

UNCAC CoSP11

Statement by the [Global Civil Society Coalition for the UNCAC](#)

16 December 2025

General Discussion

Thank you, Chair.

I congratulate you and the other officers on your election, and I thank Qatar and the Secretariat for organizing this Conference, for welcoming the observer community, and for supporting the civil society preparatory day we organized on Sunday, which brought together over 200 observers and delegates.

Dear delegates,

The Global Civil Society Coalition for the UNCAC – previously known as the UNCAC Coalition – works to advance the implementation of the Convention, to facilitate and support civil society participation in UNCAC fora, and to elevate anti-corruption standards and practices. Our network includes over 400 civil society organizations from more than 120 countries.

We foster action-oriented dialogue and experience-sharing through our regional civil society communities across all regions, as well as through seven working groups focused on asset recovery, victims of corruption, environmental crime, gender, grand corruption, human rights, and whistleblower protection.

We are encouraged to see strong civil society participation at this CoSP – despite the widespread recent donor funding cuts that have had a devastating impact on many organizations, significantly weakening capacity and expertise in the global fight against corruption.

At the same time, civic space for those working to uncover and address corruption continues to deteriorate in many States Parties. We call on States to reverse this trend and to ensure a safe and enabling environment for civil society. Meaningful civil society participation at the global, regional, and national levels is essential for anti-corruption efforts to be effective and sustainable.

Chair,

At CoSP 10, States adopted important resolutions on public procurement and beneficial ownership transparency, protection of reporting persons, and the societal impacts of corruption, among other issues. At this CoSP, we strongly hope to see the adoption of a resolution launching the next phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism, the IRM.

We urge States Parties to establish a review mechanism that is more effective, efficient, transparent, and inclusive. Over 520 organizations and anti-corruption experts from more than 125 countries and jurisdictions have joined an open letter calling for a next-phase IRM that assesses actual implementation and assesses all relevant developments, that facilitates meaningful participation of a wide range of non-governmental stakeholders, draws on all relevant sources, reflects current developments, and includes follow-up reporting – and that is thus a strong evidence base to highlight needs for reforms and technical assistance.

The next phase must learn from the shortcomings of the first one. Were it only to focus on the findings of the past cycle, which in many cases are more than 10 years old, this would forgo the opportunity to create a truly helpful, informative and impactful mechanism. The next phase of the IRM is a crucial opportunity to strengthen anti-corruption efforts for the decade ahead. We strongly encourage all States Parties to engage constructively in the remaining informals and to support a review mechanism that is fit for purpose.

In addition, our global civil society community calls on States Parties to:

- recognize the links between corruption, environmental crime, and the climate crisis, and strengthen transparency and safeguards in climate finance;
- enhance transparency and accountability in political finance;
- integrate human rights obligations into anti-corruption efforts;
- strengthen access to information in law and practice; and
- protect civic space by ensuring safe conditions for civil society actors and strengthening protection mechanisms, and institutionalize meaningful participation in line with Article 13.

We are deeply concerned by attempts to roll back commitments agreed in previous CoSPs and other UN fora, including on gender, sustainable development, the links between corruption and environmental crimes and climate change, a human rights-based approach to anti-corruption, and the engagement of key stakeholders such as civil society, academia, and the media.

I invite the Conference to consult the written submissions made by the Coalition and its members, including on thematic and regional priorities.

Finally, I invite States Parties to continue engaging and collaborating with civil society. We call for full inclusion of civil society in UNCAC processes, including participation in subsidiary bodies and national UNCAC reviews.

We welcome the growing practice of delegations from all regions including experts with civil society backgrounds.

We stand ready to support the Conference with our expertise and experience. We will only succeed in tackling corruption if we work together toward this shared goal.

Thank you very much.