dimitri  
Secretary, Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention  
Against Corruption  
Doha-Qatar (9-13 November 2009)

Subject: Documents of The Global Forum VI

Dear Mr. Dimitri,

I have great pleasure in forwarding the following two documents of the Global Forum VI to you for information and appropriate consideration of the third meeting of State Parties to the UN Convention against Corruption:

1. Conclusions and Recommendations of the round tables held during Global Forum VI.
2. Statement containing various important principles and policies which guided and emerged from the various meetings of the Global Forum held from 1999 to 2009 as worthy contribution to Global Fight Against Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity.

With kind Regards,

Dr. Ali Al-Mari  
Attorney General  
President of the IOC-GF VI
السيد / ديمتري فلاسيز
المحترم
سكرتير أتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمكافحة الفساد
مكتب الأمم المتحدة المعنية بالجريمة والمخدرات
فيينا

تحية طيبة وبعد,

يسعدني أن أرسل إليكم الوثقتين الخاصةين بالمنتدى العالمي السادس لمكافحة الفساد وحماية النزاهة وذلك للاطلاع واتخاذ الإجراءات اللازمة بشأنها خلال الاجتماع الثالث للدول الأطراف في اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمكافحة الفساد وهي:

1- الاستنتاجات والوصيات الصادرة عن جمعيات الفضاء المستدامة التي عقدت خلال المنتدى العالمي السادس.
2- البيان الذي يتضمن مختلف المبادئ والسياسات الهامة التي أشدتها وانتمتت عن جمعيات المنتدى المختلفة منذ انعقاد دورته الأولى عام 1999 حتى 2009 كأسهم في الحرب العالمية ضد الفساد وحماية النزاهة.

وتعزوا بقبول فائق التقدير والاحترام

د. علي بن فصي المري
النائب العام
THE SIXTH GLOBAL FORUM ON FIGHTING CORRUPTION AND SAFEGUARDING INTEGRITY
DOHA, QATAR
7-8 NOVEMBER 2009

DOHA STATEMENT
“Strength in Unity: Public-Private Partnerships to Fight Corruption”

We, Ministers and senior officials from Governments, representatives from international organizations, business leaders and civil society participants, attending the Sixth Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity, held in Doha, Qatar, from 7-8 November 2009, increasingly committed to combat corruption and safeguard integrity at every level of society and to strengthen international cooperation:

Express our most sincere gratitude to His Royal Highness Sheikh Hamad bin Khalifa Al-Thani and H.E Dr. Ali Bin Fetais Al-Marri, Attorney General, and the Government of Qatar, for hosting a successful Global Forum. We also express our appreciation to the previous host governments of the Global Forum, as it traversed the world -- the United States (Washington D.C., 1999), the Netherlands (The Hague, 2001); the Republic of Korea (Seoul, 2003), Brazil (Brasilia, 2005), and South Africa (Johannesburg, 2007) – for their joint efforts to mobilize the world community against corruption;

Since the convening of the First Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity in Washington, D.C., in 1999, the Global Forum process has helped bring the international community together to renew its commitment to the prevention and fight against corruption; promote responsible governance and enhance integrity; share good practices; discuss the latest trends related to good governance and anticorruption; explore novel approaches to prevent, investigate and prosecute corruption; reinforce international cooperation; and to highlight partnerships with the nongovernmental sector. Over the past 10 years, the Global Forum has provided the political impetus to break down barriers for governments, international organizations, and non-governmental groups to strengthen cooperation and freely discuss corruption and related law enforcement and good governance issues. The spirit of the Global Forum, as noted by former U.S. Vice President Al Gore during the opening keynote address in 1999, remains important today: “no nation is immune from corruption; no nation has a monopoly on virtue or has the right to lecture any other. To effectively combat corruption globally, no nation could seal itself off from the impact of corruption beyond its border and must work with every other nation to fight corruption wherever it is in the world.”

THE DESTRUCTIVE IMPACT OF CORRUPTION

Recognize that corruption is a complex economic, political and social challenge that threatens democracy, sustainable development, the rule of law, the welfare and health of our citizens, a clean environment, and global security across both developed and developing countries, whose corrosive influence extends to the spread of transnational organized crime, terrorism, and other illicit areas that pose threats to the security, good order and well-being of many of our societies;
Are aware that corruption impedes development, endangers human rights, impedes the democratic process and undermines good corporate governance. Corruption’s impact is most profoundly felt by the poor as it denies them access to funds and resources allocated for their benefit and necessary for a brighter future, including the right to participate fully in political and economic processes, making it difficult for governments to build just, fair, and equitable societies;

Are cognizant that the prevention of corruption is a key tool in combating emerging transnational criminal threats and illicit networks. Today, criminals imperil the function and legitimacy of the state when they harness public institutions to facilitate their illicit activities and create a culture of impunity. In the most extreme cases, they subvert and undermine state functions. To gain an advantage in our battle against such transnational criminal threats, we must root out corruption at every level of government involving the public trust – particularly in the security, law enforcement and criminal justice sectors, as well as in the economic, financial and business sectors – in full partnership with non-governmental and civil society organizations, so as to establish a culture of legality and reinforce the rule of law in our societies;

Urge the global community to redouble efforts to promote national integrity systems and strategies that combat all forms of corruption, and the laundering of illicit proceeds;

At the opening of Global Forum V in Johannesburg, South Africa, in 2007, President Thabo Mbeki underscored the urgency for the international community to deal with the “problem of corruption, which obstructs the achievement of the important objective we all share, the objective of liberating billions of human beings from the scourge of poverty. The theme that informs the work of this conference, ‘fighting corruption and safeguarding integrity’, correctly presumes our ability as political leaders, business leaders, civil society, public intellectuals and academics, and others, to identify the root causes of corruption and accordingly work out the most effective ways and means to combat it. All of us are agreed about the negative consequences of corruption on the lives of especially the ordinary people but also all the citizens of our countries. We are equally agreed that for corruption to occur there must also exist mutual agreement and collusion between the corruptor and the corrupted. Indeed, both the corruptor and the corrupted would, as a matter of principle, agree to subject their souls to the dictates of graft, illegally to line their pockets against the interests of the people to whom the stolen resources are due. . . . We know of many examples where corruption robs a large section of humanity of their right to homes, food, transport, education, health, clean water, and many other essential services.” President Mbeki further noted that corruption “emasculates development and democracy and undermines the fight against poverty by diverting key resources away from programs designed to improve the quality of life especially of the poor, globally. . . . We have an obligation properly to understand and to fight corruption in all its forms and manifestations, as we seek to create a new world order that will be responsive to the needs and aspirations of the poor billions we represent. . . . Accordingly, we need to seize the opportunity provided by this Global Forum constructively to strengthen the foundation for carrying out our historic task to rid our world of the ravages of poverty, disease and underdevelopment.”
INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION AND PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTOR FRAMEWORKS FOR DETERRENCE

Voice our concern that corruption involving officials from the private and public sectors is a grave and corrosive abuse of power that destabilizes the social fabric of communities;

Acknowledge that corruption has evolved into a transnational and trans-sectoral phenomenon, and that a holistic approach is needed to address it, which not only involves the public sector but also the private sector, civil society, academia, the media, and relevant international organizations;

Encourage business leaders and businesses to adopt and enforce anti-bribery compliance policies and programs, conduct their enterprises in a more ethical manner internationally, and move toward independent verification processes, to enhance the credibility of the systems;

Recommend that steps be taken to provide incentives to business to cooperate with law enforcement authorities, including measures to mitigate penalties for such cooperation or for adopting such programs;

At the opening plenary of Global Forum III in Seoul, South Korea, in 2003, Minister of Justice Kang Kumsil underscored how the Global Forum process had become an indispensable tool to mobilize attention to the causes of corruption, develop guiding principles to fight it, and to exchange effective methodologies. Minister Kang also noted that corruption in the era of globalization threatened many of the international community's shared interests in security, economic prosperity, democracy and sustainable development: "It has become increasingly apparent that issues such as money laundering, organized crime, and terrorism are deeply interrelated to corruption. The results of these vices have shown the world how harmful they can be - not just to individual countries but to the global community as well. Corruption in the private sector is also a serious problem that has emerged as an urgent matter to address. Several corruption cases in the private sector, such as the series of accounting scandals that . . . have[had] a negative impact on the world economy. To eradicate corruption at the national level, the public sector, private sector, and civil society have to actively interplay their respective roles."

Note with concern the increasingly transnational nature of corruption and agree on the need for sharing of good practices in formal and informal cooperation arrangements for the prevention, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases;

Also agree to implement and enforce laws against transnational bribery of foreign officials, including those promulgated to implement the provisions of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and the OECD Convention on the Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions;
Further recognize that integrity is a core prerequisite to a secure and clean international supply chain, that corruption undermines international trade and development, and that collaboration in preventing and fighting corruption by all parties is crucial;

**STRENGTHENING ANTICORRUPTION AUTHORITIES**

Are aware, in line with the UNCAC and other international treaties, of the important role that specialized anticorruption institutions can play in the prevention and control of corruption, as well as in establishing and monitoring sound anticorruption strategies and policies;

Express concern over instances in which anticorruption authorities are being weakened and even threatened;

Urge the international community to remain vigilant against attempts to undermine the role and functions of anticorruption authorities;

Encourage governments diligently to take all necessary measures to ensure that anticorruption authorities can effectively contribute to the prevention, detection, investigation, and prosecution of corruption and related offences, as well as to the identification, tracing, seizure, confiscation, and return of the proceeds of corruption, within their respective mandates;

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At Global Forum II, held in The Hague in 2001, chaired by H.E. Benk Korthals, Minister of Justice of the Netherlands, delegates welcomed the United Nations General Assembly’s decision to begin the elaboration and negotiation of an effective international legal instrument against corruption, which led to the UNCAC. Minister Korthals further elaborated on the scope of Global Forum II during his opening remarks: “I believe that we have established a balance here by paying attention to everyone’s role [in the fight against corruption]. The various branches of Government, but also civil society, the private sector and the media have a role to play. In this respect, I want to emphasize that I fully respect the demands from especially the developing countries that the rest of the world must help them in fighting corruption: when companies based in the industrialized world are actively involved in corruption, they should be punished, even if they are engaged in bribery of foreign officials. When former dictators use the banks located in the big financial centres to hide the resources stolen from their country of origin, we should find the right way to help to repatriate such embezzled funds. The key word here is close international cooperation based on clear criteria.”
At Global Forum IV in Brasilia, Brazil in 2005, Waldir Pires, Minister of Control and Transparency, gave the following inspirational message: "In a country like ours, corruption annihilates the lives of children – stealing their school lunches – or kills the oldest among us by blocking access to medications that are diverted from public health services. We must combat corruption with courage. Corruption, after all, does not respect borders, nor does it distinguish between rich or poor nations. We have to confront it, therefore, shoulder to shoulder, until we can declare victory in the battle for democracy and human civilization. For there cannot be democracy without citizenship. There cannot be citizenship without respect for fundamental social rights for the existence of the human person. Democracy means the inclusion of all people in our world today. It is my hope that the Global Forum will continue to serve as a privileged venue where we can reflect on our common problems and forge paths for solving them together, on behalf of proper administrative conduct, of ethics. Specifically, the ethics that solidify the human condition, that see in the human person more than simply the objective of building a human civilization, but rather the end, the essence of this effort".

Encourage leaders at all levels of society to strengthen their will and resolve against corruption, and to support public campaigns that mobilize all segments of society to eradicate corruption in all of its forms and manifestations;

Reaffirm the need to establish and nurture a culture of integrity among citizens, public officials and private sector officials;

Point out the benefits of anticorruption educational initiatives to foster a culture of integrity, including through programs for youth, through well-constructed long-term strategies, the mainstreaming of ethics and anticorruption in professional and post-graduate programs, and the provision of specialized training for practitioners;

Highlight the crucial role of the media to both accurately inform and educate the public as well as to expose corruption;

Stress the fundamental importance of strengthening the integrity and independence of the judiciary and investigative and prosecution services; as well as the importance of the vigilance of parliaments in the fight against corruption, including by a greater commitment to conflicts of interest and abuse of power;

PREVENTION OF CORRUPTION

Are aware that priority should be given to the adoption of broad prevention measures, which are crucial to any comprehensive strategy for fighting corruption;
Recognize Chapter II of UNCAC as providing a strong model for the types of measures that governments should take to prevent corruption; and urge governments to redouble their efforts to implement Chapter II of UNCAC, develop long-term and pragmatic strategies, and establish strong systems to promote integrity;

Reaffirm the need for strong systems to promote integrity among public and private sector officials, including context-sensitive and enforceable codes of conduct, clear rules for post-government employment, relevant financial disclosure requirements, and relevant compliance and inspection programs;

**CLEAN GOVERNMENT: PUBLIC PROCUREMENT AND TRANSPARENCY**

Recognize that corruption in public procurement diverts resources from the global community's most pressing basic needs, such as health, education, environment, and energy, thereby denying services and resources to the world's most needy;

Note with serious concerns that corruption in procurement in vulnerable sectors, such as defense, engineering, public health, energy and infrastructure can be a serious threat to public security;

Urge governments to safeguard against corruption in public procurement through stringent transparency and accountability measures, as prescribed in the UNCAC and following existing good practices and open criteria, in close partnership with the private sector and local communities;

**PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS IN INSTITUTION-BUILDING AGAINST CORRUPTION**

Recognize that corruption in the developing world erodes resources intended for development and private investments alike, thereby depriving developing countries of prospects for sustainable development and economic growth;

Further note that corruption not only has a detrimental impact on developing economies, but undermines donor and corporate efforts to promote development and generate opportunities for growth;

Urge business leaders to ensure that the highest standards of integrity are upheld by all actors in the supply chain, including sub-contractors, agents and intermediaries;

Urge both donor and business communities to join forces to provide developing countries with anti-corruption infrastructures consistent with UNCAC, thus safeguarding investments and helping to ensure aid effectiveness;

**BRIDGING THE PUBLIC AND PRIVATE SECTORS' EFFORTS**

Recognize the importance of transparency and dissemination of information to oversight bodies, parliaments, media, civil society, and electoral accountability;
Note the power as well as positive contribution of new information technologies to increase transparency, asset traceability, oversight, and participation;

Call for study, dissemination, and implementation of good practices to protect those who provide information to competent authorities, consistent with the whistleblower provisions of the UNCAC;

Agree on the value of developing new and more sophisticated approaches to assessing challenges and progress related to the fight against corruption, its incidence, costs and other consequences, as well as the value of properly recognizing the contributions of anticorruption leaders;

GLOBAL FINANCIAL CRISIS, ASSET RECOVERY AND NO SAFE HAVEN

Are convinced that the recovery and return of the proceeds of corruption to their legitimate owners must be a fundamental objective in our fight against corruption;

Agree to prohibit and deter the concealment of illicitly acquired assets and highlight the importance of facilitating international cooperation with respect to asset recovery consistent with the provisions of the UNCAC;

Note the increased responsibilities of the financial sector in this regard and encourage all relevant financial institutions to fully cooperate in such endeavors;

Recommend that governments deny safe haven to corrupt officials, those who corrupt them, and their assets, and to strengthen international cooperation on extradition, mutual legal assistance and the recovery and return of proceeds of corruption, in accordance with the relevant provisions of the UNCAC and other relevant instruments;

UNCAC’S IMPLEMENTATION

Welcome the emergence of the UNCAC as the primary global framework for international action and cooperation on corruption among governments and between governments, the private sector and other non-governmental actors;

Reaffirm our commitment to the effective implementation of the UNCAC, wishing every success to the Third Conference of the State Parties as it considers important topics such as implementation of the UNCAC, including review of implementation, prevention, technical assistance, and asset recovery, and urge delegations to dedicate their utmost efforts to accomplish the objectives established by the Second Conference of States Parties;
Urge governments to utilize the provisions of the UNCAC to facilitate mutual legal assistance, extradition, asset recovery, and other forms of international cooperation relating to the fight against corruption, by providing appropriate specialized training to criminal justice and other relevant officials;

Recognize the positive inter-relationship between global, regional, and sub-regional legal instruments against corruption and the need for appropriate financial and technical assistance for the implementation of these instruments in countries with limited resources;

Support emerging initiatives on the key issues identified above, including but not limited to the Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (STAR) and other efforts to promote implementation of Chapter V of the UNCAC, such as the planned International Anticorruption Academy, calling for it to make implementation of the UNCAC a top priority and encouraging innovative curriculums such as pragmatic workshops on combating kleptocracy and asset recovery;

Recommend that utmost vigilance be exercised by governments and their parliaments to ensure that national anti-corruption authorities or bodies have the necessary authority, resources and level of independence to properly exercise their functions;

Express concern over actions taken to threaten, harm, or undermine leaders and officials of these bodies, or illegitimately frustrate their work, as well as other governmental oversight officials, investigative journalists, civil society advocates, and other good governance reformers, and call for redoubled efforts to safeguard them from harm in carrying on their duties;

THE WAY FORWARD: GLOBAL PARTNERSHIPS

At the opening of the Global Forum VI in Doha, Qatar, His Royal Highness The Emir, stated: “To change or reform culture means to implant solid values that fight against corruption and nepotism, while consolidating transparency; it means to build institutions for the maintenance and reinforcement of the rule of law; it means to respect and safeguard basic human rights; it means also to broaden the scope for dialogue and open the way for sharing responsibilities. It is, therefore, not a culture for the few but for all; not for the governed alone but for the governor as well, under the principle of equality before the law….We consider this Forum as a platform for constructive dialogue between government decision-makers, academic experts, leaders of the private sector and representatives of the civil society. We view it as a nucleus of interaction, not only for enriching knowledge, but also for opening new horizons for more effective policies and practices so as to build new bridges and create new partnerships among peoples from different parts of the world, in order to help alleviate their suffering, narrowing existing technological and institutional gaps and thus contributing to a favourable environment for the requirements of sustained development. Hence, our insistence that sustained development be linked with sustainable governance. This means more transparency, more accountability and more integrity, all necessary ingredients required to foster a culture of rejection of corruption.”
Applaud the leadership and commitment exhibited by the governments of the United States, the Netherlands, Brazil, South Korea, South Africa and Qatar in hosting successive ministerials of the Global Forum;

Reaffirm our unity of effort to fight against corruption and to continue to collectively mobilize the international political will on this important issue, as well as our determination to continue to strengthen international cooperation;

Encourage continued vibrant global anticorruption networks - such as the IAACA, the OECD Working Group on Bribery, the OECD-ADB regional anticorruption initiative for Asia, the APEC Anticorruption and Transparency Task Force, the Inter-American Convention against Corruption Follow-up Mechanism (MESICIC), the AU Convention Against Corruption, the Council of Europe’s Group of the States Against Corruption (GRECO), the European Partners Against Corruption (EPAC) and the EU’s anti-corruption contact point (EACN), the MENA Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET), the OECD Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Eurasia, and Transparency International - to enhance their fight against corruption and recommend greater cooperation and interaction between and among them;

Welcome the initiative of Thailand to act as host of the 14th International Anticorruption Conference (14th IACC) in Bangkok on November 10-13, 2010. We also acknowledge the important work of the International Anti-Corruption Conference (IACC), first held in 1983, in bringing together civil society, government and business from around the world to find effective solutions for responsible governance and tackling corruption. The Global Forum has long recognized the value of partnering with civil society and the private sector in the common effort to prevent and combat corruption and promote the full implementation of UNCAC. In this light, we also support the inclusion of a high-level “Community of Nations” segment in the IACC as a useful platform for government officials to continue their engagement with civil society and the private sector;

Agree on the central and prominent place occupied by the UNCAC as the principal global instrument to fight corruption and support the processes related to the Conference of State Parties;

Finally, we are satisfied that the mandate of the UNCAC fully reflects and extends the objectives of the Global Forum on Fighting Corruption and Safeguarding Integrity and, trusting that it is in the best interest of economy and efficiency that henceforth its spirit be integrated into the framework provided by the COSP, IACC and other important global anticorruption initiatives, we decide – with great appreciation for the work accomplished – to bring to an end the Global Forum series with the successful conclusion of Global Forum VI, at Doha, Qatar, on 8 November 2009. We also decide to endorse all of its recommendations, which are contained in the Annex, for submission to the Third Session Conference of the States Parties, along with this final statement.

Doha
8 November 2009
ANNEX – DOHA RECOMMENDATIONS

Roundtable 1:
The Fundamentals of Deterrence: Raising the Risk and Combating Impunity

Main issues discussed

The roundtable discussed issues related to Mutual Legal Assistance, international cooperation in criminal matters, public-private cooperation in corruption investigations and the role and position of Anti-Corruption agencies.

With regard to mutual legal assistance, the roundtable noted the progress made under traditional instruments such as bilateral and multilateral treaties. Mutual legal assistance does not lead only to successful proceedings in the requesting country but also helps the requested country to initiate proceedings. Direct contacts between prosecutors, coordination meetings and joint investigation teams should be strengthened. However, some challenges remain such as the difference in procedural law and privacy legislation. From a European perspective, Eurojust is a unique institution to expedite proceedings and enable institutions to spontaneously exchange information.

Beyond traditional mutual legal assistance, complex multijurisdictional corruption cases require networks of law-enforcement. Ad-hoc networks have emerged to handle specific cases, but institutional networks could help to set up the structures for such cooperation. In this regard, the prosecutors meetings recently initiated at the margins of the OECD Working Group on Bribery can set an example.

Cooperation of law enforcement with the private sector is necessary for complex investigations. On the public side, this requires transparent and predictable proceedings. Positive incentives have been set in a number of cases including mitigation of sanctions and expedited procedures. Legal requirements that would lead to a punishment of cooperation would need to be reviewed. On the private side, this cooperation requires efficient audit, detection and prevention policies. Agency contracts with intermediaries should be treated with caution. In some sectors, cooperation between competitors could help to flag incidents of intended bribery.

With regard to the position and functions of anti-corruption agencies, the heads (respectively former heads) of a number of anti-corruption agencies reported of their experiences in setting up strong, independent and sustainable institutions. It was highlighted that the independence of an anti-corruption agency hinges on a
number of factors such as appropriate staffing and training, transparent recruitment, sufficient funding, unrestricted access to information and the power to cooperate with other agencies, civil society and international partners. It was also highlighted that officials of anti-corruption agencies often fulfil their functions in a climate of threat against their persons and under the risk of their work being instrumentalized. An inclusive approach involving all sectors of society was needed in order to create sustainability and receive acceptance and the active support of society.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- Mutual legal assistance should be further strengthened with a view to expediting the procedures and strengthening spontaneous disclosure of information. Beyond that, the establishment and strengthening of prosecutors networks is necessary for the investigation of complex cases.

- Cooperation of law enforcement institutions with private companies should be incentivized. Such cooperation requires transparent and predictable proceedings on the public side, and active and sustainable anti-corruption, detection and reporting systems on the private side. Agency contracts with intermediaries should be treated with special cautionary measures.

- Anti-corruption agencies should adopt a comprehensive and inclusive approach in order to secure support from all sectors of society. They must be vested with a number of functions shielding their independence, including the power to engage in international cooperation.

- The Human Rights and ethics implications of corruption should be further explored.

**Roundtable 2: Creating and Maintaining a Culture of Integrity**

**Main issues discussed**

The roundtable addressed the issue of education and raising public awareness in the fight against corruption. It was noted that broader notions of morality and ethics needed to be considered and that religious faiths could also be a useful point of reference as they promoted integrity. The public or community interest was to be stressed over private gain, particularly when the global financial crisis was further aggravating the devastating effects of greed. It was noted that corruption affected developing countries disproportionately.
One important measure to combat corruption in the public sector was for public servants - including politicians in power, bureaucrats and judges - to file asset declarations, to be extended also to members of the family. This was attempted in some countries.

In discussing the key role of accountability of governments and of public institutions, it was stressed that parliaments were to hold the executive branch accountable for its acts. Democracy which empowers citizens through elections should play a greater role in ensuring such accountability in order to voice the peoples' concerns.

Several types and levels of education concerning the problem of corruption were discussed, including specific activities that had been undertaken, such as the development of curricula for schools and universities containing teaching materials to educate students on the prevention and combating of corruption. It was stressed in this respect that teachers and parents had a crucial role to play: they had to be consulted on the curricula development, in order to raise their awareness and, in turn, gain feedback.

Education and awareness-raising had to be carried out also for civil servants and other government officials, including efforts to educate civil servants to prevent corruption by deterrence and knowledge of legislation and regulations. Training courses could vary from short term to longer periods, and all newly recruited civil servants should receive education in government ethics.

The importance of role models of integrity in communities and emphasis on leadership ethics was underlined. Giving prominence to such leaders would demonstrate that ethical behaviour and strong commitment to integrity was indeed feasible and useful to society at large.

The roundtable stressed the need to support an independent media, emphasizing the key role that various forms of media - including television and printed press outlets - had played in investigating and reporting on recent corruption scandals. An active and independent media fostered debate and strengthened the public awareness and involvement in key issues. In this respect, it was also noted that the adoption of freedom of information acts was crucial to the media's investigative and reporting capacity.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- Education and training are important parameters in controlling corruption. It also underscored the importance of role models of integrity in communities. It was felt that the democracy facilitated by
elected parliament would be a good panacea for dealing with issues of integrity and accountability since parliament is empowered by the people.

- Vibrant and independent media is considered as a sine qua non for dealing with corruption, particularly that of transnational cases.

- Declaration of assets by elected representatives, bureaucrats and judges would go a long way in enhancing integrity and inducing transparency, since transparency in transactions increases the integrity quotient in government activities.

- The development of curricula at school levels and of training material for civil servants is very important, as well as continuing education in the form of in-service awareness courses regarding the perils of corruption as a good tool for early prevention.

**Roundtable 3: Public-Private Partnerships in Procurement: Levelling the Playing Field**

**Main issues discussed**

The roundtable recognized that governments are among the largest purchasers of goods and services, and that the correct relationship between them and private counterparts should be based on solid commercial as well as ethical grounds, as an environment of integrity was essential in the acquisition of goods and services from the private sector.

The role of both public and private actors was emphasized, in particular, the fundamental role of governments to ensure that laws and regulations are implemented. Likewise, the importance of involving the corporate community, as early as possible, in the formulation of such policies and regulations was similarly recognized. The importance of striking an optimal balance between control of corruption in procurement and provision of incentives was also stressed, as was the importance of administering effective, exemplary and duly publicized sanctions to companies that indulge in corrupt practices. On the other hand, companies committed to the highest standards of integrity had to be recognized for their efforts. In this respect, it was noted that the identification of “clean” companies was best left to the private sector itself or other civil society initiatives.

The roundtable was keen in advocating the expansion of forms of procurement that minimize human interaction – which generates opportunities for corruption – and relay on modern information and
communication technology solutions. The ability of such technologies to enable the public to monitor public and private performance and integrity was underscored.

The roundtable repeatedly stressed the importance of fostering public-private partnerships to minimize opportunities for corruption in public procurement: Such partnerships should be pursued as early as possible, for instance by involving representatives of the private sector in the formulation of policies and regulations governing public procurement. Other forms of public-private partnerships were discussed. In this respect, it was recognized that the private sector had a lot to contribute to public efforts for integrity. In particular, the contribution of knowledge, expertise and skills of the corporate community was regarded as viable and most desirable.

The roundtable also addressed the importance of integrity in procurement practices related to most vulnerable sectors, such as health and defence. In these sectors, the often deadly consequences of corrupt practices were acknowledged with great concern. In such areas, a sound integrity policy had to address conflict of interests, the supply chain and external auditing mechanisms.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- Corruption in public procurement diverts resources from the global community’s most pressing basic needs, such as health, education, environment, and energy, thereby denying services and resources to the world’s most needy.

- The panel also concluded that corruption in procurement in vulnerable sectors, such as defence, engineering, public health, energy and infrastructure can be a serious threat to public security.

- Governments should safeguard against corruption in public procurement through stringent transparency and accountability measures, as prescribed in the UNCAC and in conformity with existing good practices, in close partnership with the private sector and local communities with increasing technical assistance.

- Corruption in public procurement through stringent transparency and accountability measures, as prescribed in the UN Convention against Corruption and in conformity with existing good practices, in close partnership with the private sector and local communities with increasing technical assistance.
• Best use should be made of mechanism that reduce human interaction in the public procurement process, relaying more extensively on modern information and communication technologies that can also increase public access to information and public scrutiny.

• Private and public actors should actively cooperate with each other, contributing their respective leverage and expertise. This should include: the establishment of public procurement regimes consistent with the state-of-the-art requirements of the UNCAC; consultation in policy and lawmaking related to public procurement; joint awareness raising and training of public and private procurement officers; and mechanisms to assess the impact of such joint efforts.

Roundtable 4: Public-Private Partnerships for Institution-Building against Corruption

Main issues discussed

Strategic alliances to meet technical assistance needs for institution-building.

The private sector working together with the development assistance community.

The United Nations Convention against Corruption and other relevant international instruments as a basis of country-development partner dialogue on anti-corruption initiatives.

Conclusions and recommendations

• Corruption has a detrimental impact on development in that it erodes resources intended for development purposes and deprives developing countries of prospects for sustainable development and economic growth. Accordingly, anti-corruption strategies and policies are crucial contributions to the achievement of broader development objectives, such as economic development, access to justice, the rule of law, health and education. Hence, it is critical to ensure that anti-corruption efforts are in line with broader governance reforms and the sustained development of criminal justice systems.

• Political and committed leadership in each country should lead to the strongest possible sense of ownership of activities aimed at implementing international anti-corruption standards through the determination of priorities and the appropriate sequencing of steps towards implementation.
The establishment of robust institutional frameworks is a prerequisite for rendering the fight against corruption effective. In that sense, institution-building is a long-term endeavour which should entail proper legal foundations, adequate organizational structures, as well as the necessary powers and adequate resources for institutions to effectively discharge their functions.

It is of paramount importance to further promote the ratification and effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in recognition of the fact that it is the only global anti-corruption instrument containing a separate chapter on technical assistance and information exchange (chapter VI), which calls upon States parties to implement the Convention through economic and technical assistance.

The provision of effective technical assistance to address corruption necessitates the adoption of a three-pronged approach to ensure: (a) the assessment of the adequacy and institutional functionality of anti-corruption laws, regulations and measures and, in that context, the identification of gaps and shortcomings and the specification of areas or activities that are particularly prone and vulnerable to corruption; (b) the identification and prioritization of needs for adapting laws and administrative procedures and putting them into effect; and, (c) the delivery of assistance in consistency with the identified needs.

The five qualitative elements of assistance to support and upgrade domestic capacities in dealing with the problem of corruption, namely coherence, consistency, continuity, sustainability and quality of services, should be geared towards taking into account other key policy and reform areas to translate a strategic vision into concrete implementation of international anti-corruption standards, particularly the requirements set forth in the UNCAC.

Effective and multi-disciplinary action against corruption has clear advantages and benefits for both the private sector and the donor community, as it reduces the cost of business, strengthens conditions for fair competition and creates an enabling environment that levels the playing field and provides the degree of certainty needed for achieving development objectives. In that sense, the provision of technical assistance to build or upgrade anti-corruption capacity should be viewed as an investment that the private sector may wish to seriously consider, joining forces with various bi- and multilateral assistance providers: “From business unusual to business as usual”.

The UNCAC, as the reflection of common and agreed standards in the determination of joint anti-corruption goals and priorities, should be used as the basis and conduit for promoting public-private
partnerships in institution-building against corruption. Such partnerships should form an integral part of bi- and multilateral development cooperation, thus safeguarding investments and upholding the need to ensure aid effectiveness.

The success and efficiency of synergies and coalitions between the public and the private sectors require a clear understanding and delineation of roles and responsibilities to avoid misperceptions on objectives and expectations, as well as “asymmetries” in each partner’s involvement. Moreover, the promotion and materialization of public-private partnerships should always pursue the highest standards of transparency, integrity and governance and be subject to strict accountability requirements for all partners. The role of the UN Global Compact to that effect should be acknowledged and further strengthened.

Recognizing that different bi- and multilateral donor organizations and technical assistance providers have their own institutional mandates and objectives, it is essential to pursue coordination of activities and alignment of efforts of development partners involved in the fight against corruption.

The holistic approach of the UNCAC, calling for attention to both the supply and demand side of the problem of corruption and requiring multi-disciplinary action against it at the national, regional and international levels, should provide the inspirational framework for fostering agreement among development partners about the joint investment in the implementation of the Convention. This, in turn, will facilitate the determination of technical assistance priorities, as well as a realistic pace of their implementation and the ways of measuring success and capturing lessons learnt through partnerships and efforts at all levels.

Awareness-raising activities and dissemination of knowledge and expertise on the UNCAC plays a crucial role in building political support and ensuring sustainable changes in practices, synergies and behaviors.

Roundtable 5: Bridging the Public and Private Sector’s Efforts for Reform

Main issues discussed:

An effective strategy to fight corruption needs to rely on the support of and contribution by every segment of society. This includes public authorities (policy makers, law makers and the judiciary), academia, the private sector and the public at large.
The contribution that the private sector can make towards the recovery and disposal of proceeds of corruption should be properly acknowledged. In this context, the role of banks and financial institutions in reporting suspicious transactions to appropriate authorities, in particular financial intelligence units, should be emphasized, as employees of banks and financial institutions can trigger major investigations by reporting suspicious financial transactions.

Several companies are already engaged in major anti-corruption activities and efforts should be recognized. In fact, the refusal to engage in corrupt practices may often come at a competitive disadvantage for certain companies. Conversely, incentives should be provided to those companies that are willing and able to adopt a zero-tolerance policy on corruption.

Innovative initiatives to assess efforts against corruption are essential. Such initiatives must be fact-based, forward looking, sensitive to local context, reflective of local stakeholder concerns, multi-dimensional and supportive of anti-corruption leaders.

Public demand for transparency and integrity is increasing everyday more. In this context, a culture of integrity should be fostered particularly in sensitive areas, such as procurement and lobbying.

In order to reduce corruption, public and private actors should interact in a more systematic manner. This is particularly true in relation to the clarification and reduction of regulatory and administrative requirements necessary for business to operate. In fact, the higher the number of administrative layers required for business to operate or seek justice, the higher the number of opportunities for corruption. Both public and private actors seeking to uphold the highest standards of integrity are confronted with similar challenges. Thus the sharing of viable experiences and the identification of common and concerted solutions should be pursued.

The importance of a society-wide engagement in the fight against corruption at regional levels should be recognized.

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- Appropriate mechanisms for transparency and dissemination of information to oversight bodies, parliamentarians, media, and civil society should be further developed and strengthened for electoral accountability.
A greater use should be made of new information and communication technologies in the intersections between public and private actors in order to enhance clarity and oversight and increase transparency, participation, and asset traceability.

The generation and analysis of in-depth data reflecting progress and challenges in efforts against corruption nationally and globally should be pursued, as well as the development of more sophisticated approaches to assessing challenges and progress related to the fight against corruption, its incidence, costs and impact.

Special efforts should be devoted to the identification, dissemination and implementation of good practices to protect those who provide information to competent authorities, both from public and private sectors, consistent with the whistle blower provisions of UNCAC.

Appropriate recognition and incentives should be given to public and private anti-corruption leaders in order to motivate others and stimulate collective action towards a culture of integrity.

**Roundtable 6: Global financial crisis and corruption**

**Main issues discussed**

The financial crisis and anti-corruption: the risk that coping with the financial crisis will affect the priority accorded to anti-corruption efforts.

The dilemma between self-regulation and regulation by governments: where is the “golden balance” and how to ensure that deficiencies of or failures in self-regulation are appropriately dealt with.

The increased responsibility of the financial sector to deal with corruption proceeds: appropriate regulatory reform and the challenges posed by the increased scrutiny requirements for politically exposed persons. How can financial institutions be supported in the related efforts.

Have the lessons learnt from the financial crisis been learned? How can they apply to the anti-corruption agenda?

**Conclusions and recommendations**

- The financial crisis can be a significant opportunity to push the agenda on anti-corruption and to turn words into action.
• This is both a collective and an individual responsibility to mobilize against corruption.
• This agenda is not a North or a South agenda – it is a collective one, and all societies are hurt by corruption.
• There are various roots to the crisis, and no “silver bullet”. Responses will have to be multi-faceted, at the national and international levels.
• Steps taken on the regulatory front in the response to the crisis can significantly benefit the fight against corruption – particularly all what relates to transparency, accountability, identification or beneficial ownership – and of course, enhanced international cooperation (both at policy and operational levels). The current momentum needs to address regulatory arbitrage between financial products and between countries.
• The mobilization on tax havens can bring benefits to the anti-corruption agenda- but it must not be at the expense of anti-corruption. There is a need to address safe havens for the proceeds of corruption-and to leverage on what is common in the two agendas.
• The public sector has a specific responsibility with respect to regulation and cooperation in bringing concrete cases against notorious kleptocrats, for example. One key word coming out of the discussion is “robust enforcement”.

• The financial sector also needs to do more – and be up to the task. Wilful blindness is not acceptable anymore. The financial sector needs to have a much more effective and aggressive approach to due diligence requirements- focusing on the source of funds, especially in connection with politically exposed persons.

• Several practical options – or proposals to be further developed – were recommended:
  o Countries must be more proactive on corruption and asset recovery cases;
  o Civil society and the media should not hesitate to “embarrass” corrupt individuals or countries not cooperating in the fight against corruption
  o Adopting such tools as non-conviction based forfeiture, criminalization of illicit enrichment, publication of politically exposed persons (PEPs) databases, publication of lists of corrupt offenders, ways to foster public awareness on corruption to increase the impact on offenders;
  o Reflecting on how to improve the capacity of countries to establish their jurisdiction on cross-border corruption cases to avoid “orphan cases”.

  o More contacts and closer cooperation between law enforcement and prosecutorial authorities in various countries can help build cases and facilitate investigations and prosecutions when they are hurdles in launching cases. Such contacts could address impunity;
Because of their complexity, corruption cases call for team-based, multi-disciplinary approaches;
Providing support to those who stand up in countries where the environment is less conducive to either enforcement action or mobilization of civil society, including support through “rapid response” with international partners to local investigators and prosecutors;
There is a need for more training related to anti-corruption, both in the public sector and in the private sector, and awareness-raising of the general public (including at grass-root level). The media and non-governmental organizations have a crucial role to play here in publicizing cases of corruption;
Technical assistance is needed. UNCAC is a starting point. Initiatives such as UNODC/WB Stolen Asset Recovery can be of great help.

Youth Forum:
Roundtable 2: Creating and Maintaining a Culture of Integrity

Conclusions

Reducing corruption is a long-term goal that requires targeting the young generation.

A comprehensive approach is needed in order to effectively combat corruption, since it is a complex problem that affects many areas of society.

The main focus should lie on empowering the youth, both through education and the sponsorship of youth initiatives. Only then will they be able to say no to corruption once they grow older.

Recommendations

The Youth Forum calls for the actors present at the Global Forum and the Conference of the States Parties to support their cause through the following measures:

I. Youth Empowerment
   a. Establish a Youth Conference to run in parallel to the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption
• Give continuity to youth involvement
• Create a focal point in the framework of the United Nations (for example UNODC) to coordinate youth activities aiming at fighting corruption
• It was considered important that young people from different cultures would come together to discuss corruption to ensure diverse viewpoints and find solutions that succeed in an international context

b. **International youth-led corruption-awareness campaign and youth education through popular culture**
• Utilize new media, and establish and maintain social networks
  o Facebook, Twitter, YouTube channel, viral marketing
  o Celebrity concerts – price of ticket contributes to anti-corruption efforts
  o Television advertisements
• Start-up funds from UN, become self-sustaining in the long run

c. **Integrate corruption prevention education into social studies curriculum**
• The Social Studies Curriculum should promote universal values, but the approach should be flexible enough to be adjusted to the cultural particularities of the different countries
• Support should be provided from international organizations (IBO, British system, etc)
• Youth should be educated about the direct and indirect effects of corruption (e.g. increased poverty)
• Advantage: Almost no costs involved, since it is easy to modify lessons to include anti-corruption education
• Anti-corruption clinics in secondary schools to get the youth involved

II. **Integrity Awards**
• Awards should be given by a coalition of NGO’s, backed by the UN to maximize the awards’ prestige
• Businesses should be the focus. They would benefit from positive exposure through enhanced reputation. Awards should also be given to exemplary individuals.
Youth Forum:
Roundtable 5: Bridging the Public and Private Sectors’ Efforts for Reform

Conclusions and Recommendations

1. Freedom of Information for Greater Accountability
   - Principles of Article 13 of the UNCAC should be used in the anti-corruption campaign.
   - Anti-Corruption Strategy requires: transparency and accountability in money management.
     Transparency and accountability in taxes.
   - Encourage and generate a political will through the public to enforce existing treaties and policies like the UNCAC.
   - Develop a culture of the right to information; which will assist in generating a political will:
     - This can be done through education and public awareness from youth upwards i.e. Integrity, morals and ethics in relation to anti-corruption.
     - This will provide for zero tolerance policies throughout society.
   - The publication of high level officials’ assets and incomes.
     - General asset declarations to the governments only.
   - Public spending details should be outlined in the annual publication of the budget.
   - The obligation of companies to become transparent through legislation (i.e. through model legislation).
   - The necessary laws to provide for access to Freedom of Information.
   - Media as a tool to be limited to concrete and legitimate evidence.
     - Empower the media community and provide protection for journalists to share legitimate information publicly.
     - With regards to countries where freedom of speech is oppressed, UN networks should be established to expose all this abroad. This should be distributed in the form of an annual report.
     - In addition, relevant articles should regularly be collected by a subsection of the UNCAC Secretariat.
     - Use the media for anti-corruption campaign, from the youth upwards.
   - Need for a more official and trusted international report of corruption to identify and understand the extent of corruption.
   - Inform the public about how corruption can also affect them, directly and indirectly.

2. Public and Private Responses to Corruption in Vulnerable Sectors

   - Auditing strong budget performance progress.
   - Use of media to enhance the responses.
• Encourage and promote the development of online applications for public and private procurement to reduce face to face corruption.
• Encourage and generate a political will.
  o Recommendations should filter down through the media, education, campaigning, online programmes and civil society.
• A national independent auditing organization monitoring public/private tradings and transactions. More extensive focus on certain sectors believed to be vulnerable to corruption, such as oil, energy and construction.
  o An anti-corruption body should either audit public and private tradings and transactions, or monitor who does.
• Authorities should apply sanctions (e.g. heavier taxes) and prosecute corrupt companies, in the process increasing enforcement.
• Code of conduct and ethics (through model codes).
• Whistle-blower protection and witness protection during and post investigations.
• Public black lists assist individuals/investors in avoiding corrupt companies.
• Good Practice and experience sharing between countries.

3. Assessing Progress against Corruption and Rewarding Anti-corruption Leaders.
• Measuring corruption, with the assistance of the proposed UN progress reports, through various combinations of statistics, including: GDP, income distribution, profits, unemployment, and auditing reports produced (see above)
• Empower the media in the community and provide protection for journalists to share legitimate information publicly.
• Encourage and generate a social and political will.
• Assessment of root causes on a country by country basis is important to clearly identify problem-solving strategies.
• International standards set and implemented by the UN should be created for private companies to release information. Companies that adhere to these standards will gain a “certification” of their transparency and enhance their reputation; and observing their increase.
  o This can also be used for investments.
• Corrupt leaders should have the media spotlight casted upon them.
• Awards for companies/individuals that have excelled against corruption.
• Bring anti-corruption leaders (also those awarded for their anti-corruption efforts) together to work together.
• Online methods to assist with anti-corruption efforts to access a larger audience.
  o Online public complain mechanisms to report corruption anonymously.
- Public forums and platforms to discuss and promote anti-corruption to a wider audience (e.g. Facebook, Twitter and discussion forums at schools).
- Identify certain goals to be reached in a set timeframe, that are reviewed by randomly qualified public figures. This will be organized by national/international organizations.
- Support the work of anti-corruption leaders through an award based system.
- Track country-progress based on compliance with international standards (i.e. UNCAC); over set time periods, and review standards as needed.
- Youth forum as a pilot program for the youth’s voice to be heard.