

In the name of God

The Merciful, the Compassionate

Islamic Republic of Iran's Statement

Item 3 of Agenda: the Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the Convention

Mr. Chairman,

It is my pleasure to see you chairing this session of the resumed IRG.

Iran as a country with the vision of "**a society free from corruption**" intensified its efforts and has carried out innovative measures in fulfilling its commitments concerning UN CAC and the first and second review cycle in the past years. On this basis an instruction was issued in April 2016 by the head of the Iran national focal point council of UN CAC in line with organizing the process of responding to the second review cycle as a country under review in the first year. An applied process and integrated structure has been established, through this instruction comprising a supervisory working group and two steering committees on prevention and asset recovery under the national focal point council of the UN CAC. Six sub-committees were established as well in the main era of reviewing chapters. These committees and sub-committees have been formed of the representatives of 116 bodies from the government, judicial, parliamentary, civil society and the private sectors.

The two mentioned committees have been worked with a group of skilled academic and executive independent members who were selected by UN CAC focal point to gathering data and prepare the completed initial draft of checklist. In addition to the collection of data, the committees and sub-committees are tasked to making policies to solve recognized gaps and challenges as well.

This structure that was briefly mentioned also was presented at a training course in Malaysia and was welcomed by UNODC and the participating countries as the good practice

e. Therefore, the file of the instruction will be given to the secretariat in order to share Iran's initiative.

In the second Review Cycle, top authorities of the government, the judiciary, parliamentary, the anti-corruption commission, the UNCAC focal point council, the private sector, civil society and media of Iran were involved. Since the official inception of the review mechanism in July 2016, the two committees and their sub-committees held regular weekly meetings. So far more than 100 meetings have been held for completion of the checklist and more than 12,100 questions have been posed to 116 organizations and entities based on checklist and its guidance. There are approximately 300 persons who are directly or indirectly involved in this process.

Following these meetings, executive groups in cooperation with the secretariat of the national focal point's experts, held joint meetings with the relevant authorities upon their request to collect more accurate and evaluated data.

Result of the above-mentioned activities, is that the self-assessment checklist of chapters 2 and 5 of the Islamic Republic of Iran is in the process of finalization in Persian which will be later translated and submitted to the secretariat in close future.

My delegation would like to strongly emphasize on the inter-governmental nature of the Review mechanism, and the necessity to preserve and respect it. Iran appreciates the efforts made by UNCAC member states and UNODC at the IRG sessions aimed at steering the process of review mechanism through offering guidance, exchanging experiences and holding training courses and declares its full support for such activities.

In conclusion, I wish to offer the following suggestions with the purpose of improving the process of second review cycle:

- 1- The limited timeline offered for completion of the self-assessment checklist is not realistic at least for the member states which are under review in the first year. That you see this issue at secretariat progress report of second review cycle. Hence, there is the need for reconsidering the time line.
- 2- There is the need for holding more briefing and training course for experts at national, regional and international levels in order to overcome the challenges

related to the completion of the self-assessment checklist;

- 3- With regard to the guidance provided for completion of the checklist there is the need for collecting a large and diverse volume of data and documents which is difficult to accomplish. The mentioned documents need to be translated. It leads to increase the time and costs of this process.
- 4- It is proposed to provide a standard completed versions of self-assessment checklists as a sample for member states to minimize the diverse of responding to the checklist;

Thank you Mr. President