Atlanta, 14 December 2023

Thank you, Mister President.

I wish to congratulate you for this very successful CoSP.

Thank you for the opportunity to participate to the CoSP 10 and for this opportunity to address this distinguish plenary. I speak on the behalf of TI Macedonia, Member of TI and UNCAC coalition, an NGO that works in enhancing the understanding and the response to corruption for the past 20 years.

We believe the ongoing efforts for implementation of the UNCAC need to be participative and we need to be able to work together.

In interest of time please consider this statement under the both items 5 and 6 of the agenda.

At this point when the plenary is discussing the achievements in implementation of the Assets recovery and international cooperation, I would like to express the importance of the international cooperation for enforcement of the fight against corruption in the situation when the national institutions are weak and inefficient and have lost their credibility and integrity.

Experiencing the ineffective institutions, in the past year citizen of my country have been following the activities of the Department of State based on the Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations Act,

Section 7031(c) provides that officials of foreign governments and their immediate family members are ineligible for entry into the United States when the Secretary of State has credible information that the foreign official has been involved, directly or indirectly, with significant corruption and/or a gross violation of human rights.

Recently the list has been extended with the business people, politicians, former high-level officials.

The list that includes the officials **who have abused official duty** in favor to private business interest, and devaluation of the public trust in government institutions and public processes. The property and interest of these persons has been blocked and the transactions of their assets forbidden.

While we welcome the list and expect and believe that the list will be extended, we would like to initiate that activities are extended beyond the ban for entrance to the USA.

In the cases of sanctioned officials, we, the citizen of the country affected with ineffectiveness of the institutions, and low trust in the judiciary, would like to see effective mechanism for initiating asset recovery process from outside, when it is not initiated from the institutions.

Also, while listening the news about sanctioned officials, the citizens reaction is to ask a question: what about impunity? Will there be accountability and effective sanction for the criminal liability? Will there be justice? Is there an international agency that will be in a position to initiate a criminal procedure when the national institutions are not?

Being aware that there is still more to for the real fight against corruption we call the CoSP to consider further enhancing of the effectiveness of the fight corruption.

In the light of the discussion for breaking the silos between the UNCAC and UNTOC we call the CoSP to assess the possibility to address grand corruption to combat the most serious corrupt behaviour with additional tools and measures should be made available for such offences beyond national jurisdictions.

To achieve results and effectiveness in the fight against corruption the international agencies crated on the basis of the UNCAC and UNTOC and all member nations need to work together and to enable impunity to become history, and assets to be sent back to the citizens that are the ultimate victims of corruption.

Thank you Mr. President!