



**Islamic Republic of Afghanistan
Anti-Corruption Commission**



Speech by Abdul Qayum Nezami

Conference of the States Parties, COSP, UNODC

Your Excellency Mr. Chair, distinguished ladies and gentleman, respected colleagues!

The Afghanistan Anti-Corruption Commission (AACC) is pleased to participate on behalf of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan. Thank you for providing us the opportunity to be the part of this important intervention.

Firstly, I would like to reassure that the Afghanistan is committed to implementing the UNCAC. And recently great progress has been made in this regard. Consequently, Afghanistan has promoted from 173 to 165 ranking in CPI index of Transparency International.

Afghanistan is committed to international cooperation in the fight against corruption; So far, memorandums of cooperation have been signed with eight countries in the field of extradition of accused and convicted persons, fight against cross-border crimes and asset recovery and still the process continues. In some cases, bilateral legal requests of exchanging documents and information have been shared to other countries.

The experience of Afghanistan shows that legal requests for information and documents related to corruption crimes from other countries have not been very useful, they do not prevent the transfer of illicit assets from Afghanistan to their countries, but rather in a way, they have welcomed it and by creating investment facilities, they have provided the ground for the transfer of illicitly generated assets.

Therefore, in this conference and political declaration, the special session of the United Nations General Assembly against Corruption, to be held on 2 – 4 June, 2021, should focus on the mutual responsibility of the state parties. They should emphasis in the memorandums of understanding, as well as in mutual cooperation on preventing the transfer of illicit assets to other countries for investment and the purchase of real estate, residence and housing.

Similarly, in the political declaration, to review the domestic laws of state parties to simplify the process of exchanging requests for bilateral legal cooperation. Also for effective follow up and strong coordination among state parties, roles of relevant institutions should be clarified, main coordination institution have to be specific and clear procedures for coordinating the issues and bilateral legal cooperation and sharing the country experience in the investigation and prosecution of corruption cases, especially complex cross-border cases, should also be emphasized. In addition, the establishment of regional networks between anti-corruption and law enforcement agencies and

the direct contacts of these agencies with each other through these networks can also build mutual trust among them and facilitate sharing of information and mutual cooperation.

In addition, the political declaration of the UN General Assembly special session on Corruption should call for the use of joint investigations between the judiciary or the institutions of fight against corruption and the allocation of sufficient human and financial resources or the establishment of specialized institutions. Appropriate measures and timely implementation of received legal requests should also be emphasized. Launching capacity building programs by the Office (UNODC) for the staff of law enforcement, justice and anti-corruption entities and the establishment of specific procedures and guidelines for other useful measures to expand international cooperation in the fight against corruption.

Finally, the Afghan Anti-Corruption Commission (AACC) is requesting other international organizations working in the field of anti-corruption to share their knowledge, expertise and resources in improving efforts to prevent and combat corruption. And strengthen international cooperation with Afghanistan relevant officials. The Anti-Corruption Commission and the Government of Afghanistan believe that an effective fight against corruption is not possible without effective international cooperation and shared vision and in this regard, sincere cooperation among state parities and prioritization is necessary.

Thank you, your Excellencies!