

Within the framework of the ninth session of the Conference of States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

High level regional meeting

"Promoting integrity and anti-corruption in the Arab region: Developments and Prospects"

Sharm El Sheikh, Egypt

14 December 2021

El Wadi, 8:30 – 10:00

Programme

Overview of the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network

The Arab anti-corruption and integrity network (ACINET) is the leading regional mechanism specialized in supporting Arab countries to act against corruption in accordance with their national priorities and building on related international and regional standards. ACINET includes 47 ministries and governmental and judicial authorities from 18 Arab countries including Jordan, Bahrain, Algeria, Comoros, Tunisia, Djibouti, Palestine, Saudi Arabia, Sudan, Iraq, Qatar, Kuwait, Lebanon, Libya, Egypt, Morocco, Mauritania and Yemen. It also includes two observer members from Brazil and Malaysia, in addition to a "Non-Governmental Group" composed of active independent organisations from civil society, the private sector, and academia, thus making it the first Arab regional mechanism that is all inclusive, regularly bringing together key stakeholders for consultation and cooperation on matters of joint interest. ACINET works on developing the capacities of its members through training and advisory support. It facilitates the exchange of information among them and their counterparts in the region and the world. It also provides them and other stakeholders with a common platform to regularly review and enrich their anti-corruption policies and strategies. ACINET works with the support of the United Nations Development Programme and other partners. It is currently chaired by the Federal Commission of integrity in the republic of Iraq. For more information kindly visit its website on <u>www.arabcinet.org</u>.

Introduction

The Arab Anti-corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET) is holding a high-level regional meeting for its members participating in the ninth session of the Conference of States Parties (CoSP) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), which will be hosted by the Arab Republic of Egypt in Sharm El-Sheikh from 13 to 17 December 2021. As has been the practice during the past ten years, the United Nations, in coordination with the host country, provides the opportunity for the network to hold what it deems appropriate activities on the side of the Conference of the States Parties, within the framework of the partnership that has existed between them since the announcement of the establishment of the Network in 2008.

The high-level regional meeting titled "Promoting integrity and anti-corruption in the Arab Region: Developments and Prospects" will be held on Tuesday 14 December 2021, from 8:30 – 10:00 in El Wadi room, with the support of the United Nations Development Program. It will be attended by the heads and representatives of the Governmental Group of the network, including independent anti-corruption commission, relevant ministries, and relevant judicial and oversight bodies, in addition to representatives of the observer

members, the Non-Governmental Group and the regional and international organizations supporting them, including the United Nations, the World Bank and the League of Arab States.

The meeting provides an opportunity for the participants to shed light on the most recent developments in their countries' efforts in promoting integrity and anti-corruption, since the network's last meeting on the side of the eighth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention held in Abu Dhabi in the United Arab Emirates on 16-20 December 2019, in addition to presenting the most recent developments in their countries' integrity and anti-corruption efforts, in addition to presenting other priorities for which they would like to mobilize ACINET's support or expertise for purposes of follow up throughout the conference and beyond.

Agenda

Opening speech

Judge Alaa Al-Saadi, Chairperson of the Federal Commission of Integrity in the Republic of Iraq, President of the Arab anti-corruption and integrity network.

• Speech of partner organizations

Arkan El-Seblani, Regional chief technical advisor on anti-corruption and integrity, UNDP Arab states.

Jason Reichelt, Representative of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime.

Youssef Sebaoui, Vice President of the Arab Center for Legal and Judicial Research, League of Arab States

- Interventions from ministers, heads and representatives of the members of the Arab Anti-corruption and Integrity Network (ACINET)
- General discussion
- Conclusions