



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

Email: auabcregistry@africa-union.org *Website: www.anticorruption.au.int

MEDIA ENGAGEMENT ON SUPPORTING THE IMPLEMENTATION OF THE AFRICAN UNION CONVENTION ON PREVENTING AND COMBATING CORRUPTION

Draft Outcome Statement

Introduction

The African Union Advisory Board Against Corruption (AUABC) held a three day workshop under the theme “**Media Engagement on Supporting the Implementation of the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption (AUCPCC)**”.

The workshop was organized to facilitate experience and knowledge sharing on the lessons and challenges that Journalists face as well as discuss practical solutions on effective reporting on corruption as a means to strengthen the fight against corruption. The workshop provided a platform for the AUABC to share with Journalists and Communication Experts on its mandate and working methods and progress on implementation of the AUCPCC. The workshop also elaborated Aspiration 3 of Agenda 2063, which calls for an Africa of good governance and rule of law. Over forty (40) Journalists and Communication Experts from all over the African continent participated in the workshop.

The following are the key observations and outcomes that arose from the deliberations and presentations made during the workshop:

- There is need for AUABC to have constant engagement with Media and provide them with updates and progress on the fight against corruption, timely information, statistics, and capacity building opportunities in order to enhance their skills on reporting corruption and create awareness on the fight against corruption;
- There is need for the media to publish more news and articles that reflect the progress made in the fight against corruption as a way to demonstrate that it can be done, and it has positive impact;
- The Media should endeavor to popularize the AUCPCC as a tool to fight corruption in collaboration and among the peers and advocate for its full implementation within their countries:

- Though some African countries have Access to Information laws, its application is very limited, and it has hindered the work of uncovering corruption by Journalists;
- Investigative Journalists who are in the trenches uncovering corruption have faced intimidation, threats and even death, therefore State Parties to the Convention need to comply with Article 4 where State Parties are obliged to protect whistleblowers and witnesses;
- Journalists who have dedicated their lives to uncovering and reporting on corruption must be recognized as heroes in the fight against corruption;
- The Media should use their platforms and social media to highlight more about anti-corruption efforts at the national, regional and continental levels;
- With support of its partners, the AUABC should facilitate grants for media houses, journalists to facilitate skills building in investigating and reporting corruption;
- The AUABC Communication capacity needs to be strengthened/enhanced in order to coordinate and collaborate well with the Media; and
- Establishment of a Network of Media Practitioners on the fight Against Corruption will facilitate the work of the Board on promoting and advocating for full implementation of the AUCPCC.

29th September 2022