Conference of the States Parties to the United
Nations Convention against Corruption
Tenth session
Atlanta, United States of America, 11–15 December 2023
Item 8 of the provisional agenda**
Other matters

Competent national authorities designated under the United
Nations Convention against Corruption (as of 1 December
2023)

Note by the Secretariat

Summary

The present document provides statistics with regard to the notifications submitted by States parties of the following competent national authorities under the United Nations Convention against Corruption: prevention authorities (pursuant to article 6, paragraph 3 of the Convention); central authorities on mutual legal assistance (pursuant to article 46, paragraph 13 of the Convention); asset recovery focal points (pursuant to resolution 4/4 of the Conference of the States Parties); central authorities on extradition (pursuant to a recommendation by the fifth Open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting on international cooperation); and focal points for international cooperation in the use of civil and administrative proceedings relating to corruption (pursuant to resolution 6/4 of the Conference).

1. In its resolution 7/1, the Conference urged States parties to ensure that the information provided regarding their central and competent authorities, was up to date, in order to enhance dialogue on mutual legal assistance. Furthermore, in line with the recommendation of the expert meeting on international cooperation, the secretariat continued to update the online directory of competent national authorities. ¹

2. The CNA Directory lists over one thousand competent national authorities designated under the 1988 United Nations Convention against Illicit Traffic in Narcotic Drugs and Psychotropic Substances; the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto; the United Nations Convention against Corruption and other applicable legal instruments, such as Security Council resolution 2322 (2016), General Assembly resolution 68/186 and

** CAC/COSP/2023/1.
¹ Available at: https://sherloc.unodc.org/cld/v3/sherloc/cna/index.jspx
decisions 3/2 and 4/2 of the Conference of the Parties to the Convention against Transnational Organized Crime.

3. The tool allows the classification of authorities by crime type or authority type. The number of authorities on anti-corruption is the second largest number of authorities.

Figure I
All authorities, by type

4. Regarding the corruption crime-type, the secretariat collects official notifications made by States parties of their designated competent national authorities under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, namely:

- **Prevention authorities** that may assist other States parties in developing and implementing specific measures for the prevention of corruption (pursuant to article 6, paragraph 3 of the Convention);

- **Central authorities on mutual legal assistance** that have the responsibility and power to send out for mutual legal assistance as well as receive them and either execute them or transmit them to the competent authorities for execution (pursuant to article 46, paragraph 13 of the Convention);

- **Asset recovery focal points** that facilitate international cooperation in cases relating to asset recovery (pursuant to resolution 4/4 of the Conference of the States Parties);

- **Central authorities on extradition** that facilitate international cooperation in extradition (pursuant to a recommendation by the fifth Open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting on international cooperation); and

- **Focal points in the use of civil and administrative proceedings** that facilitate international cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings relating to corruption (pursuant to resolution 6/4 of the Conference).
5. The Directory provides an easy and reliable access to information of designated competent authorities, including their names, contact details, contact persons, possible languages for requests, legal and procedural requirements and description of procedures. It allows staff of national authorities to have access to up-to-date contact information of their counterparts and, moreover, it provides information on means of communication, and specific instructions to be followed in urgent cases. It is also linked in the tools and resources on anti-corruption knowledge (TRACK) portal with relevant pieces of national legislation and national templates or guidelines.  

6. In 2019, the online directory of competent national authorities under the Convention was merged with the directory of competent national authorities in the SHERLOC portal. Since then, Member States benefitted from a single outlet of information on competent authorities under all treaties relevant to UNODC. The number of users with access to the online directory of competent national authorities has been steadily growing since 2015.

---

2 The directory contains the contact information of national authorities authorized to receive, respond to and process requests of assistance for matters related to the below:
- Mutual legal assistance
- Extradition
- Transfer of sentenced persons
- Illicit traffic by sea of narcotic drugs and psychotropic substances
- Preventive anti-corruption authorities
- Asset recovery
- International cooperation in civil and administrative proceedings relating to corruption
- Smuggling of migrants by sea
- Trafficking in firearms
- Prevention of transnational organized crime and
- Trafficking in cultural property
- Terrorism
7. As of October 2023, the directory contained information on the following specialized authorities on anti-corruption:

(a) 190 prevention authorities from 122 States parties;
(b) 42 central authorities on extradition from 38 States parties;
(c) 164 central authorities for mutual legal assistance from 133 States parties;
(d) 101 asset recovery focal points from 88 States parties;
(e) 48 focal points for international cooperation in the use of civil and administrative proceedings from 38 States parties.
8. The evolution of the anti-corruption authorities registered in the last 5 years could be seen in the following figure:

**Figure V**

**Authorities in the Directory, per type and year**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Prevention authorities</th>
<th>Central Authorities for MLA</th>
<th>Asset recovery focal points</th>
<th>Central Authorities for Extradition</th>
<th>Focal points in the use of civil and administrative proceedings</th>
<th>Total number of States Parties designated AC authorities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2017</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>500</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2018</td>
<td>60</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>15</td>
<td>6</td>
<td>510</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2019</td>
<td>70</td>
<td>120</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>20</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>520</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2020</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>130</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>530</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2021</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>140</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>30</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>540</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2022</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>45</td>
<td>35</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>550</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2023</td>
<td>100</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>40</td>
<td>10</td>
<td>560</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

9. The number of authorities experienced an overall steady growth. While State Parties have designated more Central Authorities for mutual legal assistance than any other authority, designations of preventive authorities and asset recovery focal points have seen a disproportionate growth. This could be due to the second review cycle which started in 2016.

10. In order to make the Directory a reliable and comprehensive tool, the secretariat continues to encourage States parties to provide notifications of their designated authorities. Those States parties that have already notified the secretariat of their designated competent national authorities are encouraged to review the accuracy of the information available in the Directory and to inform the secretariat of any changes.

**Box I**

**Notification procedure**

Any new notifications or amendments to the existing notifications of competent national authorities should be sent through an official note verbale and using the prepared templates (to be downloaded from [http://www.unodc.org/compauth_uncac/en/index.html](http://www.unodc.org/compauth_uncac/en/index.html)) to the Secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, Corruption and Economic Crime Branch, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, Vienna International Centre, P.O. Box 500, 1400 Vienna, Austria or to the e-mail address: uncac@un.org.
Annex

Information sheet regarding the access to the CNA Directory as of December 2023

To request an account

1. On the main page of the CNA Directory, please click on “Request an account”.

To access the CNA Directory

2. On the SHERLOC main page, go to Databases and then select the CNA Directory in the drop-down menu. It will direct you to the CNA Directory on SHERLOC which lists different types of competent national authorities, including those designated under the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
3. In the CNA Directory, authorities can be searched by name or filtered by country, mandate or type.

4. The default interface is a country profile page where you can click on the flag icon of the States to find out more information regarding the authorities they designated. Authorities could be filtered by mandate too.
5. You may further click on any specific authority to acquire more detailed information, including, inter alia, the address, means of communications, procedure to follow in urgent cases, content of the request to the authority.

6. Three options of practical usefulness are also offered: downloading the directory; getting access to the password-protected practical guide to requesting evidence across borders; or providing updated information about relevant authorities using the available forms.