



Corruption Facts

- Each year, in both developed and developing countries, over US\$ 1 trillion is paid in bribes.
[World Bank, www.worldbank.org]
- Corruption reduces a government's ability to provide basic resources and services for its citizens.

- Corruption and the transfer of illicit funds have contributed to the capital flight in Africa, with more than US\$ 400 billion having been looted and stashed away in foreign countries. Of that amount, around US\$ 100 billion is estimated to have come from Nigeria.
- Former President of Zaire, Mobutu Sese Seko (in power 1965-1997) is alleged to have looted the country's treasury of some US\$ 5 billion—an amount equal to the country's external debt at the time.
- The late Nigerian dictator Sani Abacha and members of his inner circle looted and exported an estimated US\$ 2.2 billion. The World Bank estimates that 70 per cent of the population of Nigeria live on less than US\$ 1 a day.
- In Mexico, the brother of former President Carlos Salinas amassed US\$ 120 million as a result of corruption, an amount that the World Bank estimates would pay for annual health care at current per capita levels for more than 594,000 Mexican citizens.

Corruption causes REDUCED INVESTMENT.

- Investment in a relatively corrupt country compared to an uncorrupt one can be as much as 20 per cent more costly.
["Economic Corruption: Some Facts", Daniel Kaufmann 8th International Anti-Corruption Conference 1997]
- Nations that fight corruption and improve their rule of law could increase their national income by 400 per cent.
["\$1 Trillion lost each year to bribery says World Bank", UN Wire, 12 April 2004]

Increasing evidence indicates widespread corruption in the JUDICIARY in many parts of the world.

- Judicial corruption undermines the rule of law and government legitimacy.
- A corrupt judiciary cripples a society's ability to curb corruption.
- A report examining the judiciary in 48 countries found that judicial corruption was pervasive in 30 of the countries.
[Centre for Independence of Judges and Lawyers, *Ninth annual report on Attacks on Justice*, March 1997, February 1999.]

With

CORRUPTION

everyone pays.



Corruption allows ORGANIZED CRIME AND TERRORISM to flourish.

- Corrupt practices facilitate drug trafficking and organized crime.
- Corruption is associated with money laundering and illicit international money transfers, which can be used to support mechanisms for international terrorists.

Strong POLITICAL COMMITMENT is required to combat corruption.

- The **United Nations Convention against Corruption** is the first legally-binding global response to combating corruption.
- The **United Nations Convention against Corruption** obliges countries to criminalize certain corrupt practices, including bribery, embezzlement and money laundering.

- One year after being approved, more than 110 countries have signed the **United Nations Convention against Corruption** and more than 10 have ratified it.
- At the World Economic Forum in 1999, UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan challenged business leaders to join the **Global Compact**—an international initiative bringing companies together with UN agencies, labour and civil society to support nine principles in the areas of human rights, labour and the environment. In June 2004, the Leaders Summit of the Global Compact added action against corruption as a tenth principle. With that addition, more than 1600 companies worldwide committed to work together to fight corruption.

