



CONFERENCE ON COMBATING CORRUPTION: THE CHALLENGES OF
COOPERATION IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE UNCAC

FINAL COMMUNIQUÉ

The Conference on Combating Corruption: The Challenges of Regional Cooperation in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in SADC countries, co-organized by the Government of Angola and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), was held from 29 May to 02 June, 2023, at the Hotel Epic Sana, in Luanda, Republic of Angola.

The Conference was attended by 120 delegates from SADC countries, international organizations international experts and civil society whose main objective was to define a common roadmap for the SADC Member States on the following priority thematic areas:

- a) National and Regional Coordination; and
- b) Public Procurement.

To ensure a broad approach to these themes, the event was structured in two segments, as follows:

- The Technical Segment, which took place from 29 to 30 May, attended by the government technical experts.
- The High Level Segment, held from 31 May to 02 June 2023, reserved for political entities, national decision-makers, as well as representatives from civil society and the private sector.

On 29th May, the first day of the technical segment, the delegates were divided into two parallel sessions, each dedicated to the analysis and discussion of the two aforementioned thematic areas.

On the second day of the technical segment, 30th May, besides the two parallel sessions that focused on drafting the conclusions and recommendations to be presented to the High Level Segment, there was a round table discussion for the civil society on "The Importance of Dialogue and Joint Action between Government and Civil Society in Preventing and Detecting Corruption", which was attended by 20 delegates including representatives of civil society in Member States, academicians and experts on the subject.

On 31st of May, the High Level Segment began with the Opening Session chaired by His Excellency **Marcy Cláudio Lopes**, Minister of Justice and Human Rights representing His Excellency **João Manuel Gonçalves Lourenço**, President of the Republic of Angola.

The Opening Session also included interventions from the following entities:

- (a) Mr. **Pascoal Joaquim**, Vice-Chairperson of the African Union Advisory Board against Corruption;
- b) Ms. **Zahira Virani**, United Nations Resident Coordinator in Angola;
- c) Ms. **Jane Marie Ongolo**, UNODC Regional Representative for Southern Africa; and
- d) Mr. **Paulus Noa**, Chairperson, SADC Anti-Corruption Committee.

This was followed by a plenary session on two themes: one on "The Implications and Benefits of Resolution 9/4" and the other on "Collective Action to Ensure Good Governance: How the Regional Platform Can Help to Strengthen the Prevention and Fight against Corruption", in a multidisciplinary panel comprising guests from across the globe.

On 1st June, the Conference focused on the detailed analysis of the conclusions and recommendations of the Technical Segment by the plenary. On the last day of the event, the session focused on the final analysis and adoption of the Luanda Declaration, containing the recommendations and commitments discussed during the five days of work, which we attach to this final communiqué and which is an integral part of it.

Finally, the delegates expressed their appreciation to the Government and people of Angola for having hosted this conference.

Conference on Combating Corruption: The Challenges of Regional Cooperation in the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Luanda, 2 June 2023.