



# Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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## Open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Vienna, 5–8 September 2023

### Annotated provisional agenda

#### Provisional agenda

1. Opening of the meeting.
2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
3. Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: lessons learned, good practices and challenges:
  - (a) Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention;
  - (b) Thematic discussion on developing non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery;
  - (c) Technical assistance.
4. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation.
5. Adoption of the report.

#### Annotations

##### 1. Opening of the meeting

The twelfth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption will be opened on Tuesday, 5 September 2023, at 10 a.m., at the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Plenary Room M. The session will be held in person. Participants will be able to observe the proceedings online, but in order to facilitate the work of the interpreters, only 30 minutes of each three-hour meeting will be allotted to statements delivered remotely by online participants. Delegations are therefore encouraged to ensure, to the extent possible, that statements are delivered by the representatives present in the meeting room.



## **2. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work**

The provisional agenda and proposed organization of work for the meeting (see annex) were prepared on the basis of past practice, in accordance with the report of the eleventh open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2022/3](#)) and resolutions 4/2, 8/6, 9/1, 9/2, 9/3 and 9/5 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption and in line with the guidance contained in the workplan for the subsidiary bodies of the Conference, which was approved by the Bureau of the Conference on 1 March 2022, in order to enable consideration of agenda items 3 and 4 jointly with the Implementation Review Group and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

## **3. Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: lessons learned, good practices and challenges**

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 8/2, the Conference called upon States parties to further promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, in line with article 1 (b) of the Convention, with a view to facilitating the implementation of article 43 of the Convention.

Further, in line with Conference resolutions 8/1, 8/2 and 8/6 and the recommendations agreed at the eighth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention, held on 31 May 2019 (see [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2019/4](#)), States parties were encouraged to continue to provide to the secretariat information on challenges and good practices in international cooperation and other topics outlined in Conference resolutions and the recommendations of the expert meetings so that the secretariat could continue its analytical work with regard to challenges in international cooperation on the basis of the Convention and relevant to the implementation of chapter IV. States parties were encouraged to share information on their legal requirements for international cooperation, as well as statistical information and examples relevant to international cooperation in transnational corruption cases.

Under agenda item 3, the secretariat will provide an update on progress made in the implementation of the above-mentioned mandates. Further information is contained in the note by the Secretariat on progress in implementing the mandates of the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/2](#)).

States parties may wish to come prepared to discuss lessons learned, good practices and challenges in the implementation of chapter IV of the Convention.

### **(a) Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention**

The fifth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention recommended that States parties continue to share with the secretariat, for further dissemination, information on electronic tools and systems used by national authorities for processing and tracking extradition and mutual legal assistance requests. In paragraph 18 of its resolution 9/3, the Conference requested the expert meeting and other relevant subsidiary bodies to include, as a topic for discussion at their future meetings, how to promote the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention. In paragraph 19 of the same resolution, the Conference requested the secretariat to continue collecting, analysing and disseminating information on good practices in the development of, access to and use of information and communications technologies in preventing and combating corruption, taking into account existing technical expertise in the United Nations system, and also requested the secretariat to report on such efforts to the relevant subsidiary bodies. Moreover, in paragraph 6 of Conference resolution 9/5 on enhancing international anti-corruption law enforcement

cooperation, the Conference invited the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to consult with, among others, Member States, including their anti-corruption authorities with relevant expertise, as appropriate, to inform its proposed development of the online one-stop hub of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) to provide a forum for cooperation, which may include a secure platform for confidential communication among Network members, and to keep States parties apprised of its progress in that regard. In response to those mandates, the secretariat circulated a note verbale dated 1 June 2023 with a view to collecting information from States parties on the use of information and communications technologies in the field of international cooperation.

On the basis of the responses received, the secretariat prepared a conference room paper on data collection and the effective use of information and communications technologies (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/CRP.1). The secretariat will brief the meeting on the main observations and conclusions contained in the conference room paper. In addition, a panel discussion will be held on the topic. States parties are encouraged to continue exchanging experience on electronic tools and systems used by their national authorities in executing international cooperation requests and, to this end, States parties may wish to come prepared to discuss their national experience and efforts in this area and the topics outlined in the questionnaire annexed to the note verbale circulated by the secretariat, including examples of how information and communications technologies have been used in the context of international cooperation and their impact on international cooperation.

The secretariat will also provide information on tools and services to promote international cooperation, including the online directory of competent national authorities, and on international anti-corruption law enforcement cooperation, including the GlobE Network, in accordance with paragraph 7 of Conference resolution 9/5.

**(b) Thematic discussion on developing non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery**

In accordance with paragraph 23 of Conference resolution 9/1, entitled “Sharm el-Sheikh declaration on strengthening international cooperation in the prevention of and fight against corruption during times of emergencies and crisis response and recovery”, the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention will have before it non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/3](#)).

States parties may wish to use the meeting of experts as a platform to discuss and comment on the guidelines and exchange information on good practices, new developments and practical challenges relating to international cooperation during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery. A panel discussion will be held on the topic.

**(c) Technical assistance**

In its resolution 4/2, entitled “Convening of open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings to enhance international cooperation”, the Conference decided that the expert meetings shall, inter alia, facilitate the exchange of experiences among States by identifying challenges and disseminating information on good practices to be followed in order to strengthen capacities at the national level, and assist the Conference in identifying the capacity-building needs of States.

In that regard, the secretariat and the GlobE Network will provide an oral update on technical assistance activities conducted since the last expert meeting.

States parties may wish to brief the expert meeting on their efforts relevant to capacity-building and technical assistance in the area of international cooperation and to discuss their cooperation in that regard with the providers of technical assistance, including UNODC and the GlobE Network.

In order to facilitate the expert meeting's deliberations on the matter, panel discussions will be held on technical assistance in relation to chapters IV and V of the Convention.

Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with items 4 and 5 of the agenda for the resumed fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and items 2 to 5 of the agenda for the seventeenth session of the Working Group on Asset Recovery.

### **Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat on progress in implementing the mandates of the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/2](#))

Conference room paper prepared by the Secretariat on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/CRP.1](#))

Non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/3](#))

## **4. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation**

At its special session held from 2 to 4 June 2021, the General Assembly adopted the political declaration entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation". Member States, inter alia, committed to implementing the political declaration and invited the Conference, as the treaty body with prime responsibility for promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Convention, to follow up and build on the declaration.

Furthermore, in its resolution 9/2, entitled "Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthening international cooperation: follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly against corruption", the Conference directed its subsidiary bodies, within their mandates, to take appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration.

Accordingly, under the present item, the expert meeting is expected to discuss appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration. As approved by the extended Bureau of the Conference, the topic of the meeting will be measures to prevent money-laundering.

Article 52 (Prevention and detection of transfers of proceeds of crime) of the Convention continues to be the provision under chapter V with the highest number of gaps in implementation. In the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021, Member States dedicated several paragraphs to issues of financial integrity and measures to prevent the financial system from being abused to hide, move and launder assets stemming from corruption. In particular, in paragraph 19 of the political declaration, States committed to instituting comprehensive domestic regulatory and supervisory regimes for banks and non-bank financial institutions, including natural or legal persons that provide formal or informal services for the transmission of money or value, or other bodies particularly susceptible to money-laundering, in order to deter and detect all forms of money-laundering in accordance with the relevant provisions of the Convention,

including when it concerns illicit financial flows. They further committed to strengthening the capacity of financial intelligence units to receive, analyse and disseminate to the competent authorities reports of suspicious financial transactions, and to encouraging cooperation among those units at the international level for the purpose of preventing and combating the transfer of proceeds of crime.

To facilitate the deliberations of the expert meeting under the present item, a panel discussion will be held on measures to prevent money-laundering, with a focus on the role of intermediaries (also referred to as professional enablers or gatekeepers) in the transfer of proceeds of crime.

Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with items 6 of the agenda for the resumed fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group, and item 6 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery.

## **5. Adoption of the report**

The experts may wish to consider conclusions and recommendations for inclusion in the report on the expert meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.

## Annex

## Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
<b>Tuesday, 5 September 2023</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1	Opening of the meeting
	2	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3	Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption <sup>a</sup>
3–6 p.m.	3	Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ( <i>continued</i> ) <sup>a</sup>
<b>Wednesday, 6 September 2023</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ( <i>continued</i> ) <sup>a</sup>
	3 (a)	Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention <sup>a</sup>
3–6 p.m.	3 (b)	Thematic discussion on developing non-binding guidelines for strengthening international and multilateral cooperation to further prevent, identify, investigate and prosecute corruption during times of emergency and crisis response and recovery <sup>a</sup>
<b>Thursday, 7 September 2023</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Implementation of chapter IV of the United Nations Convention against Corruption ( <i>continued</i> ) <sup>a</sup>
	3 (c)	Technical assistance <sup>a</sup>
3–6 p.m.	3 (c)	Technical assistance <sup>a</sup>
<b>Friday, 8 September 2023</b>		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	4	Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation <sup>b</sup>
3–6 p.m.	5	Adoption of the report

<sup>a</sup> Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with items 4 and 5 of the agenda for the resumed fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with items 2 to 5 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

<sup>b</sup> Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with item 6 of the agenda for the resumed fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 6 of the agenda for the seventeenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery.