

ANTI-CORRUPTION COUNTRY COMMITMENTS – MONTENEGRO

The following commitments are developed from commitments made as part of the London 2016 Anti-Corruption Summit, EU Commission reporting, the Council of Europe Group of States Against Corruption recommendations (GRECO) and suggestion from UK Government departments.

1) Exposing corruption:

Public Private Partnership

- Adopt the set of laws regulating this area in line with EU standards: Law on public-private partnership, Law on concession and Law on public procurement.
- Enhancing the information flow between the financial institutions and designated non-financial business and professions (DNFBPs) to provide law enforcement with intelligence needed to detect and disrupt money laundering linked to corruption.
- Deploying public private information sharing partnerships to bring together governments, law enforcement, regulators and the financial sector to detect, prevent and disrupt money laundering linked to corruption.

Public procurement and Open Contracting

- Working towards a full implementation of the principles of Open Contracting Data Standard focusing on major projects as an early priority.
- Implementing the Open Contracting Data Standard as part of new e-government procurement work and working with the Open Contracting Partnership. Using the e-procurement systems to give standardized information of public procurement that can be easily used by the civil society.
- Reviewing public procurement procedures to increase transparency and reduce opportunities for corruption.
- Joining the Open Budgeting Partnership and commit to being reviewed under OBP survey.

Tax

- Signing up to the Common Reporting Standard initiative on taxation, as an essential tool for the proper automatic exchange of financial account information for tax matters.
- Joining the Addis Tax Initiative.

Whistle blowing

- Encouraging citizens and employees to report corruption, to promote action including by law enforcement on the information provided, and to protect “whistle blowers” in the public and private sector who take personal risks to provide critical information.

Beneficial ownership

- Establish secure network for connecting to public central register of company beneficial ownership Information to ensure that law enforcement agencies have full and effective access to information for companies and other legal entities registered within their jurisdiction.
- Implementing bilateral arrangements in this area.

2) Punishing the corrupt and supporting those who have suffered from corruption:

Enforcement capabilities

- Ensuring that the Anti-Corruption body reaches solid and steady track record in the oversight of the implementation of all preventive anti-corruption institutes: conflict of interest, asset declarations, control of financing of political entities and electoral campaigns, integrity plans, whistleblowers’ protection and corruption proofing.

3) Driving out the culture of corruption, wherever it exists, the Government of Montenegro commits to:

Media

- Continue implementing measures to ensuring the media are able to report on corruption issues in an objective and independent manner, in the way that the reports on specific cases will not harm the ongoing investigations.

Institutional integrity and Anti-Corruption Education

- Continue implementing legislation and codes of ethics relating to the integrity of persons exercising public functions, holders of judicial functions and civil servants.
- Improving organizational mechanisms of detecting and preventing conflict of interest in relation to public officials, by education and conducting regular risk assessment.
- Create possibilities to endorse the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative's International Treaty on Data Exchange on Asset Disclosure and Conflict of Interest.
- Implementing anti-corruption education and outreach programs which include engaging organizations in the public and private sectors in talks and dialogues on preventive measures.
- Promoting and raising awareness of ethical standards by members of parliament. [GRECO]

International System

- Supporting international bodies, including the UN, European Commission, G20, MONEYVAL, World Bank, EBRD, IMF and OECD, and implementing their recommendations in a timely manner.
- Ensuring full implementation of all GRECO's recommendations in a timely manner.