



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

TI-USA Applauds G8 Accountability Report on Corruption despite Concerns with G8 Performance

Washington, July 8, 2008 – Transparency International USA (TI-USA) welcomed today’s publication by the Group of Eight (G8) of its *Accountability Report: Implementation Review of G8 Anti-Corruption Commitments*, while noting the many areas in which G8 performance fell short of past pledges. The report caps a two year campaign by TI national chapters for G8 leaders to report on their progress since the 2002 Kananaskis Summit.

“We are pleased that the G8 have taken this step toward greater transparency and accountability, and welcome their commitment to report annually on progress” said Nancy Boswell, President and CEO of Transparency International USA. “However, the report highlights just how much remains to be done by the G8 to get their own house in order.”

While the report provides scant information on key deficiencies — such as the United Kingdom’s failure to fully enforce the ban on foreign bribery or Germany’s failure to ratify the UN Convention against Corruption — it is unprecedented and provides a basis for dialogue on how to move forward. The U.S. Administration played a key role in introducing the theme of accountability theme into the Summit discussions and also helped secure G8 participation in the accountability report.

The report provides a brief self-assessment by G8 member countries on the status of implementation of anti-corruption commitments in eight priority areas:

- Fighting foreign corporate bribery (the OECD Anti-Bribery Convention),
- Adopting a global legal framework against corruption (the UN Convention Against Corruption),
- Increasing transparency and protecting financial markets from abuse
- Recovering of stolen assets
- Denying safe haven to corrupt individuals and their assets,
- Fighting money laundering,
- Promoting financial and revenue transparency in trade and procurement
- Supporting good governance in Africa

###

Transparency International is the global civil society organization leading the fight against corruption. Transparency International USA is its Washington, D.C. based U.S. chapter.

Media Contact: Patrick J. McCormick, 202.589.1616; pmccormick@transparency-usa.org