

Anti-Corruption Summit - London 2016

Norway Georgia Country Statement

1. Expose corruption

- We are committed to our policy of transparency as laid out in the Public Information Act as a means to strengthen freedom of information and speech, democratic participation, individual legal protection and trust in the public sector.
- We commit to exploring the establishment of public central registers of company beneficial ownership information.
- We commit to ensuring that law enforcement agencies have full and effective access to beneficial ownership information for companies and other legal entities registered within their jurisdiction.
- We commit to participate in international arrangements that will ensure law enforcement in one partner country has full and effective access to the beneficial ownership information of companies incorporated in the other partner country.
- We will explore the possibility of taking steps to ensure transparency of the ownership and control of all companies involved in property purchase and public contracting.
- We welcome the establishment of transparent central registers of foreign companies bidding on public contracts and buying property, and intend to explore options for taking similar action.
- We will explore the contents of the pilot initiative for automatic exchange of beneficial information and consider ways of supporting the initiative.
- We will explore the possibility of deploying public-private information sharing partnerships to bring together governments, law enforcement, regulators and the financial sector to detect, prevent and disrupt money laundering linked to corruption.
- We will explore the possibility of sharing information between respective public-private partnerships to ensure the most effective response to international money laundering.
- We remain committed to the fight against money laundering in order to stop the proceeds of crime from entering the legal economy. A legislative committee will propose amendments in Norway's anti money laundering legislation.
- We will explore the possibility of implementing the principles of the Open Contracting Data Standard.
- We will explore the possibility of implementing the principles of the Open Data Charter.
- We support ongoing work within EITI to enhance company disclosure (regarding payments to governments for the sale of oil, gas and minerals). Reporting progress via the Open Government Partnership or EITI working groups, we will explore the scope for a common global reporting standard, and work together to build a common understanding and strengthen the evidence for transparency in this area.

- We welcome voluntary disclosures through EITI reporting and by some major companies regarding payments to governments for the sale of oil, gas and minerals.
- We welcome the new 2016 EITI Standard, in particular the requirements on beneficial ownership.
- Norway has signed up to the Common Reporting Standard initiative.
- We commit to continue to support the Addis Tax Initiative.
- We will explore the need to review penalties and other action against professional enablers of tax evasion, including for corporations that fail to prevent their employees from facilitating tax evasion.
- We will consider the case for a global commitment for public country by country reporting on tax information for large multinational enterprises

2. Punish the corrupt and support those who have suffered from corruption

- We will explore the possibility and appropriateness of establishing accessible central databases of companies with final convictions.
- We will explore ways of sharing information on corrupt bidders across borders.
- We will explore the need to strengthen asset recovery legislation.
- We commit to the development of internationally-endorsed guidelines for the transparent and accountable management of returned stolen assets.
- We will explore the possibility of developing common principles governing the payment of compensation to the countries affected, to ensure that such payments are made safely, fairly and in a transparent manner.
- We are committed to establishing focussed analysis, action and capacity building against criminal networks prospering from migration. A development assistance programme dealing with organised crime, trafficking and illegal trading is being established in Norway.

3. Drive out the culture of corruption, wherever it exists

- We will work with international sports organisations and other key stakeholders to support and strengthen efforts to implement high standards of transparency and good governance, and to underpin the wider fight to eliminate corruption from sport.
- We are committed to participating in institutional partnerships that drive up integrity and institutional standards, including in the extractives sector through e.g. Oil for Development's work with Ghana and Tanzania, among other countries. Norway will participate in the institutional integrity network, brokered by the OECD, particularly by sharing its extensive knowledge and experience to support the development of effective, evidence-based partnerships through this network.
- We commit to participating in an Innovation Hub that will facilitate the uptake of new approaches and technologies to tackle corruption.
- We will work with others countries, civil society, international organisations to support accelerated implementation of the voluntary provisions of the UN Convention Against Corruption.
- We support the establishment of an OECD Anti-corruption centre to strengthen the impact and coherence of OECD's existing anti-corruption work.