



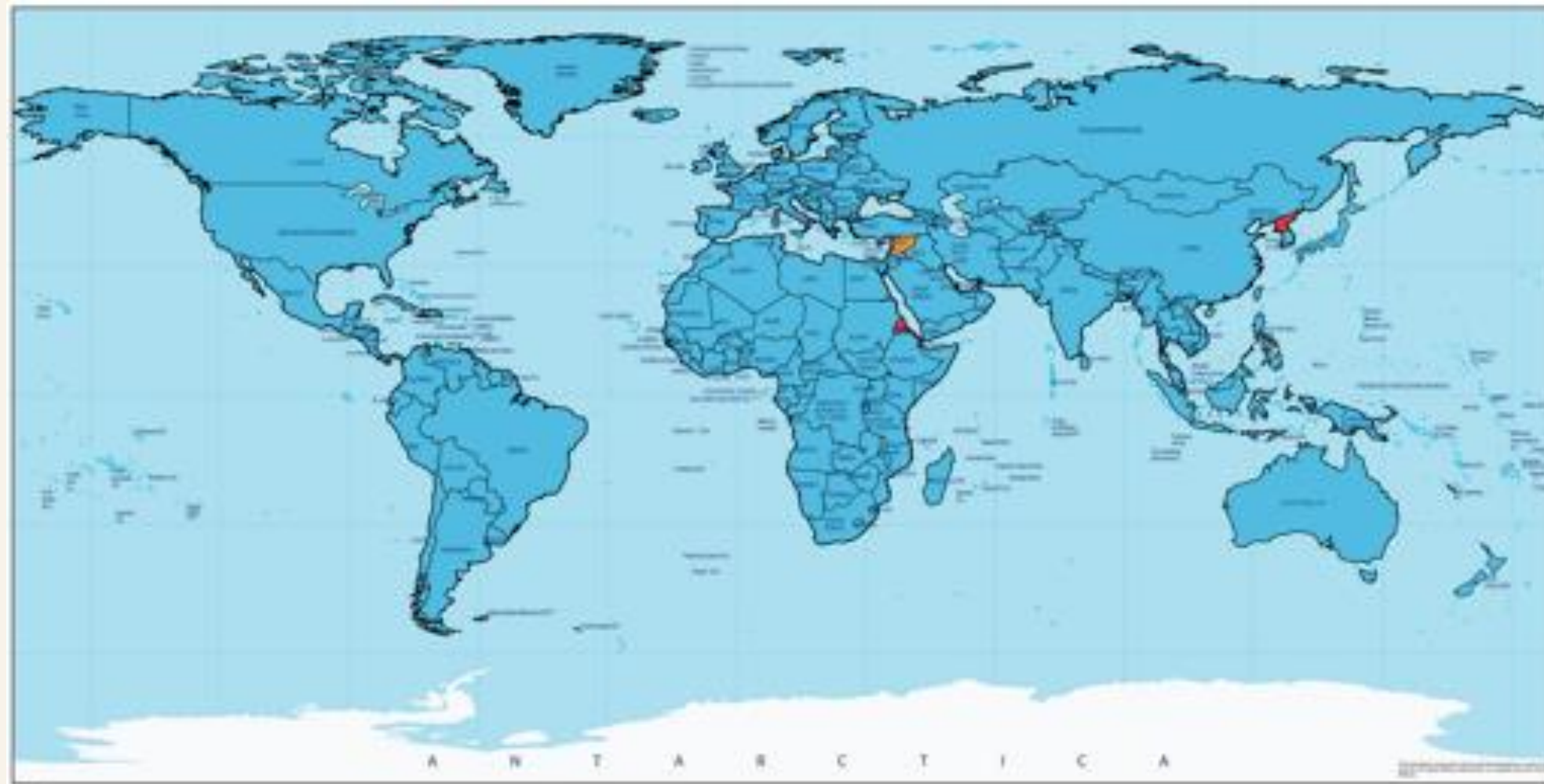
**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



# Who exactly is a whistle-blower?

# UNCAC Review Findings



- Approximately 70% of all reviewed countries received a recommendation to consider strengthening whistle-blower protection.
- Every second of them also raises technical assistance needs.

# Protection

## Reporting person

### Article 33

Consider measures to provide protection against any **unjustified treatment for any person who reports** in good faith and on reasonable grounds to the competent authorities any facts concerning corruption offences.



## Witness

### Article 32

Take appropriate measures to provide effective protection from potential **retaliation or intimidation for witnesses, experts and victims** insofar as they are witnesses, who give testimony concerning corruption offences and, as appropriate for their relatives and other persons close to them.

### Article 37, para 4

Provide for cooperating offenders protection as foreseen under article 32.

# Facilitation of reports

## **Article 8, para.4**

### **Conduct of public officials**

Consider establishing measures and systems to **facilitate reporting by public officials** of acts of corruption to appropriate authorities, when such acts come to their notice in the performance of their functions.

## **Article 13, para. 2**

### **Civil Society**

Provide access to anti-corruption bodies for reporting by the public of corruption incidents, including **anonymously**.



# Most recent evolutions at international level

**EU directive (2019)**

**OECD Anti-Bribery  
Recommendations  
(2021)**

**G20 High Level  
Principles (2019)**

**ISO 37002  
whistleblowing  
management  
systems (2021)**

# Who can be a whistle-blower?

Whistleblowing is the act of reporting suspected wrongdoing, or risk of wrongdoing

## Who:

- ✓ Insiders
- ✓ All kind of workers

## What:

- ✓ Wrongdoings
- ✓ Not only criminal offences
- ✓ Not only corruption

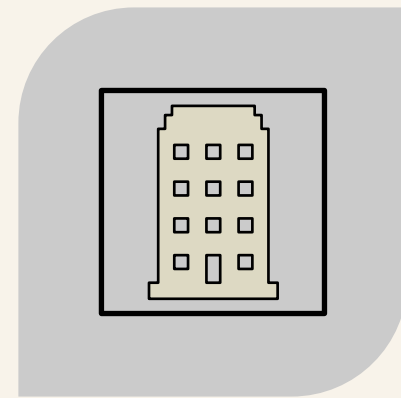
## How:

- ✓ Good faith vs. reasonable grounds





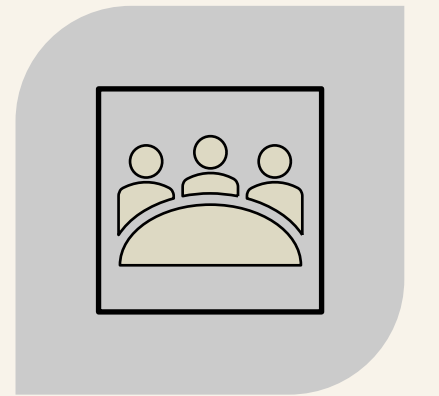
# Where can whistle-blowers report ?



**Internal reporting:** several reporting channels; **adoption of internal policies**



**External reporting:** law enforcement



**Public reporting:** media/NGOs

# Protective measures



- ✓ Main Focus on professional retaliation
- ✓ Additional focus on physical protection
- ✓ Measures to prevent retaliation
- ✓ Measures to stop or compensate retaliation that occurred
- ✓ Rewards, honors and awards



# Summary of important points to consider



Clear distinction between witnesses and whistleblowers  
**conceptual and legal**



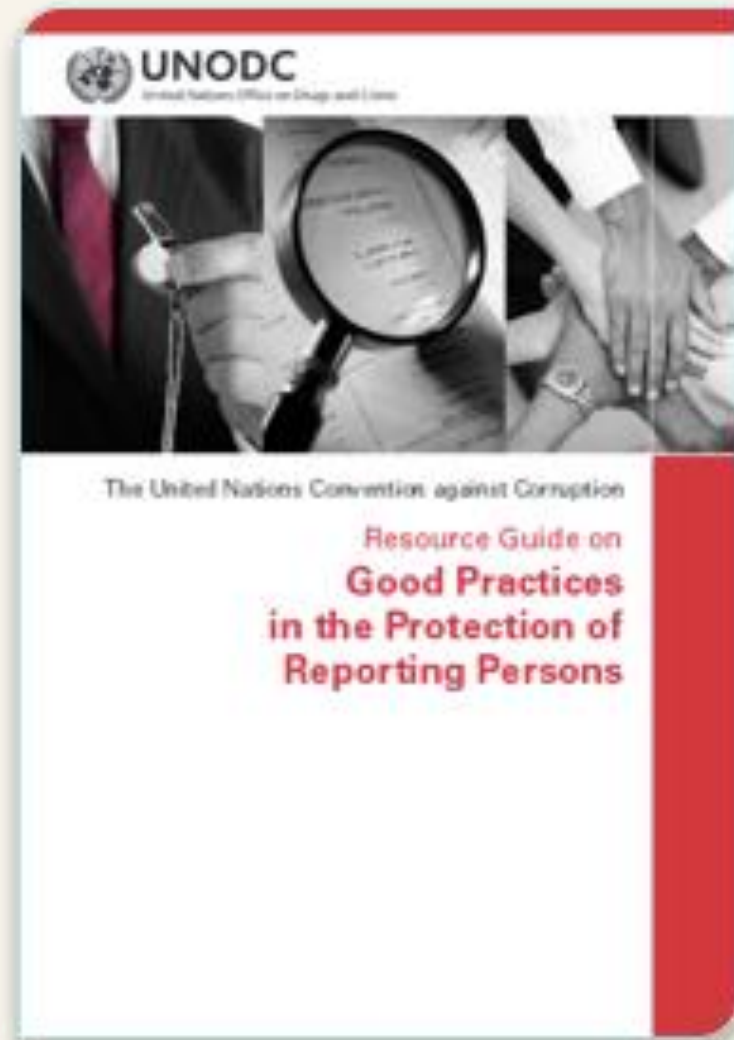
Additional sector/organisation specific policies and procedures



A wide range of measures to prevent retaliation and to compensate

## **Changing the culture of secret**

# Knowledge products



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# UNODC technical assistance activities

01

Introductory level and advanced national and regional workshops

02

Policies and procedures development and enforcement

03

Legislative support; in-country capacity building; legislation implementation

04

Technical support: establishment of whistleblower protection reporting systems that are inclusive and gender-sensitive.

# Thank You

For more information:

[www.unodc.org/corruption](http://www.unodc.org/corruption)

## Contact

Louise PORTAS

Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice

Officer

Implementation Support Section

Corruption and Economic Crime Branch

UNODC, Vienna

