

Declaration

PUBLIC PROCUREMENT

AS A STRATEGIC AREA FOR GENERATING GREATER PUBLIC VALUE AND BETTER ACCESS TO CITIZENS' RIGHTS



INTER-AMERICAN NETWORK
ON GOVERNMENT
PROCUREMENT

RECOGNIZING

The standing of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP) as a mechanism for high-level horizontal technical cooperation to mobilize and exchange human, technical, financial, and material resources with a view to generating awareness, experiences, and best practices in public procurement among the member countries of the Organization of American States (OAS),¹ which serves as technical secretariat to the INGP, through the Department for Effective Public Management;

TAKING INTO ACCOUNT

The commitments agreed upon by the Heads of State and Government of the OAS member countries, which commitments were adopted through regional instruments such as the Lima Commitment “Democratic Governance against Corruption”² from the VIII Summit of the Americas in Lima, Peru (2018) and OAS General Assembly resolutions,³ underscoring the importance of public procurement as a strategic area for preventing corruption and promoting the sustainable development in the countries;

RECOGNIZING

The efforts and progress made by the national public procurement agencies of the INGP member countries to fulfill their national and institutional objectives; and that transparency, integrity, efficiency, ethics, innovation, competition, and sustainability to achieve triple-impact procurement are key pillars for securing the best value for money and for strengthening their public procurement and contracting systems;

RESOLVES

That, in order to continue strengthening and advancing towards ongoing improvement of national public procurement and contracting systems, in collaboration and consultation with the relevant national agencies, as well as with other key stakeholders;

1. <https://bit.ly/3kP7jej> (AG/RES. 2894 (XLVI-O/16))
2. <https://bit.ly/3DwWVPA>
3. <https://bit.ly/30lbYHZ> (AG/RES. 2905 (XLVII-O/17) - AG/RES. 2927 (XLVIII-O/18) - AG/RES. 2931 (XLIX-O/19) - AG/RES. 2958 (XLX-O/20) - AG/RES. 5729 (XLI-O/21))

WE COMMIT TO ADOPTING THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Continue to pursue actions and measures that will contribute to meeting the Sustainable Development Goals and the 2030 agenda in the area of public procurement.

2. Promote a culture of integrity for public servants, based on openness, a sense of belonging, commitment, and the passing on of institutional values, to produce greater adherence to the principles and purpose of public procurement, aligned with the institutional mission and vision.

3. Design policies, instruments, and strategic plans geared towards measures to strengthen the institutional capacities of public procurement agencies, aiming to streamline public expenditure and ensure that its use is effective.

4. Promote and raise the professional level of public procurement officers, to equip them with the knowledge and skills needed to strengthen their capabilities, so as to generate greater public value through the processes to procure goods, services, and works.

5. Develop strategic measures to strengthen market capacities in order to promote more innovative and sustainable solutions consistent with the triple-impact economy.

6. Increase transparency, traceability, integrity, value for money, and fair competition by making electronic systems for public procurement and contracting more robust, using open data and new technologies to enable contracting modalities to be implemented more effectively, strengthening the registry of vendors, and identifying and preventing risks of inefficiencies and possible acts of corruption – all of which also help to foster more inclusive participation of underrepresented sectors in the domestic economy.

7. Implement interagency and cross-sector activities that are coordinated and pursued jointly, to promote greater collaboration and participation of all actors in the public procurement system, including the public sector, the private sector, academia, civil society, etc.

8. Adopt the instruments, tools and cooperation mechanisms developed through the INGP, to serve as a guide for more effective public procurement management, taking into account the institutional capacity and domestic context in the countries.

This Declaration does not create any legally binding or enforceable obligations on the parties.

This Declaration is issued **on December 9, 2021**, during the “Private Session of the Inter-American Network on Government Procurement (INGP), with representatives of the national public procurement agencies of its member countries, the Organization of American States (OAS) as technical secretariat to the INGP, the Inter-American Development Bank (IDB), the Caribbean Development Bank (CDB), CAF - development bank of Latin America, and the International Development Research Centre (IDRC) of Canada participating.



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