



FRONTIDA ZOIS INITIATIVE

**ADDRESS- Tedder Hall Gym, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, website- www.frontidazoisinitiative.org
Contact- 07067655300, 08065913752, Email Address- frontidazoisinitiaitive@gmail.com**

September 4th , 2023

Constructive Dialogue on International Cooperation

- **Role of civil society in the universalization and implementation of the UNTOC, including its provisions on international cooperation in criminal matters:**

1. Civil Society Organizations will play a key role in the conduct of evidence-based research at the grassroots to inform programming for the implementation of UNTOC.

2. Advocacy efforts on Transnational Organized Crime can be intensified by civil society organizations (CSOs). CSOs can be in dialogue with policymakers, legislators, and other relevant stakeholders such as academic institutions, the private sector, partners, community leaders, religious leaders, ministries, departments, and agencies such as Law Enforcement Agencies amongst others. Such advocacy will be targeted at analyzing, reviewing, and updating existing policies on UNTOC in the local contexts of the CSOs.

3. In addition to the above, **Continuous Stakeholder Engagement and Advocacy** by Civil Society Organizations for the universalization and implementation of the UNTOC as it relates to its provisions on international cooperation in criminal matters is also very important.

- **States Parties' technical assistance needs and non-governmental stakeholders' engagement/participation:**

1. CSOs can facilitate with governments for the reviewing of policies on UNTOC; establishment of systems, infrastructures and investments; and capacity-building channels- designed to strategically promote the implementation of existing and new/reviewed policies on



FRONTIDA ZOIS INITIATIVE

**ADDRESS- Tedder Hall Gym, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, website- www.frontidazoisinitiative.org
Contact- 07067655300, 08065913752, Email Address- frontidazoisinitiaitive@gmail.com**

UNTOC with the intent of aiding intervention and prevention, towards the combat of the menace of Transnational organized crime in their contexts.

2. Capacity building and systems strengthening should be provided to relevant stakeholders at all levels to address the over-reliance of governments on partners/donor agencies in the fight against Transnational Organised Crime in their own contexts. Similarly, policy-driven capacity-building avenues in the form of workshops, hands-on training, conferences, symposiums, and talks amongst others should be provided for Civil Society Organizations. This will also help in the sustainability of program implementation on UNTOC at the local, state, national and regional levels.

o **Gender, human rights and victim-centred approaches to countering organized crime:**

1. Programming for Transnational Organised Crime by the UNODC should take cognizance of getting direct and constant feedback from the victims and survivors of Transnational Organized Crime as well as from vulnerable communities. The UNODC can do this through leveraging engagement with Civil Society Organizations at the grassroots working on all transnational organized crime-related interventions. This can be done through the development of User-friendly tools and templates to gather feedback on **Gender, human rights, and Victim-centered approaches that are most suitable in local contexts**. The toolkit's operationalization and design should suit local contexts. Civil Society Organizations working in various settings transnational organized crime can be engaged in the administration of the tools.



FRONTIDA ZOIS INITIATIVE

**ADDRESS- Tedder Hall Gym, University of Ibadan, Ibadan, Oyo State, website- www.frontidazoisinitiative.org
Contact- 07067655300, 08065913752, Email Address- frontidazoisinitiaitive@gmail.com**

Lastly, Civil Society Organisations are at the forefront, implementing the UNTOC specifically at the grassroots, working to combat Transnational Organised Crime in all its forms should be encouraged. UNODC should recognize and appreciate (e.g. in the form of awards) such exemplary commitments either through UNODC offices at the national or regional and if possible from Vienna. It may be done annually or biannually or at any other appropriate time. It will serve as an energy booster and motivation to do more.

Written By:

Petra O. Ogunfowokan

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'Petra O. Ogunfowokan', is placed over a faint, light-colored rectangular stamp or watermark. The signature is written in a cursive style.

CEO- Frontida Zois Initiative (FZI)

petra.ogunfowokan@gmail.com