

28 October 2013

English only

**Working Group of Government Experts
on Technical Assistance****Seventh session**

Vienna, 28-30 October 2013

Item 5 of the provisional agenda*

Other matters**Proposal for a multi-year workplan for the Working Group
on Technical Assistance for the future sessions****Proposal by the Chair of the Working Group****I. Introduction**

1. In its resolution 2/6, the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (UNTOC) decided to establish an open-ended interim working group, in accordance with Article 32, paragraph 3 of the UNTOC to advise and assist it in the implementation of its mandate on technical assistance and to develop an information base for assessing challenges in implementing the Convention and the Protocols thereto.
2. In accordance with articles 29 and 30 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, States parties shall promote technical assistance and training in order to further the objectives of the Convention. Technical assistance is essential to ensuring the effective implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto.
3. Since its third session, the Conference has adopted several decisions and resolutions on technical assistance, as well as endorsed the recommendations of this Working Group. Following these recommendations, different forms of technical assistance were provided, including legislative support, capacity-building (workshops and seminars, training activities for experts) and tools (handbooks, model laws, manuals for practitioners) through the global and regional programmes.

* CTOC/COP/WG.2/2013/1.



4. In accordance with the decision 4/3 of the Conference, from 17 October 2008, the Working Group on Technical Assistance should be a constant element of the Conference. Intersessional meetings of the Working Group on Technical Assistance could take place, upon a decision of the Conference.

II. Proposal for a multi-year workplan

5. The Working Group on Technical Assistance may wish to consider a multi-year workplan for its future meetings.

6. Prior to the sessions of the Working Group, States parties shall be invited to share their experiences in the implementation of the provisions under consideration, by using the Omnibus survey software, including successes, challenges, technical assistance needs and lessons learned in implementation.

7. The States parties shall be invited to update the information provided through the Omnibus survey software on a regular basis. The States parties shall further be invited to appoint focal points for the provision of the information and communicate to the Secretariat the contact details of those focal points to facilitate and expedite direct communication.

8. In advance of each meeting, the Secretariat shall prepare background papers for topics under discussion, based on the inputs from States parties, specifically as they relate to initiatives and good practices. These background papers should synthesize the approaches taken by States parties in their different contexts, presenting the broad options and typologies of approach that have been used, and drawing attention to any common issues arising or lessons identified by States parties.

9. During the Working Group meetings, panel discussions will be held, involving experts from countries that have provided written responses on the topics under discussion.

10. The Working Group on Technical Assistance may wish to consider the following structured approach for its future sessions:

8th session (2014) — Criminalization cluster

Art. 5 Convention: Criminalization of participation in an organized criminal group

Art. 6 Convention: Criminalization of the laundering of proceeds of crime

Art. 10 Convention: Liability of legal persons

Art. 23 Convention: Criminalization of obstruction of justice;

9th session — Research, policy and preventive measures cluster

Art. 28: Convention: Collection, exchange and analysis of information on the nature of organized crime

Art. 31: Convention: Prevention;

10th session — Assistance and protection measures cluster

Art. 24 Convention: Protection of witnesses

Art. 25 Convention: Assistance to and protection of victims

Art. 26 Convention: Measures to enhance cooperation with law enforcement authorities;

11th session — Law enforcement cluster

Art. 19 Convention: Joint investigations

Art. 20 Convention: Special investigative techniques

Art. 27 Convention: Law enforcement cooperation.
