Toolkit

Promoting a Gender-Sensitive and Inclusive Approach to Anti-Corruption

The UNCAC Coalition Working Group on Gender, Inclusion and Corruption: Approaching the 10th Conference of the States Parties (CoSP) to the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC)

November 2023

Contents

About this plan

The 10th UNCAC CoSP, taking place in Atlanta, Georgia (United States) on 11–15 December 2023 offers an opportunity for the global anti-corruption community to build on recent progress in gender and advance a more inclusive approach to implementing the UNCAC.

This toolkit presents our goals and proposed actions to help achieve a new resolution on gender, inclusion and corruption. The messages presented here draw from the work produced by the Working Group and its taskforces. These messages highlight why **Gender, Inclusion and Corruption** need to be treated as priority areas within the UNCAC, as well as our key asks at CoSP10.

Please use this toolkit and messages as a starting point for your own conversations. Adjust and adapt them to your context, and build your own messaging as well.

Main goals at CoSP

The UNCAC Gender, Inclusion and Corruption Working Group aims to is to encourage States Parties at CoSP10 to adopt a resolution that builds upon previous commitments: **to address the gender dimensions of corruption by also considering the role of corruption in fostering and exacerbating other forms of marginalisation and discrimination.** This includes marginalised groups such as LGBTQIA+ people, persons with disabilities, older people, children and young people, minorities, refugees, migrants, and internally displaced persons.

The specific goals can be summarised as:

- **Secure a new, ambitious set of commitments on the Gender resolution**

- **Ensure that at least 5 countries make declarations or public statements committing to an inclusive approach to anti-corruption programming and implementation**

5 priorities for States Parties

Progress was made on gender and corruption at UNGASS and CoSP9 in 2021. The General Assembly and the States Parties affirmed their commitment to understanding the connections between gender and corruption and to mainstreaming gender in accordance with domestic law.

Now we need to move further – adopting a resolution that requires States Parties to collect data and analyse how corruption is connected to discrimination based on "race, colour, sex, language, religion, political or other opinion, national or social origin, property, birth or other status"* – with a view to understanding how it exacerbates systemic injustices and amplifies inequalities.

We ask that the States Parties at the 10th UNCAC CoSP prioritise these 5 points (more detail in the **full Submission** and on the following pages):

1. **A human-rights-based and inclusive approach**

2. **Combatting sexual corruption**

3. **Mainstreaming gender equality and inclusion in anti-corruption frameworks**

4. **Affirmative action**

5. **Gender-disaggregated data collection and analysis**

* The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, Article 2. 1948,
 https://www.un.org/en/about-us/universal-declaration-of-human-rights.

5 priorities for States Parties

1. A human-rights-based and inclusive approach

Reminding States Parties of their existing human rights commitments and obligations under the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Covenant on Civil and Political Rights, the International Covenant on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights, the 1993 Vienna Declaration and Programme of Action, the Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities, the Declaration on the Rights of Minorities, the Convention on the Rights of the Child, Human Rights Council Resolution 32/2, and the Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination against Women, we urge States Parties to recognise the need for an inclusive approach to combating corruption that recognises the disproportionate impact of corruption on groups that often face discrimination, including women, LGBTQIA+ people, persons with disabilities, older people, children and young people, minorities, refugees, migrants, and internally displaced persons.

2. Combatting Sexual Corruption

We request States Parties to urgently adopt targeted measures to combat sexual corruption. States should expedite the enactment of legislation criminalising the abuse of a position of authority to obtain sexual benefits and establish gender-sensitive reporting mechanisms to facilitate victims of sexual corruption coming forward. They should ensure effective enforcement, raise awareness of the problem to reduce stigma and work with relevant civil society organisations to provide support services for victims and survivors of sexual corruption.

3. Mainstreaming Gender Equality and Inclusion in Anti-Corruption Frameworks

The Working Group requests that gender equality and inclusion be thoughtfully mainstreamed in anti-corruption efforts through the use of inclusive language in policy documents and by ensuring the meaningful participation of diverse groups as mentioned above during all stages of the development, implementation, and evaluation of such frameworks.

4. Affirmative Action

Research shows that including women and diverse groups in decision-making, including through quotas and affirmative action, leads to improved policy outcomes and even reduces corruption. Therefore, States should strengthen or adopt affirmative action policies to redress historical imbalances of power, reduce corruption and improve societal well-being.

5. Gender-disaggregated Data Collection and Analysis

States Parties should prioritise the collection of data on experiences and perceptions of corruption, disaggregated by gender. Data collection should avoid a "women and men" approach but should reflect the diversity within subgroups and capture all aspects of their lives, such as age, ethnicity, education, disability, marital status, citizenship status, and sexual orientation, to better understand and address the injustices faced by different groups.

Tactics

1. Demonstrate civil society unity around key asks

Our **written inputs and joint statements** during key moments will emphasise anti-corruption civil society's expectations for the 10th CoSP. This will signal to States Parties – particularly to the host and the sponsor(s) of the resolution – that their efforts may be evaluated negatively unless the expectations are at least partially met.

2. Target key countries

While the submissions and statements address all states parties, **we will be strategic in which countries we target through direct advocacy**. From the briefings and other interactions, we may learn who the likely opposition to the resolution's key asks are, and target those.

3. Earn visibility

Through effective messaging, and good 'hooks' and 'angles', we will **aim to get more coverage in the lead-up to the CoSP** to help influence states' parties.

- Use social media and contact the media in your country to raise awareness on this issue (through op-eds, for example)

- At the CoSP:

  – Work on your own submission on Gender, Inclusion & Corruption

  – Prepare a statement to speak at the plenary

CoSP timeline & resources

Key CoSP milestones

- **Mid-October** (TBC) – Proposals for CoSP 10 resolutions tabled

- **27 November** – Deadline for written submissions

- **TBC** – CoSP 10 programme is finalised and released

- **10 December** – US government hosts a Civil Society Forum and Young Changemakers Event, including to offer opportunity to provide input on resolutions

- **11-15 December** – CoSP 10 is held, marking the 20th anniversary of UNCAC

Resources & Links

- **UNCAC Coalition: CoSP 10** (landing page with updates and resources): **https://uncaccoalition.org/cosp10/**

- UNCAC Coalition (October 2023): **Civil Society Toolkit for the CoSP**: **https://uncaccoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/CoSP-CSO-Toolkit-October-6-2023.pdf**

- The Working Group's **full Submission to CoSP10**: **https://uncaccoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/Gender-Working-Group-Submission-to-the-CoSP10.pdf**

- CoSP10 conference US website **https://cosp10.us**

- Official webpage for the conference: **www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/COSP/session10.html**

- Webpage of the UNCAC Coalition Working Group on Gender, Inclusion & Corruption: **https://uncaccoalition.org/get-involved/working-groups/gender-inclusion-corruption**

- Transparency International's Global Corruption Barometer **www.transparency.org/en/gcb**

- University of Upsalla (Sweden): **www.statsvet.uu.se/research/sextortion/publications**

- Gender and corruption: **www.transparency.org/en/our-priorities/gender-and-corruption**

- U4 gender topic: **https://www.u4.no/topics/gender**

Social media messaging

Social media is one of the best tools for reaching the right people and organisations in the runup to CoSP10.

On the next few pages, we have provided:

- some example messages you could use or adapt

- social media 'cards' - which allow you to add your own message, to give some visual interest in your posts.

As a piece of general guidance across all social platforms (here: Twitter/X, Facebook and LinkedIn), it is important to target the correct individuals and organisations (through @/tagging those people), and using useful #/hashtags to make your posts easy to find.

Please also use whichever social channels (eg Instagram or others) that will help you reach the right people and organisations.

Some of these messages are available as social media cards from the CoSP10 Drive.

UNCAC Coalition's social profiles can be found at:

facebook.com/uncaccoalition

twitter.com/uncaccoalition

linkedin.com/company/uncac-coalition

U4's social profiles can be found at:

www.facebook.com/U4anticorruption

twitter.com/U4_ACRC

www.linkedin.com/showcase/u4-anti-corruption-resource-centre

Please follow our accounts – like, share, reply and discuss our posts to help grow the message.

Twitter/X messaging
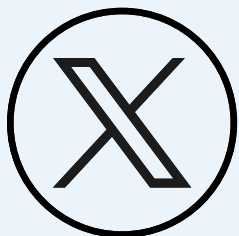
Here we give some general messages, based on the UNCAC Working Group submission, that can outline the issues, introduce the need for a CoSP resolution and raise wider awareness.

Tagging and hashtags

When tweeting anything related to the CoSP, UNCAC, or gender, inclusion and corruption, please tag the UNCAC coalition in your messages: **@UNCACcoalition** (prefer tagging/@ instead of using the hashtag: **#uncaccoalition**).

You can also tag other relevant individuals and organisations as you see fit.

Other hashtags you could use:

- UNCAC hashtags:
  #uncac20
  #UnitedAgainstCorruption
  #UNCACcoalition

- Conference hashtag:
  #CoSP10

General hashtags related to the content, for example:

- **#inclusion**
  #gender
  and others as required.
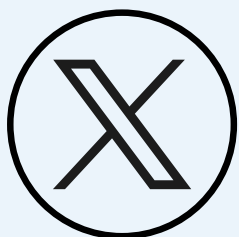
Possible signoffs/calls to action:

Use URL shorteners, and link to CoSP, UNCAC, or UNCAC Coalition content, for example:

- Read UNCAC's submission to **#CoSP10** at **https://uncaccoalition.org/wp-content/uploads/Gender-Working-Group-Submission-to-the-CoSP10.pdf**

Some of the messages are available as Twitter-specific cards from **the CoSP10 Drive**.

Twitter/X messages: General

Some of these messages are available as Twitter-specific cards from **the CoSP10 Drive**.

Some sample tweets, offering insights into the issues of gender, inclusion and corruption; the CoSP; UNCAC's recommendations and more.

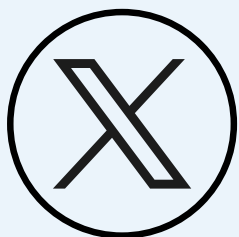Follow these up with whichever @tags and #hashtags are relevant to your audiences

Add links where appropriate.

And please always tag **@UNCACcoalition**

General messages:

- Corruption drives discrimination because it determines which groups and individuals have access to goods, services, and opportunities based solely on their perceived status and identity.
  We call for a resolution that is inclusive of gender and its varied expressions.

- Corruption disproportionately affects the marginalized and vulnerable, worsening social exclusion and deepening inequalities.
  We call for a resolution that is inclusive of gender and its varied expressions.

- States Parties at **#CoSP10** must ensure that legislation centers those who abuse their positions of authority.

- If a government worker demands sex for services, who's at fault?
  Anti bribery legislation considers both the governmment worker and the victim/survivor as having committed a crime. The responsibility should solely lie with the one abusing their authority.

- Anti-corruption policies should include gender-sensitive reporting mechanisms and should protect women and other marginalized groups against retaliation.

- Sexual corruption, which exists at the intersection of gender-based violence and corruption, happens when a person in a position of authority abuses this authority to obtain sexual benefits.
  A new resolution on gender and inclusion at CoSP10 will help push real change.

- The 10th Conference of States Parties (#CoSP10) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) is a chance to include women, minorities, people with disabilities and other marginalised voices in anti-corruption frameworks.

- A new resolution at the 10th Conference of States Parties (CoSP) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) will be good for individuals, and good for gender equality, economic development, and democracy.

- Gender equality is a human right.

Sexual corruption and 'sextortion' are widespread.
A new reso...
inclusion a...
push real c...
#UNCACcoal...

The 10th Conference of States Parties #CoSP10 to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption #UNCACcoalition is a chance to include women, minorities, people with disabilities and other marginalised voices in anti-corruption frameworks.
#UnitedAgainstCorruption

Twitter/X messages: Messages to States Parties

Some of these messages are available as Twitter-specific cards from **the CoSP10 Drive**.

These suggested tweets speak more directly to the States Parties themselves, outlining the UNCAC Working Group priorities and recommendations in more detail.

Again, follow these up with whichever @tags and #hashtags are relevant to your audiences.

Add links where appropriate.

And please always tag **@UNCACcoalition**

Messages to States parties:

- Is there a way to tackle inclusion and corruption at the same time?
  The UNCAC resolution on gender and inclusion should bring marginalised voices into the conversation on corruption, improving lives and meeting international commitments.

And you can thread multiple messages together to tell a longer story about what is needed. For instance:

1 **1/6** Marginalised groups are uniquely at risk of corruption. **#CoSP10** is a unique opportunity to make sure they're included in anti-corruption frameworks. **#UNCAC** Working Group on Gender, Inclusion and Corruption has set out five priorities for States Parties **(thread). @UNCACcoalition**

2 **2/6** Anti-corruption frameworks should be drafted with inclusive language, considering the needs of women, men, children and young people, older people, persons with disabilities, minorities, migrants, refugees and IDPs, people of diverse sexual orientations and identities.

3 **3/6** These groups should be actively engaged in every stage of policy development, including design, implementation, and evaluation. Anti-corruption frameworks should incorporate affirmative-action measures to ensure equal participation in shaping priorities.

4 **4/6** A full analysis of how corruption impacts different groups should precede the enactment of such frameworks and they should outline specific actions to combat corruption-enabled discrimination based on social, economic, political or other status.

5 **5/6** Anti-corruption frameworks should specifically address gendered and discriminatory forms of corruption such as sexual corruption.

6 **6/6** Anti-corruption interventions should include impact assessments to avoid unintended harms to vulnerable groups. Programme evaluations should be inclusive and gender-responsive, considering the impact of interventions on different groups.

11

Twitter/X messages: National messages
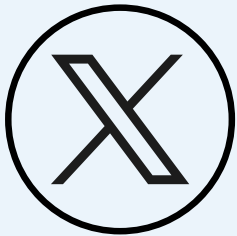
Some of these messages are available as Twitter-specific cards from **the CoSP10 Drive**.

These tweets are examples of how we can highlight some countries' successes and best practices through social media. It is important to highlight countries that are working towards integrating gender and inclusivity considerations into policymaking, and particularly into anti-corruption frameworks.

Again, follow these up with whichever @tags and #hashtags are relevant to your audiences

Add links where appropriate.

And please always tag **@UNCACcoalition**

Messages relating to specific countries:

- **Has your country worked on mainstreaming gender in national anti-corruption frameworks?**
  Ahead of #CoSP10 in December 2023, please share with us the work that's been done. @UNCACcoalition

- Inclusion and anti-corruption progress
  Tanzania 🇹🇿
  The Prevention and Combating Corruption Act specifically criminalises 'sextortion'. Those convicted of demanding sexual favours in the course of their work face a fine of TSh 5 million and/or three years in prison.

- Inclusion and anti-corruption progress
  South Africa 🇿🇦
  The National Anticorruption Strategy refers to "people" rather than "men and women" – inclusive language like this is a real marker of progress.

- Inclusion and anti-corruption progress
  Argentina 🇦🇷
  @poderciudadano, part of TI @anticorruption, collected data showing how anti-corruption and gender agendas intersect. With that data they provided women's orgs and LGBTQIA+ groups with advocacy and awareness-raising tools.

- Inclusion and anti-corruption progress
  Canada 🇨🇦
  Government policy is to always use sex-based and gender-based analysis when developing programmes and policies. This includes considering how different genders may be affected by a particular policy or program.

Facebook

UNODC guidance recommends Facebook posts be up to 300 characters per post, so we recommend re-posting similar content to that you are sharing on from Twitter/X – adding some additional detail, tags, hashtags, links etc if you think it's useful.

Again, follow these up with whichever @tags and #hashtags are relevant to your audiences

Add links where appropriate.

And please always tag **@UNCACcoalition**

Some of the Twitter/X cards are available in Facebook-specific formats at **the CoSP10 Drive**.

LinkedIn

Some of the messages from the Twitter/X cards are available in LinkedIn-specific formats at **the COSP10 Drive**.

LinkedIn posts can be longer and a little more involved than Twitter, so there is space for additional detail, links etc. You are also speaking with a professional and engaged audience here.

And with LinkedIn, too, it is just as important to tag the relevant people and organisations and use the correct hashtags for the topics.

Add links where appropriate.

And please always tag **@UNCACcoalition**

Some suggested posts:

General message:

Women and other vulnerable groups and minorities suffer unique forms and levels of corruption – from widespread 'sextortion' to denials of basic rights and services.

The 10th Conference of the States Parties (**#CoSP10**) to the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (**#UNCAC**) is an important opportunity to push for a gender-responsive and inclusive approach to anti-corruption.

A new resolution at CoSP10 will be good for individuals, and good for gender equality, economic development, and democracy.

@UNCACcoalition

Message to States Parties:

Marginalised groups are particularly vulnerable to corruption. **#CoSP10** is a unique opportunity to make sure they're included in anti-corruption frameworks.

UNCAC Working Group on Gender, Inclusion and Corruption has set out five priorities for States Parties:

1. Anti-corruption frameworks should be drafted with inclusive language, and considering the needs of all marginalised groups.

2. Through affirmative action, these groups should be actively engaged in every stage of policy development

3. Before frameworks are enacted there must be a full analysis of how corruption impacts different groups.

4. Anti-corruption frameworks should specifically address gendered and discriminatory forms of corruption such as sexual corruption.

5. Anti-corruption interventions should include impact assessments to avoid unintended harms to vulnerable groups.

14

For more information

General enquiries and website
https://uncaccoalition.org
https://u4.no