

AFRICAN UNION ADVISORY BOARD ON  
CORRUPTION

المجلس الاستشاري للإتحاد الإفريقي  
لمحاربة الفساد



CONSEIL CONSULTATIF DE L'UNION  
AFRICAINNE SUR LA CORRUPTION

CONSELHO CONSULTIVO DA UNIÃO  
AFRICANA SOBRE CORRUPÇÃO

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P.O Box 6071, ARUSHA, TANZANIA -Tel: +255 27 205 0030- Fax: +255 27 205 0031

Email: [auanticorruption@gmail.com](mailto:auanticorruption@gmail.com) \*Website: [www.auanticorruption.org](http://www.auanticorruption.org)

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## CONCEPT NOTE ON THE COMMEMORATION OF THE 2021 AFRICAN ANTI-CORRUPTION DAY ON THE THEME:

***“REGIONAL ECONOMIC COMMUNITIES: CRITICAL ACTORS IN THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONVENTION ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING CORRUPTION”***

### **Background**

The African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC) was adopted in Maputo, Mozambique on 11 July 2003 and came into force in 2006. To date, the Convention has been ratified by 44 Member States of the African Union. Since adoption of the Convention, African states have made significant efforts in the fight against corruption including the establishment of national laws and the creation of anti-corruption agencies. In recognition of the vast progress that has been made and cognizant of the need to continually reflect on approaches to end corruption, the African Union designated 11 July as the African Anti-Corruption Day.

This year will mark the fifth edition of the African Anti-Corruption Day and will be commemorated under the theme **“Regional Economic Communities: Critical Actors in The Implementation of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption.”** While the primary responsibility of tackling corruption rests with individual states, sub-regional frameworks are also necessary to address the scourge of corruption. The AUCPCC requires States Parties to foster regional, continental and international cooperation to prevent corrupt practices. The reflections will facilitate means on how to deepen the engagement on anti-corruption interventions.

The Day will provide a platform to highlight the importance of synergies and stronger collaboration between the African Union, the Regional Economic Communities and States Parties as well as key stakeholders on the anti-corruption landscape including civil society, media and international organizations in the fight against corruption on the Continent.

Member States, the private sector, non-governmental organizations, the media and citizens across the continent and in the diaspora are called upon to join forces in commemorating the day. The African Union Advisory Board on Corruption shall lead the celebrations on behalf of the African Union.

## How to Participate

You can participate in the celebration of the African Anti-Corruption Day by:-

- Organizing creative activities in your community to mark 11 July;
- Urging your country to ratify, implement and report on its compliance with the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption;
- Raising awareness on the negative impact of corruption in your community;
- Reporting cases of corruption within your respective Countries to the relevant Anti-Corruption Agencies;
- Promoting anti-corruption champions and publicizing stories of success in fighting corruption;
- Using the communication tools on publications and at events;
- Sending a message to your networks about the campaign;
- Tweeting about the day using the hashtag #AfricaAgainstCorruption and tagging @AUABC\_; and
- Committing to an accountable and transparent lifestyle.

## Methodology

The goal of the event is to give prominence to the fight against corruption through the commemoration of the adoption of the AUCPCC as a mechanism for fighting corruption in Africa. Due to the challenges presented by the COVID-19 Pandemic, all activities will be conducted virtually.

- (a) *Pre-event activities*: There will be a series of events in the first week of July as run up to the African Anti-Corruption day which shall include profiling of the work of Regional Economic Communities on Anti-Corruption; and
- (b) *Event Activities*: Series of Webinars and Panel Discussions.

As the event will be held virtually, Online Platform Login details will be shared in due course.

## Key Messages

- ✚ RECs play an important role in facilitating candid, constructive dialogue and exchanges of best practices and progress on the fight against corruption within and among regions, and progress on domestication of legislation such as AUCPCC.
  - ✚ As Africa trades under the African Continental Free Trade Area, corrupt practices can repulse potential investors, close collaboration between national and regional actors must be strengthened including with civil societies, media, private sector and citizenry.
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- ✦ National anticorruption authorities are building blocks to anticorruption efforts within RECs.
- ✦ Strong alignment and synergy between National Anti-Corruption Authorities (NACAs), RECs and AUCPCC is crucial in fighting corruption and is a catalyst to the achievement of Agenda 2063.
- ✦ RECs play an important role in encouraging a culture of corporate transparency, accountability, and integrity especially in multinational corporations.
- ✦ RECs play a crucial role in advocating, monitoring and evaluating good governance practices within their regions.

For more information or to share your ideas, please contact the Secretariat of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption on [AUABCRegistry@africa-union.org](mailto:AUABCRegistry@africa-union.org)

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