OECD Working Group on Bribery

Public Summary Record

Plenary Meeting
23-26 June 2020
Country reports on implementation of the Anti-Bribery Convention and 2009 Anti-Bribery Recommendation

The WGB:

- Heard Japan report on progress to implement the four recommendations selected for this additional Phase 4 one-year written follow-up report. Japan will next report to the WGB on the implementation of all its Phase 4 recommendations in the context of its standard two-year written follow-up report in June 2021. The WGB will then consider whether there is a need to apply additional measures.
- Heard Greece provide an oral report following the WGB’s Technical Mission to Greece in October 2019. Invited Greece to report back orally in June 2021 on developments regarding the following issues: (i) sanctions available for natural persons; (ii) defences and exemptions from prosecution; (iii) jurisdiction of the Public Prosecutor Against Corruption; as well as (iv) any update on enforcement efforts against natural and legal persons.
- Heard Israel provide an additional Phase 3 follow-up oral report. Invited Israel to report back orally on legislative developments in June 2021.
- Heard Brazil report on the issues raised in the High-Level Mission report, approved by the WGB in November 2019. Invited Brazil to report back to the WGB in October 2020 on the issues raised in the High-Level Mission report as well as on the investigations regarding the former Minister of Justice’s allegations of political interference in the Federal Police.
- Agreed to the proposed agenda for the High-Level Mission to Poland, tentatively scheduled for early November 2020. The WGB noted that a decision will be taken in due course as to whether the High-Level Mission will proceed and in what form (entirely physical or hybrid).

Future and ongoing WGB projects and events

The WGB:

- Discussed the WGB response to the Covid-19 crisis.
- Discussed the ongoing review of the 2009 OECD Anti-Bribery Recommendation.
- Discussed the WGB Global Relations Strategy for 2021-2022.
- Discussed and adopted its contribution for the UN “Special session of the General Assembly against corruption”, which will take place from 26 to 28 April 2021. The WGB contribution was subsequently published on the UNGASS website.

Reports from other OECD Bodies, Invitee Countries, and International Organisations

The WGB:

- Heard the Secretariat from the OECD Sherpa Office report on latest developments concerning the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG), in particular the postponement of the 2nd session from June to
September 2020, and agreement by the ACWG on three sets of High-Level Principles concerning Privatization and Public-Private Partnerships, for Promoting Public Sector Integrity through the Use of ICT, and on the Development and Implementation of Anti-Corruption Policies or Strategies. Further heard that a joint session would take place between the G20 ACWG and the WGB in the margins of the 2nd session, focusing on corruption and sports and international cooperation in the time of the Covid-19 crisis.