CORRUPTION AND ECONOMIC CRIME BRANCH
ANTI-CORRUPTION UPDATE

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Fifth Session Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Vienna, 2-6 June 2014)
- Fifth Intersessional Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Prevention (Vienna, 8-10 September 2014)
- Eighth Intersessional Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery (Vienna, 11-12 September 2014)
- Resumed Fifth Session Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (Vienna, 13-17 October 2014)

Message from the Chief

As we begin another year, let me again express my most sincere appreciation to everyone who made the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held from 25 to 29 November 2013 in Panama City, such a success. The tireless support of the host country, Panama, was immeasurable and the many months of planning, preparation and coordination resulted in significant achievements and key policy decisions by the Conference. In addition to the plenary sessions, there were 25 special events held during the week, as well as sessions of the Open-Ended Intergovernmental Expert Meeting to Enhance International Cooperation and the Implementation Review Group. The size, level and scope of the Conference demonstrated the global resolve to eliminate corruption, promote transparency and foster a climate of integrity in the public and private sectors. As we already begin to make preparations for the next Conference, to be hosted by the Russian Federation, as well as the beginning of the Second Cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism, let me assure you that UNODC will continue to provide its full support to meeting requests for technical assistance to further full implementation of the UNCAC.

With my best wishes and warmest regards for the new year,

Dimitri Vlassis, Chief, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC

JAKARTA STATEMENT ON ANTI-CORRUPTION AGENCIES AND KUALA LUMPUR STATEMENT ON ANTI-CORRUPTION STRATEGIES

In November 2012, the Corruption Eradication Commission of Indonesia (KPK) together with UNDP and UNODC brought together heads of several anti-corruption agencies and experienced practitioners from around the globe who developed a set of principles on anti-corruption agencies, the Jakarta Statement on Principles for Anti-Corruption Agencies. In October 2013, the Government of Malaysia, together with UNODC and UNDP, invited high-level officials from planning and anti-corruption authorities from across Asia who elaborated guidelines for the process, content and implementation mechanism of anti-corruption strategies, the Kuala Lumpur Statement on Anti-Corruption Strategies. Both statements were extensively referred to in presentations and in special events during COSP, were distributed as conference room papers and were reflected in Resolution 5/4 “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption.”
Launching a study on match-fixing and illegal/irregular betting

At a special event during the fifth session of the Conference of the States Parties, a study on “Criminalization approaches to combat match-fixing and illegal/irregular betting: a global perspective” was officially presented as a joint project of UNODC and the International Olympic Committee. The study was very well received as a first step towards improving Member States’ response to the problem. It compiles relevant criminal legal provisions from various countries in different regions, identifying discrepancies and similarities, and thereby suggests guiding principles and model provisions for creating and/or updating relevant offences to facilitate international cooperation. At this special event, the Russian Federation also presented their proposal to create a multi-stakeholder global alliance for integrity in sports and UNODC launched a handbook entitled The United Nations Convention against Corruption: a Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events.

UNODC delivers customized training to Saudi experts

As part of its capacity-building activities, UNODC organized a three-day customized training for Saudi government officials and experts participating in the Implementation Review Mechanism for the UNCAC in collaboration with the Saudi National Anti-Corruption Commission (Nazaha). The training, which took place in Riyadh 7 to 9 October 2013, included the judiciary, Public Prosecution, Ministry of Interior, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, SAMA (Saudi Arabian Monetary Agency), Board of Grievances, National Anti-Corruption Commission and the private sector (Council of Saudi Chambers and SABIC - Saudi Basic Industries Corporation). This training helped develop the participants’ ability to participate in the UNCAC Review Mechanism and provided participants with the requisite substantive expertise in UNCAC provisions to undergo and perform reviews.

Training Iraqi officials in financial investigation

In the framework of a project supported by the Bureau of International Narcotics and Law Enforcement (INL) at the US Department of State, designed to support Iraqi efforts to ensure effectiveness in the fight against corruption by strengthening adherence to UNCAC standards, UNODC, in collaboration with the Iraqi Commission of Integrity, conducted two training courses for Iraqi national authorities on “financial investigations in support of asset recovery,” held in Baghdad 9 to 12 September and 11 to 13 November 2013, as part of a series of training sessions to be delivered in 2013-2014. The training courses were attended by officials from the judiciary, the Commission of Integrity, Ministry of Interior, Financial Intelligence Unit and the Central Bank addressing practical aspects of financial investigation, tracing funds, linking money to the crime and perpetrator(s), as well as aspects of international cooperation regarding freezing, confiscation and recovery of assets.

New publications by UNODC

- The United Nations Convention against Corruption: A Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events
- An Anti-Corruption Ethics and Compliance Programme for Business: A Practical Guide
- Guidebook on Anti-Corruption in Public Procurement and the Management of Public Finances
- Resource Guide on State Measures for Strengthening Corporate Integrity
- Reporting on Corruption: A Resource Tool for Governments and Journalists

For these and additional tools and publications, please see: http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/publications.html