



**Joint side event on ‘Corruption, Human Rights and the Role of Anti-Corruption
Human Rights Defenders in Africa’
The Arusha International Conference Centre (AICC)
Arusha, Tanzania**

KEY OUTCOMES AND RECOMMENDATIONS

- Legislative/normative frameworks both at AU and Un levels have provided obligations on State parties to protect whistle blower and witness however the gap is in the implementation.
- Though there is interest in State Parties to AUCPCC and UNCAC to fight corruption, low levels of reporting are worrisome as reporting corruption is critical tool in combatting corruption.
- Whistleblower and witnesses must be protected at all front if the fight against corruption is to be won however repression on Anti-Corruption Human Rights defenders is on the rise.
- Repressions of Anti-Corruption defenders have been varying from country to country and often manifesting in forms of harassment, imprisonment, intimidation, personal attached and even murder.
- Whistleblowers play big role in effective anti-corruption however there is lack of political will to protect them therefore calling on States to embrace and promote the work of Anti-corruption Defenders
- Noticed Lack of laws that supports effort of anti-corruption defenders and in some cases existing laws have been used to repress anti-corruption human rights defenders. For countries that have legislation, they do not provide adequate mechanism to effect and domesticate the provisions.
- There is high correlation between increase levels of corruption and increased cases of repression of anticorruption defenders.
- Low levels of reporting corruption have been attributed to fear of retaliation and reprisals. And further, there is lack of public support for whistle blowers, and this has contributed to low levels of reporting and exposing corruption.



- There has been dwindling resources being available to human rights and anti-corruption activist works and this calls for more resources to be made available to protect whistleblowers.
- There is need for proactive disclosure by States through domestication of the access to information laws to close the information gaps.
- Oversight institutions are not adequately resources and their independence compromised hence need to strengthen the human rights institutions and those that have mandate on corruption and accountability.
- Systematic corruption is on the rise and there need for collection anti-corruption actions backed by Citizens and community support to reject and report corruption.
- Due to technology advancements Whistle-blowers are always under State radar and surveillance and easily get exposed and this calls for strong mechanism for protection of whistleblowers.
- Sensitization about Whistleblower mechanisms and policies available at continental and country level is critical to enhance utilization of such mechanism.
- Need to leverage the Role of Pan African Parliament and other regional parliamentary bodies in drafting and enacting whistleblower laws and holding leaders accountable to corruption.
- Need to encourage monitoring of judiciary and their role in promoting the fight against corruption.
- Need for coalition of all stakeholder to promote the work of anti-corruption defenders

Arusha
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