Implementation Review Group
Fifth session
Vienna, 2-6 June 2014

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
   (a) Opening of the session;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.


4. Technical assistance.

5. Financial and budgetary matters.

6. Other matters.

7. Provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Implementation Review Group.

8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its fifth session.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters
   (a) Opening of the session

   The fifth session of the Implementation Review Group will be convened on Monday, 2 June 2014, at 10 a.m. in C Building, Boardroom D.
(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the session was prepared in accordance with resolution 3/1, entitled “Review mechanism”, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its third session, and with decision 5/1, entitled “Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, adopted by the Conference at its fifth session.

The proposed organization of work (see annex) was prepared in line with the guidance provided by the Conference and by the Implementation Review Group.

2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Drawing of lots

Pursuant to paragraphs 14 and 19 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, lots are to be drawn to determine which States parties will participate in the reviews. In its resolution 4/1, the Conference endorsed the practice followed by the Implementation Review Group with regard to the procedural issues arising from the drawing of lots. Following a request from the Group at its fourth session, the secretariat prepared a compilation of procedural requirements and practice regarding the drawing of lots for the Conference at its fifth session (CAC/COSP/2013/16).

At its first session, the Implementation Review Group drew lots for the States parties to be reviewed in the first review cycle and decided that States ratifying or acceding to the Convention after the drawing of lots would be reviewed starting in the fourth year of the current review cycle. On the second day of the fifth session of the Group, lots will be drawn to select the States parties reviewing the States parties under review in the fourth year of the current review cycle that became parties to the Convention since the last drawing of lots, held at the resumed fourth session of the Group.1

Progress report

Pursuant to paragraph 25 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the schedule and requirements of each country review should be established by the secretariat in consultation with the reviewing States parties and the State party under review and should address all issues relevant to the review. The guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews set out indicative timelines for the conduct of reviews. In its resolution 4/1, the Conference urged States parties participating in the country review process in a given year to make every possible effort to adhere to the indicative timelines for review as contained in the guidelines.

In order to provide the Implementation Review Group with an overview of issues identified during individual country reviews and to seek guidance on addressing challenges encountered during the conduct of reviews, the secretariat has compiled information on the conduct of the reviews of the current cycle, as well as lessons

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1 At the time of writing those States are the Czech Republic and Oman. Other States may have ratified or acceded to the Convention by the fifth session of the Group.
learned and information on activities undertaken to assist States parties participating in the review process.

With a view to improving the comprehensive self-assessment checklist for the second cycle of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat prepared a draft outline of the flow of questions and the proposed thematic structure of the revised self-assessment checklist for reviewing chapters II and V of the Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/2013/3) and a draft revised self-assessment checklist for the second cycle of the Review Mechanism (CAC/COSP/2013/CRP.6) for the Conference at its fifth session. The secretariat solicited comments on those documents and a compilation of the responses received will be made available in conference room paper CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/CRP.1. In addition, the secretariat will provide an oral report on the comments received.

In line with past practice and taking into account the views expressed by the Group on the usefulness of holding trilateral meetings between States parties under review and reviewing States parties in the ongoing individual country review processes for advancing the review of implementation in order to achieve progress and discuss outstanding issues, the secretariat has made arrangements under this agenda item for scheduling such trilateral meetings on the fourth day of the session.

Outcome of reviews

Pursuant to paragraph 35 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat should compile the most common and relevant information on successes, good practices, challenges, observations and technical assistance needs contained in the country review reports and include them, organized by theme, in a thematic implementation report and regional supplementary addenda, for submission to the Group.

The thematic implementation reports and regional addenda should serve as the basis for the analytical work of the Group. On the basis of its deliberations, the Group should submit recommendations and conclusions to the Conference for its consideration and approval.

Thematic reports on chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention should contain the relevant information reflected in the country review reports. The thematic reports reflect the additional information obtained through the individual country review processes, because those reports are prepared on an ongoing basis. Reports containing updated information will be submitted to the Group at its fifth session in all the official languages of the United Nations.

As requested in Conference resolution 5/2, entitled “Strengthening the implementation of the criminalization provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, in particular with regard to solicitation”, the secretariat will provide a short oral report to the Group concerning the progress made and the challenges encountered in the implementation of that resolution.

Further to the discussions held under this item at the resumed fourth session of the Group, a thematic overview of the recommendations made in the reviews will be made available to the Group to facilitate its substantive deliberations (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/10). The focal points of States parties that have completed
their reviews have also been requested to provide additional information on the successes and good practices identified in their country review reports.

Pursuant to paragraph 36 of the terms of reference, the executive summaries of the country review reports finalized by the fifth session will be translated into the six official languages of the United Nations and will be made available as documents of the Implementation Review Group for information purposes only.

In order to focus the discussion under this agenda item, two panels will be organized on review of implementation of the Convention.

Documentation

Progress report on the implementation of the mandates of the Implementation Review Group: note by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/4)

Implementation of chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (review of articles 15-29): thematic report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/6)

Implementation of chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (review of articles 30-42): thematic report prepared by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/7)


Report prepared by the Secretariat on regional implementation of chapter III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and Chapter IV (International cooperation) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/9)

Implementation of chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: thematic overview of recommendations (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/10)

Responses received on the revised self-assessment checklist (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/CRP.1)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/1/1/1/Add.17)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/1/2/1/Add.22-26)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/1/3/1/Add.5-10)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/1/4/1)


In its decision 5/1, the Conference decided that the Group should include a new item on the agenda of its future sessions allowing for discussion of relevant information, collected with the support of the secretariat, in order to facilitate the assessment of performance of the Review Mechanism and its terms of reference, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the terms of reference, following the completion of the first review cycle.
Also in that decision, the Conference decided that, in the collection of such information, the Group should take into account future requirements for follow-up in accordance with paragraphs 40 and 41 of the terms of reference.

In order to support the collection of information, as requested by the Conference, the secretariat has solicited contributions from States. A compilation of the responses received will be made available in conference room paper CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/CRP.2. In addition, the secretariat will provide a short oral update on the responses received.

Documentation

Responses received to facilitate discussions on the assessment of performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and its terms of reference (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/CRP.2)

4. Technical assistance

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group would be in charge of following up and continuing the work undertaken previously by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance.

Paragraph 44 of the terms of reference states that the functions of the Implementation Review Group are to have an overview of the review process in order to identify challenges and good practices and to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference took into account that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, one of the goals of the Review Mechanism was to help States parties to identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance and to promote and facilitate the provision of technical assistance.

Also in that resolution, the Conference recognized the continuing and valuable role of technical assistance within the Review Mechanism, as well as the importance of country-led and country-based integrated and coordinated programming and delivery of technical assistance as an effective means of addressing technical assistance needs of States parties. Further in that resolution, the Conference requested the secretariat to continue to develop a three-tiered approach — global, regional and national — to the delivery of technical assistance in the light of the priority areas identified as a result of the review process.

The note by the Secretariat on technical assistance (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/2) contains consolidated information on priority areas in technical assistance and activities undertaken by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to support implementation of the Convention at the global, regional and national levels. An analysis of technical assistance needs related to chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention as emerging from the country review reports and executive summaries thereto is contained in document CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/3.

In order to focus the discussion under this agenda item, two panels will be organized on technical assistance needs emerging from country reviews and progress made in responding to those needs.
5. **Financial and budgetary matters**

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference underlined that the Review Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning. Pursuant to that resolution, the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/237, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Review Mechanism was adequately funded.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should assist it in the fulfilment of its responsibility to consider the budget biennially by engaging with the Secretariat during the intersessional period with regard to expenditures and projected costs related to the Review Mechanism.

At its fifth session, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing budgetary information on expenditures incurred so far for the first four years of operation of the Review Mechanism, resources received for the same period, both from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions, and projected expenditures for the fifth year.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on financial resources (CAC/COSP/IRG/2014/5)

6. **Other matters**

In its resolution 4/6, entitled “Non-governmental organizations and the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference decided that briefings for non-governmental organizations would be convened on the margins of the sessions of the Implementation Review Group and conducted by the secretariat in cooperation with a member of the bureau. The Group will receive a summary of the briefings, which are to be held on Thursday, 5 June 2014, on the margins of the fifth session.

**7. Provisional agenda for the sixth session of the Implementation Review Group**

The Implementation Review Group is to consider and approve, at its fifth session, a provisional agenda for its sixth session, which will be drafted by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

**8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its fifth session**

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its fifth session, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.
Annex

**Proposed organization of work**

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