Decision 4/1

Possible mechanisms to review implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

The Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime:

(a)   Reaffirmed that the purpose of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime[1] is to promote cooperation to prevent and combat transnational organized crime more effectively;

(b)   Recalled article 32 of the Convention, pursuant to which, in particular, the Conference has the responsibility to improve the capacity of States parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of the Convention, and is to agree, inter alia, upon mechanisms for achieving its objectives;

(c)   Also recalled articles 30 and 34 of the Convention, which set out the obligations of States parties with respect to the provision of cooperation and technical assistance and to the implementation of the Convention;

(d)   Further recalled that at its third session the Conference had expressed concern, in its decision 3/1, about the low rate of response of States parties to the questionnaires on the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;[2]

(e)   Took note with satisfaction of improved information-gathering efforts since its third session with regard to the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, particularly the decision of the Open-ended Interim Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance to develop a user-friendly checklist and the ongoing efforts of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to develop a computer-based self-assessment tool, and took note of the working paper prepared by the Secretariat[3] containing project ideas developed in consultation with interested parties and donors in this regard;

(f)   Expressed its concern at the information contained in the report of the Secretariat on the development of tools to gather information from States on the implementation of the Convention and each of the Protocols thereto,[4] which showed persisting gaps in the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;

(g)   Took into account that the review of the implementation of the Convention was an ongoing and gradual process, and considered that it was necessary to explore options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference in the review of the implementation of the Convention and the Protocols thereto;

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[1] United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2225, No. 39574.
[2] Ibid., vols. 2237, 2241 and 2326, No. 39574.
[3] CTOC/COP/2008/16.
[4] CTOC/COP/2008/2.

(h)   Took note of the note by the Secretariat on possible mechanisms to review implementation of the United Nations Convention on Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto,[5] which contained examples of review mechanisms under instruments relevant to the Convention;

(i)   Requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to convene at least one open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts, with interpretation, in Vienna by September 2009, said meeting to present a report to the Conference at its fifth session on mechanisms, as appropriate, for reviewing the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols;

(j)   Requested Member States to submit to the Secretariat their comments and views for the purpose of the deliberations of the above-mentioned meeting, and also requested the Secretariat to organize the views and comments received so as to facilitate such deliberations;

(k)   Requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to assist interested States parties in assessing their implementation of the provisions of the Convention and the Protocols thereto, and invited interested States parties and financial institutions to provide resources to the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Fund to finance such assistance.

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[5] CTOC/COP/2008/3.