UNCAC AT 20

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Progress Worldwide

- Wide ratifications, accessions, approvals...
- Regular COPs (9)
- Relevant and diversified resolutions (MRI)
- Active working groups (Prevention, Asset Recovery, MRI, Int. Cooperation)
- Diversified UNODC activities
- Increased National, Regional and International activities and initiatives
- Increased roles of CSOs and the media
- Growing global awareness of the ills of corruption
Challenges

- Corruption is increasing
- Weak implementation of UNCAC provisions
- International cooperation is not at its best (Money Laundering, Asset Recovery, Asset Declaration, Beneficial Ownership)
- Weak funding of major activities
- Restrictions on the participation of CSOs and the Media
- Restricted Mechanism for the Review of Implementation
The Role of Parliament and Parliamentarians in Supporting the Active Implementation of UNCAC

- The stage is set for effective action by P Ps
  1. Doha Declaration 2019
  2. Resolution 8/14 of 2019
  3. SDGs – Goal 16
  4. UNGASS – 2021

* Inter-parliamentary union and GOPAC roles are welcomed and timely
Major Roles

Through the Legislative, Oversight and Budgetary Approval functions PPs can play major roles in the prevention and combating of corruption.

In the area of prevention:

• support the introduction/development of legislations focusing corruption prevention

• Monitor the implementation of anti-corruption policies and strategies set by governments

• Ensure the provisions of integrity, transparency, accountability and the role of law in the public sector
Major Roles

• Encourage public reporting and CS and the media in fighting corruption
• Closely monitor public financing, expenditures and public procurement
• Ensure that anti-corruption bodies are empowered the right responsibilities and that they are independent and free from undue government intervention
• Improve P Ps oversight role and establish specific parliamentary measures to implement UNCAC provisions
Major Roles in Relation to MRI – Res 3/1

Ensure:

- Timely reporting of the review report by GOVs to UNODC
- That a copy of the report is sent to the parliament
- That the public is informed and that the report is published
- That the results of the review board is sent to the parliament and the public is informed
Other significant measures

- Ensure the integrity and transparency of internal parliamentary procedures
- Taking all necessary measures to fight political corruption (i.e. funding elections and political parties, integrity and fairness of the electoral process)
- Establishing an Anti-Corruption parliamentary committee (disseminate knowledge, ensure effectiveness...)
- Build partnerships with other stakeholders (monitoring bodies, CSOs, the media, human rights institutions...)

The Way Forward

• UNCAC regime should be enhanced, strengthened and institutionalized
• MRI should be further developed to shorten its length, widen its scope and involve nonstate actors in its development
• Governments and the public sector should be held more accountable for the prevention of corruption
• International cooperation should increased to effectively fight all forms of cross border corruption
Is it time for the international community to seriously explore the idea of establishing a Permanent Anti-Corruption Council similar to the Human Rights Council?