

**AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON  
CORRUPTION**



**CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DE L'UNION  
AFRICAINNE SUR LA CORRUPTION**

**الإفريقي لآلة حاد الاللة شاري الاللة  
الفساد لمحاربة**

**CONSELHO CONSULTIVO DA UNIÃO  
AFRICANA SOBRE CORRUPÇÃO**

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**AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION (AUABC)**

**IN BRIEF**

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## **African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption**

The Member States of the African Union adopted the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (The Convention) at the Second Ordinary Session of the Assembly of the Union, held in Maputo (Mozambique), on 11<sup>th</sup> July 2003. The Convention entered into force on 5<sup>th</sup> August 2006, thirty (30) days after the deposit of the fifteenth (15<sup>th</sup>) instrument of ratification. To date thirty-four (34) countries have ratified the Convention and are States Parties to it.

### **Creation of the Board**

The Board is the emanation of The Convention and it was created on 26<sup>th</sup> May 2009 under Article 22 (1) of The Convention. This organ bases its work on the provisions of this legal instrument and in this regard, it is the unique continental organization mandated by the African Union to deal with corruption and related themes in Africa.

### **Mandate of the Board**

The main mandate of the Board is to promote and encourage the adoption of measures and actions by State Parties to prevent, detect, punish and eradicate corruption and related offences in Africa as well as to follow-up on the application of those measures and submit a report to the Executive Council on a regular basis on the progress made by each State Party in complying with the provisions of the Convention.

### **Mission of the Board**

The mission of the AUABC, which has clearly been stated out in Article 22 (5) of the Convention, is to:

- a. Promote and encourage adoption and application of anti-corruption measures on the continent;
- b. Collect and document information on the nature and scope of corruption and related offences in Africa;



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- c. Develop methodologies for analyzing the nature and extent of corruption in Africa, and disseminate information and sensitize the public on the negative effects of corruption and related offences;
- d. Advise governments on how to deal with the scourge of corruption and related offences in their domestic jurisdictions;
- e. Collect information and analyze the conduct and behavior of multi-national corporations operating in Africa and disseminate such information to national authorities designated under Article 18 (1) of the Convention hereof;
- f. Develop and promote the adoption of harmonized codes of conduct of public officials;
- g. Build partnerships with the African Commission on Human and People's Rights, African civil Society, governmental, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations to facilitate dialogue in the fight against corruption and related offences;
- h. Submit a report to Executive Council on a regular basis on the progress made by each State Party in complying with the provisions of The Convention;
- i. Perform any other task relating to corruption and related offences that may be assigned to it by the policy organs of the African Union.

### Composition of the Board

The Board is composed of 11 members, each proposed by States Parties and elected by the Executive Council from a list of experts. The Board Members should be of:

- Highest integrity and impartiality,
- Recognized competence in matters relating to preventing and combating corruption and related offences.

For the election of Board Members, the Executive Council shall ensure adequate representation of women, and equitable geographical representation. The members of the Board are independent personalities who serve in their personal capacity. They are appointed for a period of two years, renewable once. The first Board was appointed for the period 2009-2011, and the current Board which is the third was elected on 31<sup>st</sup> January 2013 for the period 2013-2015.



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### **The AUABC Bureau**

The Board elects from among its members a Bureau comprising a Chairperson, a Vice-Chairperson and a Rapporteur. Members of the Bureau are appointed for a period of one (1) year. The Bureau ensures the planning and coordination of the activities of the Board necessary to execute its functions under Article 22 (5) of The Convention. The Bureau may represent the Board in regional and international conferences or meetings related to its functions and mandate. The Bureau may, after informing the African Union Commission (AUC) and on behalf of the Board, conclude partnerships and cooperation arrangements with other organizations or regional or international institutions pursuing similar goals.

### **The Executive Secretariat of the Board**

The Secretariat functions under the direction of the Bureau and the supervision of the Rapporteur. It has been established to provide substantive, professional, administrative, and logistical support to the Board. Specifically, the Secretariat organizes all meetings of the Board and the Bureau. It maintains registry of all documents and correspondence of the Board, and renders a general record-keeping function relating to its activities. It also provides the necessary technical support to Board Members in the achievement of their missions.

The Secretariat is managed by an Executive Secretary. Its organizational structure, which conforms to the general policies and guidelines of the African Union is designed and staffed by professional, technical and administrative personnel.



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## Members of the Board

The Advisory Board is currently composed of 11 members, namely:

<u>Name</u>	<u>Country</u>	<u>Remark</u>
1. Mr. Jean Baptiste Elias	Benin	Chairperson
2. Mr. M'pere Diarra	Mali	Vice-Chairperson
3. Ms. Angele Barumpozako	Burundi	Rapporteur
4. Ms. Akossiwa Ayena	Togo	Member
5. Mr. Ali Sulaiman Mohamed	Ethiopia	Member
6. Dr. Edward Gamaya Hoseah	Tanzania	Member
7. Mr. Jacques III Achiaou	Cote d'Ivoire	Member
8. Ms. Julie Onum-Nwariaku	Nigeria	Member
9. Mr. Pierre Nzobabela	Republic of Congo	Member
10. Mr. Salem Ben-Gharbia	Libya	Member
11. Dr. Tony Aidoo	Ghana	Member

## The Executive Secretary

During their term, members of the Board are assisted by the Secretariat led by an Executive Secretary. The current Executive Secretary is Professor Adolphe Lawson (Togo).

## Key achievements and challenges of the Board

Since its inception in 2009, the Board has realized a number of activities, which led to the following key results:

### On the organizational plane:

- The setting-up of the Board and the Executive Secretariat,
- The elaboration and adoption of its internal rules and regulations,



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- The elaboration and adoption of a code of conduct for the Board members,
- The development of a strategic plan (2011-2015) with related programme of activities.

**On the technical plane:**

- The elaboration and submission of a questionnaire to States Parties to evaluate the level of domestication of The Convention,
- The initiation of partnerships with development partners for the implementation of the programme of action,
- The conduct of advocacy missions for the ratification of The Convention to Non-States Parties,
- The conduct of assessment missions to evaluate the implementation of The Convention.

**Status of ratification of the Convention on Corruption**

To date, thirty-four (34) Member States have ratified and are State Parties to the Convention:

Algeria, Benin, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Comoros, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Gabon, Gambia, Ghana, Guinea Bissau, Guinea Conakry, Kenya, Libya, Lesotho, Liberia, Madagascar, Mali, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Niger, Rwanda, Senegal, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo, Uganda, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

**Countries visited in 2012**

The following countries were visited as part of the mission to assess and monitor the level of domestication of The Convention and advocate for the ratification of The Convention.

Burkina Faso, Congo, Côte d'Ivoire, Djibouti, Ghana, Kenya, Mozambique, Rwanda, Seychelles, Zambia.



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### **Upcoming Country visits in 2013**

For the same objectives cited above, the following countries will be visited:

Algeria, Burkina Faso, Burundi , Congo, DR Congo, Ethiopia, Gabon, Ghana, Guinea Conakry, Côte d'Ivoire, Lesotho, Libya, Mali, Mauritius, Mozambique, Namibia, Nigeria, Rwanda, Seychelles, Sierra Leone, South Africa, Tanzania, Togo.

### **Official languages of the Board**

The official languages of the Board are those of the African Union. These are Arabic, English, French, Portuguese, Spanish, Kiswahili and other African languages.

### **Seat of the Board**

The seat of the Board is Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania.

### **For further information, please contact us at the following address:**

#### **AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON CORRUPTION**

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