

## **NEW ZEALAND TOPS LATEST GLOBAL ANTI-CORRUPTION INDEX**

### **Transparency International New Zealand (TINZ) research is investigating New Zealand's transparency and driving effort to remain best in the world.**

Wellington, 5 December 2012 – The Transparency International Secretariat in Berlin today released its annual Global Corruption Perceptions Index. The Index, which ranks the public sector of 176 countries across the world, has consistently shown New Zealand as a country with a strong reputation for clean government. For 2012 Denmark, Finland and New Zealand tie for first place helped by strong access to information systems and rules governing the behaviour of those in public positions.

While welcoming this recognition for New Zealand, the local chapter of Transparency International is promising that its newly launched National Integrity System assessment will provide a much more nuanced and detailed report on the country's vulnerability to corruption.

*“Our ambitious National Integrity System Assessment will give the most detailed answer yet to the question, ‘What factors cause New Zealand to rank consistently at the top?’”* Says Suzanne Snively Chair of TINZ and NIS Steering Group Co-Chair.

Snively continues, *“The NIS assessment is more ambitious and comprehensive than any previously conducted. The strong support we are receiving through funding agencies and participants indicates a commitment on the part of New Zealanders to remain a high trust society. New Zealanders are recognizing that not only is this ranking a source of pride, it represents a significant competitive advantage and economic benefits for New Zealand business.”*

New Zealand's high trust society is both a national treasure and an economic asset. Forbes magazine ranks New Zealand first on its most recent list of the Best Countries for Business thanks to a transparent and stable business climate. According to Phil O'Reilly Chief Executive of Business New Zealand *“New Zealand's high trust public sector is it's greatest competitive advantage.”*

The National Integrity System assessment will provide a measure on how well various state and non-state institutions contribute to preventing or mitigating corrupt activities.

Transparency International's research is running a ruler over institutions such as the media, Parliament, political parties, the judiciary, the public service, and the private sector. The

results will show where the integrity of New Zealand society and government is strongest and weakest.

The Corruption Perceptions Index 2012 has been calculated using an updated methodology. This has been developed following a comprehensive review and consultation process, both within the Transparency International movement and with the help of external experts. The updated methodology has been reviewed and validated by an independent statistical assessment.

The revised Corruption Perceptions Index methodology uses an approach that provides greater clarity on how the index is constructed, making it easier to trace how the data from the sources are rescaled for inclusion in the Index.

**Notes for Editors**

1. Media contact:

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2. Transparency International is a global civil society coalition leading the fight against corruption. It compiles a number of measures of different aspects of corruption including the Corruption Perceptions Index, the Global Corruption Barometer, and the Bribe Payers Index. Information on Transparency International can be found at [www.transparency.org](http://www.transparency.org) and detailed information on the Corruption Perceptions Index can be found at [www.transparency.org/cpi](http://www.transparency.org/cpi)

3. Transparency International New Zealand is the local chapter of Transparency International and is an independent registered charity. Information about TINZ, including the National Integrity System assessment can be found at [www.transparency.org.nz](http://www.transparency.org.nz).

*"New Zealand's high trust public sector is its greatest competitive advantage."*  
 Phil O'Reilly - Chief Executive of Business New Zealand



RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE
1	Denmark	90	81	South Africa	43	101	Guatemala	33	181	Tajikistan	22
2	Finland	90	82	South Africa	43	102	Niger	33	182	Dominican Republic	21
3	New Zealand	85	83	Cuba	42	103	Niger	33	183	Republic of the Congo	21
4	Sweden	85	84	Lebanon	42	104	Chad	32	184	Laos	21
5	Denmark	85	85	Paraguay	42	105	Equatorial Guinea	32	185	Libya	21
6	Denmark	85	86	Paraguay	42	106	Equatorial Guinea	32	186	Equatorial Guinea	20
7	Australia	85	87	Paraguay	42	107	Equatorial Guinea	32	187	Equatorial Guinea	20
8	Norway	85	88	Paraguay	42	108	Equatorial Guinea	32	188	Equatorial Guinea	20
9	Canada	84	89	Paraguay	42	109	Equatorial Guinea	32	189	Equatorial Guinea	20
10	Netherlands	84	90	Paraguay	42	110	Equatorial Guinea	32	190	Equatorial Guinea	20
11	Norway	83	91	Paraguay	42	111	Equatorial Guinea	32	191	Equatorial Guinea	20
12	Luxembourg	83	92	Paraguay	42	112	Equatorial Guinea	32	192	Equatorial Guinea	20
13	Germany	79	93	Paraguay	42	113	Equatorial Guinea	32	193	Equatorial Guinea	20
14	Hong Kong	77	94	Paraguay	42	114	Equatorial Guinea	32	194	Equatorial Guinea	20
15	Barbados	76	95	Paraguay	42	115	Equatorial Guinea	32	195	Equatorial Guinea	20
16	Japan	74	96	Paraguay	42	116	Equatorial Guinea	32	196	Equatorial Guinea	20
17	Belgium	74	97	Paraguay	42	117	Equatorial Guinea	32	197	Equatorial Guinea	20
18	United States	73	98	Paraguay	42	118	Equatorial Guinea	32	198	Equatorial Guinea	20
19	China	72	99	Paraguay	42	119	Equatorial Guinea	32	199	Equatorial Guinea	20
20	Uruguay	72	100	Paraguay	42	120	Equatorial Guinea	32	200	Equatorial Guinea	20
21	Bahrain	71	101	Paraguay	42	121	Equatorial Guinea	32	201	Equatorial Guinea	20
22	France	71	102	Paraguay	42	122	Equatorial Guinea	32	202	Equatorial Guinea	20