

ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific



Capacity Development and
Governance Division
Asian Development Bank



Anti-Corruption Division
Organisation for Economic
Co-operation and Development

www.oecd.org/corruption/asiapacific

12th Steering Group Meeting
Singapore, 24-25 November 2008

StG12-1

Agenda

■ Meeting objectives

The objectives of the 12th Steering Group meeting of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific are:

- 1) to report on and discuss the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia-Pacific, including recent anti-corruption reforms that have taken place since the 11th Steering Group meeting in May 2008;
- 2) to discuss topics for thematic reviews and technical seminars for 2009-2011;
- 3) to discuss and adopt the Strategy and Work Program of the Initiative for 2009-2011; and
- 4) to discuss and adopt the methodology for voluntary country reviews.

For detailed notes on the individual items, please refer to the annotations to the agenda on p. 4.

■ Background documents

StG12-1: Draft agenda of the 12th Steering Group meeting (this document)

StG12-2: Preliminary list of participants of the 12th Steering Group meeting

StG12-3: Compilation of member countries' reports on steps taken to implement the Action Plan

StG12-4: Draft Strategy and Work Program 2009-2011

StG12-5: Draft methodology for voluntary country reviews

StG12-6: "Criminalization of Bribery Offences under the UNCAC and Sharing Experience"—proposal for a thematic review

StG12-7: Options for thematic reviews and regional technical seminars for 2009-2011

StG12-8: Draft outline for an independent review of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative

Logistical information for participants of the 12th Steering Group meeting and the 6th Regional Anti-Corruption Conference for Asia and the Pacific

For information: Draft agenda of the 6th Regional Anti-Corruption Conference for Asia-Pacific

Draft list of participants of the 6th Regional Anti-Corruption Conference for Asia-Pacific

■ New publication

Proceedings of the 6th Regional Technical Seminar: "Asset Recovery and Mutual Legal Assistance in Asia and the Pacific"

■ Venue

Ballroom 2/3, Level 2, Suntec City International Convention & Exhibition Centre, Singapore

Monday, 24 November 2008

8:30 – 9:00 *Registration of delegates*

9:00 – 9:30 1 – Opening session

Welcoming remarks by Mr. Peter Ho, Head of the Civil Service and Permanent Secretary for Foreign Affairs, Singapore

Introductory remarks by the Secretariat

Kathleen M. Moktan, Capacity Development and Governance Division, ADB

Patrick Moulette, Anti-Corruption Division, OECD

9:30 – 10:00 *Group photo, coffee and tea break*

10:00 – 10:15 1 – Opening session (continued)

Brief roundtable introduction of delegates, Advisory Group members and observers

Adoption of the agenda

10:15 – 12:30 2 – Implementation of the Action Plan – Reporting and exchanging experience on anti-corruption reform in member countries

10:15 – 10:30 Report by Singapore on steps taken to implement the three pillars of the Action Plan, followed by a roundtable discussion

10:30 – 12:30 Member countries' reports on recent steps taken to implement the standards in the Action Plan's areas for reform, and plenary discussion

Pillar 1:

Reform Area 1 — Integrity in Public Service – recruitment and oversight

Reform Area 2 — Integrity in Public Service – codes of conduct and public management

Reform Area 3 — Accountability and Transparency – accountability of public service

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 15:30 2 – Implementation of the Action Plan – Reporting and exchanging experience on anti-corruption reform in member countries (cont.)

Member countries' reports on recent steps taken to implement the standards in the Action Plan's areas for reform, and plenary discussion

Pillar 2:

Reform Area 4 — Effective Prevention, Investigation and Prosecution of corruption – legislation and enforcement of criminal law

Reform Area 5 — Corporate Responsibility and Accountability – corporate governance, tax measures, accounting and auditing and economic sanctions

15:30 – 15:45 *Coffee and tea break*

15:45 – 17:15 2 – Implementation of the Action Plan – Reporting and exchanging experience on anti-corruption reform in member countries (cont.)

Member countries' reports on recent steps taken to implement the standards in the Action Plan's areas for reform, and plenary discussion

Pillar 3:

Reform Area 6 — Public Discussion of Corruption – awareness raising

Reform Area 7 — Access to Information – public reporting and disclosure

Reform Area 8 — Public Participation – civil society and business sector involvement

17:15 – 17:30 3 – Report on anti-corruption measures in observer countries

Reports by observer countries on recent steps taken in the fight against corruption

19:30 *Welcome dinner at Palm Beach Seafood Restaurant*

Tuesday, 25 November 2008

9:00 – 10:30 4 – Report by members of the Advisory Group and observer organizations on their assistance in support of reforms; Secretariat activity report

Reports by members of the Advisory Group
Reports by observer organizations
Activity report by the Secretariat

10:30 – 10:45 *Coffee and tea break*

10:45 – 12:30 5 – Strategy and Work Program 2009-2011: options for thematic reviews and seminars and a proposal for an independent evaluation of the Initiative

Introduction by the Secretariat and plenary discussion on options for thematic reviews and seminars for 2009-2011.

Short presentation on a proposal for a thematic review and possible seminar: “Criminalization of Bribery Offences under the UNCAC and Sharing Experience”.

Discussion of topics for further seminars and reviews, including:

1. Corruption in the Natural Resources Sector—proposal for capacity development seminar
2. Political Economy of Corruption—proposal for a capacity development seminar
3. The Role of Accounting, Auditing and Tax Standards in the Prevention and Detection of Corruption—proposals for a capacity development seminar
4. Good Practices in Corruption Prevention in the Asia and Pacific Region—proposal for a thematic review

Proposal for a special session at the 13th Steering Group meeting on “Preparing a Self-assessment Checklist of the implementation of UNCAC”.

Proposal for an independent evaluation of the Initiative (since its inception in 1999 and the way forward); introduction by the Secretariat and plenary discussion

12:30 – 14:00 *Lunch*

14:00 – 15:30 5 – Strategy and Work Program 2009-2011: discussion and adoption

Introduction by the Secretariat; plenary discussion and adoption of the draft strategy and work program 2009-2011

15:30 – 16:00 *Coffee and tea break*

16:00 – 17:00 6 – Methodology of voluntary country reviews

Introduction by the Secretariat and plenary discussion

17:00 – 17:15 7 – Closing session

Summary of the Steering Group discussions and follow-up activities by the Secretariat
Closing roundtable/feedback
Closing remarks by the Secretariat

Notes on the Agenda

	Annotations	Document
Item 1 <i>Opening session</i>	The welcoming and introductory remarks by the host and the Secretariat will be followed by a brief roundtable introduction of delegates, Advisory Group members and observers. The agenda of the meeting will then be proposed to delegates for adoption.	StG12-1 StG12-2
Item 2 <i>Oral reports by member countries on steps taken to implement the Action Plan – Roundtable</i>	Singapore as the host of the 12 th Steering Group meeting will provide the Group with an overview on its recent efforts and achievements to implement the Action Plan since the last Steering Group meeting in May 2008. Member countries will then report on steps taken to implement the Action Plan since the 11 th Steering Group meeting in May 2008. Reports will be delivered by thematic area: Countries that have chosen to report on reforms in a given thematic area will be invited to report on these reforms; a plenary discussion of the country experiences and reforms will follow each set of reports under the Action Plan's eight thematic areas. The countries' selection of areas to report on is available in the annex to this agenda. A country report on measures in a given reform area should not exceed 4 minutes; slide presentations are thus discouraged.	StG12-3
Item 3 <i>Oral reports by observer countries</i>	Observer countries will report on their anti-corruption policies and, if applicable, their interest in membership in the Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific (5 to 7 minutes' presentation per country followed by a short question and answer session immediately after each country presentation).	
Item 4 <i>Oral reports by Advisory Group and observer organizations, and activity report by the Secretariat</i>	International organizations and institutions represented in the Advisory Group, as well as other international organizations and institutions attending the Steering Group as observers will be invited to report on recent measures taken to support member countries' reforms. This item will end with an oral report by the Secretariat on activities undertaken since the 11 th Steering Group meeting.	
Item 5 <i>Strategy and Work Program 2009-2011, including options for thematic reviews and seminars, and a proposal for an independent evaluation of the Initiative</i>	At its 11 th Steering Group meeting in May 2008, the Initiative's members discussed their demand and priorities for support of anti-corruption efforts through the Initiative. The Group requested the Secretariat to prepare a draft strategy and work program 2009-2011 for discussion and adoption at the 12 th Steering Group meeting. An important component of the Strategy and Work Program is the choice of thematic reviews and seminars. Previous thematic reviews covered the following topics: mechanisms to curb corruption in public procurement; and mutual legal assistance, extradition and asset recovery. Previous regional technical seminars covered: fighting bribery in public procurement; asset recovery and mutual legal assistance; managing conflicts of interest; denying safe haven to the corrupt and the proceeds of corruption; curbing corruption in tsunami relief operations; meeting international anti-corruption standards; fighting corruption in public	StG12-4 StG12-6 StG12-7 StG12-8

	Annotations	Document
	<p>procurement; and effective prosecution of corruption.</p> <p>The Secretariat proposes a thematic review and possible seminar on "Criminalization of Bribery Offences under the UNCAC and Sharing Experience". The Steering Group is also asked to consider additional proposals for thematic reviews and seminars for 2009-2011:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Corruption in the Natural Resources Sector—proposal for capacity development seminar 2. Political Economy of Corruption—proposal for a capacity development seminar 3. The Role of Accounting, Auditing and Tax Standards in the Prevention and Detection of Corruption—proposals for a capacity development seminar 4. Good Practices in Corruption Prevention in the Asia and Pacific Region—proposal for a thematic review <p>In view of the upcoming 3rd Conference of State Parties to the UNCAC, and the importance of State Parties' Self-Assessment Checklist to facilitate decision-making at the Conference, the Steering Group is invited to consider holding a special session at its 13th meeting on Preparing a Self-Assessment Checklist of the Implementation of UNCAC. Members who have already completed the checklist could share their knowledge regarding this task, and a UNODC representative could be invited to provide advice and answer questions about any unclear aspects of the checklist. During the special session, members might also decide whether there are a sufficient number of common issues to warrant a separate capacity development seminar at a later date.</p> <p>2009 marks the 10th anniversary of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative. To assess its outcome and provide input for its way forward, the Secretariat would like to propose an independent evaluation of the Initiative. The Steering Group will be invited to reflect on this proposal. The Secretariat will present a draft outline for the terms of reference of such a review to inform the discussions.</p> <p>The session will conclude with the formal adoption of the Initiative's Strategy and Work Program 2009-2011.</p>	
<p>Item 6 <i>Methodology of voluntary country reviews</i></p>	<p>In 2006, the Initiative's member countries decided to carry out voluntary country reviews as an additional mechanism to support legal and institutional reform. At the 11th Steering Group meeting, members of the Steering Group requested the Secretariat to develop a draft methodology for such reviews. This session will discuss the proposal and adopt the methodology.</p>	<p>StG12-5</p>

To whom it may concern:

Meeting of the Advisory Group: Sunday, 23 November 2008, 18:00: Preparatory meeting

Annex: Reports on Reform Areas under the Action Plan

- **Reform Area 1** — Integrity in public service: Hiring of competent public officials; adequate remuneration of public officials; oversight over discretionary decisions; and rotation of officials (Pillar 1, Integrity in Public Service)
Reports by: Bangladesh; Cook Islands; Fiji Islands; Indonesia; Kyrgyz Republic; Malaysia; Papua New Guinea; Sri Lanka
- **Reform Area 2** — Codes of conduct for public officials that regulate conflict of interest; ensure proper use of public funds; and promote integrity (Pillar 1, Integrity in Public Service)
Reports by: Cook Islands; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Korea; Macao, China; Philippines; Thailand; Vietnam
- **Reform Area 3** — Effective legal frameworks; management practices and auditing procedures to ensure accountability of public service (Pillar 1, Accountability and Transparency)
Reports by: Bhutan; Korea; Kyrgyz Republic; Mongolia; Nepal; Papua New Guinea; Samoa; Sri Lanka; Thailand
- **Reform Area 4** — Comprehensive anti-bribery and anti-money laundering legislation with effective sanctions; effective institutional frameworks and resources to investigate and prosecute these offenses; and effective mechanisms for transnational cooperation in the prosecution of corruption (Pillar 2, Effective Prevention, Investigation and Prosecution)
Reports by: P.R. China; Hong Kong, China; Indonesia; Japan; Korea; Malaysia; Pakistan; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Samoa; Sri Lanka; Thailand
- **Reform Area 5** — Promotion of corporate governance; denial of tax deductibility of bribes; accounting and auditing standards and related enforcement mechanisms; and economic sanctions in response to corrupt business conduct (Pillar 2, Corporate Responsibility and Accountability)
Reports by: —
- **Reform Area 6** — Public awareness campaigns; support of non-governmental organizations involved in the fight against corruption (Pillar 3, Public Discussion of Corruption)
Reports by: Cambodia; Macao, China; Mongolia; Pakistan; Samoa; Thailand; Vietnam
- **Reform Area 7** — Access to information; public reporting; and disclosure mechanisms (Pillar 3, Access to Information)
Reports by: Bangladesh
- **Reform Area 8** — Cooperative relationships with civil society and business organizations; protection of whistleblowers; and involvement of civil society in monitoring public sector anti-corruption programs (Pillar 3, Public Participation)
Reports by: Hong Kong, China; Malaysia; Mongolia; Philippines