

The 2nd Global Conference on Harnessing Data to Improve Anti-Corruption Measurement

High Level Statement China

Chair, corruption is the common enemy of humanity and combating it is a just cause shared by the world. The Communist Party of China and the Chinese government have taken an unequivocal stand against corruption, resolutely cracking down on corruption related crimes. These efforts have provided strong safeguards for the country's long term stability and sustainable development. China values the efforts of UNDP, UNODC, and IACA and other relevant institutions in assisting countries to conduct corruption measurement in support of the implementation of UNCAC Conference of State Parties resolution 8/10, the political declaration adopted at Agar special session against corruption. At the same time, given the complexity of corruption and the diversity of national conditions, stages of development and legal systems, it's not feasible to measure corruption using one single metric. To make sure the measurement work is conducted in a scientific and objective manner, we propose the following points. First, we must uphold the principle of sovereign equality. The process should remain intergovernmental with countries participating on a voluntary basis. It must not lead to any form of ranking or punishment, nor be misused to impose long arm jurisdiction or interfere in the internal affairs of other states. UNODC and other relevant institutions should limit their role to providing statistical frameworks without directly organizing measurement work. Such efforts should in no way replace or serve as a de facto substitute for the review mechanism under the United Nations Convention Against Corruption. Second, we should commit to inclusive development. In conducting corruption measurement, all countries should adhere to a spirit of non confrontation and non politicization. While taking into account differences in economic development and levels of social governance, it is essential to avoid any practices that result in substantive unfairness as such outcomes would run counter to the principle of accommodating diverse national conditions. Third, we must focus on capacity building. It is crucial to prioritize the need of developing countries and to strengthen communication and coordination between providers and recipients of technical assistance. Efforts should be guided by the genuine needs of recipients with the aim of effectively helping developing countries enhance their capacity to combat corruption. China believes that only by building broad consensus, drawing on the wisdom of all parties and ensuring voluntary participation, can we advance the implementation of the Vienna principles towards a global framework for measuring corruption. China stands ready to work together with all partners to deepen research on corruption measurement and ensure that countries truly benefit from this endeavor. I thank you Chair.