Open-ended intergovernmental working group on the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto
Vienna, 17-19 May 2011
Agenda item 4
Terms of reference for a review mechanism or mechanisms, guidelines for governmental experts and a blueprint for the country review reports: proposals and initiatives of States parties and signatories

Revised draft blueprint for country review reports and executive summaries

Review by [names of reviewing States] of the implementation by [name of State under review] of article(s) [number(s) of articles] of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime [and articles [numbers] of the Protocols thereto] for the review cycle [time frame]

I. Introduction

1. The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime was established pursuant to article 32 of the Convention to, inter alia, promote and review the implementation of the Convention.

2. The mechanism is to be established in accordance with article 32, in particular paragraphs 3 and 4, of the Convention, as well as article 37, of the Convention and article 1, paragraph 2, of each of the Protocols, and pursuant to article 4, paragraph 1, of the Convention, which states that States parties shall carry out their obligations under the Convention in a manner consistent with the principles of sovereign equality and territorial integrity of States and of non-intervention in the domestic affairs of other States.
3. The review mechanism is an intergovernmental process whose overall goal is to assist States parties in implementing the Convention and, where applicable, the Protocols thereto.

4. The review process is based on the terms of reference of the mechanism.

II. Process

5. The following review of the implementation by [name of State under review] of the Convention and its Protocols is based on the response to the comprehensive self-assessment checklist received from [name of State under review], and any supplementary information provided in accordance with paragraph 28 of the terms of reference and the outcome of the constructive dialogue between the governmental experts from [names of the two reviewing States and the State under review] conducted by means of [telephone conferences, videoconferences, e-mail exchanges or any further means of direct dialogue in accordance with the terms of reference] and involving [names of experts involved].

[Optional: 6. A country visit, agreed to by [name of State under review], was conducted from [date] to [date].]

Or

[A joint meeting between [name of State under review] and [names of reviewing States] was held at the United Nations Office at Vienna from [date] to [date].]

III. Executive summary

7. [Summary of the following:
   (a) Successes and good practices;
   (b) Challenges in implementation, where applicable;
   (c) Observations on the implementation of the articles under review;
   (d) Technical assistance needs identified to improve implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.]

IV. Implementation of the Convention and its Protocols

A. Ratification of the Convention and its Protocols [where applicable]

8. [Name of State under review] signed the Convention on [date] and ratified it on [date]. [Name of State under review] deposited its instrument of ratification with the Secretary-General on [date].

[Same information regarding the Protocols to which the State is a party]

9. The implementing legislation — in other words, the [title of act ratifying the Convention] — was adopted by [name of national legislative body] on [date], entered into force on [date] and was published in [name, number and date of official}
publication communicating adoption of the act]. The implementing legislation includes [summary of ratification legislation].

B. Legal system of [name of State under review]

10. Article [number of article] of the Constitution states that [discuss whether treaties are self-executing or require implementing legislation, where the Convention fits into the hierarchy of law, etc.].

C. Implementation of selected articles of the Convention

Article [number of article]
[Title of article]
[Text of the article, in an indented block quotation]

1. Summary of information relevant to reviewing the implementation of the article

11. [Information provided by the State under review through the comprehensive self-assessment checklist and any supplementary information provided in accordance with paragraph 28 of the terms of reference and in the context of the constructive dialogue.]

2. Observations on the implementation of the article

12. [Observations of the governmental experts with regard to the implementation of the article. Depending on the scope of the review cycle, findings with respect to the way in which national law has been brought into line with the article and with respect to the implementation of the article in practice.]

13. [Observations on the status of implementation of the article, including successes, good practices and challenges in implementation.]

3. Successes and good practices

14. [Identification of successes and good practices in implementing the article, where applicable.]

4. Challenges, where applicable

15. [Identification of any challenges in implementation, where applicable.]

5. Technical assistance needs

16. [Identification of technical assistance needs, priorities and actions to improve implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, where applicable.]

D. Implementation of selected articles of the Protocol on [name]

[Follow a structure and narrative similar to that of previous section.]