

- Corruption often thrives in places with weak and vulnerable government institutions (i.e., parliaments, the judiciary, civil service, police), where the wider population has a limited awareness of their fundamental rights – characteristics describing some developing countries located in the "South." Nonetheless, she pointed out that there are many examples of money flowing from the "North" to the "South."
- Corruption is difficult to measure.
- Diverse actors share a responsibility for perpetuating as well as preventing corruption.
- The anti-corruption movement is global and transcends social, political, economic and cultural systems.
- There are many practical reasons, besides ethical reasons, to contain corruption.

Best drew attention Canada's efforts to combat corruption. In partnership with the business community, Transparency International Canada (TIC) played a key role in the timely ratification of the OECD Convention and encouraged the Canadian government to ratify the OAS Convention. Along with Transparency International centres across the Americas, TIC:

- helped to put in place an anti-corruption monitoring process,
- raised awareness/educated Canadian businesses and the public about the negative effects of corruption and possible anti-corruption measures,
- presented the federal government with a four point government-wide, anti-corruption agenda (ensuring, for instance, that an anti-corruption commitment is an element in all government agreements, loans, partnerships and grants, where the government and private sector interact for purposes of international business).

According to Best, despite these anti-corruption efforts, "competition to bribe" will continue and more sophisticated ways will be found to hide such activities. Next steps could include:

- Enforcement of the monitoring process spelled out in the OECD Convention.
- The proposed UN Convention should be negotiated without delay.
- Transparency International recommends that the government uses its first annual report on the *Bribery of Foreign Public Officials Act* in Parliament as an opportunity to demonstrate Canada's commitment to lead and shape the anti-corruption agenda.
- A group or committee should be created as a focal point for policy development and analysis. This group could function as a forum for coordinating anti-corruption activities across the federal government and could work with the private sector and the NGO community.

Any strategy aimed at combatting corruption should not be solely built on enforcing law and order, but be a part of broader efforts including the promotion of good governance, democracy, human rights and economic sustainable development.