

UNITED NATIONS OFFICE AT VIENNA



UNITED NATIONS OFFICE FOR
DRUG CONTROL AND CRIME PREVENTION

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ANTI-CORRUPTION ACTIVITIES

OF

ODCCP

**Centre for International Crime Prevention
Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention**

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What is the United Nations Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention?

The part of the *United Nations Secretariat* in charge of fighting against Drug and Crime

Executive Director: Pr. Pino Arlacchi, Under Secretary General.

The Office has two components:

- The United Nations Drug Control Programme (UNDCP)*
- The Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP)*

ODCCP is located at Vienna (Austria).

For the matters related to crime, the Center for International Crime Prevention reports to a political body, the *United Nations Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice*, and through the Commission to the Economic and Social Council and the General Assembly of the United Nations.

The activities of the Centre are mostly oriented in assisting countries in their fight against Organized Crime and Corruption and has two types of activities, (normative and technical cooperation activities)

NORMATIVE ACTIVITIES

What has been already done:

-*The resolution on the action against corruption and bribery to which an International Code of Conduct for Public Officials is attached (GA A/RES/51/59)* adopted by the General Assembly

- *The United Nations Declaration against Corruption and Bribery in International Commercial Transactions* (GA A/RES/51/191), also adopted by the General Assembly
- The recommendations of the Group of Buenos Aires (E/CN.15/1998/3) which is set of measures to implement those resolutions;

What is envisaged in the next future;

-To elaborate a comprehensive strategy against the international financial networks laundering bribes and corruption benefits; (meeting of the Group of Paris composed of members of the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice and IGOs and NGOs specialized in the anti-corruption field, 30,31 March and 1April 1999).

-To encapsulate specific provisions on corruption whenever corruption is linked to Organized Crime activities in the future Convention against Organized Crime which is currently discussed in the framework of an Ad Hoc Committee of the Commission;

-To hold a workshop on corruption jointly with the United Nations Interregional Criminal Research Institute during the next United Nations Congress on Crime Prevention and the Treatment of Offenders.

TECHNICAL COOPERATION ACTIVITIES

The second goal of ODCCP is to assist Members States in the elaboration of National, sub-regional and regional strategies against corruption.

It could be done through national and regional projects or global programmes.

Projects under implementation:

ROMANIA:

The project is aimed at building and strengthening the institutional capacity of Romania to fight corruption. This project intends to achieve such a goal by (a) introducing further appropriate legislation on corruption; (b) setting up a national commission on

corruption to contribute to the coordination of national efforts and to the elaboration of national strategies in fighting corruption ; (c) improving training of law enforcement officers and members of the judiciary training by organizing a train-the-trainers programme and developing exchange of experiences and building working relationships with foreign law enforcement agencies; (d) providing technical assistance for the establishment of a central database to gather relevant information on corruption; (e) organizing a public awareness campaign directed at promoting knowledge concerning specific actions which can be taken by individuals to prevent/publicize corruption.:already, the awareness campaign has started and the first series of seminars were undertaken.

LEBANON

The objectives of the Lebanese project are:

- reviewing the existing legislation, with a particular emphasize on the adoption of a new law on illicit enrichment including disclosure of assets for high officials and breaking of the bank secrecy for the investigations related to the illicit enrichment offenses.
- establishing national independent institutions dealing with the illicit enrichment cases
- launching awareness campaigns on the negative effects of corruption,
- improving training for judges, prosecutors, police officers.

MACEDONIA (FYROM)

- Reviewing of the current law on corruption
- establishing of a National Anti-corruption Commission which will be an independent body in charge of defining the national policy on corruption and monitoring all the matters related to corruption, (the commission will be also empowered in order to bring the cases related to corruption to the Office of the Prosecutor General and the Judiciary).

Sub-regional activities

The South Eastern European Cooperative Initiative which is a network of eleven countries in the South-East of Europe has included in its activities the fight against transborder crime and corruption. ODCCP assists SECI in the drafting of a sub-regional agreement on transborder crime and corruption and in the elaboration of a sub-regional anti-corruption strategy.

What is currently launched?

A Global Programme against Corruption in cooperation with the United Nations Interregional Criminal Research Institute (a critical component of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Network).

The Global Programme against Corruption has been elaborated by the Centre for International Crime Prevention (CICP), Office for Drug Control and Crime Prevention (ODCCP), jointly with the United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute (UNICRI). The purpose of the Programme is to assist Member States in their efforts to curb corruption.

The Global Programme against Corruption is articulated in two main parts: (1) the research component and (2) the technical cooperation component.

(1) **The research component** a global study of the phenomenon of corruption as well as the types of anti-corruption measures and their efficacy will be carried out by UNICRI. The study will deal with three main types of corruption: (a) corruption in public administration/“street level” corruption (i.e. experiences of citizens with public administration, local licensing authorities, police, customs, inspectors, etc); (b) business corruption; and (c) top-level/political-administrative-financial corruption. In particular the study will explore the corruption-organized crime nexus.

On the basis of the research and available secondary data, a set of indicators on corruption trends and anti-corruption measures, the so-called "Corruption Monitoring Protocol" (CMP), will be developed and used to assist in the regular periodical review of the corruption phenomenon and the presence/absence as well as efficiency of anti-corruption measures adopted and implemented at the national level. While the CMP will be utilized at the national level, being a standardized instrument, it will also provide for comparative analysis.

An international database will be set up by UNICRI and run in collaboration with CICP/ODCCP. The database, which will be at the disposal of Member States as well as the international community, will contain updated information on: the results of the global study on corruption; best anti-corruption practices; relevant national legislation and regulatory mechanisms on corruption of different countries. The information provided in the international database will be accessible electronically.

(2) The **technical cooperation component** is meant to assist Member States to build and/or strengthen their institutional capacity in preventing, detecting and fighting corruption. An effective approach must be multi-dimensional. because corruption needs to be tackled at the national, regional and international levels. The technical cooperation component of the Global Programme will also have a modular approach

meaning that there will be “modules” consisting of measures which could be implemented singularly or as a "package", and in different stages, at both the national and international levels. This set of measures can be made available to Member States and will be as comprehensive as possible so that they can be adapted to the particular needs, context and specific situation of each country and/or sub-region.

Within the Global Programme, technical cooperation will be provided mainly:

at the **national level**, by: a) assessing existing national measures against corruption; b) providing advisory services in drafting and/or revising relevant legislation; c) providing advisory services in establishing or, where they already exist, strengthening anti-corruption bodies; d) developing preventive measures (i.e. public awareness campaigns, code of conducts etc.); and e) providing training to policy-makers, judges, prosecutors, law enforcement personnel, members of banking and financial organizations, including, whenever possible, representatives of the private sector and non-governmental organizations, on the newly introduced anti-corruption measures; and

at the **international level**, by: a) establishing a pool of high level international experts and representatives of the private sector who will assist UNICRI and CICP/ODCCP in assessing the needs of the requesting countries, in elaborating recommendations on best practices to tackle corruption as well as in implementing the measures

recommended by the Global Programme; b) promoting the creation of international transparency and accountability mechanisms; c) promoting international legal instruments; d) creating an international forum of discussion and strategy planning on corruption and bribery which will gather representatives of relevant scientific, inter-governmental and non-governmental organizations active in the fight against corruption. This forum will also promote the adoption by the international community of a more coherent strategy to fight corruption by sharing information on this phenomenon and experiences on best practices.

It is envisaged that the technical co-operation activities will be initially implemented in one country from each of the following regions of the world: Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Eastern Europe and Latin America and the Caribbean, while the research component will also include the industrialised world. In order to avoid duplications and strength international co-operation, full consideration will be given to already existing international activities, such as the OCTOPUS II-programme, the PHARE, (CoE/EC initiatives) and others.