G20 ANTI-CORRUPTION ACTION PLAN 2013 - 2014

Corruption threatens the integrity of markets, undermines fair competition, distorts resource allocation, destroys public trust, and undermines the rule of law. Corruption is a severe impediment to economic growth, and a significant challenge for developed, emerging and developing countries. As leaders of major trading nations, we have a special responsibility to prevent and tackle corruption, to establish legal and policy frameworks that promote a clean business environment and to continue to assist G20 countries in their capacity building efforts to combat corruption.

G20 Leaders established the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group in Toronto in 2010 and endorsed the first Anti-Corruption Action Plan in Seoul later that year. At the Los Cabos summit, Leaders renewed the mandate of the Working Group and called for a revised Action Plan to be developed.

The G20 renews its pledge to implement fully the commitments found in the Seoul Anti-Corruption Action Plan, the Cannes Monitoring Report and subsequent Leaders' declarations adopted at the Summits in Cannes and Los Cabos, noting in particular the commitment in the Los Cabos communiqué to “closing the implementation and enforcement gap”.

Reflecting these commitments and statements, we the G20 will further develop our work as follows:

1. The remaining three G20 countries will ratify and fully implement the UNCAC as soon as possible. G20 countries will lead by example in enhancing the transparency and inclusivity of their UNCAC reviews by making use on a voluntary basis of the options in the terms of reference to the UNCAC review mechanism, namely allowing country visits, involving the private sector and civil society in reviews and publishing in full the reports of reviews. We undertake each to respond to those deficiencies that are identified in our peer reviews and to make these responses publicly available.

2. Recognising the importance of our commitments to tackle foreign bribery, we will continue in our efforts to adopt and enforce laws and other measures against foreign bribery, which will include establishing the liability of legal persons. We will continue our active engagement on a voluntary basis with the OECD Working Group on Bribery with a view to ensuring the high standards of criminalisation and enforcement of the Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and exploring adherence to the Convention.

3. Promoting effective enforcement of legislation against domestic and foreign bribery is critical to tackling corruption. To this end, in 2013 we will share best practices and information to demonstrate how enforcement activity is being pursued. We will work with the private sector to identify enforcement measures that are particularly effective in changing the behaviour of bribe payers.

4. Having committed to pursue those who receive and solicit bribes as well as those who pay them, we will review and consider possible mechanisms for tackling solicitation, including the solicitation of facilitation payments, and will consult with and encourage business to improve current anti-corruption practices. We will identify best practices to encourage businesses to voluntarily self-report suspected breaches of bribery laws.

5. To deny safe haven to the proceeds of corruption and to facilitate asset recovery, we will further strengthen our efforts to combat money laundering. We will
continue our support of the work conducted by FATF on proceeds of corruption, which remains essential, and the dialogue between the Anti-Corruption Working Group and FATF corruption experts. G20 members welcome the adoption of the revised FATF standards, which include areas of particular importance to the fight against corruption, such as those relating to beneficial ownership information, customer due diligence and company formation, and look forward to their implementation and to the completion in 2013 of the update of the FATF assessment procedure with specific focus on effectiveness. G20 countries will share experiences on how to promote implementation by regulated entities of measures to combat money-laundering, consistent with domestic law, including through horizontal/thematic reviews of the treatment of high risk customers and business relationships. In 2013 we will share best practices to demonstrate how anti-money laundering enforcement activity is being pursued.

6. We commit to continue our efforts to deny entry and safe haven in our jurisdictions to corrupt officials and those who corrupt them. Building on the principles for denial of entry endorsed at Los Cabos in 2012, we will establish a denial of entry experts’ network and continue to develop frameworks for cooperation.

7. To support the recovery of proceeds of corruption stowed abroad, we will continue to benchmark ourselves against the agreed asset recovery principles/framework, share good practice and guidance on asset recovery, and continue engagement with the UNODC and World Bank’s Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative. In 2013 we will develop national guides on international cooperation on asset recovery and make them publicly available. We will also review experiences in G20 countries with regard to promoting the transparency of legal entities in order to identify good practices.

8. We will strengthen international cooperation to assist our own and others’ efforts to tackle corruption and bribery and facilitate asset recovery. To this end, G20 countries will:
   - encourage and share information on relevant technical assistance in this area among G20 countries and developing country partners;
   - exchange experiences of using networks to communicate with foreign counterparts and consider the extent to which there are networks, contact points, including designating central authority contact points as required by UNCAC, and other mechanisms in place to ensure the fullest levels of international cooperation between all appropriate government and law enforcement agencies, including FIUs, as well as judicial authorities;
   - consider possible ways of facilitating the cooperation and sharing of information between domestic authorities and the integrity offices of international organisations;
   - consider the current use of civil and administrative channels for international cooperation in corruption and asset recovery cases.

9. The G20 countries that do not already have whistleblower protections will enact and implement whistleblower protection rules, drawing on the principles developed in the Working Group, for which Leaders expressed their support in Cannes and also take specific actions, suitable to the jurisdiction, to ensure that those reporting on corruption, including journalists, can exercise their function without fear of any harassment or threat or of private or government legal action for reporting in good faith.
10. We reiterate our strong belief that anti-corruption authorities should be allowed to operate free from undue influence and provided with proper independence. We will examine the state and effectiveness of anti-corruption authorities in the light of previous work in this area. We will also consider how to promote and protect the crucial role of the independence of the judiciary in combatting corruption.

11. To build on our commitments made in Seoul and Cannes, we will continue to promote integrity, transparency, accountability and the prevention of corruption in the public sector, including in the management of public finances, for example by:

- ensuring high levels of fiscal and budget transparency by adopting and implementing measures with reference to international standards and good practices for government fiscal transparency taking into account UNCAC Article 9, the IMF Code of Good Practices in Fiscal Transparency and the OECD Best Practices on Budget Transparency;
- building on the common principles adopted in Los Cabos for financial and asset disclosure systems for public officials, beginning, for the purpose of peer learning, by considering G20 countries current systems in light of these principles, and exchanging relevant experiences;
- ensuring we have in place systems of procurement based on transparency, competition and objective criteria in decision-making to prevent corruption, and by the end of 2014, continuing our analytical work in this area and developing and sharing good practices in the field of public procurement anti-corruption policies, measures, and legislation including, for example, electronic procurement;
- continuing to promote education and training initiatives that support the prevention of corruption through education in the public and private sector;
- exploring the effect on anti-corruption efforts of immunities from prosecution for public officials

12. The G20 countries will continue to exercise our voice in the governance of international organisations and will consider proposals for action going forward. We will work with the IOs/IFIs in their efforts to develop minimum criteria for measures to combat corruption in IO/IFI funded projects and operations and seek to ensure the adoption and implementation of such measures.

13. Business is an important stakeholder in anti-corruption efforts and transparency within the private sector is critical. We will explore the potential and effectiveness of integrity pacts between business and governments and other mechanisms for sharing anticorruption expertise among businesses and governments and we will work with the B20 to achieve this. We call on representatives from the business community to develop capacity building programmes tailored to small- and medium-sized enterprises, including through supply chains and to report back on progress in early 2014.

14. We reiterate our support for public-private partnerships to combat corruption in specific sectors such as extractives industries and construction and our support for or implementation of initiatives such as EITI and CoST. We will share experiences and best practices from existing sectoral initiatives and carry out a risk-mapping analysis of those areas and sectors at greatest risk, including considering sectors identified by the B20 as a priority, as well as, where appropriate, cross-cutting issues such as the awarding of rights, licences or other similar benefits.
Leading by example, the G20 holds itself accountable for its commitments. We commit to continue the meetings and work of the G20 Anticorruption Working Group, and submit on an annual basis to G20 leaders for the duration of this action plan reports, agreed within the working group, on individual and collective progress made by G20 countries in the implementation of the Action Plan.