

THE AFRICA REGIONAL CENTRE OF EXCELLENCE IN INTEGRITY'S
PAN-AFRICAN COUNTER-CORRUPTION ASSEMBLY
ASSEMBLY COMMUNIQUÉ

WE, the attendees of the Pan-African Counter-Corruption Assembly:

OFFER our thanks and appreciation to The Hon. Ronald Lamola, MP, South Africa's Minister of Justice and Correctional Services for causing this Assembly to be convened as an integral part of the counter-corruption work undertaken by the Africa Regional Centre of Excellence in Integrity, of which he is Founding Patron;

MINDFUL of the Pavocat-Stellenbosch Academy's Counter Corruption Summit and its Declaration of 27th July 2022;

RECOGNISE that corruption undermines and damages integrity, good governance and the rule of law across Africa and globally, and that it challenges progress, inclusivity and respect within African societies;

ACKNOWLEDGE that corruption hampers sustainable development and prosperity for the people of Africa and serves only to erode their rights, freedoms and legitimate aspirations;

APPRECIATE that corruption on the part of elected officials destabilises the electorates faith and confidence in them personally, and more widely undercuts respect for politics and political institutions, which is detrimental to the belief and sustainability of democracy across Africa;

COMPREHEND that corruption on the part of those companies and others operating within the private sector undermines economic development and the conditions required to improve living conditions for all;

UNDERSTAND that, for all of the above reasons and more, corruption is a blight upon Africa that needs to be checked and remediated effectively and efficiently in order for the Continent to progress in the manner that its people rightly deserve and expect;

REALISE that counter-corruption efforts to date have not eradicated the cancer of corruption within African societies and beyond, and that the determination to fight and to defeat corruption must continue unabated;

ACCEPT that viable solutions for defeating corruption in Africa should evolve through inclusive dialogue and emerge by consensus from the Continent, and that those solutions should be shaped by the experiences of those involved across Africa and beyond in confronting and combatting corruption;

AND TO THIS END WE HEREBY RESOLVE, in Stellenbosch in the Republic of South Africa on this 3rd Day of November, 2023, to convene again in Africa over two days in 2024 in order to maintain and advance the momentum built by this Assembly and to continue to engage collaboratively, inclusively and respectfully in a productive dialogue aimed at countering corruption in Africa.

LEADING DELEGATES INCLUDED:

The Minister of Justice, Prosecutor General and President of the Supreme Court of countries including Botswana, Burundi, Malawi, Mali, Morocco, Namibia, South Africa, Sudan, Tanzania, Zambia and Zimbabwe; the Ambassador or High Commissioner of countries including Angola, Burundi, Cote d'Ivoire, Eswatini, Kenya, Libya, Mali, Sudan, and South Sudan; Senior Representatives of national anti-corruption commissions of countries including Cameroon, Ethiopia, Egypt, Mali and Zimbabwe; and Senior Representatives of organisations including the International Monetary Fund, the World Bank Group, Integrity Initiatives International, universities and educational bodies, civil society, journalists, law enforcement agencies and the private sector.