

DECREE
OF THE PRESIDENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF UZBEKISTAN

**On further measures to improve the anti-corruption system in
the Republic of Uzbekistan**

In recent years, the country has been consistently implementing large-scale reforms aimed at preventing and combating corruption, eradication of corruption-causing factors in all spheres of nation and social building.

Corruption risk assessment system for implementation of tasks and functions entrusted to government bodies, and introduction of integrity standards to the civil service are being developed.

It is taken measures to eliminate bureaucratic obstacles, reduce the share of the “shadow economy” in the country, and the “Corruption-free sphere” projects are being implemented.

However, the tasks, set to further deepen reforms, require a radical increase of effectiveness of the corruption preventing system, identification and elimination the causes and conditions favoring the commitment of corruption crime, as well as the wide involvement of civil society institutions in this process.

With a view of consistent implementation of the National 2017–2021 Action Strategy for development along five priority areas in the “Year of Development of Science, Education and the Digital Economy”, and promotion to efficiency of setting up and going along the state policy focused on prevention and combating corruption in all spheres of social life and the state it is to:

1. Establish Anti-corruption Agency of the Republic of Uzbekistan (hereinafter – the Agency).

To recognize that the Agency:

is a special state body authorized to **form and fulfill the state policy on prevention and combating corruption**, to ensure effective interaction of state bodies and institutions of civil society, as well as international cooperation in this sphere;

applies the principles of **legality, objectivity, openness and transparency** in its operation, regardless of other government bodies, organizations and their officials, **reports to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan** and is accountable to the Chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan;

is headed by a director who is appointed and dismissed by the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan .

2. To identify the **main tasks and directions** of the Agency activities as:

ensuring a systematic analysis of the **corruption status in the country, identification of areas most sensitive to corruption risks;**

formation and fulfillment of the **state policy in preventing and combating corruption**, the state and other programs aimed at elimination of systemic causes and conditions favourable for corruption crimes, **increasing the effectiveness of anti-corruption measures;**

carrying out a comprehensive **analysis and monitoring the corruption crime investigation system**, primarily, causing significant damage to national interests in economy, politics, security, socio-political stability, as well as international reputation of Uzbekistan;

monitoring the **achievement of full compensation for harm** to the interests of society and the state, as well as eliminating damage to the international **credibility of Uzbekistan caused by corruption crimes;**

formation of intolerant attitude to all forms of corruption in society through development and implementation of comprehensive programs aimed at increasing the legal awareness and legal culture of citizens, anti-corruption trainings and education;

coordination of the work of ministries and departments in the field of prevention and combating corruption, organization of effective interaction between state bodies and institutions, as well as civil society on the process;

ensuring introduction and effective use of the **internal anti-corruption oversight system ("compliance control") and other international anti-corruption instruments** in state and economic entities, conducting, based on existing methods and ICT means, the anti-corruption monitoring, as well as **rating** their activities in the area;

ensuring the effectiveness of **anti-corruption assessment of legal instruments and their projects**, as well as development and implementation of proposals to improve legislation, apply international

standards and best foreign practices in preventing and combating corruption;

promotion of international cooperation in prevention and combating corruption according to the legislation and international treaties, as well as development of systemic measures to raise the credibility of the country and **its international ratings position**;

taking effective measures to introduce integrity standards (**“integrity vaccines”**) and **solutions to the conflict of interests** in the public service, as well as monitoring their compliance;

ensuring **implementation and functioning of the income and property reporting system for of civil servants**, verification of the accuracy of declarations, as well as timely response to corruption practices found in this process;

analysis of the effectiveness of the anti-corruption control system in **public procurement and the use of budgetary funds, loans of international organizations and foreign states, the sale of state assets**, and development of enhancement proposals as well;

conduct of **social, scientific and other studies of the status, trends and causes of corruption**, the effectiveness of anti-corruption implementation measures following proposals development on improvement the effectiveness of preventing and combating corruption;

ensuring **transparency and openness of actions to prevent and combat corruption**, the implementation of effective interaction with the media and other civil society institutions for these purposes.

3. To make sure that the Agency:

prepares annual **National Report on Combating Corruption in the Republic of Uzbekistan** and submits to the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the chambers of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan for consideration;

interacts with the anti-corruption committees of the Legislative Chamber and the Senate of the Oliy Majlis of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the relevant committee of the Jokarga Kenes of the Republic of Karakalpakstan, anti-corruption commissions of regional and Tashkent city, district and urban Kengashes (Councils) of people's deputies;

informs the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan on results of the investigation on corruption crimes jeopardizing the foundations of public administration in socio-economic, socio-political development and security;

analyses the effectiveness of the anti-corruption assessment system for legal acts and their projects and gives proposals on its enhancement;

jointly with civil society institutions, works out the compilation of the **National Corruption Perception Index**, which also assesses the level of corruption broken down by regions and sectors of economy;

sets up requirements imposing a state customer to apply the **anti-corruption standard ISO 37001** to prevent and combat corruption;

develops and implements regional programs aimed at preventing local corruption;

approves draft regulatory acts on the prevention and combating corruption;

provides, in a prescribed by law manner, the media with materials on corruption practices that outrage public opinion.

4. The Agency is empowered to:

receive and inspect materials related to the use of budget funds, the implementation of state assets, public procurement, investment projects and state programs;

approve in the prescribed manner regulatory legal acts on matters in its competence;

consider **appeals of individuals and legal entities on corruption practices** and take measures to restore violated rights and protect their legitimate interests;

study the **state of corruption** in the work of state and law enforcement organizations;

study criminal materials in a strict accordance with the legislation, including criminal procedure, to identify and reveal trends of systemic corruption;

transfer, following results of study and other measures, materials to law enforcement and other state bodies to respond in accordance with the law, including the initiation of criminal cases, in respect of persons signaling corruption crimes;

conduct administrative investigations of corruption offenses;

make binding written instructions on execution to suspend or cancel decisions of executive authorities, economic management bodies and their officials if they show signs of corruption;

contribute to government bodies, organizations and their officials the **binding warnings** on the inadmissibility of corruption practices, as well as **provisions** on taking measures to eliminate the causes and conditions conducive to corruption.

Agency warnings, provisions and other approaches **are subject to mandatory immediate review**, with a written notification on its results within ten days.

5. To ensure that:

the Agency is staffed with highly qualified specialists in the field of justice, economics, finance, taxes, auditing, information and communication technologies and other specialties needed for the implementation of the assigned tasks;

the Agency requirements for the submission of documents, materials and other information, as well as conducting audits, inspections, allocation of specialists, elimination of corruption crimes, causes and conditions conducive to them, are mandatory for execution by state and economic management bodies, their officials and citizens;

the Agency employees, within their competence, have the right to freely visit state bodies and organizations, law enforcement bodies, places of detention, custody, penitentiary institutions, to see documents for study and analysis the causes and conditions of systemic corruption.

6. To approve the updated composition of the **Republican interagency anti-corruption commission** (hereinafter - the Commission) according to the annex.

7. To entrust the Agency with functions of the working body of the Commission.

The Agency shall provide effective organizational and methodological support to the activities of the Commission, including:

development of the Commission action plans, monitoring the implementation, as well as coordination of the interdepartmental commissions activities on the ground;

organization, along with state authorities and administration, local governance and citizens' self-government bodies, public associations and other organizations, the implementation of decisions approved by the Commission.

8. The administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and the Agency will ensure within two months:

staffing the Agency with highly qualified personnel with practical skills in combating corruption, capable professionally perform the tasks assigned to the Agency;

development and approval of legal and other acts framework regulating the activities of the Agency, including regulations on the Agency and its divisions and rules of employees ethical conduct.

To establish that employees newly hired by the Agency undergo training at the Academy of the Prosecutor General Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan with a separation from work on special educational programs, including theoretical and practical issues of preventing and combating corruption, studying foreign experience and international standards.

9. The Agency:

a) partnered with the General Prosecutor's Office, the Ministry of Justice, the Agency for the Development of Civil Service under the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other stakeholders, takes measures for phased introduction of the internal anti-corruption oversight system ("compliance control"), with involvement of funds from international organizations, in all state and economic management bodies within 2020-2021;

б) with a view of increase the responsibility and eradicate corruption in public procurement, gives proposals developed with the Ministry of Finance and the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan, within three months on;

increasing liability for violation of the Law of the Republic of Uzbekistan "On Public Procurement", including violations while determining the types of procurement procedures and the conditions of selecting contractors;

the introduction of the procedure for the mandatory publication of contracts concluded in the framework of public procurement, as well as the implementation of public procurement through competitive bidding and tendering exclusively in electronic form using advanced information and communication technologies;

b) jointly with the Antimonopoly Committee, the Ministry of Finance, the Ministry of Economic Development and Poverty Reduction, the Ministry of Justice, the Central Bank and the Accounts Chamber of the Republic of Uzbekistan, within three months, studies the state of compliance with legislation in public procurement, management and use of state property, including in public housing, water, construction and energy areas;

g) partnered with the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan constantly conducts remote monitoring to identify and take measures to prevent conflicts of interest in public procurement in regard of affiliation and final beneficiary owners of procurement participants.

10. To entrust the Agency with the tasks and powers of the **National Coordinator of the Republic of Uzbekistan** for:

ensuring the work of the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development within the framework of the Istanbul Plan of Action of the Anti-Corruption Network for Eastern Europe and Central Asia, as well as the implementation of recommendations made;

the implementation of measures related to the UN Convention against Corruption and other international treaties of the Republic of Uzbekistan in the field of combating corruption, as well as coordination of activities in this area.

11. The Agency, along with the Ministry of Development of Information Technologies and Communications and the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan, within three months, shall ensure the development and implementation of:

electronic platform “E-Anticor.uz”, for monitoring and evaluating the effectiveness of public authorities and administration in combating corruption, as well as state and other programs in this area;

special mobile app to inform the Agency about corruption;

a set of measures to ensure **the Agency’s access to information databases of state and economic management bodies** and other organizations for effective fulfillment of the tasks assigned to the Agency.

12. The Agency in cooperation with the Ministry of Justice, the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other interested departments shall develop:

within two months - a **“Road Map” on raising the position of the Republic of Uzbekistan in international anti-corruption ratings** and submit it to the Republican Council for Work with International Ratings and Indexes;

within three months - draft laws of the Republic of Uzbekistan **“On the declaration of income and property of public servants”, “On combating corruption” in the new edition, “On the anti-corruption assessment of legal acts and their projects”** and submit them to the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan.

13. The Ministry of Finance of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall:

take, in accordance with the established procedure, measures on allocation of funds for expenses related to the implementation of the Agency's activities, including the repair of premises and furniture equipment and other material and technical means;

from 2021 onward, annually include within the State budget of the Republic of Uzbekistan on a separate manner funds needed to finance the Agency's activities and measures to prevent and combat corruption.

14. The Cabinet of Ministers, along with the khokimiyat of Tashkent city, within two weeks shall submit to the Presidential Administration of the Republic of Uzbekistan a proposal for the placement of the Agency.

15. The Prosecutor General's Office, the State Security Service, the Ministry of Internal Affairs, the National Guard of the Republic of Uzbekistan shall provide inclusive assistance to the Agency for the implementation of its tasks.

16. The Agency of Information and Mass Communications under the Administration of the President of the Republic of Uzbekistan, the National News Agency of Uzbekistan, the National TV and Radio Company of Uzbekistan shall regularly organize publications and thematic programs in the media to cover the goals and objectives of this Decree.

17. The Agency, partnered with the General Prosecutor's Office of the Republic of Uzbekistan and other stakeholders, shall within two months give proposals for amendments and additions to the legislation arising from this Decree.

18. The control over the implementation of this Decree is entrusted to the Prime Minister of the Republic of Uzbekistan A.N. Aripov and the head of the Presidential Administration of Uzbekistan Z.Sh.Nizomiddinov

**President
of the Republic of Uzbekistan**

Sh.Mirziyoyev