FORUM: Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)

QUESTION OF: Reducing corruption and inequality in the distribution of new technologies in LEDCs

MAIN SUBMITTER: Swiss Confederation

CO-SUBMITTER: United States of America, Japan, United Arab Emirates, State of Libya, Federative Republic of Brazil, Republic of Bulgaria, Republic of Colombia

THE ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL COUNCIL,

*Alarmed* at instances where significant portions of international aid and development funds have been lost to corruption, such as the case of Afghanistan where $1 billion of $8 billion in donations was misappropriated,

*Deeply concerned* by the estimated $3.6 trillion annual cost of corruption to the global economy,

*Keeping in mind* corruption and social inequality exacerbate economic disparities between the rich and the poor, therefore escalating conflicts between social classes,

*Emphasizing* the critical role of international cooperation and information sharing in preventing and detecting corrupt practice,

*Recognizing* the vital importance of transparency in government operations and financial transactions in combating corruption,

*Noting* that in some LEDCs, up to one-third of the population reports being directly impacted by corruption,

*Reaffirming* the importance of technological diffusion in the development of national economy and promotion of social stability,

*Prioritizing* the principle of “leadership of and the primary responsibility for their development lies with least developed countries themselves”,

1. Calls upon member nations to create the Department of United Commission Against Corruption (DUCAC) as a part of The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to combat corruption and inequality emerging during the untransparent process of distributing new technologies in LEDCs by:
   1. involving researchers and specialists from different fields of academics, including:
      1. sociology
      2. political science
      3. criminology
      4. economics
   2. implement independent oversight mechanisms through specialized agencies and international partnerships:
      1. create specialized technology audit committees staffed by both national and international experts to conduct quarterly reviews of distribution processes and financial transaction
      2. establish performance monitoring systems using standardized metrics and real-time data collection to track efficiency and identify potential corruption risks
      3. developing international guidelines to address possible forms of corruption and social inequality and integrating previous resolutions to discuss possible ways to tackle such problems
      4. participating in joint research to analyze and implement with local NGOs possible methods to combat corruption and social inequality
   3. develop transparent reporting systems with robust accountability measures that is accessible to all stakeholders including civil society:
      1. establish legal consequences for corruption including fines, asset seizure, and criminal prosecution in accordance with international law
      2. implement comprehensive whistleblower protection programs including legal immunity, confidentiality guarantees, and financial support systems
      3. create digital documentation platforms that provide real-time access to distribution data, financial records, and impact assessments
      4. establish training programs that align with international standards from local NGOs of preventing corruption to improve government structure and encourage whistleblowing activities
   4. enhance anti-corruption legislation by organizing an annually held anti-corruption summit to report and discuss methods:
      1. adopt specific provisions for technology-related corruption with clear penalties
      2. establish specialized courts for handling technology distribution fraud cases
      3. encourages countries to provide and publish national progress and experience in tackling corruption in the form of a report
      4. allow nations to assess the validity and ethicality of newly implemented frameworks annually;
2. Strongly encourages nations to develop comprehensive programs to raise public awareness of corruption through public education or campaigns by:
   1. publishing accessible videos and advertisements that educate the general public on potential societal threats imposed by corruption and encourage reporting unethical behavior
   2. creating a national probity education program aimed towards the teenage and children population to stress moral and ethical education and raise awareness of corruption through implementing methods such as but not limited to:
      1. creating cartoon figures to engage the young population
      2. organizing interactive workshops
      3. implementing real-life case studies
      4. encouraging community volunteerism and activism
      5. integrating global anti-corruption campaigns, such as the International Anti-Corruption Day
   3. promoting accessible online learning platforms, such as forums, e-books, and podcast channels, to provide systematic understanding to the general public on anti-corruption methods and efforts;
3. Proposes member states to promote transparency of the government through the transformation of organizational structures and the implementation of emerging technologies to combat uprising social inequality and corruption by:
   1. implementing coherent records management standards countrywide to ensure data transparency by using technological methods such as but not limited to:
      1. using the “ISO 15489: International Records Management Standard” for all government records
      2. implementing blockchain technology for the preservation of records against intentional manipulations
      3. implementing cloud-based records management systems for data storage to increase data accessibility and risk-bearing ability
      4. utilizing artificial intelligence during data classification to prevent manual errors and detect suspicious economic activities
   2. developing and promoting an e-government, utilizing information and communication technologies that provides an open procurement information service, granting the public direct access to the status of government contracts
   3. strengthening the public disclosure of government activities by enabling freedom of information – citizens are permitted to directly access government information including but not limited to:
      1. detailed crime reports and statistics, particularly on corruption
      2. publication of laws, financial statements, and contracts
      3. healthcare system statistics
      4. statistics of major government sectors;
4. Further recommends the strengthening of anti-corruption mechanisms within national governments and international organizations involved in the technology distribution process, to ensure the fair allocation of resources and prevent misuse:
   1. calls for the adoption of transparent procurement processes for the acquisition and distribution of technologies, ensuring open bidding and accountability
   2. promote awareness through media in which citizens are educated on the importance of anti-corruption as well as technological literacy
   3. supports the training of public officials and relevant stakeholders in anti-corruption practices, including how to effectively combat bribery, favoritism, and other forms of corruption in the technology sector
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      2. collectively, nations would meet annually to discuss ways in which to reduce the corruption within their nations, this would allow open discussions and free speech ensuring that all nations receive sufficient education on corruption;
5. Supports the establishment of an international anti-corruption task force in cooperation with national governments to effectively investigate, act upon, and prevent corruption and social inequality through:
   1. passing whistleblower protection acts that protect government employees against retaliation, or vengeance, by:
      1. establishing a reward system to incentivize whistleblowers, or employees who report corruption, to report violations of laws, rules, or regulations
      2. establishing a penalty system to impose heavy fines and criminal sanctions against violators involved in the abuse of power
      3. developing a legal framework to protect whistleblowers from potential attacks and threats by utilizing armed forces
   2. determining the extent of allowance for task forces to investigate corruption without the abuse of power or unauthorized activities through methods such as but not limited to:
      1. establishing laws and legislation ordering the boundaries of power use, particularly limiting their autonomy to act and investigate
      2. limiting anti-corruption forces’ access to information and political activities through a controlled and transparent information management system
      3. promoting transparency and publishing acts of anti-corruption forces publicly by producing reports
      4. developing a surveillance framework to supervise the economic activity of the anti-corruption force
   3. allowing collaboration and the exchange of ideas with other organizations and local educational institutions to enhance knowledge and strengthen forces of combating corruption;
6. Suggests member states to develop initiatives to reduce the barriers between citizens’ access to new technologies and general government operations in the following areas:
   1. creating regional hubs or technology distribution centers to facilitate the efficient and timely delivery of medical technologies across LEDCs by:
      1. supporting the development of mobile health clinics to deliver affordable healthcare services to remote and rural areas in LEDCs
      2. encouraging these hubs to integrate solar energy solutions to ensure the hubs can operate in areas with insufficient access to electricity
      3. recommending that international partnerships focus on reducing the costs of essential medicines, vaccines, and medical equipment
   2. creating research and development centers that collaborate with startups and corporations to push the boundaries of digital innovation in LEDCs through:
      1. encouraging international donors, development banks, and private investors to provide loans for research and development (R&D) initiatives in LEDCs
      2. building collaborative co-working spaces in which engineers and developers can come together to co-create new technologies
      3. offering technological training and educational scholarships to improve local expertise and empower LEDC researchers
   3. encouraging Member States to collaborate with international organizations and private sector partners to invest in sustainable energy infrastructure in LEDCs by:
      1. offering generic education to the public about energy knowledge, energy policies, and the importance of equitable energy distribution through various channels such as television, radio, presses, and social media
      2. urging governments to provide energy to vulnerable areas
      3. establishing subsidies, tax breaks, or streamlined licensing processes for private sector renewable energy investments
   4. improving citizens’ understanding of new technologies through publicity and fostering collaborations with public and private sectors by:
      1. encouraging news platforms and presses to advertise the benefits of and instruct the general public on the usage of new technology
      2. urging regular audits and public reporting to reduce the risk of corruption in technology distribution programs
      3. establishing community-based technology assistance programs where experienced technology specialists can assist citizens with the usage of emerging technologies;
7. Urges all international organizations, and non-governmental organizations (NGOs), to provide technical assistance, transparency, and capacity-building support to LEDCs in the following areas:
   1. enhance the training of anti-corruption personnel in modern investigative techniques to detect and prevent corruption in technology-related transactions, such as, but not limited to:
      1. forensic accounting, digital forensics and data analysis to detect and to avoid corruption in technology-related transactions
      2. anti-corruption officers are required to complete training and pass an examination by Transparency International (TI) to ensure their professionalism
      3. requiring independent audits and public reporting on the allocation and deployment of resources
      4. utilizing blockchain technology to track the distribution and use of digital devices, reducing opportunities for mismanagement
   2. assisting LEDCs in developing transparent and accountable procurement systems for new technology acquisitions by:
      1. ensuring that contracts are awarded based on merit and competitive bidding processes
      2. tailored curricula focused on ethical technology use, cybersecurity, and strategies to prevent misuse
   3. urges member states to strengthen anti-corruption frameworks specifically for the procurement and distribution of new technologies by:
      1. incorporating blockchain systems to improve transparency
      2. establishing independent auditing bodies to oversee resource deployment in least economically developed countries (LEDCs)
      3. creating regional auditing networks to share expertise and monitor cross-border technology projects
      4. recruiting qualified, impartial auditors through international collaboration to avoid local conflicts of interest
      5. mandating periodic, randomized audits of procurement and distribution systems
   4. offering technical expertise through initiatives such as:
      1. knowledge-sharing programs and capacity-building workshops led by industry experts, academic institutions, and non-governmental organizations
      2. developing localized educational materials that are culturally relevant and accessible to various literacy levels
      3. regularly updating curricula to reflect advancements in technology and emerging threats to cybersecurity and ethical use
      4. mentorship programs involving partnerships with organizations like UNESCO’s ICT in Education initiative and private technology companies to train local professionals in managing digital infrastructure.