

Intervention by H.E. Ambassador Stefan Estermann, Head of the
Swiss delegation

Mr. President,

- We are happy to join the consensus on the political declaration to be adopted at the UNGASS on corruption.
- The Swiss delegation would like to use this opportunity to thank the co-facilitators of the informal consultations, Ambassador Hamad Alkaabi (United Arab Emirates) and Ambassador Eric Anderson Machado (Peru), for their successful efforts in steering us towards consensus. We also extend our thanks to the Secretariat for their constructive support, and to all delegations for their commitment to the cause and the process.
- Switzerland welcomes the political declaration as an expression of common and shared responsibility in preventing and fighting corruption. It calls for comprehensive and balanced anti-corruption frameworks and approaches. We may have different priorities but we are not going to solve the problem if we limit ourselves to any one aspect.
- Switzerland has supported a number of initiatives aimed at improving asset recovery in the past, and we remain committed to this cause. We regret that a few practical steps in this direction could not be agreed in the political declaration.
- Switzerland will also continue to advocate for partnership with civil society, the private sector and other stakeholders. This partnership rests on the foundation of human rights and fundamental freedoms. Without civil liberties, there can be no civil society. And without the support of civil society, how could our anti-corruption efforts ever be sustainable?

Mr. President,

- We look forward to the General Assembly's special session in New York, not least because it provides us with an opportunity to hear the voices of civil society. And we are confident that even those who unfortunately are prevented from attending will continue to make their voices heard.
- Thank you, Mr. President.