ANTI-CORRUPTION SUMMIT – LONDON 2016

Tunisia Statement of Commitments

Beneficial ownership

- Tunisia is in the final stage towards complying with Open Contracting and EITI principles.
- We support the potential United Kingdom announcement of the intention to create a register of foreign company beneficial ownership information bidding for contracts or purchasing property.
- We commit to enhance legislations regarding companies’ governance based on disclosure, transparency and international accounting standards.
- We welcome setting up an international framework to avoid conflict of interests in the financial sector.

Preventing the Facilitation of Corruption

- We commit to establish effective strategies and policies to prevent and fight against corruption.
- We commit to implement legal and regulatory measures to enhance the quality of financial information. These measures will not only cover financial reporting and auditing but they will also involve supervision mechanisms to ensure a reliable quality of financial auditing.
- We commit to setting up appropriate anti-corruption and money laundering information sharing mechanisms.
- We commit to encouraging citizens and employees to report corruption, to promote action including by law enforcement on the information provided, and to protect “whistle blowers” in the public and private sector who take personal risks to provide critical information.

Public Procurement and Fiscal Transparency

- We commit to reinforcing the recently adopted Right To Information law and in that purpose to promote effective accountability and to provide open data on public contracting activities without impairing technological and commercial bidding companies’ interests.

Preventing Corrupt Bidders Winning Contracts

- We commit to exploring ways of sharing information on corrupt bidders across international borders.

Asset Recovery and Return

- Tunisia has developed an appropriate legal framework to facilitate domestic asset recovery, e.g. through the introduction of new powers that enable asset recovery without the need to first convict the suspect and, where appropriate, through the reversal of the burden of proof. Nowadays, this bill of law is under public consultation.
- We welcome the proposed establishment of a Global Forum for Asset Recovery (GFAR).
- Tunisia, as Chair of the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET), commit to working to involve all the Arab States to participate Global Forum for Asset Recovery (GFAR) in 2017.
- We commit to improving domestic asset recovery legislation.
- We call on the international community to effective cooperation to help developing countries recovery of the stolen assets.
We welcome the initiative to launch a new Code of practice for recovering stolen assets aiming to develop an internationally accepted process for recovered assets to be returned to developing countries through transparent processes that provide clear evidence of the funds are not at risk of being re-corrupted.

- We commit to overcoming difficulties and obstacles regarding asset recovery and encourage conciliation and non-litigation processes (mediation, arbitration...).
- We encourage setting up special programs with international institutions for countries in economic and political transition (incentives and technical assistance).

Drive out the culture of corruption, wherever it exists

- We commit to support broader efforts to promote public integrity, including in improving public sector management and private sector standards and incentives, and co-operation on training, capacity building and education.
- We commit to encouraging the role of civil society by facilitating the building of networks for the promotion of transparency and integrity culture.
- We commit to adopting education systems promoting Integrity culture and governance values in order to enable the cultural change.

International Sport

- We encourage sports organizations to voluntarily disclose their data and adopt mechanisms regarding their senior officials’ assets, interests and revenues’ declaration.
- We approve the results of the Berlin Declaration in 2013 about transparency in Sport (fruit of the UNESCO forum MINEPS that had associated 120 countries and 500 sportive personalities).
- We welcome the automatic and volunteer disclosure of financial reports by national and international sports organisations.
- We encourage linking the non observation of these principles to sanctions such as the suspension of memberships, amends.....).

Innovation

- We commit to explore all the ICT possibilities to enhance public services quality, transparency and public participation.

International System

- We encourage governments to establish bilateral and multilateral agreements in fields related to the fight against corruption and to reinforce existing agreements. International cooperation between countries (governments, businesses and civil society components) in the fight against corruption has to be reinforced, mainly through technical assistance, and the exchange of experiences.