

Brief summary of the **meeting n.2** of the
Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities
(held in June 2019 in Strasbourg)¹

Agenda:

Points of discussion
1. Discussion on and adoption of technical guidelines on Codes of conduct
2. Discussion on technical guidelines for Transparency
3. Initial results of ongoing projects: <ul style="list-style-type: none">a. Mapping of anti-corruption agencies internationallyb. Small Facilitation Paymentsc. Perception of Corruption in relation to Prevention of Corruption
4. Strategic interest and possibilities to associate affiliates, partners, observers to support the mandate of the Network
5. Website of the Network: structure and calendar
Additional points of discussion and going forward

On the discussion of the specific points in the agenda:

1. Discussion on and adoption of technical guidelines on Codes of conduct

Members commended the good work in preparing the draft of the recommendations. The specific feedbacks were the following:

I. More and deeper discussion and presentation shall be done concerning the “Substantive Provisions contained in Codes of Conduct”, namely:

1. Due regard of the law
2. Integrity
3. Impartiality
4. Confidentiality
5. Honesty
6. Efficiency
7. Effectiveness
8. Serving the public interest
9. Avoidance of conflict of interests

¹ Appreciation goes to the GRECO secretariat for supporting the organization of this meeting.

10. Declaration of assets, financial interests and outside activities
11. Prohibition of bribery
12. Acceptance of gifts and favors
- 13. Pre- and post-public employment restrictions**
14. Duty to report suspicious activities
- 15. Individual and collective accountability**
16. Refraining from seeking personal benefits or abusing powers granted because of the public office
17. Proper use of public resource

- clarification on the difference between monitoring, checking and compliance may be beneficial; more information may be provided on the actual profile of the officers that carry out the monitoring, so to indicate how to improve selection and retention of robust monitoring staff; the part “Tone from the top” is important, should be expanded and become a separate chapter, to be clarified; more example from the Network members are expected.
- Relevant readings: whenever possible, at the end of each chapter or paragraph, or at the end of the paper, there should be a section to collect relevant readings on the subject

2. Discussion on technical guidelines for Transparency:

- I) All members suggested a reshuffling and reorganization of the issues at stake, in the following preliminary manner:
1. Funding of political parties and electoral campaigns (transparency, supervision, sanctions)
 2. The Legislative power (transparency of legislative process, lobbying, assets declarations, integrity rules and conflict of interests)
 3. The Executive power, including persons who are entrusted with top executive functions at national level (or PTEF) (administrative process, but also management of risks, rules of conduct, conflicts of interest, lobbying, asset and interest declarations, oversight, sanctions)
 4. The Judiciary including Prosecutorial authorities (rules of conduct, conflicts of interest, asset declarations, oversight, sanctions)
 5. Specific areas of concern:

<ol style="list-style-type: none"> I. Asset declarations and Conflict of interests II. Public procurement (including concessions and licenses) 	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> III. Law enforcement agencies and their officials (aka LEOs) IV. Administrative process (FOIA+OGP) V. Whistleblowing VI. Health
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- VII. Education
- VIII. Extractives
- IX. Defence and Security
- X. Environment
- XI. Sport

- XII. State-Owned Enterprises
- XIII. Private sector
- XIV. Mass-media ownership
- XV. Local government

- More and better attention should be brought concerning the distinction between proactive and reactive transparency

3. Website of the Network: structure and calendar

A possible structure of the Network website was discussed (see below). In principle, the framework presented was approved, with some modification and addition.

- ABOUT²
 - Structure and Organization of the Network
 - **Members and Stakeholders**
 - How to apply
 - Affiliates (Observers and International Partner Organisations)
- NEWS & EVENTS
 - Network Statements and Communiqués
 - Events
 - Blog
 - Videos
- PROJECTS
 - Technical guide / Codes of conduct
 - Technical guide / Transparency
 - Technical guide / Risk assessment
 - Guidance on small facilitation payments
 - Perception of corruption as a tool to prevent corruption
- REFERENCE DOCUMENTS
 - Key Network Documents
 - Reference Library
 - Reports and Publications

4. Initial results of ongoing projects:

- a. Mapping of anti-corruption agencies internationally
 Members were updated on the progress of the project: the support of OECD and CoE GRECO was secured and the online survey was sent out to 250 contacts worldwide. The results will be later collected and analyzed. A first presentation of the results may take place at a future session of the Network.

² See the example at <https://egmontgroup.org/en>

b. Small Facilitation Payments,

A member identified interesting initiatives on collective actions led by Danish authorities and private sector, specifically in the context of the prevention of corruption in maritime ports. These initiatives, namely the Maritime Action Network (MACN) and The Fight Against Facilitation Payments Initiative (FAFPI), are uniting Danish companies and organizations in the fight against demands for facilitation payments. The Member will now engage with MACN and FAFPI representatives to find out more about these initiatives.

c. Perception of Corruption in relation to Prevention of Corruption.

A member has informed the table that the project is ongoing, with the aim to reconcile perception with the reality, through a better and smarter use of communication towards real anti-corruption achievements. To this end, taking inspiration from some existing example from Member States, the Member will prepare a thematic study based on a brief questionnaire that will be circulated.

5. **Strategic interest and possibilities to associate affiliates, partners, observers to support the mandate of the Network**

The idea of associating partners and observers to the Network was unanimously supported by the Members. Having a large community of supporters will no doubt allow the Network to extend, deepen and elevate its voice and message, and reach more easily and effectively different sectors and levels of societies. This being said, the Network also agreed on the fact that few, probably two, levels of affiliation status, namely:

- I) **Observer:** useful for those agencies, departments or in general State entities as an initial step of association, in view of full membership.
- II) **Partner:** for any other kinds of affiliates (international and regional organizations, think-tanks, universities, NGOs and CSOs) which, although support and work towards to strengthening of the prevention of corruption, given their structure, nature or any other relevant element, will never become a full member of the Network.

6. **Tour de table and other issues**

- a. The next meeting of the Network may take place in a region (tbd)

End of report.