Summary Programme of Work for 2010-2011

This is ACINET’s Programme of Work for its second work cycle (2010-2011). It was developed based on the results of regional research and consultation conducted during the first work cycle (2009-2010), under the chairmanship of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan. The Programme was endorsed by the Members at the second General Meeting that was held in Sana’a on 27 July 2010. It will be implemented under the chairmanship of the Republic of Yemen, with the support of UNDP’s Programme on Governance in the Arab Region and in cooperation with various regional and international partners.

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ملخص برنامج عمل الشبكة العربية للتعزيز النزاهة وكافحة الفساد (2010-2011)

Overall objective: contribute to the establishment of a more sustainable platform for implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption in Arab countries.

First component: developing the capacities of specialized anti-corruption bodies.

Second component: strengthening the role of justice systems in safeguarding integrity.

Third component: supporting integrity and anti-corruption assessments.

Fourth component: deepening dialogue with the private sector and civil society.

Complementary activities.
Overall objective: contribute to the establishment of a more sustainable platform for the implementation of the UN Convention against Corruption in Arab countries.

Given the increasing awareness in the Arab region over the importance of reinforcing accountability, transparency and integrity standards and practices, and in light of the growing number of Arab countries that have agreed to implement the UN Convention against Corruption, the need for a more sustainable platform that may support such efforts becomes paramount, especially that the their success hinges on the availability of long-term commitment, responsible national capacities and a clear political will.

In this context, ACINET emerges as a specialized regional mechanism for capacity development, knowledge networking, and policy dialogue on integrity and anti-corruption. This puts the Network in a unique position that would enable it to contribute to the establishment of this platform, through a gradual approach that is guided by the will of Arab countries and responds to their realities and needs, while respecting good international standards and practices.

Accordingly, and guided by the results of the research and the consultations that were conducted during the first work cycle (2009-2010), ACINET members agreed to base the second work cycle’s
programme of work on four main components that are regarded as crucial pillars of a sustainable approach to the implementation of the UNCAC in Arab countries. Moreover, they agreed to include a set of complementary activities that are aimed at supporting ACINET’s role in general and opening new horizons for the coming years.

First component: developing the capacities of specialized anti-corruption bodies.

The first component is developing the capacities of specialized anti-corruption bodies. Those bodies play an important role in coordinating efforts at the national level in terms of UNCAC implementation, and are often tasked with preventive functions, and in some cases with law enforcement functions such as investigation and prosecution. Given that existence of such bodies in the Arab region is relatively recent, it is important that related support be deployed from the outset, noting that such support must entail strengthening complementarities with the existing oversight and law enforcement institutions as well as concerned non-governmental actors.

Based on the above, ACINET identified the following objectives for its work under this component:
• Raise awareness on the dimensions and requirements of the UNCAC in relation to the establishment and empowerment of specialized anti-corruption bodies (Article 6, 36 and others) and related international standards and good practices.

• Support decision makers in taking specific measures to enhance the capacities of specialized anti-corruption bodies with a view to helping them function in a more sustainable manner and develop their work to correspond to their countries’ circumstances and needs.

• Facilitate the sharing of practical experiences among specialized anti-corruption bodies in the Arab countries, and between them and their peers in other countries.

Related activities would include (a) a regional workshop for ACINET members and other stakeholders, (b) regional training session for decision-makers in specialized anti-corruption bodies, and (c) a joint study mission to support peer-learning between stakeholders from the Arab region and outside it.

Second component: strengthening the role of justice systems in safeguarding integrity.
The second component is strengthening the role of justice systems in safeguarding integrity. Justice systems are expected to protect the rights of the citizens as well as national and foreign investors with a view to promoting legal certainty and contributing to the achievement of development. Strong justice systems are integral to the efforts aimed at strengthening integrity and addressing corruption given that these systems are responsible for curbing corruption crimes and other related offences on the one hand, and safeguarding integrity within the system itself on the other. Strengthening the role of justice systems in safeguarding integrity requires a broader approach that is not only based on morality, although importance, but also extends to the need to establish practical measures that can reinforce confidence in the justice system as a transparent and effective mechanism for protecting rights and delivering justice, including punishing the agents of corruption and recovering misappropriated assets.

Based on the above, ACINET identified the following objectives for its work under this component:

- Train judges and prosecutors on investigating and prosecuting corruption crimes and related financial offences by focusing on sharing practical experiences between stakeholders within the region and outside it.

بناء عليه، قامت الشبكة العربية بتحديد الأهداف التالية في إطار هذا المحور:

- تدريب القضاة وأعضاء النيابة العامة في مجال التحقيقات والإدعاء في جرائم الفساد والجرائم المالية ذات الصلة من خلال التركيز على تبادل الخبرات العملية بين المعينين داخل المنطقة العربية وخارجها.
- زيادة الوعي بأبعاد ومضامين اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمكافحة الفساد، ناحية
• Raise awareness on the interpretation and requirements of the UNCAC in relation to the integrity of the judiciary and public prosecution (Article 11 and others) and related international standards and good practices.

Related activities would include (a) developing and publishing specialized training material, (b) a regional training-of-trainers session in the field of investigation and prosecution and (c) developing an interactive computer-based training programme on judicial ethics and conduct.

**Third component: supporting integrity and anti-corruption assessments.**

The third component is **supporting integrity and anti-corruption assessments**. Assessments are the cornerstone for integrity and anti-corruption reforms, because they help identify deficiencies and possible responses in a more efficient and effective manner, especially if they are designed to correspond to the situation of the country in question. Supporting assessments will contribute to a more sustainable anti-corruption platform given their ability to inform the development of responsive policies and strategies, enable the systematic monitoring of progress and assist in improving

**المحور الثالث: دعم تقييمات النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد.**

المحور الثالث هو دعم تقييمات النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد. فالتقييمات هي نقطة الإطلاق في جهود تعزيز النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد، لأنها تساعدها على تحديد مكالم الخلل وإمكانيات المعالجة بصورة أكثر دقة وفعالية، خصوصاً إذا ما تم تصميم هذه التقييمات بصورة تتماشى مع واقع البلدان المعنية. بناء عليه، فإن دعم مثل هذه التقييمات يؤسس لجهود أكثر استدامة في مجال مكافحة الفساد لأنها تساعد على تصميم سياسات واستراتيجيات بصورة أكثر نجاعة، ورصد تقدم العمل بصورة أكثر منهجية، وتوظيف الموارد المالية والبشرية المتاحة بشكل
the allocation of available financial and human resources.

Based on the above, ACINET identified the following objectives for its work under this component:

- Develop national capacities to enable the effective participation of Arab countries in the Mechanism for the Review of the Implementation of the UNCAC, which was adopted at the third session of the Conference of States Parties.
- Strengthen specialized knowledge on integrity challenges and entry points for reform key sectors that deliver basic services such as health, education, water, transportation, etc.

Related activities would include (a) training sessions for governmental experts, (b) training sessions for non-governmental experts and (c) distance knowledge-sharing regarding sectoral assessment tools and experiences from the Arab region and beyond.

**Fourth component: deepening dialogue with the private sector and civil society.**

The fourth component is the deepening dialogue with the private sector and civil society, without whom it would be difficult to tackle the economic and social aspects of corruption and without whose

بناء عليه، قامت الشبكة العربية بتحديد الأهداف التالية في إطار هذا المحوّر:

- تنمية القدرات الوطنية لتفعيل مشاركة البلدان العربية في آلية استعراض اتفاقية الأمم المتحدة لمكافحة الفساد التي أقرّت في الدورة الثالثة لمؤتمر الدول الأطراف.
- تعزيز المعرفة الخاصة بتحديات النزاهة ومداخل المعالجة في قطاعات رئيسة تقدم الخدمات الأساسية، كالصحة والتعليم والمياه والنقل وغيرها.
- تنوع الأنشطة ذات الصلة وتشمل (أ) دورات تدريبية لخبراء حكوميين، (ب) دورات تدريبية لخبراء غير حكوميين، و (ج) تبادل معرفي عن بعد بخصوص أدوات التقييم القطاعية والتجارب العملية في البلدان العربية والعالم.

المحور الرابع: تعزيز الحوار مع القطاع الخاص والمجتمع المدني.

المحور الرابع هو تعزيز الحوار مع القطاع الخاص والمجتمع المدني اللذين يصعب من دونهما معالجة الأبعاد الاقتصادية والاجتماعية لظاهرة الفساد، ويكاد
serious and active involvement, gaining public trust in related efforts is very challenging. The inclination of Arab countries to adopt market-oriented policies and the steps taken to increase the space for participation in public affairs call for supporting non-governmental actors to move into a new era of focused and concrete dialogue. This requires developing the capacities of these actors and supporting them to establish direct communication channels with governmental institutions based on objective and professional standards.

Based on the above, ACINET identified the following objectives for its work under this component:

- Develop the capacities of non-governmental actors to enable their active participation in ACINET’s activities through a focus on key concepts and good practices related to supporting the implementation of the UNCAC.
- Invigorate communication between ACINET’s non-governmental group and ACINET’s governmental members.

Related activities would include (a) supporting the participation of non-governmental actors in ACINET’s regional activities and (b) a regional conference on strengthening societal participation in the implementation of the UNCAC.
ACINET's work during its second work cycle will not be limited to the four components listed above, but will also include two types of complementary activities. The first type is related to managing the institutional development of the Network and sustaining it, while the second type is exploratory and is meant to keep ACINET updated about emerging trends in the area of integrity and anti-corruption.

Based on the above, ACINET identified the following objectives for its work under the component:

- Promote linkages between ACINET and other actors that are involved in strengthening integrity and addressing corruption at the national, regional and global levels.
- Mandating the Regional Support Unit to develop ACINET’s institutional performance and working tools.
- Support regional research and consultations to determine the focus areas of the programme of work during for the third cycle.

Related activities would include (a) expanding ACINET’s membership base, (b) support the participation of ACINET members in key relevant regional and global events, whenever possible (c) foster specialized e-discussion on themes selected by the Network, (d)...

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<td>لن يقتصر نشاط الشبكة العربية خلال دورتها الثانية على المحاور الأربعة المذكورة أعلاه، بل سيشمل نوعين آخرين من الأنشطة المكملة. النوع الأول مرتبط بتسهيل العمل المؤسسي للشبكة وتطويره، أما النوع الثاني، فهو استكشافي بغرض السعي من أجل إبقاء الشبكة العربية على إطلاع في ما يخص أحدث التوجهات البحثية في مجال تعزيز النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد. بناء عليه، قامت الشبكة العربية بتحديد الأهداف التالية في إطار هذا المحور:</td>
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<td>- Promote linkages between ACINET and other actors that are involved in strengthening integrity and addressing corruption at the national, regional and global levels.</td>
<td>تسهيل الربط بين الشبكة العربية والجهات الأخرى المعنية بتعزيز النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد على المستوى الوطني والإقليمي والعالمي.</td>
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<td>تتضمن الأنشطة ذات الصلة وتشمل (أ) العمل على توسيع عضوية الشبكة العربية، (ب) مساعدة المشاركين في الشبكة في مشاركة الأحداث والOccurrencesglobales (c) تنشئ نقاشات خبرية مختصة بالمواضيع المحددة من الشبكة والشبكة (d)...)</td>
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For info about work progress, contact info@arabacinet.org.

ملخص برنامج عمل الشبكة العربية لتعزيز النزاهة ومكافحة الفساد (2010–2011)

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