

## Annex to CU 2023/187/DTA/CEB/CSS

To facilitate the provision of information on good practices and challenges with respect to the use of information and communication technologies for the purpose of international cooperation and asset recovery in the framework of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, the Secretariat has prepared the following questionnaire as a guide that States parties may wish to use.

The Secretariat also wishes to draw the attention of the Government to the notes entitled “The use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption” contained in documents CAC/COSP/WG.4/2016/2 and CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/2<sup>1</sup> and the conference room paper entitled “Responses received from States with regard to existing software programmes for case management systems in the field of international cooperation contained in document CAC/COSP/EG.1/2017/CRP.1<sup>2</sup> that could be used as background material for the completion of the questionnaire.<sup>3</sup>

### I. General information on the use of information and communication technologies:

1. Has the Government used information and communication technologies (ICTs) **in the context of international cooperation** for the implementation of the Convention? Yes  /No 
  - a. If yes, which ICTs has the Government used in the context of international cooperation? Please choose one or more of the options below:
    - Email/messaging technologies
    - Videoconference platforms/services
    - Word processing technologies (e.g Microsoft Word, Google Docs, OpenOffice, etc.)
    - Publicly available websites
    - Artificial intelligence

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<sup>1</sup> CAC /COSP/WG.4/2016/2

(<https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/workinggroup4/2016-August-22-24/V1603242e.pdf>); CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/2  
([https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/workinggroup4/2022-June-13-17/CAC-COSP-WG.4-2022-2\\_E.pdf](https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/workinggroup4/2022-June-13-17/CAC-COSP-WG.4-2022-2_E.pdf))

<sup>2</sup> CAC/COSP/EG.1/2017/CRP.1

(<https://www.unodc.org/documents/treaties/UNCAC/WorkingGroups/EMInternationalCooperation/6-7November2017/V1707498e.pdf>)

<sup>3</sup> Please refer to resolution 6/7 entitled “Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”

(<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/COSP/session6-resolutions.html>)

- ✓ Case management systems
- Custom-made software for management and execution of requests
- ✓ Databases (Corporation registries, Register for beneficial ownership)
- ✓ Secure data storage platforms/facilities
- ✓ Secure information exchange/communication platforms (Globe Threema, INTERPOL I 24/7, EUROPOL SIENA)
- ✓ Translation software
- Other, please specify:

2. Please provide additional details of any ICTs that are particularly useful for international cooperation based on your experience, including any websites, resources or tools that you frequently use and find most useful.

*The Criminal Assets recovery Agency has access to several national databases to verify subjects or information at the request of counterparts from abroad. These Registers contain information on: real estate, vehicles, companies, population, tax authorities, criminal cases, border police database, etc. Also, the Agency can request and provide information on bank accounts, turnovers, safe boxes, mobile phone providers, economic agents, travel agencies, medical institutions, educational institutions, etc.*

*General information about companies and their founders can also be identified in open sources on sites such as infobiz, idno, yellowpages, etc.*

3. If you are using software or have developed or use custom-made software in the context of international cooperation (e.g. case management for incoming and outgoing requests), please provide information on the main features of such software and how it could be useful. Additionally, would you consider making your custom-made software available to other States parties to the Convention?

*CARA is not using custom-made software*

## **II. Evaluation and good practices**

4. Have you evaluated the effectiveness of using ICTs for international cooperation in the fight against corruption? Yes  /No
- a. If yes, what indicators did you use for your evaluation? What was the outcome of the evaluation?
  - b. If the outcome of the evaluation was positive, how did the use of ICT facilitate international cooperation? Has the use of ICTs improved the quality of incoming and outgoing requests or their timely follow-up and reporting on international cooperation?
5. Please provide information (policies, measures, examples, case studies) of good practices in connection with your country's use of ICTs for international cooperation and asset recovery.

*Probably the best practice adopted at the beginning of the current year is to minimize the bureaucracy in the work process by recording the requests for information received or sent, as well as the responses received, in an electronic format.*

*This not only makes registration faster, but also offers the possibility to make links between requests and responses, or requests from counterparts and the steps taken to identify the requested information. Last but not least, the digitization of this process facilitates access to information and identification of the closed, in-process or expired requests and creates statistical data on this topic.*

*We also mention that for an efficient information exchange, the Agency has contact persons at the vast majority of global information exchange networks such as SIENA Europol, CARIN, Interpol, BAMIN, etc. What's more, this year CARA took over the presidency of BAMIN Network.*

*Another practice not less important is that the information regarding the seized assets and their value is presented weekly to the public to ensure a transparent activity.*

### **III. Challenges**

6. Have you experienced any challenges or limitations in using ICTs in the context of international cooperation related to anti-corruption efforts? **Yes**  / **No**

If yes, please indicate which of the following options are applicable:

- Lack of capacity or training
- Lack of resources
- Legal obstacles to the use of ICTs for the international cooperation
- Reluctance from foreign counterparts to use ICTs
- Security and confidentiality of sensitive information (personal data protection)
- Technical obstacles (connectivity, access to stable internet connection, use of outdated technologies, etc.)

Other, please specify:

7. Please elaborate on the responses provided to question 6. If possible, please provide examples of the obstacles mentioned and describe the measures taken to overcome them.
- a. What kind of ICTs would help improve your ability to cooperate with other States on the fight against corruption?

**IV. Online one-stop hub of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network)**

8. Are any law enforcement anti-corruption authorities from your country members of the Globe Network?<sup>4</sup> **Yes**  / **No**

*The Anticorruption Prosecutor's Office is the authority having GlobE membership, the Criminal Assets Recovery Agency is not a member*

- a. What online ICT services or functionality would be the most useful to your practitioners on the GlobE one stop hub, as a resource for international cooperation?
- b. Has(ve) your GlobE member authority(ies) registered as GlobE Threema<sup>5</sup> user(s)? **Yes**  / **No**
- If yes, does the GlobE Threema address their needs for a secure communication platform? **Yes**  / **No**
  - What GlobE Threema functionality do they find the most useful for international cooperation?
  - Are there other features that your member authority(ies) require from a secure communication platform?

Please elaborate as necessary.

**V. Other**

9. Please provide any other information you consider relevant to your country's legal framework and practices in connection with establishing an effective use of ICTs in the international cooperation system that was not highlighted in the questions above.

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<sup>4</sup> The list of GlobE Members and Observers can be found in the following website:  
<https://globenetwork.unodc.org/globenetwork/en/membership.html>

<sup>5</sup> Information brochure on GlobE Threema:  
[https://globenetwork.unodc.org/globenetwork/uploads/documents/GlobE\\_Threema\\_Brochure\\_-\\_A4\\_version.pdf](https://globenetwork.unodc.org/globenetwork/uploads/documents/GlobE_Threema_Brochure_-_A4_version.pdf)