



CCO REVEALS PROGRESS AND CHALLENGES FOR HONDURAS IN THE FIGHT AGAINST CORRUPTION

- Honduras is among the countries with the lowest scores on compliance with the Lima Agreement
- Research also shows recommendations the government must follow to improve the fight against corruption

Honduras, October 27, 2021. On this day, the **Asociación para una Sociedad más Justa (ASJ)** [Association for a Fairer Society], chapter of Transparency International - Honduras, along with the Asociación de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales (ASONOG) [Non-Governmental Organizations Association] - a focal point of the country before the Citizen Forum of the Americas, the Organización de Desarrollo Comunitario (ODECO) [Community Development Organization], Aldeas Infantiles SOS Honduras [Children Village Honduras], Asociación para una Vida Mejor (APUVIMEH) [Association for a Better Life]; the Centro de Investigación y Promoción de los Derechos Humanos (CIPRODEH) [Research and Promotion Center for Human Rights], Cristianos Valientes (CVL) [Brave Christians], Espacio Regional de Occidente (ERO) [Occidental Regional Space]; the Foro Nacional de Convergencia (FONAC) [National Forum for Convergence] and the Federación de Organizaciones No Gubernamentales para el Desarrollo de Honduras (FOPRIDEH) [Non-Governmental Organizations Federation for the Development of Honduras], as part of the **Citizen Corruption Observatory (CCO)**, presented the report results of the follow-up on the Lima Agreement **“Democratic Governance against Corruption”**, signed at the **VIII Summit of the Americas in 2018**, which aims at keeping a direct fight against corruption in the Americas.

Among the report findings we can see that the general compliance to the commitments acquired by Honduras is over 29.6%, which locates the Central American country among the lowest scores in the region, being the most critical result the reinforcement of democratic governance, since Honduras barely reaches 0.44 out of 3 possible points.

However, **Honduras has the most recent laws regarding political funding with a 50% compliance of this commitment**, which shows an interest in promoting transparency actions in election processes.

“Despite having a regulatory framework at a public information access level, there are concurrent laws, as the one called Law for the Classification of Public Documents related to National Safety and Defense, better known as the ‘Secrets Law’, which mean a setback in the access to information assurance”, declared José Ramón Ávila, executive director of ASONOG, a focus point organization of the Citizen Forum of the Americas (CFA) in Honduras.

Among the recommendations, the report states that the OCS must get involved in the process to select public servants from the government bodies and institutions (Government Attorney General’s Office, Attorney General’s Office, Accounting Court, Court of Appeals, Access to Public Information Institute, State Prosecutor’s General’s Office), from the call review to the designation of positions. Also, in the process to prepare and standardize the formats for bank accounts accreditation and political campaigns contributors’ identification, among other actions specified in the study.

The analysis was done by identifying the regulatory and practical developments in order to comply with the Lima Agreement in 19 countries of the region. Subjects related to the reinforcement of democratic governance were considered; transparency, access to information, protection of whistle-blowers, and human rights, including freedom of expression; financing of political organizations and election



campaigns; prevention of corruption in public works and public procurement and contracting; and international legal cooperation, the fight against bribery, international corruption, organized crime, and money laundering, and asset recovery.

The CCO is a shared effort between the **Citizen Forum of the Americas (CFA)**, the **Latin American and Caribbean Network for Democracy (LACND)**, **national chapters of Transparency International (TI) in Latin America and over 150 Civil Society Organizations** in the Americas to promote citizen participation and to monitor the progress of the governments measures and their challenges, as well as to research, document and systematically analyze evidence on the effectiveness of the anti-corruption efforts in the region.

