

Global Agenda Council on Anti-Corruption & Transparency 2012-2014



Understanding/Context

Corruption distorts markets, undermines development and makes business unsustainable. According to the World Bank, corruption increases the cost of doing business up to 10% globally. In the 2012 Global Compact Annual Implementation Survey – the largest survey on corporate sustainability practices with input from over 1,700 businesses – 39% of respondents ranked corruption as a major obstacle to sustainable development. Sustainability and market growth cannot be attained where corruption is prevalent.

While game-changing ideas and large-scale initiatives are difficult to implement, a “coalition of the willing” is rapidly developing, with business, civil society and government leaders around the world exhibiting greater interest in supporting anti-corruption initiatives. This momentum reflects a tipping point where stakeholders can collaborate to design corruption out of the system.

Shaping the Agenda

Words are becoming action as a global agenda takes on great importance and support across business, government and society. The coordinated work plans of the Global Agenda Council on Anti-Corruption & Transparency, the Forum’s Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI) and the Business 20 (B20) recommendations (improving transparency and anti-corruption) are focused on a set of action items that already demonstrate measurable progress.

At the Summit on the Global Agenda 2013, the Council identified three work streams to further advance the existing Council work:

1. **Promote the concept of voluntary disclosure:** The Council will work towards greater visibility and endorsement of the concept of voluntary disclosure to assist businesses with exposing corrupt practices earlier in the process and in cooperation with authorities.
2. **Create greater public education and awareness:** Through transformation mapping, the Council identified

the need for greater public education and awareness, and will work with other Councils and stakeholders to increase visibility through social media, educational programmes and other mechanisms.

3. **Advance the recommendations of the B20** anti-corruption and transparency agenda. Opportunities for collective action, strengthening supply chains, improving the capacity-building of small and medium-sized enterprises and other policy recommendations offer possibilities for advancing specific initiatives.

A key component of the Council’s implementation strategy has been the integration of its work plan into the agendas of other Councils, e.g. the Councils on the Future of Government, the Rule of Law, Africa, Illicit Trade, Organized Crime, and India. This extended platform has broad support and engagement within the Global Agenda Council community, reflecting the link corruption has to society, business, the economy and geopolitics.

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The Council has also collaborated regionally. In April 2013, PACI, along with the United Nation’s Global Compact, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Transparency International and the UN Office of Drugs and Crime, organized an anti-corruption workshop on India. The Council foresees the B20 agenda to continue on core topics, along with further collaboration within the Global Agenda Council community.

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