



www.uncaccoalition.org

***United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)
Intergovernmental Working Group on Review of Implementation***

**CSO Coalition Calls for Adoption of Effective Review Mechanism
at the Third CoSP, Doha, November 2009**

1. Corruption undermines democracy, the rule of law, human rights, civil liberties and sustainable development.
2. The UNCAC Coalition (the Coalition) believes that the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), with its worldwide membership and comprehensive anti-corruption framework, is key to dealing effectively with global corruption.
3. The Coalition is convinced that UNCAC's success in reducing corruption on-the-ground will depend greatly on the adoption of an effective and participatory review mechanism at the next Conference of the State Parties (CoSP) in Doha, in November 2009.
4. Such a review mechanism is also vital for the success of UNCAC's landmark provisions on asset recovery and the assessment of countries' technical assistance needs, as well as for strengthening international cooperation and enhancing the responsiveness of governments to their citizens.
5. The Coalition underlines the importance of civil society and its engagement in any review process and reminds Governments of the commitments they have made to support civil society participation and to receive civil society inputs (UNCAC, Article 13; Rules of Procedure, Rule 17).
6. For these reasons, the Coalition considers that the review mechanism should be comprehensive, covering both mandatory and non-mandatory articles, and also:
 - supported by a well-resourced secretariat;
 - assisted by a group of independent experts;
 - based on tested review methods, including peer review and country visits.
 - participatory, involving civil society organisations and other stakeholders;
 - transparent, resulting in published country reports with recommendations; and
 - carried out in coordination with regional review mechanisms;
 - funded from the regular UN budget or assessed contributions, supplemented as needed by voluntary contributions.
7. The Coalition hereby calls on Governments, meeting in Vienna in May 2009 as part of the Intergovernmental Working Group on Review of Implementation, to ensure that the necessary preparatory work is carried out, over the coming weeks and months, for an effective review mechanism to be adopted at the CoSP, in Doha, in November 2009.
8. Without an effective review mechanism, UNCAC will surely fail, with devastating consequences for the lives and livelihoods of citizens around the world and for the credibility of signatory Governments and the United Nations.

11 May 2009