



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

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INFORMATION CIRCULAR

Information for Permanent Missions to the United Nations
(Vienna and New York)

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime presents its compliments to the permanent missions and permanent observer missions to the United Nations (Vienna and New York) and has the honour to draw the attention of the Governments to General Assembly resolution 58/4 of 31 October 2003 entitled “United Nations Convention against Corruption”.

Pursuant to article 63 of the Convention, a Conference of the States Parties to the Convention has been established to improve the capacity of and cooperation between States Parties and to promote and review the implementation of this Convention.

The purpose of this circular is to provide updated information to Member States on progress in the preparation of the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties.

In its decision 3/1 entitled “Venues for the fourth and fifth sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference welcomed the offer of the Government of Morocco to act as host to the fourth session of the Conference and decided that its fourth session will be held in Morocco in 2011. The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime undertook a planning mission at the invitation of the Government of Morocco from 23 to 27 January 2011. The purpose of the planning mission was to examine the adequacy of facilities proposed by the Government of Morocco at the venue of the fourth session and consult with the Government in relation to the conclusion of a host country agreement. The formal invitations to the Conference will be issued once this host country agreement is signed by the Government of Morocco and UNODC. At this time, the Office wishes to inform the Governments that the **fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, subject to the finalization and signature of the host country agreement, will be held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 24 to 28 October 2011.**

Making the world safer from drugs, crime and terrorism

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Pursuant to the decisions taken by the Conference at its third session, the Conference is expected to concentrate on key issues regarding review of the implementation of the Convention, asset recovery, prevention and technical assistance. Furthermore, the Office is pleased to inform you that the Host Government is eager to accentuate the relevance of the Conference to technical assistance matters. In this connection, the Host Government suggested that the focus of the general discussion at the Conference be on the prevention and fight against corruption and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals. This would be in line with paragraph 52 of the outcome document of the High-Level Meeting of the General Assembly on the Millennium Development Goals at its sixty-fifth session, adopted by the Assembly by resolution 65/1. In keeping with past practice, the general discussion of the Conference will serve as an opportunity for high-level representatives to address the Conference, providing guidance for its deliberations and the achievement of its objectives. In view of the importance given by the host Government to the event, the significance of the matters to be discussed by the Conference and the need to reach key decisions, Governments are encouraged to be represented at the highest possible political level and include in their delegations policymakers and experts on the issues to be covered by the Conference.

Further details regarding the Conference will be contained in the official invitations and a note with information for participants will be issued in the near future.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime also wishes to inform the Governments that the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties will be preceded by the Annual Conference and General Meeting of the International Association of International Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), which the Government of Morocco will also be hosting. This event will be held in Marrakech from 22 to 23 October 2011.

14 April 2011

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of a stylized, cursive script that appears to be the initials 'JG' or similar, enclosed within a circular flourish.