



## Six Principles and Five Objectives of the Third Version of the National Strategy Fighting Corruption in Times of Emergency and Crisis

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During one of the workshops held with participation of the teaching staff members and experts in the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy (EACA), the discussions addressed the exceptional measures taken to continue the training process at the Academy in light of the corona pandemic, and whether this process will be resumed during the coming period. The discussions ensued to answer a number of questions on whether the anti-corruption measures are affected by the exceptional circumstances and the implementation activities related to the Egyptian state strategies. Other questions were raised on the results of achieving the desired development goals in many areas during that period, as compared to the pre-corona period, regarding the strategies development and implementation method under the supposedly "normal" conditions. Are those strategies implemented in stable political, economic and social atmospheres?

### The New Normal

The answer was surprising, yet revealing most of the truth. The strategies development and implementation should assume that the surrounding atmospheres are exceptional and suffused with conditions of crises and emergency. This is not a pessimistic, miserable or defeatist view; rather, it is a realistic concrete one. Therefore, the goals and mechanisms for implementing strategies must be set according to what is known as the "new normal". This was manifested through dealing with the corona pandemic surrounding conditions, through the health and preventive measures taken to address the crisis and its impact on the various political, economic and social aspects in all countries. This extended to all life aspects, personal life and the living conditions of various segments within societies, let alone the Russian-Ukrainian crisis and its political and economic repercussions, which affected most world countries directly and indirectly. Therefore, the idea of developing different scenarios to address crises while implementing the mechanisms, aiming to achieve the strategic goals is not an exceptional matter conditional to the crises occurrence, but an existential, contemporary and tangible matter.

### Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration

Egypt is a party to the United Nations Convention against Corruption. In this context, Egypt hosted the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to United Nations Convention against Corruption held in December 2021 in Sharm El-Sheikh and assumed presidency of that session. Along with 12 other countries, Egypt adopted what is known as the Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on "strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery". The Declaration was based on the serious concerns and risks posed by corruption to the societies stability, security and sustainable development, as well as the importance of joint commitment to work effectively for addressing challenges and implementing some measures for preventing corruption and strengthening international cooperation through several measures, including:

- Preventing illegal financial flows as well as recovering and returning stolen assets for implementing the Convention terms, achieving effective resource mobilization and sustainable development and for eradicating poverty.
- The importance of facing international challenges and obstacles, such as the measures impeding international cooperation and

contravening the UN Charter and international law, because international cooperation is an integral part of the measures of crises recovery.

- Responding to global emergencies and crises, including the situation arising from the corona pandemic and its health, social and economic effects on the rule of law and the emergence of discrimination. This is reflected in the implementation of measures to implement goal no. 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals related to encouraging the establishment of peaceful, marginalization-free societies to make the best development efforts.

- Supporting relief efforts at the economic and health levels to limit the scope of corruption spread and avoid hampering the efforts of emergencies and crisis response and recovery.

- Forbidding public officials from exploiting their positions, powers or the information accessed by them by virtue of their positions in profiteering through the purchase of medicines or supplies specified for facing emergency conditions, in the cases of allocation, distribution or management thereof, with the obligation to disclose any potential conflict of interests.

The Egyptian efforts continued in this field during the participation of the Administrative Control Authority Chairman, President of



**Workshop on Fighting Corruption during Times of Emergency and Crisis**

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**Opening Session of the Governmental Experts Workshops**

**The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy hosted an international meeting for governmental experts December 2022 at its 13-during the period 12 headquarters in the presence of Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and Ms. Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief of the UNODC Corruption and Economic Crime Branch. The meeting was attended by representatives from 30 countries in addition to many international organizations, international experts**

the ninth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and the Egyptian delegation in the meetings of the Convention workgroups during the period 711- November in Vienna. The Convention workgroups are concerned with asset recovery, enhancing international cooperation and reviewing the convention implementation. They also discussed the mechanisms for enhancing international cooperation and exchanging the information, the gained experiences as well as the Convention implementation efforts and the successful practices. In addition, their discussions covered the challenges to implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery. The sessions included a review by the Administrative Control Authority of the importance of Egypt's adoption of Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration. Delegations from the United States, Australia, Brazil, Italy, Romania, the World Bank and the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development participated in reviewing Egypt's efforts for implementing Sharm El-Sheikh Declaration. The closing session was concluded with adoption of the reports of the various workgroups.

### Holding the international meeting of governmental experts at the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy

The Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy hosted an international meeting for governmental experts during the period 1213- December 2022 at its headquarters in the presence of Minister Amr Adel, Chairman of the Administrative Control Authority and Ms. Brigitte Strobel-Shaw, Chief of the UNODC Corruption and Economic Crime Branch. The meeting was attended by representatives from 30 countries in addition to many international organizations, international experts and the Academy's leaders and teaching staff members. It was held based on the invitation of the ninth session of the Conference to hold an open meeting for governmental experts to participate in the promotion of international cooperation, with support of the UNODC through collecting and analyzing the information provided by the states parties on the best practices and challenges regarding international cooperation. The meeting was

concluded with the preparation of a preliminary document based on the experts' reports made during the side sessions, comprising five parts covering general observations, identifying legal and institutional constraints and overcoming them as well as measuring effectiveness of the local cooperation framework in facing the times of emergency and crises recovery. They also addressed international cooperation as a tool for combating corruption in times of crisis and the mechanisms for discussing the risks of corruption posed to international and multilateral financial relief.

### Launching the third phase of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030-

The Administrative Control Authority responded to the celebration of the International Anti-Corruption Day by holding an event to launch the third phase of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030- under auspices of the President and in presence of the Prime Minister and a number of senior state officials. A seminar was held with participation of a number of leaders and specialists in the judicial and executive authorities, who reviewed the five main goals of the Strategy.

The approach to preparing the Strategy and its orientations based its preparation on four preparatory stages, related to evaluation, analysis, formulation and launch.

The National Anti-Corruption Strategy 20232030- was based on six main principles: integrity, transparency, participation, rule of law, equality and accountability.

Six goals were set for the third stage of the strategy, namely:

- A competent effective administrative body that provides distinguished services to the citizens and the investors;
- A legislative and judicial structure that supports the fight against corruption and achieves prompt justice;
- Some state bodies capable of combating corruption and enforcing the law;
- A society that is aware of the dangers of corruption and is able to combat it; and
- Effective international and regional cooperation in combating corruption.

In the same context of the essential educational and awareness role formulated and supported by the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy, the training agency of the Administrative Control Authority, a number of events and celebrations were held in 16 governorates in cooperation with the governors, university presidents, teaching staff members and students. The students presented their activities in support of combating corruption, which expressed our unity in the fight against corruption.

### Final Statement

In midst of wars, crises and emergencies, remember that Egypt has the oldest, most deep-rooted civilization in history. Egypt has always been such a great country with support of your willpower and for your benefit.

