

G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2019-2021

Combating corruption remains a top priority for the G20. Preventing and fighting corruption, as well as strengthening integrity, are core to maintaining the rule of law and public confidence in our institutions, to building national and global economic prosperity, and to keeping us safe and secure. Anti-corruption and integrity measures support good governance, strengthen public confidence that our institutions are fair and work for all, and increase social stability. Anti-corruption and integrity measures enable our businesses to fairly compete and trade around the world, supporting investment and economic growth, and aid the fight against serious and organized crime, including money laundering. No country is immune and governments cannot tackle it alone: we need to strengthen practical international cooperation to fight corruption together as well as the support of business and civil society to help prevent and uncover corruption.

Since 2010, when we established the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG), a number of actions have been undertaken. All G20 members have now ratified the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC); we have developed a series of sectorial and cross-cutting initiatives, resulting in the establishment of G20 High Level Principles, guidelines, sharing of experiences and compendiums of good practices in a number of areas, helping each of our countries to take national actions and support international cooperation; we have intensified cooperation with business and civil society and interaction with other relevant stakeholders, including international organizations, so as to boost the international fight against corruption.

More needs to be done. In particular, we need to accelerate the implementation of our past commitments, which will be one of the priorities of the ACWG in the next three years. Leading by example and building on our political leadership, we will share views and best practices on international anti-corruption issues, and inspire new ideas and projects among ourselves as well as in partnership with international organizations and non-G20 countries. In line with the sustainable development goals, we will continue to develop targeted new actions, focusing our work on key topics where the G20 can best add value, while avoiding duplication of work being undertaken elsewhere, and respecting the rule of law and human rights. In doing so, we will seek to inject political momentum and to work with others, including international organizations, business and civil society, in the global response to corruption.

In 2019-2021, the ACWG will (A) strive to adapt its working methods and mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of past G20 commitments and increase the impact of our anti-corruption agenda; and (B) develop further targeted actions where the G20 can best add value, without duplicating work being undertaken elsewhere, notably to strengthen integrity and transparency in the public and the private sectors; tackle financial crime related to corruption, including tackling money laundering and recovering stolen assets; enhance practical anti-corruption cooperation; address relevant topics, such as foreign bribery and corruption related to infrastructure, sports and other vulnerable sectors; and deepen our understanding and consider possible actions on emerging issues, such as the measurement of corruption and the linkages between gender and corruption. These priorities are detailed in the annex.

The 2019-2021 Action Plan will be complemented each year by a yearly work program and an annual progress report. Both documents will be published on the G20 website.

The ACWG are encouraged to work closely with other G20 work streams, the C20 and B20, and non-G20 countries. They are all important in the global fight against corruption.

We thank the international organizations, in particular the UNODC, World Bank, OECD, FATF and IMF for their continued support in our shared endeavor and welcome their renewed commitment to continue working with us on this agenda.

Annex

G20 Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2019-2021

In 2019-2021, as detailed below, the ACWG will (A) strive to adapt its working methods and mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of past G20 commitments and increase the impact of our anti-corruption agenda and (B) develop further targeted actions where the G20 can best add value, without duplicating work being undertaken elsewhere.

In delivering its action plan, the ACWG will further strengthen its cooperation and engagement with partner international organizations, in particular the UNODC, World Bank, OECD, FATF and IMF, and will encourage and support these international organizations, and others, in their efforts to prevent and fight against corruption.

In 2019-2021, the ACWG will:

A. Strive to adapt its working methods and mechanisms to facilitate the implementation of past G20 commitments and increase the impact of our anti-corruption agenda

To this end, the ACWG will in particular:

- Share experiences and best practices on developing and implementing national anti-corruption strategies and actions.
- Enhance transparency and inclusivity of the UNCAC review mechanism by continuing to make use, on a voluntary basis, of the options in its terms of reference, including: hosting country visits; involving the private sector, academia and civil society, including by inviting them to country visits; publishing the full reports of reviews and self-assessment checklists.
- Strengthen interactions and cooperation with other relevant work streams, while avoiding duplication, within the G20 and its engagement groups and task forces as well as with international organisations and other stakeholders, including non-G20 countries and regional groups and/or organisations.

- Strengthen engagement with the civil society, academia and the business community including seeking their contributions to our work areas, as appropriate, as we develop and implement our outcomes.
- Support the provision of effective and efficient technical assistance to tackle corruption.
- Focus stronger political attention and leadership on G20 anti-corruption priorities, and use the Leaders' communiqué to achieve greater impact, and deepen the accountability of our individual and collective actions in addressing corruption, including by setting concrete, practical commitments where appropriate, and continuing to publish an annual progress report.
- Explore ways to better assess our implementation efforts.
- Further improve analytical support for the G20 ACWG building on the G20 countries' expertise and research potential.

B. Develop further targeted actions where the G20 can best add value

To this end, the ACWG will take concrete actions to:

1. Strengthen and promote integrity and transparency in the public and the private sector:

- ***In the public sector:*** Building on existing G20 High Level Principles, including the 2018 High Level Principles for Preventing and Managing 'Conflicts of Interest' in the Public Sector, the ACWG will seek to develop further actions. ACWG priorities will include: promoting the use of open data; identifying and addressing corruption risks in public procurement, budget processes and tax and revenue administration; encouraging public institutions to implement anti-corruption initiatives; continuing to consider ways of protecting and strengthening judicial integrity; deepening anti-corruption measures in the infrastructure sector and other corruption vulnerable sectors.
- ***In the private sector:*** Building on the 2015 G20 High Level Principles on Private Sector Transparency and Integrity and on the 2017 G20 High Level Principles on the Liability of Legal Persons for Corruption, the ACWG will work

with the business community and civil society to further explore means of promoting a culture of integrity and transparency and supporting private sector anti-corruption initiatives, including for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs).

Considering the previous work by the ACWG regarding integrity and anti-corruption, we will continue to share experiences and information, including on privatization processes.

- **Protection of whistleblowers:** the ACWG will assess and identify best practices, implementation gaps and possible further protection measures as appropriate.
- **Identifying the opportunities and risks of new technologies:** the ACWG will share experiences and best practices relating to opportunities and risks of new technologies in relation to corruption.

2. Tackle financial crime related to corruption, including tackling money laundering and recovering stolen assets, and strengthen international cooperation

- **Beneficial Ownership:** Transparency of beneficial ownership is critical to preventing and exposing corruption and preventing the laundering of corrupt proceeds. It is also key to maintaining integrity and trust in tax administration systems. The ACWG will be regularly updated by the relevant international organisations and work streams on progress in the effective implementation of international standards on transparency and beneficial ownership and of the 2014 G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency. The ACWG will also explore ways, including on capacity building and technical assistance, as appropriate, to support other countries to implement beneficial ownership standards and promote the utilization of beneficial ownership information to tackle corruption and related money laundering.
- **Asset recovery:** The ACWG will explore ways to strengthen domestic measures as appropriate, as well as international cooperation, to identify, trace, and freeze or seize the proceeds of corruption crime and set out actions to improve the cooperation and coordination between countries on the

management and return of confiscated property, including with regards to transparency and accountability.

- **Practical cooperation:** The ACWG will continue its work to strengthen further practical international cooperation to prevent, detect, investigate and prosecute corruption, combat money laundering, deny safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them. The ACWG will also explore possible ways for sharing information between anti-corruption, tax and other relevant authorities, consistent with their respective domestic legal and administrative systems, taking account of work done in other fora. The ACWG will continue to serve as a platform for sharing experiences to promote practical cooperation, including on persons sought for corruption, asset recovery and investment immigration programs within G20 Member states.
- **Other crimes related to corruption:** The ACWG will continue to explore possible actions in relation to the link between corruption and other related crimes.

3. Address relevant topics:

- **Bribery:** Bribery imposes a heavy price on business and on society as a whole. Criminalizing and tackling bribery has been a priority since the establishment of the ACWG in 2010. G20 priorities will include: Criminalizing bribery of foreign public officials in all G20 countries as soon as possible; establishing measures to prevent bribery and actively enforcing foreign bribery laws; deepening the interaction and active participation with the OECD Working Group on Bribery promoting the possible adherence of all G20 countries to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.
- **Infrastructure:** Infrastructure is at the forefront of the international agenda. As it is an area particularly vulnerable to corruption, the ACWG will contribute to the international agenda by identifying the key anti-corruption features that are needed to ensure integrity and transparency in this sector. ACWG members are encouraged to exchange their best practices and experiences in promoting integrity in the infrastructure sector.
- **Sports:** Corruption in sports is a multifaceted issue which demands an international, multi-stakeholder and pragmatic approach as well as political

commitment. Building on the work and initiatives launched in previous years, the ACWG will share information and good practices on addressing various forms of corruption in sport as well as follow and support as appropriate the ongoing development of integrity and anti-corruption standards and compliance frameworks in sport, including the work of IPACS and other relevant organizations.

- ***Other vulnerable sectors:*** We recognize that certain sectors are particularly vulnerable to corruption or highlight specific corruption risks. The ACWG will pursue its work to address the risks of corruption in all identified high-risk sectors. Consistent with national circumstances, we will address specific corruption risks in these sectors, including identifying and developing international best practice, promoting collective actions, effective governance and accountability mechanisms as well as addressing transparency gaps.

4. **Deepen the understanding and consider possible actions on emerging issues:**

- ***Measurement of corruption:*** The ACWG will continue to deepen its understanding of possible approaches to corruption measurement and encourage the development of additional reliable tools.
- ***Corruption and gender:*** The ACWG will continue to deepen its understanding of the linkages between gender and corruption, and discuss possible actions. The ACWG will also discuss how the gender dimension could be included in anti-corruption programming and policies.