

32nd session

**Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice
(CCPCJ)**

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**Statement by Mr. Thomas Stelzer
Dean and Executive Secretary
International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA)**

Distinguished delegates,

1. On behalf of International Anti-Corruption Academy thank you for this opportunity to address you.
2. Corruption erodes the rule of law, hinders the effective allocation of resources, and destroys public trust. Lack of resources is a significant impediment in fulfilling all the SDGs.
3. The legal obligation to eliminate the scourge of corruption is embodied in the UN Convention Against Corruption which has been ratified by 189 nations and reinforced by the shared commitment of SDG 16.
4. Illicit financial flows siphon away unimaginable amounts of precious resources from productive economies. Combatting corruption successfully will reduce illicit financial flows significantly. Decision makers can then decide to direct these newly available resources towards the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.
5. The International Anti-Corruption Academy, as the only inter-governmental organization focusing on the comprehensive fight against corruption, thus offers a clear path towards financing of SDG implementation.

6. We propose to focus on limiting illicit financial flows and to call the resources thus freed and made available for sustainable development “THE INTEGRITY DIVIDEND”.
7. IACA will continue to develop activities facilitating the implementation of UNCAC through its various academic programmes, trainings, research, and awareness-raising.
8. Through various IACA’s education and capacity-building activities, anti-corruption practitioners around the world are provided with necessary tools to strengthen anti-corruption efforts in their societies and/or industries/sectors.
9. In 2022, the International Anti-Corruption Academy launched a new Global Programme on Measuring Corruption, to support the international community to re-think how to measure corruption. We would like to invite member states to join our initiative, and would welcome your support.
10. I very much hope that IACA’s interaction with UNODC on anti-corruption initiatives will continue to flourish and that the Crime Commission will support the Academy’s various activities.

Thank you for your attention.