



Working Group on Bribery in  
International Business Transactions

# Policy Statement on Bribery in International Business Transactions

19 JUNE 2009

The Parties to the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (hereafter the Convention),

Recalling that, by establishing an international framework to combat bribery of foreign public officials, the Convention aims to avoid distortions in international competitive conditions;

Acknowledging that the global economic crisis may lead to increased competitive pressures on companies to potentially engage in corruption, notably in public procurement;

Affirming that the fight against transnational bribery remains a high priority and a shared responsibility:

**REAFFIRM** their determination to comprehensively implement their obligations under the Convention, particularly their obligations in relation to enforcement;

**EMPHASISE** that they will be vigilant in ensuring that investigations and prosecutions of the bribery of foreign public officials are not influenced by considerations of national economic interest, the potential effect upon relations with another State or the identity of the natural or legal persons involved, in compliance with Article 5 of the Convention;

**REAFFIRM** their intention to maintain a rigorous and systematic monitoring system designed to promote the full implementation of the Convention, as required under Article 12 of the Convention;

**CALL** on major exporting countries that are not Parties to the Convention to criminalise the bribery of foreign public officials and to join the Parties to the Convention in their fight against transnational bribery as soon as possible; and

**CALL** on all companies operating internationally to implement, or maintain and reinforce compliance and ethics measures for the purpose of preventing and detecting bribery of foreign public officials in their international business transactions.

