



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

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## Report of the tenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption, held in Vienna from 6 to 10 September 2021

### I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 4/2, entitled “Convening of open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings to enhance international cooperation”, adopted at its fourth session, held in Marrakech, Morocco, from 24 to 28 October 2011, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption decided to convene open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings on international cooperation to advise and assist it with respect to extradition and mutual legal assistance.
2. In the same resolution, the Conference decided that the expert meetings would perform the following functions: (a) assist the Conference in developing cumulative knowledge in the area of international cooperation; (b) assist the Conference in encouraging cooperation among relevant existing bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives and contribute to the implementation of the related provisions of the Convention under the guidance of the Conference; (c) 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; (d) build confidence and encourage cooperation between requesting and requested States by bringing together relevant competent authorities, anti-corruption bodies and practitioners involved in mutual legal assistance and extradition; and (e) assist the Conference in identifying the capacity-building needs of States.
3. In its resolution 5/1, the Conference directed the open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts on international cooperation to continue studying the issue of the identification and analysis of existing obstacles to law enforcement cooperation in the detection of corruption offences in the framework of the Convention and to draw up recommendations on how those obstacles might be overcome.
4. In its resolution 7/1, the Conference invited the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to propose future agenda items. It also requested the Secretariat to continue, within existing resources, to collect statistics or other relevant information on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for mutual legal assistance and to make the information available to the Conference.
5. In 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.

6. In addition, the Conference, in its resolution 8/6, *inter alia*, encouraged States parties that had not yet done so to consider the Convention as a legal basis for extradition in respect of offences covered by it, when possible, in their domestic legal systems.

## **II. Organization of the meeting**

### **A. Opening of the meeting**

7. The tenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption was held in Vienna from 6 to 10 September, in a hybrid format (in person and online).

8. The open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention held 10 meetings, which were chaired by Harib Saeed al-Amimi (United Arab Emirates), President of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its eighth session; most of the meetings were held jointly with the Implementation Review Group and the Working Group on Asset Recovery. The open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting considered items 1 to 4 of its agenda. The expert meeting considered item 3 of its agenda jointly with the Implementation Review Group and the Working Group on Asset Recovery.

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

9. On 6 September 2021, the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention adopted the following 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.
4. Adoption of the report.

### **C. Attendance<sup>1</sup>**

10. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting: Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Bahrain, Belarus, Belgium, Bhutan, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Botswana, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Cyprus, Czechia, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Equatorial Guinea, Finland, France, Georgia, Germany, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, Hungary, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Lebanon, Libya, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Montenegro, Myanmar, Netherlands, New Zealand, Nicaragua, Nigeria, North Macedonia, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Republic of Moldova, Russian Federation, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania,

<sup>1</sup> The attendance as indicated in the present report is based on confirmed online connections and in-person participation.

United States of America, Uruguay, Uzbekistan, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen and Zimbabwe.

11. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the meeting.

12. The World Bank was represented by an observer. In addition, the following United Nations initiatives and institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network were represented by observers: Asia and Far East Institute for the Prevention of Crime and the Treatment of Offenders, Basel Institute on Governance, International Centre for Criminal Law Reform and Criminal Justice Policy, Korean Institute of Criminology, United Nations Global Compact network and United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute.

13. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Community of Sahelo-Saharan States, Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, Council of Europe, International Anti-Corruption Academy, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Development Law Organization, International Federation of Red Cross and Red Crescent Societies, International Italo-Latin American Organization, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organization of American States, Organization of the Petroleum Exporting Countries, Permanent Court of Arbitration and World Customs Organization.

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

14. A representative of the secretariat provided an update on the implementation of the mandates emanating from the relevant resolutions of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention and from previous expert meetings. He referred to a note by the Secretariat entitled “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.1/2021/2](#)) and addressed four issues.

15. He introduced the commitments relating to international cooperation in the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption, which contained a specific section on international cooperation. In the political declaration, Member States committed themselves to making full use of the Convention and other legal instruments to advance international cooperation, affording one another the widest measures of mutual legal assistance and technical assistance, and addressing challenges and barriers hindering relevant cooperation and deficiencies in domestic regulatory regimes. In addition, Member States called for enhanced inter-agency coordination and better utilization of various networks to facilitate international cooperation in the prevention and combating of corruption.

16. The representative of the secretariat also provided information on the establishment of the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network), which was officially established in June 2021 under the auspices of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). The Network is aimed at providing a quick, agile and efficient tool for facilitating transnational cooperation in combating corruption and strengthening communication exchange and peer learning between anti-corruption law enforcement authorities while complementing and coordinating with existing international cooperation platforms. Membership in the Network is open to specialized authorities falling under article 36 of the Convention from the States Members of the United Nations and from States parties to the Convention. At the time of the meeting, the Secretariat had received 27 requests for membership from 18 States. Furthermore, UNODC had issued the first quarterly newsletter to keep members up to date on the work of the

Globe Network and cross-border cooperation to end corruption and had launched a dedicated website for the Network. UNODC was planning to organize the first meeting of the Network in October 2021 and continued to put in place the necessary infrastructure and resources for the Network.

17. The representative of the secretariat also provided updates on the online directory of competent national authorities and the Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) portal. He indicated that, as at August 2021, the directory contained information on the following: central authorities for mutual legal assistance in 133 States parties; prevention authorities in 120 States parties; asset recovery focal points in 86 States parties; central authorities on extradition in 32 States parties; and focal points for international cooperation in the use of civil and administrative proceedings in 35 States parties. In addition, UNODC was finalizing the migration of the TRACK portal to a new platform in preparation for its relaunch and was updating the information contained in its legal library.

18. He also referred to progress made in the delivery of technical assistance and other activities relevant to international cooperation. He highlighted that UNODC, including through the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative, continued to provide tailored capacity-building and advisory services at the national, regional and global levels, participate in meetings and conferences aimed at promoting international cooperation among States parties and engage with relevant stakeholders in the delivery of technical assistance.

19. In an effort to enhance the exchange of information and synergies between the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Working Group on International Cooperation established by the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, a representative of the secretariat provided an overview of the salient outcomes of the deliberations of the Working Group on International Cooperation at its twelfth meeting, held in Vienna on 25 and 26 March 2021. At that meeting, the Working Group continued to consider the topics of the use and role of joint investigative bodies in combating transnational organized crime and international cooperation involving special investigative techniques, and adopted pertinent recommendations on both topics for further endorsement by the Conference of the Parties at its eleventh session, to be held in October 2022. Building on past discussions at its eleventh meeting, held in July 2020, the Working Group had once again focused its attention on the impact of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic on the effectiveness of international cooperation in criminal matters and adopted relevant recommendations for endorsement by the Conference of the Parties.

20. The representative of the secretariat also provided the dates of the back-to-back meetings of the Working Group on International Cooperation and the Working Group on Technical Assistance to be held in 2022, with a joint thematic discussion on the application of the Organized Crime Convention for preventing and combating transnational organized crimes that affect the environment, in accordance with resolution 10/6 of the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention. Additional information was provided on plans to further promote synergies between the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention against Corruption and the Working Group on International Cooperation established by the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention through possible joint or back-to-back meetings in 2023. The representative of the secretariat also informed the participants about a forthcoming UNODC publication containing a digest of cases of international cooperation in criminal matters involving the Organized Crime Convention as a legal basis, to be released in the last quarter of 2021.

21. In the ensuing discussion, several speakers highlighted the importance of international cooperation in the fight against corruption, including for the purpose of asset recovery. Some speakers referred to challenges they encountered in seeking

assistance from other States and called for enhanced measures in facilitating international cooperation, in particular pursuant to the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption. The challenges highlighted by speakers included the lack of simplified procedures for mutual legal assistance, burdensome evidentiary requirements and the inability to provide specific measures such as the return of assets. Some speakers noted that those challenges might be overcome through enhanced transparency in the return of assets, the strengthening of the role of central authorities, and early and direct communication and coordination.

22. In addition, one speaker indicated that his country had concluded a number of bilateral agreements to facilitate mutual legal assistance, which incorporated the use of special investigative techniques, joint investigative teams and videoconferences. Another speaker introduced measures taken by his country to promote the exchange of information in line with article 48 of the Convention against Corruption.

23. Several speakers also reported on steps taken by their countries to strengthen existing domestic and international coordination, noting the usefulness of communication platforms to expedite proceedings and ensure the success of the multidirectional collaboration necessary for the compensation of victims of corruption. Some speakers provided examples of the electronic systems set up in their jurisdictions for the purposes of facilitating the processing of requests and for gathering data on such requests.

24. Several speakers noted the importance of the spontaneous transmission of information and the electronic transmission of mutual legal assistance requests. Some speakers highlighted the importance of using online resources, such as the TRACK portal and its legal library, to promote timely access and the exchange of information and called upon States parties to communicate changes in their legislation to the secretariat with a view to keeping the legal library up to date. Those tools were seen as particularly important for facilitating international cooperation in the light of the negative impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on international cooperation.

25. Some speakers emphasized the importance of law enforcement networks such as the recently established GLOBE Network, INTERPOL and similar regional initiatives in providing platforms to facilitate direct contact and build trust among anti-corruption law enforcement practitioners and support practitioners in cases of serious and transnational corruption crimes. In addition, they called upon States to utilize such networks to enhance their efforts in international cooperation.

26. Another representative of the secretariat provided an analytical summary of the replies received from States parties in response to a note verbale dated 4 May 2021 sent with a view to collecting information on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation. The secretariat had received replies from 30 States parties, among which the vast majority had indicated that they had used the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation. Respondents had provided an overview of their national legislative regimes and practices regarding international cooperation. Those replies had been analysed and summarized in the document entitled “Statistical information on the use of the United Nations Convention against Corruption as a legal basis for extradition, mutual legal assistance and law enforcement cooperation” (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2021/3).

27. The representative of the secretariat noted that a number of countries reported that their national legislation allowed for the use of the Convention as a legal basis for extradition. Most States parties also referred to other legal bases for extradition, such as bilateral and regional treaties. In their responses to the note verbale, less than half of the States parties reported having used the Convention as a legal basis for extradition, and the majority of States parties noted that they did not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty. With regard to mutual legal assistance, unlike in the case of extradition, a substantial majority of States parties reported having used the Convention as a legal basis.

28. Regarding law enforcement cooperation, the majority of the States parties indicated that they had not used the Convention as a legal basis. Some States parties noted the difficulties encountered with regard to maintaining statistics on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation and the need to enhance and promote cooperation between law enforcement authorities, as well as the importance of regional cooperation networks. The representative of the secretariat concluded by noting that further means for collecting relevant statistical data would greatly facilitate reporting on international cooperation, as additional information was required on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation.

**Panel discussion on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation, with the view to facilitating the implementation of article 44, paragraph 5, article 46, paragraph 7, and article 48, paragraph 2, of the Convention**

29. To facilitate the deliberations under the agenda item and in line with the recommendations of previous expert meetings, a thematic panel discussion was held on the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation, with a view to facilitating the implementation of article 44, paragraph 5, article 46, paragraph 7, and article 48, paragraph 2, of the Convention.

30. The panellist from China underscored the importance of the special session of the General Assembly against corruption and the pledge made in it by States parties to make full use of the Convention to promote international cooperation and prevent and combat corruption. She expressed the support of China for the Convention as the main tool in the global anti-corruption regime. She noted the legislative reforms undertaken by her country to allow for an enhanced use of the Convention for international cooperation. To illustrate the point, the panellist provided examples of the use of the Convention by her country as a legal basis for international cooperation in the absence of bilateral agreements, as both a requesting State and a requested State. One of those cases resulted in the successful return of proceeds of crime to the country of origin. In conclusion, the panellist reiterated the four proposals concerning international cooperation made by China at the special session of the General Assembly against corruption, calling on the international community to work together to build a world free from corruption.

31. The panellist from Panama described the use of the Convention as a legal basis for extradition and international cooperation in her country. She referred to the declarations of the Government of Panama at the time of its ratification of the Convention, by virtue of which it considered the Convention to be a legal basis for extradition. The panellist underscored that Panama did not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty because the principle of reciprocity could be applied. She provided examples of and statistics on the use by Panama of the Convention as a legal basis for extradition as both a requesting State and a requested State, including two cases involving high-level officials. Regarding mutual legal assistance, Panama had made and received requests on the basis of the Convention. The panellist shared some examples and noted that a number of those cases had resulted in the confiscation of assets in foreign countries.

32. In addition, the panellist shared some lessons learned, good practices and challenges in the use of the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation. She highlighted the importance of communication among central authorities in order to ensure effective mutual legal assistance. She explained that the Convention had been used as a complement to bilateral treaties that did not make certain corruption offences extraditable. She mentioned the use of the online directory of competent national authorities contained in the Sharing Electronic Resources and Laws on Crime (SHERLOC) knowledge management portal as a good practice for enhancing communication. She underscored the importance of the existence of cooperation networks and inter-institutional cooperation agreements for the enhancement of the efficiency of mutual legal assistance requests. However, she noted that the

enhancement of communication channels and the safe and swift sharing of information continued to be a challenge.

33. The panellist from Albania provided an overview of the implementation of the Convention in her country. She underlined the importance of using the Convention as a legal basis for extradition – although Albania did not make extradition conditional on the existence of a treaty – and the possibility of using the principle of reciprocity instead. The panellist indicated that the Convention was considered part of the national legal framework, and therefore all offences established under the Convention were considered extraditable offences. In addition, the panellist explained that the Ministry of Justice was the central authority for mutual legal assistance, which could be provided in the absence of dual criminality when the measures requested were not coercive. In that regard, she noted the recent adoption and amendment of the country's law on mutual legal assistance, which, among other things, encompassed the means of communication to be used, including direct communication between law enforcement authorities, procedures for establishing joint investigation teams and other internal procedures.

34. The panellist highlighted that, with a view to facilitating the processing and prioritization of mutual legal assistance requests and gathering and generating data and statistics on that topic, a new electronic system for international judicial cooperation had been established. In that connection, she underscored the importance of using networks such as the Globe Network to enhance the efficiency of mutual legal assistance processes. Finally, the panellist noted that, under her country's legislation, law enforcement agency cooperation was restricted to specific emergency cases. Nevertheless, while information-sharing remained a challenge in those cases, she cited the use of networks such as INTERPOL and the conclusion of memorandums of understanding as tools that had enhanced cooperation with the national authorities of her country.

35. In the ensuing discussion, several speakers underlined the importance of using the Convention as a legal basis for international cooperation, shared information about their international cooperation frameworks and welcomed the secretariat's analysis of statistical information in that regard. One speaker recalled that technical assistance and effective international cooperation was of paramount importance in the prevention of and fight against corruption. He informed the meeting of the robust framework in place in his country, composed of 82 bilateral treaties on extradition and 117 memorandums of understanding, underscored the need to remove obstacles to international cooperation and emphasized the importance of participating in networks and relevant initiatives in order to ensure the effective implementation of the Convention through global cooperation.

36. Several speakers shared their national experience in the use of the Convention for international cooperation in the absence of bilateral arrangements and described concrete cases of success. One speaker noted that in 2020, in enforcing the laws on the prevention of corruption among certain categories of public officials, the Office of the Prosecutor General of his country had sent 48 mutual legal assistance requests in relation to criminal proceedings with reference to the relevant provision of the Convention, of which 22 requests had been executed. Another speaker informed the meeting that in 2020, her country had sent more than 50 requests for mutual legal assistance on the basis of the Convention to different countries, and that half of those requests were successfully executed; in the first half of 2021, 17 further requests had been sent on the basis of the Convention. She noted that national authorities of her country actively used the tools and guides made available by the Secretariat, including the SHERLOC knowledge management portal.

37. One speaker explained that, although her country's domestic laws required bilateral treaties as a basis for extradition, in her jurisdiction the Convention could be applied to offences established under it. In relation to perceived delays in international cooperation, she emphasized the importance of informal cooperation prior to sending formal mutual legal assistance requests. She noted, however, that when further

information was required for the execution of a request, requesting jurisdictions often failed to respond to requests for clarification or provided incomplete information, and the translation issues encountered could pose a challenge to successful collaboration. In brief, many of the challenges encountered in international cooperation were entirely related to an inability to communicate quickly, accurately and directly with the relevant authorities. Another major challenge that practitioners in her country faced was that of developing specific evidence for offences linked to assets located in her country. Although the degree of secrecy was high in cases involving corruption offences, it was necessary to establish and demonstrate evidence of the links between offences and related assets.

38. Several speakers proposed solutions with a view to improving international cooperation and encouraged the establishment of solid informal bilateral arrangements as tools for exchanging substantive information, such as police-to-police and other informal cooperation channels, in particular networks of practitioners, with regard to, inter alia, requests for the confiscation of assets and the enforcement of foreign court decisions. The completeness of requests was also mentioned as being crucial to ensuring the effectiveness of international cooperation. Several speakers called upon States to make use of the subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, such as the expert meeting to enhance international cooperation, to promote dialogue and enhance cooperation, including through substantive discussions and in-depth thematic research.

39. One speaker referred to the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption, held in June 2021, and underscored the usefulness of the GlobE Network for building cooperation among competent law enforcement authorities. Several speakers expressed the intention of their countries to join the Network.

40. Another speaker highlighted the challenges in obtaining mutual legal assistance relating to the enforcement of foreign court orders and the use of the Convention in conjunction with other regional instruments, such as the African Union Convention on Preventing and Combating Corruption and the Southern African Development Community Protocol on Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters. In addition, he referred to the usefulness of updating and harmonizing legislation to facilitate the preparation of effective international cooperation requests and the return of illicit assets.

41. One speaker emphasized the benefits of mutual legal assistance, in particular with respect to civil and administrative proceedings related to corruption offences, including for the purposes of asset recovery, and encouraged other States parties to study the matter further. He also highlighted the benefits of non-conviction-based confiscation in the context of international cooperation, as provided for in article 54, paragraph 1 (c), of the Convention.

42. One speaker referred to the importance of signing agreements and developing domestic legal provisions on international cooperation in asset recovery and reported the establishment by his country of a body responsible for asset recovery that also handled international cooperation requests within the same framework.

43. Another speaker referred to the need to criminalize predicate offences in order to ensure active participation in efforts relating to international cooperation against corruption.

44. One speaker stressed that gaps between the confiscation and return of assets would continue to widen if the challenges in international cooperation in the recovery of proceeds of corruption remained unaddressed. He noted that international cooperation was time-consuming and involved complex procedures and stringent conditions, which contributed to the low success of asset recovery, which in turn affected developing countries in achieving the goals of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. The speaker expressed regret that UNODC had not received a mandate to coordinate among different stakeholders in asset recovery

cases. He therefore suggested the establishment of a United Nations special committee to coordinate with States parties in order to find a common understanding of the barriers to international cooperation and help foster an atmosphere of trust. The special committee would help to ensure timely responses to requests for international cooperation. In the view of the speaker, such a special committee should report to the Conference of the States Parties.

45. Another speaker highlighted that her country's experience demonstrated that strengthening the role of central authorities for mutual legal assistance could make a significant contribution to promoting international cooperation. Noting the inadequacy of technical assistance provided to central authorities, she stressed the importance of providing such assistance, in particular equipping central authorities with essential capacity and resources and facilitating communication among them. Furthermore, she commended the role played by the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption in identifying country-specific needs, which had helped her country, as a technical assistance provider, to better understand the capacity gaps of relevant States. In that regard, she cited the successful experience of her country in providing technical assistance with regard to the investigation of cross-border corruption cases and asset recovery.

46. The speaker also requested further information on the use of the Mutual Legal Assistance Request Writer Tool provided by UNODC. In response, a representative of the secretariat explained that the Tool, which was widely used, including in capacity-building activities, had been developed by UNODC to assist practitioners in drafting mutual legal assistance requests expeditiously, thereby enhancing cooperation between States and accelerating responses to such requests. In its revised and expanded version, the Tool provided guidance to practitioners in each step of the drafting process and also helped them to draft mutual legal assistance requests by filling in all appropriate and relevant information. He further explained that it was also important to focus on the quality and content of mutual legal assistance requests in order to ensure the ultimate success of the assistance. In that regard, the representative indicated that UNODC had established several networks for central authorities in different regions with a view to providing, *inter alia*, technical assistance in relation to mutual legal assistance. In addition, the newly established GLOBE Network, although its focus was on facilitating informal cooperation, was also expected to have a positive impact on the preparation of high-quality mutual legal assistance requests. In concluding, he reiterated the readiness of the secretariat to continue to provide, upon request, technical assistance to States parties, including their central authorities for mutual legal assistance.

47. One speaker suggested that UNODC should also focus on providing technical assistance in the use of technology to facilitate mutual legal assistance and extradition.

48. A speaker from INTERPOL described his organization's tools and activities related to international cooperation, including its Match-Fixing Task Force and tools dedicated to data collection for measuring corruption in sport.

#### **IV. Proposals made by States parties during the meeting**

49. The discussions of the meeting generated a number of proposals by States parties to enhance international cooperation, including:

- (a) Taking practical measures to implement the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption;
- (b) Making full use of the Convention, including as a basis for international cooperation;
- (c) Early and direct communication and coordination, including through participation in cooperation and practitioners' networks;

- (d) Strengthening the role and capacity of central authorities for mutual legal assistance;
- (e) Enhancing communication among central authorities in order to ensure effective mutual legal assistance;
- (f) Making use of electronic systems at the national level to facilitate the processing of requests and to gather data on such requests;
- (g) Making better use of online resources, such as the TRACK portal and its legal library, in particular in difficult situations caused by the COVID-19 pandemic;
- (h) Increasing synergies between the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention against Corruption and the Working Group on International Cooperation established by the Conference of the Parties to the Organized Crime Convention by further exploring the possibility of holding joint or back-to-back meetings, while at the same time continuing the joint thematic meetings of the Implementation Review Group, the Working Group on Asset Recovery and the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation;
- (i) Establishing a United Nations special committee to coordinate with interested States parties, with a view to addressing challenges in international cooperation and helping to foster trust and communication.

## V. Adoption of the report

50. The report of the tenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption was adopted on 10 September 2021 ([CAC/COSP/EG.1/2021/L.1](#), [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2021/L.1/Add.1](#), [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2021/L.1/Add.2](#) and [CAC/COSP/EG.1/2021/L.1/Add.3](#)), as orally amended.

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