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Transparency International New Zealand

## **New Zealand Drops to 2nd in 2014's International Ranking as 'Least Corrupt Country'**

Transparency International today announced that Denmark has overtaken New Zealand to become the country with the lowest level of perceived corruption in the public sector in 2014.

The Corruption Perceptions Index 2014 ranks 175 countries on a scale of zero to 100.

New Zealand's score of 91 was pipped by Denmark who moved up one point from last year to 92. The perceived most corrupt countries were North Korea and Somalia, both with scores of 8, ranked 175.

Australia's score fell from 81 to 80 and its ranking fell from 10 to 11.

The scores were compiled prior to July 2014. This was just before New Zealand's election campaign.

"An obstacle to New Zealand leading the index is its failure to ratify the United Nations Convention Against Corruption (UNCAC) over the past 11 years, and which most countries have ratified," Transparency International New Zealand Chair Suzanne Snively said today.

"Our ability to ratify was delayed until the legislation required to deal with corruption offences was put in place.

"The long-awaited Organised Crime and Anti-Corruption Legislation Bill, an omnibus bill, recently had its first reading in Parliament and we are encouraged that the bill was referred unanimously to Select Committee as one of the first acts of Parliament following the election in October.

"We now need to ensure the Bill is fit for purpose and it reflects government, business and community commitment to being corruption-free."

Once this bill is introduced, ratification will also allow New Zealand to comply with the OECD Convention.

"Our ranking as number 2 most trusted public sector reinforces that there is still much more to do to protect our good reputation.

“This ranking of the public sector belies the fact that New Zealand companies are facing increased exposure to risks of corruption as we increase our trade and operate increasingly in countries where corruption practices exist.

“China’s score fell to 36, despite its Premier making anti-corruption a key priority and is ranked 100. India whose new leader has also made anti-corruption a priority, scored 38, ranking it at 85.

“These are countries that we are trading with more intensely and clearly their reputations are not as sound as ours.

“New Zealand companies are urged to take risks to New Zealand’s reputation seriously and to ensure their staff are supported with policies and guidelines.

“This is a fundamental matter of governance. Ensuring employees are supported to know what to do when faced with issues that could be corrupt, protects valued staff members and organisations from legal dilemmas and ensures safety nets are in place to support our firms who do business overseas to do good, honest business all the time.

“Free online self directed training is available to help on TINZ’s website. Overseas trading businesses are missing out on opportunities to improve their returns if they haven’t considered the impact of their involvement in corruption and if they don’t know the law and how it impacts them not using it”, Ms Snively said

The Chief Executive of Business NZ, Phil O’Reilly echoed Transparency International’s call for urgency on employers to train their staff to ensure the integrity of the country’s reputation.

“We must continually improve our anti-corruption performance in government as well as business to maintain the very best standards in the world,” Mr O’Reilly said.

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#### Notes for Editors

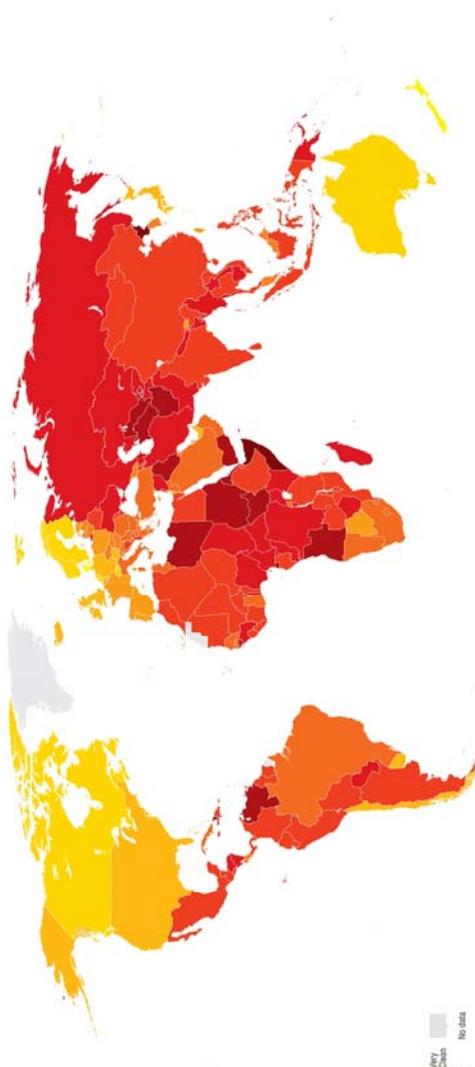
1. Media contact:  
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2. Transparency International is a global civil society coalition leading the fight against corruption. It compiles a number of measures of different aspects of corruption including the Corruption Perceptions Index, the Global Corruption 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).

*We must continually improve our anti-corruption performance in Government as well as Business to maintain the very best standards in the world. - Phil O'Reilly - Chief Executive of Business New Zealand*



# CORRUPTION PERCEPTIONS INDEX 2014

The perceived levels of public sector corruption in 175 countries/territories around the world.



RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE	RANK	COUNTRY/TERRITORY	SCORE
1	Denmark	92	21	Chile	73	41	Croatia	48	100	Algeria	36	136	Nigeria	27
2	New Zealand	91	22	Uruguay	72	42	Slovenia	48	101	China	36	137	Russia	27
3	Finland	89	23	Austria	72	43	Cuba	46	102	Suriname	36	138	Mozambique	27
4	Sweden	87	24	Bahrain	71	44	Korea (South)	57	103	Bolivia	35	139	Sierra Leone	27
5	Norway	86	25	United Arab Emirates	70	45	Oman	45	104	Mexico	35	140	Uganda	26
6	Switzerland	86	26	Estonia	69	46	The FYR of Macedonia	45	105	Morocco	35	141	Uganda	26
7	Singapore	84	27	France	69	47	Turkey	45	106	Mexico	35	142	Uganda	26
8	Netherlands	83	28	Costa Rica	68	48	Kuwait	44	107	Mexico	35	143	Uganda	26
9	Luxembourg	82	29	Oman	67	49	Saudi Arabia	43	108	Mexico	35	144	Uganda	26
10	Canada	81	30	Qatar	67	50	Brazil	43	109	Mexico	35	145	Uganda	26
11	Australia	80	31	Qatar	66	51	South Africa	43	110	Mexico	35	146	Uganda	26
12	Germany	79	32	Bhutan	65	52	Kenya	43	111	Mexico	35	147	Uganda	26
13	Ireland	79	33	Botswana	65	53	Kenya	43	112	Mexico	35	148	Uganda	26
14	United Kingdom	78	34	Oman	64	54	Kenya	43	113	Mexico	35	149	Uganda	26
15	Belgium	76	35	Portugal	63	55	Kenya	43	114	Mexico	35	150	Uganda	26
16	Japan	76	36	Puerto Rico	63	56	Kenya	43	115	Mexico	35	151	Uganda	26
17	Barbados	74	37	Poland	61	57	Kenya	43	116	Mexico	35	152	Uganda	26
18	Hong Kong	74	38	Taiwan	61	58	Kenya	43	117	Mexico	35	153	Uganda	26
19	Spain	74	39	Israel	60	59	Kenya	43	118	Mexico	35	154	Uganda	26
20	United States	74	40	Lebanon	58	60	Kenya	43	119	Mexico	35	155	Uganda	26
			41	Lithuania	58	61	Kenya	43	120	Mexico	35	156	Uganda	26
			42	Saudi Arabia	58	62	Kenya	43	121	Mexico	35	157	Uganda	26
			43	Latvia	58	63	Kenya	43	122	Mexico	35	158	Uganda	26
			44	Uruguay	58	64	Kenya	43	123	Mexico	35	159	Uganda	26
			45	Chile	58	65	Kenya	43	124	Mexico	35	160	Uganda	26
			46	Uruguay	58	66	Kenya	43	125	Mexico	35	161	Uganda	26
			47	Uruguay	58	67	Kenya	43	126	Mexico	35	162	Uganda	26
			48	Uruguay	58	68	Kenya	43	127	Mexico	35	163	Uganda	26
			49	Uruguay	58	69	Kenya	43	128	Mexico	35	164	Uganda	26
			50	Uruguay	58	70	Kenya	43	129	Mexico	35	165	Uganda	26
			51	Uruguay	58	71	Kenya	43	130	Mexico	35	166	Uganda	26
			52	Uruguay	58	72	Kenya	43	131	Mexico	35	167	Uganda	26
			53	Uruguay	58	73	Kenya	43	132	Mexico	35	168	Uganda	26
			54	Uruguay	58	74	Kenya	43	133	Mexico	35	169	Uganda	26
			55	Uruguay	58	75	Kenya	43	134	Mexico	35	170	Uganda	26
			56	Uruguay	58	76	Kenya	43	135	Mexico	35	171	Uganda	26
			57	Uruguay	58	77	Kenya	43	136	Mexico	35	172	Uganda	26
			58	Uruguay	58	78	Kenya	43	137	Mexico	35	173	Uganda	26
			59	Uruguay	58	79	Kenya	43	138	Mexico	35	174	Uganda	26
			60	Uruguay	58	80	Kenya	43	139	Mexico	35	175	Uganda	26

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