



**THE HON MARK DREYFUS KC MP**

**ATTORNEY-GENERAL  
CABINET SECRETARY  
MEMBER FOR ISAACS**

**Pre-recorded statement to the 10<sup>th</sup> Conference of States Parties to the  
United Nations Convention against Corruption**

**Atlanta, USA**

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Distinguished delegates.

In Australia we begin our gatherings by drawing on the Australian Indigenous practice of acknowledging the traditional owners of the land on which we gather. I would like to acknowledge the traditional custodians of the lands on which I am recording this statement, the Ngunnawal people, and pay my respects to their Elders past and present.

It is a privilege to address you today on behalf of the Australian Government.

I would like to thank the United States for hosting the Tenth Session of the Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

And I extend my thanks to Egypt for the progress achieved under its Presidency.

The twentieth anniversary of the Convention this year provides a timely opportunity for us to recommit to the values and cooperation that led to its adoption.

Fairness, integrity, accountability and transparency must be upheld if we are to achieve global stability, security and prosperity.

Australia remains firmly committed to the global anti-corruption architecture, with the Convention at its core, as an essential element of the rules-based international order.

This is demonstrated by our ambitious agenda to combat corruption and strengthen public and private sector integrity.

I am proud to update delegates that Australia's National Anti-Corruption Commission commenced operations in July this year – a landmark moment for our country.

The Commission is an independent agency with strong powers to detect, investigate and report on corruption across our national public sector.

The Commission also plays a vital role in educating the public and the public sector about corruption risks and prevention.

We have also taken steps to combat bribery of foreign public officials.

Under new laws I introduced into the Australian Parliament earlier this year, companies will face increased liability if they fail to prevent foreign bribery by an associate.

The Australian Government has also introduced stronger protections for public sector whistleblowers; established a robust Code of Conduct for Ministers and their staff; commenced consultations on major reforms to Australia's anti-money laundering regime; and committed to establishing a public beneficial ownership register.

Australia's third National Action Plan under the Open Government Partnership has been co-designed with civil society and will include commitments to strengthen transparency, accountability and public participation in government.

Our Bribery Prevention Network, a public-private partnership, continues to assist Australian businesses to recognise and respond to bribery risk.

We are equally committed to supporting our partners in the Pacific with their anti-corruption ambitions, underpinned by the Teieniwa [*Tay-en-wah*] Vision for Pacific Unity Against Corruption.

Australia stands ready to support the important work of this Conference and work closely with other States and non-government stakeholders to further our collective stability and prosperity through effective, collaborative approaches to combatting corruption.

I wish you fruitful discussions this week.

Thank you.