Draft non-binding guidelines on the management of frozen, seized and confiscated assets

Note by the Secretariat

In its resolution 7/3, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption recommended that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) take into account the priority areas for technical assistance identified during the course of the Implementation Review Mechanism in the development, implementation and, if required, revisions of its thematic, regional and country programmes. One of the priority areas identified was the implementation of article 31 of the Convention against Corruption, on freezing, seizure and confiscation. To address that priority area, the Secretariat prepared a study entitled *Effective Management and Disposal of Seized and Confiscated Assets*.

In its resolution 7/1, the Conference encouraged States parties and UNODC to continue sharing experiences on the management of frozen, seized and confiscated assets, identifying best practices as necessary and building on existing resources, and to consider developing non-binding guidelines on that issue. In accordance with that resolution, the Secretariat, on the basis of the above-mentioned study, developed a set of draft non-binding guidelines on the management of frozen, seized and confiscated assets and submitted them for consideration by the Implementation Review Group at its ninth session and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery at its twelfth session. At those sessions, many speakers welcomed the guidelines and expressed the view that more time should be allocated for, inter alia, holding discussions on them.

The draft non-binding guidelines, as contained in document CAC/COSP/WG.2/2018/3, are therefore brought to the attention of the Group for its consideration.

In order to facilitate the discussions, the Secretariat will also make available to the Group two conference room papers, reflecting specific proposals received from States parties to amend the draft guidelines (CAC/COSP/IRG/2018/CRP.14) and transmitting the comments made by States parties in the form in which they were received by the Secretariat (CAC/COSP/IRG/2018/CRP.15).