

Annual Meeting 2011 - Session Summary

The War against Corruption

Wednesday 26 January, 13.30 - 15.00

With corruption as a major source of economic and political instability, how can real progress be made in the fight against it?

This WorkStudio will address the following dimensions:

- Corporate compliance
- Effective public-private partnerships
- G20 engagement

This session is linked to initiatives and communities of the Forum.



Notes from the session

Emerging Markets

- Rule of law – Emerging countries should ensure that relevant anti-corruption laws are enforced.
- Education – Citizens should be educated on anti-corruption and ethics.
- Media – Should be engaged to sensitize citizens, raise awareness on the issue and also to raise the alarm in incidences of corruption.

Public Procurement

- Zero tolerance policy on bribery – Companies should institute and enforce a zero tolerance policy toward corruption.
- Collective action – Get industries to work together in concert in fighting corruption and approach Government as a group to so as not to expose any one company.
- Education – Start to sensitize citizens early on – give children positive role models on ethics.

Facilitation Payments

- Zero tolerance policy on bribery – Companies should institute and enforce a zero tolerance policy towards facilitating payments.
- Technology – Use technology to reduce the number of human participants in transactions so as to reduce the risk that bribes are demanded/paid.
- Compensation – Pay public officials a living wage to reduce the likelihood that they will ask for bribes.

Extortion and Solicitation

- More private sector engagement – The public sector is unlikely to act decisively to combat extortion since the public sector is the primary beneficiary of the same.
- More engagement from ordinary citizens – Get information out to citizens that it is in their interest to fight corruption so that they can apply pressure on their public officials.
- Incentives – Create positive incentives for companies not to give in to extortion and solicitation.

Regulatory Arbitrage

- Global Standard – Create a single common global regulatory standard to initiate a level playing field for all businesses.
- Law enforcement – Once the global standard is created, effectively enforce it.

Disclosures

This summary was prepared by Begoña Martínez Gorriiz. The views expressed are those of certain participants in the discussion and do not necessarily reflect the views of all participants or of the World Economic Forum.

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