

14 December 2019

English only

Eighth session


Abu Dhabi, 16–20 December 2019

**Conference room paper submitted by the Organisation for
Economic Co-operation and Development: Written
statement by the Organization for Economic Co-operation
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V.19-11845 (E)



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**Eighth Session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties
Abu Dhabi, 16-20 December 2019
OECD Statement**

As an international standard-setter, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) has played an important role in the global anti-corruption movement. A core element of the OECD's efforts to tackle corruption in all its forms is the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (OECD Anti-Bribery Convention), which has now been in force for twenty years.

The OECD Anti-Bribery Convention is the first and only international anti-corruption instrument focused on the “supply side” of the bribery transaction – the person or entity offering, promising or giving a bribe. The Anti-Bribery Convention and the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) are mutually supporting and complementary. The ratification and implementation of the UNCAC supports a comprehensive approach to combating the bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions.

At its seventh session, the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC adopted resolution 7/4 on “Enhancing synergies between relevant multilateral organizations responsible for review mechanisms in the field of anti-corruption”. The OECD greatly values enhancing synergies and coordination amongst the international anti-corruption monitoring bodies. By sharing experiences, avoiding duplication, and maintaining consistent approaches across monitoring, we will ultimately help member states to effectively implement our respective anti-corruption standards.

Bribery in cross-border business deals is now a criminal offence in all 44 countries that are Party to the Anti-Bribery Convention, which together account for 66% of the world's total exports⁶. Yet, we know that implementation of article 16 of the UNCAC related to criminalizing the bribery of foreign public officials remains a challenge. The OECD encourages stronger cooperation to promote the introduction of the foreign bribery offence in parties to UNCAC other than parties to the Anti Bribery Convention, as supported by G20 Leaders, and to provide assistance in the preparation and handling of requests for international cooperation in relation to foreign bribery.

Fighting corruption requires a comprehensive, collective and truly global effort. Our engagement with the private sector and civil society, for example, has been instrumental in informing the development and implementation of the Anti-Bribery Convention. The importance of this multi-stakeholder approach to fighting corruption will be centre stage at the OECD Global Anti-Corruption & Integrity Forum on 25-26 March 2020. The attendees at this 8th Session of the Conference of States Parties Conference of States Parties are all welcome. The OECD remains committed to continuing the exchange of knowledge with the entire UNCAC community to tackle corruption and build a stronger, cleaner and fairer global economy.
