



**15th INTERNATIONAL
ANTI-CORRUPTION
CONFERENCE**

**MOBILISING PEOPLE:
CONNECTING AGENTS OF CHANGE**

**BRASÍLIA BRAZIL
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Short Session Report: Game Changers

Session Title: Powerless to Powerful: Arming Citizens to Fight Corruption in Defence and Security

Date & Time: Wednesday 7th November, 18:00 – 20:00

Report prepared by: Rachel Davies, Communications Manager, Transparency International UK

Experts:

Leah Wawro, Transparency International UK

Shaazka Beyerie, International Centre for Nonviolent Conflict

Vijay Anand, Founder, 5th Pillar

Ian Andrews, UK Serious Organised Crime Agency

Ernie Ko, Transparency International Taiwan

Moderated by: Mark Pyman

Session coordinated by: Leah Wawro

Main issues raised in kick off remarks. What's the focus of the session?

This session explores what can be done to tackle defence and security corruption, focusing on how civil society and citizens can demand greater transparency and accountability from defence and security forces.

The session will address the following questions:

- How can citizens and civil society catalyse reform and demand transparency in this often-secretive sector?
- How can they successfully engage with, monitor, and oversee defence and security establishments?
- How can we connect people coming at the problem of defence corruption from different angles – members of civil society, defence & security officers and soldiers, members of

governments, and defence companies – who all have a role in building an accountable defence system?

What initiatives have been showcased? Briefly describe the Game Changing Strategies

Vijay Anand – Civil society takes on a bridging role between the whistleblower and the investigating agencies, as it is highly dangerous to blow the whistle on corruption in India. The civil society organisation will take the information from the whistle blower and then pass it on to the press or the investigating agency so that the whistle blower can remain anonymous.

Mark Pyman – 1) The idea that “it really is possible for civil society to engage constructively with defence, security and police corruption and have positive actions for society” can itself change minds even if it is not action related. This is a game changer because currently, very few people believe it. 2) Research makes a significant difference. The military and ministries of defence are convinced by facts. At present in the world of defence and security corruption, there are few facts. It is possible to conduct original, inexpensive research that can make an impact. 3) A new understanding of how to achieve change in institutions is necessary. It is important to think beyond traditional tactics when approaching the institutions to advocate for change.

Ian Andrews – We need the mobilisation of civil society. Organised crime and corruption cannot be handled by government and law enforcement alone. We must create cultural change, and therefore make it acceptable for people to challenge and report organised crime when it occurs.

Shaazka Beyerie – The power of a significant number of people makes a change. Practically, change can occur with the occurrence of two elements - 1) *disruption* (disrupting the system) and 2) *engagement* (winning people over to your side). The strategy must involve both at the same time.

Leah Wawro –Two ways TI-DSP works to bring about change 1) Engage directly with the defence ministries. We develop good working partnerships with defence ministries and move them towards the perception that corruption is something that can be tackled – we work with ex-generals to help get us through the door. This brings a lot of credibility and really helps open doors. 2) We conduct in-depth research and comparative studies. This evidence base brings credibility to our work.

Ernie Ko – TI Taiwan tried to engage with the national Ministry of Defence but had no response. They changed their approach and encouraged people who had influence over the Ministry of Defence to advocate on their behalf. TI Taiwan now approaches their defence ministry using a variety of strategies so that pressure is applied from all sides.

Highlights: What are the main outcomes of this session? What's next?

- The workshop validated the theory that there is a new way of working towards change that combines both institutional reform and grassroots pressure.
- The seminar brought to light many positive examples of how defence and security corruption is being combated.

What are the recommendations, follow-up Actions (200 words narrative form)

Civil society must now explore a new model of combining community action with institutional change. There is also potential to form a network of people who are working to end corruption in the military, police, and security sector. TI-DSP can provide tools and research that can be pushed through that network.

What should be done to create opportunities for scaling up the proven solutions discussed in the session? What and by whom?

Key Insights Recommended to be included in the IACC Declaration

Civil society must now explore a new model of combining community action with institutional change.

Rachel Davies, 7 November 2012
