الهيئة الوطنية للنزاهة
والوقاية من الرشوة ومحاربتها
INPPLC
National Authority for Probity
Prevention and Fight against Corruption

Statement by

Mr. Mohamed Benalilou

President of the National Authority for Probity, Prevention and Fight Against Corruption

INTERNATIONAL SEMINAR

National Anti-Corruption Laws with Extraterritorial Reach

Challenges for the Public and Private companies

Ladies and Gentlemen,

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the opening of this seminar.

While our theme today may appear strictly legal, it reflects a profound transformation reshaping the fabric of the global economy and the rules of international competition. This shift fundamentally redefines the nexus between law and sovereignty, competitiveness and integrity, and investment and trust.

For decades, geography defined the boundaries of law, and sovereignty served as the definitive framework for jurisdiction and accountability. Today, however, the expansion of global value chains, the mobility of capital, and the growing influence of transnational economic actors have fundamentally reshaped this paradigm.

Integrity is no longer a purely domestic concern. It is an integral component of global economic governance. Respect for compliance rules now serves as a benchmark as critical as product quality, innovation, and financial efficiency.

National laws with extraterritorial reach represent more than legislative evolution; they signify a transition toward a new economic paradigm where integrity constitutes an intrinsic part of the global economic architecture, rather than merely an ethical value or a legal obligation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

These legal transformations shift our focus from mere engagement to a strategic opportunity: enhancing the competitiveness of our national economy.

Under the enlightened leadership of **His Majesty King Mohammed VI**, may God assist Him, Morocco has made economic openness and integration into global value chains a strategic priority. This vision extends beyond infrastructure and business climate improvements; it seeks to build an institutional ecosystem that fosters trust, consolidates governance, and establishes integrity as a fundamental pillar of our competitiveness.

Moroccan enterprises expanding into regional and international markets must now compete on more than product quality alone. They are increasingly required to substantiate their integrity, manage systemic risks, and respect the governance standards that define modern international economic transactions.

Protecting our enterprises today entails more than shielding them from economic competition. It requires safeguarding them against the legal and financial risks inherent in a cross-border economic environment. Within this new global architecture, integrity has become a shared language and a definitive benchmark for enterprise reliability and reputation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The National Authority for Probity, Prevention and Fight against Corruption (INPPLC) views integrity in the business sector not merely as an anti-corruption mandate, nor as an ad hoc response to international legislative shifts. We consider it a strategic priority that serves a broader national project, functions as a core component of economic security, and provides a prerequisite for strengthening investor and partner confidence in the national economy.

Sustainable wealth creation requires, first and foremost, the generation of trust.

This vision informs our ‹Strategic Approach to Supporting the Private Sector,› which seeks to transition from a reactive model—intervening only after risks materialize—to a proactive one, where institutions are designed to prevent risks from emerging.

True protection, however, begins not with legal texts, but within the enterprise itself. Many of the risks addressed by extraterritorial legislation do not stem from a direct decision by the enterprise; instead, they often arise from relationships with third parties that have not undergone adequate due diligence and assessment.

We consistently regard **«due diligence»** and the monitoring of risk indicators as the primary lines of defense for an enterprise—safeguarding its reputation, its operations, and its standing in international markets.

True compliance, however, transcends mere adherence. It begins when integrity becomes central to an institution's vision, permeating investment decisions, partner selection, and daily corporate culture.

Robust internal governance, precisely defined responsibilities, and a risk-averse corporate culture better equip an enterprise to protect its interests. This resilience empowers an organization to defend its decisions before investors, partners, and competent authorities, while successfully navigating the complexities of expanding cross-border legislation.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

For many years, we viewed compliance primarily as a legal obligation and a mechanism to mitigate sanctions. Today, the global economy demands a fundamentally different perspective. Integrity has become an economic asset. Governance is now a strategic resource, and compliance is an investment in enterprise sustainability rather than an operational expense.

Future economic success will not be defined by productivity or innovation alone. Rather, it will belong to those most capable of generating trust, managing systemic risk, and consolidating governance.

Therefore, the challenge before us transcends traditional anti-corruption efforts. It requires that we recognize integrity as a source of value and a lever of economic sovereignty. Ultimately, our objective is not merely to shield enterprises from jurisdictional competition; it is to protect their capacity to innovate and grow. We must empower them to expand into international markets with confidence, anchored within a business environment that integrates integrity as a core component of national competitiveness.

Building on this foundation, the National Authority for Probity, Prevention and Fight against Corruption (INPPLC) remains committed to a participatory approach—one that positions integrity as a vital investment in the future of the enterprise, the attractiveness of our national economy, and the standing that Morocco continues to strengthen within the global economy.

I am confident this seminar will serve as a platform for responsible dialogue, the exchange of expertise, and the formulation of practical visions that support Moroccan enterprises in navigating the rapid transformations in international law and economics. May our discussions also help crystallize a collective message: integrity is not a burden on investment, but a prerequisite for its prosperity. It is not merely a legal obligation evolving across borders, but a strategic choice for building a stronger, more resilient economy capable of shaping the future.

I reiterate my thanks for your contributions and wish the proceedings of this seminar every success. On behalf of us all, I would like to express our gratitude to our distinguished experts from the United States of America, the United Kingdom, and France, who have traveled to join us and share their invaluable insights. I wish them a productive and enjoyable visit to Morocco.

Thank you.