

UN Conference Discusses Link Between Combatting Corruption, Human Rights



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Doha, December 19 (QNA)— A session held today, as part of the eleventh session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, discussed activating the links between combating corruption and human rights, with participation of many international experts and officials.

The session highlighted that corruption is no longer merely a governance issue but has become a

direct violation of human rights due to its negative impact on access to basic services and enjoyment of rights and freedoms. Speakers emphasized that the political Atlanta Declaration acknowledged corruption's harmful effects, particularly on women, girls, and marginalized groups. They noted that increasing conflicts, widening inequality gaps, shrinking civic space, and environmental crises make it imperative to address corruption as a fundamentally human rights-based issue.

Despite growing global awareness of linking anti-corruption and human rights agendas, fragmented approaches remain prevalent, limiting the effectiveness of efforts in both fields. Civil society organizations, governments, and international institutions continue to face challenges due to the absence of coordinated strategies, lack of practical tools, and insufficient clear actionable guidance.

Participants stressed the need to move from theoretical frameworks to practical application by adopting a comprehensive approach that activates the links between combating corruption and protecting human rights, while reviewing concrete experiences and steps taken. Strengthening this connection, they said, can help countries enhance resilience, improve service delivery, protect civic space, promote integrity, and build public trust.

Speakers highlighted the importance of creating complementarities and synergies between anti-

corruption and human rights tracks, expressing hope that more States Parties would convey these messages in relevant forums to strengthen both agendas. Responses to a preliminary question on integrating a human rights perspective into anti-corruption strategies showed that only a limited number of participants are currently linking the two areas in an integrated manner.

The session concluded with an emphasis on strengthening international cooperation and exchanging expertise to build effective policies that translate this linkage into practice, contributing to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and fostering tangible progress in the years ahead.