



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

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Implementation Review Group

First meeting

Vienna, 28 June-2 July 2010

Provisional agenda and annotations

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8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its first meeting.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The first meeting of the Implementation Review Group will be convened on Monday, 28 June 2010, at 10 a.m. in the M-Building, Conference Room I (M1).



(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the meeting was prepared in accordance with resolution 3/1, entitled “Review mechanism”, adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its third session, held in Doha from 9 to 13 November 2009.

The proposed organization of work (see annex) was prepared to enable the Implementation Review Group to consider the agenda items within the time and conference services available, and to allow for lots for the country reviews to be drawn, repeatedly if necessary, until final pairings can be established for the first year of the current review cycle.

The resources available will permit the holding of two plenary meetings each day with interpretation in the six official languages of the United Nations.

2. Guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat and blueprint for country review reports

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference adopted draft guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews, as well as a draft blueprint for country review reports, to be finalized by the Implementation Review Group.

A document merging the two versions of the guidelines and the blueprint that were submitted to the Conference at its third session, with amendments made clearly visible by using the track-changes function in Word, has been prepared and was made available on the website of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) in December 2009. In addition, the Secretariat has prepared, for submission to the Group, a version of the guidelines and blueprint that has been updated on the basis of the merged document and reflecting the decisions taken by the Conference on the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism (resolution 3/1, annex).

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews and blueprint for country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/2)

3. Country reviews

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference decided that each review phase should be composed of two review cycles of five years each and that one fourth of the States parties would be reviewed in each of the first four years of each review cycle.

In the same resolution, the Conference also decided to review during the first cycle the implementation of chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption¹ and during the second cycle the implementation of chapters II (Preventive measures) and V (Asset recovery) of the Convention.

¹ United Nations, *Treaty Series*, vol. 2349, No. 42146.

Pursuant to paragraph 21 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, each State party should appoint up to 15 governmental experts for the purpose of the review process. The secretariat should, prior to the drawing of lots to select the reviewing States parties, compile and circulate a list of such governmental experts, which shall include information on their professional background, their current positions, relevant offices held and activities carried out and their areas of expertise as required for the respective review cycle. States parties should endeavour to provide information necessary for the secretariat to compile that list and keep it up to date. A list of nominated governmental experts will be submitted to the Implementation Review Group.

(a) Drawing of lots

Pursuant to paragraphs 14 and 19 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, lots are to be drawn to determine which States parties will participate in the reviews. One of the two reviewing States parties should be from the same geographical region as the State party under review and, if possible, have a legal system similar to that of the State party under review. The State party under review may request, a maximum of two times, that the drawing of lots be repeated. In line with paragraph 20 of the terms of reference, a State party under review may defer serving as a reviewing State party that same year. In accordance with paragraph 14 of the terms of reference, the number of States parties from each regional group participating in the review process in a given year should be proportionate to the size of that regional group and the number of its members that are States parties to the Convention.

Lots will be drawn on the first day of the meeting of the Implementation Review Group in order to allow States parties sufficient time for consultations on whether they would like a draw to be repeated. Lots will be drawn using a software application for random selection.

To ensure the timely completion of the exercise, any repeat draws will be held on the second and third days of the meeting of the Implementation Review Group.

(b) Organization and schedule of reviews

Pursuant to paragraph 25 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the schedule and requirements of each country review should be established by the secretariat in consultation with the reviewing States parties and the State party under review and address all issues relevant to the review, which should ideally be designed to take no longer than six months. The schedule of reviews should follow the model set out in the concept note on the review process. The Secretariat should consult with the States parties concerned on the establishment of review schedules and inform the Implementation Review Group, to the extent possible, of the results of such consultation.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on the list of experts (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/3 and Add.1-9)

Note by the Secretariat on the country review process (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/4)

4. Resource requirements for the Mechanism

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference underlined that the Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning and requested the Secretary-General to propose to the Implementation Review Group, for its consideration and decision at its first meeting, further means of funding the implementation of the Mechanism.

In the same resolution, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should consider the resource requirements for the functioning of the Mechanism for the biennium 2012-2013 and requested the Secretary-General to prepare for the first meeting of the Implementation Review Group a proposed budget for the Mechanism for the biennium 2012-2013.

The Implementation Review Group will have before it a note detailing the resource requirements of the Mechanism for the bienniums 2010-2011 and 2012-2013. Guidance will be sought by the secretariat on a way forward in terms of ensuring sustainable and predictable funding for the future operation of the Mechanism.

Documentation

Note by the Secretary-General on resource requirements for the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption for the bienniums 2010-2011 and 2012-2013 (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/5)

5. Technical assistance

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should be in charge of following up and continuing the work undertaken previously by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance. In its resolution 3/4, entitled “Technical assistance to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference welcomed the recommendations contained in the reports of the Secretariat on the work of that Working Group. Recommendations for concrete actions to promote technical assistance in support of the implementation of the Convention are presented in the report of the Meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance held in Vienna on 3 and 4 September 2009 (CAC/COSP/WG.3/2009/3) and in the report of the Secretariat on the work of the Working Group (CAC/COSP/2009/8).

In its resolution 3/4, the Conference welcomed the efforts of the Secretariat to analyse the technical assistance needs identified by States parties and signatories to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in their responses to the self-assessment checklist. The matrix of technical assistance needs will be greatly enhanced by the comprehensive self-assessment checklist, which is a computer-based information-gathering tool to produce statistics and visual aids, such as charts and other graphics, enabling the Conference to better identify technical assistance needs. The Implementation Review Group will be given a presentation on those features of the new tool that make it possible to identify technical assistance needs and generate an upgraded matrix.

In a note, the Secretariat provides the Implementation Review Group with information about the implementation of mandates given to the Working Group. The note also contains information on how technical assistance needs can be identified

and on possible mechanisms for meeting those needs in the context of reviewing implementation of the Convention.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on integrating technical assistance in the work of the Implementation Review Group (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/6)

Matrix on technical assistance needs: additional information (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/CRP.1)

Guidance note on the use of the anti-corruption experts database for technical assistance (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/CRP.2)

6. Provisional agenda for the second meeting of the Implementation Review Group

The Conference is to consider and approve a provisional agenda for its second meeting, which will be drafted by the Secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

7. Other matters

Progress in preparations for the meeting of the Working Group on Prevention of Corruption, the meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery and the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties

The Conference, in its resolution 3/2, decided to establish an interim open-ended intergovernmental working group to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption and that the work of the working group should be subsumed under the work of the Implementation Review Group if the Group were to establish thematic sub-groups. The first meeting of the Working Group on Prevention of Corruption will take place from 13 to 15 December 2010. In preparation for that meeting, the Secretariat is conducting an exercise to determine what work has already been done in the area of corruption prevention, what lessons can be drawn from that work and what can be done to help States parties prepare for the review cycle on prevention, to commence in five years.

The Conference, in its resolution 3/3, decided that the Working Group on Asset Recovery should continue its work to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the return of the proceeds of corruption. At its meeting on 16 and 17 December 2010, the Working Group on Asset Recovery will review progress made in the implementation of Conference resolution 3/3 and provide an update on the implementation of the recommendations made by the Working Group at its previous meeting. It will also discuss a programme of work to prepare States parties for the review of the chapter on asset recovery, in 2015.

In its decision 3/1, entitled “Venues for the fourth and fifth sessions of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference welcomed the offer of the Government of Morocco to act as host to the fourth session of the Conference and decided that its fourth session would be held in Morocco in 2011.

The Government of Morocco has started preparations and has established a committee to address both logistical and substantive issues regarding the

organization of the session. The Implementation Review Group will be briefed on the ongoing work.

The Secretariat will provide more information on progress made in preparing for the meetings and the session.

8. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its first meeting

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its first meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the Secretariat.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Monday, 28 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	3 (a)	Drawing of lots
3-6 p.m.	2	Guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat and blueprint for country review reports
Tuesday, 29 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	3 (a)	Drawing of lots (<i>continued</i>)
3-6 p.m.	2	Guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat and blueprint for country review reports (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 30 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	3 (a)	Drawing of lots (<i>continued</i>)
	3 (b)	Organization and schedule of reviews
	4	Resource requirements for the Mechanism
3-6 p.m.	4	Resource requirements for the Mechanism (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 1 July		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	5	Technical assistance
3-6 p.m.	5	Technical assistance (<i>continued</i>)
Friday, 2 July		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	6	Provisional agenda for the second meeting of the Implementation Review Group
	7	Other matters
3-6 p.m.	7	Other matters (<i>continued</i>)
	8	Adoption of the report