

Anti-Corruption Agenda 2.0: Leveraging public and private sector engagement to combat grand corruption

Background

There is a renewed international focus on combating grand corruption. In particular, momentum is building for new accountability and enforcement mechanisms to build more integrity in the public sector. On June 3, the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime launched the GlobE Network to strengthen international cooperation in anti-corruption efforts, and the G7 Ministers indicated that they will address corruption at the next Ministerial meeting in September 2021. U.S. President Biden announced the same week that the U.S. would make combating corruption a core national security priority, and the U.S. also established a bipartisan Caucus against Foreign Corruption and Kleptocracy. Furthermore, over 100 influential leaders signed a Declaration calling for the creation of an International Anti-Corruption Court.

Honest businesses are key stakeholders in the fight against corruption. Corruption prevents ethical multinational corporations from competing for contracts with competitors that are willing to pay bribes. Honest businesses are at a disadvantage and would benefit greatly from a more level playing field that strengthened anti-corruption laws would bring.

It is essential that governments, civil society, and the private sector harness this renewed interest in combating corruption and strengthening good governance to move multilateral engagement forward.

Discussion

This session is hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce, the institutional representative of 45 million businesses and the only private sector entity with a Permanent Observer status with the UN General Assembly, in collaboration with Integrity Initiatives International, a Boston-based international NGO focused on combating grand corruption by strengthening the enforcement of criminal laws against corrupt leaders and their enablers. Participants will discuss the evolving role of multilateral engagement in the fight against corruption, anti-corruption enforcement, and new opportunities to create a level playing field.

Meeting Objectives

1. To promote understanding of the gaps in existing anti-corruption frameworks and the need to strengthen enforcement.
2. To explore the benefits of stronger accountability mechanisms for honest businesses.
3. To consider new ways in which the private sector can lead the fight against corruption.

UN High-Level Political Forum Virtual Side Event on Public-Private Action to Combat Corruption

12 July | 7:30 – 9:00 AM EST

Welcome:

- Ms. **Maria Fernanda Garza**, First Vice Chair, International Chamber of Commerce
- Ms. **Elaine Dezenski**, Vice-Chair, Integrity Initiatives International

Session I. UNGASS against Corruption – Outcomes (25 minutes)

Participants will share their reactions to the recent UNGASS against Corruption, held June 2-4, 2021. What new mechanisms emerged if any to leverage public and private sector engagement in combating grand corruption? How should the role of multilateral organizations evolve?

Panelists:

- **Moderator:** Ms. **Viviane Schiavi**, Deputy Director of Anti-Corruption and CSR Policy, ICC
- Mr. **Mathias Huter**, Managing Director, the UNCAC Coalition
- Ms. **Gillian Dell**, Head of Conventions Unit, Transparency International
- Ms. **Serena Ibrahim**, Founder, Youth Against Corruption

Session II: Anti-Corruption 2.0: How do we work collectively to combat grand corruption and create a true level playing field? (55 minutes)

Discussion leaders will comment on specific efforts underway across the spectrum of global and regional anti-corruption efforts in civil society, business, and government. How can we work towards expanded enforcement of anti-corruption laws, regulations, and policies? What new mechanisms are needed?

- **Moderator:** Mr. **Chip Cottrell**, Director, Holland & Knight LLP; Member of the Board of Directors, Integrity Initiatives International
- Mr. **Nicola Bonucci**, Partner – Global Trade and Investigations & White-Collar Defense Practices, Paul Hastings
- Mr. **Fernando Iglesias**, Member of the Chamber of Deputies of Argentina
- Mr. **Carlos Santiso**, Director of the Digital Innovation in Government Directorate, Development Bank of Latin America
- Dr. **Anita Schieffer**, Chief Compliance Officer, Siemens Energy

Conclusions (10 minutes):

- Dr. **Claudia Escobar**, former Magistrate of the Court of Appeals of Guatemala; Member of the Board of Directors, Integrity Initiatives International
- Mr. **Denis Simonneau**, Senior Vice President for International Relations, L’Oreal