

**First resumed thirteenth session of the Implementation Review Group
8 - 9 September 2022**

Statement of Türkiye

Mr. Chairman,

Distinguished Participants,

We thank you and the Secretariat for your efforts in organizing this meeting.

United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is a valuable legal instrument to address corruption which is a multidimensional and transnational problem. It indicates the determination of the international community to prevent and eradicate the corrupt acts.

Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM) provides contribution to States Parties in improving their legislation and strengthening practice against corruption. Türkiye fully supports its work and will continue to support the review mechanism and actively participate in the cycles. We thank all our counterparts in the reviewing cycles for their cooperation. We are now continuing the second review cycle. This process is an important and solid example of international cooperation through our efforts in combatting corruption.

Mr. Chairman,

Corruption transcends national boundaries. Without solid international cooperation and united response from the Member States with support of relevant stakeholders, the chance for complete success to defeat this problem is unlikely.

Today, we heard from some delegations about the importance of the civil society in combatting corruption. We fully agree that the valuable contribution of the civil society is an important element in our efforts that would be in conformity with the relevant international documents, including the UN Charter, UNCAC and the UNGASS Political Declaration. Our main commitment and goal is to combat corruption, crime and terrorism.

Türkiye will continue to object civil society organization, which is supportive of terrorist organizations, such as Fettullah Gülen Terrorist Organization-FETÖ, to participate in the UN Fora. The duty of the international community is to be resolute to prevent and eradicate crime and corrupt acts, not to welcome organizations that support criminals and terrorists.

In that sense, we would like to remind the room that we conducted a process for finding a solution to the participation of NGOs, which was a good opportunity for all of us. Upon this process, we found a common ground for the ones that responded in good faith as advised by the Presidency. However, we regret to see that six NGOs did not even respond to calls of the Presidency.

Also, we want to remind everybody that in paragraphs 44 and 45 of the report of CoSP 9, which was held in Sharm el-Sheikh, the Conference explicitly rejected the proposal to establish a new mechanism.

Mr. Chairman,

We welcome the decision of the Member States to follow the established practice and not to convene a Special Session in order to take a decision on participation of the objected NGOs.

This is an important decision in terms of respecting the security concerns of State Parties and preserving Vienna spirit.

We believe the international cooperation with the valuable contribution of the civil society is important. However, there is no room for any parties that have linkages with any criminal or terrorist organizations.

Thank you.