**Roundtable on Anti-Corruption and Human Rights
- How to become mutually reinforcing?**

Lund, 13-14 November 2017

Conclusions and Recommendations

I.   MAIN FINDINGS:

1. There is a clear relationship between corruption and the enjoyment of human rights and efforts to protect human rights and fight corruption must become more systematic.

2. Corruption is one of the biggest impediments for the enjoyment of human rights in many parts of the world. Corruption erodes democratic institutions, distorts justice, facilitates impunity and affects social service delivery, thus affecting human rights, such as the right to health and the right to education.

3. Corruption is not a victimless crime and a Human Rights Based Approach (HRBA) can be a valuable tool in the fight against corruption, as it is victim-centered and empowering in the fight against corruption. It can contribute to creating a bottom up approach to the fight against corruption while increasing the stigmatization of being corrupt.

4. It was noted that human rights standards and principles must be reflected in anti-corruption strategies and interventions.

II.   WAYS FORWARD:

RESEARCH

5. More data and analytical work is needed to measure the effect of corruption on human rights and to ensure a deeper understanding of the interconnectedness and interrelationship between human rights violations and human rights.

6. More data and evidence is needed on how various anti-corruption efforts around the world are contributing to promoting or hindering human rights.

7. More research needs to be undertaken to better understand the impact high human rights awareness has in combatting corruption. This includes what the increased stigmatization of the act of corruption can contribute.

8. Countries that have more gender equality generally have lower levels of corruption. This relationship should be further analyzed.

9. Research projects should be developed on how corruption is addressed in the case law of the European Court of Human Rights and how human rights is being addressed in corruption cases by various national and regional court systems.

10. Pilot projects should be initiated having researchers documenting and analyzing the impact.

EDUCATION

11. Education is an important tool in the fight against corruption and it should be explored how anti-corruption education can be strengthened and integrated into other disciplines, including human rights education. It is important to identify the shared principles between anti-corruption and human rights, such as non-discrimination, participation, transparency and accountability, for example, to guide educational strategies.

12. Inspired by the UNODC mapping of the global prevalence of education in anti-corruption, a similar mapping was suggested for human rights education in order to get an overview of the potential in a stronger interaction between the two areas and where synergies could be developed.

LEGAL AND POLICY

13. The Sustainable Development Goals (SDG's) provide a good opportunity and framework to address the relationship between corruption and human rights, but there is a need for an anti-corruption champion in the SDG circle, as well as for mechanisms to integrate an anti-corruption perspective into the individual SDG's. It must also be recognized that democratic space is important for the implementation of the SDGs.

14. Local communities play an important role in the fight against corruption: It is imperative to work with corruption at the local level where the interaction between citizens and politicians is higher than at other levels.

15. The business community and local government can learn from each other on how to prevent corruption. Synergies should be explored between private and public sector initiatives.

16. It was acknowledged that International Standards such as ISOs and business compliance codes can be an important tool in the fight against corruption and protection of human rights by facilitating the establishment of effective routines contributing to the fight against corruption and prevention of human rights abuses.

17. It should be explored how anti-corruption, human rights and corporate legal frameworks can support each other.

18. It is important to build capacity among National Human Rights Institutions on how to address corruption.

19. UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies have an important role in the fight against corruption and it should be explored how their role could be strengthened in this respect. When relevant, corruption should be addressed in communications to UN Human Rights Treaty Bodies. It should also be explored if we can learn from the Human Rights Treaty Bodies, as regards to reparations to human rights victims (non-repetition/follow up on systemic issues).

MANAGERIAL AND OTHER TOOLS

20. Practical managerial tools/handbooks that provide clear guidance on how to prevent or act on acts of corruption and prevent human rights abuses should be developed.

21. Promising practices/case studies should be compiled and distributed to ensure a solid knowledge sharing and stimulation of need steps.

22. A tool on how to integrate human rights and anti-corruption into UNDP programmes should be developed.

23. Technology can be an important tool to fight corruption and promote/protect human rights. Different innovative technological solutions should be further explored.

24. The victims have an important role to play in the fight against corruption and methods for engaging victims, including through technology solutions, should be explored.

25. It was proposed to develop a Global Advocacy Programme on the role of human rights in the fight against corruption.

III.   NEXT STEPS:

26. RWI will produce a full report from the roundtable.

27. RWI committed itself to organize a follow-up meeting to the Roundtable in the fall of 2018 to take stock of where we are going.

28. RWI will convey the findings of the roundtable to the International Anti-Corruption Conference to be held in Copenhagen 22-24 October 2018.

29. All participants will consider from their particular perspective the above recommendations.