



CONFERENCE ON COMBATING CORRUPTION

The challenges of

REGIONAL COOPERATION

in the implementation of the UNCAC

Luanda, Angola – EPIC SANA HOTEL
29 May – 2 June 2023

AGENDA



UNCAC AT 20:
UNITING THE WORLD
AGAINST CORRUPTION



Background

Corruption poses significant threats to countries around the world; it weakens institutions, erodes trust and threatens the economy by undermining fair competition and discouraging investment. It also disproportionately affects disadvantaged groups, especially the poor, preventing social inclusion and promoting inequality.

A number of governance indicators reveal that **corruption remains a significant obstacle to development of countries in the Southern Africa region, notably the Members of the Southern African Development Community (SADC)**. In recognition of the global character of the threats posed by corruption, the **United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)** was adopted as the sole global legally binding international instrument against corruption. As a complementary regional effort, the **SADC Protocol Against Corruption** aims to promote and strengthen, within each Member State, the development of mechanisms needed to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the public and private sector, facilitate and regulate cooperation in matters of corruption amongst Member States and foster development and harmonization of policies and domestic legislation related to corruption.

The far-reaching approach and the mandatory nature of most of the provisions of the UNCAC and the SADC Protocol Against Corruption make them a unique tool for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem in SADC countries. However, challenges remain with regard to their implementation, including the effective and timely implementation of the recommendations from the country reviews conducted under the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism.

The effective implementation of the Convention requires actions by State actors but building partnerships and enhancing cooperation with private sector entities, civil society organizations, academia, youth and the general public is equally fundamental for the fight against corruption. These stakeholders are key for the exchange of knowledge, data and best practices to enable comprehensive discussions for the advancement of the UNCAC and SDG 16.

Under the framework of the programme entitled “Fast-Tracking UNCAC Implementation”, UNODC established a regional platform for Southern Africa in October 2019, bringing together participating countries around the four thematic priority areas: inter-agency cooperation, whistleblower protection, asset disclosures and conflicts of interest in public procurement. The platform allowed stakeholders to focus on concrete reforms in those priority areas while creating synergies and partnerships with other anti-corruption and regional development partners, leading to strengthened coordination and collaboration within the SADC countries in thematic areas common to both the UNCAC and the SADC Protocol against Corruption.

As an active expression of its support from both partner and donor countries, resolution 9/4 entitled “Strengthening the

implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption at regional levels” was adopted by the Conference of States Parties to UNCAC at its ninth session in December 2021. With it, the Conference notes the contribution of such regional approach and requests UNODC to continue and expand its methodology, in close cooperation with multilateral and bilateral assistance providers, based on the requests and priorities of recipient countries.

Furthermore, in 2021 UNODC adopted its Strategic Vision for Africa 2030 that sets out safeguarding people and institutions from corruption and economic crime as one of the Vision’s five goals. The Vision commits UNODC to supporting Africa in realizing the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development as well as to help achieve the continent’s own Agenda 2063: The Africa We Want.

Objectives of the conference

It is against this backdrop that a regional conference bringing together all **SADC Members around two anti-corruption priorities** is being organized.

The overall objective is to agree on a **common roadmap for all SADC Members** containing a set of recommendations and commitments **for realization of the two anti-corruption priorities**.

Thematic areas:

The conference will focus on the following two thematic areas identified as priorities for the SADC region:

- National and Regional Coordination
- Public Procurement

Methodology and structure of the conference

The objective of the Regional Conference is for participating countries to firstly conduct detailed technical meetings on the two thematic areas identified and secondly develop a list of priority commitments to strengthen the implementation of the Convention in their countries to be endorsed at the last day of the conference.

The Regional Conference will be organized as a **two-stage process**.

During the first stage and the technical segment, **only Governmental Technical Experts will be participating**.

UNODC is inviting two technical experts from each participating country (one per thematic area) to participate in the first stage.

Participating countries are kindly invited to identify the relevant technical experts to conduct the discussions and draft recommendations during this stage.

Two Governmental Technical Experts per group will be invited to stay for the entire duration of the conference and act as the spokesperson. The **spokesperson** will be required to:

- Draft the PowerPoint presentation during the drafting session
- Deliver a presentation at the Dry Run Session
- Deliver a presentation at the High-Level Segment

First stage: Technical Segment (29 and 30 May 2023)

Technical Segment: This first stage of the conference will be dedicated to detailed technical discussions on the two thematic areas. The objective of this first stage is to develop a set of recommendations and commitments based on the results of the sessions.

Day one - 29 May 2023: After a joint opening session, Governmental Technical Experts will be invited to conduct parallel working sessions.

Participating Governmental Technical Experts will be divided into two thematic groups to conduct discussions and reach an agreement on possible commitments for the identified priorities.

Day two - 30 May 2023: Governmental Technical Experts will continue to work in their respective thematic groups.

At the drafting session stage, the Governmental Technical Expert spokespersons will be invited to stay with the facilitator of their groups to draft the PowerPoint presentation to be delivered.

The last day of the first stage will be concluded by a dry run session: each group's spokesperson will deliver the PowerPoint presentation in plenary session. After each presentation, the floor will be opened to all participants for comments, suggestions and agreement.

Civil Society and Private Sector parallel Roundtable 30 May 2023:

30 May 2023: On the second day of the conference, civil society private sector organizations and representatives of the academic world, will meet to hold a Roundtable discussion in parallel with the work of the technical group, on the importance of dialogue and joint action between the government and civil society in preventing and detecting corruption. The objective of this roundtable will be to discuss the role and impact of non-governmental groups in preventing and combating corruption, as well as entry points for strengthening their actions by working in coordination and collaboration with governmental bodies.

Second stage: High-Level Segment (31 May -2 June 2023)

The objective of this second stage is to discuss about key elements on strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption at regional level and allow for the endorsement of a commonly agreed roadmap containing a list of priority commitments and recommendations to strengthen the implementation of the UNCAC and the SADC protocol, as part of the two thematic areas identified as regional priorities.

Day One - 31 May 2023: After a formal opening ceremony, national decision and policy makers, high level representatives, members of the civil society and private sector as well as development partners will meet to discuss the opportunities and challenges of combatting corruption through a strong and integrated regional approach.

Two panels will be presented in an interactive format on the following topics:

- Implications and benefits of resolution 9/4.
- Collective action to ensure good governance: how the regional platform can help in strengthening the prevention and fight against corruption.

These panels will be presented by representatives from Egypt, Latin America, West Africa and the Sahel, Southeast Europe and the Balkans, Southeast Asia, and the International Anti-Corruption Academy.

Day Two - 1 June 2023: This second day of the high-level segment will include the governmental experts' spokespersons as well as the governmental decision and policy makers and high-level representatives of the SADC countries. The spokespersons of each thematic area will be invited to deliver the presentation of the draft roadmap as agreed by the technical segment. After each presentation, the floor will be open to all participants for comments, suggestions and agreement.

Final Day - 2 June 2023: A UNODC representative will introduce a Word document that will contain the entire list of recommendations and commitments as discussed during the preceding working sessions of the conference to the participants for final endorsement.

The floor will be opened to all participants for comments and suggestions using a "point-by-point" method. The amendments suggested by the Plenary participants will be directly reflected live in session on the projected document. The objective of this working session is the final endorsement of the document.

High-level representatives, decision and policy makers of participating countries who would not have the possibility to attend the entire High-Level Segment are strongly encouraged to prioritize their attendance of the final session.

Stage One: Technical Segment

Monday 29 May 2023

TECHNICAL OPENING CEREMONY		
TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
8.30 – 9.00	Registration	
9.00 – 9.45	Opening remarks	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dr. Edilson Agostinho, Secretary for Legal Affairs of the President of the Republic of Angola, Angola • Tim Steele, Chief Field Support Section, UNODC Vienna
9.45 – 10.15	Adoption of the COSP Resolution 9/4 “Strengthening the implementation of the United Nations Convention at regional level”: purpose, background and follow-up	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Heba Ismail, Permanent Mission of Egypt in Vienna
10.15-10.45	An overview of the conference structure and expectations of results from the technical working groups Tour de Table	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Louise Portas, UNODC
10.45 –11.15	Coffee Break and Group Picture	
11.15 – 13.15	Division into two thematic groups First working session – sharing of experiences and taking stock Expected outputs of this session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Setting the stage, discussing key concepts and experiences; • Mapping of the main existing initiatives at a country/regional level; • Recording what has worked well at a country level and why? • Understanding what has not worked as well at a country level and why? • What regional interventions have had impact? 	
	National and Regional Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
	Public Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwin Muhumuza, OCP • Tim Steele, UNODC • Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC
13.15 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00–15.00	Second working group session- mapping successes and challenges Expected outputs of this session: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unpacking key issues which need to be addressed related to each subject area; • Understanding the commonalities of the key issues between countries; • Alignment of these key issues with UNCAC recommendations 	
	National and Regional Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
	Public Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwin Muhumuza, OCP • Tim Steele, UNODC • Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee Break	

15.30-16.30	<p><i>Third working group session – What can we do better?</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What key actions are needed? • What can we build upon from the lessons learnt? • What do we need to do at a country level and what can be done regionally? • Where do we need external assistance? • How long do we think this will take? <p>Expected outputs of this session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft action plan and requests for technical and financial assistance. 	
	National and Regional Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
	Public Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwin Muhumuza, OCP • Tim Steele, UNODC • Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC

At the end of the first day, each thematic group should have a first skeleton of the future recommendations for respective topics.

18.00

Welcome cocktail for the technical segment

Tuesday 30 May 2023

SESSION FOR GOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL EXPERTS ONLY		
TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
9.00-10.30	<p>Continuation of the working group session: What can we do better?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What key actions are needed? • What can we build upon from the lessons learnt? • What do we need to do at a country level and what can be done regionally? • Where do we need external assistance? • How long do we think this will take? <p>Expected outputs of this session:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Draft action plan and requests for technical and financial assistance. 	
	National and Regional Coordination	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
	Public Procurement	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Edwin Muhumuza, OCP • Tim Steele, UNODC • Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC
10.30 –11.00	Coffee Break	
SESSION FOR GOVERNMENTAL TECHNICAL EXPERTS' SPOKESPERSONS		
<p><i>The Governmental Technical Experts' spokespersons, with support of the UNODC facilitators, will draft a PowerPoint presentation presenting the outcome (recommendations) of their groups (to be delivered at the High-Level Segment of the Conference).</i></p>		
11.00 – 13.00	<p>Preparation of group presentations:</p> <p>Expected outputs of this session:</p> <p>Draft presentation from each group highlighting key national and regional interventions which will fast track implementation of recommendations in the subject area. This should include the activities; timelines and the assistance needed.</p>	<p>Each group will be moderated by their respective facilitators</p> <p>National and regional coordination: Maria Adomeit, UNODC and Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC</p> <p>Public Procurement: Edwin Muhumuza, OCP, Tim Steele, UNODC, and Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC</p>
13.00 –14.00	Lunch Break	
PLENARY		
<p><i>The objective of the session is for the designated spokespersons to deliver the draft presentation containing the outcome of their respective groups in front of the Plenary.</i></p> <p><i>The other participants will have the chance to provide comments and suggestions to reach a commonly agreed outcome for each topic.</i></p> <p><i>The result of this session will be presented in front of High-Level Segment by the designated spokespersons.</i></p>		
14.00-16.00	Dry run of draft presentations in plenary including feedback and discussion	<p>Moderators: Hermenegildo Nicolau, Angola</p> <p>Speakers Spokespersons of the thematic groups</p>
16.00-16.30	Coffee Break	
16.30 -17.00	Closure of the Technical Segment	Daniel Marques , Angola

ROUNDTABLE FOR CIVIL SOCIETY, PRIVATE SECTOR AND ACADEMIA

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
<i>Roundtable discussion to discuss the role and impact of non-governmental groups such as civil society organizations, the private sector and the academic world, in preventing and combating corruption, as well as entry points for strengthening their actions specifically on the thematic areas of the Conference, by working in coordination and collaboration with governmental bodies.</i>		
9.30 – 10.30	Improving dialogue between government, civil society and private sector and collective action in ensuring good governance	Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pusetso Morapedi, Director PLAAF Southern Africa • Louise Portas, UNODC • Laura Rask, UNODC
10.30-11.00	Coffee Break	
11.00-13.00	Improving dialogue between government, civil society and private sector and collective action in ensuring good governance	Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pusetso Morapedi, Director PLAAF Southern Africa • Louise Portas, UNODC • Laura Rask, UNODC
13.00 –14.00	Almoço	
14.00-16.00	Improving dialogue between government, civil society and private sector and collective action in ensuring good governance	Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pusetso Morapedi, Director PLAAF Southern Africa • Louise Portas, UNODC • Laura Rask, UNODC
16.00-16.30	Coffee Break	
16.30 -17.00	Closure of the Roundtable	

Stage two: High-Level Segment

Wednesday 31 May 2023

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
9.00 – 9.45	Formal opening of the main workshop	Master of ceremony: Daniel Marques Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• High level representative of Angola• H.E. Mr. Elias M. Magosi, Executive Secretary of SADC (TBC)• Mr. Pascal Joaquim, Vice Chairperson, African Union Advisory Board against Corruption• Ms. Zahira Virani, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Angola (TBC)• Jane Marie Ongolo, Regional Representative, UNODC ROSAF
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee Break + Group Picture	
11.30-12.30	The Resolution 9/4 on “Strengthening the United Nations Convention against Corruption at regional levels” – panel discussion on its implication and benefits	Speaker: Heba Ismail, Permanent Mission of Egypt in Vienna
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00 – 15.30	Collective action in ensuring good governance: how the regional platform approach helps strengthening the prevention and the fight against corruption?	Moderator: Fernando Marques Speakers: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Nikola Naumovski, Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative• Monica Bulhões, CGU Brasil• Dr. Paulus Noa, Director General of the Anti-Corruption Commission of Namibia and Chair of the for the SADC Anti-Corruption Sub-Committee• Urbain Millogo, ASCE-LC Burkina Faso• Martin Zapata, IACA• Tim Steele, UNODC
15.30- 16.00	Coffee Break	
16.00-16.45	Improving dialogue between government, civil society and private sector and collective action in ensuring good governance – Retribution of the Civil Society Roundtable	Moderators: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pusetso Morapedi, PLAAF Southern Africa Director• Louise Portas, UNODC• Laura Rask, UNODC Speakers: CSO representatives
18.00	Welcome cocktail for the high-level segment	

Thursday 1 June

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
9.30 – 10.30	Presentation on draft commitments for the thematic area on National and Regional Coordination	Moderator: Fernando Marques, Angola Speakers: Spokespersons for the thematic on national and regional coordination
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee Break	
11.30 -12.30	Discussion/questions and answers During this question-and-answer session it is expected that those offering or requesting support either South/South, bilaterally or multilaterally will clarify the nature of the support outlined in the presentations and build understanding as to why these areas are to be assisted	Moderators: • Fernando Marques, Angola • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
12.30 – 14.00	Lunch Break	
14.00 – 15.00	Presentation on draft commitments for the thematic area on Public Procurement	Moderator: Hermenegildo Nicolau, Angola Speakers: Spokespersons for the thematic on Public Procurement
15.00 – 15.30	Coffee Break	
15.30 – 17.00	Discussion/questions and answers During this question-and-answer session it is expected that those offering or requesting support either South/South, bilaterally or multilaterally will clarify the nature of the support outlined in the presentations and build understanding as to why these areas are to be assisted	Moderators: • Hermenegildo Nicolau, Angola • Edwin Muhumuza, OCP • Ina Kernstock-Kalbusch, UNODC
<i>At the end of this day, UNODC will update and consolidate the outcome of the two thematic areas, based on the suggestions made and agreed by the high-level segment. UNODC will then send the document in the evening to all high-level participants for them to review the consolidated version.</i>		

Friday 2 June 2023

TIME	SESSION	FACILITATOR
<p><i>UNODC will present to the participants the draft outcome with the recommendations as agreed in the previous sessions and will open the floor to participants for final endorsement – the consolidated document in a form of Word document, that was sent to the participants the day before, will be projected on the screen for final comments and validation. All modifications will be directly reflected on the screen in track changes.</i></p>		
9.30 – 10.00	Introductory discussion on commitments by all participants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Louise Portas, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
10.00 – 11.00	Reaching agreement on commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Louise Portas, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee Break	
11.00 -12.00	Presentation of main commitments	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Louise Portas, UNODC • Itumeleng Mongale, UNODC
12.00 -13.00	Closure of the Regional Conference	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maria Adomeit, UNODC • Angola (to be confirmed)
13.00	Lunch and departure of the participants	