



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:

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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

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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.

