Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities Virtual Plenary Meeting
20 April 2021
Public Minutes

◆ **Item 1. Opening remarks by the NCPA Presidency**

Mr. Dragan Sikimić, Director of the Agency for Prevention of Corruption (APC) and 2021 NCPA President, opened the Network's virtual plenary meeting. He took the opportunity to highlight the major achievements of the first months of 2021 especially when it comes to the implementation of the numerous projects currently being implemented. He also pointed out the importance of drafting a paper related to the previous work of the NCPA, in order to try to define the strategic goals for the upcoming period. The fact that NCPA already has members from all around the world makes it pretty unique when it comes to this kind of networking in the area of corruption prevention. Finally, the NCPA LinkedIn page, initially set up by French colleagues, also greatly contributes to enhancing NCPA visibility at the global level.

After the respective remarks, Mr. Dragan Sikimić gave the floor to the President of the Italian National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANAC) Mr. Giuseppe Busia who presented Italian activities related to the G20 anti-corruption working group under the Italian Presidency, which was held from 29 March to 1 April. The ANAC President highlighted that this group was considered as a premier forum for shaping anti-corruption policies at a global level and one of the G20's most dynamic work-streams. He indicated that more information could be found on https://www.g20.org, and gave a brief overview of the National Public Procurement Database.

• **Item 2. Updates and newness**

The NCPA Presidency shared updates on a new member of the NCPA, the Commission for Anti-Corruption and Illegal Assets Forfeiture of Bulgaria as well as information on NCPA participation in the Advisory Board of DATACROS II. The NCPA Presidency also reminded on the rule of the election of members following the 30th accession to the NCPA. There is a need to amend the Charter as to enable an alternative way of election of Steering Committee members other than secret ballot, taking into account pandemic related circumstances and the fact that not all members of the NCPA would be able to attend live session even if it would have been organized.

◆ **Item 3. Results and latest developments of ongoing projects**

Participants presented the results and latest developments of ongoing projects

Italy
Using modern tools and technologies to prevent and detect corruption
They shared information that they were still working on this project, now they have a new graphic design display. In that regard, they will ask members to provide inputs for the new version of the document.

France
Global mapping of anti-corruption authorities
The project Global mapping of anti-corruption authorities is considered concluded, as the global directory is finalized and approved and it will be disseminated to all NCPA members shortly.

Guidance on facilitation payments
The document will be translated into many languages and later it will be published on different platforms of the NCPA.

Key success factors in anti-corruption training
This project was temporarily suspended due to other projects but the work on it is to resume soon. France will provide more information for the next plenary.

Corruption risk mapping
Currently, France is working on a countrywide corruption risk mapping and thanked NCPA members that provided inputs on this subject.

Serbia
Asset declarations
A questionnaire on asset declarations has been fulfilled by 10 members. Deadline was extended as to gather more information on the various asset disclosure systems implemented in different regions of the world. More information will be provided at the next plenary meeting.

Albania
Transparency in the legislative process and citizens incentives for integrity
A presentation was shared on good practices regarding public consultation in the legislative process and the development of citizens' incentives for integrity. Albania informed that the Ministry of Justice with the support of OSCE drafted the Methodology for corruption proofing in legislation. Albania also informed that Ministry of Justice was the first central institution having the Integrity Plan in Albania. This preventive instrument will be introduced in all other ministries this year.
APC added that in the terms of Integrity Plans Serbia has a 10-year experience in this area as well as e.g. colleagues from Montenegro. In addition, corruption proofing in legislation is the new competence of the APC as of September last year. The APC has just drafted the Methodology for corruption proofing and it

will be very useful to discuss this topic with the colleagues from Albania and also with all others NCPA members who have competencies in this area.

North Macedonia
Whistleblowing
No representatives at the meeting.

Estonia and Tunisia
Transparency in the business sector
Information to be provided at a later stage.

Morocco

Impacts of national anti-corruption strategies and corruption risk assessment methodology
Morocco is in the stage of results clarification, next month the document will be translated into French and English and it is expected to be published in the third quarter of this year. Regarding anti-corruption policies, Morocco informed that these policies were partially implemented. In addition, Morocco representative presented evaluation conducted in order to improve the anti-corruption policy.

Slovak Republic
Public integrity
Slovak Republic shared updates on activities conducted since the last plenary meeting, i.e. several rounds of online consultations with OECD in order to prepare the first chapters of the Integrity review of the Slovak Republic. Furthermore, Slovak Republic informed about another round of virtual fact finding missions between OECD and other governmental institutions, including other stakeholders such as NGOs dealing with anti-corruption issues or representatives of the public sector.

Palestinian Authority
The role of media in corruption prevention and detection efforts
Regarding the project stage, Palestine informed that some of the members had already provided their final submissions. The previous deadline has been extended in order to increase the number of participants in this initiative. In the meanwhile, Palestine will work on compiling all the contributions received.

Ecuador
Information exchange sessions on the prevention mandate of members
In the first phase of the project, a questionnaire was shared with the NCPA members. Ecuador gathered relevant information for cooperation opportunities in exchanging experiences and promoting learning activities. An exchange session will be organized as of the second half of the year. This project will complement the results of the AFA Global mapping of anti-corruption authorities, focusing on how to enhance general cooperation.

Romania

Challenges and good practices identified in the monitoring process of the implementation of national anti-corruption strategies

Romania informed about the preparation of the first draft of the discussion paper based on experience in the field of prevention of corruption as well as information that some members provided for this project. First draft will be shared for suggestions and comments. Romania also invited members who had not submitted information to do that so that everything can be compiled in one document.

APC informed about the information related to the previous strategic documents which have already been sent as well as about its new competence related to the monitoring of the implementation of the Action Plan for Chapter 23 within the EU negotiating process. The first report on monitoring of this strategic document has been finalized and submitted to the National Assembly in March 2021. Additional input on this will be provided for Romanian project.

DATACROS II project

Representative of the project informed about finalization of the research report drafted with other partners on the project. This report will be shared with members by the end of the month. It will be publicly available in May. Representative of the project also shared information on joint application with the NCPA as to become a member of the Advisory board to Project DATACROS II.

◆ **Item 4. Proposals for new projects and initiatives**

Basel Institute on Governance shared a short presentation on how to engage the private sector into national anti-corruption strategies of the NCPA members. AFA added that enhancing Collective Action was an important and priority goal and that conclusions of the global mapping of anti-corruption authorities indicated that compliance standards in the private sector were not mandatory in all countries, which could mean that anti-corruption standards were not widespread in the private sector. Basel Institute on Governance stated that at this moment there was a lack of relations between public authorities and companies. Consultation with the private sector and the public is a good thing but it is not common everywhere. The consultation process on legislation and other matters has to be formalized, with feedback, more transparency, etc. They pointed out that there was no coherent approach and that's why the Collective Action could bridge that gap.

◆ **Item 5. Closing remarks of the NCPA Presidency and participants**

Ecuador stressed the significance of establishing best practices in the areas of importance such as public procurement. They stated that based on the conducted project where 11 NCPA members participated, the conclusion was that every institution was unique in its work and competencies. The upcoming activity on expert exchange sessions which will be implemented through cooperation with the agencies which have experience in specific areas can contribute to establishing the best practices.

Morocco shared information that they would send a contribution translated into English for the Palestinian project very soon and Brazil indicated their interest in taking part in NCPA projects.

The NCPA Presidency concluded the first plenary meeting of 2021, thanking all participants for their valuable contributions.