



# Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

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## Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance

Seventh session

Vienna, 28-30 October 2013

### Annotated provisional agenda

#### Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
  - (a) Opening of the meeting;
  - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime.
3. Establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors and members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination.
4. Assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.
5. Other matters.
6. Adoption of the report.

#### Annotations

1. **Organizational matters**
  - (a) **Opening of the meeting**

The seventh session of the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance will begin on Monday, 28 October 2013, at 10 a.m.



**(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

At its meeting on 22 February 2013, the extended Bureau of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime agreed that the remaining meetings for the Working Group on the Review of Implementation of the Organized Crime Convention and the Protocols Thereto would be reallocated to the Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance. At its meeting on 18 April 2013, the extended Bureau agreed on the provisional agenda for the meeting, prepared on the basis of the list of topics contained in Conference resolution 6/4 on implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

At its meeting on 22 February, the extended Bureau also decided that a note verbale would be circulated by the Secretariat to all Member States inviting them to complete the omnibus survey software on a voluntary basis, and that the note would refer briefly to the various technical assistance tools developed by the Secretariat, such as the knowledge management portal, the needs assessment guide and others. It was noted that the information thus gathered could be considered by the Working Group on Technical Assistance at its seventh session, when States could also share their experiences in relevant areas. The Secretariat will make this information available to the Working Group, through either a presentation or a conference room paper.

**2. Assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime**

In its report to the third session of the Conference, the Working Group on Technical Assistance made recommendations to the Conference on priorities for technical assistance, including assistance relating to the implementation of the provisions on witness protection, noting that that was an area covered not only by the Protocols but also by the Convention. This recommendation was endorsed by the Conference in its decision 3/4 (see CTOC/COP/2006/14).

For its consideration of this item, the Working Group will have before it a discussion paper on assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime.

The Secretariat will present to the Working Group an outline of the various means of protection that may be afforded to witnesses and victims within the judicial system before, during and after criminal proceedings.

**Documentation**

Discussion paper by the Secretariat on assistance, good practices and comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2013/2)

**3. Establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors, members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination**

In its resolution 6/1 on ensuring the effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto, the Conference requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), inter alia, to continue providing technical assistance to support and complement national, regional and thematic programmes and activities based on the needs and priorities of Member States in combating transnational organized crime.

For its consideration of this item, the Working Group will have before it a discussion paper on the establishment of capacity-building programmes for prosecutors, members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies.

The Secretariat will present to the Working Group selected examples of effective technical assistance initiatives introduced through UNODC programmes.

**Documentation**

Discussion paper by the Secretariat on establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors and members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2013/3)

**4. Assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto**

In accordance with article 33 of the Organized Crime Convention, the Secretariat is to assist the Conference in carrying out the activities set forth in article 32, namely, inter alia, facilitating activities by States parties under articles 29 to 31 on training and technical assistance, implementation of the Convention through economic development and technical assistance, and prevention.

In its resolution 5/6, the Conference requested UNODC to consider, in consultation with Member States, the development of specific tools, such as best practices, legislative guidelines and model provisions, that would help Member States to apply, where appropriate, the provisions of the Convention to new forms and dimensions of transnational organized crime within the scope of the Convention that are of common concern to States parties.

Furthermore, in its report to the fourth session of the Conference, the Working Group requested UNODC to submit to the Conference proposals for specific technical assistance including in the areas of providing legal expertise and legislative assistance in key areas of the Convention and its Protocols and developing legislative tools and training material to build the capacity of the criminal justice system. Proposals by UNODC to define common regional approaches to legislative reform and to address the need to cover emerging forms of crime in national legislation were noted with appreciation by the Conference in its decision 4/3 (see CTOC/COP/2008/19).

For its consideration of this item, the Working Group will have before it a discussion paper on assistance provided by UNODC in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto.

The Secretariat will present to the Working Group examples of approaches adopted for legislative reform and harmonization, as well as progress in the areas of regional approaches, development of legislative reform strategies and legislative responses to emerging forms of crime.

**Documentation**

Discussion paper by the Secretariat on assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/WG.2/2013/4)

**6. Adoption of the report**

The Working Group will adopt a report on its meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the Secretariat.

## Annex

### Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Agenda item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
<b>Monday, 28 October</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3-6 p.m.	2	Assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime
	2	Assistance, good practices and the comparison of national legislation in the area of identifying and protecting victims of and witnesses to organized crime ( <i>continued</i> )
	3	Establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors and members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination
<b>Tuesday, 29 October</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	3	Establishing capacity-building programmes for prosecutors and members of the judiciary and law enforcement agencies, including to enhance inter-agency cooperation and coordination ( <i>continued</i> )
3-6 p.m.	4	Assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto
<b>Wednesday, 30 October</b>		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	4	Assistance in harmonizing national legislation with the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto ( <i>continued</i> )
3-6 p.m.	5	Other matters
	6	Adoption of the report