Recent events and ongoing activities

- **16th Steering Group Meeting, New Delhi, India**
  The meeting was hosted by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Government of India on 27 September 2011 at Vigyan Bhavan in New Delhi. Members reported their recent anti-corruption activities and discussed and adopted the Initiative’s Strategy and Work Programme for 2012-2014. They also agreed on the Initiative’s specific activities for 2012.
  ■ ■ ■ See here for more information

- **7th Regional Anti-Corruption Conference on Building Multidisciplinary Frameworks to Combat Corruption, New Delhi, India**
  The Conference on 28-29 September 2011 was also hosted by the Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions of the Government of India. Her Excellency, Smt. Pratibha Devisingh Patil, President of India, inaugurated the conference. Also in attendance were V. Narayanasamy, Minister of State and Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions; and Minister of Finance, Pranab Mukherjee. Other participants of note included Xiaoyu Zhao, Vice President of ADB, and Richard A. Boucher, Deputy Secretary-General of the OECD. The conference conclusions called for a holistic and inclusive approach by governments to fight corruption.
  ■ ■ ■ See the conference’s conclusions and proceedings here

- **Participation in the 4th Session of the Conference of States Parties (COSP) to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), Marrakech, Morocco on 24-28 October 2011**
  On behalf of the Initiative, Aika Sirohi, Secretary of India’s Ministry of Personnel, Public Grievances and Pensions, gave a speech emphasizing the Initiative’s support for UNCAC implementation in Asia-Pacific. The speech stressed that the Initiative’s 2010 Strategic Principles and Future Activities Plan prioritizes effective UNCAC implementation by the Initiative’s 28 members. The speech also highlighted the Initiative’s Thematic Reviews, which aim to assist implementation of specific aspects of UNCAC.
  ■ ■ ■ Read the full speech here

Upcoming events and activities

- **Government Inspectorate of Vietnam to host the 17th Steering Group Meeting and Regional Seminar in 2012**
  This will mark the first time Vietnam has hosted the Initiative’s events since the 6th Steering Group Meeting in 2005. The agenda, theme, date and location will be announced after further consultation with Vietnam.

- **Timor-Leste and Solomon Islands to Join the Initiative**
  The Initiative’s members have approved the requests of Timor-Leste and Solomon Islands to join the Initiative. Both countries will become full members and be welcomed at the 2012 Steering Group Meeting after they endorse the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific.

- **Thematic Review in 2012-2013**
  The Initiative’s 4th Thematic Review will look at members’ efforts to prevent corruption through corporate compliance, ethics and internal controls for preventing corruption. The Review will also consider efforts to disallow the tax deduction of bribes. The topics are covered by Article 12 of the UNCAC. The Review is expected to conclude in 2013.

Anti-corruption news from Asia-Pacific

- **Vietnam’s 10th Anti-Corruption Dialogue** was held in Hanoi on 14 November 2011. Spearheaded by the Government Inspectorate of Vietnam, the seminar aimed to reform anti-corruption mechanisms and policies, especially Vietnam’s Anti-Corruption Law; step up communication; increase the operational efficiency of anti-corruption agencies; and promote the implementation of laws and the national anti-corruption strategy.
  ■ ■ ■ Visit the Inspectorate’s website

- **Bangladesh’s inaugural e-tendering system** is being implemented to promote corruption-free government procurement.
  ■ ■ ■ See here for more information

- **ADB is supporting the preparation and implementation of a long-term institutional development plan for Bhutan’s Anti-Corruption Commission (ACC).** The plan will include a review of the ACC’s anti-corruption strategy, organizational structure, coordination mechanisms with other accountability institutions in Bhutan, an implementation strategy, and a work plan that specifies key tasks, roles, and costs.
  ■ ■ ■ Read more about ACC Bhutan

- **Shaping a New World: Combating Foreign Bribery in International Business Transactions** was the title of a conference organized by the OECD and Indonesia’s Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) in Bali in May 2011. The conference was attended by over 400 participants, including Indonesian President Susilo Bambang Yudhoyono.
  ■ ■ ■ Visit the OECD website for more information

- **Identification and Quantification of the Proceeds of Bribery** is a new typologies study produced by the OECD and the Stolen Assets Recovery Initiative (STAR). The study draws on cases from different jurisdictions and examines existing methods for calculating the gains made by companies that pay bribes.
  ■ ■ ■ Get a copy of the report here

This newsletter was prepared by the Secretariat of ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific (www.oecd.org/corruption/asiapacific). To subscribe or unsubscribe and for questions or comments, please write the Initiative’s Secretariat.