

20 August 2007

Statement by Transparency International
Ending of formal ties between Transparency International and
Transparência Brasil

On 14 August 2007, the Transparency International (TI) Board of Directors acknowledged the decision of Transparência Brasil (TB) to discontinue its affiliation with the TI movement, whereby the formal National Chapter Accreditation Agreement between Transparência Brasil and Transparency International ceases to be in force.

Membership in the Transparency International movement requires all national chapters to adhere to TI's accreditation requirements and to key policy decisions taken by both the Annual Membership Meeting - the movement's decision-making body - and by the elected Board of Directors. Regrettably, Transparency Brazil sees these conditions as a constraint on its autonomy and has chosen to withdraw from the Transparency International movement.

Transparency International regrets the decision of Transparência Brasil to discontinue its formal affiliation with the TI movement. We respect the chapter's work and the anti-corruption tools it has developed.

The decision means that the National Chapter Accreditation Agreement between Transparência Brasil and Transparency International is no longer in force. According to the National Chapter Accreditation Policy and the National Chapter Accreditation Agreement, the former chapter must now refrain from using TI's name and logo. TB has indicated it intends to comply with these contractual obligations.

With more than 90 National Chapters spearheading the fight against corruption world wide, we firmly believe that corruption can only be fought effectively in all its forms based on the full respect for diversity and local conditions. It is this wide range of knowledge and experience that has enabled our movement for the past 15 years to build a collective strength against one of the greatest obstacles to social, economic and democratic development.

Convinced of the benefits of being part of an international network, chapters collectively promote regional and global advocacy agendas and participate in the development of international advocacy tools, such as comparative indices and report cards. The International Secretariat co-ordinates and facilitates this work and allows us to work with and influence the international community.

Corruption remains a serious threat to Brazil. To reinvigorate the effort to reduce corruption, we will engage with independent, accountable and competent civil society organisations to further this vital work. TI welcomes the positive inclination of Transparência Brasil towards future cooperation with Transparency International at the national and international levels.

Our movement's strength lies with cooperation within the movement and with other partners around the world, not with the isolation of any of its elements.

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