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## STATEMENT TO THE PARTICIPANTS OF THE 4TH ASSEMBLY OF PARTIES OF THE INTERNATIONAL ANTI-CORRUPTION ACADEMY

(Vienna, Austria, December 9–11, 2015)

## Dear Chairman, dear Assembly participants! Ladies and gentlemen!

Let me greet all participants of the 4th Assembly of Parties and express gratitude for the given opportunity to make a speech on the progress of Kazakhstan in implementation of the anticorruption policies.

As you know, since gaining independence Kazakhstan demonstrates the steady and systematic progress in modernisation of all sides of life of our country. Now being at the new stage we set new ambitious goals to initiate a fundamental transformation of Kazakhstan society and bring it to the new level. In this regard the 'Plan for the Nation' of President Nursultan Nazarbayev was adopted. In addition to that National Action Plan of the '100 Specific Steps' on implementation of 5 Institutional Reforms have been developed and endorsed:

- Formation of world-class civil service independent from the political level;
- Ensuring the rule of law;
- Industrialisation and economic growth;
- Identity and unity of the Kazakhstani nation;
- Formation of an accountable state.

In fact, these new measures are forming our response to the global and internal challenges that Kazakhstan is facing and at the same time it provides the step-by-step action plan for joining the club of the top-30 world's most developed countries.

The anticorruption policy was completely revised using the best international practices shifting the focus of the activities from punishment to prevention of corruption. Some of the key elements are strengthening ethics and raising of civil servants' motivation; state bodies' accountability, upgrading of anticorruption culture in the society and improvement of business processes in interaction with the society.



The main governmental institution responsible for development and implementation of the state anticorruption policies is the Agency for Civil Service and Anticorruption, which was established in August 2014.

The Anticorruption Strategy-2025 which was adopted last December is an important stage of the fight against corruption. It considers the experience of countries like Singapore, USA, Scandinavian countries, as well as Georgia and Estonia.

As you know Kazakhstan ratified the UN Convention against Corruption and the Istanbul Anti-Corruption Action Plan. The implementation of the OECD Istanbul Action Plan recommendations is one of the main priorities of our Anticorruption Strategy. In this regard a set of laws for ensuring the systematic and institutional approach to anticorruption has been adopted, including laws "On Civil Service", "On Anticorruption". The laws "On Public Councils" and "On the Access to Information" were adopted for the first time.

As the part of our educational activity, the Academy of Public Administration under the President of Kazakhstan launched the programs on ethics and anti-corruption at all levels of government.

A new Ethics Code will determine clear ethical standards of civil servants activity and behaviour in certain situations. For the first time in the state bodies a new position of Ethical Officers is going to be introduced.

For many years the necessity for development and adoption of Laws "On Access to Information" and "On Public Councils" has been discussed in Kazakhstan. Within the frames of 100 Specific Steps of the Head of the State both laws were adopted in November 2015, which aim at the creation of real tools ensuring the accountability of the state to the society, while increasing the level of civil activity of the society.

The results of anti-corruption work will form the basis for the preparation of the annual National Reports on the fight against corruption. The development of a culture of zero tolerance for corruption and the introduction of anti-corruption models of behaviour is envisaged. This work will involve all the institutions of civil society.

On January 1, 2016 all new laws that I mentioned earlier will come into force. An integrated approach of the Five Institutional Reforms of Nursultan Nazarbayev, allows us to confidently implement the recommendations of our international partners on the development of civil society, strengthening the anti-corruption policy, ensuring the rule of law.

## **Dear Assembly participants!**

Today's Assembly is a great opportunity for exchange of experience, which allows us to look at successful stories in organisation of anti-corruption work and to develop recommendations for the effective fight against corruption.

In this regard the IACA plays a crucial role as the international platform which promotes the integration of our efforts and the implementation of global best practices in each country.

In conclusion, I wish the participants fruitful discussions of new knowledge and valuable experience, which will contribute to our common efforts on overcoming corruption.

Thank you for your attention!

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