

ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific

The Secretariat

5th Steering Group meeting
Manila, 5-7 July, 2004

StG05-0704(2)-rev1

Objectives and agenda of the 5th Steering Group meeting

The 5th Steering Group Meeting of the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia-Pacific has four main objectives: To report on ongoing activities of both the endorsing countries and the Initiative's Secretariat; to review and finalize the stocktaking report; to present and discuss the countries' planned anti-corruption efforts under the Action Plan's second implementation cycle; and to table and approve upon the future strategy and activities of the Initiative.

■ Roundtable on current anti-corruption efforts

As foreseen under the Action Plan's implementation mechanism, the regular Steering Group meetings provide an opportunity to inform the partner countries under the Initiative and the members of the Advisory Group about current anti-corruption efforts, achievements, and priorities. Each country is invited to briefly outline recent anti-corruption trends, policies, and reforms. Participants are also encouraged to report on anti-corruption projects in which they are not directly involved but which play a key role in their countries' anti-corruption strategy.

Information collected during this roundtable will feed into the Initiative's stocktaking report on countries' anti-corruption efforts to ensure the accuracy and timeliness of this key benchmarking instrument.

■ 2nd Action Plan implementation cycle: Discussion of country priority areas and reform projects

The 5th Steering Group meeting marks the beginning of the second implementation cycle of the Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia-Pacific. In accordance with the Plan's implementation mechanism and commitments made there under, the endorsing countries are requested to present their second set of priorities for reform and the respective projects to achieve these reform goals (Doc. StG05-0704(5)).

This early discussion of country projects aims to ensure a comprehensive project design, to anticipate possible difficulties in implementing reforms and to prepare respective countermeasures, and to encourage support where necessary from partner countries, members of the Advisory Group, or the Secretariat.

■ Donor assistance

The Secretariat aims to assist interested countries in enhancing the support by and direct involvement of donor institutions in countries' efforts to implement the Action Plan. This includes the stages of selecting reform priorities, developing corresponding projects and actual implementation at national



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level. Countries will be invited in this session to present in detail their needs for financial or/and technical assistance for the implementation of their second set of priority areas. Donor institutions represented in the Advisory Group will reflect on these proposals and report back to their headquarters and respective local field offices.

In this context, the Secretariat also offers assistance in establishing local donor consultation groups or ad hoc meetings, circulate the countries' reform projects under the Action Plan to interested donors and in particular to the donor institutions of ADB and OECD Members, and establish contact with experts that could assist in a country's reform efforts. The 5th Steering Group meeting will provide an opportunity to discuss the countries' interest in this form of assistance and to decide on possible formats of such support.

■ **Stocktaking**

Following an earlier decision of the Steering Group, the participating countries have taken stock of their legal and institutional frameworks to combat corruption. Based on the countries' reports, the Secretariat has compiled a summary overview of the current anti-corruption framework in endorsing countries from Asia and the Pacific. A first preliminary draft report, then covering sixteen countries, has been reviewed and adopted in the course of the 4th Steering Group meeting in December 2003. Four more countries have since submitted respective information, which has been integrated into the report.

The 5th Steering Group meeting provides an opportunity to discuss and review these additions and finalize the report as a whole, so that it may – after approval by the Steering Group – be published in its 2004-version in book form and made accessible to the public via the Initiative's website (Doc. StG05-0704(3)).

■ **Strategy and work plan 2004-2006**

Significant results have been achieved since the adoption of the Action Plan in Tokyo in November 2001, but further efforts are required to build up sustainable legal and institutional frameworks to combat corruption in the region.

In order to coordinate and determine the future priorities and activities of the Initiative in support of these efforts, the Steering Group will discuss and adopt the Initiative's strategy and work plan 2004-2006 which has been drafted by the Initiative's Secretariat based on earlier discussions in the Steering Group and with the Advisory Group (Doc. StG05-0704(4)). Members of the Steering Group will be invited to comment and suggest amendments to this document where required.

Particular attention will have to be paid in the discussion of this strategy to the definition of future training seminars and the preparation of the thematic review under the Initiative.

■ **Training seminars**

After the successful accomplishment of the Initiative's "Master Training Seminar on Effective Prosecution of Corruption" in 2003 and the Steering Group's call for continuous capacity building support from the Secretariat, the Initiative will hold its next training seminar on "Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement" back to back with the 5th Steering Group Meeting (Doc. StG05-0704(6)). As countries have expressed interest in continuing this series of capacity building events, the participants of the 5th Steering Group meeting will discuss and decide upon priorities and issues of future trainings.



■ **Thematic reviews**

As proposed and deliberated during the 4th Steering Group meeting, the Initiative plans to launch a series of thematic country reviews (Doc. StG05-0704(7)). These in-depth studies would serve as a practical tool and indicator in the hands of participating governments to manage and track the effectiveness of their individual reform measures. They would in particular support the countries that have signed the UN Convention against Corruption or plan to do so in their efforts to implement the commitments made there under. Based on participating countries' replies to a questionnaire developed by the Secretariat and on additional existing information, the thematic country reviews will allow measuring in an open manner the progress of participating countries in meeting the policy reform goals that they have set.

The 5th Steering Group meeting in this view provides an opportunity to discuss and agree upon the focus of the first thematic review as well as the methodology.

■ **Background documents**

- StG05-0704(1): Minutes of the 4th Steering Group meeting held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia in December 2003
- StG05-0704(2): Agenda of the 5th Steering Group Meeting
- StG05-0704(3): 2nd draft of the Stocktaking Report
- StG05-0704(4): Strategy and work plan 2004-2006
- StG05-0704(5): Country reform projects under the 2nd implementation cycle
- StG05-0704(6): Agenda of the 2nd master training seminar on "Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement"
- StG05-0704(7): Thematic Review under the Action Plan – suggested topics and methodology

■ **Location**

Accommodation: Hotel Edsa Shangri-La Manila
1 Garden Way, Ortigas Center
Mandaluyong City 1650, Metro Manila
Tel: +63-2-633 8888
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Transportation from the airport will be arranged by the Secretariat.

Meeting facilities: ADB headquarters
Auditorium Zone A (1860A)
6 ADB Avenue,
Mandaluyong City 1550, Metro Manila

Transportation between the hotel and the meeting facilities will be arranged by the Secretariat.



Agenda

5 July (Monday)

09.00 – 10.00	<p>Welcoming remarks and report by the Office of the Ombudsman of the Philippines</p> <p>Introduction by the Secretariat</p> <p>Introduction of the delegates of the endorsing and observing countries and the Advisory Group</p> <p>Adoption of the Minutes of the 4th Steering Group Meeting (Doc. StG05-0704(1)) and the Agenda of the 5th Steering Group Meeting (Doc. StG05-0704(2))</p> <p>Report by the Office of the Ombudsman of the Philippines</p>
10.00 – 10.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
10.30 – 12.30	<p>Steering Group roundtable</p> <p>Member countries of the Steering Group outline trends in their countries' anti-corruption strategies and present concrete new anti-corruption efforts that have taken place or are being planned since the last meeting of the Steering Group in December 2003.</p> <p>Activities report by the Initiative's Secretariat</p>
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	<p>Advisory Group roundtable</p> <p>Members of the Advisory Group present concrete on-going or planned technical assistance programs or training activities in the region or in selected countries of the group.</p>
15.00 – 16.30	<p>Stocktaking exercise</p> <p>Second reading of the final draft Stocktaking report (Doc. StG05-0704(3)):</p> <p>Pillar I – Preventing corruption</p> <p>Pillar II – Sanctioning and prosecuting corruption and related offences</p> <p>Pillar III – Active public involvement in the fight against corruption</p>
<i>Evening</i>	<i>free</i>



6 July (Tuesday)

09.00 – 12.00

Country reform priorities and projects under the second implementation cycle

Presentation of each country's selected priority area for reform and project, discussion and recommendations by the Group; presentation and discussion of needs for financial or technical assistance for implementation of Action Plan implementation projects and feedback from donor representatives:

Australia:	Promoting awareness of and compliance with the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and Australia's supporting legislation (Pillar 2/3)
Fiji Islands:	Reforming anti-money-laundering legislation (Pillar 2)
India:	t.b.a.
Japan:	Promoting effective implementation of the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions and Australia's supporting legislation (Pillar 2/3)
Korea:	Corruption Assessment (Pillar 1) Clean City Project (Pillar 1) Business Ethics Center (Pillar 2)
Nepal:	CIAA capacity building (Pillar 2)
Pakistan:	Monitoring of asset declarations of government servants (Pillar 1) NACS linkages with the education system (Pillar 3)
PNG:	Training of investigators and prosecutors (Pillar 2) Establishment of a National Anti-Corruption Alliance (Pillar 2) Education and awareness promotion program (Pillar 3)
Singapore:	Consolidating and Reinventing Singapore's 40 years of anti-corruption efforts: Review of internal operations and training; Identification of loopholes and deficiencies in existing anti-corruption legislation; Development of investigative framework on tenders and procurement (Pillars 1 and 2)
Vanuatu:	Elimination of corruption in Vanuatu (Pillar 1)
Other countries:	t.b.a

12.00 – 13.30

Lunch

6 July (Tuesday - continuous)

13.30 – 15.30	Strategy and work plan 2004-2006 Global discussion of the strategy and work plan 2004-2006 (Doc. StG05-0704(4)): – Training seminars – Donor assistance
15.30 – 16.00	<i>Coffee Break</i>
16.00 – 17.00	Strategy and work plan 2004-2006 (continuous) – Thematic country reviews (Doc. StG05-0704(7))
<i>Evening</i>	<i>free</i>

7 July (Wednesday)

09.00 – 10.30	Opening session of the 2nd Master Training Seminar “Curbing Corruption in Public Procurement”
10.30 – 11.00	<i>Coffee break</i>
11.00 – 12.30	Finalization of strategy discussion, approval of strategy and work plan 2004-2006
12.30 – 14.00	<i>Lunch</i>
14.00 – 15.00	Stocktaking exercise Final reading of the stocktaking report, adoption of the report
15.00 – 15.30	<i>Coffee break</i>
15.30 – 16.30	Closing session
19.30	<i>Dinner hosted by the Office of the Ombudsman of the Philippines for participants to the Steering Group meeting and the Procurement Training (Amorsolo Ballroom, Holiday Inn Galleria Manila)</i>

