



Declaration Statement

We, the people taking part in the National Dialogue on Corruption organized by the National Anti-Corruption Advisory Council, want to make it clear that we are fully committed to fighting corruption in every way possible. Our goal is to create a society that values transparency, integrity, and accountability. We base our fight against corruption on the principles outlined in the Constitution of the Republic of South Africa. These principles focus on safeguarding human rights, promoting social justice, and upholding the rule of law.

We agree on the following points:

1. **Safeguarding democracy:** Corruption threatens democratic principles by eroding trust in institutions and fair representation. To protect our democracy, we must combat corruption. Democratic processes must be strengthened, so that they are robust, transparent, and reflective of the will of the people.
2. **Zero Tolerance for Corruption:** We reject corruption in all its forms. We understand that corruption damages trust, weakens institutions, slows economic progress, and prevents people from enjoying their basic rights. We promise to build a culture where corruption is not accepted, and ethical behaviour is encouraged in every part of our society.
3. **Protecting Whistle-blowers:** We recognize the importance of whistle-blowers in exposing corruption. We pledge to create laws and support systems that shield whistle-blowers from harm. This protection will enable them to report corruption without fear of retaliation.
4. **Responsibility for All:** We believe that everyone has a role in fighting corruption. It requires a joint effort from all parts of society. We call on every sector to unite, work together, and use their unique strengths and resources to fight against corruption in our country.
5. **Strengthening Anti-Corruption Agencies:** To effectively tackle corruption, law enforcement agencies and other bodies fighting corruption must be strong and well-equipped. We commit to ensuring these organizations have the necessary resources and independence to do their jobs efficiently.
6. **Ethical Leadership:** We stress the importance of having leaders who are honest and ethical in every sector – whether public, private, or civil society. Leaders should set a good example, demonstrating integrity and encouraging ethical behaviour.
7. **Implementing Recommendations:** We recognize the value of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy and the findings of the State Capture Commission. We emphasize the need to act on these recommendations to prevent future attempts to corrupt our state.
8. **Preventing corruption:** We stress the importance of taking proactive steps to prevent corruption in South Africa. By establishing strong systems, policies, education, and transparent processes, we must create a culture that actively fights corruption before it starts.

9. **Personal Commitment:** We acknowledge our individual responsibility to resist corruption and maintain ethical standards in all aspects of our lives. Each of us pledges to uphold personal integrity, honesty, and fairness, laying the groundwork for a more just society.

We believe that by standing united in these principles, we can strengthen our society, restore trust in our institutions, and pave the way for a future where honesty, transparency, and accountability prevail. Let our actions, both individual and collective, guide South Africa toward a future free from the devastating effects of corruption.

This declaration is endorsed by the participants of the National Dialogue on Corruption.