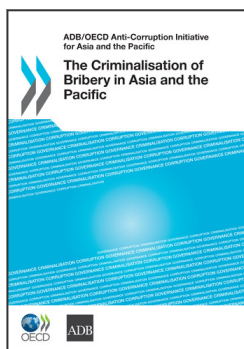

Foreword

Since 2006, the ADB/OECD Anti-Corruption Initiative for Asia and the Pacific has conducted Thematic Reviews of specific areas of its members' anti-corruption efforts. Through the Reviews, the Initiative's Steering Group takes stock of each member's efforts, identifies challenges that have been encountered, and proposes recommendations for a way forward in order to overcome these difficulties. The reviews also identify cross-country trends and common obstacles, which in turn allow the Initiative to tailor its capacity building activities to address these challenges. The first Thematic Review in 2006 focused on members' anti-corruption efforts in public procurement. A second Review in 2007 looked at extradition, mutual legal assistance and asset recovery in corruption cases.

In 2008, the Initiative chose the criminalisation of bribery as the topic for its third Thematic Review. Criminalisation is a key component of all international anti-corruption instruments, such as the Initiative's Anti-Corruption Action Plan for Asia and the Pacific; the United Nations' Convention against Corruption (UNCAC); and the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions (Anti-Bribery Convention). The Thematic Review aims to improve members' efforts in this area and thus strengthen their fight against corruption.

This Thematic Review Report was prepared by William Loo and Melissa Khemani, with comments by Christine Uriarte, at the Anti-Corruption Division, Directorate for Financial and Enterprises Affairs, OECD. The Report was then adopted by the Initiative's Steering Group in September 2010. The findings, interpretations, and conclusions expressed in this report do not necessarily represent the views of ADB's Board and members or those of the OECD and its member countries. ADB and OECD do not guarantee the accuracy of the data included in this publication and accept no responsibility whatsoever for the consequences of their use. The term "country" in this report refers also to territories and areas; the designations employed and the presentation of the material do not imply the expression of any opinion whatsoever concerning the legal status of any country or territory on the part of ADB's Board and members, and the OECD and its member countries. While all reasonable care has been taken in preparing the report, the information presented may not be complete or current.



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