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Keynote Remarks - APEC High Level Dialogue on Anti-Corruption Cooperation 2025

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**APEC High Level Dialogue on
Anti-Corruption Cooperation
Incheon, Korea
31 July - 1 August 2025**

**Remarks by H.E. Dmitry Kulkin,
Charge' d'Affaires of the Russian
Federation in the Republic of Korea -
Head of the Russian delegation, in the
opening session of the APEC High-Level
Dialogue on Anti-Corruption Cooperation
(31 July 2025)**

Mr. Chairperson,
Mr. Executive Director,
Excellencies,
Distinguished delegates,

I am honoured to deliver my address in the APEC High-Level Dialogue on Anti-Corruption Cooperation on behalf of the Russian Federation. I extend my gratitude to the current APEC Presidency for initiating such an event for the first time and expect that it will be a good opportunity not only for holding a quality expert discussion but also for determining future steps for enhancing cooperation among the APEC economies in preventing and combating corruption in the region and beyond.

It is significant that the High-Level Dialogue is held in the year that marks the 20th anniversary of entry into force of the only universal - in its scope and content - treaty, the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC). Russia was among the first economies to sign the UNCAC and ratified it almost twenty years ago. The participation in the Convention has served as a strong incentive for establishing and setting in motion the domestic anti-corruption architecture, as well as creating and systematically improving the relevant legal framework. Russia is committed to ensuring the smooth functioning of the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism by actively engaging in its procedures, following up to the recommendations emanating from it and supporting it also financially.

Excellencies, distinguished delegates,

Russia pays particular attention to implementing advanced technologies and artificial intelligence in the prevention and detection of corruption offences, promoting integrity in the public and private sectors and strengthening anti-corruption education, training and awareness-raising. I therefore welcome the

decision of the Presidency to address these matters in the thematic sessions of the Dialogue.

The Russian Federation attaches great importance to international anti-corruption cooperation within the binding international legal framework and on the principles of sovereignty and mutual respect. Russia is an active participant of all major anti-corruption fora, and Russian competent authorities consistently work on establishing relations with their foreign counterparts. For example, the Russian Prosecutor-General's Office has over a hundred of bilateral and a dozen of multilateral interagency agreements that address, *inter alia*, anti-corruption matters.

Asset recovery is among our priorities. Being a consistent proponent of responsible implementation of the obligations under the UNCAC and constantly working on stepping up collaboration which is free from undue political influence, Russia is deeply concerned about the lack of progress in this area at the international level. This is why the 2024 Russian BRICS Presidency promoted the adoption of a BRICS common vision of and joint action on enhanced anti-corruption cooperation and recovery and return of assets and proceeds of corruption. BRICS identified the most acute challenges they face and expressed their firm resolve to actively pursue effective anti-corruption cooperation and promote their common position on how to further strengthen asset recovery framework internationally.

Russia also supports practical initiatives aimed at building capacities and enhancing knowledge about different aspects of the fight against corruption. It is among reliable sponsors of relevant project activities implemented by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the International Anti-Corruption Academy.

The Russian Federation will be glad to further share its expertise in the field throughout this High-Level Dialogue. I wish the participants a productive discussion and thank you very much for your attention.