COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT (COE)

Lebanese Transparency Association – No Corruption (LTA)
(Local Chapter of Transparency International)

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Period covered by
this Communication on Engagement:
From January 2022 to December 2023

THE LEBANESE **TRANSPARENCY** ASSOCIATION **NO CORRUPTION**

TRANSPARENCY INTERNATIONAL
the global coalition against corruption

Part I. Statement of Continued Support by the Chief Executive or Equivalent

Dear Colleagues at the United Nations Global Compact,

I am pleased to confirm that The Lebanese Transparency Association-No Corruption (LTA) reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles as suggested for an organization like ours. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

Julien Courson
Executive Director

II. Description of Actions

At present, LTA executive team includes 18 team members operating on a full-time and part-time basis. Operating under the guidance of its Board of Directors, LTA team currently implements a wide array of donor-funded projects and self-initiated advocacy campaigns, centered on public procurement legislative reforms, electoral reforms and campaign financing, illicit enrichment and asset disclosure, access to information, as well as monitoring foreign aid and tracking government reforms under the 3RF framework. Current projects include activities funded by the German Foreign Office, the French Embassy in Lebanon, the European Union (EU), Organisation internationale de la Francophonie (OIF), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), Arab NGO Network for Development (ANND), National Endowment for Democracy (NED), National Democratic Institute (NDI), Center for International Private Enterprise (CIPE), Open Society Foundations (OSF) and Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor (DRL) with prospective grants in the pipeline. Implementation activities target decision-makers, private, public and non-profit stakeholders, as well as the general public across Lebanon, with a particular interest in women and youth in general, and affected communities in Greater Beirut in the aftermath of the 4th of August Blast in particular.

With significant impact on legislative reforms at central levels, and knowledge production and awareness-raising at the wider level of the population, the Lebanese Transparency Association – (LTA) – No Corruption has successfully managed to operate in both individually and in collaboration with partner Civil Society Organizations (CSOs) to push forward these reforms. With an overarching principle of mainstreaming transparency and accountability throughout the public sphere, LTA has been recently leading on advocacy pertaining to the monitoring of incoming foreign aid under the Lebanon Reform, Recovery & Reconstruction Framework (3RF) as member of the Independent Oversight Board (IOB), as well as on the integrity of the electoral process leading to the 2022 Parliamentary Elections, through its membership in the Electoral Reform Coalition and its active monitoring of electoral transparency and campaign finance.

Synergies with Sustainable Development Goals

LTA works on an array of axes which contribute directly to a number of SDGs as follows.

SDG 08 - Decent Work and Economic Growth

LTA works towards conducting comprehensive legal reviews on existing legal framework governing economic investments in order to attract investments which contributes to economic recovery in a more favorable, accountable and transparent environment. It also advocates for the adoption of a Beneficial Ownership regime in Lebanon enhancing safeguards against conflicts of interest and collusion particularly in areas of public procurement.

Through its work on the "Enforcement of the Beneficial Ownership Regime in Lebanon", LTA was able to conduct a comprehensive legal assessment of the beneficial ownership regime in Lebanon, which in turn allowed it to provide key recommendations to public/private stakeholders to advance the fight against corruption and limit and prevent conflict of interest in public contracts through the operationalization of beneficial ownership information within public procurement, that also allows for better sustainable planning.

SDG 10 - Reduced Inequalities

Through its work on electoral reforms, LTA address issues of integrity and transparency of the electoral process thus aiming at a more authentic representation of people's opinions through ensuring inclusiveness and participation of all people including vulnerable and marginalized groups in the electoral process.

SDG 16 - Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions

Be it through its interventions on electoral reform, its knowledge transfer and awareness raising on the anti-corruption legal framework and enhancing political participation of citizens and legislative tools to combat corruption, as well as the reform of public institutions to become transparent and accountable advocacy for the enforcement of a beneficial ownership regime in Lebanon, LTA works to strengthen the public institutions including oversight bodies, as well as private institutions and CSOs credibility, transparency and accountability. Through institutional building and lobbying for more transparency and the full application of the Right to Access Information Law, LTA contributes to restoring faith in public institutions which ultimately enhances chances for peace and stability. Furthermore, LTA's current focus on monitoring the aid and the reforms under the 3RF ensures progress towards adopting required reforms particularly on the anti-corruption agenda in a way that better serves constituents in the aftermath of the Beirut Blast.

LTA was able to push towards the amendment of the Right to Access Information Law and its Draft Implementation Decree (at the time) based on specific recommendations submitted to the Administrative and Justice Committee and the Ministry of Justice, which amended both documents to be compatible with the principles of the Lebanese Constitution and international obligations that protects the right to access information as a fundamental human right.

SDG 17 - Partnerships for the Goals

Throughout its interventions, LTA seeks to establish strong partnerships with various stakeholders in order to amplify its advocacy resources and reach more substantial and sustainable impact. LTA collaborates with other local and International CSOs, including Transparency International (TI) and other TI chapters, state institutions, public servants and policy makers, media and investigative journalists, researchers and scholars, donor

agencies and other members of the international community and the Lebanese Diaspora to advance its cause towards more transparency.

LTA's journey towards curbing corruption and enhancing transparency, accountability and integrity ultimately correlates with additional SDGs, although in an indirect manner. Working on advancing transparency in the power sector and in oil and gas furthers SDG07 - Affordable and Clean Energy. Through monitoring the performance of oversight institutions. Through monitoring the aid channeled for the COVID19 response, LTA enhances the public health sector accountability and good governance in times of crises, thus contributing to SDG03 - Good Health and Well-being.

III. Measurement of Outcomes

LTA usually assesses the performance of its projects, programs and different initiatives through a set of combination of robust indicators (such as increased awareness, outreach and legal reforms etc.), knowledge management and active and sustained engagement of stakeholders (such as evaluation surveys, pre-post tests and follow-up/key informant interviews and responses to requests for access to information etc.), in order to ensure the prospective benefits/ outcomes of interventions are being realized, and to improve the design of future projects and activities.