

The Role of Preventive Measures in the Fight Against Corruption

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Importance of Preventive Measures

- ❑ Put safeguards in that prevent corrupt acts, such as bribery, embezzlement, influence peddling
 - ❑ Help facilitate detection – when preventive measures are superseded, red flags should go up
 - ❑ Can facilitate investigation by providing information
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Conflict of Interest

- ❑ Conflicting financial interests – outside financial interests
 - ❑ Familial connections – where family members have financial interests as well as where they are employed
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Financial Disclosure

- ❑ Tool to counsel officials on eliminating potential conflicts
 - ❑ Tool for detecting potential wrongdoing – person who declares few assets and has modest salary – how did he afford that new Mercedes Benz?
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Whistleblower Protections

- ❑ Protecting government officials and private citizens who report, in good faith, acts of corruption
 - ❑ Safe mechanisms for reporting - guarantee confidentiality
 - ❑ Protect against physical harm
 - ❑ Protect against reprisals in the workplace - taking, or threatening to take, an adverse personal action, or failing to take a positive personnel action, such as a promotion or raise
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Administrative Standards of Conduct

- Gift rules – from outside sources and between employees
 - Seeking outside employment
 - Misuse of position
 - Outside Activities
 - Impartiality
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Government Hiring

- ❑ Competitive processes – open positions to the widest pool of candidates possible
 - ❑ Transparency – publicly announce all open positions – even though open only to one agency or to current government employees
 - ❑ Clear criteria for hiring
 - ❑ Anti-nepotism safeguards
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More information

- APEC Anti-Corruption Principles for the Public and Private Sectors (Handout)
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