

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

The Secretariat

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6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting  
Melia Hanoi Hotel, Viet Nam  
19-21 April 2005

**StG06-0405(2)**

## Objectives and agenda of the 6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting

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The 6th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific has three main objectives: 1) To report on and discuss recent and planned anti-corruption reforms in endorsing countries, including progress made in the implementation of the countries' priority areas for reform under the Action Plan; 2) to review and discuss the countries' replies to the questionnaire on curbing corruption in public procurement and the analytical overview report prepared by the Secretariat on the basis of these replies; 3) to report on and discuss past, on-going and planned activities of the Initiative's Secretariat, including the preparation of the Initiative's fifth regional anti-corruption conference (autumn 2005), capacity building seminars in 2005 and 2006, and strengthened cooperation with other regional anti-corruption groups including the recently launched APEC anti-corruption course of action.

### ■ Roundtable on current anti-corruption efforts

As foreseen under the Action Plan's implementation mechanism, Steering Group meetings provide an opportunity to inform the Group about current anti-corruption efforts, achievements, and priorities. Each country is invited to briefly outline recent anti-corruption trends, policies, and reforms, with a particular focus on progress made in implementing the selected priority areas for reform under the Action Plan as discussed in the group at its fourth and fifth meetings. Participants are also encouraged to report on anti-corruption projects in which they are not directly involved but which play a key role in their countries' anti-corruption strategy. Information collected during this roundtable will feed into the Initiative's stocktaking report on countries' anti-corruption efforts to ensure the accuracy of this key benchmarking instrument.

### ■ Thematic review on public procurement

As decided by the Steering Group at its 5th meeting in July 2004 in Manila, endorsing countries have engaged, in the course of 2004 and 2005, in an in-depth thematic review on curbing corruption in public procurement in the Asia-Pacific region. The goal of the review is three-fold: (i) to better understand the corruption risks inherent in institutional settings and procurement practices; (ii) to identify shortcomings and loopholes in the legal frameworks and practices related to public procurement with a view to curb corruption in these processes; and (iii) to assist in designing policies and procedures that ensure greater integrity and accountability in procurement.

For the purpose of the review, a questionnaire covering issues related to transparency, integrity and accountability in procurement processes was sent to all endorsing countries and jurisdictions. Replies to the questionnaire have formed the basis for the overview report prepared by the Secretariat and which analyses policies, practices and rules governing public procurement procedures as reported by



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endorsing countries. The discussion of this report during the Steering Group's 6th meeting will be moderated by an internationally recognized expert in public procurement and will be divided into four parts. Based on these discussions, the Secretariat will amend, enhance and enrich the overview report. Furthermore, the Group will be invited to reflect on next steps, including on the development of country specific recommendations and the final endorsement and publication of the findings from this analysis by the time of the Initiative's next bi-annual conference in autumn 2005.

### ■ ADB/OECD Initiative – Activities report and program of work 2005/2006

Significant results have been achieved since the adoption of the Action Plan in Tokyo in November 2001, but further efforts are required to ensure the efficiency and effectiveness of sustainable legal and institutional frameworks to combat corruption in the region. In this context, the 6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group will discuss the past, on-going and future programme of work of the ADB/OECD Initiative. In particular, it will hear a report from the Secretariat about activities undertaken since the previous meeting in July 2004, including the training seminar on the UN Convention and other international anti-corruption instruments held in Pakistan in February 2005 and the meeting on corruption prevention in the tsunami relief operations, and discuss planned activities for 2005, including the Initiative's fifth bi-annual regional anti-corruption conference to be held in autumn 2005. It will further decide on themes to be addressed in the Initiative's next training seminars and will discuss the ADB/OECD Initiative's funding mechanisms. Finally, the group will be invited to reflect on the modalities for strengthened cooperation with other regional anti-corruption groups including the recently launched APEC anti-corruption course of action. The outcome of these discussions will feed into an amended version of the Initiative's strategy and work plan 2004-2006 to be finalised by the Secretariat after the meeting.

### ■ Background documents

- StG06-0405(1): Minutes of the 5<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting held in Manila, the Philippines, in July 2004
- StG06-0405(2): Agenda of the 6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting
- StG06-0405(3): Compilation of endorsing countries' replies to the questionnaire on curbing corruption in public procurement
- StG06-0405(4): Overview report on measures to curb corruption in public procurement in Asia and the Pacific
- StG06-0405(5): List of participants of the 6<sup>th</sup> Steering Group meeting
- StG06-0405(6): ADB/OECD Initiative funding matrix

Tuesday, 19 April 2005

## Opening and progress reports under the Action Plan

08.00 – 09.00	<i>Registration</i>
<b>09.00 – 10.00</b>	<p><b>Opening</b></p> <p>Welcoming remarks by the Deputy Inspector General, Government Inspectorate of Viet Nam</p> <p>Opening remarks by the ADB/OECD Secretariat</p> <p>Keynote address by the Country Director, ADB Resident Mission, Viet Nam</p>
10.00 – 10.30	<i>Photo session and coffee break</i>
<b>10.30 – 11.15</b>	<p><b>Report by the Government of Viet Nam, introduction of delegates, adoption of minutes and agenda</b></p> <p>Introduction of the delegates of endorsing countries and of the Advisory Group</p> <p>Report on the Government of Vietnam's anti-corruption work</p> <p>Adoption of the minutes of the 5th Steering Group meeting and the agenda of the 6th Steering Group meeting</p>
<b>11.15 – 13.00</b>	<p><b>Statement by the Government of PR China and Steering Group roundtable</b></p> <p>Statement and report by the Government of the People's Republic of China</p> <p>As part of their commitment under the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia-Pacific, member countries of the Steering Group outline trends in their countries' anti-corruption strategies and present recent anti-corruption projects that have taken place or have been planned to implement the Action Plan since the last meeting of the Steering Group in July 2004.</p>
13.00 – 14.00	<i>Lunch hosted by the ADB/OECD Secretariat</i>
<b>14.00 – 15.30</b>	<b>Steering Group roundtable (continues)</b>
15.30 – 16.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>16.00 – 17.00</b>	<p><b>Advisory Group roundtable</b></p> <p>Members of the Advisory Group present on-going or planned technical assistance programs or training activities in the region or in selected countries of the group.</p>
19.00	<i>Welcome dinner hosted by the Inspector General of Viet Nam (Melia Hanoi Hotel)</i>

Wednesday, 20 April 2005

## Thematic review on curbing corruption in public procurement

**Moderator:** Mr. Rakesh Nangia, Manager, Portfolio and Country Operations, World Bank Vietnam

**09.00 – 10.00 Overview of policies and trends in curbing corruption in public procurement**

Presentation by the Secretariat on the main findings of the analysis of countries' replies to the questionnaire on curbing corruption in public procurement.

Presentation and analysis by three endorsing countries of their replies to the questionnaire (Korea, Mongolia and Pakistan)

**10.00 – 11.00 General Framework for curbing corruption in public procurement**

This session will discuss the existing frameworks for curbing corruption in public procurement in Asian and Pacific countries, corresponding to the first focus ("general framework") of the Secretariat's overview report.

11.00 – 11.30 *Coffee break*

**11.30 – 12.30 Transparency and fairness in public procurement**

This session will discuss measures in Asian and Pacific countries that aim to ensure transparency and fairness in the public procurement process, corresponding to the second focus ("transparency and fairness") of the Secretariat's overview report.

12.30 – 14.00 *Lunch hosted by ADB/OECD Secretariat*

**14.00 – 15.00 Integrity in public procurement**

This session will discuss integrity mechanisms related to public procurement in Asian and Pacific countries, corresponding to the third focus ("integrity") of the Secretariat's overview report.

15.00 – 15.30 *Coffee break*

**15.30 – 16.30 Accountability in public procurement**

This session will discuss tools and mechanisms that Asian and Pacific countries have set up to ensure accountability in public procurement, corresponding to the fourth chapter ("accountability") of the Secretariat's overview report.

19.00 *Dinner hosted by the Government Inspectorate of Viet Nam (Melia Hanoi Hotel)*

## Thursday, 21 April 2005

### Programme of Work and Closing

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<b>09.00 – 11.00</b>	<b>Secretariat activity report 2004/2005 and discussion of Program of Work 2005 and 2006</b> Report by the Secretariat on activities undertaken in the second half of 2004 and first quarter 2005. Discussion of next steps to be taken by the Secretariat and endorsing countries in the course of 2005, including the preparation of the Initiative's fifth regional anti-corruption conference planned for autumn 2005, the planning of the Initiative's next capacity building seminars, the ADB/OECD Initiative's funding mechanisms, and discussion of modalities for strengthened cooperation with other anti-corruption groups from the Asia-Pacific region, including APEC.
<i>11.00 – 11.30</i>	<i>Coffee break</i>
<b>11.30 – 12.00</b>	<b>Closing session</b> Summary of the Steering Group meeting discussions by the Secretariat Formal adoption of the draft overview report on curbing corruption in public procurement in Asia and the Pacific Closing roundtable/feedback
<i>12.00 - 13.30</i>	<i>Lunch hosted by ADB/OECD Secretariat</i>
<b>14.00 – 17.30</b>	<b>Sightseeing Tour of Hanoi</b> Hosted by the Government Inspectorate of Viet Nam

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