



OECD Project – Fair Market Conditions for Competitiveness in South Africa

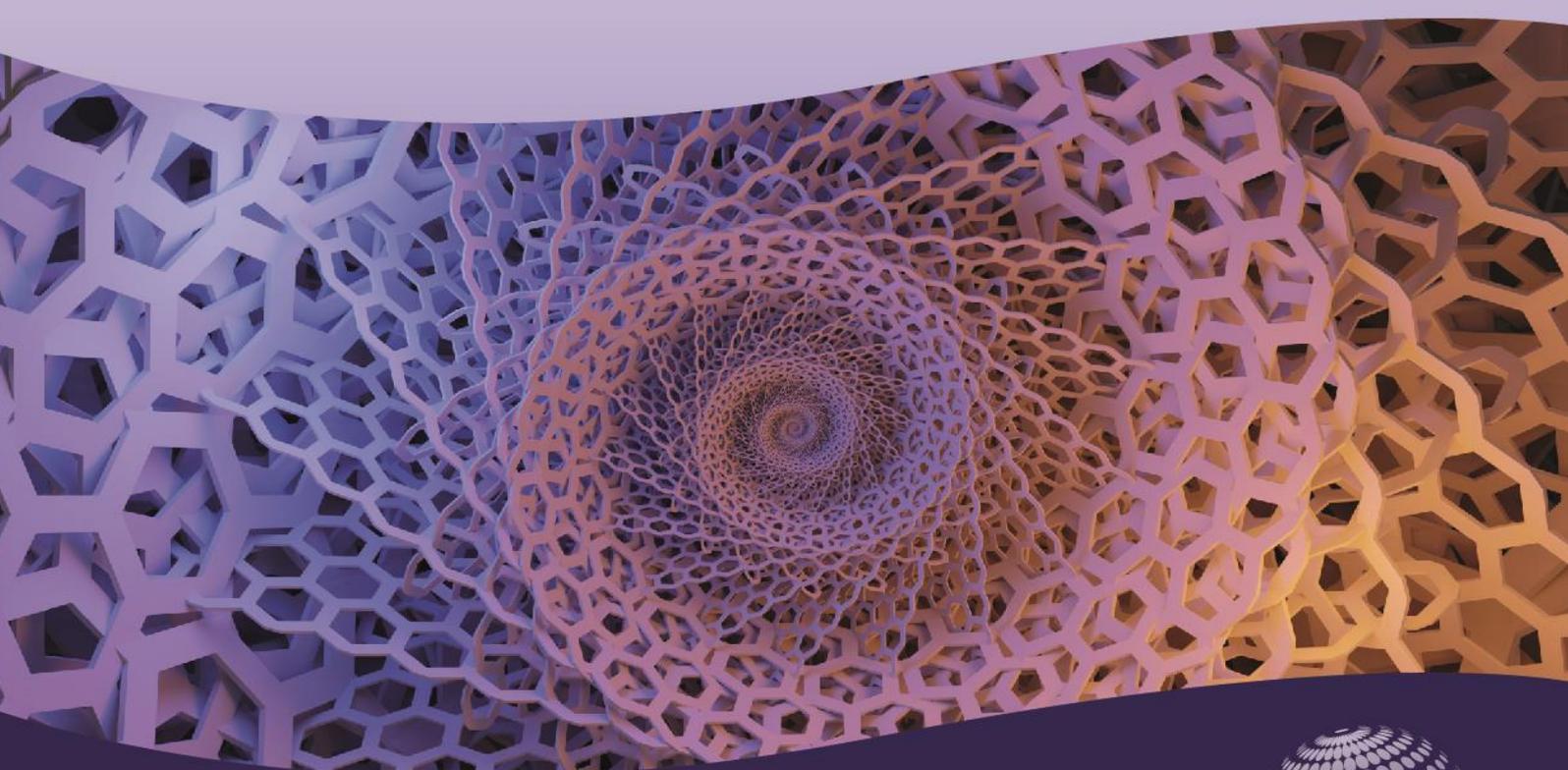
Roundtable on Collective Action against Corruption

DRAFT AGENDA

24 May 2022

9:00 – 15:30 (Local time)

Protea Hotel, Sandton



Context

Corruption is a major obstacle to the social and economic development of countries. It deters foreign investments and negatively impacts the business environment, thus affecting economic stability and private sector development. The promotion of integrity and transparency represent essential dimensions to create an open, competitive and levelled playing field for businesses and citizens across sectors and society.

As a Key Partner of the OECD, South Africa has worked closely with the organisation to advance its work on anti-corruption, fair competition and integrity of SOEs. In particular, South Africa has ratified the [OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions](#). Significant progress has been achieved, yet the country is still working on spreading a business integrity culture in the face of deep-rooted corruption.

In its National Development Plan 2030, South Africa acknowledges corruption as one of the major challenges for the country's prosperity. In recent years, **the country has undertaken major national reforms to strengthen business integrity and transparency,** notably through the **development of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2020-2030,** and by strengthening its institutional anti-corruption framework. The discussions organised on the National Anti-Corruption involved **collective dialogue** with the main social actors of the country, including private sector organisations, social actors and concerned universities.

Indeed, the **mobilisation of the private sector,** companies and business associations, **as well as the various actors of civil society, alongside the public authorities,** is fundamental to support anti-corruption efforts and ensure their effective implementation. As corruption affects both the public and private sectors, it must be addressed through a coordinated and effective response. In this respect, **collective action and the creation of alliances between different actors** are proving to be very effective tools to promote business integrity and fight corruption.

The Project Fair Market Conditions for Competitiveness in South Africa

The Project "[Fair Market Conditions for Competitiveness](#)" in South Africa, implemented by the OECD and launched in November 2021, is part of the [Siemens Global Integrity Initiative](#), which supports organisations that fight corruption and promote business integrity through collective action, education, and training.

In South Africa, the project aims more particularly to:

1. **Raise awareness about OECD standards and good practices** of anticorruption, integrity and fair competition for competitiveness with governments, business and civil society, through the **creation of a Collective Action Community;**
2. **Build capacity and foster the implementation of concrete policy recommendations** with regard to the transparency and efficiency of SOEs;
3. **Promote in academic curricula the latest knowledge on international standards and practices** in the area of anticorruption and integrity for competitiveness

Objectives of the Roundtable

This Roundtable is the first of a series of meetings organised within the framework of Objective 1 of the Project in order to encourage **the creation of a multi-stakeholder dialogue platform with key public and private decision-makers and civil society representatives in South Africa**. This platform will aim to foster collective action against corruption and sustainable alliances in favour of business integrity in strategic economic sectors. In this context, this first roundtable will have the following objectives:

- **Introduce the concept of Collective action, its methods, and its benefits** in promoting integrity and fair competition, and sharing global lessons on Collective Action initiative that give preconditions for a level playing field;
- **Mobilise the relevant stakeholders** and providing a platform to highlight the country specific challenges and priorities in the areas of anti-corruption and business integrity;
- **Foster the creation of a community of collective action** for a coordinated approach to anti-corruption efforts and reflect on the possibility of undertaking such actions in key economic sectors.

After an introductory session to present the **main objectives and activities of the Project**, the morning session will **focus on the concept of collective action against corruption, which is at the heart of the Project**, and its benefits to create a level playing field for all market players. In the afternoon, **discussions will take stock of the achievements in the area of business integrity in South Africa** and will be the occasion for local stakeholders to discuss **the priorities and remaining challenges to strengthen business integrity collectively**, and how the Project could support **collective action commitments**, in line with OECD standards and best practices of anti-corruption and integrity.

Participants

The event will bring together the **key South-African stakeholders engaged in the fight against corruption**, including **public policy makers, representatives of relevant ministries and institutions** (The Department of Public Service and Administration, the National Treasury, the Competition Commission, Department of Public Enterprises, etc.), and public enterprises, **as well as the private sector** (business associations, chambers of commerce, companies, etc.), and **representatives of civil society**, including the academic community. International experts and peers will also contribute to these roundtables.

Practical information

The workshop will take place in Sandton, Johannesburg. Virtual participation will be available via Zoom. You are kindly requested to register using the following [link](#).

**Address: Protea Hotel, Marriott Johannesburg Balalaika Sandton
Maude St, Sandown, Sandton, 2126, South Africa**

Draft agenda – 24 May 2022

9:00– 9:30	<i>Welcoming of participants</i>
9:30 – 9:45	Welcoming remarks
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ms. Pleasure Matshego, Director, Department Public and Administration, South Africa • Mr Carlos Conde, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD
9:45– 10:15	Introductory session - The Project Fair Market Conditions for competitiveness in South Africa: objectives & planned activities
	<p>This introductory session will provide an opportunity to present in more details to the audience the Project <i>Fair market conditions for competitiveness in South Africa</i>, its objectives and the planned activities. It will also put the project into perspective with South Africa's efforts and initiatives in recent years to fight corruption and promote business integrity.</p> <p>Presentations :</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms Diane Pallez, Project Manager, Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD ○ Ms Alison McMeekin, Policy Analyst, Corporate Governance and Corporate Affairs Division, Directorate for Enterprise and Financial Affairs, OECD (<i>virtual intervention</i>) <p>Q&A Session</p>
10:15 – 10:30	<i>Coffee Break</i>
10:30 – 12:15	Session 1 : Promoting business integrity: from theory to practice
	<p>The OECD has been a driving force in the global anti-corruption efforts. This session will be the occasion to raise awareness, among policymakers, businesses and the civil society, of the OECD standards and best practices focusing on their relevance in creating fair market conditions. The concept of collective action, a key component of the Project, will also be presented to the audience along with its benefits in the fight against corruption. Panellists will provide examples of existing initiatives and their related tools, address the possible challenges encountered and describe the effective outcomes of their collective action on the ground.</p> <p>Moderation and Presentation: Mr Brooks Hickman, Legal Analyst, Anti-corruption Division, Directorate for Enterprise and Financial Affairs, OECD</p> <p>Speakers :</p>

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Ms Celia Lourens, The Ethics Institute, South Africa ○ Ms Scarlet Wannewetsch, Collective Action Specialist, Basel Institute on Governance (<i>virtual intervention</i>) ○ Ms Thuthula Ndunge, Project Manager Social Transformation, National Business Initiative, South Africa <p>Interactive discussion</p>
12:15- 13:30	<i>Lunch Break</i>
13:30 – 15:00	Session 2: Business integrity in South Africa : recent initiatives, main priorities & remaining challenges
	<p>This session will provide the opportunity to take stock of the recent initiatives launched by South African public and private actors in the area of business integrity. The discussions will serve to identify the priorities and remaining challenges to strengthen business integrity collectively, and how the Project could support collective action commitments, in line with OECD standards and best practices of anti-corruption and integrity. Lessons learnt during this panel will form an important basis to determine how collective action against corruption can be applied in the South African context and which economic sectors are particularly strategic in this context.</p> <p>Moderator : Mr. Carlos Conde, Head of the Middle East and Africa Division, Global Relations Secretariat, OECD</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Advocate Andy Mothibi, Head of Special Investigation Unit, South Africa ○ Ms. Khanyisa Qobo, Divisional Manager of Advocacy Division, Competition Commission, South Africa ○ Mr. Cas Coovadia, Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Business Unity in South Africa (BUSA) ○ Mr. Karam Singh, Executive Director, Corruption Watch, South Africa (<i>virtual intervention</i>) <p>Q&A session</p>
15:00 – 15:30	Concluding session – Step forward
	<p>The conclusion will highlight the most relevant elements of analysis and will be the occasion to set with the relevant stakeholders a plan of actions to pave the way for the organisation of future roundtables targeting the key economic sectors.</p>

Resources

- OECD (2020), [Global Lessons on Collective Action Against Corruption – The Case of Morocco](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.
- Basel Institute on Governance (2020), [Mainstreaming Collective Action: Establishing a baseline](#).
- World Bank Institute Working Group (2019), [Collective action in the fight against corruption](#).
- Egyptian Junior Business Association Integrity Network (2018), [Implementing Collective Action Initiatives against Corruption in the Middle East and Africa](#).
- OECD (2015), [G20/OECD Principles of Corporate Governance](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD (2014), [OECD Foreign Bribery Report: An Analysis of the Crime of Bribery of Foreign Public Officials](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD (2010) [Good Practice Guidance on Internal Controls, Ethics, and Compliance](#), OECD Publishing, Paris.
- OECD (2009), [Recommendation for Further Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions](#).
- United Nations (2004), [United Nations Convention against Corruption](#).
- African Union (2003), [African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption](#).
- OECD (1999), [OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions](#).

Contact

Ms Diane PALLEZ

Policy Analyst

Middle East and Africa Division

Global Relations Secretariat

Diane.PALLEZ-GUILLEVIC@oecd.org

Ms Sophie ELLIOTT

Project Assistant

Middle East and Africa Division

Global Relations Secretariat

Sophie.ELLIOTT@oecd.org