Resolution on the Fourth Session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties

Transparency International’s 2011 Annual Membership Meeting passes the following resolution with respect to the UN Convention against Corruption for submission to the upcoming fourth session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties, beginning 24 October 2011 in Marrakesh, Morocco:

1. Commending UNODC for a good start in launching the Implementation Review Mechanism and expressing their appreciation to UNODC including their Civil Society Team for the excellent collaboration with TI and the UNCAC Coalition, including in providing training for civil society organizations in the UNCAC review process.

2. Expressing satisfaction that most of the country reviews undertaken in 2010-11 have included country visits by the review teams, and inputs to the reviewers from civil society. These two elements, plus publication of country self-assessments and final reports (on which results are not yet available), are crucial for the effectiveness and public credibility of the review process.

3. Calling for reviews to start with publication by UNODC and States Parties of information about country focal points and actual review schedules (to be updated as needed) as this is essential to achieve inclusiveness and transparency.

4. Recalling UNCAC provisions on transparency and civil society participation, including Article 13 and the Terms of Reference for the Review Mechanism which emphasizes transparency, inclusiveness and wide consultation with stakeholders and urging States Parties in future reviews to maintain the practice of including civil society in country visits.

5. Expressing concern that the issue of non-governmental inputs to the Implementation Review Group (IRG) remains unresolved. Because the IRG plays a key role in the planning and assessment of the review process, it is essential that the IRG obtain adequate written and oral inputs from civil society organizations and the private sector. Participation of CSOs as observers in the IRG would give effect to the letter and spirit of the Convention, to the Review Mechanism’s Terms of Reference and to the applicable procedural rule (Rule 17 of the CoSP Rules of Procedure).

6. Requesting UNODC to prepare a Third Guide, with a focus on building sustainable ethical infrastructure, to assist state parties and non-state actors in furthering integrity.

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Adopted 16 October 2011, Berlin