

UNCAC CoSP11
Statement by the
Global Civil Society Coalition for the UNCAC

19 December 2025

Item 8

Thank you, Chair,

The civil society observer community at CoSP11 will issue a Doha Civil Society Declaration, reflecting on the outcomes of this Conference and the road ahead, which has been endorsed by over 55 civil society organizations observing this CoSP. The declaration will remain open for further endorsement in the coming weeks.

Dear delegates,

The contributions of non-governmental stakeholders—through side events, more than 50 written submissions, and plenary statements—have demonstrated the important role of civil society in the UNCAC CoSP, as well as the substantive contributions we have made to inform resolutions under consideration by the Conference that will elevate agreed standards in the fight against corruption.

We also welcome the meaningful engagement by many States Parties with civil society during this Conference, such as by including civil society experts in their delegations, organizing joint side events, holding bilateral meetings, and facilitating informal exchanges of views.

We are encouraged that many States Parties share the ambition of creating a more transparent, inclusive, efficient, and effective next phase of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism. This includes a comprehensive scope, an accessible calendar of country reviews, the publication of full country review reports, systematic civil society input, and a meaningful follow-up mechanism. We hope that a resolution reflecting these principles will be adopted, and we call on all States Parties to work toward a transparent and inclusive review process.

We hope the next phase of the IRM will generate new momentum for impactful anti-corruption reforms.

Similarly, we hope to see the adoption of several important resolutions that will contribute to progress in the global fight against corruption.

In particular, we welcome the apparent broad support among States Parties to advance the implementation of Article 7.3 of the UNCAC on transparency in the funding of political parties and election campaigns. We look forward to the adoption of an important resolution that we expect will help us make significant progress in this area.

We also welcome the apparent support from States Parties to reinforce important commitments in the field of corruption prevention.

However, we are disappointed that not all States Parties unequivocally recognize the impact of corruption in fueling some of the most pressing challenges of our time, particularly in the context of the triple planetary crisis of climate change, pollution, and biodiversity loss. We are also concerned that not all States Parties want to acknowledge the detrimental impact of corruption on human rights.

Additionally, we are deeply troubled that the inclusion of 'gender language' has become a point of contention instead of a guaranteed means of ensuring that anti-corruption measures are adapted to different needs, opportunities, circumstances, and vulnerabilities.

Furthermore, we are alarmed by the shrinking civic space in many countries and significant donor cuts in funding for non-governmental organizations working on anti-corruption, governance, and human rights. These cuts undermine the ability of many organizations to contribute effectively to the UNCAC and its implementation moving forward.

Finally, we call on States Parties to take swift and concrete action to advance the implementation of the resolutions adopted by this CoSP, as well as those from previous CoSPs, and to meaningfully engage civil society throughout these implementation efforts.

As a global community of non-governmental organizations, we stand ready to support these efforts.

Thank you.