



UNITED NATIONS
Office on Drugs and Crime

Reference: CU 2008/39 (Generic)

..... The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments [to the Permanent Representative of (...) to the United Nations (Vienna)] and has the honour to draw the attention of the Government to resolution 1/1 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its first session and resolution 2/1 adopted at its second session, on "Review of implementation". The resolutions are attached for your ease of reference.

In accordance with these resolutions, the mechanism to assist the Conference in the review of the implementation of the Convention should have a range of characteristics and reflect a series of important principles.

The Conference in resolution 2/1 tasked the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Review of the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, taking into account these characteristics and principles, to prepare terms of reference for a review mechanism for consideration, action and possible adoption by the Conference at its third session. In the same resolution, the Conference calls upon States parties and signatory States to submit proposals to the Working Group for the terms of reference of the mechanism for consideration by the Working Group and requests the Secretariat to assist the Working Group in the performance of its functions.

In order to prepare for the next meeting of the Working Group in a timely manner, so as to enable the Secretariat to consolidate the responses received, the Secretary-General would be grateful if the Government would provide UNODC its views and proposals, at its earliest convenience, but not later than **1 July 2008**.

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..... In order to facilitate the exercise, the Secretariat has attached a list of the agreed upon characteristics and principles of the future review mechanism to assist countries in formulating their proposals, possibly by elaborating on their understanding of how these principles could translate into the terms of reference of the full-fledged review mechanism.

29 April 2008

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be the initials 'SR'.

List of characteristics and principles of the review mechanism in accordance with Conference resolutions 1/1 and 2/1:

1. Be transparent, efficient, non-intrusive, inclusive and impartial
2. Not produce any form of ranking
3. Provide opportunities to share good practices and challenges
4. Complement existing international and regional review mechanisms in order that the Conference may, as appropriate, cooperate with them and avoid duplication of effort
5. Objective to assist States parties in the effective implementation of the Convention
6. Take into account a balanced geographical approach
7. Be non-adversarial and non-punitive and promote universal adherence to the Convention
8. Base its work on clear, established guidelines for the compilation, production and dissemination of information, including addressing issues of confidentiality and submission of the outcome to the Conference, which is the competent body to take action on such outcome
9. Identify, at the earliest stage possible, difficulties encountered by parties in the fulfilment of their obligations under the Convention and good practices adopted in efforts by States parties to implement the Convention
10. Be of a technical nature and promote a constructive collaboration, inter alia, in preventive measures, asset recovery and international cooperation