

Statement in the plenary session on the UNGASS on Corruption by Gillian Dell, Transparency International

Mr. President, distinguished delegates,

We very much welcome the upcoming UN General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) on corruption and, as importantly, the preparatory process. I have a few brief points.

First, we encourage this body to prepare and conduct the UNGASS in an inclusive way. We encourage you to push the envelope as far as possible.

Second, we encourage you to consider work on the following in the preparation process:

- 1) *Cross-cutting issues*: including links between corruption and organised crime, corruption and human rights, and corruption and the SDGs
- 2) *Beneficial ownership transparency*: the UNGASS provides a key opportunity to tackle the critical issue of beneficial ownership transparency – doing this in a meaningful way could well help build the public's faith in international fora working on corruption
- 3) *Grand corruption*: This is also a critical moment to start further serious and in-depth work on the issue of grand corruption – or corruption involving vast quantities of assets as it is called in this forum. Key work has already been undertaken in the context of the Lima, Prague and Oslo meetings following up on Resolution 7/2. More needs to be done to build on this.

We encourage States parties to undertake work on a definition of grand corruption, on a protocol to the UNCAC on grand corruption and on possible new international infrastructure to deal with grand corruption. We have developed a definition of grand corruption that we would be pleased to share with delegates as a starting point for discussions on that subject.

Thank you for the opportunity to speak.