

# Qatar's Success in Enhancing Integrity and Transparency



ضمير  
الوطن

His Excellency Mr.  
Hamad bin Nasser Al-Misnad

■ President of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority  
State of Qatar



The State of Qatar is preparing to host the eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which will be held next year in 2025. This comes after Qatar officially requested to host the conference last year, reflecting its continuous commitment to supporting international efforts to prevent and combat corruption, and to promoting the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. Qatar's capabilities and expertise in organizing such conferences are widely recognized.



As part of its pioneering efforts to enhance international cooperation in preventing and combating corruption, Qatar was one of the first countries in the world to host the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, with Doha hosting the third session of the conference in 2009. During this session, the UN review mechanism for the implementation of the Convention was adopted, which continues to play a crucial role in promoting the implementation of the Convention and facilitating the exchange of related international expertise among the States Parties.

## International Effort

Doha has become a landmark in the joint international effort to combat corruption and reinforce commitment to international agreements. Since hosting the third session of the Conference of the States Parties in November 2009, which adopted the review mechanism for the implementation of the Convention, Qatar has also implemented the Global Programme for the Doha Declaration from 2016 to 2021. This program completed projects aimed at enhancing the capacities of states, particularly developing countries, in areas such as judicial integrity, combating corruption, and protecting youth from crime, benefiting over one hundred countries.

Additionally, Qatar launched a unique initiative by establishing an annual international anti-corruption award in the name of His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Amir of Qatar, since 2016. The award has been presented in subsequent years. Furthermore, in 2011, Qatar established the Rule of Law and Anti-Corruption Center in Doha to build specialized knowledge and improve individual and institutional capacities, thereby enhancing the rule of law and combating corruption. This non-governmental center specializes in research, training, and providing technical support to countries worldwide in the areas of rule of law and anti-corruption.

Qatar also played a role in developing the Arab Convention against Corruption and is committed to its



**The State of Qatar has adopted an integrated approach to prevent and combat corruption, combining attention to both national and international aspects. This stems from the recognition that no country can protect itself from or eradicate the scourge of corruption in isolation from its regional and international environment. The liberalization of international trade, the ease of movement of individuals and goods, and technological advances in communications and electronic transactions, despite their significant advantages, have made the world akin to a small village and imposed significant challenges, the most important of which is the rapid transfer and conversion of money obtained from corruption crimes.**

technical support to countries worldwide in the areas of rule of law and anti-corruption.

Qatar also played a role in developing the Arab Convention against Corruption and is committed to its

implementation and supporting other Arab countries in doing so. Additionally, the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority was established by Emiri Decision No. 75 of 2011 as a specialized entity aimed at enhancing integrity and transparency. Its objectives include ensuring oversight, transparency, public service integrity, preventing crimes affecting public funds or public service, and working to detect and address such crimes.

Emiri Decision No. 6 of 2015 and the Reorganization of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority

Emiri Decision No. 6 of 2015 was issued to reorganize the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority, emphasizing a greater focus on prevention. The decision aims to contribute to achieving the highest indicators of integrity and transparency in public service and to combat all forms and manifestations of corruption. To affirm the Authority's independence, the decision granted it legal personality and placed it under the direct supervision of the Amir. This reorganization involves organizing regional workshops



**Since 2016, the State of Qatar launched a unique initiative by establishing an annual international award for combating corruption, named after His Highness Sheikh Tamim bin Hamad Al Thani, the Emir of Qatar.**

on the application of the review mechanism for the implementation of the Anti-Corruption Convention, best practices in measuring and evaluating transparency and integrity, and various other topics related to combating

corruption.

National Development Strategy 2024-2030

The Third National Development Strategy (2024-2030), the final phase towards achieving the goals of Qatar National Vision 2030, aims to enhance accountability in government institutions by strengthening capacities, governance, and operational models in independent oversight bodies. It also seeks to address the challenge of limited availability of updated information to ensure easy access to government reports, policy changes, and public data.

## Bilateral and Multilateral Arrangements

The Administrative Control and Transparency Authority of Qatar is committed to continuing its engagement in bilateral, regional, and international arrangements aimed at promoting integrity, transparency, and the prevention and combat of corruption at various levels. Domestically, the Authority has organized efforts to enhance integrity and transparency and combat corruption. It prepared the Public Employee Code of Conduct and Integrity, issued by Cabinet Decision No. 18 of 2020. Additionally, legislative amendments were made to the Penal Code and the Criminal Procedure Code to criminalize the bribery of foreign officials and facilitate mutual legal assistance between countries, including in matters of combating corruption.

The Authority has also drafted several laws to enhance integrity in the state, such as the Anti-Conflict





Qatar at the Conference of the States Parties in the Fifth Session of the Arab Convention against Corruption at the headquarters of the General Secretariat of the Arab League in Cairo

of Interest Law and the draft Law on the Right to Access Information. Furthermore, the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority conducts numerous awareness and training programs for government employees to enhance their standards of integrity and transparency. This is part of the Authority's development plan to build the capacities of public officials, improve their efficiency, and provide them with the knowledge necessary to advance their skills in the fields of integrity, transparency, and corruption prevention. This effort contributes to a significant pillar of Qatar National Vision 2030, which is human development.

The Authority has implemented educational and training programs to raise awareness among state employees, training them in advanced methods to detect corruption and preparing them to cooperate with the Authority in this field. In collaboration with national training centers and institutions, the Authority has executed various training programs and courses in areas such as integrity and transparency, work ethics and professional conduct, and fostering a culture of reporting violations and conflicts of interest.

#### Legal Frameworks

Qatar has always been a pioneering nation in establishing and updating legal frameworks for preventing and combating corruption. The latest initiative is the adoption of the National Strategy to Enhance Integrity and Transparency (2019-2022), aimed at strengthening systems for safeguarding public funds, improving the quality of public services, and enhancing the business and investment environment in the country. Draft laws in the areas of transparency, conflict of interest, and criminalizing international bribery have been prepared according to the highest international standards and expertise. These efforts have elevated Qatar's rankings on international anti-corruption indices. By establishing numerous national institutions dedicated to preventing and combating corruption, Qatar has developed institutional systems that align with the best international standards.

The establishment of the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority in 2011 and its reorganization in 2015 as an independent and specialized national body for preventing and combating corruption further

strengthened this exceptional institutional framework. This legal and institutional framework for preventing and combating corruption is part of a comprehensive and integrated national vision for sustainable development (2030). This vision establishes integrated strategic directions, making integrity and transparency fundamental components for achieving development goals.

The commendable rankings that Qatar has achieved would not have been possible without the wise directives of His Highness the Amir, who emphasized on several occasions, including his address to the Shura Council during its 44th session, that "financial and administrative corruption, or the abuse of public office for private purposes, or abandoning professional standards for personal interests will not be tolerated." With this high will, promoting integrity, transparency, and preventing corruption have become priorities in national policies, founded on the deeply rooted and established cultural constants of Qatari society.

In line with this firm belief, Qatar has adopted an integrated approach to preventing and combating corruption, focusing on both national and international aspects. Recognizing that no country can prevent or eradicate the scourge of corruption in isolation from its regional and international environment, Qatar has acknowledged the challenges posed by the liberalization of international trade, the ease of movement of individuals and goods, and



**Qatar has always been a pioneering country in establishing and updating the legal frameworks for preventing and combating corruption. The latest of these efforts was the adoption of the National Strategy for Promoting Integrity and Transparency (2019- 2022), which aims to enhance systems for safeguarding public funds, improve the quality of public services, and create a better environment for business and investment in the country.**

technological advancements in communications and electronic transactions. These advancements have made the world resemble a small village but also posed significant challenges, such as the rapid transfer and conversion of funds obtained from corruption crimes and the ease of integrating these funds into legitimate areas through money laundering. These challenges require greater international cooperation and coordination.

These challenges are exacerbated by the evolving nature of corrupt practices, as perpetrators often resort to legitimate means to achieve personal interests, avoiding scrutiny by relevant authorities. Therefore, the international community must facilitate mechanisms and means for exchanging expertise and best practices among countries, strengthening national systems, legislation, and institutions concerned with preventing and combating corruption. In this international context, Qatar's efforts and achievements have been diverse. Qatar was one of the first countries to join the United Nations Convention against Corruption and several related international and regional agreements. Qatar's efforts played a significant role in the adoption of the review mechanism for the implementation of the Convention by the international community at the Conference of the States Parties in 2009.

Additionally, Qatar launched a global excellence award in anti-corruption named after His Highness the Amir and established international centers focused on research and training in relevant fields. Qatar's international efforts and achievements in preventing and combating corruption fall within the broader international efforts to support peace and development regionally and globally, such as the international project for the implementation of the Doha Declaration resulting from the 13th United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice. This declaration served as a strong and enabling roadmap for the years 2015-2020 and beyond, guiding international efforts to combat organized crime and related crimes, such as corruption, drugs, and terrorism.

#### Development Plan

As part of its development plan aimed at enhancing the capabilities of public officials, the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority has established numerous educational and training programs. These programs are designed to educate state employees and train them in advanced methods for detecting corruption, as well as preparing them to collaborate with the Authority in this field. In collaboration with national training centers and institutions, the Authority has implemented programs and training courses in various areas, including integrity and transparency, work ethics and professional conduct, fostering a culture of reporting violations and conflicts of interest, and the Law on the Right to Access Information. This law aims to maximize the benefits of public services provided by various entities, contribute to recruitment processes, enhance transparency in the performance of relevant bodies, promote economic participation and investment, assist the media, combat rumors and misinformation, and support scientific research. These efforts aim to enhance the scientific and practical skills of public officials in the fields of integrity, transparency, and corruption prevention, contributing to a crucial pillar of Qatar National Vision 2030: human development.



To maintain Qatar's leadership and enhance its position as one of the most transparent countries in the world, the Administrative Control and Transparency Authority has taken several significant steps. Among its notable achievements in the past period are various regional initiatives. One of the most important in 2023



**The State of Qatar launched a global award for excellence in combating corruption, named after His Highness the Emir of the State. Additionally, international centers dedicated to research and training in related fields were established. Qatar's international efforts and achievements in preventing and combating corruption are part of the broader international efforts to support peace and development regionally and globally.**

was the "Arab Youth Hackathon for Anti-Corruption," which brought together young programmers from 17 Arab countries, providing them with a unique opportunity to collaborate and develop innovative technological solutions to address corruption-related challenges. Through this initiative, innovative projects were implemented to enhance transparency in public procurement, protect whistleblowers, safeguard sports from corruption, combat corruption in the private sector, report corruption related to water management, and support the digitization of educational systems.

The Administrative Control and Transparency Authority also aims to complete the updating of Qatari legislation in accordance with international standards, prepare for international review mechanisms, and develop a set of initial legislative proposals to support the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption. These proposals will enhance transparency and integrity in the state and improve Qatar's rankings in relevant international indices.

Furthermore, the Authority is working on developing a national framework to promote transparency and integrity within national institutions and entities. This framework includes precisely defined standards covering all aspects related to transparency and integrity in these entities, aligning with the country's laws and administrative systems and adhering to the best international expertise in this field.