

MESSAGE OF THE ADB/OECD ANTI-CORRUPTION INITIATIVE FOR ASIA-PACIFIC

**Delivered by Madame Alka Sirohi, Secretary, Department of
Personnel and Training, Ministry of Personnel, Public
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**Mr. President,
Excellencies,
Distinguished Delegates,
Ladies and Gentlemen.**

The Asian Development Bank/Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific ("Initiative"), which consists of 28 member countries and jurisdictions,¹ congratulates the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption for its major progress since the 3rd Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the UNCAC, especially on the review mechanism.

¹ The Initiative's members are: Australia; Bangladesh; Bhutan; Cambodia; P.R. China; Cook Islands; Fiji Islands; Hong Kong, China; India; Indonesia; Japan; Kazakhstan; Korea; Kyrgyzstan; Macao, China; Malaysia; Mongolia; Nepal; Pakistan; Palau; Papua New Guinea; Philippines; Samoa; Singapore; Sri Lanka; Thailand; Vanuatu; and Vietnam.

In 2010, the Initiative adopted new Strategic Principles and Future Activities, which make the Initiative’s priority effective UNCAC implementation. The Initiative’s strength is its capacity as a regional forum, to support UNCAC implementation through capacity building based on peer-learning, mutual support and exchange of expertise. The Initiative is therefore a logical and efficient forum for efficient technical assistance delivery in Asia-Pacific.

In 2010, the Initiative completed its Thematic Review on the Criminalisation of Bribery in Asia and the Pacific, which reviews the members’ implementation of articles 15 and 16 of the UNCAC on a country-specific and regional-wide basis. The Thematic Review could thus be an effective foundation for providing technical assistance to the Initiative’s members collectively and individually. The Initiative also encourages the Conference of States Parties to consider the Thematic Review in its current program of country reviews on criminalisation, in accordance with the Guiding Principles [Paragraph 3(j)] and Review Process [Paragraph 27(c)] outlined in Resolution 3/1 of the Third Conference of States Parties.

The Initiative proposes conducting a Thematic Review in 2012 on implementation of Article 12 of the UNCAC on the prevention of corruption in the private sector, including through awareness-raising, accounting and auditing standards, corporate compliance measures and the non-tax deductibility of bribe payments. The Initiative therefore further encourages the

Conference of States Parties to consider this upcoming Thematic Review in its future reviews that encompass Article 12 of the UNCAC, and the provision of related technical support to countries in Asia and the Pacific.
