Fifth meeting of the Latin America and Caribbean Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Network



Countries in Latin America and the Caribbean underscore the importance of corporate liability and international co-operation in the fight against corruption to strengthen enforcement in the region

14/12/2023 - The fifth meeting of the Latin America & Caribbean Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Network ("LAC LEN"), took place on 14-15 November 2023 in Lima, Peru. The meeting was jointly organised by the Anti-Corruption Division of the OECD and Peru's General Prosecutors' Office. The meeting was organised with the support of the U.S. Department of State, Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement Affairs (INL).

The LAC LEN, which was established in 2018 in Buenos Aires, aims to equip law enforcement authorities in the region with the necessary tools, capacity and expertise to effectively investigate and prosecute complex corruption cases, including those that are transnational. It also provides a vital platform for informal exchange of information to facilitate the provision of legal assistance among its members. The activities of the network aim to support the region's efforts to strengthen democracy and rule of law and to promote sustainable development in line with the Lima Commitment on Democratic Governance against Corruption adopted by the Summit of Americas in April 2018, and of the Action Plan for Integrity and Good Governance, endorsed by the High Level Meeting of the OECD LAC Regional Programme, in October 2018, in Lima, Peru.

In 2023, the meeting brought together more than 40 law enforcement officials from 13 countries. Representatives of the OECD, the International Anti-Corruption Coordination Centre and the Inter-American Development Bank also participated.

Recognising the importance of international co-operation in complex corruption cases, including those of transnational nature, the 2023 meeting focused on discussing the main trends, common challenges and good practices in the detection, investigation and prosecution of corruption cases and case-based peer-led training. The meeting had the 2021 OECD Anti-Bribery Recommendation as its backdrop, in the context of the project "Advancing the Frontier in the Global Fight Against Transnational Corruption". This project is part of a global effort to leverage the data from the Working Group on Bribery's monitoring of the Anti-Bribery Convention to promote good practices and support the enforcement of cross-border corruption crimes.

The following issues were the focus of the 2023 meeting:

- Various models of corporate liability in Latin America and the Caribbean;
- Good practices and challenges in obtaining evidence through international co-operation;
- Confiscation and asset recovery in transnational bribery cases;
- Co-ordination of multijurisdictional corruption investigations in the LAC region;
- Assessment of compliance programmes in the context of the resolution of corruption cases;
- Different methods for calculating undue benefits in corruption cases;
- Independence of investigations and prosecutions in corruption cases in the LAC region.

The LAC LEN meeting was followed by a training on "Latin American Experiences in Anti-Corruption" (16 November 2023) organised by Peru.

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