

OECD Working Group on Bribery

# **Public Summary Record**

Plenary Meeting  
13-14 June 2023

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Made up of representatives from the Parties to the Anti-Bribery Convention, the OECD Working Group on Bribery meets four times per year.

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## Country reports on implementation of the Anti-Bribery Convention and the 2021 Anti-Bribery Recommendation

The Working Group on Bribery (WGB):

- Considered Argentina's Phase 3bis additional follow-up report on progress regarding its implementation of Phase 3bis recommendations 5(c-f) and 6(e), on enforcement actions and on pending legislation.
- Considered the Czech Republic's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 1(e) and 3. Welcomed the adoption of whistleblower protection legislation and expressed concerns about the continued failure to protect the independence of prosecutors. Invited the Czech Republic to provide a follow-up report in October 2023.
- Considered Finland's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 3(a)(iii), 3(b), and steps taken to enforce the foreign bribery offence. Welcomed progress on legislative amendment plans and expressed concerns about continued lack of progress in enforcement. Invited Finland to provide a follow-up report in March 2024.
- Considered Hungary's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 1(a), 4(a-b), 6(b), 9(b), on enforcement, and on follow-up issues 11(b), 11(i) and 11(j). Expressed concerns that Hungary has made no progress on those recommendations, while acknowledging that its draft 2023-2025 National Anti-Corruption Strategy may address two outstanding recommendations, 1(a) and 4(a), at least in part. Invited Hungary to provide a follow-up report in December 2023.
- Considered Japan's fifth expedited report and welcomed Japan's update that it had adopted legislation developed to address Phase 4 priority recommendations concerning sanctions, the statute of limitations and jurisdiction for foreign bribery offences committed abroad. Invited Japan to provide a follow-up report in December 2023.
- Considered Korea's fourth expedited report on amendments to the Prosecution Service Act and Criminal Procedure Act, and Korea's revised institutional setting. Expressed continued concerns over Korea's possible weakened capacity to investigate and prosecute foreign bribery cases. Invited Korea to provide another expedited report in October 2023.
- Considered Mexico's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 2(b) and 4(a) as well as on enforcement. Welcomed the introduction of a bill to protect whistleblowers and expressed concerns regarding a scale back in enforcement. Invited Mexico to provide a follow-up report in October 2024.
- Considered [Peru's Phase 2 two-year follow-up report](#) and concluded that Peru has fully implemented 25 recommendations, partially implemented 20 recommendations and not implemented 22 recommendations. Invited Peru to provide a follow-up report in June 2024.
- Considered Switzerland's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 1(a), 1(b), 2(a), 9(a), 9(b) and 12(a). Expressed concerns about the lack of progress, including on longstanding key legislative reforms on whistleblower protection in the private sector and sanctions against companies. Agreed that

Switzerland is expected to formulate two bills addressing these outstanding recommendations before December 2024. Invited Switzerland to report on enforcement related matters in its Tour de Table update.

- Considered the United Kingdom's Phase 4 additional follow-up report on progress regarding the implementation of Phase 4 recommendations 7(a), (c) and (d), and 11(a), (b) and (e). Welcomed certain positive developments regarding recommendation 11 and expressed concern about the lack of progress on Article 5-related issues. Invited the UK to report back in its Tour de Table update.

## Ongoing and future WGB projects and events

The WGB:

- Heard a report from the Chair of the informal meeting of law enforcement officials on its 12 June 2023 meeting.
- Considered a note prepared by the Secretariat on the WGB's budget, priorities and procedures and discussed establishing an informal working group on resources and working methods.
- Adopted a revised version of the reference document prepared by the Secretariat on the due diligence warning procedure.
- Heard the Secretariat report on the Working Group's Global Relations Strategic Directions 2023-2024.
- Heard Mauritius and Ukraine provide updates on reform plans as new Participants in the Working Group and in view of seeking accession to the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention before February 2025. Heard Saudi Arabia provide an update on its progress.

## Reports from other OECD bodies, invitee countries and international organisations

The WGB:

- Heard the OECD Secretariat and Italy, as co-chair with India of the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) report on developments concerning the second ACWG meeting under India's G20 Presidency.
- Heard the Secretariat of the OECD Working Party on State Ownership and Privatisation Practices provide an update on the revision of the OECD Guidelines on Corporate Governance of State-Owned Enterprises.
- Heard the Director of the OECD Directorate for Public Governance update the WGB on recent and ongoing work of the OECD Public Governance Committee and its Working Party of Senior Public Integrity Officials in the area of anti-corruption and integrity.
- Heard representatives of the European Commission, European Public Prosecutor's Office, Financial Action Task Force and World Bank provide updates on ongoing work.

## Tour de table

The WGB:

- Heard updates provided by France, Greece, Hungary, Ireland, Iceland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania, Mexico, and Norway on their steps taken to implement and enforce the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention.