

OECD Working Group on Bribery

Summary Record

Plenary Meeting
12-15 June 2018



Made up of representatives from the Parties to the Anti-Bribery Convention, the OECD Working Group on Bribery meets four times per year at the OECD headquarters in Paris, France.

Country reports on implementation of the Anti-Bribery Convention and 2009 Anti-Bribery Recommendation

The Working Group on Bribery (WGB):

- Adopted the Phase 4 report of Germany and, in accordance with standard procedure, invited Germany to provide a written follow-up report in two years (i.e. June 2020) on the implementation of all Phase 4 recommendations, follow-up issues and its enforcement efforts.
- Adopted the Phase 4 report of Norway and, in accordance with standard procedure, invited Norway to provide a written follow-up report in two years (i.e. June 2020) on the implementation of all Phase 4 recommendations, follow-up issues and its enforcement efforts.
- Considered Belgium's Phase 3 additional written follow-up report on implementation of Phase 3 Recommendations 2, 6 and 12(b). Invited Belgium to report back to the WGB in October 2018 on legislative progress made to implement these outstanding recommendations.
- Considered Ireland's Phase 3 additional written follow-up report which described how the Criminal Justice (Corruption Offences) Bill (signed on 05 June 2018) addresses Phase 3 recommendations 1(a), 2(a) and 6(a). Decided that a Phase 1bis evaluation of Ireland's new legislation should be considered by the WGB in March 2019.
- Considered Turkey's Phase 3 additional written follow-up report on implementation of Phase 3 Recommendations 1(a-c), 3(d), 4(d) and 7(b), and on foreign bribery enforcement actions. Invited Turkey to report back to the WGB in writing in December 2018 on progress implementing these outstanding recommendations.
- Heard the Secretariat present a paper, requested by the Chair, which describes recent changes to the laws governing Poland's judiciary and Public Prosecutor's Office, and provides a preliminary analysis of how these reforms could impact on Poland's implementation of the Convention.
- Heard Peru express its pleasure in becoming the 44th Party to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention, through the enactment of Law 2529. Heard Peru indicate its readiness to undergo a Phase 1 evaluation in March 2019.

Future and ongoing WGB projects and events

The WGB:

- Discussed and agreed to the timeline and process for the review of the 2009 Recommendation for Further Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions. Agreed, in particular, as a first step, to organise a consultation with external stakeholders in March 2019, the parameters of which will be discussed and defined during the October and December 2018 WGB meetings.
- Discussed the process to develop the study on the use of settlements of foreign bribery cases, entitled "Resolving foreign bribery cases with non-trial agreements", which is expected to be published in March 2019.
- Discussed and adopted revised versions of its Programme of Work and Budget and Global Relations Strategy for 2019-20.

- Considered an information note prepared by the Secretariat on blockchain, cryptocurrencies, and the impact of these technologies on fighting corruption. Subsequently requested that the Secretariat provide a note containing an update of this topic in March 2019 for the WGB Plenary.

Global relations activities

The WGB:

- Heard an oral report by the Secretariat on the OECD-Latin America and Caribbean Anti-Corruption Initiative. Heard the Secretariat provide an update on activities undertaken and planned for the OECD Latin America and Caribbean Anti-Corruption Initiative. In particular, a side event in the context of the OECD Global Anti-Corruption and Integrity Forum in March 2018; the first OECD delegation to the Summit of the Americas in April 2018; and a planned inaugural meeting of the Latin America and Caribbean Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Officials Network in Buenos Aires in October 2018.

Reports from other OECD Bodies and International Organisations

The WGB:

- Heard the Chair of the OECD Working Party on Export Credit and Credit Guarantees report on latest developments concerning the review of the 2006 OECD Council Recommendation on Bribery and Officially Supported Export Credits. Invited the Chair or Secretariat of the OECD Working Party on Export Credit and Credit Guarantees to report back to the WGB in December 2018.
- Heard the Secretariat to the OECD Working Party on State Ownership and Privatisation Practices update the WGB on the development of Anti-Corruption and Integrity Guidelines for State Owned Enterprises.
- Heard the OECD Secretariat, Argentina, as the 2018 President of the G20, and France, as Co-Chair of the G20 ACWG, report on developments such as the second meeting of the G20 ACWG under Argentina's Presidency which is scheduled to take place on 27-28 June 2018 in Paris. Heard that this meeting will include discussions on: (1) High-Level Principles on Integrity in SOEs and High-Level Principles on Conflict of Interest; and (2) Anti-Corruption Action Plan for 2019-2021. Recalled that the third meeting of the G20 ACWG under Argentina's Presidency on 8-9 October 2018 will include a joint session with the WGB.
- Heard representatives from the GRECO, OECD and UNODC Secretariats report on initiatives to increase synergies between the anticorruption peer review mechanisms.
- Heard a representative from Transparency International (TI) present TI's draft 2018 report on "Exporting Corruption".
- Heard a representative from the IMF report on a new framework, adopted in April 2018, for enhanced engagement with countries on corruption and governance issues which will, in particular, take into account the WGB country monitoring reports on implementation of the Anti-Bribery Convention. Heard that Austria, the Czech Republic and all G7 countries have volunteered to be assessed under this framework.
- Heard the UNODC provide an update regarding the Implementation Review Mechanism under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.
- Heard a representative from the World Bank's Integrity Vice Presidency report on the operational work of the [Integrity Vice Presidency](#).

Tour de Table

The WGB:

- Heard updates by France, Hungary, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Norway and the Russian Federation on their steps taken to implement and enforce the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, namely in regards to cases under investigation, as well as exchange of information on the presented cases.
- Heard requests for, and approved the deletion of registered cases from various countries.