



OVERSEEING THE RESPONSIBLE
USE OF PUBLIC RESOURCES



*Special Event on the sidelines of the 13th session of the UNCAC Implementation Review Group and
the 13th session of the Working Group on Prevention*

At the Heart of the Struggle: Human Rights Defenders Working Against Corruption – Strengthening civil society participation in the UNCAC

Organized by the UNCAC Coalition, sponsored by Switzerland and Chile

Friday, 17 June 2022, 14:00-15:00 (CET)

Hybrid event: Room M3, M-Building, United Nations Office Vienna

Register for the Zoom event [here](#)¹

Speakers:

- Martin Matter, Head of Economic Affairs Section, Prosperity and Sustainability Division, Federal Department of Foreign Affairs of Switzerland
- Nayareth Calfulaf, Analyst from the Cooperation and International Relations Unit, Office of the Comptroller General of the Republic of Chile
- Brian Dooley, Senior Advisor to the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the situation of human rights defenders
- Danella Newman, Project Manager, UNCAC Coalition
- Denyse Degiorgio, Project Officer, UNCAC Coalition

Moderator:

- Mathias Huter, Managing Director, UNCAC Coalition

Civil society plays a crucial role in preventing corruption and in advancing greater transparency, integrity and accountability. This role is recognized by the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) in Article 13, which calls on States Parties to promote the active participation of civil society organizations and other non-governmental stakeholders in efforts to combat and prevent corruption. Despite the spirit of Article 13, the meaningful engagement of civil society in national anti-corruption efforts and in UNCAC implementation remains a significant challenge.

This event will discuss the findings and recommendations of UN Special Rapporteur Mary Lawlor's recent report on human rights defenders working against corruption, entitled "At the heart of the struggle: human rights defenders working against corruption", in particular how they relate to the UNCAC. The event will also discuss opportunities to strengthen the participation of civil society in the UNCAC Conference of the States Parties and showcase efforts by the UNCAC Coalition to support civil society contributions to national UNCAC reviews, for example, through civil society parallel reports on UNCAC implementation. Furthermore, it will discuss efforts and ideas to improve the transparency and inclusiveness of the review process, including through the Transparency Pledge and an access to information campaign.

¹ <https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZcof--rqDIrGN0NvgkrTF-kRqHCNRzDv3Ch>