Short Session Report

**Session Title:** SDGs, Anti-Corruption and Equity: Leave no one behind to deliver on the SDGs.

**Date & Time:** 2 December, 17h30

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**Moderated by:** Patrick Keuleers, Director of Governance and Peacebuilding, UNDP

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Main issues raised in kick off remarks. What’s the focus of the session?

A year ago, the 2030 Sustainable Development agenda was adopted. A great breakthrough was the design of the SDG 16, not only regarding the specific targets 4 and 5 on corruption and stolen asset but essentially because it constitutes a link between corruption and development.

The challenge is that the new agenda is universal: we now have to mainstream goal 16 targets in other goals and sectors, especially
governance.

The questions are thus: How to strengthen links between anti-corruption and different sectors (including health, education, climate change)? Do we have the tools and mechanisms to monitor goal 16?

What initiatives have been showcased? Briefly describe the Game Changing strategies/ ideas (if applicable)

- UNDP is supporting Global Alliance for reporting progress on promoting peaceful, just and inclusive societies. It is constituted of governments, civil society, and private sector. Another initiative is the Mainstreaming, Acceleration and Policy Support (MAPS) which is meant to ensure effective and coherent implementation of the SDGs’ agenda.
- The World Health Organisation designed a tool to address good governance (since 2004) in the health sector. Assessment tool: gap analysis in pharmaceutical system; second is to improve transparency and accountability in it (plan based on participatory); then monitoring the implementation. WHO is now revising the tool to make it more aligned with the SDGs.
- Corruption is a threat for all SDGs, including SDG 13 on climate change. It is therefore important to better understand the corruption risks for goal 13. Looking at the targets, it is about controlling corruption and bribery as well as fostering awareness and participation. There are already good practices and indicators: strong institutions with good capacity, awareness of the public, grievance mechanisms. Transparency International Kenya is also providing avenues for victims and witnesses of corruption, tracking cases and offering free and legal advice.
- The UNODC is promoting a taskforce on corruption measurement to have the best vehicle to do corruption survey or at least generate data. Main focus is on the quality as well as on standardized methodologies and standards to ensure comparability across countries.
- In Moldova, together with CSOs, the government organised a number of workshops and surveys to see how the SDGs are reflected in current policies and then identify possible gaps on
Briefly describe the highlights including the thematically interesting questions and ideas that were generated from the discussion or from the floor, and session quotes.

- The role of academia is important: to innovate. For example, regarding big data, it can develop evidence to analyse data and help identify trends, etc. Academia can also be instrumental in analysing what works in anti-corruption policies.

- Civil society also has a crucial role: it can bring and explain the SDGs agenda to the local level and also be instrumental in monitoring their progress and also be creative and propose solutions. It is thus key to make sure the space for civil society is protected.

- Finally, the private sector has to be part of the implementation of the SDGs if we want them to succeed. The private sector can also benefit from opportunities linked to the SDGs.

What are the key recommendations, follow-up Actions (200 words narrative form)

- Data quality: Statisticians have to help to produce experience-based data to tackle root causes of corruption and to show the economic impact of corruption. The data also has to be comparable.

- Localisation of SDGs: SDGs have to be localised, nationally accepted, and involve all stakeholders.

- Finally, trust has to be built. Inclusion of all stakeholders are key for the success of the SDGs, and in particular goal 16. The monitoring of progress shall also be done in a participatory way, building on existing national frameworks and commitments (conventions, OGP, etc.).

Key Insights that could be included in the IACC Declaration
For it to succeed, SDG 16 has to be integrated and mainstreamed in the other goals.

To address corruption, you have to look beyond and promote good governance. At the moment, most of the opportunities to have impact in anti-corruption lie in the sectors, where targeted assessments and solutions can be formulated.

Rapporteur’s name and date submitted
Indicated above!

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