

Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Group Meeting on Protection against Trafficking in Cultural Property, Vienna, Austria, 24-26 November 2009

The open-ended intergovernmental expert group Meeting on Protection against Trafficking in Cultural Property is convened pursuant to Economic and Social Council resolutions 2004/34 and 2008/23, entitled "Protection against trafficking in cultural property".

In resolution 2008/23, the Economic and Social Council requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene the open-ended intergovernmental expert group meeting and to submit to the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice relevant recommendations on protection against trafficking in cultural property, including ways of making the model treaty for the prevention of crimes that infringe on the cultural heritage of peoples in the form of movable property,¹ more effective.

Proposed organization of work

The open-ended intergovernmental expert group will have at its disposal a total of six meetings, from Tuesday, 24 to Thursday, 26 November 2009. The suggested meeting times are from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. and from 3 to 6 p.m.

In order to facilitate deliberations, and enable the formulation of recommendations as requested in the abovementioned resolution 2008/23, the discussions will be structured under the following indicative headings, which will be considered sequentially:

1. Existing international instruments and mechanisms for their implementation, including their assessment from the perspective of crime prevention.;
2. Preventive measures;
3. Criminalization;
4. International cooperation;
5. Awareness-raising, capacity building and technical assistance;
6. Other aspects relevant to the protection against ~~of~~ trafficking in cultural property, such as the use of new technologies;
7. Recommendations.

¹ *Eighth United Nations Congress on the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Havana, 27 August-7 September 1990: report prepared by the Secretariat* (United Nations publication, Sales No. E.91.IV.2), chap. I, sect. B.1.