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## **Regional meeting discusses how private sector can help counter bribery**

GOOD PRACTICE FOR countering bribery in the Middle East business context was the main topic of discussion during a Transparency International regional workshop organised by Schema and supported by the Centre for International Private Enterprise, which was held recently in Amman. The workshop, which was entitled "Developing practices to build private sector integrity," was attended by business leaders and those concerned with integrity in the private sector with representation from across the region including Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine and Saudi Arabia. The workshop provided participants with a platform to examine issues related to the development and implementation of practical programmes for enhancing good governance and countering bribery. A key Transparency International initiative, the Business Principles for Countering Bribery was featured comprises a framework for good practice by companies in countering bribery and is supported by a suite of implementation tools. Peter Wilkinson, adviser to Transparency International on the Business Principles, said: "Transparency International is delighted to have had the opportunity to bring together companies from the region to explore how countering bribery can be promoted and developed by the private sector and thereby assist in the fight against corruption". Head of Schema, Maali Oasem, said: "This was a much needed workshop to enable those concerned with identifying the issues that need to be addressed and the best means of addressing these issues. Events such as this that allow for successful collaborations amidst the region."