

G20 Anti-Corruption Implementation Plan 2017-2018

This implementation plan is intended to guide the work of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) in implementing the priorities identified in the Anti-Corruption Action Plan 2017-18, agreed by G20 Leaders at their Summit in September 2016. The ACWG will focus on actions which add the most value and do not duplicate work being undertaken elsewhere.

In undertaking these actions, the ACWG will work from a strong foundation that includes respect for international law, a commitment to respecting human rights and the rule of law as well as a commitment to respect the sovereignty of each country and their international commitments and domestic legal systems.

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p>Preambular</p> <p><i>Reducing corruption remains a top priority for the G20. Corruption is at the heart of so many of the challenges the world faces. It undermines good governance, erodes the trust that people place in public institutions, corrodes decision-making, impedes economic development and facilitates organised crime. No country is immune and governments cannot tackle it alone: we need the support of business and civil society to help prevent and uncover corruption.</i></p> <p><i>We call on those countries which have not yet done so to ratify and implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). We reaffirm our support for UNCAC’s Implementation Review Mechanism. To enhance transparency and inclusivity we will continue to make use,</i></p>	

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p><i>on a voluntary basis, of the options in its terms of reference, including: involving the private sector and civil society, inviting site visits, and publishing the full reports of reviews. We also reaffirm our commitment to implement and build on UNCAC's provisions and those of other international, regional and bilateral anti-corruption instruments to which our countries may be party. We further reaffirm our shared commitments under Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development to "substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms" and "strengthen the recovery and return of stolen assets." We welcome the momentum created by the London Anti-Corruption Summit in May 2016 and will support implementation of its outcomes.</i></p> <p><i>Since 2010, when we established the Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG), its work has been guided by two-year action plans. In 2017 and 2018, we pledge to continue to implement our existing commitments, and to take action in the following areas.</i></p>	
<p>Practical Cooperation</p> <p><i>We will promote concrete and practical action to achieve active enforcement of anti-corruption laws. We will take steps to improve co-operation between law enforcement</i></p>	<p>G20 countries will work to implement relevant G20 principles, including the High Level Principles on Cooperation on Persons Sought for Corruption and Asset Recovery, which were endorsed by G20 Leaders at their most recent Summit.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p><i>and other relevant authorities within and between our countries. We will continue to promote the denial of safe haven to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them. The G20 will support efforts to ensure that stolen assets are returned, in line with UNCAC. We will further strengthen our efforts to combat money laundering. We will continue our support of FATF's important work on proceeds of crime and the dialogue between the ACWG and FATF.</i></p>	<p>G20 countries will, where appropriate, enhance coordination on investigations, prosecutions and on the return of stolen assets. G20 countries will also take measures to ensure that corrupt officials do not evade justice or benefit from their corruption.</p> <p>G20 countries will complete a survey before the next meeting of the Denial of Entry Experts Network on their approaches to denial of entry and relevant legal frameworks. We will hold further meetings of the Denial of Entry Experts Network and explore next steps to improve information-sharing and consolidate the Network.</p> <p>The ACWG will continue to promote cooperation to tackle corruption. Where appropriate, countries could consider: the signing of extradition treaties; practical improvements to mutual legal assistance; the sharing of practices and the elaboration of guidelines to achieve greater use of other forms of cooperation; and participation in relevant networks, including practitioner networks.</p> <p>G20 countries will stay apprised of other efforts to promote asset recovery and consider supporting them, in line with international conventions such as UNCAC. G20 countries will, where appropriate, work to strengthen their national legal framework for asset recovery and disposition, and to enforce confiscation orders across borders as far as legal systems allow.</p> <p>The ACWG will explore practices and policy considerations on the issues</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
	<p>associated with the term “unaccounted assets”.</p> <p>With the support of UNODC, the ACWG will consider possible actions to address the links between corruption, money laundering, and organised crime.</p> <p>The ACWG will consider ways to strengthen international cooperation on civil and administrative procedures, where appropriate and consistent with domestic legal systems.</p>
<p>Beneficial Ownership</p> <p><i>We will fully implement the FATF Recommendations on Transparency and Beneficial Ownership of Legal Persons and our Action Plans to implement the G20 High Level Principles on Beneficial Ownership Transparency. The G20 will further promote the identification of the true beneficial ownership and control of companies and legal arrangements, including trusts, wherever they are located. We will encourage and support other countries to implement beneficial ownership standards and best practice. We will promote the utilisation of beneficial ownership information to tackle corruption and related money laundering.</i></p>	<p>The ACWG, working in close coordination with the Finance Track, will promote further work on beneficial ownership of both legal persons and legal arrangements, including trusts. The Group will act consistently with the work commissioned by G20 Finance Ministers on ways to improve the implementation of the international standards on transparency, including on the availability of beneficial ownership information of legal persons and legal arrangements, and its international exchange.</p> <p>G20 countries will implement their respective Beneficial Ownership Action Plans, updating the ACWG periodically on progress. Those G20 countries that have not yet submitted or published an Action Plan will do so before the 2017 Leaders Summit.</p> <p>The ACWG will continue to work with the private sector, civil society and international organisations to identify ways to promote the use of beneficial</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
	<p>ownership information for tackling corruption and related economic crimes such as money laundering or tax evasion.</p> <p>Countries will share their practices and experiences on how they access, in a timely fashion, up-to-date information held by banks on beneficial ownership of bank accounts.</p> <p>With the support of the World Bank, the ACWG will consider procedures for linking beneficial ownership information with other information sources, such as information provided in financial declarations, to identify conflicts of interest and other forms of malfeasance, consistent with applicable law.</p>
<p>Private sector integrity and transparency</p> <p><i>We will continue to work closely with business and civil society in tackling corruption. The G20 will explore means of promoting a culture of integrity and supporting private sector anti-corruption initiatives, including for small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and in the non-financial professional services sector. We will encourage stronger partnerships, consistent with national law, between governments, anti-corruption authorities, regulators, law enforcement, financial intelligence units (FIUs), business and civil society.</i></p>	<p>The ACWG will consider the role government can play to promote a culture of integrity in the private sector, including within State Owned Enterprises.</p> <p>We will continue to encourage the private sector, including SMEs and the non-financial professional services sector, to develop anti-corruption initiatives, including anti-corruption training and education.</p> <p>We will share good practice on anti-corruption partnerships, in order to make the best use of information from the private sector and civil society to prevent and to investigate corruption offences.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p>Bribery and liability of legal persons</p> <p><i>G20 countries will lead by example in combating bribery, including: criminalising the bribery of domestic and foreign public officials and enforcing those laws; and establishing and, where appropriate, strengthening the liability of legal persons for corruption offences. We will participate actively with the OECD Working Group on Bribery to explore the possible adherence of all G20 countries to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.</i></p>	<p>G20 countries which have not yet done so will comprehensively and effectively criminalise domestic and foreign bribery and establish the liability of legal persons, which may be criminal, civil or administrative, as quickly as possible. We will continue to promote effective enforcement of anti-bribery laws, including through the sharing of experiences and good practice.</p> <p>Countries which are not yet party to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention will participate actively with the OECD Working Group on Bribery, including through possible Participant status and exploring possible adherence to the Convention, updating the ACWG periodically on progress.</p> <p>The ACWG will consider holding a joint session with the WGB as soon as possible.</p> <p>We will develop high-level principles on the liability of legal persons for corruption offences.</p>
<p>Public sector integrity and transparency</p> <p><i>The G20 will promote greater transparency in the public sector, including in public contracting, budget processes and customs. This may be achieved through citizen engagement, strengthening anti-corruption authorities,</i></p>	<p>We will share experiences on how to prevent and resolve conflicts of interest affecting public officials, taking into account the potential of asset and income disclosure systems. We will work with international organisations to highlight good practice, consistent with domestic law, and consider next steps in this regard.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p><i>public-private partnerships and the use of open data, building on the G20 Open Data Principles.</i></p> <p><i>We will promote a culture of integrity and accountability in our institutions, including by preventing and resolving conflicts of interest affecting public officials. G20 priorities will include organising against corruption (i.e. structuring the public administration to detect and minimise corruption risks), encouraging public institutions to implement anti-corruption initiatives, building international integrity partnerships and networks, and addressing immunities.</i></p> <p><i>Encouraging the reporting of suspected actions of corruption is critical to deterring and detecting it. We will promote this goal, including reviewing our progress in implementing legislative and institutional protections for whistle-blowers.</i></p>	<p>We will share good practice in promoting public sector integrity and transparency, including the contribution made by an anti-corruption body or bodies. This may include conducting a survey of G20 countries' frameworks for encouraging domestic public institutions to implement anti-corruption measures and preparing a compendium.</p> <p>We will discuss the contribution that internationally acknowledged standards for regulatory policy and governance can make to preventing corruption.</p> <p>We will develop high level principles on "organising against corruption", giving guidance to countries which want to review the organisation of their public administration to make it more resilient against corruption.</p> <p>We will promote transparency in public contracting, including the use of open data across the contracting cycle, consistent with applicable law, and the use of e-procurement. We will seek briefings on the Open Data Charter and the Open Contracting Data Standard on how they can be used to promote transparency and accountability and to help reduce corruption.</p> <p>The ACWG, working with relevant bodies, will conduct analytical work on the opportunities provided by open data, and by improved sharing of data between government agencies, for tackling corruption. We will explore ways of sharing information across borders, in accordance with applicable law, to help ensure that corrupt bidders cannot participate in public procurement tenders.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
	<p>G20 countries will promote fiscal transparency, leading by example in conducting, as appropriate, periodic assessments using an internationally adopted diagnostic framework and working with international organisations to highlight good practice.</p> <p>G20 countries will complete a survey describing their existing laws and practices relating to immunities from prosecution for corruption offences. Based on those inputs, the ACWG will consider next steps, consistent with international law, to support countries in ensuring an appropriate balance in accordance with UNCAC between immunities accorded to public officials for the performance of their functions and the ability of law enforcement authorities to investigate and prosecute suspected corruption offences.</p> <p>The ACWG will consider ways of protecting and strengthening judicial integrity and transparency.</p> <p>G20 countries will disseminate best practices to effectively address the risk of corruption in customs, drawing on international best practice and input from international organisations.</p> <p>G20 countries will conduct a self-assessment of their whistleblower protection frameworks in both public and private sectors, with reference to the <i>OECD Study on G20 Whistleblower Protection Frameworks, Compendium of Best Practices and Guiding Principles for Legislation</i>, and consider next steps.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p>Sectors</p> <p><i>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 action initiatives, promoting effective governance and accountability mechanisms and addressing transparency gaps.</i></p>	<p>The ACWG will discuss the factors which make specific sectors especially vulnerable to corruption. We will continue to consider how we can strengthen understanding of the negative impact of corruption, without duplicating efforts made by other bodies or initiatives.</p> <p>We will identify lessons from our anti-corruption experience that may help those seeking to tackle corruption in specific sectors. Acknowledging the need to prioritise our work, the ACWG will focus its attention on specific sectors. In 2017, those sectors will include sport and the illegal wildlife trade, and other sectors as determined by the group. The group may seek briefings on existing initiatives.</p>
<p>International organisations</p> <p><i>G20 countries will encourage and support international organisations to increase their focus on fighting corruption, to improve coordination and to ensure they operate to the highest standards of integrity.</i></p>	<p>G20 countries, through their representatives to relevant international organisations, will encourage these organisations to increase their focus on fighting corruption, to improve coordination and cooperation and to ensure they operate according to the highest standards of integrity. We ask the international organisations to update ACWG periodically on their efforts to do so.</p> <p>With the support of UNODC, the ACWG will review the recommendations relating to international cooperation arising from the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism, and consider possible next steps for responding to implementation gaps and challenges, taking account of the work of other groups.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
	<p>The ACWG will present its work to major international anti-corruption meetings, such as the UNCAC Conference of States Party and the OECD Working Group on Bribery, in order to strengthen the international anti-corruption effort. We welcome the invitation of UNODC to hold a meeting of the ACWG in 2017 in Vienna.</p> <p>ACWG will seek a briefing on progress towards the anti-corruption goals set out in the list of indicators for Goal 16 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.</p>
<p>Capacity building</p> <p><i>We will support capacity building and the provision of effective and efficient technical assistance to assist countries in tackling corruption, including the effective global implementation of the provisions of UNCAC.</i></p>	<p>Through provision of capacity building and technical assistance, G20 countries will assist, where appropriate, other countries in becoming States Party to, and effectively implementing, relevant international instruments such as UNCAC or the FATF standards, particularly in addressing recommendations emanating from reviews, including through cooperation with the UNODC and other international organisations.</p> <p>G20 countries will promote the establishment of integrity partnerships between institutions to share good practice and promote an anti-corruption culture, including the following pillars: law enforcement, institution building, capacity building, value dissemination.</p>
<p>Cross-cutting</p>	<p>The ACWG will keep track of on-going work on the role of cash, including</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
<p><i>G20 countries will explore innovative solutions and new technologies, share best practice, study and learn from each other, collaborate with international organisations, and provide technical assistance as appropriate.</i></p> <p><i>We will strengthen the work of the ACWG, including improving our co-operation and dialogue with current partner organisations and new dialogue partners such as the Open Government Partnership, the World Customs Organisation and the Global Forum on Transparency and Exchange of Information for Tax Purposes. The ACWG will also strengthen its engagement with business and civil society and with key financial centres.</i></p> <p><i>We ask the ACWG to develop a more detailed implementation plan that will elaborate these priorities and allow us to track progress. We ask the ACWG to report in 2017 on its progress in implementing commitments.</i></p>	<p>high denomination banknotes, in facilitating corruption, taking account of the work of other expert groups.</p> <p>ACWG participants will share good practice, new technologies and innovations, including regarding the use of open data and countries' experiences of bilateral or plurilateral cooperation.</p> <p>The ACWG will consult with relevant international organisations, business, civil society and other experts on good practices, innovative approaches, and the use of technology to prevent, identify, report and combat corruption.</p> <p>We value the contributions of our key dialogue partners (including the UNODC, World Bank, IMF, FATF and OECD) and continue to welcome their full engagement in our group. We will strengthen our cooperation with new dialogue partners on issues of mutual interest. We will also enhance our engagement with major financial centres.</p> <p>We will continue to work for a closer partnership with civil society and business, including but not limited to the B20 and C20. We will seek briefings on significant civil society and business initiatives on anti-corruption.</p> <p>We will compile and review all G20 commitments on corruption, including those enshrined in High Level Principles, to take stock of what has been achieved and where further action is needed.</p>

Action Plan Language	Implementation
	We will report publicly on progress made by the ACWG in implementing this Plan, highlighting progress made by G20 countries in implementing our anti-corruption commitments including our commitment to become States Party to, and implement, UNCAC, and describing progress on possible adherence by all G20 countries to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.