

# The 2023 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development

## High-Level Segment of the ECOSOC

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### **Statement by Mr. Thomas Stelzer Dean and Executive Secretary International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) delivered by Mr. Jonathan Granoff, Permanent Observer to the United Nations in New York, IACA**

Mr/Ms Chair,

Dear Colleagues and Friends,

1. It is our honor to participate in the 2023 High-Level Political Forum on Sustainable Development and provide a briefing on the International Anti-Corruption Academy's contributions to the fight against corruption, and realization of the SDGs.
2. Corruption undermines good governance which is essential to obtaining all the SDGs. Addressing corruption effectively helps fulfil SDG 16's good governance mandate and the legal obligations inherent in the UN Convention Against Corruption. The achievement of the 2030 Agenda requires governments, the private sector, civil society, academia and the entire international community to cooperate and invigorate anti-corruption efforts.
3. Illicit financial flows siphon away unimaginable amounts of precious resources from productive economies. The current cost of corruption is estimated at more than 4 trillion per year. Corruption is a major component of illicit financial flows,

with tax avoidance, tax evasion, and bribery. Fighting corruption to limit illicit financial flows hence becomes a precondition for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda.

4. IACA has developed the concept of Integrity Dividend for resources to be made available by combatting corruption efficiently. IACA's global campaign promoting this Integrity Dividend will advance policies and practices on the protection of public and private funds from corrupt practices and asset recovery to secure finances for SDG implementation.
5. IACA is a unique organization focused on necessary capacity building to end corruption through education, technical assistance and training, advocacy and research. Our thousands of alumni in over 170 countries are on the front line in advancing anti-corruption efforts.
6. IACA is facilitating the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) and helps build resilient anti-corruption systems so necessary to implementing the SDGs. We are committed to putting our expertise and knowledge at the service of the international community to promote closer cooperation in efforts to prevent and fight corruption.
7. We urge strengthened advocacy and efforts in anti-corruption at the highest levels of state and its inclusion in the General Debates. IACA's looks forward to serving such efforts with enthusiasm.

Thank you.



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