

Country case: Committee of advisors for the resolution of complaints in Saudi Arabia

Description

The Kingdom of Saudi Arabia adopted in 2006 a new Procurement Law and its Implementation Regulations to improve the efficiency and transparency of the national procurement system in order to achieve value for money and increase accountability. One of the means to increase control and accountability are improved complaints mechanisms.

To achieve a quick resolution of complaints, the Minister of Finance forms a committee of advisors comprised of at least three members from the Ministry and personnel of other relevant government authorities. The committee is headed by a legal advisor and includes among its members a technical expert. The committee is re-formed every three years and its membership may only be renewed once.

This committee reviews compensation claims submitted by contractors and suppliers as well as reports of deceit, fraud and manipulation. It also reviews claims submitted by government authorities to the Minister of Finance requesting to exclude from public contracts the contractors who executed a project in a defective manner or in violation of the terms and specifications of the project, for a period not exceeding five years. The procedure before the committee can take place in person or in writing. The committee may seek the assistance of technical specialists and issues its decision, with all its members attending, unanimously or by majority. The dissenting opinion, if any, and the arguments of each party is stated in the minutes of the committee.

Source: OECD (2016), "[Corruption in Public Procurement](#)".

Public Procurement
Principle: **Accountability**

Procurement Stage:
All phases

Audience: **Policy Maker,
Procuring Entity, Private
Sector**