

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

High Level Statement Ecuador

Good morning, all. On behalf of the Republic of Ecuador, I want to congratulate the organizers for convening this conference. The main purpose is to strengthen international cooperation and technical dialogue and exchange good practices in the fight against corruption. In Ecuador we hold the conviction that there is no excuse for not combating corruption, so we have undertaken an institutional transformational process that drives integrity, builds capacity, and modernizes our systems for corruption prevention. Corruption is not just a question of money, but a direct threat to democracy and the rule of law and also economic security. Ecuador understands that combating corruption also means decisively tackling money laundering, strengthening financial oversight and all analysis and reporting mechanisms. The international perception is clear, and its high vulnerability and institutional weakness have allowed corruption to undermine citizens' trust in the use of public resources, as has been shown in major cases of state tenders.

Against this, Ecuador has taken a number of actions to redirect our culture towards accountability and ethical action through policies and our national strategy for public integrity and integrity in public office. We are empowering citizens and public servants to combat corruption through our anti-corruption and integrity plan. Financial analysis finds that corruption is the second greatest threat in Ecuador. And in the first place is drug trafficking. This means we have to strengthen preventive and investigative and punitive action on our institutional basis. It's not just that it undermines public resources, but it affects the quality of life for individuals.

Having consulted statistics that allow us to put in place more effective public policies, we have found that it's useful to do this through building capacity and exchange of information and technical exchange globally to combat corruption. Ecuador reaffirms its commitment to work with all of you to strengthen integrity systems, to promote transparency, and build more resilient democracies. The fight against corruption is a complex one, but it's possible to do this when we confront it with resistance and cooperation.