

ضمير الوطن
**Conscience
of the Nation**



Administrative Control Authority (ACA) \ Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA)

13-17 DECEMBER 2021

SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT



**Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration
«The World against Corruption»**

**Proceedings of the Ninth Session of
the Conference of the States Parties to
the United Nations Convention against Corruption**

Center for Research and Studies on Preventing and Combating Corruption (CRSPCC)
Documentary Issue - June, 2022

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Throughout history, Egypt has been an active model of coexistence between different cultures and races; it represented the model destination that embraced all people without distinction.

The political will in Egypt has always worked to provide all forms of support to help in the convergence of views as well as in consolidating ethical values and achieving security, peace, prosperity and development for all peoples.

**ACA chairman in his statement
on 13/12/2021**

13-17 DECEMBER 2021

SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT



9TH
CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
TO THE

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

Your Highnesses and Excellencies,
Ladies and Gentlemen,
Good morning,

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to Sharm El-Sheikh, City of Peace, on the land of our most loved country, Egypt, "Eternal gift of the Nile and homeland of civilization and history." Today, Egypt hosts the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the largest event in the field of preventing and combating corruption worldwide. Throughout its history, Egypt has presented an active model of coexistence

between different cultures and races, acting as the model destination embracing all people without exception. In addition, Egypt's consociation policies have played a decisive role in

resolving many issues, and the political will in Egypt has always worked to provide all forms of support to help in the convergence of views as well as in consolidating ethical values and achieving security, peace, prosperity and development for all peoples.

From the standpoint of our responsibility, we are proud to host anti-corruption experts from the whole world for participating in the most prominent event on the agenda of international events in the field of preventing and combating corruption.

Excellencies,

This conference represents a platform for discussing how we can protect our peoples' future. We hereby declare that we are all determined to change our world to the better, whatever the challenges, for the sake of those for whom we bear responsibility.

Once again, I welcome all of you to Egypt, hoping that our world will become better and more interconnected, and that we will soon achieve our societies' future hopes and aspirations.

I wish you success in all events of the Conference, hoping that its decisions will be up to the great responsibility we all bear, particularly during emergencies and the times of crisis, for providing a decent life for our peoples through achieving justice, development and prosperity.

Thank you.

Throughout its history, Egypt has presented an active model of coexistence between different cultures and races, acting as the model destination embracing all people without exception.

We hereby declare that we are all determined to change our world to the better, whatever the challenges, for the sake of those for whom we bear responsibility.



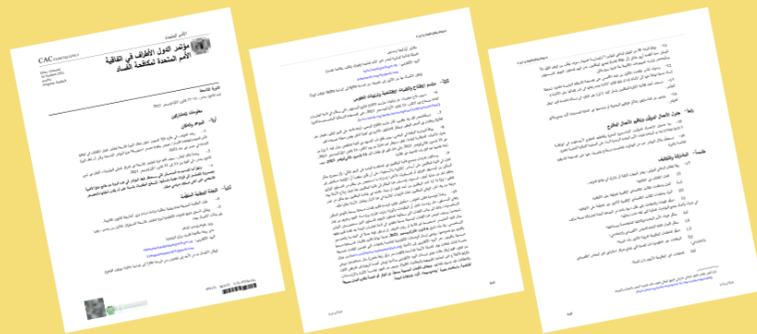
The Message of Staff Major General Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed

Chairman of the Administrative Control
Authority of Egypt

and President of the Ninth Session of the Conference
of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention
against Corruption

On welcoming the delegates of the Conference Held
in Sharm El-Sheikh City during the period
13-17 December, 2021





Information of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption



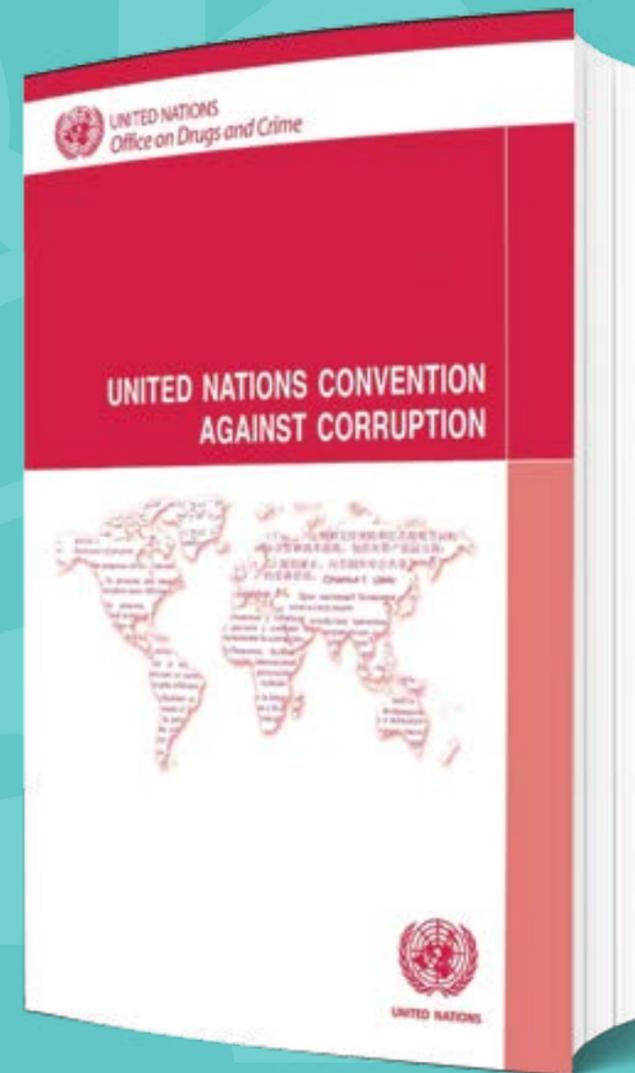
SCAN NOW



The Conference Agenda



SCAN NOW



Learn about the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the global reference for combating corruption, and the cooperation among the world countries in the related fields.

Egypt hosted the events of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption during the period 13-17 December.

For information on the terms of the Convention, you can visit the following link:

https://www.unodc.org/documents/brussels/UN_Convention_Against_Corruption.pdf



SCAN NOW



The Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties Between the Special Session of the General Assembly and Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration



The editorial family of "Dameer Al Watan" Journal would not witness one of the historical situations during one of the most important stages of implementing the United Nations Convention against Corruption without documenting it.

The ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention was held in Sharm El-Sheikh, "City of Peace". This took place after the special session of the General Assembly against corruption, which adopted a political declaration, setting a road map to prevent and combat corruption in the coming years.

[A/RES/S-32/1](#) ^{(1)*}

More than 2,130 representatives from more than 150 countries participated in the ninth session of the conference, which lasted for five days from 13 December 2021 to 17 December 2021. All attended either physically through their delegations or virtually. The conference was held with the participation of the presidents of five states who delivered their speeches through video conference and 50 ministers, 30 of whom attended physically. The conference was also attended by 30 chairmen of anti-corruption bodies, 268 international civil society organizations with consultative status at the United Nations, 257 NGOs and 47 research centers.

By: Deputy Dr. Mohamed Salama
Editor-in-Chief

The agenda of the conference sessions included many important and different events:

- The session was opened and the presidency of the conference was handed over to Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed (Arab + Republic of Egypt), president of the ninth session after Mr. Hareb Saeed Al-Amimi (United Arab Emirates), president of the eighth session, both of whom gave their opening speeches. In addition, the office board was elected; and Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Crime and Drugs (UNODC), made her opening statement.
- The Prime Minister of Egypt, Mostafa Kamal Madbouly, gave an opening speech, in which he described the conference as the most important forum for exchanging best practices to combat corruption. He also affirmed that combating corruption was a central issue that overlapping with all aspects of development and that Egypt made significant efforts to combat corruption.
- The Conference of the States Parties commenced its first to fifth sessions held on December 13 and 14, 2021 in item 1 (f) of the agenda with a proposal under the title "General Discussion" and the discussion was chaired by President of

- the Conference.
- During its seventh and eighth sessions held on December 15, 2021, the Conference considered item 2 of the agenda under the title «Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption».
- During its eighth session held on December 15, 2021, the Conference considered item 3 of the agenda under the title "Technical Assistance". [CAC/COSP/2021/10](#) ⁽²⁾
- During the same eighth session held on December 15, 2021, the Conference adopted a draft resolution entitled "Submission of draft resolutions for consideration by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption" [CAC/COSP/2021/L.11/Rev.1](#) ⁽³⁾
- During the same session, the Conference adopted a draft decision entitled "The Venue of the Tenth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption" [CAC/COSP/2021/L.12](#) ⁽⁴⁾
- During its ninth and tenth sessions held on December 16,



2021, the Conference considered item 4 of the agenda under the title "Prevention".

- During its eleventh and twelfth sessions held on December 16 and 17, 2021, the Conference considered item 5 of the agenda under the title "Asset Recovery" «

[CAC/COSP/2021/13](#) ⁽⁵⁾

- as well as item 6 of the agenda under the title "International Cooperation" [CAC/COSP/2021/16](#) ⁽⁶⁾

- During its twelfth and thirteenth sessions held on December 17, 2021, the Conference considered item no. 7 of the agenda under the title "Follow-up of the outcome of the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and enhance international cooperation."

- During its twelfth session, the Conference also considered item no. 8 of the agenda entitled "Other matters". This item is intended to implement paragraphs 4 (c) and (d) of Article 63 of the Convention on cooperation with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations. It is also concerned with the appropriate use of relevant information prepared by other international and regional mechanisms to combat and prevent corruption to avoid unnecessary work duplication.

The ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption concluded its agenda and the Conference adopted "Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration", in addition to seven other resolutions and an agreement regarding the country to host the tenth session of the World Anti-Corruption Conference. Draft resolutions were issued as follows:

- «Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on Strengthening International Cooperation in the Field of Preventing and Combating Corruption in Times of Emergency and Addressing and Recovering from Crises».

[CAC/COSP/2021/L.3/Rev.1](#) ⁽⁷⁾

Following adoption of the resolution, the representative of Egypt (as a member state of the declaration) expressed his appreciation to the delegations for their efforts in preparing the resolution as

the first of its kind on strengthening international cooperation in combating corruption in all its forms in times of emergency and crises. He pointed out that the resolution embodied the awareness of the international community about the efforts made in this regard, stressing that crises should not impede the corruption prevention efforts. The representative also noted that the General Assembly indicated in its special session the importance of measures to combat corruption and that the resolution was an important addition to those efforts. It encouraged the States parties to share best practices during crises and states of emergency and to improve the tools available to combat corruption and other forms of crime.

Moreover, he indicated that the resolution was the first document to establish international principles in this field, and that it would enhance anti-corruption international cooperation.

"Our common commitment to work effectively to address challenges, implement measures to prevent and combat corruption and enhance international cooperation, and Follow-up of the General Assembly's Special Session on Combating Corruption"

[CAC/COSP/2021/L.4/Rev.1](#) ⁽⁸⁾

- «Follow-up of the Abu Dhabi Declaration on Strengthening Cooperation between the Supreme Audit Institutions and Anti-Corruption Bodies to prevent and combat corruption more effectively, and to use information and communication technologies in this regard.» [CAC/COSP/2021/L.5/Rev.1](#) ⁽⁹⁾

- "Strengthening the Regional Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption" [CAC/COSP/2021/L.6/Rev.1](#) ⁽¹⁰⁾

- "Strengthening international cooperation between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities" [CAC/COSP/2021/L.7/Rev.1](#) ⁽¹¹⁾

- "Follow-up of the Marrakesh Declaration on the Prevention of Corruption" [CAC/COSP/2021/L.8/Rev.1](#) ⁽¹²⁾

- "Promoting the use of beneficial ownership information to facilitate the identification, recovery and return of proceeds of crime." [CAC/COSP/2021/L.9/Rev.1](#) ⁽¹³⁾

- "Strengthening Education, Awareness and Training in Combating Corruption" « [CAC/COSP/2021/L.10/Rev.1](#) ⁽¹⁴⁾

The adoption of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration highlights the increasing risks of corruption, represented in economic expenditure and health relief, and calls for member states to collect best practices and challenges, with the aim of developing guidelines to enhance cooperation to prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption in times of emergency and during response and recovery from crises.

Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, said: "The Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on Combating Corruption in Times of Crisis will guide the impartial recovery from the pandemic, and will help countries be prepared for tomorrow's emergencies." In her closing speech to the conference, she added: "As the year 2021 approaches its end, with all its challenges, and with many important commitments in the fight against corruption that were made during this historic year, let us agree that 2022 will be the year of action. Nobody's behind."

Undoubtedly, the distinguished organizational capabilities of the Egyptian side, in collaboration with the various authorities and institutions, which supported the technical and procedural arrangements represented in the efforts of the staff of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, led to the success of the conference and raised hopes for the implementation of its outputs and draft resolutions. This includes enhancing the capabilities of member states to face corruption and supporting international cooperation among them in the same field, which prompted the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, represented by the editorial family of "Dameer Al Watan" Journal, to document this important and serious event.

(1)* (2)* (3)* (4)* (5)* (6)* (7)*



[A/RES/S-32/1](#) [CAC/COSP/2021/10](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.11/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.12](#) [CAC/COSP/2021/13](#) [CAC/COSP/2021/16](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.3/Rev.1](#)

(8)* (9)* (10)* (11)* (12)* (13)* (14)*



[CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.4/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.5/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.6/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.7/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.8/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.9/Rev.1](#) [CAC/CO-SP/2021/L.10/Rev.1](#)



The Harvest of Twenty Years after Adoption of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption



By:

Ms. Brigitte Strobel-Shaw
Chief of the UNODC
Corruption and Economic
Crime Branch

The dawn of the 21st century coincided with a number of significant developments in the global fight against transnational crime. The adoption of the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime in 2000, which included an article on corruption, prompted the development of another unique instrument dedicated to this particular issue. In its resolution no. 584/ adopted in October 2003, the United Nations General Assembly adopted the Convention against Corruption (the UNCAC), as the result of arduous negotiations undertaken by an Ad Hoc Committee formed for this purpose in 2002 and 2003.

One year after the Convention adoption, the Secretary of the Ad Hoc Committee for the Negotiations of the Convention against Corruption explained the background of the Convention adoption in words that still resonate true



The new United Nations Convention against Corruption has enormous significance. It proves that a destructive practice as old as history can no longer be tolerated. It manifests the realization that the world of the 21st century needs new rules to become a better place for all peoples. It demonstrates that core values, such as respect for the rule of law, probity, accountability, integrity and transparency must be safeguarded and promoted as the bedrock of development for all.

People around the world, in developing and developed countries alike, have become increasingly frustrated at witnessing and suffering from the injustice and the deprivation that corruption brings. On a daily basis, people have faced head-on the effects of corruption on areas such as the administration of justice and the provision of adequate medical care. They have watched with awe and anger the revelations about the luxurious lifestyle and immense fortunes amassed by corrupt leaders, while their people toiled to scrape a living and were denied the most basic of services.

And that anger becomes resignation and cynicism when people discover that the vast fortunes stolen by corrupt leaders cannot be recovered because they have been transferred abroad. To these people, diatribes about good governance, sustainable development, the benefits of a free market and the liberalization of trade ring hollow.

It is there that lies one of the gravest dangers, one of the most serious threats posed by corruption. The loss of confidence in institutions and the de-legitimization of government have destructive consequences that can span generations. The best and brightest will eschew local political and economic life or even flee abroad.

The new Convention offers good reason to look at the future with optimism. It is itself an act of faith. Only

The new United Nations Convention against Corruption has enormous significance. It proves that a destructive practice as old as history can no longer be tolerated. It manifests the realization that the world of the 21st century needs new rules to become a better place for all peoples.

a few years ago, speaking of the possibility of such an instrument, and saying it would be negotiated in such a short time, would have brought ironic smiles to the faces of most people. Yet, it is a reality and a remarkable achievement.

It became a reality because of the vision, determination and commitment that all Governments displayed throughout the negotiation process. And it is a remarkable achievement because it is innovative, balanced, strong and pragmatic. These qualities, together with its universality and functionality, make the new Convention a unique platform for effective action and an essential framework for genuine international cooperation.

To realize this vision, the Convention, which represents the only legally binding universal anti-corruption instrument presents a far-reaching approach for developing a comprehensive response to a global problem.

The Convention covers four key substantive areas in four Chapters (II-V), namely preventive measures, criminalization and law enforcement, international cooperation and asset recovery. It also includes a specific chapter (Chapter VI) on technical assistance and information exchange. It covers many different forms of corruption, such as bribery, trading in influence, abuse of functions and various acts of corruption in the private sector. Being an international instrument, the issues of international cooperation represent key areas covered by the Convention, particularly in the context of achieving international cooperation in recovery of the corruption proceeds (asset recovery) and returning assets to their rightful owners, including countries from which they have been taken illicitly. In less than 20 years, the Convention has achieved universal coverage with 189 States parties as of 31 January 2022.

Governance of the UNCAC
In addition to substantive provisions, which outline

On a daily basis, people have faced head-on the effects of corruption on areas such as the administration of justice and the provision of adequate medical care. They have watched with awe and anger the revelations about the luxurious lifestyle and immense fortunes amassed by corrupt leaders, while their people toiled to scrape a living and were denied the most basic of services.

Be assured that the United Nations Secretariat, and in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, will do whatever it can to support the efforts of States to eliminate the scourge of corruption from the face of the Earth. It is a big challenge, but I think that, together, we can make a difference.

the obligations for the States Parties, for such an international instrument to be effective, it also requires a governance mechanism that focuses on the Convention implementation. For this reason, the General Assembly of the United Nations also established the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention in the same resolution, and requested the Secretary-General to designate the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to serve as the Conference secretariat while working under its direction.

The role and functions of the Conference are clearly defined in Article 63 of the Convention, namely to improve the capacity of and cooperation between the States Parties to realize the objectives set forth in the Convention and to promote and review its implementation. The Conference defines the activities, procedures and methods of work to achieve its objectives, including:

(a) Facilitating activities by the States Parties under Article 60 (Training and technical assistance) and Article 62 (Other measures: implementation of the Convention through economic development and technical assistance) and Chapters II-V (the four substantive areas covered above) of the Convention, including by encouraging the voluntary contributions mobilization;

(b) Facilitating the exchange of information among the States Parties on patterns and trends in corruption and on successful practices for preventing and combating it and for returning the proceeds of crime, through, inter alia, the publication of relevant information;

(c) Cooperating with relevant international and regional organizations and mechanisms and non-governmental organizations;

(d) Making appropriate use of the relevant information produced by other international and regional mechanisms for preventing and combating corruption to avoid unnecessary work duplication;

(e) Reviewing the Convention implementation by the States Parties periodically;

(f) Making recommendations to improve the Convention and its implementation;

(g) Taking note of the technical assistance requirements of the States Parties regarding the Convention implementation and recommending any action deemed necessary in that respect.

The Conference also examines the most effective way of receiving and acting upon information, including, inter alia, information received from the States Parties and the competent international organizations.

After holding its first two sessions annually, the Conference will be held biannually and may hold special sessions as agreed by the Conference in accordance with its rules of procedure which were adopted during its first session.

The Nine Sessions of the Conference (2006/2021-) Given the broad range of responsibilities vested in it, the Conference has had very productive sessions, including nine regular sessions held to date, starting from the first session held in Amman, Jordan (1014-December 2006) through to its ninth session held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt (1317- December 2021). The second session was held in Nusa Dua, Indonesia (28 January - 1 February 2008); while the third session was held in Doha, Qatar (913- November 2009) and the fourth session was held in Marrakech, Morocco (2428-October 2011). The fifth session was held in Panama City, Panama (2529- November 2013); while the sixth session was held in St. Petersburg, the Russian Federation (26- November 2015); the seventh session was held in Vienna (610- November 2017) and the eighth session was held in Abu Dhabi, the United Arab Emirates (1620-December 2019).

Setting up the foundations and governance issues for the Convention

The first session of the Conference was of foundational importance because it started the process of establishing many main parameters for the Conference works in the coming years. During that session, the Conference agreed on some issues, including the importance of establishing an appropriate and effective mechanism for reviewing the Convention implementation and defined the related principles to govern such mechanism. The Conference also established an open-ended intergovernmental



expert workgroup to make recommendations to the Conference during its second session on the mechanisms or bodies appropriate for reviewing the Convention implementation and on their terms of reference.

The Conference also adopted its rules of procedure; and it appealed to the States Parties and invited signatories to the Convention to adapt their legislation and regulations to the Conference provisions.

Later during its fourth session, the Conference adopted resolutions on the participation of signatories, non-signatories and intergovernmental entities and organizations in the work of the Implementation Review Group as well as on non-government organizations and the Convention Implementation Review Mechanism (see below).

The most recent session of the Conference also adopted decisions specifying a deadline for the submission of draft resolutions for consideration by the Conference and on the venue of the tenth session, to be held in the United States of America.

Establishing the Implementation Review Mechanism

The work that started in the first session continued in the second session. The Conference considered the outcome of the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Workgroup regarding the Convention implementation review and elaborated on the principles to govern the Mechanism, which was established at the subsequent third session.

The preparatory work and negotiations undertaken in those years culminated, during the third session of the Conference, in adoption of the Convention Implementation Review Mechanism and its terms of reference. The Conference decided that each phase of the Review Mechanism would be made-up of two review cycles of five years each. It also decided that Chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and Chapter IV (International cooperation) would be reviewed during the first cycle and both Chapter II (Preventive measures) and Chapter V (Asset recovery) would be reviewed during the second cycle. Moreover, the Conference adopted its first resolution on the prevention of corruption; and it established a workgroup on this topic and defined its mandate. The Conference also adopted substantive resolutions on asset recovery and technical assistance.

Once the Implementation Review Mechanism was established, the Conference focused its attention during its fourth session on refining its parameters. It also decided on further parameters for the work of the Implementation Review Group during its fifth session.

During its sixth session, the Conference made crucial decisions regarding continuation of the Convention implementation review by launching the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism and mandating the essential elements of future work for the Implementation Review Group.

During its seventh session, the Conference turned its

attention to enhancing synergies between the relevant multilateral organizations responsible for the related anti-corruption review mechanisms.

During its eighth session, the Conference decided to extend the duration of the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism until June 2024.

Establishing subsidiary bodies

In addition, the first session of the Conference adopted its first resolutions on asset recovery and technical assistance, by which it established the Workgroup on Asset Recovery and an interim open-ended intergovernmental workgroup on technical assistance.

The second session of the Conference also welcomed the reports on the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Workgroup on Asset Recovery (while further defining its mandate) and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Workgroup on Technical Assistance. The Conference also delivered a strong message on the need to strengthen coordination and enhance technical assistance on the Convention implementation.

During its fourth session, the Conference also established the open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings on international cooperation and defined their mandate.

Focusing on specific thematic areas

In addition to the issues related to the Convention governance and implementation monitoring, the Conference has focused on a range of specific thematic issues of importance throughout the years.

During its first two sessions, the Conference adopted resolutions on bribery of the officials of public international organizations.

During its fourth session, the Conference adopted resolutions on the prevention of corruption and international cooperation in asset recovery, with both subjects being further covered in specific resolutions during subsequent Conferences.

The focus of the fifth session of the Conference was on enhancing the effectiveness of law enforcement cooperation regarding the detection of corruption offences in the framework of the Convention. The fifth session also focused on strengthening the implementation of the Convention criminalization provisions, particularly solicitation, facilitating international cooperation in asset recovery, the prevention of corruption, promotion of the young people's and children's contribution to preventing corruption as well as fostering a culture of respect for the law and integrity and the role of the private sector in anti-corruption efforts.

This trend continued during the sixth session, which adopted resolutions on facilitating international cooperation in asset recovery, the return of crime proceeds and fostering effective asset recovery, as well as on enhancing the use of civil and administrative proceedings against corruption, through international cooperation, in the Convention framework, promoting

Asset recovery and the prevention of corruption have been on the agenda from the outset, but the Conference has been taking a more in-depth approach to these issues, through the support of its subsidiary bodies. The focus of the Conference on all thematic areas listed above have led to mandates for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and its partners to collect information, conduct studies and develop guides or provide technical assistance.

public-private partnership in preventing and combating corruption. It also addressed the prevention of corruption, by promoting transparent, accountable and efficient public service delivery through the application of best practices and technological innovations for promoting the use of information and communication technologies for the Convention implementation and enhancing its implementation in Small Island Developing States.

In terms of decision-making, the seventh session of the Conference focused on strengthening mutual legal assistance for achieving international cooperation and asset recovery, promoting technical assistance to support the Convention effective implementation, preventing corruption and enhancing the Convention implementation in Small Island Developing States. The seventh session also paid attention to emerging issues such as the corruption cases involving huge quantities of assets and corruption in sports.

The eighth session of the Conference also focused on some of these themes, including strengthening international cooperation on asset recovery and the administration of frozen, seized and confiscated assets as well as promoting integrity in the public sector among the States Parties, safeguarding sports from corruption and enhancing integrity by raising public awareness. The themes included the implementation of international obligations to prevent and combat bribery as defined under the Convention, the prevention of corruption, strengthening the Convention implementation in Small Island Developing States as well as strengthening asset recovery to support the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The session also considered some new themes, including the need to address the effectiveness of anti-corruption bodies in combating and measuring corruption as well as preventing and combating the corruption crimes that have an impact on the environment and enhancing collaboration between the supreme control institutions and anti-corruption bodies to prevent and combat corruption effectively. The themes also included promoting good practices related to the role of national parliaments and other legislative bodies in preventing and combating corruption in all its forms.

During the ninth session held recently, the Conference followed up the General Assembly's special session against corruption (below) and adopted resolutions on some issues. Those issues included international cooperation in preventing and fighting corruption during the times of emergencies, crisis response and recovery (Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration) as well as collaboration between the supreme control institutions and anti-corruption bodies to more effectively prevent and fight corruption. Other issues included the use of information and communication technologies for the Convention implementation at regional levels as well

While a lot has been achieved during the past 15 years, since the first session of the Conference, much work still lies ahead, topped by implementation of the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly, which in itself includes a wide range of thematic areas, including new and emerging topics.

Next year, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Convention adoption by the General Assembly, the UNODC, which serves as the secretariat to the Conference, will closely study the achievements and challenges of the past 20 years and we will count on the international community in helping us to undertake more work in preventing and combating corruption.

as the international anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation for preventing corruption, the use of beneficial property information to facilitate the identification, recovery and return of crime proceeds and promoting anti-corruption education, awareness raising and training.

Moving forward: a special session of the UN General Assembly against corruption

During its eighth session, the Conference approved, in a draft resolution, which was subsequently adopted by the General Assembly as Resolution No. 74276/, the way ahead in terms of the preparations for holding a special session of the Assembly, which was held in 2021.

The first special session of the General Assembly on the challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, for which the Conference served as the preparatory body, took place during the period 24- June 2021. During that special session, the Assembly adopted the landmark political declaration "Our common commitment to effectively addressing the challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation". The political declaration has provided a solid forward-looking conceptual framework and an innovative set of mandates for the Conference, the States Parties and the international community at large for many years ahead.

During its ninth session held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the Conference carefully considered and decided how to best follow up on the special session and achieve the commitments outlined in the political declaration.

The Road Ahead

It is evident from this brief overview that the Conference has considered a wide range of substantive issues over years and that it has adapted its scope of work to the appearance or emergence of corruption-related issues. Asset recovery and the prevention of corruption have been on the agenda from the outset, but the Conference has been taking a more in-depth approach to these issues, through the support of its subsidiary bodies. The focus of the Conference on all thematic areas listed above have led to mandates for the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and its partners to collect information, conduct studies and develop guides or provide technical assistance. The reports produced by the secretariat in response to these mandates have also created an enormous body of knowledge based on information collected from the States Parties.

While a lot has been achieved during the past 15 years, since the first session of the Conference, much work still lies ahead, topped by implementation of the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly, which in itself includes a wide range of thematic areas, including new and emerging topics.

Next year, as we celebrate the 20th anniversary of the Convention adoption by the General Assembly, the UNODC, which serves as the secretariat to the Conference, will closely study the achievements and challenges of the past 20 years and we will count on the international community in helping us to undertake more work in preventing and combating corruption.

As we approach this landmark occasion, it is important to recall the words of the then-Secretary-General of the United Nations in his foreword to the Convention, which continue to resonate in the current Secretary-General's vision in "Our Common Agenda":

If fully enforced, this new instrument can make a real difference to the quality of life of millions of people around the world. And by removing one of the biggest obstacles to development it can help us achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Be assured that the United Nations Secretariat, and in particular the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, will do whatever it can to support the efforts of States to eliminate the scourge of corruption from the face of the Earth. It is a big challenge, but I think that, together, we can make a difference.



THE FIRST MODEL CONFERENCE OF THE STATE PARTIES (COSP) TO THE UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION (UNCAC) PREPARING FUTURE LEADERS TO COMBAT CORRUPTION



By: Leslie Reed
USAID Mission Director
for Egypt *

The Government of Egypt has made combating corruption a priority, and the U.S. Government, through USAID, is pleased to support this effort through our strong partnership with the Administrative Control Authority (ACA) and the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development. Together, we are working to build more efficient and transparent institutions in Egypt.

As Samantha Power, USAID's Administrator, recently said, "Corruption is basically development in reverse." It harms long-term economic development, frightens away private sector investment, deepens inequality, and even harms the environment. USAID's goal of creating a more inclusive and competitive economy for the benefit of all Egyptians cannot be achieved without eliminating the burden of corruption on the most vulnerable segments. Through our Economic Governance Activity, USAID is supporting ACA to implement Egypt's National Anti-Corruption Strategy and to advance digitalization to make services more efficient and accessible, and to enforce accountability.

Last November, I was delighted to meet the next generation of leaders in the fight against corruption during the First Model Conference of the States Parties (COSP) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The conference was organized

by USAID's Economic Governance Activity in collaboration with the ACA and Cairo University. 140 students from Cairo University participated in the Model Conference, during which students represented different countries and put on the hat of international experts to hold vibrant discussions about anti-corruption. I witnessed how students proposed many thoughtful measures and policies required for building a world free of corruption and how enthusiastic and committed they were to bring about meaningful change.

The USAID, in collaboration with ACA, sponsored 15 students from the Model Conference to participate in the real COSP held in Sharm El-Sheikh. At both conferences, students displayed the best of Egypt's youth: intelligence, dedication, passion and skill. They proved themselves capable of becoming future leaders and drivers of anti-corruption efforts in their country.

Building on the success of this initiative, USAID intends to expand the collaboration with ACA and replicate the Model Conference in other Egyptian universities.

In closing, I wish to thank our Egyptian partners and all the youth who participated in this endeavor; and I look forward to working continuously with them in the years ahead to curb corruption.

- Students and representatives from ACA, Cairo University and the USAID at the closing ceremony of the Model Conference of the States Parties to the UN Convention Against Corruption, November 16, 2021



- Cairo University students in the 9th Session of the Conference of the States Parties (COSP) to the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) meet with U.S. Ambassador Jonathan R. Cohen and USAID Mission Director Leslie Reed in Sharm El-Sheikh December 13-17, 2021



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* Leslie Reed began her tour as USAID Mission Director for Egypt in August 2020, after having served as Mission Director in several other countries. Most recently, she completed a year-long tour as Mission Director in South Sudan. Ms. Reed is a graduate of UCLA School of Law and the University of California, San Diego.



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EACA

**Conscience
of the Nation**



Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration

The World against Corruption

**Proceedings of the Ninth Session of
the Conference of the States Parties to the
United Nations Convention against Corruption**



Raising Flags in Presence of the Prime Minister Egypt takes Presidency of the Conference of the States Parties



Prime Minister, Dr. Mustafa Madbouly witnessed the flag raising ceremony in presence of Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, current President of the Conference and Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority. Minister Hasan Abdelshafi has assumed presidency of the conference after Mr. Hareb Saeed Al-Amimi, former President of the Conference and President of the State Audit Institution in the United Arab Emirates; Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Major General Khaled Fouda, Governor of South Sinai.





Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Elected President of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties



The Chairman of Administrative Control Authority received the “hammer”, a symbolic tool of the conference, from the President of the previous session, Dr. Hareb Said Al-Amimi, Chairman of the State Audit Institution of the United Arab Emirates.

The nomination ceremony was witnessed by Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.



ACA Chairman: Determined to change our world to the better despite challenges

In the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the chairman of the ACA Staff Major General Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed gave a welcoming note to the delegates of the Conference. He stressed that the conference is a platform for sharing inputs on the questions of corruption and the protection of the assets of people. He also pointed out that we are determined to fight corruption despite challenges. In his speech, the chairman of ACA said: Your Highnesses and Excellencies,

Dear Colleagues, May the peace, mercy and blessings of God be upon you!

It gives me great pleasure to welcome all of you to Sharm El-Sheikh, City of Peace, on the land of our most loved country, Egypt, “Eternal gift of the Nile and homeland of civilization and history.”

I would also like to thank you for the confidence you have placed in me by electing me as the President of the Conference at its ninth session. I also like to take this opportunity to thank His Excellency Mr. Hareb Saeed Al Amimi, President of the State Audit Institution of the United Arab Emirates, for significantly guiding us during the preparations for this session of the conference. This conference represents a platform for discussing how we can protect our peoples’ future. We hereby declare that we are all determined to change our world to the better, whatever the challenges, for the sake of those for whom we bear responsibility. Once again, I welcome all of you to Egypt, hoping that our world will become better and more interconnected, and that we will soon achieve our societies’ future hopes and aspirations.





The Prime Minister during the opening session of the conference: Concern for vulnerable groups is a part of fight against corruption

H.E. Prime Minister, Dr. Mostafa Madbouly stressed the importance of dealing with preventing and combating corruption, as it is a pivotal issue that overlaps with all aspects of development. He noted that corruption is not only a local matter but also a cross-border issue. This enforces the need for serious and fruitful cooperation in combating it.

The Prime Minister began his speech by welcoming the heads of delegations of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. He pointed out that corruption constitutes one of the obstacles to achieving sustainable development; it is a multi-dimensional phenomenon that not only undermines growth and prosperity but also impedes the achievement of quality of life. It also leads to high rates of poverty and a lack of confidence in public institutions. In addition, human rights are negatively affected by corruption.

In his statement, H.E. Madbouly welcomed the heads of delegations of the States parties to the UNCAC at COSP9, the forum for sharing experiences and practices to ensure the prevention and combating of corruption.

H.E. remarked that corruption is one of the obstacles impeding sustainable development, as it is a multidimensional phenomenon that undermines growth and prosperity, hinders the achievement of quality of life, leads to high poverty rates and weak confidence in public institutions, besides its adverse impact on human rights. He called for dealing with preventing and combating corruption as a central issue that intersects with all aspects of development, stressing that corruption is not only a local matter, but a global one, which requires serious and effective cooperation.

Egypt's Prime Minister further noted that the Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt 2014 includes articles that commit the Government to fight corruption, and that the Constitution's provisions affirm the full technical, financial, and administrative independence of oversight bodies. The Constitution also obliges the relevant State units to participate in the development of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy to prevent and combat corruption, emphasizing that these commitments are directly reflected in safeguarding development efforts and human rights.

H.E. added that the Government of Egypt adopted a comprehensive national economic reform program in 2016 with the aim of achieving macroeconomic stability, attracting local and international investments, and reducing public debt. These efforts, together with a series of national projects implemented by the state, led to the creation of job opportunities, the improvement of citizens' lives, and the transition from the informal sector to the formal sector, thus curbing corrupt conduct.

The Prime Minister also pointed out that over the past years, the Egyptian Government has worked hard to consolidate social protection programs, as



The presidential initiative «Decent Life» is directly overseen by President Sisi due to his belief that it can achieve a major shift in facing poverty and promoting citizen's rights away from corruption

Over the past years, the Egyptian Government has worked hard to consolidate social protection programs, as evident through the Solidarity and Dignity (Takaful wa Karama), program, which, according to international institutions, is one of the pioneering conditional cash transfer programs, serving 3.8 million families in 2021.

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H.E. Dr. Madbouly said that the presidential initiative "Decent Life" comes at the top of the programs that aim to improve the quality of life for the nearly 60 million Egyptian citizens, stating that the funds allocated to this initiative amount to more than \$45 billion. The Prime Minister added that the attention paid to vulnerable groups for many years is in itself a fight against corruption, discrimination, and inequality, and the New Republic is the hope all Egyptians are awaiting for a dignified, prosperous life.

The Prime Minister added that Egypt has also launched its National Strategy for Human Rights 2021-2026, centered on combating corruption, strengthening governance and sheathing the values of integrity and transparency in its core. The 4-pillar strategy is deemed a multidimensional one since it addresses 1) civil and political rights; 2) economic, social, and cultural rights; 3) the rights of women, youth, people with disabilities, children, elderly women and men; 4) and human rights capacity-building.

In his speech, H.E. Dr. Madbouly stressed that corruption, as per the UNCAC, significantly affects the quality of life, and therefore improving the quality of life deters corruption. He maintains that



Egypt has been keen over the past few years to promote the right to adequate housing through the development of unsafe slums, the provision of social housing, and facilitating water and sanitation services in rural and urban Egypt.

Digitization and the mechanization of government services are the top priorities of the Egyptian state, said H.E. Prime Minister Madbouly. Digitization can reduce corruption by separating service provider and service recipient, enhance transparency, and monitor institutions. H.E. remarked that the New Administrative Capital can serve as a catalyst for administrative reform, for it employs the latest state management techniques and, hence, emerges as a model for promoting digitization and the mechanization of government services.

The Prime Minister also emphasized that the Egyptian Government is well aware that the fight against corruption is not the responsibility of Governments alone, but that people have a fundamental role to play. It has therefore made a lot of efforts over the past years to promote inclusiveness and the empowerment of women and youth out of the firm belief that the empowerment of women is crucial for backing these efforts. Egypt has taken decisive and effective actions to promote the political, economic, and social empowerment of women and to include the youth in the processes of policy-making and implementation, for Egypt holds firm to the need for nurturing generations hostile to corruption, for the youth are the bearers of the future.

H.E. Dr. Madbouly proclaimed that Covid-19 related challenges have

Digitization and mechanization of government services come at the top of the Egyptian state's priorities, as digitization can reduce corruption by separating the service provider from the service recipient, enhancing transparency and oversight over institutions.



underlined the Egyptian Government's efficient crisis-management strategy, adding that the international community must work hard to put in place the necessary frameworks and mechanisms to enhance the readiness of public institutions and their ability to prevent and combat corruption during crises and emergencies. H.E., thus, commended the States parties' choice of this issue in promoting the Conference.

The Prime Minister also stressed that, in addition to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Egypt's Vision 2030 and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy reflect the shared global and regional objectives, represented by the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2015. This comes in addition to the Agenda 2063, which was endorsed by the African Union Summit in 2015 and the ensuing First Ten-Year Implementation Plan 2014-2023. H.E. reiterated Egypt's commitment to international and regional cooperation in preventing and combating corruption, and the country's eagerness to share experiences and knowledge with international development partners.

H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly concluded by expressing his sincere wishes for the success of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. He stressed his utter confidence in this session's fruitful resolutions that shall enhance the efforts to prevent and combat corruption as to achieve the prosperity and well-being for the people across the world.



Commending its Anti-corruption Efforts, Prime Minister visits Administrative Control Authority Pavilion

Accompanied by a number of ministers, the governor of South Sinai, the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and some officials of relevant authorities, H.E. Dr. Mostafa Madbouly, Egypt's Prime Minister, visited the pavilion of the Administrative Control Authority at the International Convention Center in Sharm El Sheikh on the sidelines of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC).

Major General Hassan Abdel Shafi, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, escorted H.E. Dr. Madbouly through the pavilion while presenting its sections. Major General Hassan Abdel Shafi explained that the pavilion is comprised of 5 sections; these include interactive screens to display the official website of the Administrative Control Authority, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, and the activities of the National Anti-Corruption Academy. Another section was designated for the Authority's Media Center and its areas of cooperation. Other screens were dedicated for documentaries and promotional campaigns of the ACA's activities. In addition, a holographic representation of the goddess "Ma'at", the goddess of truth, justice and order in the universe that signified justice for ancient Egyptians was screened. Hence, Ma'at was chosen as the emblem of the ninth session of the Conference.

The Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority also indicated that there is a section in the pavilion dedicated for the Authority's publications, including the second follow-up report on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2019-2022. The publications also include the most significant anti-corruption efforts in sports, the publications of National Anti-Corruption Academy, and the magazine "Conscience of a Nation", which incorporates academic and practical aspects in combating corruption.

The Prime Minister commended the pavilion of the Administrative Control Authority, as well as the publications that explain and highlight the efforts of the Authority in combating corruption in all its forms. H.E., then, thanked all the Authority's officials for great efforts they exert in this regard.



Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi at the Press Conference: Egypt has come a long way in Promoting the National Anti-Corruption Efforts

In his speech at the press conference held on the sidelines of the ninth session of Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Major General, Hassan Abdel Shafi, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, confirmed that Egypt has come a long way in promoting the national anti-corruption efforts saying:

I would like to welcome you all to Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt and I wish you a good stay.

I am happy to be present at this press conference, which will help convey the summary of the world's consultations on combating corruption. This will contribute to raising awareness among the peoples of the world on the importance of preventing and combating corruption.

In light of the fact that this conference is held biannually to discuss a crucial issue of concern to the international community, namely preventing and combating corruption despite the exceptional circumstances resulting from the Covid-19 pandemic, participation in the conference comes on an unprecedented scale, with more than 3,000 experts representing States and international and regional organizations, including more than 1,500 individuals, in addition to 400 representatives from civil society organizations. In addition, among the participants are five presidents virtually attending, 26 ministers 16 of them are participating in person, 63 chairpersons of anti-corruption bodies, 54 of them are in-person participants, and 25 deputy ministers, 17 of them are in-person participants.

Dr. Mostafa Kamal Madbouly, Prime Minister of Egypt, has inaugurated the Conference, which asserts the support of the political leadership in Egypt for the measures and policies of preventing and combating corruption.

During the opening meeting of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its 9th Session, the members of the Bureau of the Conference were elected. Egypt had the honor of being elected the President of the Conference in the person of the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and three deputies from the States of Pakistan, Poland and Honduras, and a rapporteur from the State of Belgium for a term of two years, until 2023.

The five-day events began with statements by the representatives of States parties to the UN Convention showcas-

ing the most prominent successful practices in preventing and combating corruption. The event will also discuss a number of topics, the most prominent of which are prevention of corruption, the mechanism to review the implementation of the Convention, international cooperation among States, asset recovery, and cooperation among multilateral international government organizations.

There are also nine other resolutions that are expected to be discussed by the conference to be adopted, with ongoing negotiations that bode well for promoting international cooperation to implement the UN Convention, asset recovery, and the United States of America's request to host the conference at its 10th session in 2023. Egypt takes part in submitting four of these resolutions, which stresses Egypt's role of in promoting international cooperation in preventing and combating corruption.

At the substantive level, Egypt proposed the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration under the theme of "Promoting International Cooperation in Preventing and Combating Corruption in Times of Emergencies, Crisis Response and Recovery", which was internationally well-received. We, therefore, hope that this declaration will be adopted by consensus of the international community to enhance anti-corruption efforts in light of the Covid-19 pandemic and in the recovery phase.

Egypt was keen on involving all parties. All the necessary protective medical measures were taken to facilitate the participation of everyone in the Conference despite the global exceptional circumstances.

The Conference will also witness many side events, which have hit the mark of 70. Three events are organized by Egypt to discuss the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, asset recovery and the role of the Egyptian Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Combating Unit (EMLCU) in combating illicit financial flows to share the best practices among the States Parties to the convention.

In the same vein, we may affirm that Egypt has come a long way in promoting national efforts in combating corruption, which will be extensively reviewed during the events of conference. Furthermore, Egypt, through its chairmanship of the ninth session of the Conference in 2021-2023, will continue its efforts to promote international cooperation in preventing and combating corruption in all its forms.



The official film of the ninth session of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm Al Sheikh: "The Egyptian State's Efforts in Preventing and Combating Corruption and the Dissemination of the Values of Integrity and Transparency" <https://aca.gov/News/1994.aspx>



The Head of the Egyptian Delegation: Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration is the Starting Point for the Joint International Action

Major General Amr Adel: Egypt is keen to adopt a consistent approach to face corruption

Major General Amr Adel, Deputy Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, stressed that the crisis of the spread of the COVID-19 pandemic and the consequences thereof has accentuated the need to enhance the measures to prevent and combat corruption as part of his speech in the opening session being the head of the Egyptian delegation saying:

Heads of delegation of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Officers of the ninth session, Ladies and gentlemen, To begin with, I would like to extend my sincere congratulations to His Excellency Mr. Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, on his election as President of the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

I also extend my sincere thanks and appreciation to H.E. Mr. Harib Said Al Amimi, President of State Audit Institution of the United Arab Emirates for his presidency of the eighth session of the Conference.

Allow me to convey Egypt's welcome, both leadership and people, for holding the Conference on its land, and for the honor of having a great group of senior officials and international experts who were keen to attend and enrich the activities of the Conference hoping to achieve positive results that live up to the aspirations of our peoples to continue to develop and support preventing and combating corruption.

Distinguished attendees, Since Egypt joined the United Nations Convention Against Corruption in 2005, it has been keen to adopt a consistent approach based on the continued development of its efforts and support for international action to cope with the Convention. This was stressed by the reports of the first and second review sessions, where several measures were implemented, including:

In the area of the relevant anti-corruption legislation, the Constitution of the Arab Republic of

In the area of the relevant anti-corruption legislation, the Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt was promulgated in 2014 containing the State's commitment to combating corruption and affirming the technical, financial and administrative independence of the oversight bodies. In the same year, the Anti-Money-Laundering Law was amended and all relevant authorities shall report suspected cases of money-laundering offenses.

Egypt was promulgated in 2014 containing the State's commitment to combating corruption and affirming the technical, financial and administrative independence of the oversight bodies. In the same year, the Anti-Money-Laundering Law was amended and all relevant authorities shall report suspected cases of money-laundering offenses. In 2017, the Administrative Control Authority law was amended giving further jurisdictions to include combating organized crime, money-laundering, illicit gain, and abuse of the public capacity. The law also included the establishment of the National Anti-Corruption Academy as the first specialized training academy at the continental and regional levels with the aim of raising awareness, building capacities, promoting international cooperation and exchanging experiences on ways of preventing and combating corruption. In addition, the Penal Code was amended in 2018 and the criminalization of the bribery of foreign public officials and officials of public international institutions had been added to cope with the resolutions of the fifth session of the Congress in Panama in 2013. The Public Contracts Law, likewise, was enacted in 2018 in order to comply with the international standards and article 9 of the UNCAC. In the same

vein, Egypt is implementing an ambitious digital transformation project through the automation and the linking of the work of all government agencies electronically to streamline the public services, as well as the adoption of an electronic system of criminal and civil litigation procedures. Aligned with article no. 5 of the Convention, the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, which comes along the same lines of the Marrakesh Declaration in Morocco, was launched in its first two phases in 2014-2018 and 2019-2022, with the participation of the private sector and civil society organizations. The follow-up on the second phase resulted in achieving about 85% of the targeted outcomes for completion despite the intricate situation that the whole world is going through as a result of the spread of the Covid-19 pandemic. Egypt was also keen to publish the follow-up results report in upholding the principle of transparency. Distinguished attendees, The political declaration adopted at the Special Session of the General Assembly on International Drug Control in June 2012 is an international document to prevent and combat corruption. Therefore, Egypt has adopted a procedural draft resolution to follow up on its implementation and we

The COVID-19 pandemic and the socio-economic problems that it has triggered have demonstrated the dire need for international cooperation to strengthen the measures necessary to prevent and combat corruption in times of crisis and disaster and recovery.

call upon States to reach a consensus on it. Mr. President, The COVID-19 pandemic and the socio-economic problems that it has triggered have demonstrated the dire need for international cooperation to strengthen the measures necessary to prevent and combat corruption in times of crisis and disaster and recovery. Hence, the Sharm el-Sheikh Declaration submitted by Egypt serves as a starting point for joint international action. I, therefore, call upon all the States parties to adopt this important declaration, which in essence accentuates our partnerships and international cooperation. In conclusion, I would like to thank all the members of the Secretariat of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNCAC) for the technical support and effective coordination for Egypt's hosting of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties in Sharm el-Sheikh. Egypt, in this regard, expresses its great confidence in you and the Bureau of the Conference to lead the framework during the ninth session to promote the implementation of the objectives of the UNCAC and to promote regional and international cooperation to prevent and combat corruption. Thank you so much.





Affirming that combating corruption is necessary to protect Human Rights

UN Secretary General, Antonio Guterres's : Sharm El-Sheikh conference is an opportunity to promote international cooperation against corruption

In his speech in the opening of the Ninth Session of Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption held in Sharm El-Sheikh, Egypt, the UN Secretary-General, Antonio Guterres, stressed that addressing corruption is essential to protect human rights and promote democratic accountability. "It is an important step towards inclusive, sustainable development," emphasized United Nations Secretary-General António Guterres in his opening remarks delivered in a video message to the conference.

He also pointed out that the spread of corruption undermines people's trust in the leadership and the institutions, deepens inequality, fuels taunting and alienation, and rein-

forces the obstacles faced by women and girls.

"Putting greed before need is detrimental to all of us. As countries invest in recovering from the COVID-19 pandemic, we must be cautious against diverting vital resources by criminal opportunists", he says.

The Convention is the only comprehensive international legal instrument against corruption which threatens States' security and hampers sustainable development efforts around the world. "This Conference is our chance to come together to strengthen cooperation and accelerate global action against corruption. Let us revive hope and restore trust in institutions. Now is the time to act for a safer, more prosperous and just future," he added.

Proceedings film:

<https://www.facebook.com/UNVienna/videos/452178672921218>



Dr. Ghada Waly

The UNODC Executive Director

**the conference is a unique International forum ..and
Affirms that combating corruption remains a top priority**

Dr. Ghada Waly Calls the Conference

"The Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption is a unique international forum", said The UNODC Executive Director Dr. Ghada Waly in her opening remarks. She called the COVID-19 pandemic "a global wake-up call" to stand for integrity. "The world loses trillions of dollars every year to corruption, at a time when every dollar is needed to increase public investment. Just as it breaks down resilience and exposes people to hardship, corruption also enables criminals, traffickers, and terrorists.", she said.

"Most countries in the world have ratified the Convention and committed themselves to it with some 189 State Parties. This places a special responsibility on the Conference of the States Parties, especially at this critical juncture when the world faces enormous challenges as well as great opportunities in combating corruption.", she added. This session is of exceptional importance. "The world desperately needs the principles of transparency, integrity

and a fair and equal recovery from the COVID-19 crisis, without exclusion. The pandemic has shifted from a global health crisis to an economic and social crisis.", she pointed out.

Waly affirmed that this Conference is responsible for the implementation and activation of the outcomes of this historic session.

She also added that the session was held in an exceptional situation and challenges posed by the pandemic. Dr. Waly thanked the Arab Republic of Egypt for hosting the Conference, and for its cooperation with the UNODC. All necessary measures have been taken to protect and maintain the safety of participating delegations.

More than 2130 participants registered for the Conference, unprecedented record which reflects the global interest in the theme. "This gathering sends a message to the world that fighting corruption remains a priority on the international agenda in times of crisis, and we will always find ways to work together against corruption, despite all the challenges.", she concluded her remarks.



A number of officials participate in a special side event An Account on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy

National Coordinating Committee for Preventing and Combating Corruption (NCCPCC) organized a special event under the theme of "National Anti-Corruption Strategy: best practices and challenges". The event was attended by Minister Hasan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, Chairman of the Administrative Authority and the President of the Ninth Session of Conference of the States Party, Mr. Ahmed Said Khalil, the Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Egyptian Money-Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit, as well as a number of Egyptian and International officials. The event aimed to showcase the Egypt's commitment to implementing the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption through adopting a diversity of institutional and legislative frameworks in accordance with Article 5 thereof regarding developing and implementing or maintaining effective, coordinated anti-corruption policies since the National Anti-Corruption Strategy the general framework for combating corruption in Egypt. was Egypt released the first version of the Strategy 2014- 2018 and the second version 2019- 2023.

In the presence of members of the Technical Secretariat of the National Coordinating Committee, representatives of the Administrative Control Authority, the Ministry of Justice and the President of the General Federation of NGOs, Egypt's experience in preventing and combating corruption and the progress in implementing the operational plan of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2019-2022 was presented during the event. Some of the best practices achieved for each of the Strategy's nine goals were reviewed, which could be adopted by any of

the States Parties. Mr. Ahmed Nur, Under-Secretary of the Administrative Control Authority, moderator of the event and members of the Technical Secretariat of the National Coordinating Committee, presented the methodology for the work of the National Strategy and highlighted the objectives achieved in a number of areas. They included "developing an efficient and effective administrative body, providing high-quality public services, implementing transparency and integrity mechanisms in government units, supporting law enforcement agencies to prevent and combat corruption, increasing community awareness of the importance of preventing and combating corruption, activating international and regional cooperation in preventing and combating corruption."

Judge Mahmoud Badran of the Egyptian Ministry of Justice also highlighted the most prominent developments of the legislative structure in support of combating corruption and the modernization of judicial procedures in order to achieve speedy justice.

The efforts of the Administrative Control Authority in launching community awareness campaigns against the dangers of corruption, the latest of which was the campaign entitled "Ya Tara Min Al-Kasban" or "Who is the winner", which is aired in the conference rooms, as well as the preparation of a national indicator to identify and combat corruption.

Dr. Talat Abdel Qawi, President of the General Federation of NGOs, also presented the best practices obtained from Goal 9 concerning the participation of civil society organizations and the private sector in preventing and combating corruption.



Addressing the Review Group on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Egypt Calls for a Code of Ethics for University Community

Addressing the Review Group on the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption during their meeting, Egypt called for the need for the rationalization of issuing resolutions by the Conference in the hope of launching a new phase.

"At the outset, I would like to express my sincere appreciation to the President of the Conference and the Secretariat for their efforts, wishing all State Parties success in completing the Conference's activities." Egypt's delegate said.

"Mr. President, Egypt has made the best use of the review mechanism and viewed it as an opportunity, an incentive and a challenge to complement the anti-corruption system. In the area of preventive measures, a section of the Constitution on oversight bodies and their independence was included. The United Nations was notified that the Administrative Control Authority was the body responsible for implementing articles 6 and 36 of the Convention. We also launched the second phase of the strategy in 2019, which achieved more than 85% of the desired targeted success rate by the end of its second year. We have also issued several codes of conduct, most recent of which is the Code of Ethics for University Community and we are in the process of issuing a code of conduct for the sports community as well. We have put a mechanized system in place for the implementation of the State's general budget and a plan for government procurement which were disseminated via electronic media. In addition, we launched media campaigns to raise citizens' awareness, the most recent of which was the observance of the World Anti-Corruption Day, 2021 under the theme of "Meen el-kasban" or "Who is the winner", introducing a unique model to emulate the Conference of State Parties by university students in November 2021. In the area of criminalization and law enforcement, we have en-

sured compatibility with international conventions. Despite our rich legislative base, we have enacted legislations for the civil service, the regulation of government contracts, the practice of civil work, investment and sport. We also have amended some legislations, most notable among them are the Penal and Criminal Procedure Codes, the Fight against Money-Laundering and Illicit Gain and the Administrative Control Authority Law, adding other offences to its competence and establishing the National Anti-Corruption Academy.

As for international cooperation, Egypt reviewed four countries. Its two reports were reviewed in the two sessions. Efforts of combating money-laundering were reviewed within the framework of our membership in the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) and we hosted the first African Anti-Corruption Forum.

In addition, as far as asset recovery is concerned, we have established the National Committee for Asset Recovery. Hence, the Public Prosecutor's Office has committed itself to implementing all requests for legal assistance in accordance with the United Nations Convention. The Anti-Money Laundering Unit has automatically adopted the exchange of information with counterpart units as part of its membership in the Egmont Group.

To conclude Mr. President, we call upon States to consider the rationalization of issuing resolutions in the hope of focusing on completing the second review cycle, postponed till June 2024 so that a new phase can be launched. In this regard, it is worth noting that the Conference's resolutions have reached 61, exceeding the number of articles of the Convention and the chapters under review.

Thank you for your attention.



A film about the efforts of the Egyptian Ministry of Justice in implementing the
Electronic Litigation System
<https://aca.gov.eg/News/2008.aspx>



In an Event on «the Role of Financial Investigation Units in Combating Illicit Financial Flows» Comprehensive Egyptian Systems to Detect Cases of Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing*

It was during the event moderated by Chancellor Ahmed Said Khalil, Chairman of the Board of Trustees of the Anti-Money Laundering and Terrorist Financing Unit, the Chairman of the Middle East and North Africa Financial Action Task Force (MENAFATF) that the importance of enhancing financial units' access to information and developing mechanisms for sharing experiences among stakeholders was addressed, so was the use of the state-of-the-art methods for monitoring illicit financial flows. The event was attended by Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, President of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the States Parties, and a number of international and Egyptian officials. Chancellor Ahmed Said Khalil confirmed that Egypt had taken a

number of measures to combat illicit financial flows in its quest to combat money-laundering and terrorist financing, pointing out that the State had established comprehensive control and supervision systems to detect cases of money-laundering and terrorist financing.

The session highlighted the concept of illicit financial flows and the latest methods to measure them in accordance with international standards, focusing on the different sources of such flows, corruption offences, the manipulation of commercial bills, tax evasion as well as the role of financial investigation units in reducing such flows through experts from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and financial investigation units in the State.



*See a full coverage of the session P37



In the meeting of the Working Group on Preventive Measures Egypt's Efforts to Strengthen Integrity and Transparency

Egypt presented, during the speech delivered at the meeting of the Working Group on Preventive Measures (WGPM), a comprehensive picture on its efforts to combat corruption and strengthen integrity and transparency.

The representative of Egypt said: "Mr. President, Your Excellencies, ladies and gentlemen, chairpersons, and representatives of the delegations of States parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), here or virtually... I have the honor to pay tribute and convey my greetings to you. Let me show you a part of the Egyptian efforts in the field of preventive measures as follows:

- Several articles bind the State to combat corruption, promote integrity and transparency, and follow up the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (NACS) are encompassed in the Constitution of the Arab Republic of Egypt 2014.
- The National Coordinating Committee against Corruption (NCCC) was established; it comprises all law enforcement agencies, all competent ministries, and representatives of the civil society and the private sector. This committee is concerned with implementing measures to reduce corruption in the State;
- The NACS was developed; the implementation of the first and second phases of the Strategy has been overseen; the positive results of this Strategy have been evaluated. The success rate of achieving the targets of the current phase reaches 85% during 2019 and 2020.
- The Civil Service Law (CSL) was enacted to regulate the provisions applicable to the public office; this Law stipulates that the State shall guarantee and protect employees' rights and prohibit discrimination among them.
- Several codes of conduct include the code of employment conduct for the State's administrative apparatus employees were formulated and published. A guide for implementing the Private Sector Integrity Pact (PSIP) and a code of ethics for university students was published. A compulsory course was also adopted in all Egyptian universities, entitled "Human Rights and the Fight

against Corruption". Furthermore, a code of professional conduct was developed for Egyptian associations and NGOs.

- The Law on the Regulation of Contracts concluded by public authorities was issued in order to address many challenges.
 - The general budget and government procurement plan are regularly published by The Egyptian Ministry of Finance on its website.
 - A comprehensive system for linking and integrating national databases to direct Egypt towards the implementation of the IT infrastructure and digital transformation projects was developed, in addition to developing and publishing a comprehensive guide on all governmental services provided to citizens and keeping it available on the Egypt's Government Services Portal.
 - Media campaigns have been launched to raise citizens' awareness of the dangers of corruption, to revive the conscience of society, and to emphasize that change starts within yourself; in addition, such campaigns aim at raising the citizen's awareness of certain crimes and their penalties.
 - Meetings on the UNCAC review mechanism have been participated in by the Egyptian civil society organizations.
 - Surveys on the work environment were done for the employees in 2019, and the necessary actions were taken to improve the index value.
 - 45 e-services on the Egypt Digital Portal (EDP) and 42 ones on the Local Government Services Portal (LGSP) are provided; furthermore, surveys for the citizens are regularly done to measure their satisfaction with these services.
 - A simulation model for the Conference of States Parties (CSP) was run by young students from the faculties of Cairo University in coordination and collaboration with the Administrative Control Authority (ACA), Cairo University, the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), and the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). That model is considered a unique experience aimed at involving youth in measures taken internationally to prevent and combat corruption.
- Thank you, Mr. President."



Assistant to Chairman of ACA in Post-COVID Session This is How Egypt Defeated the Epidemic!

Major General Khaled Abdelrahman, the Assistant to the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, highlighted that Egypt is one of the countries that took several measures to encounter the repercussions of the Coronavirus pandemic. The Egyptian State not only did that at the economic or social levels but effectively dealt with it at the institutional level. It enhanced governance and anti-corruption in line with the recommendations issued by international agencies in this respect. The governance and anti-corruption cases are intersectional ones in all the measures taken by the Egyptian State. This part reviews the institutional framework for dealing with the Coronavirus crisis and the most important measures taken by the Egyptian State in connection with governance and anti-corruption.

In his statement in the the Post-COVID session held within the proceedings of the conference, Major General Khaled Abdelrahman added that the Egyptian State has an institutional framework to cope with the crises and disasters, namely: the Crisis and Disaster Sector at the Egyptian Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center and the Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management. The latter is chaired by the Prime Minister and encompasses several members from the relevant ministries. The Board of Governors, chaired by the Prime Minister, also represents the mechanism for managing the crisis in governorates. The Board of Governors discusses the decisions issued by the Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management and follows up their implementation in the governorates. As for the legislative authority, both health committees at the Egyptian House of Representatives periodically follows up the performance of the Government in relation to all the decisions connected with the crisis, whether such decisions are related to health, p vaccines provision or sites available for taking vaccines or even measures for making vaccines available for all citizens.

The wide spread of the Coronavirus shocked all the countries and enforced governments to implement quick response policies against such transmission. Due to universal confusion created by the spread of the Coronavirus, several international and regional organizations and donors provided recommendations to governments about the policies and measures that must be adopted to tackle and alleviate the economic and financial repercussions of the pandemic. Egypt was one of the countries that launched incentive packages adopted in response to the pandemic, whether for the individuals, companies or the most vulnerable sectors through COVID-19 Measures Observatory that was launched through the Ministry of Planning & Economic Development to monitor all the measures taken by the Egyptian State. He stated that within the framework of the Egyptian

Egyptian State has an institutional framework to cope with the crises and disasters, namely: the Crisis and Disaster Sector at the Egyptian Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center and the Supreme Committee of Crisis and Disaster Management

The Egyptian State sought to effectively utilize technology through clear mechanisms that make the services available and reduce corruption opportunities. Furthermore, the Egyptian Government developed and applied clear standards to determine priority groups for the COVID-19 vaccines. The Egyptian Ministry of Health adopted such standards to ensure the fair distribution of the vaccine.



State dedication to enhance transparency of the measures taken during the pandemic and support the most needy categories, Egypt created an observatory for the policies and programs responding to the woman's needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Egypt is one of the leading countries worldwide that created such observatory. The National Council for Women (NCW) prepared a policy paper that analyzed the current situation of the woman and the proposed response measures in the light of the widespread of the virus within the framework of its impact on health, education, social protection, violence against woman, representation in decision making during crisis management as well as impact on the economic opportunities, enhancement of data and knowledge. As a result of focusing on taking woman-oriented policies and measures, UN-Women and the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) commended the measures taken by the Egyptian State in a report about monitoring the worldwide gender-related response, focusing on North Africa and West Asia countries. The report pointed out that Egypt was ranked first among North Africa and West Asia states in measures and procedures applied to three areas: economic protection of woman, unpaid care and combating violence against woman.

The Egyptian Government sought to provide mechanisms for the COVID-19 pandemic-related complaints. In addition, the Cabinet Unified Government Complaints System received, addressed and responded to the pandemic-related complaints whether from institutions or individuals. The Unified Governments Complaints System (UGCS) provides the citizens with the opportunity to file a complaint via the UGCS online portal.

On the other hand and in line with the recommendations issued by international agencies, the Egyptian State effectively utilized technology through clear mechanisms that make the services available and

minimize corruption opportunities. Furthermore, the Egyptian Government created and applied clear and transparent standards to determine priority recipients of the vaccines. The Egyptian Ministry of Health adopted such standards to ensure the fair distribution of the vaccine.

Egyptian Ministry of Health launched the Egypt Health application that contains updated information about the virus, its outspread statistics and guidelines about dealing with the virus in case of infection or in case of contacting the persons infected. The application also provides the services that can be accessed at the different health centers; it also contains the reporting mechanism if a person is a suspected case of the virus. An official website was launched to receive the registration requests to receive the vaccine. Priority categories were determined, including medical sector staff, elderly people, and persons with chronic diseases. The Ministry of Health, in addition to its website, provided its services via the hotline for categories unable to register via the website. It is worth mentioning that 100 Million Healthy Lives campaign that was launched in 2018 effectively contributed to the success of this System through an integrated database for persons with chronic diseases. The Egyptian Ministry of Health and Population also launched the Egypt Health Passport application that is used for different travel purposes. To prevent corruption, registration via the application requires a mandatory entry of the national number or passport number. The application is linked with the Vaccine Registration System to find out the number and types of shots a person took and the date taken.

As for the recommendations of international organizations in respect of fostering the systems of public administration, procurements and public finance administration to enhance effective control over planning operations, allotment of budgets to address the pandemic, strengthen control over disbursement,

within the framework of the Egyptian State dedication to enhance transparency of the measures taken during the pandemic and support the most needy categories, Egypt created an observatory for the policies and programs responding to the woman's needs during the COVID-19 pandemic. Egypt is one of the leading countries worldwide that created such observatory.

distribute the funds dedicated for coping with the crisis to ensure accountability and transparency in distributing funds, Egypt adopted several measures that aimed at the fair and transparent distribution of funds oriented to manage the crisis. In addition, there are strict rules in place to deal with public procurements to reduce corruption.

The Egyptian State launched several awareness campaigns about how to deal with the virus, in cooperation with the different mass media and social media platforms.

Major General Khaled emphasized that within the framework of combating COVID-19, the Ministry of Planning and Economic Development, in collaboration with Trous Misr Foundation, an Egyptian NGO and in partnership with several owners and heads of companies, launched Misr Hat'aady (Egypt will pass) campaign as the first popular initiative to encounter the economic consequences of COVID-19 to support the most vulnerable categories through motivating the private sector to maintain and safeguard work force.

The Egyptian State has an institutional framework to deal with crises and disasters through two entities: the Crisis and Disaster Management Sector at the Cabinet Information and Decision Support Center as well as the Supreme Committee for Crisis and Disaster Management. Both are chaired by the Prime Minister and encompasses members from several relevant ministries.

The Egyptian State sought to effectively utilize technology through clear mechanisms that make the services available and reduce corruption opportunities. Furthermore, the Egyptian Government developed and applied clear and transparent standards to determine priority groups for the COVID-19 vaccines. The Egyptian Ministry of Health adopted such standards to ensure the fair distribution of the vaccine.



through three sessions and nine objectives Egypt reviews its experiment in combating corruption

Hosting the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Arab Republic of Egypt, was keen to make the Conference reflect Egypt's regional and international standing and the efforts of the Egyptian State in combating corruption at both the national and international levels. In this regard, Egypt held a series of special events on the sideline of the Conference to review and share its experiences in combating corruption, which came in line with the main themes set out in the United Nations Convention against Corruption, to which Egypt acceded in 2005, and with the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 2019-2022. The three side events were titled: "The National Anti-Corruption Strategy: best practices and challenges; the Role of Financial Intelligence Units in Combating Illicit Financial Flows; and the Best Practices and Major Challenges in recovering the Proceeds of Corruption." The following is an account of the most important issues addressed by the three events and their relation with the implementation of the core themes of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the National Anti-Corruption Strategy.

First: The National Anti-Corruption Strategy: best practices and challenges

A special event titled "National Anti-Corruption Strategy: the best practices and challenges" was held by the Administrative Control Authority, the body concerned with preparation of the follow-up on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy implementation. The event was attended by the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and by representatives of the governments and the regional and international organizations. The event reviewed the various institutional and legislative frameworks adopted by Egypt, which reflected its keenness on implementing Article 5 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which provides: "Each State shall endeavor to establish and promote effective practices aimed at the prevention of corruption." Egypt implemented this Article through the launch of its National Anti-Corruption Strategy in two phases, the first phase (2014-2018) and the second phase (2019-2022).

The special event addressed the main themes of the report of follow-up on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy (2019-2022), which was published at the local and international levels. The report was made available in Arabic, English and French to promote transparency

Moreover, the event reviewed the significance of working on reinforcing the capacity of the Financial Intelligence Units through training, providing resources and identifying the areas of increasing importance, such as digital currencies and others.

and make it available to citizens, researchers and various national and international institutions for tracking the progress made in the Strategy implementation. Moreover, the special event provided a detailed explanation of the follow-up on the Strategy implementation, for which 104 focal points were allocated in various regions and distributed all over Egypt's governorates to submit reports to the National Coordinating Sub-Committee for the Prevention and Combating of Corruption. During the first two years of its launch, the achieved objectives of the strategy reached 85.27% of the target of the two years, which was implemented under the exceptional circumstances of the COVID-19 pandemic outbreak. The event focused on the status of implementing the nine objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, the first of which was the "Development of an efficient and effective administrative apparatus," which represented 16% of the Strategy; and it achieved the past period target with a success percentage of 43.05%. Among the best practices adopted to achieve this objective were connecting all State accounting units to the Government Financial Information Management System, activating Egypt's Award for Government Excellence and preparing Internal Audit Units Guide to Action. Concerning the

second objective of the strategy concerned with "Providing high quality public services," it represented 11% of the strategy; and it achieved the past period target with a 79% success percentage. Through this objective, the Egyptian Government has successfully offered more than 45 e-services through Egypt's Digital Portal and 42 e-services through the Local Service Portal and conducted a survey on the citizens' satisfaction with the electronic services provided.

The third objective, which focused on the "activation of transparency and integrity mechanisms," represented 13% of the strategy; and it achieved the past period target with a success percentage of 78.98%. One of the best practices of that objective was continued dissemination of the citizen's budget, publication of the follow-up report on the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and launch of the Electronic Procurement Portal. The fourth objective focused on development of the legislative structure supporting combating corruption. This objective represented 11% of the strategy and was achieved with a 51.28% success percentage. The most successful practice under this objective was the promulgation of a series of laws supporting combating corruption, including Law No. 17/2020 amending certain provisions of the Anti-Money Laundering Act and Law No. 18/2019 regulating the use of electronic payment.

The fifth objective of the Strategy, "Modernization of judicial procedures for speedy justice," represented 6% of the Strategy; and it achieved the past period target with a success percentage of 95.31%. This objective included development of the communication and information technology, automation of the judicial system and the use of smart applications in the delivery of judicial services. It also included activation of the electronic civil litigation system, electronic litigation in the economic courts and the development of court data collection systems, as well as launching the automated financial disclosure project. The sixth objective, "Supporting law enforcement to prevent and combat corruption," represented 11% of the strategy; and it was implemented with a success percentage of 76.92%. Operational procedures for the sixth objective resulted in two releases of the Domestic Corruption Perceptions Index during 2019 and 2020.

Furthermore, the seventh objective regarding increasing the community awareness of the importance of combating corruption was addressed. It represented 15% of the strategy and was implemented with a percentage of 94.69% during the past period. The important role played by the National Anti-Corruption Academy in providing anti-corruption education, training and research was one of the best practices of this objective. In addition, this objective included Egypt's organization of the First Model Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Egypt and the Middle East, in cooperation with the United States Agency for International Development and the Cairo University, with a view to raising awareness of the corruption prevention and combating issues among university students. The eighth objective of the Strategy, represented in "activating international and regional cooperation in preventing and combating corruption," represented 10% of the Strategy with a success percentage of 100%. One of the most successful practices of this objective was Egypt's accession to the "Network of Corruption Prevention Authorities" and "GlobE Network", along with working on the issue of sports corruption, cooperation and coordination among various bodies for the implementation of the Arab Anti-Corruption Convention and the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. The ninth objective of the strategy, "Participation of the non-government organizations and the private sector in preventing corruption," represented 7% of the strategy; and the target was achieved with a success percentage of 85.71%. Through this objective, the government has successfully implemented many best practices, such as inclusion of the non-government representatives as members in the National Coordinating Sub-Committee on Preventing and Combating Corruption, the development of the Code of Professional Conduct for Civil Institutions and Associations, and raising awareness among

The event focused on the status of implementing the nine objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, the first of which was the "Development of an efficient and effective administrative apparatus," which represented 16% of the Strategy; and it achieved the past period target with a success percentage of 43.05%.

Furthermore, the seventh objective regarding increasing the community awareness of the importance of combating corruption was addressed. It represented 15% of the strategy and was implemented with a percentage of 94.69% during the past period. The important role played by the National Anti-Corruption Academy in providing anti-corruption education, training and research was one of the best practices of this objective.

non-government organizations on the importance of combating corruption. This event has demonstrated the efforts of the Egyptian State in achieving the objectives of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy, which highlights its obvious determination to implement its objectives despite all the challenges it has faced.

Second: The Role of Financial Intelligence Units in Combating Illicit Financial Flows

Egypt organized a special event titled "The Role of Financial Intelligence Units in Combating Illicit Financial Flows" on the sideline of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The event was convened by the Unit for Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism in presence of the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, and with the participation of Dr. Ghada Wali, Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. It addressed the significance of enhancing the capacity of Financial Intelligence Units to obtain data and information and to rely on up-to-date mechanisms for the exchange of experiences and expertise among the various institutions and agencies involved in combating illicit financial flows.

It is worth noting that the topic of this event is one of the main concerns of those interested in anti-corruption issues, especially the impact of such flows on the development process as they negatively affect the national revenues of all countries, particularly developing countries. Accordingly, the primary role of intelligence units is detecting and confronting corruption networks operating under the system of illicit financial flows.

The event addressed some urgent matters relating to illicit financial flows, including the importance of measuring illicit financial flows, which is considered an important method for monitoring and quantifying such flows. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime has developed a new methodology for the statistical measurements of illicit financial flows. It is worth mentioning that Egypt is one of the countries currently working on measuring illicit financial flows, as it has reviewed many of the steps it has taken for combating money Laundering and the financing of terrorism in order to combat all forms of illicit financial flows. The Egyptian State's experience in establishing comprehensive supervisory and control systems on various forms of cash flows was highlighted to detect and combat any cases of money Laundering or financing of terrorist operations.

Representatives of the experts from the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and Financial Intelligence Units of States discussed and clarified the concept of illicit financial flows and the latest methods adopted to measure them as per the international standards. They focused on the various sources of such flows, corruption crimes, invoice manipulation, tax evasion and the role of Financial Intelligence Units in reducing such flows. For its part, the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia reviewed its efforts in combating illicit financial flows through developing the electronic systems used to facilitate the conduct of communications at the Saudi Financial Intelligence Department. Participants in the event stressed the increasing risks of money Laundering and the financing of terrorism and their negative effects on the financial, security and economic stability of countries, evidenced by the significant increases in the volume of funds confiscated from those crimes, with the estimates of uncollected tax proceeds of criminal networks amounting to 427 billion US dollars annually. This requires greater collaboration and cooperation among the concerned authorities to keep pace with the modern and sophisticated organized mechanisms and techniques used by criminal networks involved in money Laundering operations.

Moreover, the event reviewed the significance of working on reinforcing the capacity of the Financial Intelligence Units through training, providing resources and identifying the areas of increasing importance, such as digital currencies and others. The event also addressed the importance of the continued development of guidance to face illicit financial flows to keep pace with developments on the ground, especially with the technological developments. The event also focused on the great importance



of enhancing cooperation between the public and private sectors, given the private sector's significant part related to the illicit financial flows. Therefore, mechanisms that promote coordination and cooperation between the public and the private sectors, such as whistleblower or internal reporting mechanisms, will significantly contribute to reducing such flows. The event also revealed the close relationship between illicit financial flows and asset recovery, because asset recovery contributed to reducing illicit financial flows.

This event has revealed the significance of the illicit financial flows issue and has demonstrated the great and vital role played by the Financial Intelligence Units in preventing such flows. The event has also highlighted the important role played by Egypt in this regard through the Unit for Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism, for implementing the National Anti-Corruption Strategy within a more comprehensive and generic framework, namely, the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Third: Best Practices and Major Challenges in Recovering the Proceeds of Corruption

The Egyptian Public Prosecutor's Office held a special event titled: "Best practices and challenges for recovery of the proceeds of corruption," in which it demonstrated the best actions taken by the Egyptian Public Prosecutor's Office in the area of asset recovery. Most significant among these measures was the Promulgation of Act No. 28 of 2015 on the establishment and organization of the National Committee for the Recovery of Funds, Assets and Assets Illegally Moved Abroad. The Committee includes the Attorney-General and certain concerned ministries and regulatory and judicial bodies with the aim of unifying efforts in taking the necessary measures to trace and recover funds and to promptly resolve requests for reconciliation. Those efforts have been successful, as the Committee has been able to recover approximately 9 billion Egyptian pounds, equivalent to USD 600 million, from the proceeds of corruption crimes after the perpetrators had applied for reconciliation with the Committee.

The event also reviewed the procedures for issuing restraining orders regarding disposal of the funds of the people accused in corruption cases, including their own funds and the funds of their wives and minor children in addition to extension of the scope of those orders within and outside Egypt to cover known and unknown funds. The efforts of a number of stakeholders are synchronized to implement these measures, headed by the Administrative Control Authority, the Public Funds Intelligence Unit and the Unit for Combating Money Laundering and the Financing of Terrorism.

Moreover, the event addressed the progress made at the international cooperation level in relation to asset recovery, where several requests for judicial assistance have recently been filed to foreign States for the investigation,

Egypt reviewed many of the steps it has taken for combating money Laundering and the financing of terrorism in order to combat all forms of illicit financial flows. The Egyptian State's experience in establishing comprehensive supervisory and control systems on various forms of cash flows.

The Egyptian Public Prosecutor's Office held a special event titled: "Best practices and challenges for recovery of the proceeds of corruption," in which it demonstrated the best actions taken by the Egyptian Public Prosecutor's Office in the area of asset recovery.

freezing, confiscation and returning of all assets and proceeds of corruption. Those efforts included direct contact with specialists from other States through numerous bilateral meetings, establishing direct and indirect channels of communication with officials of the States concerned, successfully obtaining issuance of decisions by the European Union and the Swiss Federation for freezing the funds and assets of the accused abroad. Finally, they also included tracing the accused through the issuance of international arrest warrants and the placement of the accused on the lists of the International Criminal Police Organization Red Notice.

The event also involved discussions on the main substantive and procedural challenges to recover the proceeds of corruption from abroad. Those challenges include excessive formalities and delay in responding to legal assistance requests, such as identifying the location of funds to be frozen within the financial institutions in the concerned State. More challenges include delay or failure to respond to the implementation of sentences in absentia due to the different legislative and legal systems, and refusal of some States to disclose the identity of the true owners of cross-border companies. This ultimately results in extending the period of tracking and recovery of the looted funds, returning them and issuing final judgments.

The event concluded with several important recommendations to promote the recovery of proceeds. Those recommendations included the pressing need to develop mechanisms to communicate more effectively before sending requests for legal assistance so that they could be properly formulated to be accepted before foreign courts. Requested States should not overcomplicate their formal procedures and show genuine political will to return corruption proceeds to their owners. Like the preceding two events, this event highlighted the efforts and actions of the Egyptian State in preventing and combating corruption, and the role played by the Egyptian Public Prosecutor's Office in recovering the proceeds of corruption.

The special events organized by the Arab Republic of Egypt were well-received by the participating delegations and the representatives of States, the civil society organizations and the international and regional bodies involved in combating corruption. They involved a large number of comments, feedback and discussions that enriched those events and came up with numerous practical recommendations that could be implemented in the areas of combating corruption in all its shapes and forms. These events, with all the procedures that have been taken and the challenges that have been overcome, reflected Egypt's strong political will to combat corruption and meet its regional and international commitments to address this phenomenon, which has a major impact on the development process.



**In his speech at the concluding session
Chairman of ACA:
We explained to the international
community that combating corruption is
still at the top of the political agenda**

Major General Hassan Abdel-Shafi, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, during the concluding session, stated that the Conference explained to the international community that combating corruption is still at the top of the political agenda.

Esteemed delegates, ladies and gentlemen
We concluded the proceedings of the Conference of the State Parties in its ninth session. The Conference considered several vital issues about the future of the Convention. This session ends up a year of combating corruption.

This Session was held after the exceptional session of the General Assembly for combating corruption, which adopted a political declaration that maps out the way we work to prevent and combat corruption for the coming years.

We demonstrated to the international community that combating corruption is still at the top of the political agenda. In addition, the states are renewing and enhancing their efforts for implementing the principles and standards of the Convention. The Conference undertook several important tasks for the future. We are expecting more work to do, and I will be pleased to work with the esteemed delegation on our way to the Tenth Session.

I would like to express my deep appreciation to the effective role played by all of you in this Conference: governments, international governmental organizations and civil society. The civil society played a major role as explained in the Convention. It was found out again that our collective contributions in the efforts to combat corruption within the framework of the Convention lead this Conference to achieving successful results.

Please allow me to assert that the Government of the Arab Republic of Egypt was pleased to host this session. I am also pleased

with this session and would like to express my appreciation to the assistance provided by the extended bureau in the work of the Conference.

I would like to express my appreciation to the vice-presidents of the Conference for the support they provided through chairing the general session and meetings held in parallel with it.

I believe I am speaking in the name of all the delegations when I express our appreciation to all the Secretariat staff who contributed to our work and facilitated it by preparing the documents, drafting the Session report as well as providing advice and support to all the delegation in the different stages of our proceedings.

I would like to add that we thank all the persons who worked behind the scenes and provided insightful help to us this week. We also thank all the Conferences service staff who undertook the meeting, including those who edited, translated, copied and distributed our documents, as well as the interpreters and sound engineering technicians.

I also would like to extend my deep thanks and appreciation to the Secretariat and the conference service team who enhanced the efforts to minimize the harmful environmental impacts resulting from holding this Session, especially reducing paper waste by encouraging the use of electronic documents and online services. In addition, I would like to express my heart-felt gratitude to the leading role played by Dr. Ghada Wali, the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Her role was not limited to this Conference only; rather, her role also manifested in her leading the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Finally, allow me to wish you a safe return to your home countries.



Sharm El Sheikh Declaration among Eight Important Resolutions

Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi announces approval of the report of the Conference Ninth Session

In the concluding session of the proceedings of the last day of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, the Conference, chaired by Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi, approved the report of the Ninth Session; it also approved eight resolutions including Sharm El Sheikh Declaration submitted by the Arab Republic of Egypt on the enhancement of international cooperation in combating and preventing corruption during emergency, crisis management and recovery. Two (2) procedural decisions were approved, including an agreement regarding the hosting countries of the Conference Tenth Session.



Five Areas and Sixty-Five Sessions

Successful Conference in Exceptional Circumstances

Special sessions of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption are among the key mechanisms adopted by the Conference since its first session was held in December 2006 in Amman, the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The organization of such special sessions was approved to provide a platform for the different stakeholders from all the countries of the world so that the governments, relevant international and local organizations would review the basic steps that are expected to be taken within the context of effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Such steps include the five main areas listed in the Convention, i.e., preventive measures, criminalization and law enforcement, international cooperation, asset recovery, and technical assistance and information exchange. Such sessions are held in panel discussions outside the formal deliberations.

These sessions are arguably either organized by states to review their national efforts in combating corruption and the challenges encountered by them or organized by other organizations or agencies for discussing certain issues that are of concern at the international arena in connection with combating corruption. Therefore, the special sessions are a significant outlet for states and international organizations to review and discuss the different experiences and mechanisms for implementing all the articles of the Convention. They also enable the opportunities for the different international agencies to discuss any orientation or update to maximize its positive aspects and avoid its negative impacts, if any. This article reviews the most influential issues addressed by the special sessions organized on the sidelines of the Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Sharm El-Sheikh during the period from December 13 to December 17, 2021.

The Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption was held under exceptional circumstances imposed by the COVID-19 pandemic. The challenges created by such pandemic are not only economic and social ones; rather, they are related to the corruption practices during the crisis. Such circumstances are the same as those in which the UN General Assembly exceptional session was held for combating corruption, which was held in June 2021. Out of such exceptional session, the political

The Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption gave the participants an opportunity to exchange information and experiences, share challenges and opportunities. These sessions enriched knowledge and paved the way for more research, studies and discussions for promoting the mechanisms of combating corruption and implementing all the themes in the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

declaration was issued to highlight the importance of collaborative efforts and comprehensive commitment to take the necessary measures to prevent corruption, promote transparency and enforce the law.

With view to the special sessions organized during the Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, they reflect the exceptional circumstances in the light of which they were held. They reflected the discussion of international efforts made to implement the necessary preventive measures aiming to prevent and fight corruption, such as preventing the misuse of the financial system to hide the assets yielded from corruption crimes. This is because such crimes, as stressed by the Political Declaration, undermine the existing financial system in the state, particularly in the light of the repercussions of the COVID-19 pandemic. In addition, more preventive measures must be taken in connection with controlling the public procurements, type of medical services provided, distribution of vaccines, preventing the misuse of funds allocated for emergency. Therefore, the special sessions reflected the five areas in the United Nations Convention against Corruption. The Conference contained 65 special sessions. About 57 sessions were directly dedicated to covering the five areas of the Convention. Distributing the sessions to the five areas, we find, as illustrated by the following figure, that most sessions focused on the area of technical assistance and information exchange, followed by the area of preventive measures with each area covering over 19 sessions. On the other hand, the asset recovery area accounted for a lower number of sessions (Annex 1: List of sessions held on the sidelines of the Conference Ninth Session). As for the sessions related to preventive measures, some organizer and participant delegations in the breakout sessions addressed the most important trends and challenges and best practices in preventing and combating corruption. The discussions focused on promoting integrity in the key senior positions in the different states, which can be achieved through ensuring effective accountability mechanisms in the light of clear allocation of powers and responsibilities related to such positions to avoid any overlap of roles that could adversely affect the accountability process. The legislative initiatives of countries reflected the reforms previously made to comply with the international standards, and

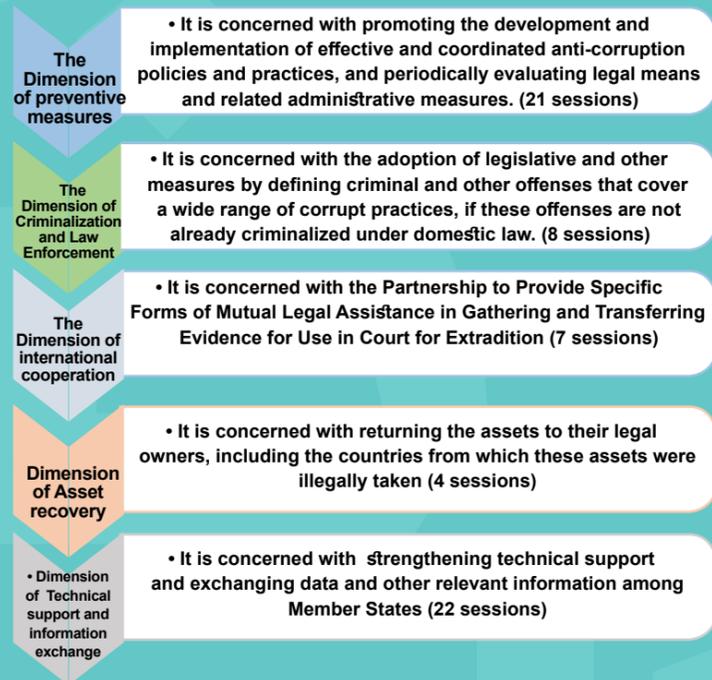


Summary of the Conference Proceedings

reflected the challenges encountered by them in preventing corruption. Light was shed on the challenges to judicial independence in several states witnessing infringement of executive or legislative authorities. Thus, the judicial authority is prevented from assuming the roles prescribed for it in different international conventions. For example, judicial authority was stated in the UN General Assembly Resolutions No. 32 and No. 40 dated November 29, 1985 stipulating the role of judicial authority in finally and impartially deciding about the matters referred to it based on factual findings and pursuant to the law, without any restrictions, improper impacts, any inducements, pressures, threats or interventions, whether direct or indirect, from any agency or for any reason whatsoever. Furthermore, Malaysia reviewed the initiative launched by the Perdana International Anti-Corruption Champion Foundation (PIACCF), which indemnifies individuals arbitrarily dismissed from their jobs because of encountering corruption at their respective institutions. This initiative was launched on 11/02/2020 to support fifty-seven (57) employees arbitrarily dismissed because of their role in combating corruption at their workplace.

Regarding the area of asset recovery, some special sessions addressed several international experiences, such as the United Kingdom, Arab Republic of Egypt, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, some Latin American states. Such international experiences revolved around the different mechanisms used in the field of international cooperation in the recovery of assets yielded through corruption crimes committed against the public and private funds by natural or legal persons in control of such funds by virtue of the authorities and powers vested with them. Such persons transferred such funds to their own property by any illegal means referred to in the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Participant states asserted that it is vital to activate the approved mechanisms and measures to recover the assets. Such recovery could require real and sincere cooperation from all the accredited international parties. The discussions showed that it is necessary to agree on standard legal frameworks and principles since the considerable difference in legislations from one state to another in relation to asset recovery is a major obstacle to the continuity of international cooperation in this respect. Preventing illegal financial flows, and the freezing, confiscation and recovery of assets would considerably contribute to combating corruption and limits the ability of criminal groups to infiltrate into economy. It also supports sustainable development, enhances the rule of law at all levels in all countries of the world at the different economic and developmental levels.

Within the framework of discussing the trends specified in the Second Session of the mechanism for reviewing the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and how the different jurisdictions manage the key challenges to recover the assets, importance of providing better data about the quantity of frozen, garnished, confiscated or returned proceeds from corruption worldwide has been stressed, to enable measuring the achieved progress. In a related context, the World Bank reviewed some efforts made with the partner states about the data handling and transparency in several areas such as local financial transparency, transparency of beneficial ownership, disclosure of assets, tax transparency, and standards of service provision and performance. The World Bank also reviewed the efforts to implement the 2021 Political Declaration of the United Nations General Assembly regarding the transparency of financing the public sector, using the digital tools and open data. The Government of Slovenia and Federal Government of Brazil discussed the indispensable role of digital platforms with databases related to financing the public sector, including the public procurements and public health data related to COVID-19. It was pointed out that proactive transparency is an effective tool for methodological protection against corruption. Proactive transparency is a basic element for building trust between citizens and governments particularly during emergency and crises. Brazil launched the



The participant states asserted the importance of activating the approved mechanisms and measures for asset recovery. This requires real and sincere cooperation from all the approved international parties. The discussions also pointed out that it is crucial to agree on standard legal frameworks and principles because the considerable variation in legislations among the states in relation to asset recovery is a major hindrance for resuming international cooperation in this respect.

Transparency Portal in May 2018, with round-the-clock query support and statistical analyses available through it, recording more than 19.5 million views. It was also highlighted that it is important to set a legal and political framework for the Government open data to take into consideration the risks related to the protection of privacy and confidentiality concurrent with facilitating access to and re-use of data.

In the light of the area of criminalization, some special proceedings addressed issues related to protection of witnesses and whistleblowers pursuant to Article (32) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Article (32) stipulated that "Each State Party shall take the appropriate measures in accordance with its domestic legal system and within its means to provide effective protection from potential retaliation or intimidation for witnesses and experts who give testimony concerning offenses established in accordance with this Convention and, as appropriate, for their relatives and other persons close to them." It was pointed out that about 70 % of all the reviewed states received recommendations to consider enhancing the protection of whistleblowers. It was pointed out that such states need some technical assistance. Several representatives of states and international agencies asserted that the legislative structure in most states needs to be revisited for providing all the required legal instruments that provide effective protection against potential reprisal and intimidation of witnesses, experts and victims who provide testimony about corruption cases. within the same context, the Government of South Africa announced the launching of two witness protection projects. The first project seeks to establish and improve the communication channels of whistleblowers to communicate with them and provide them with all types of required protection. The project also identifies deficiencies and situation of better practices to improve communication between whistleblowers and anti-corruption authorities.

The Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption gave the participants an opportunity to exchange information and experiences, share challenges and opportunities. These sessions enriched knowledge and paved the way for more research, studies and discussions for promoting the mechanisms of combating corruption and implementing all the themes in the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Annex 1: List of sessions held on the sidelines of the Ninth Session of the Conference

Areas of United Nations Convention against Corruption	Special sessions held in the Ninth Session of the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption
Area of preventive measures	<p>Towards implementing a roadmap for eradicating corruption in the Pacific States</p> <p>Preventing corruption through education</p> <p>Rule of law approach for promoting integrity and rebuilding trust</p> <p>Multi-sector partnerships for activating a mechanism for reviewing the public policies reform</p> <p>National anti-corruption strategies and action plans: From development to implementation and evaluation</p> <p>Innovative and successful experiences about preventing corruption in the public sector: What we can learn from one another.</p> <p>Women leaderships and their role in promoting integrity.</p> <p>Integrity and combating corruption in the Arab Region: developments and horizons.</p> <p>Protecting sport against corruption: Together we can all win.</p> <p>Who is actually the whistleblower?</p> <p>Shaping the future: Consolidating gender in implementing the United Nations Convention against Corruption</p> <p>Role of financial intelligence units in combating illegitimate financial flows</p> <p>Open data and transparency for enhancing the public sector integrity (transparency of public finance)</p> <p>Private sector financial institutions: In the forefront of financial integrity</p> <p>Evaluating the meeting of the experts team concerned with corruption and international investments formed pursuant to Security Council Resolution 8/9</p> <p>Ninth Forum of Parliamentarians: Applying integrity</p> <p>Environmental corruption as an obstacle against sustainable development goals (SDGs)</p> <p>Role of different professions in encountering corruption</p> <p>Tackling transnational corruption: Linking between the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and United Nations Convention against Corruption</p>
Criminalization and law enforcement	<p>Combating international corruption from Palermo to Mérida: Challenges resulting from cryptocurrencies and new routes for asset recovery</p> <p>Tackling corruption in prison systems</p> <p>Forms of modern slavery and combating terrorism: Examining and addressing gaps in policies</p> <p>Misuse of fund-raising activities for corruption and crime-related purposes.</p> <p>Informal contact and international cooperation: Means of cooperation and challenges</p> <p>Role of national parliaments and other legislative bodies in preventing and combating corruption</p> <p>Challenges and opportunities related to implementing Paragraph 40 of Political Declaration of the United Nations General Assembly: Experiences of Portuguese-speaking states</p> <p>Addressing corruption related to environmental crimes</p>
Area of international cooperation	<p>Integrity in matters related to border management</p> <p>Trans-border cooperation to eradicate corruption: Glob E network - a worldwide operational network for law enforcement and anti-corruption authorities</p> <p>Joint efforts for combating corruption in Africa: Continent-wide thinking</p> <p>Intensifying global action for business integrity</p> <p>Comprehensive response to several corruption sectors in Kuwait</p> <p>Multi-stakeholder cooperation in combating corruption: A perspective of G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG)</p> <p>Proponents of civil society in combating corruption: Presenting best regional practices</p>
Area of asset recovery	<p>Stolen Asset Recovery Initiative (STAR)</p> <p>Best practices and major obstacles in recovering proceeds of corruption</p> <p>Tools and best practices for recovering and confiscating assets</p> <p>Management of recovered assets in Africa: Challenges and opportunities</p>
Area of technical support and information sharing	<p>New normal situation in combating corruption: Malaysian experience</p> <p>Are State reports about anti-corruption conventions influential? Contemplations from Africa</p> <p>National Anti-Corruption Strategy: Best practices and challenges</p> <p>ICT challenges and opportunities for preventing and detecting corruption, and promoting integrity and transparency</p> <p>Effective economic management and financial integrity to fulfill sustainable development goals (SDGs)</p> <p>Beneficial ownership: Paying the liabilities of the United Nations Convention against Corruption</p> <p>Global Anti-Corruption Cities Network (GACCN) Initiative in the light of the United Nations Convention against Corruption</p> <p>Algeria against Corruption: New legal and institutional anti-corruption reforms</p> <p>Women as Drivers for Fair and Ethical Business</p> <p>Enhancing the role of civil society in combating corruption in Uzbekistan</p> <p>Achieving progress in integrity and combating terrorism in post-conflict environments: Case study of Somalia</p> <p>Do we need a special anti-corruption resolution? If so, what should its jurisdiction look like?</p> <p>Post-Coronavirus Pandemic Era</p> <p>Enhancing the implementation of United Nations Convention against Corruption at the level of Southern African Development Community (SADC)</p> <p>Respecting our obligations to enhance international cooperation in combating corruption and depriving the corrupt and proceeds of corruption of safe havens.</p> <p>South East Europe Together Against Corruption</p> <p>Anti-Corruption Public Prosecution is under attack</p> <p>Trends, challenges and best practices in preventing and combating corruption</p> <p>Enhancing a mechanism for reviewing the implementation of an anti-corruption convention</p>



Egyptian-Saudi Memorandum of Understanding for Preventing and Combating Corruption

On the sidelines of meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, a memorandum of understanding was signed by Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, and Mr. Mazen Al Kahmous, the Chairman of the Saudi National Anti-corruption Commission. The memorandum is concerned with preventing, fighting corruption, exchanging bilateral experience and training in the field of combating corruption, through the National Anti-Corruption Academy.



Chairman of ACA meets with the Chairman of the French Anti-Corruption Agency

On the sidelines of the meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, met with Mr. Charles Duchaine, the Chairman of the French Anti-Corruption Agency.

The meeting addressed the means of future cooperation between both sides on issues of mutual concern: preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training on modern tools of detecting corruption crimes and financial investigations.

Both sides also agreed that the National Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority will recruit experts from the French side to train the staff at counterpart authorities in Africa through the Academy in the light of Egypt's concern for disseminating knowledge and exchanging experience and culture among the different African nations.





Both sides discussed scope of cooperation in exchanging experience in combating corruption
Assistant to the Chairman of ACA meets with the Chairman of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission

On the sidelines of the meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Senior Deputy Khaled Abdel-Rahman, the Assistant to Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, met with Mr. Tan Sri Azam Baki, the Chairman of Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission.
At their meeting, they investigated the scope of mutual cooperation on the issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about risks, exchanging the experience of both sides, as well as the exchange of information in the area of combating corruption crimes. Such cooperation with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission is backdated to several years in different areas of preventing and combating corruption and training. The collaboration agreement between both sides will be renewed in the coming period.
During the meeting, both sides discussed scopes of bilateral cooperation in the areas of training on the activities of preventing and combating corruption, areas related to collaboration between the National Anti-Corruption Academy and Malaysian Anti-Corruption Academy.



.. And met with US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State via videoconference

On the sidelines of the meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Senior Deputy Khaled Abdel-Rahman, the Assistant to Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority for National Anti-Corruption Academy and International Cooperation Affairs, met with Mr. James Walsh, the US deputy assistant Secretary of State via videoconference. During the meeting, they examined the scope of mutual collaboration between both sides in areas of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks and investigations of related crimes.



Signing a memorandum of understanding in the field of preventing and combating corruption

Abdel Shafi meets with the chairman of the Jordanian Integrity and Anti-Corruption Commission

On the sidelines of the meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority met with Mr. Mohannad Hegazi, the Chairman of Jordanian Integrity and Anti-Corruption Commission.

The meeting addressed the means of cooperation between both sides in issues of mutual concern, issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training on modern means of detecting corruption crimes and financial investigations in collaboration with the National Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority. At the end of the meeting, both sides signed a memorandum of understanding to collaborate in areas of preventing and combating corruption, and training.



And meets with the Chairman of the Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority Board of Trustees (Nazaha)



HE Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority meets Mr. Abdulaziz Al-Ibrahim, Chairman of the Kuwait Anti-Corruption Authority Board of Trustees (Nazaha).

At the meeting, they discussed areas of future collaboration between both sides in preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides in different training fields.

At the end of the meeting, the Kuwaiti delegation visited the pavilion of Administrative Control Authority at the venue of the Conference in Sharm El Sheikh. The members of the delegation listened to an explanation of the promotional activities of the Authority to spread awareness about the risks of corruption as well as the different training activities provided by the National Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority.





Representatives of EACA meet with the chairman of the Uzbekistan Anti-Corruption Agency and director of Public Prosecutors Office Academy

Deputy Hamed Hememy, the former director of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, meets Mr. Akmal Burkhanov, the chairman of Anti-Corruption Agency and Mr. Yevgeniy Kolenko, the director of Public Prosecutors Office Academy in Uzbekistan. At the meeting, they discussed the means of cooperation in the fields of exchanging training expe-

rience between both sides in areas of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, benefiting from the training capabilities of the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority, given that the Uzbekistan Anti-Corruption Agency is a newly established agency.



Chairman of ACA receives the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission

On the sidelines of the meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority met Mr. Raed Radwan the head of the Palestinian Anti-Corruption Commission. The meeting addressed the means of mutual cooperation between both sides in issues of mutual concern, issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training on combating corruption crimes.

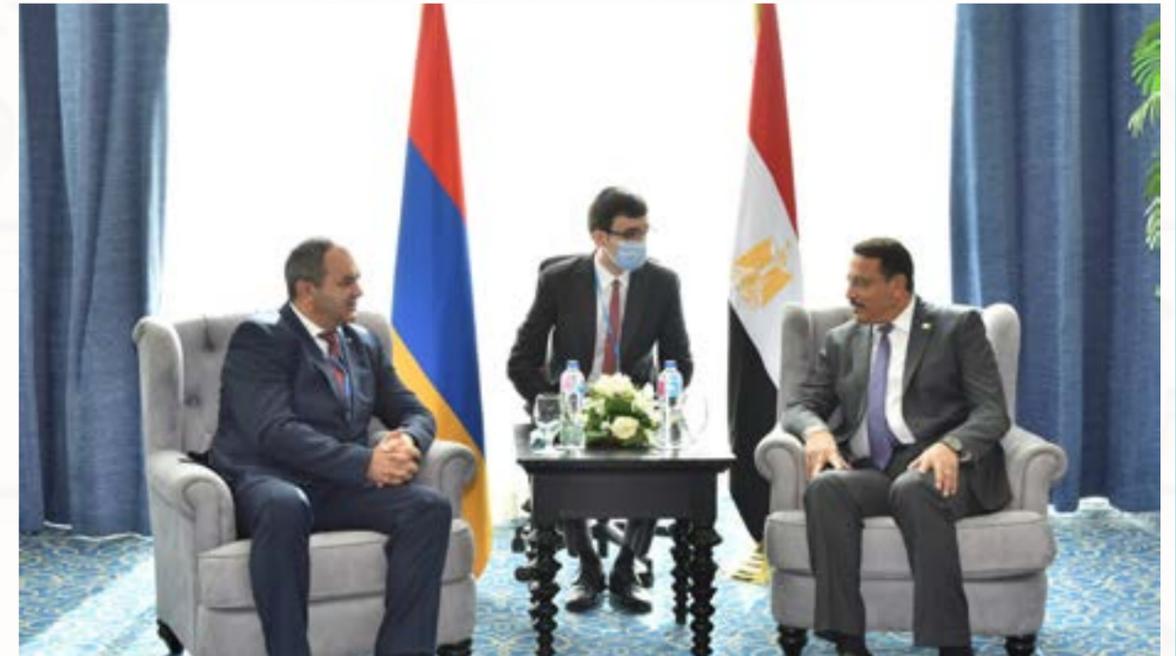




Assistant to the Chairman of ACA receives the Minister of Promotion of Good Governance, Capacity Building and Anti-Corruption of Côte d'Ivoire



Senior Deputy Khaled Abdel-Rahman, the Assistant to Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, met with Epiphane Zoro Bi Ballo, the Minister of Promotion of Good Governance, Capacity Building and Anti-Corruption of Côte d'Ivoire. During the meeting, both sides discussed means of mutual cooperation in preventing and combating corruption, exchanging experts and training experience in relevant fields, in collaboration with the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority to benefit from the Egyptian expertise in this field, given that such ministry was newly created and that the Côte d'Ivoire side wishes to benefit from the capabilities of the EACA to train its cadres. At the end of the meeting, the delegation visited the pavilion of Administrative Control Authority at the venue of the Conference in Sharm El Sheikh. The members of the delegation listened to an explanation of the promotional activities of the Authority to spread awareness about the risks of corruption as well as the different training activities provided by the National Anti-Corruption Academy at the Administrative Control Authority.



Agreement on bilateral collaboration in combating corruption Chairman of ACA meets with the Armenian Prosecutor General

Minister Hassan Abdel-Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority met Artur Davtyan, the Prosecutor General of the Republic of Armenia, in the presence of the Ambassador of Armenia in Cairo. The meeting addressed the types of future cooperation between both sides in issues of mutual concern: preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training in relevant fields. On the same note, both sides agreed on activating bilateral cooperation between the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority and its Armenian counterpart through bilateral collaboration agreements.





Assistant to the Chairman of ACA meets with the chairman of the Iraqi Commission of Integrity



Senior Deputy Khaled Abdel-Rahman, the Assistant to Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority for National Anti-Corruption Academy and International Cooperation Affairs, met Judge Alaa Jawad, the chairman of the Iraqi Commission of Integrity (Nazaha). The meeting addressed the means of cooperation between both sides in issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training in relevant fields. Both sides agreed to activate bilateral cooperation with the Administrative Control Authority and the Iraqi Commission of Integrity (Nazaha) in collaboration with the Egyptian National Anti-Corruption Academy in the areas of asset recovery, international cooperation, academic master's degree programs in governance and combating corruption provided by the Academy.



Chairman of ACA meets with the chairman of the Omani State Audit Institution (SAI)

Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, meets Sheikh Nasser bin Helal Al Mawali, the chairman of the State Audit Institution in the Sultanate of Oman. At the meeting, both sides discussed the avenues of mutual collaboration in issues of mutual concern and issues of preventing and combating corruption

and spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and expertise between both sides. They also discussed exploiting the available resources and capabilities at the National Anti-Corruption Academy and collaboration with the Investment Support Department at the Administrative Control Authority to support the Omani investment efforts.





The Chairman of ACA meets with the Minister of Justice and Human Rights in the Republic of Angola

Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, the Chairman of Administrative Control Authority, meets Mr. Francisco Manuel, the Minister of Justice and Human Rights in the Republic of Angola. The meeting addressed the means of future cooperation between both sides in issues of mutual concern, issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and experience between both sides, paying attention to training in relevant fields.



Chairman of ACA holds a discussion with the chairman of the Greek National Integrity System About types of collaboration between both sides



On the sidelines of meetings held by the Conference of the State Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Sharm El Sheikh, Minister Hassan Abdel Shafi Ahmed, the chairman of the Administrative Control Authority, met Mr. Angelos Binios, the chairman of the National Integrity System in Greece. Through videoconference, they discussed the means of possible cooperation between both sides. The meeting addressed the means of future cooperation between both sides in issues of mutual concern, issues of preventing and combating corruption, spreading awareness about its risks, exchanging experts and expertise. During the meeting, a memorandum of understanding was signed between the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority and the Greek National Integrity System for the coming period.



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COMMITTED TO EXCELLENCE

13-17 DECEMBER 2021

SHARM EL SHEIKH, EGYPT



9TH CONFERENCE OF THE STATES PARTIES
TO THE

UNITED NATIONS CONVENTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

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