

Basic principles of organization and functioning of the Regional Platform to Fast-Track the Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Central Asia

Goal, objectives and functions of the Regional Platform

The goal of the Regional Platform is to promote more effective implementation of the provisions of the United Nations Convention against Corruption by countries participating in the work of the Regional Platform (hereinafter referred to as "the Participating Countries").

Objectives to be achieved through the work of the Regional Platform:

- Increasing the effectiveness of technical assistance, including through better responsiveness to the needs of the Participating Countries and an understanding of regional and national contexts,
- Improving inter-country cooperation, both in the exchange of experience and in the investigation of corruption offenses

Functions implemented by the Regional Platform:

- preparing analytical materials, including on the development of normative legal frameworks and the application of specific anti-corruption tools;
- providing expert advisory support for the development of national anti-corruption legislation at the request of the Participating Countries;
- conducting expert workshops and roundtables;
- implementing programs of additional vocational education, as well as other educational activities, developing online courses;
- creating electronic information resources;
- developing and promoting mechanisms for inter-country cooperation in combating corruption.

Participation in the work of the Regional Platform

The Regional Platform Participating Countries are the Republic of Kazakhstan, the Kyrgyz Republic, the Republic of Tajikistan, Turkmenistan, and the Republic of Uzbekistan

The Participating Countries conduct the strategic management of the Regional Platform, including:

- determining the priorities and plans of the Regional Platform activities, approving the Principles of organization and functioning of the Regional Platform, the Roadmap of the Regional Platform for three years (hereinafter - the Roadmap), the Action Plan of the Regional Platform for two years (hereinafter - the Action Plan);
- making proposals for the preparation of other analytical materials not included in the Roadmap and the Action Plan, as well as for the implementation of activities;
- approving the date and venue of the Conference of the Participating Countries of the Regional Platform;
- deciding on accession of other Participating Countries to the Regional Platform.

Each Participating Country independently determines the format of its participation in the work of the Regional Platform, including:

- defining the list of anti-corruption agencies and other state bodies (organizations) involved in the implementation of the Regional Platform activities;
- appointing a focal point responsible for interaction with the Secretariat of the Regional Platform (hereinafter - the Secretariat), including with regards to the preparation of any activities with the participation of the delegation of the Participating Country, as well as information exchange between the Participating Country and the Secretariat when developing analytical materials and implementing other Regional Platform's functions;
- identifying the list of activities of the Regional Platform, in which the Participating Country participates;
- appointing national delegations to the Conference of the Participating Countries and other activities of the Regional Platform, as well as the list of the persons having access to information on the results of the Regional Platform activities and to its analytical products;
- identifying at the request of the Secretariat national participants of the educational activities realized under the Regional Platform, and proposing candidates for national experts to participate in the preparation of analytical materials and educational activities;
- determining the scope of information to be made available upon request by the Secretariat for the preparation of analytical materials.

The main forms of participation in the implementation of the activities of the Regional Platform are the following:

- providing information on anti-corruption measures implemented in Participating Countries;
- participation of representatives of anti-corruption agencies and other state bodies, practitioners and experts in conferences, roundtables and educational activities under the Regional Platform;
- participation of national experts in the preparation of analytical materials and development of electronic resources for the Regional Platform;

- providing feedback on the usefulness of analytical materials, educational and other activities delivered under the Regional Platform.

Participation in the work of the Regional Platform does not impose obligations other than those proposed and accepted by the Participating Countries on their initiative.

A Participating Country may terminate participation in the Regional Platform at any time by notifying the Secretariat through the designated focal point.

Secretariat of the Regional Platform

The role of the Secretariat is performed by the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (hereinafter referred to as UNODC).

The Secretariat shall carry out the operational management of the Regional Platform, such as:

- preparing the draft Principles of Organization and Functioning of the Regional Platform, the Road Map, and the Action Plan;
- organizing, in cooperation with the Participating Countries, the Conference of the Participating Countries of the Regional Platform;
- ensuring the implementation of the Action Plan and Roadmap, including through organizing the preparation of analytical materials, educational activities, developing documents to enhance inter-country cooperation;
- inviting experts from both the Participating and other countries to develop analytical materials, conduct educational activities, provide technical assistance, as well as requesting information from the Participating Countries necessary for the preparation of analytical materials
- developing and maintaining the electronic resources of the Regional Platform and ensuring that information on the Regional Platform’s activities is published on the UNODC resources;
- ensuring collaboration with other UNCAC Fast Track Implementation Regional Platforms;
- ensuring interaction with other international organizations involved in anti-corruption activities in Central Asian countries;
- organizing interaction with other countries wishing to join the Regional Platform;
- searching for and attracting potential donors of the Regional Platform, and ensuring the implementation of agreements with them.

Conference of the Participating Countries of the Regional Platform

To plan the Regional Platform's activities and regularly assess their results, the Conference of the Participating Countries of the Regional Platform (hereinafter referred to as the Conference) shall be held annually.

The Conference shall be hosted by the UNODC or a Participating Country (if proposed and endorsed by other Participating Countries).

The Conference shall be attended by representatives of anti-corruption agencies and other state bodies (organizations) of the Participating Countries and representatives of the Secretariat. At the invitation of the Secretariat and with the consent of the Participating Countries, representatives of international organizations, experts from other countries and other participants may take part in the Conference.

The Conference:

- reviews the implementation of the Roadmap and the Action Plan, including the results of activities carried out during the previous year;
- amends the Roadmap and the Action Plan if necessary;
- decides on the feasibility of expanding the membership of the Regional Platform, subject to appropriate proposals;
- if necessary, organizes the exchange of experience with similar regional platforms and considers other information that may be useful for improving the efficiency of the Regional Platform's functioning.

Funding of the Regional Platform

The Regional Platform is funded by the UNODC and other donors.

Participation in the Regional Platform does not entail financial obligations for the Participating Countries.

Participating Countries may, on a voluntary basis, provide funding or other resources for the operation of the Regional Platform or selected activities of the Regional Platform.