Draft UN Convention Against Corruption: A Model for Domestic Anti-Corruption Legislation?

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UN Resolutions on the Convention

- A/RES/55/61 in 2000: An Effective International Legal Instrument Against Corruption
- A/RES/55/186 in 2000: Preventing and Combating Corrupt Practices and Illegal Transfer of Funds and Repatriation of Such Funds to the Countries of Origin

Ad Hoc Expert Groups

- in 2001, set the Terms of Reference for negotiations
- 2002/3, the negotiation group of all participating Member States met 6 times
- Currently meeting for the 7th and last session
- Convention to be signed in December 2003 in Mexico

Model Anti-Corruption Law?

- UN Convention Against Corruption once in force will be binding
- Domestic legislative framework must reflect the provisions of the Convention



- Preamble
- General Provisions: purpose, definitions, scope
- Preventive Measures/Public Sector: ethics and anti-corruption policies, ethics and anticorruption bodies, codes of conduct, public procurement and finance, public reporting, political party funding

- Preventive Measures/ Private Sector and Civil Society: accounting standards, combating money laundering, society participation
- Punishment of Corruption: identification and criminalization of corrupt acts, sanctions and remedies, confiscation and seizure, jurisdiction, liability of legal persons, protection of witnesses and victims, and law enforcement

- Promoting and strengthening international cooperation: mutual legal assistance, law enforcement cooperation, joint investigations
- Recovery of Assets: preventing money laundering, cooperation on confiscation and return of assets

Measures for international convention:

- Technical cooperation
- Monitoring implementation





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