

## **VIII. Participation of signatories to the Convention or any of the Protocols in the Mechanism**

58. A State signatory to the Convention or any of the Protocols may participate in the Mechanism as a State under review on a voluntary basis. The costs associated with such participation shall be paid from available voluntary contributions.

## **IX. Non-signatories, entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations and the Mechanism for the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto**

59. In order to promote constructive dialogue and engagement with all relevant stakeholders and in accordance with article 32, paragraph 3 (c) of the Convention, briefings with all relevant stakeholders, including non-signatories, entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations as referred to in articles 14, 15, 16, 17 of the rules of procedure for the Conference, shall be conducted on the outcomes of the review process, including on the technical assistance needs identified:

- a) Such briefings shall be convened on the margins of the meetings of the Working Groups and conducted by the Secretariat in cooperation with a member of the Bureau, at the request of the President of the Conference;
- b) No specific country situation shall be mentioned during briefings;
- c) The Secretariat shall invite to the briefings all relevant stakeholders, including non-signatories, entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, which have been entitled to participate as observers in the session of the Conference previous to the briefing, in conformity with articles 14, 15, 16, 17 of the rules of procedure for the Conference;
- d) If there is any objection to the participation of a non-governmental organization, the matter will be referred to the relevant Working Group for decision, taking into account, mutatis mutandis, rule 17, paragraph 2, of the rules of procedure;
- e) Relevant stakeholders, including non-signatories, entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations, wishing to attend a briefing

shall confirm their attendance no later than ten days prior to the date of the briefing, at which time they will be allowed to provide comments in writing;

- f) The briefings shall be open to representatives of States Parties and signatories;
- g) The Secretariat will prepare summaries of the briefings and submit them to the Working Groups as conference room papers;
- h) Non-signatories, entities, intergovernmental organizations and non-governmental organizations are encouraged to report to the Conference and/or the Working Groups, as appropriate, individually or collectively, on their activities and contributions to the implementation of the recommendations and conclusions of the Working Groups approved by the Conference, including those related to meeting technical assistance needs and advancing capacity to effectively implement the Convention and the Protocols;

60. Non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may be invited by the Working Groups of the Conference to participate as observers in the meetings of the working groups relating to the agenda item referred to in paragraph 15, when the prevention and the assistance and protection of victims of crime are concerned, in particular:

- a) in the areas covered by article 6, paragraph 3, and article 9, paragraph 3 of the Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children;
- b) in the areas covered by article 14, paragraph 2 of the Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea and Air.

61. In order to further promote constructive dialogue and engagement with all relevant stakeholders, non-governmental organizations may be invited by the Working Groups to provide contributions in writing with regards to the review process. No specific country situation shall be mentioned in such contributions.