

**ASSOCIATION OF ANTI- CORRUPTION AUTHORITIES IN AFRICA (AAACA)**

**EXECUTIF SECRETARIAT**

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**RAPORT OF THE 1st AFRICAN ANTI- CORRUPTION FORUM AND 4<sup>th</sup> AAACA GENERAL MEETING**

**SHARM EL SHEIKH 12- 15 JUNE 2019**

## **I. FIRST ANTICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION FORUM ( AACF)**

### **INTRODUCTION**

From 12 to 15 June 2019, the 1<sup>st</sup> African Anti-Corruption Forum and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the AAACA took place in Sharm El Shekh.

These workshops were organized by the Administrative Control Authority (ACA) of the Arab Republic of Egypt.

The purpose of this forum was to explore how to set up a platform for the exchange of experiences and awareness on national measures and experiences related to the fight against corruption in the implementation of continental and international commitments, in building capacity on human resources in various aspects of the fight against corruption and achieving local cohesion and ensure that both events, the African Anti-Corruption Forum and the 4<sup>th</sup> Annual General Assembly of the Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities in Africa, produce coordinated and coherent results.

### **PARTICIPANTS TO THE 1<sup>st</sup> AFRICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION FORUM**

The 1<sup>st</sup> African Anti-Corruption Forum was attended by African Ministers of Justice, Interior and Good Governance as well as Heads of Anti-Corruption Institutions, Administrative Control Authorities, Accounting Authorities, Auditors General, members of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, the African Development Bank, the World Bank, delegations from United Arab Emirates, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, Jordan and others.

## OPENING CEREMONIES

The Opening Ceremonies were honoured by His Excellency Abdel FATTAH EL- SISI, President of the Republic Arab of Egypt.



*HE Mr. Abdel Fattah El- SISI, President of the Republic Arab of Egypt*

## 2. CONDUCT OF ACTIVITIES

After a Keynote by His Excellency Abdel FATTAH EL- SISI, President of the Republic Arab of Egypt, in which he indicated the progress already made by his country in the fight against corruption, the activities of the African Anti-Corruption Forum were launched with a debate on the topic "Review of the anti-corruption national efforts for a number of African countries to implement continental and international commitments.

For this topic, there were five speakers who were Mr. Ahmed Nour El Din, Representative of the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority, Mr. Edward Ouko Auditor General of Kenya and former Auditor General of the African Development Bank in Kenya, Mr. Daniel Domelevo, Auditor General of Ghana, Mrs. Jeanne D'arc Kagayo, Burundian Minister in charge of Good Governance and Mr. Edward Ouko. Ziyambi Ziyambi, Zimbabwe's Minister of Justice, all of them reviewed their respective countries' anti-corruption efforts in recent years, the main challenges faced in achieving this goal, their expectations and made proposals in this regard.

In addition, the participants expressed the willingness to enhance cooperation with the Egyptian Anti-Corruption Academy in the context of capacity building, the allocation of financial and human resources to institutions in charge of fighting corruption and the development of the new ICTs in the fight against corruption and to strengthen the implementation of a policy to raise awareness among children at different educational levels, while paying particular attention to the negative effects of corruption on the future of youth.

The second session was related to "The Role of Anti-Corruption efforts / activities in Africa's Development. For this theme, the speakers, Dr. Sahar Nasr, Egyptian Minister of Investment and

International Cooperation, Mrs. Deborah Wetzel, Senior Director on Governance and Global Practice, Mr. Raymond Zéphirin Mboulo, Congolese Minister of Interior, Decentralization and Local Development, Dr. Mboulo, Minister of Foreign Affairs and International Trade, Mr. Raymond Zéphirin Mboulo, Congolese Minister of the Interior, Decentralization and Local Development, Dr. G. Hala El Saeid Egyptian Minister of Planning, Monitoring and Administrative Reform, Mr. Wiyao Essohana President of the High Authority for the Prevention of Corruption and Related Offences in Togo, Mr. Hala El Saeid Francis Ban Kaifala, Director General of the Sierra Leone Anti-Corruption Commission, Dr. Amir Taher, representative of the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority, all showed the importance of ICTs in the fight against corruption while demonstrating that when properly used, they would significantly reduce corruption and fraud in customs and public procurement, which would increase revenues.

Therefore, the establishment of an adequate legal framework has been identified as an essential element in the fight against corruption, especially the Investment Act, the Public Procurement Act, the Public Finance Act, the development of a natural resources management strategy, the establishment of mechanisms for the recovery of stolen assets, the establishment of a clear policy on the protection of witnesses and whistle-blowers in the fight against corruption.

The third session was "Anti-Corruption Mechanisms at the Continental Level". The various speakers highlighted the need to encourage African educational institutions to provide educational programs that would raise awareness of the importance of preventing and combating corruption, and to create focal points among these institutions and technical experts for the implementation of the law on judicial cooperation, procedures for stolen assets recovery and the seizure of the proceeds of corruption and to expand the African Peer Review Mechanism under the auspices of the African Union by promoting the activities of the mechanism to include anti-corruption bodies and institutions to strengthen supervision, exchange of experience and capacity building.

It was also suggested that 1% of the national budget should be allocated to the fight against corruption and that a more equitable and transparent business environment should be created by raising awareness among business representatives of the need to fight corruption and improve integrity standards in the private sector. Finally, the importance of strengthening African efforts through continental cooperation and coordination, cooperation and coordination between anti-corruption bodies and strengthening their capacity and infrastructure was highlighted.

The fourth session was "Developing human resources capacities in various aspects of combating corruption between the African continent."



*Ms. SeynabouNdiaye Diakhate, President of OFNAC/Senegal , chairing the 4<sup>th</sup>*

*Session*

The panellists on this theme stressed the need to coordinate the bodies in charge of fighting corruption through the exchange of information, to conduct a study on the phenomenon of corruption, its causes and consequences, to exchange experiences with centres and similar bodies at the international level, to create a national anti-corruption strategy, to set up an electronic platform to submit tax returns, Mobilization of resources and increase in citizens' incomes, creation of a financial intelligence unit, establishment of governance in all areas of national life, creation of an African youth forum to fight corruption in order to initiate a kind of social debate and exchange on the views of young Africans on the fight against corruption and to establish mechanisms for the declaration of assets by public officials.



*View of participants*

The Fifth Theme was related to " Supporting African inter-governmental coordination in the fight against corruption".

While highlighting the negative impact of corruption on the African continent, which leads to increased public spending, money laundering committed by specialized criminal networks. Participants expressed the wish to establish a financial and banking system for the early detection of money laundering cases by obliging financial institutions to develop adequate systems to ensure the application of clear procedures. To this end, African countries should establish an exchange system that requires men to make transactions in local currency and strict control of Forex bureau.

They also proposed the creation of a Committee of Experts throughout all African countries and the establishment of a mechanism enabling African countries to use it in the event of a conflict between them concerning the freezing and return of assets generated by corruption, the strengthening of an anti-corruption unit to confiscate funds generated by corruption and the creation of a fund to manage these proceeds of corruption for the benefit of the State.

The importance of building the capacity of anti-corruption institutions in the field of human trafficking, including organ sales, sexual exploitation and illegal immigration, was also highlighted.

The Forum was closed by His Excellency Sheriff Saif EDDINE, Minister of the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority, who thanked all those who contributed to the success of the Forum while affirming that Egypt attaches great importance to the African Continent and that it is necessary to find the

necessary mechanisms for the implementation of the commendations resulting from this Forum which will be submitted to the Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities of Africa and communicated



*HE Mr. Shérif Saif EDDINE, Minister of ACA/Egypt during the closing ceremonies of the 1<sup>st</sup> African Anti-corruption*

(The recommendations of the 1st Forum and the 4th Annual General Assembly of the AAACA as well as the presentation of Burundi at this Forum are attached hereto).

## **II. THE 4<sup>th</sup> AAACA's ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING**

### **Introduction**

After the meeting of the first African Anti-Corruption Forum (AACF), the members of the Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities of Africa (AAACA) for their 4th Annual General Assembly on 14 and 15 June 2019, in Sharm El Sheikh, Republic Arab of Egypt. 35 member countries: Angola, Benin, Burundi, Botswana, Cameroon, Republic of Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Arab Republic of Egypt, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, the Republic of Guinea, Mauritius, Kenya, Lesotho, Madagascar, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, Niger, Nigeria, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, South Sudan, Sudan, Tanzania, Togo, Tunisia, Zambia and Zimbabwe as well as technical and financial partners, including the African Development Bank (AfDB), the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), The African Parliamentarians Network Against Corruption (APNAC), the East African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (EAAACA), the Forum of Inspectorate General of Government General (FIGE) and the GIZ took part in this meeting. A total of eighty participants had responded to the Annual General Meeting.



*Group Photo of the participants of the 4th Annual General Assembly*

## **A. OPENING CEREMONIES**

The official opening ceremony of this General Assembly was officially opened by Mr Sherif Seiif EDDIN, Minister, President of the Administrative Control Authority, ACA/Egypt.



*H.E Mr. Sherif Seiif EDDIN, Minister, President of ACA/Egypt during his opening speech*

In his opening remarks, the Minister, President of ACA Egypt expressed his appreciation to the participants for their attendance at this General Assembly and invited participants to consider how to implement the recommendations of the first African Anti-Corruption Forum.

After this opening address, the President of the AAACA, Mr Emmanuel Ollita ONDONGO extended his thanks to His Excellency Mr Abdel Fattah El SISI, President of the Republic Arab of Egypt, his people, the Association's partners, especially the African Development Bank, which has always supported the Association since its creation. He recalled that corruption remains a challenge facing Africa and that to eradicate it, it is necessary to be one people with a common ideal for a concerted fight against corruption, is the surest and most powerful weapon to eradicate this social cancer that is devastating our societies. He invited all AAACA members to sharpen their weapons such as the two conventions on the subject, laws, training, the culture of integrity, the exchange of experiences between countries, to delineate in a certain way the road that leads to the fight against this calamity.



*Mr. Emmanuel Ollita ONDONGO, President of AAACA, during his speech*

He ended his speech with a positive note that the AAACA is gradually reaching a maturity that will allow African anti-corruption institutions to break with amateurism and clientism. This will allow them to fight corruption in an informed manner, as it will facilitate specific training and share positive experiences in the detection, monitoring and investigation of corruption cases. (For more details see appendix).

## **B. THE EXCHANGES**

The discussions focused on the following points:

- Review the report of the AAACA Executive Committee;
- Assessment and Perspectives of the AAACA;
- Accreditation of the AAACA with sub-regional and regional institutions, partners and high authorities, an imperative way for its operationalization;
- Seeking mechanisms of fundraising for the operationalization of the AAACA Secretariat;
- Cooperation of African Anti-Corruption Agencies in Stolen Assets Recovery;
- Debate on the mechanisms for implementing the recommendations of the 1st African Anti-Corruption Forum;
- Analysis of the revised statutes of the Association;
- Analysis of the 2019-2023 strategic plan;
- The miscellaneous

### **1 Report of the Executive Committee**

The AAAACA Secretary-General, Mr Jean Damascène NKESHIMANA presented the report on the activities of the Executive Committee.

In his presentation, he first outlined the progress of the recommendations of the Dakar Declaration on this point, the Secretary General informed that out of 15 recommendations of the 3rd AAACA Annual General Assembly held in Dakar on May 2018, the Secretariat had implemented 10 recommendations.

The Secretary General indicated that some recommendations were difficult to implement because they required financial resources while the association did not have such resources and others were beyond the competence of the Executive Committee. These relate in particular to the introduction of the tax on cross-border transactions in order to better increase the resources of ILCs. (see the report of the Executive Committee)

## **2. Review and perspectives of the AAACA**

Coming back to the Association's achievements, Mr Emmanuel Ollita ONDONGO was pleased with the progress made by the AAACA during its five years of existence, that notwithstanding the precariousness of the financial resources facing the Association (the contribution rate being 35.64%), the Association had achieved much in terms of strengthening the partnership, creating an Association website, regularly and successfully organizing three Annual General Assemblies as well as Executive Committee meetings and strengthening cooperation between member Institutions etc.

He also invited member Institutions to regularly pay their annual contributions fees and to facilitate the Secretariat in implementing the recommendations of the Annual General Assembly, in particular the designation of focal points by Member Institutions, in order to facilitate communication between the Secretariat and the Member Institutions.

Talking about the prospects, he said that to achieve the objectives set by the AAACA, the following actions must be carried out:

- Find a dedicated office for the Association;
- Equip the offices;
- Recruit the staff of the General Secretariat through a call for applications;
- Ensure the salaries of the staff of the General Secretariat;
- Adopt and implement the new constitution;
- Encourage the adherence of African anti-corruption agencies that are not yet members;
- Seek financial sources from the AU Advisory Council on Corruption and continental and international financial institutions;
- Require regular payment of annual contribution fees by member institutions;
- Ensure the focal points set up by member institutions that have not yet done so;
- Ensure the AU adopt and then apply the tax on cross-border transactions;

- increase the visibility and attractiveness of the AAACA through the quality of our actions.

Before concluding, he called on all members in attendance to do their best to ensure that the traceability of stolen assets and those of other business transactions can be uncovered and returned to the Public Treasury to contribute to the development of the African Continent.

## Discussions

The members carefully examined the Executive Committee's report, the Assessment and the prospects of the AAACA, but expressed their concerns about the weakness of the contribution rate and the implementation of the recommendations resulting from the Annual General Meetings.



*Mr Mohammed Bachir RACHDI of Morocco during his intervention*

For some of them, this contribution rate is justified by the fact that the Member Institutions are not really informed about the methods of payment of contributions. For others, this could be due to the fact that some associations do not find it of any interest while others advance the reason for the lack of resources of member institutions.

To overcome this situation, the members propose to implement an effective communication strategy and also ask the wealthy institutions to support the association in its operationalization.

While others think that the amount to be contributed should be increased because, for them, the sum of 2500 US dollars to be contributed per member cannot run a continental association such as AAACA.

### **3. Accreditation of the AAACA with sub-regional and regional institutions, partners and high officials, an obligatory approach for its operationalization**

This topic was presented by Mr Moumouni GUINDO, President of the Central Office to Fight Illicit Enrichment. The speaker first defined the concept of accreditation with an accrediting body, showing the issues and interests of accreditation.

These are notably, the image building, the reinforcement of the credibility and reputation of the accrediting body and the accredited body.

Accreditation of an organization also allows it to acquire the necessary financial resources and the power of influence to participate in a decision-making process related to the purpose and interests of the accredited organization.

Mr. Moumouni Guindo also outlined the criteria for the accreditation of an organization to the African Union. He also explained the difference between accreditation and observer status for organizations, while giving members the choice to decide whether to apply for accreditation or observer status.

The different interventions agreed on the value of the international recognition of the AAACA and appointed a technical committee composed of representatives from Egypt, Benin, Madagascar, Zimbabwe, Sierra Leone, Angola and Tanzania to study the issue of AAACA's accreditation to regional and international bodies and to submit proposals before the Executive Committee meeting, probably to be held in Madagascar in November 2019.

#### **4. Towards the adoption of fundraising mechanisms for the operationalization of the AAACA Secretariat**

This subject, which was before the Annual General Assembly for the second time, is of urgent importance for the existence of the Association. Indeed, for the Professor, St. AUGUSTIN MWENDAMBALI M., the fundraising will reinforce the functioning of the Association by covering the various costs



*Prof. Augustin MWENDAMBALI M.( in middle) during the presentation*

However, according to the Professor, some key actions need to be taken. These include:

- Incitation and mobilization of members' contributions;
- Advocacy before the Heads of State for the Instauration of the Anti-Corruption Tax (ACT);
- Establishment of the Anti-Corruption Advisor Bonus (ACAB);
- Instauration of the retrocession and penalty-recovery bonus;

- Creation of a pedagogical research and self-funding unit;
- Conduct a lobbying campaign with Heads of State under the High Patronage of His Excellency's, Mr Abdel FATTAH EL- SISI, President of the Republic Arab of Egypt, Mr Mouhamadou BUHARI, President of Nigeria, Mr Macky SALL, President of Senegal and donors (World Bank, United Nations Development Programme, African Development Bank, International Monetary Fund, etc.) to fundraise and fundraising activities in favour of AAACA.

In their comments, members acknowledged the role to be played by the Secretariat, but that the lack of financial resources was a challenge to the achievement of the Association's objectives, others referred to the financial problem faced by some member institutions and suggested that the wealthier should be able to see how to support the functioning of the Secretariat.

Others suggested the use of AAACA's potential financial partners, but raised the question of its non-accreditation, which impedes its ability to have an effective international base. For this reason, they proposed to accelerate the Association's accreditation process with international bodies.

Some suggested increasing the contribution rate from US\$2500 to US\$3000, and members found it difficult to meet the obligations at a time when even at US\$2500, members are still reticent to pay their annual contributions.

## **5. Cooperation of African anti-corruption institutions in the recovery of stolen assets**

This topic was presented by Dr. Elias Jean Baptiste, President of the National Anti-Corruption Authority (ANLC)/Benin. In his presentation, he started by highlighting the negative effects of illicit financial flows. In for the speaker, in accordance with the Thabo MBEKI report, more than US\$50 billions per year of African Illicit Financial Flowss from various crimes such as tax evasion, abusive transfer prices, false invoices for commercial transactions, corruption, various forms of misappropriation, transnational organized crime, money laundering are among the evils that are preoccupying Africa and have negative repercussions on governance and development on the Continent.



*Mr Jean Baptiste Elias during his presentation*

This substantially decreased economic growth, which in the end led to a slowdown in poverty reduction efforts, increased social inequalities and dependence on external development assistance.

Aware of this problem, he stressed, States should establish mechanisms for asset recovery and also African anti-corruption institutions should strengthen cooperation on asset recovery.

## **6. Discussion on the mechanisms for implementing the recommendations of the 1st African Forum on Corruption**

This topic was presented by Dr.Amr Ali Fahmy MOUSTAFA of the Egyptian Administrative Control Authority



*Dr. Amr Ali FAHMY MOUSTAPHA, during the presentation of the recommendation of the 1st African Anti-Corruption forum*

After a thorough discussion of the recommendations of the African Anti-Corruption Forum, members agreed that it was essential that a technical committee be set up to analyse and discuss how the Forum's recommendations could be implemented. This team is composed of representatives from the following countries:

Egypt ;

Democratic Republic of Congo;

Zimbabwe;

Ghana;

Madagascar

Kenya;

Tunisia

## **7. Presentation and discussion of the new revised AAACAs Constitution and the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan**

Members considered that these important documents had been submitted late and that they did not have enough time to read it and comment on it and for that reasons, they recommended that the AAACA Secretariat transmit within two weeks to all members the new constitution and the 2019-2023 strategic plan, which in turn will be able to submit their comments to the Secretariat in two weeks from the date of their receipt.

## **8. CLOSING SESSION**

A draft final communiqué was submitted for the consideration of the meeting. The closing of the working meeting was pronounced by H.E. Mr Sherif Seif EDDIN, Minister and President of ACA/Egypt who congratulated all participants and promised the Member Institutions training grants to three staff of the National Anti-Corruption Academy on the area of preventing and combating corruption.

After his speech, the members of the AAACA separated by agreeing on the venue of the next General Assembly, in this particular case, Antananarivo in Madagascar as proposed at the 3rd Annual General Assembly of the AAACA held in Dakar, Senegal.

## **APPENDIX**

APPENDIX 1. AGENDA OF THE ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY

APPENDIX 2. LISTE OF PRESENCE

APPENDIX 3 : SHARM EL SHEIKH DÉCLARATION

APPENDIX 4: DECLARATION OF THE 1st AFRICAN ANTI- CORRUPTION FORUM

APPENDIX 5: KEYNOTE OF HE MR. ABDEL FATTAH EL SISI, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC  
ARAB OF EGYPT

**APPENDIX 1: AGENDA OF THE 4th AGA**

***SHARM EL SHEIKH, THE 14, 15 OF JUNE 2019.***

***TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA THROUGH A CONCERTED  
AND UNANIMOUS FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION, GUARANTEE OF A RADIANT FUTURE OF  
THE AFRICAN PEOPLE***

<b>TIME</b>	<b>ACTIVITIES</b>	<b>SPEEKER</b>	<b>MODERATOR</b>
<b>Day ONE : Friday 14.06.2019</b>			
9h00-9h30	Installation of Participants		Organizing Committee
9h30-10h00	Arrival of the Guest Honour		Protocol
10h00- 10h30	Opening Ceremonies		Protocol

10h30-10h45	Report of Executive Committee	<b>AAACA General Secretary</b>	<b>Charles AYAMDOO / CHRAC-Ghana</b>
10h45-11h15	<b>TEA BREAK</b>		
11h15-11h45	Result and Perspective	<b>Emmanuel OLLITA ONDONGO, President de l'AAACA</b>	
11h45-12h35	Discussion		
12h35-13h25	Accreditation of the AAACA to the regional and sub-regional institutions of the partners and high personalities, a necessary way for its operationalization	<b>MOUMOUNI GUINDO/ President OCLEI MALI</b>	<b>Samuel FOHTUNG TANGANG CONAC/Cameroon</b>
13h25-14h00	Discussion		
14h00- 15h00	<b>LUNCH</b>		
14h00-15h00	Discussion (continued)		
15h00-15h30	Towards the adoption of mechanisms for fundraising for the effective operationalization of the AAACA Secretariat	<b>Prof MWENDAMBALI / DRC</b>	<b>Sékou MOHAMED SYLLA/Guinea</b>
15h30-17h00	Discussion		
17h00-18h00	<b>FREE TIME</b>		
<b>DAY 2 : SATURDAY 15.06.2019</b>			
8h30-9h00	Registration of participants		
9h00-9h30	Cooperation of African Anti-Corruption Agencies in the Stolen Asset Recovery	<b>Jean Baptiste Elias (Benin)</b>	<b>Georges Nathan BAMUGEMEREIRE/IG UGANDA</b>
9h30-10h	Discussion		
10h00-10h30	<b>TEA BREAK</b>		
	Discussion of the Mechanisms of implementation of the 1st African Anti-Corruption Forum	<b>Amr FAHMY/Egypt</b>	

10h30-11h30			<b>DIWANI ATHUMANI/DG PCCB TANZANIA</b>
11h30-12h00	Presentation and discussion on the revised AAACA Constitution	<b>Seynabou NDIAYE DIAKHATE/ President of OFNAC</b>	<b>WIYAO ESSOHANA/ President HAPLUCIA /Togo</b>
12h30-13h00	Discussion		
13h00-13h30	Presentation and discussion of AAACA Five Year Strategic Plan	<b>Charles AYAMDOO/ CHRAJ Ghana</b>	<b>Representative of Nigeria/EFCC</b>
13h30-14h00	Discussion		
14h00-15h00	<b>Lunch</b>		<b>Protocol</b>
15h00-16h00	Presentation of Sharm El Sheikh declaration	<b>Technical Committee</b>	<b>Protocol</b>
16h00-16h30	The end of the 4th AGM	<b>Emmanuel OLLITA ONDONGO, President of AAACA</b>	<b>Protocol</b>

**LIST OF PARTICIPANTS ON THE 4TH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF AAACA**

**SHARM EL SHEIKH, THE 14<sup>th</sup> TO 15<sup>th</sup> June 2019**

	COUNTRY	NAME	ROLE IN AAACA	TITLE	ORGANIZATION/INSTITUTION	EMAIL ADDRESS	TELEPHONE NO	MOBILE
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16.	<b>SIERRA LEONE</b>	Francis Kaifala		<b>COMMISSIONNER</b>	<b>ANTI-CORRUPTION COMMISSION</b>	fbkaifala@anticorruption.gov.sl	+232 76543534	+23276668510
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**Africa  
Association of Anti-Corruption  
Authorities**



**Association  
des Autorités Anti- Corruption  
d'Afrique**

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## ***THE 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE AFRICA ASSOCIATION OF ANTI- CORRUPTION AUTHORITIES***

### ***THE SHARM EL SHEIKH, DECLARATION***

### ***TO PROMOTE AND PRESERVE THE DEVELOPMENT OF AFRICA THROUGH A CONCERTED AND UNANIMOUS FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION, GUARANTEE OF A RADIANT FUTURE OF THE AFRICAN PEOPLE***

The Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities held its 4<sup>th</sup> annual General Assembly from the 14<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup> of June 2019, in Sharm El Sheikh in the Arab Republic of Egypt, with 35 Countries members, Technical and Financial Partners such as the African Development Bank, the African Union Advisory Board on corruption, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crimes, African Parliamentarians' Network Against Corruption (APNAC) and GIZ in attendance.

The opening ceremony of this General Assembly was presided by H.E. Mr. Sherif Seif EDDINE, Minister, and President of the Administrative Control Authority ACA of Egypt.

The following agenda items were considered and carefully discussed:

- Report of the Executive Committee;
- Results and Perspectives
- Accreditation of the AAACA to the regional and sub-regional institutions of the partners and high personalities, a necessary way for its operationalization;
- Towards the adoption of mechanisms for fund raising for the effective operationalisation of the AAACA Secretariat;

- The cooperation of African Anti-Corruption Agencies in the Stolen Assets Recovery;
- Discussion of the mechanisms of implementation Resolutions adopted by the first African Anti-Corruption Forum held on the 12th and 13th of June 2019 at Sharm El Sheikh;
- Presentation and discussion on the revised AAACA Constitution;
- Presentation and discussion of the AAACA the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan;
- Miscellaneous.

At the end of the meeting;

**WE**, members of the Africa Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA):

**CONVINCED** of the negative effects of corruption on the quality of life of its citizens, the economy in general and in the management of natural resources in particular, which cost 148 billion US dollars to Africa, of the necessary urgency to stop the plundering of these resources and to stop the expatriation of financial resources obtained from this practice;

**UNDERLINING** the role of Anti-Corruption Authorities in the implementation of the first Africa Anti-Corruption Forum held in Sharm El Sheikh on the 12<sup>th</sup> and 13<sup>th</sup> of June 2019;

**CONSCIOUS** of the importance of reinforcing technical cooperation and exchange of experiences between Anti-Corruption Authorities in the Recovery of Stolen Assets;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the importance of the recognition and visibility by Regional and International Institutions of the Association;

**ACKNOWLEDGING** the necessity to support the Secretariat to enable it carry out its activities properly;

**GIVEN** that unity is power:

1. **Recommend** that member countries provide Anti-Corruption Authorities with sufficient financial means to enable effective fight against corruption on the African Continent;

2. **Encourage** all African Union member states to ratify the African Union Convention to Prevent and Combat Corruption;
3. **Invite** member states to implement mechanisms for the Recovery of Stolen Assets;
4. **Recommend** that Anti-Corruption Authorities strengthen and operationalize the exchange information and cooperation in the exercise of their missions;
5. **Urge** members of AAACA to regularly pay their subscriptions as they fall due;
6. **Recommend** that members of AAACA contribute to the promotion of the Association by implementing the recommendations of the Annual General Assembly;
7. **Mandate** a Technical Team composed of representatives from:
  - Egypt;
  - Benin;
  - Zimbabwe;
  - Sierra Leone;
  - Angola;
  - Uganda;
  - Madagascar;

to study the problem of the accreditation of AAACA with Regional and International Institutions;

And a second Committee comprised of representatives from;

Egypt;  
Ghana;  
Tunisia;  
Kenya;  
Zimbabwe;  
Democratic Republic of Congo;  
Madagascar

to study, unpack and operationalize the full implementation of Resolutions adopted by the first African Anti-ruption Forum held on the 12th and 13th of June 2019 at Sharm El Sheikh;

8. **Award** the Status of Honorary Members to the following:

- Jean Baptiste Elias, of the Republic of Benin;
- Charles AYAMDOO, of the Republic of Ghana
- Dieudonné ODUNGA AWASSI, of the Republic of Gabon
- FOHTUNG Samuel TANGANG; of the Republic of Cameroon.

9. **Direct** that the Secretariat transmit the Constitution of the Association and the 2019-2023 Strategic Plan within two weeks to members to read and submit their observations also within two weeks;

10, **Recommend** strongly that the Executive Committee and Anti-Corruption Authorities reinforce cooperation between partners such as the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, the GIZ, the African Development Bank, UNODC, Interpol,OLAF. African Parliamentarians Network against Corruption (APNAC) etc.

11. **Salute** the massive attendance of Anti-Corruption Authorities at the 4th Annual General Assembly in Sharm El Sheikh, witnessing as such the adherence to the ideals of the Association and their will to reinforce cooperation between members;

12. **Congratulate** the Government of Madagascar for having accepted to host the executive committee and the 5th Annual General Assembly and the meeting of the Association in 2020;

13. **Express** our gratitude to H.E. Mr Abdel FATTAH El SISSI, President of the Arab Republic of Egypt, for his support and enormous contribution towards the organisation of the 4th Annual General Assembly of AAACA;

14. **Thank** the people of Egypt for their hospitality and generosity, through the initiative taken by the ACA to host at their cost the successful 4th Annual General Assembly of AAACA;

**Done at Sharm El Sheikh 15th of June 2019**



**APPENDIX 4: DECLARATION OF THE 1st AFRICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION FORUM**



## التوصيات

RECOMMENDATIONS

RECOMMANDATIONS



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التوصيات

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العمل على إعداد خطة استراتيجية متكاملة لمكافحة الفساد ومنعه بالقرارة الأفريقية (تشمل مجالات التعليم والبحث العلمي والإعلام والقضاء والمكافحة الفنية وتعزيز التنمية الاقتصادية والبشرية)، من خلال تشكيل لجنة مشتركة من الأجهزة المعنية بإعداد ومتابعة الاستراتيجيات الوطنية والخبراء بالدول الأفريقية.

To develop an integrated strategic plan for combating and preventing corruption in the African continent (including education, scientific research, media, judiciary and technical means for combating corruption along with promoting economic and human development) by means of formulating a joint committee composed of African agencies and experts concerned with designing and following-up national strategies.

Elaborer un plan stratégique intégré pour lutter contre la corruption et la prévenir dans le continent africain (y compris les domaines de l'éducation, de la recherche scientifique, des médias et le renforcement des capacités économiques et humaines) par le biais d'une commission conjointe des organes concernés par l'élaboration et le suivi des stratégies nationales et des experts des Etats africains.



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تضافر الجهود لوضع مؤشر أفريقي لقياس الفساد في أفريقيا بحيث يكون نابعا من السياق الأفريقي ومعبرا عن واقع الحال في القارة وخصوصيته مع مراعاة الفروق الفردية بين الدول الأفريقية بعضها البعض.

To consolidate efforts to develop an African indicator for measuring corruption, that corresponds to the African context and reflects its peculiarity, bearing in mind the individual differences among the African countries;

Exercer des efforts communs pour établir un indice commun africain destiné à mesurer la corruption en Afrique, provenant du contexte africain et exprimant la réalité de la situation dans le continent tout en tenant compte des différences spécifiques entre les Etats africains;



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تشدين منصة قارية من خلال نقاط اتصال وطنية تتولى متابعة تطورات قضايا الفساد ونتائج جهود مكافحة ومتابعة التزام دول القارة الموقعة على اتفاقيتي الأمم المتحدة والاتحاد الإفريقي لعام 2003، من حيث قيام كل دولة باتخاذ ما يلزم من تدابير وإجراءات وفقاً لنظامها القانوني ومبادئها الدستورية لضمان الحد من ظاهرة الفساد، على أن تجتمع سنوياً وتعلن عن نتائج عملها وتوصياتها.

To launch a continental platform based on national focal points in charge of following up the developments of the corruption cases and the outcomes of the anti-corruption efforts, as well as following up the commitments of states signatory to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the African Union Convention of Preventing and Combating Corruption in 2003, with regard to the anti-corruption measures and procedures adopted by them, pursuant to their respective legal systems and constitutional principles, aiming to limit the phenomenon of corruption, provided that they convene on an annual basis and declare concluded outcomes and recommendations;

Lancer une plateforme continentale à travers des points focaux nationaux chargés de faire le suivi de l'évolution des affaires de corruption et des résultats des efforts de lutte, ainsi que le suivi des engagements des Etats du continent signataires des deux conventions des Nations Unies et de l'Union africaine en 2003, quant aux mesures et procédures nécessaires prises par chaque état conformément à son système juridique et ses principes constitutionnels afin d'assurer la réduction du phénomène de corruption. Cette plateforme doit se réunir annuellement et annoncer les résultats de ses travaux et ses déclarations;



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إعداد آلية إلكترونية مأمّنة للتبادل الفوري للمعلومات عن جرائم الفساد وغسل الأموال وتمويل الإرهاب بين الدول ذات الإهتمام المشترك مع التوسع في نشر جهود أجهزة مكافحة الفساد المختلفة في الدول الأفريقية لتوعية المواطنين عامة وتحفيزهم على الإبلاغ عن الفساد بكافة صوره.

To devise a secure electronic mechanism for instant exchange of intelligence on crimes of corruption, money laundering and funding terrorism among states with common interests, while expanding in mobilizing efforts of African anti-corruption authorities, with regard to sensitizing the public and encouraging them to report all forms of corruption;

Élaborer un mécanisme électronique sécurisé pour échanger rapidement les informations en matière du délit de corruption, du blanchiment de capitaux et du financement du terrorisme entre pays d'intérêt commun, conjuguer les efforts déployés par les diverses autorités de lutte contre la corruption dans les États africains dans le but de sensibiliser les citoyens et les inciter à signaler toute forme de corruption:



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إنشاء آلية قانونية للتعاون بين دول القارة بشأن استرداد عوائد الفساد تكون على شكل بروتوكول ملحق بالاتفاقية الأفريقية لمكافحة الفساد على أن تكون قرارات هذه الآلية ملزمة لكافة الدول الأطراف في الاتفاقية الأفريقية لمكافحة الفساد.

To establish a legal mechanism for cooperation among African states on the recovery of corruption proceeds, in the form of a protocol annexed to the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption, provided that respective decisions of such mechanism shall be binding to all States Parties to the Convention;

Mettre en place un mécanisme juridique de coopération entre les États du continent, pour restituer les revenus générés par la corruption, sous la forme d'un protocole annexé à la Convention de l'Union africaine sur la prévention et la lutte contre la corruption, dont les décisions seront contraignantes pour tous les États signataires de ladite Convention:



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ضرورة إجراء مراجعة مستمرة لآليات مكافحة الفساد والعمل على تطويرها لتتماشى وخصوصية الدولة التي ستطبق فيها، مع التأكيد على الأهداف المشتركة للدول الأفريقية في تحقيق مستوى عال من الشفافية، على أن يتم ذلك في المؤتمر السنوي لاتحاد هيئات مكافحة الفساد.

To constantly review anti-corruption mechanisms, and to develop and upgrade it in conformity with the specific context of respective states, while stressing common goals of African states to achieve strict transparency, provided that these proceedings will take place in the annual assembly of Association of African Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA);

Examiner périodiquement le mécanisme de lutte contre la corruption et œuvrer à la mise au point dudit mécanisme en conformité avec la spécificité de chaque État où il sera mis en œuvre, et réaffirmer, lors de l'Assemblée annuelle de l'Association des autorités anti-corruption d'Afrique, les objectifs communs des États africains visant à atteindre un niveau élevé de transparence;



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تعزيز التعاون مع الشركاء الدوليين لتوفير الإمكانيات التمويلية والفنية لمكافحة الفساد بما يحقق المصالح المشتركة بينهم.

To promote cooperation with international partners to make accessible all funding and technical potentials for combating corruption for realizing common interests;

Renforcer la coopération avec les partenaires internationaux afin de fournir les capacités financières et techniques de lutte contre la corruption pour réaliser les intérêts communs entre eux;



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التوسع في إبرام مذكرات تفاهم وبروتوكولات تعاون بين الأكاديمية الوطنية لمكافحة الفساد بمصر و مراكز التدريب والأجهزة الرقابية في الدول الأفريقية لتدريب وتأهيل الكوادر الأفريقية في مجالات منع ومكافحة الفساد ونشر قيم النزاهة والشفافية .

To expand the conclusion of Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) and protocols d'accords between the National Academy for Combating Corruption in Egypt and training centers and African control authorities for training and qualifying African cadres in the realm of combating and preventing corruption whilst promoting values of integrity and transparency;

Élargir la conclusion des mémorandums d'entente et des protocoles de coopération entre l'Académie nationale égyptienne de lutte contre la corruption, les centres de formation et les organes de contrôle dans les pays africains, pour former et habiliter les cadres africains dans les domaines de prévention et de lutte contre la corruption et de diffusion des valeurs d'intégrité et de transparence;



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دراسة وضع اليه منتظمة لعقد المنتدى وبصفة دورية، يعرض فيها الموقف التنفيذي للتوصيات التي تصدر عن المنتديات دورياً .

To study developing a regular mechanism for convening the forum on a regular basis, while presenting the status of implementing respective recommendations issued by Forum sessions regularly;

Etudier la possibilité de mettre en place un mécanisme régulier de tenue périodique du forum, pour la revue de la mise en œuvre des recommandations émises par les forums;



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تطوير قدرات الجهات العاملة في مجال مكافحة الفساد للتعرف على الطرق المستحدثة في غسل عائدات جرائم الفساد، مع إتخاذ إجراءات جادة للتعرف على أسباب ضعف إسترداد الموجودات في أفريقيا لتحديد أماكن الأصول المهربة وحجزها وإستردادها.

To develop the capacities of the entities concerned with combating corruption to identify the modern methods used to launder the monies gained from the corruption crimes, whilst adopting strict measures to address the reasons of Africa's weakness with regard to reclaiming the existed assets, aiming to locate, seize and reclaim the smuggled assets.

Promouvoir les capacités des instances en opération dans le domaine de lutte contre la corruption pour trouver de nouvelles méthodes de blanchiment des recettes des crimes de corruption, prendre des mesures efficaces pour déterminer les points de faille à propos du retour des fonds existant en Afrique, et déterminer les lieux des actifs détournés dans le but de les saisir et les restituer.

*APPENDIX 5: KEYNOTE OF HE Mr ABDEL FATTAH EL- SISI, PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF EGYPT*

**Ladies and Gentlemen, Your excellence's, Ministers of Justice, Heads of Control Authorities and Auditors-General of our fellow African states,  
Brothers and sisters, Officials of the African Union (AU) and Association of African Anti-Corruption Authorities (AAACA),**

In the first place, it is my utmost pleasure to welcome you in Egypt. I extend my deep thanks and appreciation for your valuable participation the 1st African Anti-Corruption Forum (AACF), hosted by Egypt to highlight our firm belief in the significance of consolidating African joint action and exchange of experience in this field. Further, more priority and focus are given to anti-corruption efforts at the national level together with the AU Agenda. Thus, harmonized efforts and working hand in hand have assumed a sublime concern in political, legislative, judicial and regulatory realms in order to combat and eradicate the evils of corruption that have plagued economies of states. It is our duty to raise awareness on the concept of corruption and its devastating repercussions, since it is one of the major obstacles that hampers development and achievement of Sustainable development Goals (SDGs), and suppresses the legitimate aspirations of our African peoples towards promoting the values of freedom, equality, justice and dignity. Africa's fortunes being relentlessly exhausted due to corruption are one of the major triggers for the deterioration of fundamental economic and social components in several African states.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

Recently, Egypt has made great strides in combating different forms of corruption, and has paid greater attention to conducting research, studies and opinion surveys aiming to trace drives of corruption and provide respective accurate figures. Egypt's efforts have come to spotlight, especially with the constitutional clauses that underscore the State's commitments to combat corruption, and the obligations of respective control authorities and agencies to seek joint coordination in fighting corruption and championing values of integrity and transparency. These efforts would guarantee safeguarding public money and good management for the best interest of our nations. Moreover, a number of key legislations have been enacted to combat different corruption patterns, one of the major impediments to desired sustainable development. Moreover, both the National Coordinating Committee for Combating Corruption (NCCCC) and National Academy for Combating Corruption have been established. Egypt has not been working in silos away from international anti-corruption efforts. Egypt has adopted world quality international accounting and auditing standards and systems. It has also acceded to relevant UN, African and Arab conventions, among which is the recently-ratified African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption. The Convention is the Continent's fundamental legal instrument for combating corruption. Further, Egypt has undertaken respective regulatory procedures in the sense of legislative reforms, in conformity with the Convention's clauses. Respective departments specialized in combating financial and administrative corruption have been recently established in parallelism with promoting digital transformation that would enhance administrative and financial governance, and assist in eradicating bureaucracy.

**Ladies and Gentlemen,**

We have a deep conviction that combating corruption and altering prevailing scenarios in the African continent can be only realized with a synergy of efforts, unified visions and enhanced coordinating mechanisms that would cripple corruption at all levels.

Egypt will pursue its African-joint efforts in combating corruption including, among which, doubling training courses provided by the National Academy for Combating Corruption for officials of African law-enforcement authorities. We also embrace close cooperation with our fellow African neighbours and relevant AU organs for exchanging best practices in this regard. We reiterate the importance of cementing international cooperation with Africa's key partners at all levels with an ultimate goal of obtaining desired goals. Finally, I hope this Forum's outcomes would give an impetus to development endeavours in our mother Africa, becoming an African forum for stepping up efforts in the realm of exchanging intelligence and experience at judicial, security, legislative and regulatory levels. Devising an effective linkage mechanism with international partners would be thus indispensable. May our efforts be crowned with success for the well-being and prosperity of our African nations and peoples.

**Thank you,**

**May Allah's Peace, Mercy and Blessings be upon you .**