

Oral Report of Group C oral report to the 4th Session to the ADHC

Co-Facilitators: H.E. Mr. Rapulane Sydney Molekane, Ambassador and Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations, Vienna, and Mr. Eric Do Val Lacerda Sogocio, Counsellor, Permanent Mission of Brazil to the United Nations, Vienna, and Vice-Chair of the Ad Hoc Committee

1. Thank you Madam Chair for the opportunity to report to the committee on the informal consultations held under Group C on the Use of Terms.
2. I also take this opportunity, on behalf of South Africa and Brazil, to thank delegations for their support and constructive engagement during the consultations.
3. As tasked by the Chair, the co-facilitated informal consultations on the provision on the use of terms in the Consolidated Negotiating Document held **3** open-ended meetings during the fourth session of the Ad Hoc Committee on **16, 18 and 19 January 2023**. They were very well attended, and we also had the opportunity to hold bilateral meetings with interested delegations.
4. The first meeting deliberated on the proposed methodology which was supported by Member States. Delegations were requested to present their views on the sources of data used by investigators and prosecutors for investigation and prosecution of crimes to be defined by the convention. Thereafter, the facilitators proposed terms from the CND and draft definitions from the existing international and regional instruments and the most recent UNODC Model Law on Legal Cooperation.
5. While delegations expressed different views on the first terms examined, the co-facilitators were encouraged by the cooperative atmosphere and the constructive proposals made. Delegations also took the opportunity to clarify technical aspects involved in some definitions.
6. It was understood that this initial exchange of views is without prejudice to the future informal discussion of all terms that delegations deem important; and would need to be conducted with due consideration of the progress of negotiations on relevant provisions by the Ad Hoc Committee in its plenary meetings.

7. We are of the view that continuing the exchanges on the use of terms ahead of, during and beyond the 5th session is important, given that finding a common understanding on key terms may facilitate consensus on several provisions throughout the text of the future convention.
8. We are cognizant that a final agreement on the definition of terms may become possible once there is clarity about both the scope of each chapter of the future convention and some of the drafting choices by the Ad Hoc Committee.
9. The proposals and views made during our meetings were circulated among governmental delegates and we look forward to further discussions.
10. Finally, Madam Chair, we intend to continue with the informal consultation in a hybrid or virtual form. Also, we will be engaging Multistakeholders as soon as possible.

Thank you. ***