
Working document

Revised Preamble

(Status as of 28 January 2024 with revisions made by the Chair)

The States Parties to the present Convention,

Bearing in mind the purposes and principles of the Charter of the United Nations,

Noting that information and communications technologies, while having enormous potential for the development of societies, create new opportunities for perpetrators, may contribute to the increase in the rate and diversity of criminal activities, and may have an adverse impact on States, enterprises and the well-being of individuals and society as a whole,

Concerned that the use of [a computer system] [an information and communications technology device] can have a considerable impact on the scale, speed and scope of criminal offences, including offences related to terrorism, and transnational organized crime, such as trafficking in persons, smuggling of migrants, illicit manufacturing of and trafficking in firearms, their parts, components and ammunition, drug trafficking and trafficking in cultural property,

Convinced of the need to pursue, as a matter of priority, a common-global criminal policy aimed at the protection of society against [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes] by, inter alia, adopting appropriate legislation, establishing common offences and procedural powers and fostering international cooperation to prevent and combat such activities more effectively at the national, regional and international levels,

Determined to deny safe havens to those who engage in [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes] by prosecuting these crimes wherever they occur,

Stressing the need to enhance coordination and cooperation among States, including by providing technical assistance and capacity-building to countries, in particular developing countries, upon their request, to improve national legislation and frameworks and enhance the capacity of national authorities to deal with [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes] in all its forms, including its prevention, detection, investigation and prosecution, and emphasizing in this context the role that the United Nations plays,

Recognizing the increasing number of victims of [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes], the importance of obtaining justice for those victims and the necessity to address the needs of persons in vulnerable situations in measures taken to prevent and combat the offences covered by this Convention,

Determined to prevent, detect and suppress more effectively international transfers of property obtained as a result of [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes] and to strengthen international cooperation in the recovery and return of proceeds of crime,

~~*Recognizing the need for cooperation between States and relevant stakeholders in combating [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes],*~~

Bearing in mind that preventing and combatting [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes] is a

responsibility of all States and that they must cooperate with one another, with the support and involvement of relevant stakeholders, if their efforts in this area are to be effective.

Affirming the importance of mainstreaming a gender perspective in all efforts to prevent and combat the offences covered by this Convention,

Mindful of the need to achieve law enforcement objectives and to ensure respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms as enshrined in applicable international and regional instruments,

Acknowledging the right to protection against arbitrary or unlawful interference with one's privacy, ~~including and the importance of the~~ protection ~~of~~ personal data,

Commending the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and other international and regional organizations in preventing and combating [cybercrime] [the use of information and communications technologies for criminal purposes],

Taking into account the existing international and regional conventions and treaties on cooperation in criminal matters, as well as similar treaties that exist between States Members of the United Nations,

Have agreed as follows:
