



EMBASSY  
OF THE PRINCIPALITY OF LIECHTENSTEIN

BOTSCHAFT  
DES FÜRSTENTUMS LIECHTENSTEIN

CHECK AGAINST DELIVERY

**10th Session of the Conference of States Parties  
to the United Nations Convention  
against Corruption**

**Item 1 (f), General discussion**

**Intervention by H.E. Dominique Hasler, Minister for Foreign Affairs  
of the Principality of Liechtenstein**

**Atlanta, 11 December 2023**

Mr. President,

I wish to thank the United States of America for hosting the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. I also wish to thank UNODC and its secretariat for their invaluable support to this Conference.

Corruption continues to plague the world. It undermines all three pillars of the United Nations: international peace and security, sustainable development as well as human rights. But we can only be successful in our fight against corruption if all relevant stakeholders are included. I therefore strongly encourage all State Parties to promote the active participation of civil society and to redouble efforts to ensure a safe and enabling environment, in which civil society and all other relevant actors can operate free from intimidation and reprisals.

Mr. President,

It is our policy objective to use the widest range of tools and mechanism to prevent and deter benefits from criminal activities. Our latest UNCAC review recognizes Liechtenstein's far-reaching legal and regulatory framework for all the Convention's prevention provisions. It also recognizes that Liechtenstein has a well-established regime for asset recovery and has in fact returned sizeable amounts of money. Liechtenstein holds the presidency of the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe since 15 November 2023. This organization is based on three pillars: human rights, the rule of law and democracy. In order to defend these values, the Council of Europe is active in the fight against corruption. Be it through the Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) or the Council of Europe's Committee of Experts for the Evaluation of Measures against Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing (MONEYVAL). Liechtenstein is a member of both bodies. In doing so, we are making an important contribution to the fight against corruption. Nationally, we have made significant progress in strengthening our regime to combat corruption since the last Conference of State parties:

- In June 2022, MONEYVAL published its fifth country report on Liechtenstein. The report confirms Liechtenstein's targeted measures and high overall compliance. MONEYVAL highlights the effective cooperation and coordination between national and international stakeholders and also confirms the overall robust quality of preventive measures;
- On the basis of recommendations made by GRECO, several Codes of Conduct on the prevention of corruption were adopted by all Liechtenstein Courts, the Public Prosecutors Office as well as the Liechtenstein Parliament;
- Besides our register of beneficial ownership and an anonymous whistleblower system, we have also set-up a "Central Bank Account Register" which serves to promptly identify all natural and legal persons who hold or control a bank account or a safe deposit box at a Liechtenstein bank or investment firm as part of our fight against corruption;
- We continue to cooperate to the greatest extent possible with requesting countries in asset recovery cases and we have recently returned USD 11 Million to Taiwan.

Mr. President,

I am also here today to make the case for more private sector involvement in fighting corruption. We have indeed seen the potential of private sector engagement in reaction to Russia's aggression against Ukraine. It is clear to me, we need the full commitment of the private sector to implement our coordinated response against Russia's aggression. But, we have also seen the positive impact of private sector driven initiatives. Together with our partners, we have launched a program to fight green corruption, by supporting the prosecution of financial crimes associated with corruption involving environmental crime. In yet another public-private partnership we apply the "follow-the-money-approach" in combatting human trafficking. We do so through the "Finance Against Slavery and Trafficking" initiative, which aims to mobilize the financial sector against one of the defining human rights crisis of our time: human trafficking and modern slavery. I am glad that this Conference gives visibility to both topics in devoted events at the Conference of States Parties.

Mr. President,

Let me assure you of Liechtenstein's full support in bringing the 10<sup>th</sup> Session of the Conference of the States Parties to a successful close.

I thank you!