



Toward a Comprehensive National Vision to Enhance Transparency and Strengthen Accountability

## Under the Patronage of the H.E the Prime Minister

### Recommendations

# Workshop on Enhancing Law Enforcement Efforts in Combating Corruption

Organized by the Ministry of Justice

In coordination with the Supreme Judicial Council,

the Public Prosecution, and the Central Organization for Control and Auditing

In cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

Aden, Republic of Yemen | 28–29 April 2025

#### Recommendations

In response to the pressing need to place the country on the path toward economic recovery, restore public confidence in government institutions, and mobilize further Arab and international support to achieve stability and sustainable development for the benefit of the Yemeni people,

**In alignment** with the Prime Minister's five strategic priorities—specifically the second, which calls for enhancing transparency, strengthening accountability, and combating corruption,

And in contribution to the development of a comprehensive national vision to enhance transparency, accountability, and improve the governance of public revenue and expenditure—anchored in anti-corruption principles and the rule of law, and consistent with national priorities and relevant regional and international standards,

**And in reaffirmation** of the critical importance of law enforcement measures in combating corruption and the need to support related efforts to ensure justice,

And based on the outcomes of the first national workshop convened by the Ministry of Justice in Aden on 28–29 April 2025, "Enhancing Law Enforcement Efforts in Combating Corruption," and held under the Patronage of H.E Prime Minister, in coordination with the Supreme Judicial Council, the Public Prosecution, and the Central Organization for Control and Auditing, and in cooperation with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP),

**The following recommendations** were issued by the workshop participants, who included representatives from judicial bodies, the Central Organization for Control and Auditing, relevant ministries, civil society, and regional and international partners:

- 1. Finalize the legislative review led by the Ministry of Justice, aimed at strengthening Yemen's legal and institutional framework for law enforcement and enhancing both national and international cooperation. This process should be conducted in coordination with relevant ministries and entities, with a view to submitting the proposed reforms for legislative approval. At a minimum, the review should cover the following areas:
  - a) Expand the scope of corruption-related offenses, stiffen penalties, and establish sentencing guidelines.
  - b) Review criminal procedures and incorporate digital tools to improve efficiency.
  - c) Introduce constitutional and legal reforms to govern the investigation and prosecution of high-ranking executive officials, to ensure accountability and eliminate unjustified legal immunity.
  - d) Implement structural reforms to protect and promote the independence of the judiciary and the Central Organization for Control and Auditing, in line withinternational standards.

- e) Strengthen internal integrity safeguards, including codes of conduct and performance appraisal systems.
- f) Reconstitute the Supreme National Authority for Combating Corruption as a national institution, based on constitutional procedures and informed by lessons learned from Yemen's past and regional/international comparative experiences.
- g) Ensure coherence and complementarity between the mandates and powers of judicial and oversight bodies, in accordance with good governance principles and practices.
- 2. Establish a **National Committee** to Coordinate and Accelerate Efforts in High-Priority Corruption Cases
- a) The committee should include one representative from each of the following: Supreme Judicial Council, Ministry of Justice, Public Prosecution, Central Organization for Control and Auditing, Ministry of Legal Affairs and Human Rights, Financial Intelligence Unit (Central Bank), Anti-Money Crimes Division (Ministry of Interior), and the Prime Minister's technical team.
- b) The committee shall be chaired by an experienced, competent, and reputable figure elected by its members. This individual will convene meetings, preside over sessions, and monitor implementation.
- c) The committee will focus exclusively on significant corruption cases that meet at least one of the following criteria: the suspect is a politically exposed person; the public funds involved are substantial; or the case has significant public interest.
- d) It will conduct periodic assessments of coordination and information-sharing effectiveness, using agreed indicators, and submit recommendations to improve processes, strengthen specialized capacities, and enhance joint efforts.
- 3. Encourage Law Enforcement Agencies to Exchange Information and Expertise

This includes establishing secure, interoperable databases to track corruption cases and share information in real-time, within the limits set by applicable laws and international treaties.

- 4. **Expand Capacity Development for Law Enforcement at Central and Local Level.** Examples include, but are not limited to:
- a) Adopt and implement training programs on financial investigation, data analysis, internal control, forensic accounting, asset tracing, special investigative techniques, early warning systems, and complex corruption case management.
- b) Introduce oversight officials, prosecutors, and judges to the use of big data analytics and artificial intelligence to detect corruption patterns and track financial flows.

- c) Prioritize investment in youth by recruiting and training new professionals in digital auditing and investigation technologies.
- d) Utilize ICT (post-liberalization) to manage and track legal procedures and case files.
- e) Develop an accredited national database of technical and subject-matter experts for use in domestic and cross-border corruption cases.
- 5. Adopt **Complementary Measures** to Promote Transparency and Public Confidence in Anti-Corruption Enforcement. Examples include:
- a) Enforce the Right to Information Law, promote automatic disclosure of administrative procedures, decisions, and public financial data, and encourage all state entities—including law enforcement bodies—to issue periodic reports on their anti-corruption efforts.
- b) Develop procedural manuals for all stages of corruption cases—detection, investigation, prosecution, and enforcement—with binding or indicative timelines as appropriate.
- c) Encourage citizens to report corruption through awareness campaigns, secure reporting mechanisms, and the development of legislation to protect whistleblowers, witnesses, experts, and victims.
- 6. Support **Broader Reform Initiatives** That Strengthen Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement. These include:
- a) Ministry of Justice initiatives on digital integration, information automation, and network expansion to judicial, oversight, and investigative authorities.
- b) Supreme Judicial Council initiatives on judicial reform and institutional development.
- c) Central Organization for Control and Auditing reforms on restructuring and strengthening financial and administrative control systems.
- d) Ministry of Civil Service efforts toward comprehensive administrative reform, including employment, wage, and salary policies.
- e) Revitalizing procurement oversight mechanisms to shield them from undue influence and preserve their neutrality and professionalism.

#### 7. Foster a Unified Societal Will to Combat Corruption

Particularly among youth, by recognizing that corruption is a crime in peacetime and a betrayal in wartime. This societal will should serve as a driving force for the state in confronting challenges, dismantling corruption networks, and countering political interference.

- 8. Strengthen **International Legal and Judicial Cooperation**. This is of strategic importance to Yemen and includes:
- a) Activating and leveraging bilateral, regional, Islamic, and international anti-corruption treaties, especially regarding extradition and asset recovery.
- b) Active participation in regional and global networks, such as INTERPOL, the Egmont Group (FIUs), and the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network).

9. Organize **Continued National Workshops** on Anti-Corruption Education, Public Awareness, and Institutional Prevention

Led by the Prime Minister's Office, and covering national, sectoral, and local levels. These should involve civil society, the private sector, and media to produce recommendations that build on the outcomes of this workshop.

10. **Call on the International Community** and Yemen's Faithful Partners to Support Reform and Modernization Efforts

This includes helping to build institutions grounded in transparency, accountability, anticorruption, rule of law, and human rights—thereby safeguarding development investments, preventing resource waste, and fostering a climate conducive to new financing that benefits all Yemenis, particularly in essential services (electricity, water, education, and health).

#### **Follow-Up and Appreciation**

The workshop's organizing committee commits to translating these recommendations into a time-bound action plan within two weeks, in coordination with relevant stakeholders, clearly identifying the lead agency and supporting parties for each recommendation.

Participants extended their sincere appreciation to the Prime Minister for his Patronage, to the Minister of Justice for his pivotal leadership, and to the Ministry of Justice, Supreme Judicial Council, Public Prosecution, Central Organization for Control and Auditing, the Prime Minister's technical team, and the UNDP for their support and contributions.

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