Helpdesk Research Report

Inter-state commitments on governance

Freyja Oddsdóttir

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Question

Which UN member states have signed up to the inter-state instruments on governance, and what do these instruments say?

Please provide a list with summary descriptions of a range of inter-state agreements, conventions, treaties, initiatives, plans, charters etc., at both regional and thematic levels, on any aspects of governance signed since 2000.

Please include a paragraph on how states report against obligations and the method for measuring compliance.

Contents

1. Overview

This mapping gives an overview of 23 international, regional and thematic inter-state commitments on good governance. Many of these are clustered in the continent of Africa, most under the auspices of the African Union. In other parts of the world, governance initiatives that have been signed or endorsed by national governments appear to be less common. The mapping lists initiatives that were established, or have gone through major amendments since the year 2000.

Many of the initiatives included here apply to governance in general, but some have specific thematic objectives, such as anti-corruption or building state capacity. Some of the listed commitments are legally

binding, such as the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court and the United Nations Convention against Corruption, while others are non-binding. An example of a non-binding initiative is the Pacific Plan, which is a political undertaking rather than a legal document.

Reporting on the extent to which states fulfil their obligations varies greatly between instruments. Some agreements allow each member state to design its own plans and set its own benchmarks, while others enforce universal indicators of success. The methodology for collecting data about member states' compliance also differs, as some instruments employ independent researchers to collect data on each state's compliance. Other instruments rely on self-assessment methods, where states either fill out a pre-made checklist, or submit a report on progress made towards fulfilling the obligations specified in the agreement.

Searches were undertaken for initiatives in the following specific categories of governance:

- State capacity/effectiveness
- Openness, transparency and ICTs
- Participation and engagement
- Anti-corruption
- Inclusion and non-discrimination
- Justice and the rule of law
- Political rights and freedoms and accountability

However, many of the initiatives found were cross-cutting, and often didn't fit neatly into a single category. Further, no initiatives were found that specifically or exclusively address the categories of *Participation and engagement* and *Inclusion and non-discrimination*. Therefore, initiatives have been grouped into International, Regional and Thematic categories in this report. For the purpose of clarity, initiatives are listed in alphabetical order in each section.

A summary table of the 23 initiatives is included in an appendix, loosely grouped under the specific categories of governance mentioned above. The second appendix provides a checklist of which states have signed up to which governance instruments.

Examples of prominent governance initiatives from different regions and themes include:

- **Open Government Partnership (OGP):** An international platform for domestic reformers committed to making their governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens. As of 2013, 62 states from all continents have joined the partnership.

- **African Union (AU):** A pan-African organisation which supports political and economic integration among its members. Among the AU governance initiatives are the African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance, New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD) and African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM). The African Union has 54 members from the African continent.

- **The ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative in Asia and the Pacific:** A regional initiative aimed at fighting corruption. It was launched by the governments in the region under the joint leadership of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). 31 states in Asia and the Pacific have joined the initiative.

The report is based on information found online, which may or may not be up to date. Dates are cited whenever possible.

2. International programmes

Open Government Partnership (OGP)

Description: OGP was launched in 2011 to provide an international platform for domestic reformers committed to making their governments more open, accountable, and responsive to citizens. In member states, government and civil society pledge to work together to develop and implement open government reforms.

Reporting: OGP does not have a universal set of standards that member countries have to comply with. Each participating country must develop its own action plan through a multi-stakeholder, open, and participatory process, following OGP guidelines. This should have measurable targets, to be met within a specified time frame.

The Independent Reporting Mechanism (IRM) tracks compliance with OGP action plans for each member state. Progress reports are produced biannually. They assess the development and implementation of action plans and progress made in fulfilling open government principles. They also make technical recommendations for improvements. The reports are drafted by local researchers based on a combination of interviews with local OGP stakeholders, analysis of relevant data, and reports by governments and civil society. As of January 2014, progress reports have been published for 8 of the 62 member states.

States are also required to submit an annual self-assessment report to show whether they are fulfilling the OGP commitments included in their action plans.

Web link: http://www.opengovpartnership.org/

Member states: 62 states in all continents.

Albania	Colombia	Georgia	Italy	Mexico	Peru	Sweden
Argentina	Costa Rica	Ghana	Jordan	Moldova	Philippines	Tanzania
Armenia	Croatia	Greece	Kenya	Mongolia	Romania	Trinidad and Tobago
Australia	Czech Rep.	Guatemala	Latvia	Montenegro	Serbia	Turkey
Azerbaijan	Denmark	Honduras	Liberia	Netherlands	Sierra Leone	Ukraine
Brazil	Dominican Rep.	Hungary	Lithuania	New Zealand	Slovak Rep.	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	El Salvador	Indonesia	Macedonia	Norway	South Africa	USA
Canada	Estonia	Ireland	Malawi	Panama	South Korea	Uruguay
Chile	Finland	Israel	Malta	Paraguay	Spain	

New Deal

Description: The peacebuilding and statebuilding goals of the New Deal are intended to enable progress towards the MDGs in fragile and conflict-affected states. Member states are known as g7+, which is a voluntary association of countries that are or have been affected by conflict. The five goals of the New Deal are:

1. **Legitimate politics:** Foster inclusive political settlements and conflict resolution.

2. **Security:** Establish and strengthen people's security.

3. **Justice:** Address injustices and increase people's access to justice.

4. **Economic Foundations:** Generate employment and improve livelihoods.

5. **Revenues & Services:** Manage revenue and build capacity for accountable and fair service delivery.

Reporting: As of April 2013, an interim list of common indicators has been developed through a consultative process. They are being piloted by interested g7+ countries on a voluntary basis. Their purpose is to help track progress in peacebuilding and statebuilding within a country over time. They are intended to be used by national governments and their international partners, as well as by policy makers, and they offer a baseline for reporting change within a country over time.

Web link:

http://www.newdeal4peace.org/peacebuilding-and-statebuilding-goals/
http://www.pbsbdialogue.org/

Member states: 18 states in Africa, Asia, the Pacific and the Caribbean.

Afghanistan	Côte d'Ivoire	Liberia	South Sudan
Burundi	DR Congo	Papua New Guinea	Timor-Leste
Central African Republic	Guinea	Sierra Leone	Togo
Chad	Guinea-Bissau	Solomon Islands	
Comoros	Haiti	Somalia	

Charter of the Commonwealth

Description: The Charter's aim is to combine the values and aspirations of the Commonwealth, namely democracy, human rights and the rule of law, in a single document. It is intended to express the commitment of member states to the development of free and democratic societies, the promotion of peace and prosperity, and to improve the lives of all the peoples of the Commonwealth. It does so by setting out 16 core beliefs including democracy, human rights, peace and security, access to basic services and gender equality.

Reporting: The Charter does not mention how compliance will be measured or reported on.

Web link:
http://thecommonwealth.org/sites/default/files/page/documents/CharteroftheCommonwealth.pdf

Member states: All 53 members of the Commonwealth.

Antigua and Barbuda	Dominica	Malawi	Rwanda	St Vincent and The Grenadines
Australia	Fiji (suspended)	Maldives	Samoa	Swaziland
Bahamas	Ghana	Malta	Seychelles	Tanzania

Bangladesh	Grenada	Mauritius	Sierra Leone	Tonga
Barbados	Guyana	Mozambique	Singapore	Trinidad and Tobago
Belize	India	Namibia	Solomon Islands	Tuvalu
Botswana	Jamaica	Nauru	South Africa	Uganda
Brunei Darussalam	Kenya	New Zealand	Sri Lanka	United Kingdom
Cameroon	Kiribati	Nigeria	St Kitts and Nevis	Vanuatu
Canada	Lesotho	Pakistan	St Lucia	Zambia
Cyprus	Malaysia	Papua New Guinea		

3. Regional programmes

The following programmes are specific to regions or continents, and apply to governance in general rather than falling into a specific sub-category.

African Union Governance Instruments

Description: The African Union (AU) is a pan-African organisation which supports political and economic integration among its 54 members. Amongst AU's objectives are:

- To accelerate the political and socio-economic integration of the continent.

- To encourage international cooperation, taking due account of the Charter of the United Nations and the Universal Declaration of Human Rights.

- To promote democratic principles and institutions, popular participation and good governance.

- To promote and protect human and peoples' rights in accordance with the African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights and other relevant human rights instruments.

Various instruments under the African Union promote good governance, such as the Economic, Social and Cultural Council, the AU charters, African Peer Review Mechanism, African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and New Deal for Africa's Development. Information on reporting mechanisms for each instrument can be found below.

Member states: AU has 54 members, 4 of which are currently suspended due to a coup d'état or political struggles[1].

Algeria	Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea	Mozambique	South Africa
Angola	DR Congo	Guinea-Bissau (Suspended)	Namibia	South Sudan
Benin	Congo-Brazzaville	Kenya	Niger	Sudan
Botswana	Djibouti	Lesotho	Nigeria	Swaziland

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[1] The four AU members currently suspended are Central African Republic, Egypt, Guinea-Bissau and Madagascar.

Burkina Faso	Egypt (Suspended)	Liberia	Rwanda	Tanzania
Burundi	Equatorial Guinea	Libya	Sahrawi Republic (Western Sahara)	Togo
Cameroon	Eritrea	Madagascar (Suspended)	São Tomé and Príncipe	Tunisia
Cape Verde	Ethiopia	Malawi	Senegal	Uganda
Central African Republic (Suspended)	Gabon	Mali	Seychelles	Zambia
Chad	Gambia	Mauritania	Sierra Leone	Zimbabwe
Comoros	Ghana	Mauritius	Somalia	

African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance

Chapter 6, Article 14 on *Democratic Institutions* stipulates the following:

1. State Parties shall strengthen and institutionalize constitutional civilian control over the armed and security forces to ensure the consolidation of democracy and constitutional order.
2. State Parties shall take legislative and regulatory measures to ensure that those who attempt to remove an elected government through unconstitutional means are dealt with in accordance with the law.
3. State Parties shall cooperate with each other to ensure that those who attempt to remove an elected government through unconstitutional means are dealt with in accordance with the law.

Reporting: The Charter stipulates that "[t]he Commission shall develop benchmarks for implementation of the commitments and principles of this Charter and evaluate compliance by State Parties". No information could be found on whether the benchmarks are already in existence.

The charter does not state how compliance is measured, but it states that:

- "When the Peace and Security Council observes that there has been an unconstitutional change of government in a State Party, and that diplomatic initiatives have failed, it shall suspend the said State Party from the exercise of its right to participate in the activities of the Union."
- "When a situation arises in a State Party that may affect its democratic political institutional arrangements or the legitimate exercise of power, the Peace and Security Council shall exercise its responsibilities in order to maintain the constitutional order."

Web link: http://au.int/

Member states: All 54 AU members.

African Peer Review Mechanism (APRM)

Description: The APRM was established in 2003 by the African Union in the framework of the implementation of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). The objectives of the APRM are primarily to foster the adoption of policies, standards and practices that lead to political stability, high economic growth, sustainable development and accelerated economic integration.

Membership of the APRM is voluntary and open to all member countries of the African Union (AU). Performance and Progress are measured in the following four areas: Democracy and Political Governance, Economic Governance, Corporate Governance and Socio-economic Development.

Reporting: The goal of the APRM is to assist participating countries in implementing the priorities and programmes of the New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD). While all member states strive to reach the same end goals, each one dictates their own timetable and designs their own action plan based on local realities.

Reviews are carried out every two to four. They can also be requested by the member country, or prompted by early signs of impending political or economic crisis in a member state.

Web link: http://aprm-au.org/

Member states: 33 of the AU member states.

Algeria	Djibouti	Kenya	Mozambique	South Africa
Angola	Egypt	Lesotho	Niger	Sudan
Benin	Equatorial Guinea	Liberia	Nigeria	Tanzania
Burkina Faso	Ethiopia	Malawi	Rwanda	Togo
Cameroon	Gabon	Mali	São Tomé and Príncipe	Uganda
Cape Verde	Ghana	Mauritania	Senegal	Zambia
DR Congo	Guinea	Mauritius	Sierra Leone	

New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD)

Description: The New Partnership for Africa's Development (NEPAD is a strategic framework for pan-African socio-economic development. It is led by African leaders to address critical challenges facing the continent: poverty, development and Africa's international marginalisation. Its strategy document emphasises democracy and governance, recognising that past attempts to set out continent-wide development programmes have not succeeded, in part because of questionable leadership and ownership by Africans themselves.

The document declares that African leaders will take joint responsibility for: promoting and protecting democracy and human rights; developing clear standards of accountability, transparency and participatory governance; instituting legal and regulatory frameworks for financial markets and auditing of private companies and the public sector, and; building the capacity of states in Africa to set and enforce the legal framework, among other things.

Reporting: Please refer to APRM (above).

Web link: http://www.nepad.org

Member states: NEPAD was ratified by the 54 members of the AU in 2002.

The Asia Regional Governance Programme (ARGP)

Description: ARGP is UNDP's regional democratic governance programme for Asia-Pacific. It is intended to: increase effectiveness of representative bodies at central and sub-national levels to perform their democratic functions; enhance national poverty reduction goals; increase access to justice by the poor and disadvantaged groups; create transparent, accountable and inclusive state-citizen partnerships for effective service delivery, and; achieve greater and more efficient inter-country development cooperation for furthering regional public goods, managing aid coordination and cross-border externalities and spill-overs.

Reporting: No information could be found.

Web link: http://regionalcentrebangkok.undp.or.th/practices/governance/ARGP.html

Member states: The following 12 countries have endorsed the programme, although its activities cover all of Asia:

Bangladesh	India	Pakistan	Sri Lanka
Cambodia	Maldives	Papua New Guinea	Thailand
China	Nepal	Philippines	Vietnam

The Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS)

Description: ECOWAS is a regional group of fifteen countries, founded in 1975. Its mission is mainly to promote economic integration, but Protocol A/SP1/12/01 on Democracy and Good Governance from 2001 stipulates the following constitutional principles shared by all member states:

a) Separation of powers – the Executive, Legislative and Judiciary.

b) Every accession to power must be made through free, fair and transparent elections.

c) Zero tolerance for power obtained or maintained by unconstitutional means.

d) Popular participation in decision-making, strict adherence to democratic principles and decentralisation of power at all levels of governance.

Reporting: The aforementioned protocol includes the following two measures:

- An Observer/Supervisory Mission is formed before elections in each member state.
- ECOWAS may impose sanctions on a member state where democracy is abruptly brought to an end by any means, or where there are massive violations of human rights.

Aside from this, no information was found on how states comply with and report on the Protocol on Democracy and Good Governance.

Web link: http://www.ecowas.int/

Member states: 15 states in West Africa.

Benin	Gambia	Liberia	Senegal
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Mali	Sierra Leone
Cape Verde	Guinea	Niger	Togo
Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea-Bissau	Nigeria	

Initiative on Good Governance for Development (GfD) in the Arab Countries

Description: The GfD initiative is supported by the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and the Organization of Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD). It was launched by leaders from 18 Arab countries in 2005.

It is intended to tackle three inter-related reform areas – administrative, financial, and judicial – by focusing on the following six themes:

- Civil Service and Integrity
- Role of the Judiciary and Enforcement of Judgments
- E-Government, Administrative Simplification and Regulatory Reform
- Role of the Civil Society and Media in the Reform of the Public Sector
- Governance of Public Finance
- Public Services Delivery and private-public partnership

In 2012, this document talked about the forthcoming Code of Arab Conduct for good governance.

Reporting: The Preparatory Programme Document states that outcomes of the initiative will be measured and monitored through a built-in monitoring system, which would ensure a results-oriented implementation of the programme. A steering committee, composed of Arab governments' representatives, national experts, representatives of donor countries, and the secretariat, will meet twice a year to review progress on the implementation of the objectives of the programme.

Web link: http://www.oecd.org/mena/governance/ and http://csr-dar.org/sites/default/files/UNDP-GfD%20Initiative%20Programme.pdf

Member states: It is not clear which 18 Arab states launched the initiative, or who the current members are. 16 states met to discuss the launch of the initiative in 2004:

Algeria	Jordan	Morocco	Syria
Bahrain	Kuwait	Oman	Tunisia
Egypt	Lebanon	Palestine	UAE
Iraq	Mauritania	Sudan	Yemen

Inter-American Democratic Charter

Description: The Charter was adopted in 2001 by the Organization of American States. It includes statements about democracy and its relation to human rights, development and poverty alleviation. Amongst the objectives of its programs and activities are to promote good governance, sound administration, democratic values, and the strengthening of political institutions and civil society organisations.

Reporting: The Charter does not prescribe regular reporting of member states' compliance. If democratic order in a member state has been compromised, diplomatic initiatives may be undertaken in order to restore democracy. If these fail, the member state can be suspended from the Organization of American States.

Human rights violations can be reported by any person to the inter-American system for the promotion and protection of human rights.

Web link: http://www.oas.org/charter/docs/resolution1_en_p4.htm

Member states: All 35 independent states of the Americas.

Antigua and Barbuda	Chile	El Salvador	Mexico	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines
Argentina	Colombia	Grenada	Nicaragua	Suriname
Barbados	Costa Rica	Guatemala	Panama	Bahamas
Belize	Cuba	Guyana	Paraguay	Trinidad and Tobago
Bolivia	Dominica	Haiti	Peru	USA
Brazil	Dominican Republic	Honduras	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Uruguay
Canada	Ecuador	Jamaica	Saint Lucia	Venezuela

Pacific Plan

Description: The Pacific Plan is a strategy for strengthening regional cooperation and integration in the Pacific. It provides a high-level framework that guides the work of national governments, regional agencies and development partners in support of the aspirations of Forum Member countries. The Plan was endorsed by Forum Leaders at their annual meeting in 2005 and is currently under review (2013).

One pillar of the Pacific Plan is the Political Governance & Security Programme, which is intended to support members to achieve improved regional security and political integrity. Amongst its objectives are: to encourage collective action to respond to security issues; to encourage political stability; to promote good governance, particularly to strengthen participatory democracy, integrity of institutions and legal frameworks, and; to promote human rights.

Reporting: The Pacific Plan 2009-2011 sets out progress activities for each pillar of the plan, key performance indicators and means of verification for each objective. A variety of data is used for measuring progress, ranging from reports by key stakeholders outside government, observation reports and

government data. The plan should be independently reviewed every three years. Its last review was completed in December 2013.

Web link: http://www.pacificplanreview.org/ and http://www.forumsec.org

Member states: 20 countries in the Pacific.

Australia	Kiribati	Palau	Solomon Islands
Cook Islands	Nauru	Papua New Guinea	Tonga
Micronesia	New Zealand	Marshall Islands	Tuvalu
Fiji	Niue	Samoa	Vanuatu

Bali Democracy Forum

Description: The Bali Democracy Forum (BDF), initiated by Indonesia in 2008, is an annual, inclusive and open intergovernmental forum on the development of democracy in the Asia Pacific region. The forum is aimed at fostering dialogue-based regional and international cooperation in the field of peace and democracy through the sharing of experiences and best practices. These should adhere to the principles of equality, mutual respect and understanding. The participating countries share ownership of the forum.

Reporting: No information could be found.

Web link: http://bdf.kemlu.go.id

Member states: 54 states in the Asia Pacific region have participant status:

Afghanistan	Georgia	Kyrgyzstan	Palau	Thailand
Armenia	India	Lao PDR	Palestine	Timor Leste
Australia	Indonesia	Lebanon	Papua New Guinea	Tonga
Azerbaijan	Iran	Malaysia	The Philippines	Turkey
Bahrain	Iraq	Maldives	Qatar	Turkmenistan
Bangladesh	Japan	Mongolia	Russia	United Arab Emirates
Bhutan	Jordan	Myanmar	Saudi Arabia	Uzbekistan
Brunei Darussalam	Kazakhstan	Nepal	Singapore	Vanuatu
Cambodia	Kiribati	New Zealand	Solomon Islands	Viet Nam
China	Rep. of Korea	Oman	Sri Lanka	Yemen
Fiji Islands	Kuwait	Pakistan	Tajikistan	

63 countries outside the Asia Pacific region hold observer status along with the European Commission, the United Nations Secretary General, the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, the ASEAN Secretariat, the ICRC, the Pacific Islands Forum Secretariat, the European Union Representative to Indonesia and Brunei Darussalam, UNDP Regional Offices, UNDP Country Representatives, ADB Indonesia and World Bank Indonesia.

4. Thematic commitments

ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative in Asia and the Pacific

Description: The Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific was launched in 1999 by the governments in the region, under the joint leadership of the Asian Development Bank (ADB) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The initiative's main goal is effective UNCAC[2] implementation in Asia and the Pacific.

Reporting: Four in-depth thematic reviews have been conducted on priority areas of regional concern since 2006. Data was collected from the initiative's materials, and by interviewing various stakeholders, meeting government officials and civil society in selected member states. These reviews make recommendations on region-wide, as well as country-specific, challenges. The initiative also conducts scoping exercises on a voluntary basis, at the request of individual member states.

Additionally, countries provide their own reports on recent anti-corruption efforts and the implementation of each aspect of the Action Plan and the UNCAC, prior to each annual Steering Group meeting.

Web link: http://www.oecd.org/site/adboecdanti-corruptioninitiative/

Member states: 31 states in Asia and the Pacific.

Afghanistan	Fiji Islands	Korea	Pakistan	Solomon Islands
Australia	Hong Kong	Kyrgyz Republic	Palau	Sri Lanka
Bangladesh	India	Macao	Papua New Guinea	Thailand
Bhutan	Indonesia	Malaysia	Philippines	Timor-Leste
Cambodia	Japan	Mongolia	Samoa	Vanuatu
China	Kazakhstan	Nepal	Singapore	Vietnam
Cook Islands				

African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights

Description: The African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights (also known as the Banjul Charter) is an international human rights instrument that is intended to promote and protect human rights and basic freedoms in the African continent.

Oversight and interpretation of the Charter is the task of the African Commission on Human and Peoples' Rights, which was set up in 1987. A protocol on the creation of African Court on Human and Peoples' Rights came into effect in 2005.

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[2] Refer to United Nations Convention against Corruption on page 15-16.

Reporting: Each state party is required to submit a report on the measures taken in order to guarantee the rights and freedoms of the Charter.

A member state may, by written communication, draw attention to violations of the Charter by another member state. The communication should include the Secretary General of the OAU, the Chairman of the Commission, as well as the member state accused of the violations. The member state is required to give a written explanation or statement on the matter within three months, as well as to provide all relevant information to the Commission if requested. The Commission can only deal with such a matter after making sure that all local measures to resolve the issue have been exhausted.

Web link: http://www.achpr.org/instruments/achpr/

Member states: All AU member states except South Sudan.

Algeria	Côte d'Ivoire	Guinea	Mozambique	South Africa
Angola	DR Congo	Guinea-Bissau	Namibia	Sudan
Benin	Congo-Brazzaville	Kenya	Niger	Swaziland
Botswana	Djibouti	Lesotho	Nigeria	Tanzania
Burkina Faso	Egypt	Liberia	Rwanda	Togo
Burundi	Equatorial Guinea	Libya	Sahrawi Republic (Western Sahara)	Tunisia
Cameroon	Eritrea	Madagascar	São Tomé and Príncipe	Uganda
Cape Verde	Ethiopia	Malawi	Senegal	Zambia
Central African Republic	Gabon	Mali	Seychelles	Zimbabwe
Chad	Gambia	Mauritania	Sierra Leone	
Comoros	Ghana	Mauritius	Somalia	

African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration

Description: This African Union Charter is intended to modernise administration and strengthen capacity for the improvement of public services, as well as to encourage citizens and users of public services to actively and effectively participate in public administration processes. Member states commit to, among other things: ensuring principles of equal access and non-discrimination in national legislation; facilitating easy access to adequate services; delivering services closer to users, and; involving all stakeholders, including civil society, in the planning and delivery of services.

Reporting: Each member state is required to submit a biannual report to the Commission on the legislative or other relevant measures taken to implement the principles of the Charter. A copy of the report will be submitted to the relevant organs of the African Union for appropriate action within their respective mandates.

Web link: http://unpan1.un.org/intradoc/groups/public/documents/un-dpadm/unpan044820.pdf

Member states: 26 out 54 members have signed the charter while six have finalised the ratification process as of June 2013[3]. Fifteen ratifications are necessary for its entry into force.

African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC)

Description: The AUCPCC, adopted in 2003, is intended to strengthen mechanisms required to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption and related offences in the public and private sectors. It also aims to facilitate and regulate cooperation among AU member states to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption and related offences on the African continent. Member states' commitments include adopting legislative and other measures that are required to establish corruption offences; establishing, maintaining and strengthening independent national anti-corruption authorities or agencies; and adopting legislative and other measures to create, maintain and strengthen internal accounting, auditing and follow-up systems.

Reporting: The Advisory Board on Corruption within the African Union is required to submit a regular report to the Executive Council on the progress made by each member state in complying with the provisions of this Convention. Each member state is obliged to ensure that national anti-corruption authorities report to the board on an annual basis.

Web link: http://www.africa-union.org/root/au/Documents/Treaties/Text/Convention%20on%20Combating%20Corruption.pdf

Member states: 32 states in Africa (as of August 2010).

Algeria	Gabon	Madagascar	Republic of Congo	Togo
Benin	Gambia	Mali	Rwanda	Uganda
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Malawi	South Africa	Zambia
Burundi	Kenya	Mozambique	Senegal	Zimbabwe
Chad	Libya	Namibia	Seychelles	
Comoros	Lesotho	Nigeria	Sierra Leone	
Ethiopia	Liberia	Nigeria	Tanzania	

Signed but not ratified: 15 states in Africa.

Angola	Djibouti	Guinea-Bissau	Mauritius	Sao Tome and Principe
Cameroon	DR Congo	Guinea	Sahrawi Republic (Western Sahara)	Sudan
Côte d'Ivoire	Equatorial Guinea	Mauritania	Somalia	Swaziland

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[3] Information on which countries have signed or ratified the charter was not found.

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI)

Description: The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative (EITI) is a global coalition of governments, companies and civil society working together to improve openness and accountable management of revenues from natural resources. Countries implement the EITI Standard to ensure full disclosure of taxes and other payments made by oil, gas and mining companies to governments. These payments are disclosed to the public in an annual EITI Report.

Reporting: All EITI implementing countries are held to the same global standard. Validation is EITI's quality assurance mechanism, which serves to assess performance of its member states. Its intention is to provide an impartial assessment of whether EITI implementation in a country is consistent with the EITI Standard.

Based on the Validation report, the EITI Board determines whether a country is compliant with the EITI Standard. EITI candidate countries are required to commence Validation within two and a half years, and will become EITI compliant once Validation verifies that a country has met all of the EITI requirements. EITI compliant countries are required to undertake Validation every three years.

Web link: http://eiti.org/

Member states: 23 states are compliant with the initiative, 13 states hold the status of a candidate while four countries have been suspended.

Compliant	Candidate	Suspended
Albania	Afghanistan	Central African Republic
Azerbaijan	Chad	DR Congo
Burkina Faso	Guatemala	Madagascar
Cameroon	Guinea	Sierra Leone
Côte d'Ivoire	Honduras	
Ghana	Indonesia	
Iraq	São Tomé and Príncipe	
Kazakhstan	Senegal	
Kyrgyz Republic	Solomon Islands	
Liberia	Tajikistan	
Mali	Philippines	
Mauritania	Trinidad and Tobago	
Mongolia	Ukraine	
Mozambique		
Niger		
Norway		
Peru		
Republic of the Congo		
Tanzania		
Timor-Leste		
Togo		
Yemen		
Zambia		

Group of States against Corruption (GRECO)

Description: The Group of States against Corruption (GRECO) was established in 1999 by the Council of Europe to monitor States' compliance with the organisation's anti-corruption standards. GRECO's objective is to improve the capacity of its members to fight corruption by monitoring their compliance with Council of Europe anti-corruption standards through a dynamic process of mutual evaluation and peer pressure. It aims to identify deficiencies in national anti-corruption policies, prompting the necessary legislative, institutional and practical reforms.

Reporting: Evaluations are carried out every five years. Evaluation procedures involve the collection of information through questionnaires and discussions with domestic stakeholders. Evaluation reports contain recommendations on how to improve the state's level of compliance with the provisions under consideration. Measures taken to implement recommendations are subsequently assessed by GRECO under a separate compliance procedure.

Web link: http://www.coe.int/t/dghl/monitoring/greco/default_en.asp

Member states: Currently, GRECO comprises 49 member States (48 European States and the USA).

Albania	Cyprus	Iceland	Montenegro	Slovenia
Andorra	Czech Republic	Ireland	Netherlands	Spain
Armenia	Denmark	Italy	Norway	Sweden
Austria	Estonia	Latvia	Poland	Switzerland
Azerbaijan	Finland	Liechtenstein	Portugal	Macedonia (FYROM)
Belarus	France	Lithuania	Romania	Turkey
Belgium	Georgia	Luxembourg	Russia	Ukraine
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Germany	Malta	San Marino	United Kingdom
Bulgaria	Greece	Moldova	Serbia	USA
Croatia	Hungary	Monaco	Slovak Republic	

Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review (UPR)

Description: The Universal Periodic Review (UPR) involves a review of the human rights records of all UN Member States. It is a state-driven process, under the auspices of the Human Rights Council, which provides the opportunity for each State to declare what actions they have taken to improve the human rights situations in their countries and to fulfil their human rights obligations. The UPR was created through the UN General Assembly in 2006, which established the Human Rights Council itself. It is a cooperative process which, by October 2011, has reviewed the human rights records of all 193 UN Member States.

Reporting: Reviews take place through an interactive discussion between the state under review and other UN member states. During this discussion any UN member state can pose questions, comments and/or make recommendations to the state under review. The reviews are based on information provided by the state under review, information contained in the reports of independent human rights experts and groups and information from other stakeholders, including national human rights institutions and NGOs.

Web link: http://www.ohchr.org/EN/HRBodies/Upr/Pages/UPRMain.aspx

Member states: All 193 member states of the UN.

Inter-American Convention against Corruption (IACAC)

Description: The IACAC is intended to strengthen mechanisms required to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption. It also aims to facilitate and regulate cooperation among member states to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption in the performance of public functions and acts of corruption specifically related to such performance. In 2002, a mechanism which evaluates the fulfilment of the Convention was put in place.

Reporting: The Convention does not contain information on reporting mechanisms. Any of the member states can denounce the Convention with one year's notice.

Web link: http://www.oas.org/juridico/english/treaties/b-58.html

Member states: 33 states in the Americas.

Argentina	Chile	Grenada	Nicaragua	Suriname
Antigua & Barbuda	Colombia	Guatemala	Panama	Trinidag & Tobago
Bahamas	Costa Rica	Guyana	Paraguay	USA
Belize	Dominica	Haiti	Peru	Uruguay
Bolivia	Dominican Republic	Honduras	St. Kitts & Nevis	Venezuela
Brazil	Ecuador	Jamaica	St. Lucia	
Canada	El Salvador	Mexico	St. Vincent & Grenadines	

Additionally, Barbados has signed the treaty but has not ratified it.

International Criminal Court (ICC)

Description: The International Criminal Court (ICC), governed by the Rome Statute, is the first permanent, treaty based, international criminal court established to help end impunity for the perpetrators of the most serious crimes of concern to the international community. The Rome Statute came into force in 2002. It established four core international crimes: genocide, crimes against humanity, war crimes and the crime of aggression.

Reporting: Member states commit to have the ICC investigate the aforementioned crimes in situations where they are "unable" or "unwilling" to do so themselves.

The Court can initiative investigation if a member state is considered unwilling to investigate or prosecute an individual. Examples would be if a member state is shielding the person concerned from criminal responsibility for their crimes, if there has been an unjustified delay in the proceedings or if the proceedings are not being conducted independently or impartially. A member state is considered to be unable to investigate or prosecute if its national judicial system has totally or substantially collapsed, or if the state is unable to obtain the accused or the necessary evidence and testimony, among other things.

Web link: http://www.icc-cpi.int

Member states: 122 countries are States Parties to the Rome Statute of the International Criminal Court. Out of them 34 are African States, 18 are Asia-Pacific States, 18 are from Eastern Europe, 27 are from Latin American and Caribbean States, and 25 are from Western European and other States.

Afghanistan	Colombia	Grenada	Mexico	Serbia
Albania	Comoros	Guatemala	Mongolia	Seychelles
Andorra	Congo	Guinea	Montenegro	Sierra Leone
Antigua and Barbuda	Cook Islands	Guyana	Namibia	Slovakia
Argentina	Costa Rica	Honduras	Nauru	Slovenia
Australia	Côte d'Ivoire	Hungary	Netherlands	South Africa
Austria	Croatia	Iceland	New Zealand	Spain
Bangladesh	Cyprus	Ireland	Niger	Suriname
Barbados	Czech Republic	Italy	Nigeria	Sweden
Belgium	DR Congo	Japan	Norway	Switzerland
Belize	Denmark	Jordan	Panama	Tajikistan
Benin	Djibouti	Kenya	Paraguay	Macedonia (FYROM)
Bolivia	Dominica	Latvia	Peru	Timor-Leste
Bosnia and Herzegovina	Dominican Rep.	Lesotho	Philippines	Trinidad and Tobago
Botswana	Ecuador	Liberia	Poland	Tunisia
Brazil	Estonia	Liechtenstein	Portugal	Uganda
Bulgaria	Fiji	Lithuania	Korea	United Kingdom
Burkina Faso	Finland	Luxembourg	Moldova	Tanzania
Burundi	France	Madagascar	Romania	Uruguay
Cambodia	Gabon	Malawi	Saint Kitts and Nevis	Vanuatu
Canada	Gambia	Maldives	Saint Lucia	Venezuela
Cape Verde	Georgia	Mali	Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	Zambia
Central African Republic	Germany	Malta	Samoa	
Chad	Ghana	Marshall Islands	San Marino	
Chile	Greece	Mauritius	Senegal	

OECD Anti-Bribery Convention

Description: This convention aims at reducing corruption in developing countries by encouraging sanctions against bribery in international business transactions carried out by companies based in the Convention member countries. It establishes legally binding standards to criminalise the bribery of foreign public officials in international business transactions and provides for a host of related measures that make this effective. It is the first and only international anti-corruption instrument focused on the 'supply side' of the bribery transaction. The Convention first came into force in 1999, but has since been revised.

Reporting: The Convention utilises a peer-driven monitoring mechanism to oversee compliance. Monitoring is carried out by the OECD Working Group on Bribery, which is composed of participants from all member states.

The monitoring mechanism is intended to evaluate the adequacy of the member state's legislation to implement the Convention, whether it is applying this legislation effectively and lastly whether the Convention, the 2009 Anti-Bribery Recommendation, as well as outstanding recommendations from an earlier monitoring phase, are being enforced.

Web link: http://www.oecd.org/corruption/oecdantibriberyconvention.htm

Member States: 40 states. The 34 OECD member countries and six non-member countries – Argentina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Colombia, Russia, and South Africa – have adopted this Convention.

Argentina	Colombia	Hungary	Mexico	Slovenia
Australia	Czech Republic	Iceland	Netherlands	South Africa
Austria	Denmark	Ireland	New Zealand	Spain
Belgium	Estonia	Israel	Norway	Sweden
Brazil	Finland	Italy	Poland	Switzerland
Bulgaria	France	Japan	Portugal	Turkey
Canada	Germany	Korea	Russia	United Kingdom
Chile	Greece	Luxembourg	Slovak Republic	USA

UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)

Description: The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) is a legally binding international anti-corruption instrument. The convention entered into force in December 2005. As of August 2013, 167 countries have become parties to the UNCAC. UNCAC embodies a comprehensive approach to corruption, recognising the importance of both preventive and punitive measures. Among other things, it requires member states to develop and implement coordinated anti-corruption policies, to apply codes of conduct for proper performance of public functions, and to establishing systems to facilitate reporting of acts of corruption to appropriate authorities.

Reporting: A review on each member state's progress on implementation is conducted every four years. Data is collected via a comprehensive self-assessment checklist. The guiding principles of the review mechanism state that it shall not serve as an instrument for interfering in the domestic affairs of state parties but shall respect the principles of equality and sovereignty of state parties. Country review reports are confidential unless the state in question decides to publish their own review report.

Web link: http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/CAC/

Member states: 140 signatories, 168 parties:

Afghanistan	Cook Islands	Indonesia	Mongolia	Singapore
Albania	Costa Rica	Iran	Montenegro	Slovakia
Algeria	Côte d'Ivoire	Iraq	Morocco	Slovenia
Angola	Croatia	Ireland	Mozambique	Solomon Islands
Antigua & Barbuda	Cuba	Israel	Myanmar	South Africa
Argentina	Cyprus	Italy	Namibia	Spain
Armenia	Czech Republic	Jamaica	Nauru	Sri Lanka
Australia	DR Congo	Japan	Nepal	Sudan
Austria	Denmark	Jordan	Netherlands	Swaziland
Azerbaijan	Djibouti	Kazakhstan	New Zealand	Sweden
Bahamas	Dominica	Kenya	Nicaragua	Switzerland
Bahrain	Dominican Rep.	Kiribati	Niger	Syrian Arab Republic
Bangladesh	Ecuador	Kuwait	Nigeria	Tajikistan
Barbados	Egypt	Kyrgyzstan	Norway	Thailand
Belarus	El Salvador	Laos	Pakistan	Macedonia (FYROM)
Belgium	Estonia	Latvia	Palau	Timor-Leste
Benin	Ethiopia	Lebanon	Panama	Togo
Botswana	European Union	Lesotho	Papua New Guinea	Trinidad & Tobago
Bhutan	Fiji	Liberia	Paraguay	Tunisia
Bolivia	Finland	Libya	Peru	Turkey
Bosnia & Herzegovina	France	Liechtenstein	Philippines	Turkmenistan
Brazil	Gabon	Lithuania	Poland	Uganda
Brunei Darussalam	Georgia	Luxembourg	Portugal	Ukraine
Bulgaria	Germany	Madagascar	Qatar	UAE
Burkina Faso	Ghana	Malawi	Republic of Korea	United Kingdom
Burundi	Greece	Malaysia	Romania	Tanzania
Cambodia	Guatemala	Maldives	Russia	USA
Cameroon	Guinea	Mali	Rwanda	Uruguay
Canada	Guinea-Bissau	Malta	Saint Lucia	Uzbekistan
Cape Verde	Guyana	Marshall Islands	Sao Tome & Principe	Vanuatu
Central African Rep.	Haiti	Mauritania	Saudi Arabia	Venezuela
Chile	Honduras	Mauritius	Senegal	Viet Nam
China	Hungary	Mexico	Serbia	Yemen
Colombia	Iceland	Micronesia	Seychelles	Zambia
Comoros	India	Moldova	Sierra Leone	Zimbabwe
Rep. of Congo				

Signed but not ratified:

Barbados	Czech Republic	Japan	Sudan
Bhutan	Germany	New Zealand	Syrian Arab Republic

UNECA's Regional Anti-Corruption Programme for Africa

Description: Established by the Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC) of the United Nations (UN) in 1958 as one of the UN's five regional commissions, ECA's mandate is to promote the economic and social development of its member States, foster intra-regional integration, and promote international cooperation for Africa's development. One of its seven thematic focus areas is governance. Underscoring the importance of accountable, inclusive and effective public administration in the process of development, ECA works in the areas of illicit financial flows, anti-corruption, public financial management and efficient public sector practices for better service delivery. Among its initiatives is the Regional Anti-Corruption Programme for Africa, which was established in 2011 and undertaken in collaboration with the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption. The programme aims to facilitate the elaboration and implementation of United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC).

Reporting: Evaluation and monitoring is mainly aimed at establishing how people perceive the programme and how its activities can be improved, rather than seeking to evaluate the progress that countries have made in terms of reaching specific governance goals.

Web link: http://www.uneca.org

Member states: 51 countries in Africa.

Algeria	Djibouti	Guinea-Bissau	Morocco	Somalia
Angola	DR Congo	Kenya	Mozambique	South Africa
Benin	Egypt	Lesotho	Namibia	Sudan
Botswana	Equatorial Guinea	Liberia	Niger	Swaziland
Burkina Faso	Eritrea	Libya	Nigeria	Tanzania
Burundi	Ethiopia	Madagascar	Rwanda	Togo
Cameroon	Gabon	Malawi	Sao Tomé and Principe	Tunisia
Cape Verde	Gambia	Mali	Senegal	Uganda
Chad	Ghana	Mauritania	Seychelles	Zambia
Comoros	Guinea	Mauritius	Sierra Leone	Zimbabwe
Côte d'Ivoire				

Expert contributors

Aled Williams, Senior Advisor at U4 Anti-Corruption Resource Centre
Maya Forstater, Editor at Open Government Guide
Vanessa Herringshaw, Director at Transparency and Accountability Initiative

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5. Appendix I: Table of commitments

Please note that that in the table below, initiatives are loosely grouped under the headings provided by DFID unless they have many unrelated focus areas, in which case they are grouped under the General Governance heading. However, since often initiatives cut across different groupings, additional detail is provided on some of their specific themes.

Commitment	Themes	Geographical scope	No. of countries signed up
GENERAL GOVERNANCE INITIATIVES			
African Peer Review Mechanism	Democracy and political governance Economic governance Corporate governance Socio-economic development	Regional - Africa	33
Bali Democracy Forum	Democratic development Security	Regional – Asia Pacific	54
The Commonwealth Charter	Democratic development Human rights Rule of law	International	53
Economic Community of West African States	Separation of powers Decentralisation of power Democratic development Citizen participation	Sub-regional – West Africa	15
Initiative on Good Governance for Development (GfD) in the Arab Countries	Citizen participation Justice State capacity and effectiveness (for service delivery) Governance of finances	Regional – Arab region	18
New Partnership for Africa's Development	Human rights Accountability	Regional - Africa	54 (out of which 4 are suspended)

	Transparency Citizen participation State capacity and effectiveness Rule of law		
New Deal	State capacity and effectiveness (for service delivery) Political rights Security Justice	International	18
Pacific Plan	Security and political stability Citizen participation Human rights Institutional integrity Rule of law	Regional - Pacific	20
Open Government Partnership (OGP)	Transparency Citizen participation State capacity and effectiveness (for service delivery) Political rights	International	62
STATE CAPACITY AND EFFECTIVENESS			
African Charter on the Values and Principles of Public Service and Administration	State capacity and effectiveness (for service delivery)	Regional - Africa	6 (needs 15 to come into effect)
ANTI-CORRUPTION			
ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative in Asia and the Pacific	Anti-corruption	Regional – Asia and the Pacific	31
African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption	Anti-corruption	Regional - Africa	32

Group of States against Corruption	Anti-corruption	International	49
Inter-American Convention against Corruption	Anti-corruption	Regional - Americas	33
OECD Anti-Bribery Convention	Anti-corruption	International	40
UN Convention against Corruption	Anti-corruption	International	140
UNECA's Regional Anti-Corruption Programme for Africa	Anti-corruption Public financial management State capacity and effectiveness (for service delivery)	Regional - Africa	51
POLITICAL RIGHTS AND FREEDOMS AND ACCOUNTABILITY			
African Charter on Democracy, Elections and Governance	Unconstitutional removal of government	Regional - Africa	54 (out of which 4 are suspended)
African Charter on Human and Peoples' Rights	Human rights	Regional - Africa	53
African Union	Good governance Citizen participation Political rights	Regional - Africa	54 (out of which 4 are suspended)
Human Rights Council's Universal Periodic Review	Human rights	International	193
Inter-American Democratic Charter	Democratic development Strengthening political institutions and civil society Human rights	Regional - Americas	35
OPENNESS, TRANSPARENCY AND ICTS			
Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative	Transparency Accountability	International	23 (in addition, 13 candidates and 4 suspended)
JUSTICE AND RULE OF LAW			

International Criminal Court	Justice	International	122
PARTICIPATION AND ENGAGEMENT			
Asia Regional Governance Programme	Citizen participation Service delivery Democratic development	Regional - Asia	12