



**MR TONY JUNIOR KABASI,
DEPUTY SECRETARY TO PRIME MINISTER,
SOLOMON ISLANDS GOVERNMENT**

**REMARKS AT THE
10TH CONFERENCE OF THE STATE PARTIES TO THE UNCAC
ATLANTA, GEORGIA, USA**

11-15 DECEMBER 2023

SALUTATIONS

Mr President,

Your Excellencies Heads of Delegates

Ladies and gentlemen,

I bring greetings to you all on behalf of the Government and the people of Solomon Islands.

Let me begin by congratulating you Mr President on your election as President for the 10th COSP and also thank the outgoing President for his excellent leadership over the past two years.

Mr President, Corruption harms us all. For us, it weakens good governance and the rule of law. It undermines our development aspirations and prevents economic growth. It promotes poverty and amplifies political instability. It very much affects all domains of our society.

Solomon Islands acknowledges that there are many challenges to overcome when it comes to addressing corruption. Yet, our commitment to addressing corruption remains steadfast. As a State Party to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption, it is our duty to fight corruption and to promote good governance, transparency and accountability.

Solomon Islands acceded to the United Nations Convention against Corruption on 6 January 2012. The Convention requires States parties

to take measures both to prevent corruption and punish those who commit corrupt acts. It provides a roadmap for achieving these results, which the Solomon Islands Government has followed in developing its first National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2017-2019.

Our National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2017 - 2019 was instrumental in the enactment of the Anti-Corruption Act and the Whistle Blower Protection Act in 2018 and the establishment of the Solomon Islands Independent Commission Against Corruption.

Solomon Islands is aware that our fight against corruption requires more than a series of initiatives targeted at different sectors and addressing different challenges. It requires an inclusive and integrated approach in which our efforts are constantly assessed and reassessed as conditions change and new challenges arise. That is why we have reviewed our 2017-2019 Anti-Corruption Strategy. On this connection, I wish to inform that a final draft of our National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2024- 2027 is being finalised. This Strategy will supersede the 2017-2019 Strategy once it is endorsed by our Cabinet.

The 2024-2027 Strategy also take into account the recommendations from the two cycles of reviews of Solomon Islands' efforts to implement the Convention.

Mr President, Solomon Islands remains committed to its obligation under international law frameworks and subscribe to the vision and principles of the Teieniwa Declaration, the Boe declaration and other regional frameworks that promotes good governance, transparency and accountability.

In closing, the fight against corruption is everyone's business. Solomon Islands is therefore grateful to our bilateral partners and the UN

agencies in particular UNODC and UNDP for their continued support to our efforts to addressing corruption in Solomon Islands.

May God bless you all and I thank you all for your attention.