



22/10/2020

C20 Chair Intervention during the G20 Anti-Corruption Ministers Meeting

Your Excellencies,

As we are only limited to 3 minutes, and since you have received the C20 Policy Paper on anti-corruption, and you have graciously shared with us all of your outcome documents for review and input, I will focus my intervention on one specific policy recommendation that has stood out in our latest deliberations with civil society organizations around this esteemed meeting.

From our engagement with the G20 throughout the years, accountability has not been mainstreamed across the G20 tracks and working groups. In fact, looking back at the body of work of the C20 this year, all of our 10 statements released to the G20 along with our Policy Pack and communique, have demanded that the G20 put in place strong accountability measures in their response and recovery plans.

The C20 believes that your discussion on reforming the G20 Accountability Framework should be a discussion on restoring faith in the G20 process as a whole; and of making sure that this global partnership is more transparent and accountable. As such, we ask that accountability is mainstreamed across all G20 streams of work. Specifically, we ask for clear, implementable commitments to:

- 1- Accountability mechanisms within G20 infrastructure investment commitments for the recovery period;
- 2- Tools to reduce corruption risks associated with adaptation projects in response to climate change;
- 3- When it comes to gender, in addition to the recognition of sextortion as a form of corruption, implementation of the more than 8 commitments for the social and economic empowerment of women.
- 4- Transparent public health expenditures and COVID-19 related procurement with tools for public scrutiny, and mechanisms in place to prevent corruption.
- 5- Deeper engagement with civil society at every point. COVID-19 is being used to close civic space, and G20 governments must take the lead on ensuring citizens' voices are heard and people have the opportunity to co-design and oversee the pandemic response. This can include oversight bodies that include civil society and other stakeholders and oversight and accountability mechanisms that include citizens, to ensure transparency, value-for money and equity.

G20 commitments on anti-corruption are rarely SMART- Specific, Measurable, Achievable, Relevant and Time-Bound. Over time they have become the opposite. So, I would also like to mention that this year we as civil society have created a G20 Anti-Corruption Commitment Tracker, which has been led by a CSO called the



Accountability Lab. The current piecemeal approach to monitoring through the accountability framework is insufficient. The G20 Anti-Corruption Working Group needs the support of other bodies to lead the monitoring effort, including civil society organizations. We see the tracker as a real-time tool to support G20 governments and others understand which commitments are being fulfilled; and as a tool to further support the sharing of lessons and best practices to allow for collective progress. We look forward to seeing how we can integrate this into the accountability framework going forwards and how it can best support G20 accountability around anti-corruption issues going forwards. importantly that it results in enhancing G20 monitoring and accountability.

Thank you for the kind invitation to this pre-meeting. Next year, we hope to be part of the Ministerial meeting itself going forward.