

**UNITED NATIONS**  
**GENERAL ASSEMBLY SPECIAL SESSION ON CORRUPTION**  
**2021**

**SIDE EVENT**

***LEADING ON ANTI-CORRUPTION: THE G20, ITS GOALS AND KEY ACHIEVEMENTS***  
**4<sup>TH</sup> JUNE 2021**

The event dedicated to the G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group (ACWG) and specifically to the launch of its new [website](#), was held at the side of the first ever Special Session of the United Nations General Assembly devoted to the fight against corruption. The meeting has been co-organized by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and by Italy, G20 Presidency 2021.

Mr. Alfredo Durante Mangoni, Chair G20 ACWG, Coordinator for Anti-Corruption, Italy, introduced and moderated the event.

Delegates of the G20 troika and of Colombia participated as panelists, following a presentation by Mr. John Brandolino, Director, Division for Treaty Affairs at the UNODC:

- Dr. Nasser Abaalkhail, Assistant to the President for International Collaboration, Oversight and Anti-Corruption Authority of the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, last G20 Presidency.
- Ms. Miranti Martin, International Cooperation Specialist, Corruption Eradication Commission, Republic of Indonesia, next G20 Presidency.
- Mr. Giovanni Tartaglia Polcini, Magistrate and Legal advisor, Head of the Italian G20 Task Force on Anti-Corruption from Italy, current G20 Presidency.
- Mr. Camilo Jaimes, Deputy Secretary of Transparency from the Republic of Colombia, the country that alongside Perú promoted the UNGASS.

The focus of the event was the launch of the new website dedicated to the G20 ACWG resources. Inspired by the Saudi Presidency, developed by UNODC and lately funded also by Italy, the website collects all the outcomes agreed by the Group since its establishment in Toronto in 2010. This achievement represents an important progress in making knowledgeable the collective efforts and results of the G20 in the field of anticorruption, as recalled by Mr. Durante Mangoni.

The website is intuitive and user-friendly; it is aimed at raising awareness and knowledge of the general public on the Group's work and efforts in the global fight against corruption. In fact, since the G20 mandate results in non-binding soft law, usually in the form of harmonized High Level Principles, and since the Group's only tool of self-assessment on past commitments is the Accountability Report, spreading the resources adopted throughout the years is an essential step towards the enhancement of the global anticorruption agenda.

Mr. Brandolino presented the new website, highlighting the central role that the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) has played in nurturing G20 commitments and the consensus building on many issues in the prevention and fight against corruption. In particular, UNODC, with the support of the Italian Presidency, has created this tool to share G20 anti-corruption knowledge (High-Level Principles, Guidelines and compendia to best practices as well as other outcomes).

In the panel discussion, Dr. Abaakhail stressed that the G20 ACWG has adopted important projects for the benefit of the anti-corruption community and the practitioners such as, for example, the recent GlobE initiative. The promotion and the dissemination of such efforts is fundamental and the web site is a step forward in this direction. On the development of the Accountability Report, Dr. Abaakhail also suggested, as a way to promote G20's work, to give the possibility to other non-G20 countries to submit their self-assessments, to be included in the compendium.

Ms. Martin stated that the G20 still has a great task ahead and more needs to be done under the G20 ACWG cooperation. The priority of Indonesia's Presidency in 2022 will be transparency and accountability in both public and private sector, she said. Moreover, Ms. Martin believes that the UNGASS Political Declaration will provide a valuable contribution to the future work of the G20. She also underlined the need to promote a multistakeholder approach for preventing and combating corruption. In regard to this, the new website serves as a repository of all G20 ACWG outcomes, which will make it easier for stakeholders and the public to learn about its contribution in the global anti-corruption effort.

The Republic of Colombia has inspired and promoted, together with Peru, the UNGASS on anticorruption and is developing a relevant new law on anticorruption at the national level. Mr. Jaimes, representative of Colombia highlighted the need to find ways to effectively introduce recommendations, such as those of the G20, in national legal frameworks. He focused, for example, on the issues of liability of legal persons, beneficial ownership and foreign bribery. He also stated that this year Colombia will adopt a law introducing a registry of anti-corruption and money laundering and that the Colombian government intends to adopt more of the international recommendations and of the G20 standards.

Mr. Giovanni Tartaglia Polcini stated that Italy believes that the fight against corruption at international level can spur sustainable economic growth, as well as employment and confidence in institutions and investors, enabling a more substantive protection of human rights and equality. In particular, he underlined the importance of the rule of law and the pivotal role of a legally oriented environment, in which national governments partake in multilateral work, but at the same time constantly dialogue with civil society. He also referred to G20 ACWG various efforts to develop an efficient multilateralism, to enhance anti-corruption global agenda and to its partnership with civil society and the private sector. He also stressed the need to promote updated goals and new standards resulting from top down and bottom-up processes.

The event represented a valuable opportunity to engage on anticorruption needs and issues while raising awareness and knowledge on the global efforts against corruption and on the endeavor, results and goals of the G20 ACWG.

While the Covid-19 pandemic is affecting all the economies and societies G20 members shall keep their guard up and strengthen national and international cooperation on anticorruption in order to guarantee an inclusive and sustainable recovery, in line with the SDGs while ensuring transparency, accountability and integrity and promoting the rule of law. In this context, there is a real call for partnership in governance, alongside public institutions, of the private sector, the academia and the civil society.

The new dedicated website is a first step precisely conceived and addressed in this direction and the G20 anti-corruption action is a constant effort to raise the bar of integrity and the rule of law among diverse jurisdictions.