



VPERM-7375/2023

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the International Organizations in Vienna presents its compliments to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) and has the honour to invite their attention to the following matter.

Enclosed are the Government of Canada's responses to the Cluster 1 Self-Assessment Questionnaire for the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC) Review Mechanism.

By way of this Note Verbale, the Government of Canada is authorizing the UNODC to post these responses, prepared both in French and in English, to Canada's portal on the UN-hosted webpage dedicated to the Review Mechanism.

The enclosed Canadian responses to the Self-Assessment Questionnaire for Cluster 1 reflect the input received from various federal, provincial and territorial departments as well as from civil society, partners and stakeholders.

Since the beginning of the negotiations to establish the Review Mechanism, Canada has strongly supported the inclusion of civil society and other partners and stakeholders in the review process. Canada dedicated significant time ahead and during its review to identifying partners and stakeholders and preparing an engagement strategy. The goal was to encourage broad but targeted consultations domestically in alignment with Canada's strong commitment to an inclusive procedure.

One of Canada's key successes was the consultation process undertaken by the International Centre for Criminal Law Reform (ICCLR), a Canadian-based Programme Network Institute on behalf of the Government of Canada. The ICCLR finalized a report on the result of national consultations that took place in January and February 2022, in which a total of 37 civil society organizations and individuals participated, as well as 13 legal professionals from the Canadian Bar Association. The ICCLR report on engagement with civil society was the first to be published worldwide and is available online.

Canada is very proud of the work it conducted since 2021 and looks forward to deepening its relationship with civil society, partners and stakeholders in future clusters. Canada encourages the UNODC to append this Note Verbale to Canada's Self-Assessment Questionnaires responses in order to provide context on its approach to preparing responses. Canada thanks the UNODC for all of the support provided by the Secretariat throughout this initial process.

The Permanent Mission of Canada to the International Organizations in Vienna avails itself of this opportunity to renew to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime the assurances of its highest consideration.

Vienna, 13 July 2023



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