Regional Commemorative Event of the International Anti-Corruption Day

“This Right to Know, Your Role to Demand Accountability”

Amman, Jordan, December 09, 2021

Programme
Overview

“On International Anti-Corruption Day, all of us – governments, businesses, civil society and all stakeholders – must resolve to work together to promote accountability and end corruption for a more just and equal world,” said UN Secretary-General António Guterres, on International Anti-Corruption Day, 9 December 2020. Every year, millions of people from around the world take part in related activities, including seminars, media campaigns, art competitions and collective action initiatives, with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at the forefront of these efforts, especially in the Arab States region, where it is currently implementing initiatives to promote de jure and de facto compliance with the UN Convention against Corruption (UNCAC); to integrate corruption prevention mechanisms in key vulnerable sectors including health, education, customs and social affairs; and to foster better-informed demand and multi-stakeholder networks for the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 16 on Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions.

The 2021 International Anti-Corruption Day campaign “Your right, your role: Say no to corruption” seeks to highlight the rights and responsibilities of everyone - including states, government officials, civil servants, law enforcement officers, media representatives, the private sector, civil society, academia, the public and youth - in tackling corruption. The campaign aims to share good practices and examples of preventing and countering corruption worldwide through strengthening international cooperation against corruption; developing innovative solutions; leveraging youth engagement; and mobilizing allies in civil society, academia, and the private sector.

On this occasion, UNDP’s Regional Hub for the Arab States is organizing a hybrid regional event on “Your Right to Know, Your Role to Demand Accountability” in Amman, Jordan, on 9 December 2021. This panel event, which will be organized in the framework of the current partnership between UNDP and the Korean International Cooperation Agency (KOICA), will bring together different stakeholders from the region to engage in discussions on the current state of the right to information in the region, its relevance to the accountability agenda, and ways to strengthen this right with particular emphasis on the perspectives of youths in this regard. Beyond awareness raising, the aim to catalyze new ideas for advancing the adoption and effective implementation of access to information laws and initiatives, enhancing the role of civil society and their cooperation with governments, and leveraging engagement of youth who will participate on panels and contribute their experiences.

This regional event will be held in hybrid format with the panelists and some participants physically present, with the remainder of the participants joining online. The discussions will be livestreamed for the benefit of a wider audience, enabling the virtual presence of pre-registered participants including the members of the Non-Governmental Group of the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET), representatives of anti-corruption agencies, universities, youth groups, international development partners, and more. The duration will be 90 minutes with live interpretation in Arabic and English (see draft Agenda, below).
Agenda

Thursday, 09 December 2021

15:00 – 15:15 Opening remarks

• Opening remarks
  TBC, UNDP RBAS
  TBC, KOICA Jordan Office Director

15:15 – 16:30 Regional Panel

Moderator

• Sharaf Almosawi, Coordinator of the Non-Governmental Group, the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network.

Speakers

• Asma Ghachem, Director of Master Program on Governance and Anti-Corruption, Carthage University, Tunisia
  Legal Frameworks on Access to Information in the Arab States Region: Texts, Practices and Ambitions

• Azmi Shuaibi, Anti-Corruption Commissioner, AMAN Coalition for Accountability and Integrity, Palestine
  The Right to Know and the Effort to Promote Political Integrity

• Ghalia Hatamleh (Jordan) and Angie Chlala (Lebanon), Members of the Regional Youth Group “Integrity Guardians”
  Perspectives of the New Generation, their Role and their Expectations

Open Discussion

***