

Bilag 8**Criminal law convention on corruption
PREAMBLE**

The member States of the Council of Europe, and the other States signatory hereto,

Considering that the aim of the Council of Europe is to achieve a greater unity between its members;

Recognising the value of fostering co-operation with the other States signatories to this Convention;

Convinced of the need to pursue, as a matter of priority, a common criminal policy aimed at the protection of society against corruption, including the adoption of appropriate legislation and preventive measures;

Emphasising that corruption threatens the rule of law, democracy and human rights, undermines good governance, fairness and social justice, distorts competition, hinders economic development, and endangers the stability of democratic institutions and the moral foundations of society;

Believing that an effective fight against corruption requires increased, rapid and wellfunctioning international co-operation in criminal matters;

Welcoming recent developments which further advance international understanding and co-operation in combating corruption, including actions of the United Nations, the World Bank, the International Monetary Fund, the World Trade Organisation, the Organisation of American States, the OECD and the European Union;

Having regard to the Programme of Action against Corruption, adopted by the Committee of Ministers of the Council of Europe in November 1996, following the recommendations of the 19th Conference of European Ministers of Justice (Valletta, 1994);

Recalling in this respect the importance of the participation of non-member States in the Council of Europe's activities against corruption and welcoming their valuable contribution to the implementation of the Programme of Action against Corruption;

Further recalling that Resolution No. 1 adopted by the European Ministers of Justice at their 21st Conference (Prague, 1997) recommended the speedy implementation of the Programme of Action against Corruption, and called, in parti-

Bilag 8**Strafferetskonvention om korruption
PRÆAMBEL**

Europarådets medlemsstater og andre stater, der undertegner denne konvention,

der finder, at Europarådets mål er at opnå større enhed mellem dets medlemmer,

der anerkender værdien af at fremme samarbejde med de andre stater, der undertegner denne konvention,

der er overbevist om behovet for som et prioriteret anliggende at føre en fælles kriminalpolitik med henblik på beskyttelse af samfundet mod korruption, herunder ved vedtagelse af passende lovgivning og forebyggende foranstaltninger,

der understreger, at korruption udgør en trussel mod retsordenen, demokrati og menneskeretigheder, undergraver god statsledelse, ligebehandling og social retfærdighed, forvrider konkurrencen, hindrer økonomisk udvikling og bringer de demokratiske institutioners stabilitet og samfundets moralske grundlag i fare,

der er overbevist om, at en effektiv bekæmpelse af korruption kræver et øget, hurtigt og vel fungerende internationalt samarbejde i straffesager,

der værdsætter den seneste udvikling, som yderligere fremmer international forståelse og samarbejde om bekæmpelse af korruption, herunder initiativer i De Forenede Nationer, Verdensbanken, Den Internationale Valutafond, Verdenshandelsorganisationen WTO, Organisationen af Amerikanske Stater, OECD og Den Europæiske Union,

der erindrer om handlingsplanen mod korruption vedtaget af Europarådets Ministerkomité i november 1996 på opfordring fra den 19. europæiske justitsministerkonference (Valetta, 1994),

der i den forbindelse understreger vigtigheden af, at ikke-medlemsstater deltager i Europarådets tiltag mod korruption, og værdsætter deres betydningsfulde bidrag til udmøntningen af handlingsplanen mod korruption,

der endvidere minder om, at beslutning nr. 1 vedtaget af de europæiske justitsministre på deres 21. konference (Prag, 1997) opfordrede til en hurtig udmøntning af handlingsplanen mod korruption og i særdeleshed en fremskyndet vedta-