



**UNODC**

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime



# Regional Meeting of the Platform for South America and Mexico to Fast-Track the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption **(UNCAC)**

14 to 17 March 2022  
Mexico City

## AGENDA



## BACKGROUND

In 2019, the Platform for South America and Mexico to Fast-Track the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC) was created through a high-level regional conference held in Cartagena, Colombia.

During this event, authorities of Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Ecuador, Mexico, Paraguay, Peru and Uruguay, as well as representatives of civil society and development partners came together to analyse substantive aspects of UNCAC and promote cooperation aimed at fast-tracking its implementation toward the achievement of Sustainable Development Goal 16. In this context, participants agreed to prioritize four thematic areas in the region, namely:

1. systems of integrity with emphasis on asset declarations and conflicts of interest;
2. liability of legal persons with a focus on corporate compliance programmes;
3. whistle-blower protection; and
4. international cooperation.

## OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this meeting is to transition the regional platform into a second phase of implementation supported by UNODC anti-corruption hub of regional and international experts, which will continue to promote South-South cooperation, the exchange of good practices and the provision of technical assistance to participating countries, taking into account the recommendations resulting from the Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM) of UNCAC and the Follow-Up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC).

To this end, the meeting will provide a space for dialogue amongst authorities of anti-corruption agencies, supreme audit institutions and actors from the criminal justice system, with a view to taking stock of progress made and challenges faced by the States parties with respect to the commitments made in Cartagena, as well as to reassess the relevance of the four thematic areas for the future and potentially define new programmatic priorities.

In particular, participants will have the opportunity to:

- Exchange experiences and challenges in the implementation of the four thematic areas
- Discuss the global context derived from the pandemic and its impact on the region
- Explore good practices in the use of data and technology to address corruption
- Review recent anti-corruption milestones and commitments at the international level
- Learn about UNODC technical assistance programmes and new publications
- Examine the gender dimensions and how to integrate it into the fight against corruption
- Compare challenges identified by review mechanisms of anti-corruption conventions
- Review the four prioritized thematic areas in light of latest developments
- Define programmatic priorities and concrete actions 2022-2024



**MONDAY, 14 MARCH 2022**

08.30 – 09.00	<b>Registration of participants</b>
09.00 – 10.00	<b>Opening Ceremony</b>
	<p>Welcome remarks:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Authority of the host country</b></li> <li>• <b>Brigitte Strobel-Shaw</b>, Chief of the Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, UNODC</li> <li>• <b>UK Representative</b></li> <li>• <b>US INL Representative</b></li> <li>• <b>Kristian Hoelge</b>, Liaison and Partnership Office Representative, UNODC Mexico</li> </ul>
10.00 – 10.30	<b>From Cartagena to Mexico City</b>
	<p><b>Overview of the objectives of the meeting</b>  <b>Facilitator:</b> Louise Portas, UNODC</p>

**10.30 – 11.00** Coffee break and group picture

11.00-12.30	<b>The Time is Now: gender and corruption</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b>          With the United Nations Convention Against Corruption as its cornerstone, this session will focus on how to address gender dimensions of corruption in national contexts. The evolution and relevance of key instruments will be examined, and the importance of developing evidence-based policies will be emphasized. Participants will discuss how gender equality policies can have a positive effect in the fight against corruption and vice versa.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Jennifer Sarvary Bradford, UNODC</li> </ul>

**12.30 – 13.30** Lunch

13.30 – 15.00	<b>Where are we with regard to the thematic area of systems of integrity?</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b>          Participants will exchange experiences on progress achieved and challenges faced since the conference of Cartagena (2019) to date, with regard to commitments related to systems of integrity with emphasis on asset declarations and conflicts of interest.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Tim Steele, UNODC</li> </ul>

**15.00 – 15.30** Coffee break

15.30 – 17.00	<b>Where are we with regard to the thematic area of liability of legal persons?</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b>          Participants will exchange experiences on progress achieved and challenges faced since the conference of Cartagena (2019) to date, with regard to commitments related to liability of legal persons with a focus on corporate compliance programmes.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter, UNODC</li> </ul>

**End of Day 1**



## TUESDAY, 15 MARCH 2022

09.00 – 10.30	<b>Where are we with regard to the thematic area of international cooperation?</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b> Participants will exchange experiences on progress achieved and challenges faced since the conference of Cartagena (2019) to date, with regard to commitments related to international cooperation. UNODC will introduce its Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network), which offers a platform for information exchange between frontline anti-corruption law enforcement practitioners in all countries across the globe.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter, UNODC</li> </ul>

### 10.30 – 11.00 Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30	<b>Where are we with regard to the thematic area of whistle-blower protection?</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b> Participants will exchange experiences on progress achieved and challenges faced since the conference of Cartagena (2019) to date, with regard to commitments related to whistleblower protection.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Louise Portas, UNODC</li> </ul>

### 12.30 – 13.30 Lunch

13.30 – 15.00	<b>Technology as an anti-corruption ally: How the global pandemic fuelled innovation</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b> Participants will share lessons learned as a result of COVID-19 and recent achievements in the use of technology and digital platforms to advance anti-corruption efforts. UNODC will provide an overview of the “COVID-19 Anti-Corruption Response and Recovery” project and discussions will focus on digitalization and the use of data and technology to detect, prevent and combat corruption, especially in public procurement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Kari Rotkin, UNODC</li> </ul>

### 15.00 – 15.30 Coffee break

15.30 – 17.00	<b>Anti-corruption milestones reached at the international level since Cartagena</b>
	<p><b>Objective:</b> Participants will examine recent commitments made during the so-called “year of anti-corruption” (2021), in which the political declaration of the United Nations General Assembly Special Session (UNGASS) was adopted, as well as a series of resolutions at the ninth session of the UNCAC Conference of States Parties (CoSP), sponsored by countries of the region. UNODC will provide an overview of technical assistance programmes launched to support States parties in promoting integrity in corruption in sports, enhancing the role of supreme audit institutions, mitigating corruption risks linked to wildlife and forest crime, strengthening judicial integrity, and fostering education based on values, among others.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter, UNODC</li> </ul>

### End of Day 2

## WEDNESDAY, 16 MARCH 2022

09.00 – 10.30	<b>What are the main corruption challenges faced by the region and how can they be addressed?</b>
	<b>Objective:</b> This session will provide a comparative study of the recommendations to countries of the Platform for South America and Mexico emanating from the UNCAC Implementation Review Mechanism (IRM) and the Follow-up Mechanism for the Implementation of the Inter-American Convention against Corruption (MESICIC). The analysis will include a “top 10” of the most recurrent recommendations for the region. Through a brainstorming exercise, participants will have the opportunity to exchange opinions about the most common problems of corruption affecting their countries, as well as the difficulties related to State and institutional capacity to address them. • <b>Moderator:</b> Virginia de Abajo Marqués and Cristina Ritter, UNODC

10.30 – 11.00

Coffee break

11.00 – 12.30	<b>Open discussion on new priorities and concrete actions</b>
	<b>Objective:</b> During this open discussion, participants will define the programmatic priorities in anti-corruption matters for the region, as well as the specific actions anticipated for the coming years (2022-2024). • <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter and Kari Rotkin, UNODC

12.30 – 13.30

Lunch

13.30 – 15.00	<b>Open discussion on new priorities and concrete actions (continuation)</b>
	<b>Objective:</b> During this open discussion, participants will define the programmatic priorities in anti-corruption matters for the region, as well as the specific actions anticipated for the coming years (2022-2024). • <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter and Kari Rotkin, UNODC

15.00 – 15.30

Coffee break

13.30 – 15.00	<b>Open discussion on new priorities and concrete actions (continuation)</b>
	<b>Objective:</b> During this open discussion, participants will define the programmatic priorities in anti-corruption matters for the region, as well as the specific actions anticipated for the coming years (2022-2024). • <b>Moderator:</b> Cristina Ritter and Kari Rotkin, UNODC

End of Day 3



## THURSDAY, 17 MARCH 2022

	<b>Agreeing on priorities, objectives and actions</b>
09.00 – 10.30	<p><b>Objective:</b> Based on the discussions of the previous sessions, the new programmatic priorities, objectives and actions agreed upon with a view to accelerating the implementation of UNCAC in the region will be captured in a final report.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Virginia de Abajo Marqués, UNODC</li> </ul>

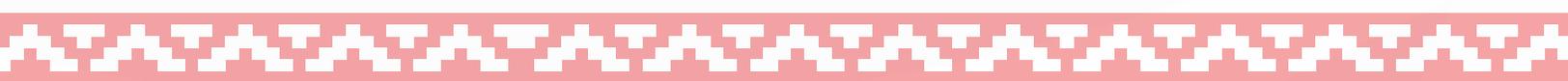
10.30 – 11.00	Coffee break
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	<b>Technical assistance: approaches and expectations</b>
11.00 – 12.30	<p><b>Objective:</b> In this session, participants will be able to highlight their technical assistance needs and the approaches deemed as the most effective in achieving their goals. In this context, UNODC will present the type of support that will be available to participating countries through its anti-corruption hub of regional and international experts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Moderator:</b> Jason Reichelt, UNODC</li> </ul>

12.00 – 12.30	Closing ceremony
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12.30 – 13.30	Lunch
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	End of Day 4
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