



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

Distr.: General
22 September 2016

Original: English

Resumed seventh session

Vienna, 14-16 November 2016

Agenda item 4

Technical assistance

Technical assistance in support of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

Note by the Secretariat

I. Introduction

1. The effective implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption poses a challenge for States parties, and may require significant changes in legislative and policy frameworks, institutional arrangements, the criminal justice system and the civil service. The delivery of technical assistance, in particular to meet the needs identified by States through the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, is pivotal to the successful and consistent implementation of the Convention.

2. The present document provides an overview of the response of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to technical assistance needs identified and requests made since the time of the drafting of the note by the Secretariat on technical assistance in support of the implementation of the Convention (CAC/COSP/2015/2) for the sixth session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention, held in St Petersburg, Russian Federation, from 2 to 6 November 2015. It highlights selected technical assistance activities implemented between August 2015, when the previous note was submitted, and August 2016.

II. Delivery framework and resources

3. UNODC has continued to provide a broad set of tailored technical assistance activities at the global, regional and national levels and to develop a variety of tools to meet the growing demands of Member States. Assistance was provided within the



framework of the thematic programme on action against corruption, economic fraud and identity-related crime and through several global,¹ regional² and national projects.

4. In line with Conference resolutions 3/4 and 4/1, technical assistance delivered by UNODC for the implementation of the Convention takes into account the importance of country-based and country-led, integrated and coordinated technical assistance delivery, and follows a three-tiered approach (global, regional and national) to ensure synergies and efficiency. In its resolution 6/1, the Conference underscored the importance of addressing the technical assistance priorities identified in the country reviews, and invited technical assistance providers to consider those priorities either for new technical assistance programmes or for incorporating them into ongoing programmes.

5. As more countries complete their reviews, a large number of technical assistance needs have been identified in relation to chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention.³ In addition, UNODC has often been requested to provide technical assistance before and during the review process in relation to both the completion of the review and substantive gaps or needs that have become apparent during the review process.

6. UNODC has strived to ensure a global presence to be able to effectively respond to technical assistance requests. Staff members at headquarters are complemented by field-based staff in high-demand regions. UNODC field offices also have a variety of country programmes on anti-corruption or related issues.

7. UNODC field-based anti-corruption advisers serve as key focal points for the provision of anti-corruption technical assistance at the regional and country levels. Those advisers provide rapidly deployable professional expertise at both the country and the regional levels to facilitate the delivery of on-site guidance to States parties requesting assistance in strengthening legislation and institutions in furtherance of their implementation of the Convention. Anti-corruption advisers are well placed to identify regional and national needs and to provide targeted assistance, reflected throughout this report, at national, subregional and regional levels. They play an important role in strengthening regional coordination, encouraging South-South cooperation, engaging all sectors of society, and facilitating the exchange of good practices, thereby creating lasting bilateral, multilateral and regional exchanges of knowledge and expertise.

8. Currently, advisers with regional responsibilities are based in Fiji (for the Pacific region), Thailand (for South-East Asia and South Asia), South Africa (for East and Southern Africa), Senegal (for West and Central Africa), Egypt (for the Middle East and North Africa), Panama (for Central America and the Caribbean) and Austria (for small island developing States). Additional advisers with a national focus are placed in Mozambique and El Salvador. Reduced extrabudgetary resources

¹ Such projects include: “Towards an effective global regime against corruption”, “Joint action towards a global regime against corruption”, the anti-corruption mentor programme and the Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative.

² Such projects include the joint UNODC/United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) Pacific regional anti-corruption project and the UNODC Sahel programme (2013-2017).

³ Detailed information on technical assistance needs emerging from the country reviews is available in the note by the Secretariat on that topic (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/13).

for some of these positions might lead to UNODC making changes to the regional advisers programme in the coming year.

III. Coordination and cooperation in the delivery of technical assistance

9. In the light of the increased demand for the provision of technical assistance, UNODC has adopted a prioritized and strategic approach in its delivery of technical assistance, seeking to coordinate and cooperate with other assistance providers and international organizations.

10. UNODC has also continued to contribute to policy discussions about anti-corruption and development in both regional and international forums. Within the United Nations, UNODC actively participated in the discussions on the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, including on establishing measurable indicators for Goal 16 on promoting peaceful and inclusive societies for sustainable development, providing access to justice for all and building effective, accountable and inclusive institutions at all levels.

11. When developing and implementing its anti-corruption technical assistance projects and programmes, UNODC strives to avoid duplication of effort and to build synergies with entities within and outside the United Nations system. Such coordination includes the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative and the implementation of joint or coordinated anti-corruption projects with the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in the Pacific region and globally.

12. UNODC also cooperates and coordinates with a number of other international organizations, including the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe, the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities (IAACA), the Group of Seven and the Group of Twenty, the United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization, the International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA), the Association of Southeast Asian Nations (ASEAN), the Commonwealth secretariat, Eurojust, the Caribbean Community, the African Union, the Economic Community of West African States, the Southern African Development Community (SADC), the International Centre for Asset Recovery, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, the Group of States against Corruption of the Council of Europe, the Basel Institute on Governance, Transparency International and the Global Organization of Parliamentarians against Corruption (GOPAC).

13. UNODC participated in the twenty-second meeting of the anti-corruption and transparency working group of the Asia-Pacific Economic Community, held in Lima in February 2016 and in that Community's Pathfinder Dialogue III in August 2016.

14. UNODC also continued its cooperation with GOPAC to strengthen the role of parliamentarians in the fight against corruption, including by participating in the sixth GOPAC conference and in a special event on the margins of the Conference of the States Parties in November 2015. In addition, workshops for members of parliament were hosted jointly by UNODC, UNDP and GOPAC in Fiji in 2015 and

in the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Nauru and Palau in 2016 to raise awareness of the Convention and the oversight role of parliaments in its implementation. Specialized codes of conduct for parliamentarians and leaders were discussed and drafted. UNODC also supported the Independent Commission against Corruption in Mauritius in the development of a code of conduct for parliamentarians. In Nauru, UNODC supported efforts to adopt a leadership code for parliamentarians, which has been endorsed by the national parliament.

15. UNODC continued its partnership with the International Bar Association (IBA) to support IBA research on judicial integrity. UNODC attended an expert group meeting in London and participated in a panel on judicial integrity at the IBA annual conference in October 2015. UNODC also participated in the sixth annual Geneva Forum of Judges and Lawyers hosted by the International Commission of Jurists in December 2015, providing input on judicial accountability and anti-corruption for the preparation of a practitioners' guide on judicial accountability.

16. In October 2015, UNODC participated in the annual meeting of the African Union Advisory Board on Corruption, and provided input on that Advisory Board's strategic plan for 2016-2019.

17. UNODC further works closely with a number of private sector organizations and entities, including the United Nations Global Compact, Business-20 and the World Economic Forum. In October 2015, in Berlin, UNODC participated in a high-level panel discussion at a conference on the future of corporate sustainability and the Global Compact in Europe hosted by the Foundation of the German Global Compact Network. UNODC supported the organization of the 2016 annual meeting of the ASEAN working group on business integrity in cooperation with the ASEAN Corporate Social Responsibility Network.

18. UNODC has also continued its work with UNDP, with the support of the United Nations System Staff College, to promote the integration of anti-corruption into United Nations development assistance programming. UNODC and UNDP, provided workshops to United Nations country teams on the integration of anti-corruption measures into United Nations programming in the Philippines, the Republic of Moldova and Ukraine.

IV. Highlights of technical assistance delivered

A. Assistance with regard to the process for ratifying and acceding to the Convention

19. UNODC continued to promote the ratification of and accession to the Convention through targeted awareness-raising and advocacy at both the political and legislative levels, as well as through the provision of technical assistance in those countries that are not yet States parties. Tuvalu acceded to the Convention on 4 September 2015, and New Zealand ratified on 1 December 2015.

20. Following UNODC advocacy work and workshops organized on the ratification of the Convention, steps are being taken by many countries, in particular in Asia, the Caribbean and the Pacific region, to ratify or accede to the Convention.

To reinforce advocacy efforts in the Caribbean, a second regional pre-ratification workshop was delivered for Barbados, Belize, Saint Kitts and Nevis, and Saint Vincent and the Grenadines, in coordination with the secretariat of the Caribbean Community. Ratification workshops were also held for Samoa and Tonga, which led to the establishment of a standing committee on anti-corruption in Tonga that was tasked, inter alia, with issues related to the accession to the Convention.

B. Technical assistance tools facilitating the delivery of assistance

21. At the global level, the Office continued to develop and disseminate guides, handbooks and other tools that address the needs of anti-corruption practitioners with regard to specific aspects, challenges, policies and good practices relating to the implementation of the Convention.

22. The *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons* was launched on the margins of the Conference of the States Parties in November 2015. The Guide assists States parties in their implementation of article 33 and article 8, paragraph 4, of the Convention. It is available in English and French and is currently being translated into Arabic and Spanish. In addition, the tool *National Anti-Corruption Strategies: A Practical Guide for Development and Implementation* was launched at the sixth session of the Conference, in November 2015, and has already been downloaded 6,048 times. It is currently being translated into Arabic, French and Spanish.

23. Addressing the needs of small islands, UNODC continued the development of a tailored resource guide on challenges and emerging practices in procurement and corruption in small island developing States, which will be published in late 2016.

24. The UNODC resource *Implementation Guide and Evaluative Framework for Article 11 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption* was translated into Arabic, French and Spanish. This guide and other publications on judicial integrity were downloaded almost 20,000 times in 2015.

25. In January 2016, UNODC launched a new e-learning course on anti-corruption that consisted of two separate modules. The first module, entitled “Introduction to anti-corruption”, provided an overview of the Convention. The second, entitled “Prevention of corruption”, enabled learners to gain more advanced knowledge about preventive measures. The modules are currently available in English and Arabic and are being translated into French and Spanish.⁴

26. The interactive e-learning tool for the private sector, entitled “The fight against corruption” is now available in 21 languages. It was developed jointly by UNODC and the Global Compact to enhance the understanding of the private sector of the Convention and the Global Compact’s tenth principle against corruption. To date, more than 200,000 users have taken the course and more than 180,000 users have successfully passed the end-of-course assessment and obtained the course certificate.⁵

⁴ The course is available at www.unodc.org/elearning/frontpage.jsp.

⁵ <http://thefightagainstcorruption.org/certificate/>.

27. UNODC, in partnership with Slovakia and the Department of Peacekeeping Operations of the Secretariat, launched an integrated technical guidance note on transnational organized crime and security sector reform in May 2016. The note, drafted under the leadership of UNODC, was endorsed by the members of the inter-agency Security Sector Reform Task Force and was intended to help practitioners to mainstream measures to combat organized crime and corruption in the context of security sector reform.

28. The Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge (TRACK) portal, developed by UNODC in 2012, continued to be successful. A total of 55,530 page views were made between August 2015 and August 2016. Its legal library contains laws, jurisprudence and information on anti-corruption authorities from 176 States. It currently contains a total of 56,068 legal provisions. TRACK also hosts the resources of the Anti-Corruption Academic (ACAD) Initiative and a private sector portal.

Integrity in sports

29. UNODC continued to work with the International Olympic Committee (IOC) and the International Centre for Sports Security (ICSS) on a number of projects and initiatives. Together with IOC, UNODC conducted an extensive study on the criminalization of the manipulation of sports competitions and published the booklet “Model criminal law provisions for the prosecution of competition manipulation: booklet for legislators” in June 2016. The *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Investigation of Match-Fixing*, developed by UNODC in partnership with ICSS in order to help officials of law enforcement agencies and sports organizations to investigate match-fixing, was launched in August 2016.

30. UNODC developed a training programme based on the handbook *A Strategy for Safeguarding against Corruption in Major Public Events* to provide stakeholders with the knowledge and tools necessary to address the threat of corruption in the organization of a major public event, such as the hosting of a major sport competition, in line with international good practices. The training materials are available in English on the UNODC website, and a Russian version will be added later in 2016.

31. Discussions are ongoing with a number of sports organizations about developing further cooperation in areas related to prevention, enforcement and education. In June 2016, UNODC delivered training to Brazilian prosecutors and law enforcement officials as part of a workshop, organized by INTERPOL and IOC, to combat corruption in sport. In Panama, UNODC supported the preparation of a threat assessment for money-laundering in the football sector.

C. Assistance provided for the identification of gaps and technical assistance needs in the implementation of the Convention

32. In accordance with the terms of reference and the guidelines of the Implementation Review Mechanism, UNODC organized training courses to familiarize focal points of the States parties under review and governmental experts of reviewing States with the Convention and the methodology of the review process.

33. Over the last year, UNODC provided support to a number of countries, including the Cook Islands, Fiji, Kiribati, Mauritius, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Solomon Islands, the United Republic of Tanzania and Vanuatu, to prepare for the second cycle of the review mechanism by completing the self-assessment checklist for chapters II and/or V. In El Salvador, UNODC supported the completion of the self-assessment for chapters II and V of the Convention with a view to promoting legislative amendments to address identified gaps even before the review takes place and to use the findings as the basis for the development of a national anti-corruption strategy.

34. Based on the lessons learned, UNODC has engaged in a more proactive approach to working with countries on follow-up to the reviews. Prioritized national action plans, based on the outcomes of the reviews, have been drafted and are being used as the framework for the development of technical assistance programmes to combat corruption in several countries.

35. UNODC has sought to engage the broader technical assistance community in the follow-up to the review process. In many cases, donors or existing donor coordination groups were invited to participate in the dialogue held during the country visits or in meetings held afterwards. That has had the benefit of providing donors with an in-depth perspective on the technical assistance needs identified during the review process.

36. In Ghana, for example, UNODC organized a conference to bring together policymakers from anti-corruption institutions, ministries, civil society and development partners to develop an implementation action plan to address challenges identified through the implementation review process. In Sri Lanka, UNODC facilitated a workshop for policymakers and governmental and non-governmental stakeholders to prioritize necessary actions and identify agencies, resources and time frames to implement the recommendations arising from the implementation review.

D. Legislative assistance to incorporate provisions of the Convention into national legislation

37. UNODC regularly receives requests from States seeking to improve their legislation to prevent and fight corruption, often based on the recommendations identified through the country reviews. In the Pacific region, for example, UNODC provided assistance to Solomon Islands in drafting their right-to-information law and policy as well as a new anti-corruption bill. UNODC also provided assistance to Fiji and Palau in reviewing their access-to-information laws and procedures and to Vanuatu in awareness-raising on the right-to-information bill and policy. In Cambodia, UNODC facilitated consultations among national stakeholders for the development of a code of ethics in public administration.

38. The joint UNODC-UNDP Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project contributed financially to the placement of a legal specialist in the Ministry of Justice in the Federated States of Micronesia and the appointment of a right-to-information officer in Vanuatu with co-funding by the Government.

39. In Burkina Faso, UNODC supported the transitional Government in its efforts to strengthen its anti-corruption body by facilitating an institutional assessment of that body by the heads of the anti-corruption authorities of the Niger and Senegal. Following the assessment, UNODC supported the drafting of a new legal framework, which included the organization of a stakeholder workshop with visiting legal experts from peer institutions in Côte d'Ivoire, Guinea, the Niger and Senegal. The draft law, adopted in 2016, resulted in a number of reforms and strengthened the investigative powers and independence of the High Authority for State Control and Anti-Corruption.

40. At the request of the Independent Authority against Corruption of Mongolia, UNODC provided advice on the country's law on amnesty. Parliament subsequently decided to exclude certain corruption-related crimes from the amnesty provisions.

41. UNODC supported the Authority of Transparency and Access to Information of Panama in the preparation and submission of a draft law on asset declarations and illicit enrichment through a series of 10 working sessions held by a wide range of stakeholders from among public institutions and civil society. UNODC also facilitated, in 2015 and 2016, several legislative drafting sessions to prepare amendments to the Uniform Ethics Code and the Penal Code. Those amendments were intended as part of a broader anti-corruption statute that is being prepared by the office of the vice-president of Panama. Similarly, in 2016, UNODC supported the drafting of an intelligence services bill to include anti-corruption provisions.

42. In 2016, UNODC convened a series of legislative drafting workshops in the Dominican Republic to further the implementation of recommendations arising from the implementation review by redrafting portions of the Penal Code and the Transnational Bribery Act, resulting in draft legislation to address money-laundering and international cooperation within the meaning of chapter IV of the Convention. Additionally, comments and suggestions were provided in relation to the Non-Conviction-Based Asset Forfeiture Bill, adopted in July 2016, at the request of the Senate.

43. In El Salvador, in July 2016, UNODC facilitated the launch of a legislative drafting task force aimed at drafting the first mutual legal assistance and extradition laws. UNODC also facilitated, in March 2016, a legislative drafting workshop in Guatemala to amend the Probity Law.

E. Assistance in strengthening national institutional and policy frameworks and the capacity of national authorities to effectively prevent and combat corruption

Investigation and prosecution of corruption

44. UNODC provided training to build the capacity of specialized institutions to successfully investigate and prosecute corruption. The training covered topics such as investigation management, search and seizure operations, document analysis, financial investigations, audits, special investigation techniques, interview techniques, forensic accounting, trial advocacy skills and case management.

45. UNODC also provided training on financial analysis techniques to financial intelligence units in several States. In particular, the financial intelligence unit of

Fiji mentored the financial intelligence units of Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau and Solomon Islands to strengthen their capacity to combat money-laundering. UNODC provided capacity-building support in several countries for the detection, investigation and successful prosecution of money-laundering offences. UNODC and the Pacific Association of Supreme Audit Institutions launched a pilot exchange programme for audit offices from Fiji and Kiribati. UNODC also delivered training to the Superintendency of the Stock Market of Panama on transparency, money-laundering and the causes of corruption.

46. Ongoing support was provided to Mozambique that included training for prosecutors and magistrates on the elements of corruption crimes and the use of anti-money-laundering techniques in corruption cases. The training was complemented by on-site mentoring and case-specific advisory services related to concrete criminal investigations.

47. A training curriculum on investigating corruption, money-laundering and asset recovery was developed in Panama for the training institution for prosecutors, which led to new prosecutions on charges of corruption and money-laundering offences. In 2016, UNODC delivered training on the prevention and detection of money-laundering to the newly created Intendancy for the Supervision and Regulation of Non-Financial Subjects of Panama, which is responsible for oversight of casinos, real estate agents, free zones, notaries and attorneys. In El Salvador, UNODC further provided training on money-laundering to prosecutors and police, including all heads of relevant specialized units.

48. At the regional level, UNODC conducted a workshop in South-East Asia on the protection of whistle-blowers and witnesses in April 2016. Similar workshops were held for small island developing States in June 2016, and for West African countries in September 2016, the latter in support of efforts by the Economic Community of West African States. UNODC also participated in an event hosted by the Regional Anti-Corruption Initiative in Croatia in May 2016. At the national level, UNODC contributed to a workshop hosted by Transparency International in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia in October 2015 to discuss the draft whistle-blower law, which was subsequently adopted. UNODC also provided legislative drafting assistance on a whistle-blower protection law to Solomon Islands in direct response to the implementation of a recommendation arising from the implementation review process.

49. In El Salvador, a three-year country programme was developed as a follow-up to the review recommendations from the first cycle and in preparation for the second review cycle. It was effective in improving inter-institutional cooperation: regular meetings were held to advance the design and adoption of anti-corruption policies and an anti-corruption legal framework. UNODC provided support to the drafting of a handbook on standard operating procedures for the newly created secretariat of professional responsibility for the judiciary.

50. In Indonesia, through anti-corruption projects, UNODC continued to support law enforcement agencies including the Corruption Eradication Commission in enhancing their capacity, professionalism and transparency. In 2016, UNODC, in cooperation with the Alliance for Integrity, delivered training for the Indonesian Commission for the Eradication of Corruption and the Promotion of Corporate

Integrity to develop a strategy for engaging the private sector in the fight against corruption.

51. In Timor-Leste, UNODC has been providing support to strengthen the Commission Against Corruption and other law enforcement agencies since 2014 to enhance its capacity and professionalism through specialized training programmes, as well as to develop a national anti-corruption strategy and to strengthen anti-corruption policies and legislation. In 2016, UNODC conducted a capacity assessment for the Commission and prepared to implement the recommendations arising from the implementation review.

52. In Egypt, UNODC continued to provide assistance to strengthen the legal and institutional framework for countering corruption under the umbrella of the national anti-corruption strategy. Assistance was provided to increase capacity to detect and prosecute corruption cases and to recover stolen assets. In March 2016, UNODC conducted a workshop to discuss and enhance national capacity to evaluate, monitor and report on the implementation and impact of the national anti-corruption strategy of Egypt.

53. UNODC continued to support Nigeria through a national anti-corruption project aimed at providing effective support to coordination, policy formulation and legislation, through the adoption of an evidence-based approach; the strengthening of institutional and operational capacity in the main anti-corruption agencies, as well as the police and the judiciary, with an emphasis on cooperation; and accountability, transparency and civil society engagement in the fight against corruption.

54. In Afghanistan, UNODC commenced a project in April 2015 to update the normative and policy anti-corruption frameworks by supporting efforts to bring national penal provisions into line with the Convention, to draft an updated national anti-corruption strategy and to establish an inter-agency policy coordination framework. As part of these efforts, technical assistance and training was provided in relation to reviewing and updating the new Penal Code to ensure its compatibility with the Convention.

55. In Paraguay UNODC facilitated the development of an anti-corruption strategy for the public sector to prevent, detect and combat corruption in governmental structures, which is currently pending approval by the Government. In Panama, UNODC supported the Regional Anti-Corruption Academy for Central America and the Caribbean and provided technical assistance and training to Governments in the region. In Colombia, UNODC assisted the Government in strengthening its legal and regulatory regime to fight corruption by providing training in investigation techniques.

56. In the United Republic of Tanzania, UNODC provided support to the prioritization and planning of the follow-up to the recommendations emanating from the review. In particular, since strengthening trial advocacy skills was identified as a priority, UNODC delivered a series of capacity-building events to prosecutors and magistrates, which reportedly resulted in more success in having documentary evidence admitted in trials for corruption offences.

Prevention of corruption

57. The Secretary-General has received notifications from 101 States parties designating a total of 172 competent authorities that might assist other States parties in developing and implementing specific measures for the prevention of corruption, as required under article 6, paragraph 3, of the Convention. An updated list of competent authorities and government agencies is available from an online directory (www.unodc.org/compauth_uncac/en/index.html).

58. At the national level, expert advice was provided in Afghanistan, Burkina Faso, Ethiopia, Guatemala, Solomon Islands, Somalia and Timor-Leste through regional advisers and headquarters staff on the conceptualization, role and powers of anti-corruption bodies and the drafting of laws establishing specialized anti-corruption bodies.

59. In its support to anti-corruption bodies and other stakeholders, UNODC continued to enable and support South-South cooperation and learning exchange. Through the UNODC-UNDP project for the Pacific region, for example, anti-corruption officials from Papua New Guinea and Timor-Leste contributed to the discussions with Solomon Islands on the establishment of its anti-corruption body. UNODC also supported anti-corruption bodies in devising capacity development strategies in Cambodia, Indonesia, the Lao People's Democratic Republic and Myanmar.

60. In December 2015, UNODC supported the launch of a new anti-corruption project in Colombia that will assist the private sector in strengthening its efforts to prevent and combat corruption and to join forces with the public sector in promoting a more competitive and transparent market environment.

61. Since August 2015, UNODC has supported 12 States parties in developing or revising their anti-corruption strategies. In particular, UNODC conducted a workshop and provided assistance regarding the development of an anti-corruption law and the drafting of an anti-corruption strategy in Solomon Islands and Vanuatu. UNODC supported the development of anti-corruption strategies in Afghanistan, the Cook Islands, El Salvador, Hungary, Nigeria, Panama and Ukraine. UNODC also assisted authorities in Tunisia in planning their next steps to finalize the draft national anti-corruption strategy, which addressed the recommendations arising from the implementation review. Finally, UNODC supported the Anti-Corruption Commission of Namibia in the review and revision of its corruption prevention strategy.

62. In January 2016, UNODC supported the transparency seminar organized by Panama and the Transparency and Access-to-Information Network of Latin America, at which good practices in open government and access to information were presented. UNODC supported Mauritius in August 2015 in providing an advanced training event for integrity officers to discuss integrity challenges and to generate input for an integrity toolkit, to be finalized in 2016. The joint UNODC-UNDP Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project placed a national consultant in the Public Accounts Committee of the Parliament of Vanuatu to assist it in fulfilling its roles and responsibilities.

63. UNODC provided assistance to Algeria, Egypt and the State of Palestine in modernizing and upgrading their asset disclosure systems. In Panama, UNODC

delivered a series of mini-workshops to the inter-institutional legislative drafting task force to enhance the capacity of officials to amend the asset declaration law. In January 2016, UNODC facilitated a workshop for authorities from El Salvador on comparative practices in relation to asset declarations in the light of the ongoing constitutional appeal in relation to the recently adopted Probity Law. In Guatemala, UNODC held a workshop for staff of the Comptroller General's Office in March 2016 that addressed comparative practices on asset declarations and the detection of illicit enrichment. A similar workshop was delivered to authorities in Grenada in July 2016 in the light of the upcoming referendum on a new Constitution that includes conflict-of-interest provisions.

64. UNODC continued to implement national projects that included segments on judicial integrity in countries such as Egypt, Ethiopia, Nigeria and Tunisia. In Kosovo,⁶ UNODC implemented a project, completed in April 2016, that supported the judiciary and the prosecution service in strengthening their capacity to address issues related to integrity, professional ethics and disciplinary investigations and in enhancing inter-agency coordination to fight corruption.

65. A new project, which included a pillar on judicial and prosecutorial integrity, was launched in El Salvador. In Egypt, the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct and other international standards formed the basis for capacity-building and the development of a judicial code of conduct that was adopted by the judiciary. In Myanmar, UNODC supported an assessment of the current judicial integrity mechanisms and the drafting of recommendations to review the judicial code of ethics and establish a judicial commission.

66. In 2016, UNODC launched a new global project to strengthen judicial integrity and assist States in the implementation of article 11 of the Convention and the Bangalore Principles of Judicial Conduct. Among other things, this project is aimed at establishing a global judicial integrity network made up of senior members of judiciaries throughout the world, harnessing the expertise and experience of national and regional associations of judges, prosecutors and judicial administration officials. In July 2016, a regional meeting about this subject matter was held in Amman for States in the Middle East and North Africa. As a follow-up to the regional meeting, UNODC co-sponsored the fifth ministerial meeting of the Arab Anti-Corruption and Integrity Network, held in Tunisia in September 2016. Additional regional meetings will be held later in 2016 in Panama and Thailand to discuss regional challenges and priorities in judicial integrity as well as expand and develop a global network on judicial integrity.

67. In Kenya, Panama, Tunisia and Viet Nam, UNODC supported projects to strengthen police integrity and to assist police in implementing anti-corruption measures, including by developing national codes of conduct. In El Salvador, UNODC facilitated the drafting of standard operating procedures for the newly-created secretariat of professional responsibility within the National Civilian Police, as well as procedures to govern joint action between the police and the defence force. In Tunisia, UNODC conducted training for law enforcement agencies on integrity and methodologies for enhancing the ethics regime in police forces.

⁶ All references to Kosovo in the present document should be understood to be in compliance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999).

68. In October 2015, UNODC and the National Police of Niger hosted a regional meeting for countries of the Sahel region on the fight against corruption, including corruption within the police. UNODC also participated in a regional conference organized by the inspectorate general of the National Police of Panama in March 2016 on good practices and new initiatives in the prevention of corruption.

69. UNODC held a number of training events in relation to corruption in customs. A workshop on tackling contraband and strengthening anti-corruption measures in Central America was held in Panama in February 2016, at which representatives were brought together from the country's customs, maritime and canal authorities to increase understanding of corruption risk mapping. Similar workshops were held in March 2016 for officials from Costa Rica, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras and Nicaragua. In July and August 2016, UNODC also delivered a mini-workshop to law enforcement and prosecutors in Grenada and Panama, respectively, on the role of corruption in human trafficking.

70. UNODC continued the development of a handbook on anti-corruption measures in prisons that will be finalized by the end of 2016. In the framework of a prison project in Panama, UNODC continued to support the penitentiary system's oversight unit to take measures to prevent, detect and investigate corruption. UNODC is further planning anti-corruption activities with prisons in Cabo Verde and the Niger.

Youth, education and civil society

71. UNODC continued to promote the involvement of civil society, media and youth in anti-corruption initiatives. At the regional level, in December 2015, UNODC and UNDP launched the first anti-corruption workshop for Pacific civil society organizations on citizen engagement, social accountability, the Convention and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. In addition, integrity workshops were organized with umbrella organizations for non-governmental organizations in Fiji, Kiribati, the Marshall Islands, Micronesia (Federated States of), Nauru, Palau, Samoa, Solomon Islands, Tonga, Tuvalu and Vanuatu.

72. In order to strengthen the capacity of civil society to contribute to the Convention and the review of its implementation, UNODC and the UNCAC Coalition, an umbrella organization of over 360 civil society organizations, have trained 248 civil society representatives from 96 countries. The most recent multi-stakeholder workshop was held in September 2016 at IACA in Laxenburg, Austria.

73. UNODC and UNDP have worked extensively with the Pacific Youth Council and in-country youth councils and organizations to raise awareness of corruption. A youth officer was hired by the joint UNODC-UNDP Pacific Regional Anti-Corruption Project following the success of the first Pacific Youth Forum against Corruption. Integrity workshops and activities for young people were organized in Fiji, Kiribati, Samoa, Tonga, Tuvalu, and Vanuatu, and active anti-corruption youth groups were established in Kiribati and Tonga.

74. In March 2016, UNODC supported the Independent Commission against Corruption in Mauritius in piloting a model conference of the States parties for high school students from 45 schools. The event resulted in increased awareness and the adoption of a model conference resolution that was submitted as a conference room

paper to the seventh session of the Implementation Review Group (CAC/COSP/IRG/2016/CRP.6).

75. In February 2016, UNODC and the Association for the Fight against Corruption of Niger co-organized an awareness-raising event for 40 participants from the country's media on the Convention and draft anti-corruption bills. In April 2016, UNODC supported the adoption of a strategic plan for the Norbert Zongo Cell for Investigative Journalism in West Africa at a meeting hosted by the Open Society Initiative for West Africa in Senegal. UNODC also organized a workshop for 21 journalists from the Pacific region to raise awareness of the Convention and the media's role in the fight against corruption, which led to 30 corruption-related media reports.

76. In July 2016, UNODC partnered with the Governmental Ethics Tribunal in El Salvador to deliver a series of presentations on ethics-related topics to public officials and universities during an ethics awareness campaign entitled "Adding values for the country I want". These presentations reached over 1,500 public officials and students throughout the country.

77. Since 2009, UNODC and UNDP have marked International Anti-Corruption Day on 9 December with a joint campaign. In 2015, UNODC supported and participated in activities in 20 countries. More than 80 UNDP and UNODC field offices received the campaign package, and it is estimated that approximately 200 million people were reached by the campaign through local activities.

78. UNODC continued its leading role in the ACAD Initiative, which seeks to encourage the teaching and research of corruption-related issues by higher level education institutions. The UNODC three-credit model university course on the Convention, which includes resource materials, is now available in Arabic, Chinese, English, French and Spanish. The Russian version will become available in 2016. Over 40 institutions around the world are delivering the course in whole or in part. ACAD further offers over 1,800 free online resources, such as academic articles, books, publications and teaching materials covering an extensive range of anti-corruption themes and issues on the TRACK website.

79. In October 2015, an ACAD symposium was held in Moscow bringing together academics and experts to discuss opportunities and challenges in teaching anti-corruption. A global ACAD meeting was held by UNODC in Doha in April 2016 to discuss innovative methods of teaching anti-corruption. As a result of these meetings, a number of additional institutions have shown a strong interest in delivering the model course. Following two regional ACAD meetings organized in 2015, a meeting was held in Burkina Faso for West Africa in July 2016 and additional regional meetings for the Middle East and North Africa as well as South-East Asia are planned for late 2016.

80. Building on the work of ACAD, UNODC will expand its work on anti-corruption and integrity education in the next years under a global project on education for justice which includes components on education for primary and secondary schools as well as for universities.

81. UNODC maintained its strong collaboration with IACA, including through the provision of lectures and exchange on academic initiatives. In Panama, UNODC supported, through the Regional Anti-Corruption Academy for Central America and

the Caribbean, the delivery of a postgraduate diploma inspired by the ACAD model course. In addition, 13 courses and workshops were delivered to 429 participants from the public and private sectors and civil society.

82. In May 2016, UNODC provided advisory services to the Independent Commission against Corruption of Mauritius in its ongoing efforts to establish an anti-corruption research platform for small island developing States.

83. Building on the success of the first Global Conference on Anti-Corruption Reform in Small Island States, held in August 2015, UNODC, UNDP and Mauritius held a second conference in Mauritius in August 2016 to address the prevention of corruption in public procurement.

F. Assistance for international cooperation in criminal matters pertaining to countering corruption

84. The Office continued to maintain a list of designated central authorities responsible for requests for mutual legal assistance in accordance with article 46, paragraph 13, of the Convention. The list currently contains the contact information for 151 authorities.

85. UNODC continued its close cooperation with IAACA, including by participating in the ninth annual conference and general meeting of IAACA, held in Tianjin, China, in May 2016. In the conference's outcome document, the Tianjin declaration, States parties were called upon, inter alia, to be guided by the Convention when establishing anti-corruption bodies or reforming their mandate.

86. UNODC continued to support regional associations of anti-corruption authorities and networks of anti-corruption agencies, such as the African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities, the East African Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities and the Network of National Anti-Corruption Institutions in West Africa. With UNODC support the Network has set up a permanent secretariat in Senegal that holds general meetings and has established a training academy for anti-corruption officials from the region in Nigeria. The academy held its first two-week training programme in September 2015. In South-East Asia, UNODC participated in the annual meeting of anti-corruption agencies that are members of the South-East Asian Parties against Corruption.

87. UNODC also worked with other regional organizations to promote efforts to counter corruption. UNODC supported SADC in the creation of its anti-corruption committee. Meetings were held in October and November 2015 in Botswana to discuss the complementarity between the Convention and the SADC protocol against corruption. UNODC also worked with the Commonwealth African Anti-Corruption Centre to create a library of standard operating procedures followed by anti-corruption authorities in Commonwealth countries in Africa. Further, UNODC supported the foundational meeting of the Network of National Anti-Corruption Institutions in Central Africa, held in Gabon in October 2015.

88. UNODC participated in the third specialized meeting of ministers and high-level authorities of the Community of Latin American and Caribbean States on the prevention of and the fight against corruption, held in Panama in October 2015, and contributed to drafting the Panama declaration in which States committed to

strengthening transparency, accountability and citizen participation as well as to increasing regional cooperation. In March 2016, UNODC participated in the second meeting of the Commonwealth Caribbean Association of Integrity Commissions and Anti-Corruption Bodies, held in Trinidad and Tobago, to discuss integrity challenges and tailored solutions for small islands. As a result of these efforts, several countries in the region have started joint investigations on corruption cases.

Wildlife and environmental crime

89. In its resolution 23/1, the Commission on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice requested Member States to take full advantage of the international cooperation provisions of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Convention against Corruption to prevent and combat trafficking in forest products. In line with that resolution, efforts are being undertaken to mainstream anti-corruption into the UNODC Global Programme for Combating Wildlife and Forest Crime to identify and counter corruption risks.

90. At the global level, UNODC participated in an event on illegal wildlife trade and corruption, organized by the Foreign and Commonwealth Office and the Department for Environment, Food and Rural Affairs, both of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, on the margins of the Anti-Corruption Summit held in London in May 2016. UNODC also participated in a high-level conference in the Netherlands in March 2016 entitled “Save wildlife: act now or game over”, which sought to develop new partnerships and projects. Furthermore, UNODC participated in a round-table discussion on corruption and conservation in the United Kingdom in February 2016 that had been organized by Transparency International United Kingdom, the World Wildlife Fund United Kingdom and the University of Kent, to draw on lessons learned from other fields of corruption prevention.

91. In May 2016, UNODC facilitated a meeting in Botswana to discuss the establishment of an African wildlife forensics network. The meeting was attended by representatives of the Governments of Angola, Botswana, Gabon, Malawi, Namibia, Zambia and Zimbabwe.

92. At the request of the Kenya Wildlife Service, UNODC assisted in building structures aimed at preventing corruption within the Service. The development of a prioritized and targeted organizational corruption prevention strategy, in addition to reducing corruption, also strengthened overall intelligence on wildlife crime. These systemic changes reduced immediate opportunities for corruption and contributed to the longer term aim of building a culture of integrity, which is essential for successful stewardship of wildlife resources in Kenya. More fundamental reforms are being prepared in relation to staffing.

93. UNODC continued supporting the Kenya Wildlife Service in updating its corruption prevention strategy and its codes of ethics and conduct. Similar work will be undertaken in Mozambique and Tanzania in 2016. UNODC also provided training on corruption prevention for the revenue and wildlife authorities of Uganda in March 2016.

94. UNODC, jointly with the United States of America, provided training for wildlife crime prosecutors from Angola, Botswana, Malawi, Mozambique, Namibia and Zambia on collecting evidence to prosecute corruption and money-laundering

cases in combination with wildlife crime. UNODC also co-hosted and moderated a high-level segment entitled “Corruption abetting illicit trade in wildlife and poaching: the role of private sector in combating illegal killing and trade of wildlife” on the margins of a United Nations Global Compact meeting for the private sector held in Kenya in December 2015.

95. In Latin America and the Caribbean, UNODC gave a presentation on the impact of corruption on environmental crime and money-laundering at the annual meeting of the Latin American Network of Environmental Prosecutors in Panama in November 2015. UNODC participated in the annual regional meeting of the Network for Compliance with and Implementation of the Legal Framework on Wildlife in Panama in January 2016, and supported two training courses for judges and prosecutors on the impact of corruption on illicit trafficking in wildlife and timber, held in Costa Rica in February 2016 and in El Salvador in July 2016. Additionally, in Grenada, a mini-workshop on the topic was delivered in July 2016 to law enforcement and prosecution authorities.

96. In South-East Asia, UNODC continued to focus on links between environmental crimes and corruption and developed tools, including a checklist for assessing corruption risks in the timber industry. UNODC further conducted a seminar with the Malaysian Anti-Corruption Commission to discuss the challenges posed by corruption and environmental crimes and to identify effective countermeasures. UNODC also participated in the national round table on corruption and environmental crimes in Malaysia in April 2016, during which a road map for addressing corruption in relation to environmental crimes was developed.

G. Assistance related to asset recovery

97. UNODC has provided assistance to national institutions to strengthen their capacities to trace, seize, freeze, confiscate and return the proceeds of corruption. Work in that area was mainly conducted in the context of the joint UNODC/World Bank Stolen Asset Recovery (StAR) Initiative. An updated progress report on the implementation of the mandates of the Working Group on Asset Recovery, containing detailed information on the work of UNODC and the StAR Initiative, was submitted to the Working Group at its tenth session (see CAC/COSP/WG.2/2016/3).

98. In November 2015, UNODC serviced the sixth conference of the Global Focal Point Network on Asset Recovery, hosted by India and attended by delegates from 40 countries.

99. Through the StAR Initiative, UNODC is actively supporting a number of regional networks in asset recovery, such as the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network of Southern Africa, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for West Africa, the Asset Recovery Network of the Financial Action Task Force of Latin America against Money-Laundering, the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Asia and the Pacific and the Asset Recovery Inter-Agency Network for Eastern Africa, and has organized expert workshops on asset recovery. UNODC also actively partners with regional bodies similar to the Financial Action Task Force.

100. In December 2015, UNODC, through the StAR Initiative, participated in the fourth session of the Arab Forum on Asset Recovery, hosted by Tunisia. The participants engaged in over 40 bilateral case consultations as well as in technical discussions on overcoming barriers to the effective recovery and return of stolen assets. StAR further supported the ninth practitioners' workshop on the return of illicit assets of politically exposed persons in Switzerland, which resulted in the development of a guide for the implementation of 5 of the 10 guidelines for efficient asset recovery.

101. In December 2015, the StAR Initiative delivered a workshop on open-source intelligence for members of the Bolivian inter-institutional asset recovery group. Following that workshop, the Ministry for Institutional Transparency and the StAR Initiative launched a guide on preparing requests for mutual legal assistance in criminal matters relating to corruption. In April 2016, the StAR Initiative delivered a workshop on asset declarations in the Plurinational State of Bolivia to improve the country's asset declaration form and discuss amendments to the declaration system.

102. In February 2016, the StAR Initiative held a capacity-building workshop in Botswana to support the Directorate on Corruption and Economic Crime and other stakeholders to develop a medium-term implementation action plan for the country's Proceeds and Instruments of Crime Act 2014.

103. In 2017, a global forum on asset recovery will be co-hosted by the United Kingdom and the United States, and supported by the StAR Initiative. Priority countries seeking to advance the recovery of assets to be discussed at the forum include Nigeria, Sri Lanka, Tunisia and Ukraine.

H. Evidence-based assessments of corruption patterns and modalities

104. UNODC continued to provide support to States parties in collecting data and developing statistical indicators to provide benchmarks for the assessment of corruption, as well as in undertaking research and analytical work to increase knowledge on corruption and to support evidence-based normative, policy and operational decisions.

105. The Research and Trend Analysis Branch of UNODC continued to support the National Bureau of Statistics of Nigeria in the preparation of a large survey on the corruption experienced by the population. The survey is currently being conducted with the support and involvement of a large group of stakeholders and the analytical report is expected by early 2017.

V. Issues on technical assistance for further consideration

106. As highlighted during meetings of the Implementation Review Group and the Conference of the States Parties, the delivery of technical assistance to meet identified technical assistance needs is pivotal to the successful and consistent implementation of the Convention.

107. The implementation review process, as well as the identification of follow-up actions aimed at the full implementation of the Convention, must be country-led,

country-owned and driven by national priorities; be inclusive and comprehensive and involve all relevant actors in a systematic manner; and be country-coordinated.

108. Ad hoc, short-term and targeted technical assistance should be available during the review process and offered as an initial response to needs identified during the country reviews. At the regional level such assistance may take the form of regional training workshops or exchanges of good practices. Extrabudgetary resources to carry out such regional training workshops are necessary to enhance the impact of the work of the mechanism as well as regional and international cooperation.

109. The needs identified in the country reviews often require more robust multi-year assistance, including legislative, policy and technical advice components. In such cases, a strategic approach is needed to ensure that assistance providers consider the outcome of the reviews for either new technical assistance programming or for incorporation into ongoing programmes. To this end, UNODC facilitates dialogue between the national authorities and relevant development partners in order to seek support for the programme without imposing itself as an implementing agency.

110. There is a need to bridge the growing discrepancy between the increase in the demand for services provided by UNODC and capacity of UNODC to deliver that support and to meet States parties' expectations. The general preference of States parties and other donors to provide hard-earmarked extrabudgetary contributions for a relatively short period of time limits the capacity of UNODC to adequately respond to identified needs. The Implementation Review Group may wish to acknowledge the increase in the number of technical assistance requests in relation to the Convention, and note that this increase is likely to continue during the second review cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism. The Group may wish to call upon States parties and other donors to reconfirm their commitment to the prevention, detection and investigation of corruption through the provision of such financial means, in particular in the form of multi-year, soft-earmarked extrabudgetary contributions.

111. The Implementation Review Group may also wish to recommend that States parties increase their efforts to provide direct assistance and/or funding to development partners to meet the technical assistance needs identified in the context of the Implementation Review Mechanism.