UNCAC Coalition and Article 19

**Special Event during the UNCAC Working Group on Prevention**

***Making Public Procurement Public –***

***The Benefits of Creating Transparency around Government Contracting***

(Time and Room TBC)

**Background:**

Annual global spending on public procurement is estimated to exceed USD 9.5 trillion, accounting for some 25 percent of global government spending and almost 20 percent of global GDP. Between 10 and 25 percent of the overall procurement volume is estimated to be lost to fraud and corruption.

Thus, billions of dollars of public funds could be saved and used to improve the lives of citizens by reducing the level of misspending, waste and corruption in public contracting. Article 9 of the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) requires that all States parties develop public procurement systems that are transparent, competitive, and objective in awarding contracts.

Numerous countries and jurisdictions around the world are piloting and implementing measures to dramatically improve the results of public contracting by ensuring high levels of transparency and public access to information to data and documents linked to procurement.

**Objectives:**

This discussion aims to share experiences as well as lessons learned from countries that have reformed their procurement systems. Many of these reforms have been driven by technological advances that have emerged after the adoption of the UNCAC. The event, thus, seeks to advance discussions in the UNCAC framework on how States parties can implement reforms going beyond the minimum standards of Article 9 to reduce waste and corruption and generate massive public savings by implementing state-of-the-art transparency approaches around public contracting.

Furthermore, the discussion will also highlight how transparency in public procurement can help encourage competition, contribute to a better investment environment, and create a level playing field for the private sector when it comes to the bidding for government contracts.

**Panelists:**

* Hera Hussain, Senior Advocacy Manager, Open Contracting Partnership
* Gabriel Sipos, Executive Director, Transparency International Slovakia

**Moderator:** David Banisar, Article 19 & Vice-Chair of the UNCAC Coalition

For more details, please see:

<https://uncaccoalition.org/uncac-bodies/implementation-review-group-irg/10th-irg/>