



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

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Implementation Review Group

Second session

Vienna, 30 May-3 June 2011

Provisional agenda and annotations

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 - (a) Opening of the session;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
3. Technical assistance.
4. Financial and budgetary matters.
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6. Provisional agenda for the resumed second session of the Implementation Review Group.
7. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its second session.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the session

The second session of the Implementation Review Group will be convened on Monday, 30 May 2011, at 10 a.m. in the M-Building, Boardroom B (BR-B).

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

The provisional agenda for the session 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 in line with the guidance provided by the Implementation Review Group at its resumed first session, held from 29 November to 1 December 2010, in order to enable it to consider the agenda items within the time and conference services available, and to allow lots to be drawn for the reviewing States parties of the second year, repeatedly if necessary.

At its resumed first session, the Implementation Review Group agreed that pending a decision by the Conference of the States Parties on the participation of observers, invitations for the second session of the Group would, in the interim, be extended as follows: for the items on review of implementation (agenda item 2) and other matters (agenda item 5), to States parties; for the item on financial and budgetary matters (agenda item 4), to States parties and States signatories; and for the item on technical assistance (agenda item 3), to States parties, States signatories, intergovernmental organizations and United Nations entities.

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. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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.

At its first session, the Implementation Review Group drew lots for the States parties to be reviewed in the first review cycle. Lots will be drawn for the States parties reviewing the States parties under review in the second year of the current review cycle. Lots may be redrawn on the last day of the session of the Implementation Review Group in order to allow States parties under review sufficient time for consultations on whether they would like a draw to be repeated.

Lessons learned

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 guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat and the blueprint for country review reports, as contained in the report of the Implementation Review Group on its first session, held in Vienna from 28 June to 2 July 2010, sets out indicative timelines for the conduct of reviews (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7, annex I).

In order to provide the Implementation Review Group with an overview of issues identified during individual country reviews and to seek guidance on addressing challenges encountered during the conduct of reviews, the secretariat has compiled

statistics and general information on the conduct of the reviews of the first year of the current cycle, as well as lessons learned and information on activities undertaken to assist States parties participating in the review process.

Outcome of reviews

Pursuant to paragraph 35 of the terms of reference of the Review Mechanism, the secretariat is to compile the most common and relevant information on successes, good practices, challenges, observations and technical assistance needs contained in the country review reports and include them, organized by theme, in a thematic implementation report and regional supplementary addenda, for submission to the Implementation Review Group.

Paragraph 44 of the terms of reference states that the functions of the Implementation Review Group are to have an overview of the review process in order to identify challenges and good practices and to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention. The thematic implementation report shall serve as the basis for the analytical work of the Implementation Review Group. On the basis of its deliberations, the Implementation Review Group shall submit recommendations and conclusions to the Conference for its consideration and approval.

Thematic reports on chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention will contain the relevant information reflected in the country review reports and will be prepared, as appropriate, for the resumed second session of the Implementation Review Group or the fourth session of the Conference.

In accordance with paragraph 36 of the terms of reference, the executive summaries of country review reports finalized by the second session shall be translated into the six official languages of the United Nations and be made available as documents of the Implementation Review Group for information purposes only. Technical assistance needs identified in the responses to the comprehensive self-assessment checklist will be compiled and issued in a note by the Secretariat.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on country reviews: lessons learned from year one of the current review cycle (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/2)

Note by the Secretariat on integrating technical assistance in the review process (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/3)

Executive summaries of country review reports (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/CRP.2-4)

3. 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. Pursuant to paragraph 44 of the terms of reference, the Implementation Review Group is to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention.

At its resumed first session, the Implementation Review Group took into account that, pursuant to paragraph 11 of the terms of reference, one of the goals of the Review Mechanism was to help States parties to identify and substantiate specific needs for technical assistance and to promote and facilitate the provision of technical assistance. The Group adopted recommendations in furtherance of that mandate (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/7/Add.1, paras. 26-32) and requested the secretariat to prepare a report on the implementation of those recommendations for its consideration at each session. That report will provide consolidated information on trends in technical assistance required and provided.

The Implementation Review Group may wish to consider the way forward in addressing the technical assistance needs that have been identified through the review process and how best to respond to those requirements. The possibility of organizing a workshop similar to the one held in Montevideo in 2007 has been explored and will be reported on by the secretariat.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on integrating technical assistance in the review process (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/3)

4. Financial and budgetary matters

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference underlined that the Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning. 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.

At its first session, the Implementation Group adopted its resolution 1/1, on the resource requirements for the functioning of the Review Mechanism for the biennium 2012-2013 (see chapter I of CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/07), based on the note by the Secretary-General on resource requirements for the functioning of 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), prepared pursuant to paragraphs 13 and 15 of Conference resolution 3/1. The Group also requested the secretariat to continue to submit budgetary information to the Group. It was emphasized that this information should contain an outline of the estimated costs and information on expenditures.

At its resumed first session, held from 29 November to 1 December 2010, the Group was provided by the Secretariat with information on the resources and expenditures for the functioning of the Mechanism (CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/CRP.11).

At its second session, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a conference room paper detailing actual and foreseen expenditures for the first year of the first review cycle and containing an update on the regular budget and voluntary contributions received for the biennium 2010-2011 and revised cost estimates of the resource requirements for the Mechanism for the second year of the first review cycle.

The mobilization of funds for technical assistance to meet the needs identified by countries through the Review Mechanism will be addressed under item 3, on technical assistance.

Documentation

Conference room paper on resources and expenditures for the functioning of the mechanism for the review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/CRP.1)

5. Other matters

Participation of observers

At its first session, the Implementation Review Group agreed that the final decision on the question of participation of observers in the Group had to be reached by the Conference and that in the interim, invitations to its second session would be extended as set out in the annotations under agenda item 2, above. It was the understanding of the Implementation Review Group that that decision would not set a precedent and that every effort would be made before and during its second session to explore appropriate and practical solutions in that respect, to submit to the Conference at its fourth session, for its consideration.

Progress in preparations for the fourth session of the Conference of the States Parties

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 session.

6. Provisional agenda for the resumed second session of the Implementation Review Group

The Implementation Review Group is to consider and approve a provisional agenda for its resumed second session, which will be drafted by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

7. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its second session

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its second session, 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, 30 May		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the session
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption
Tuesday, 31 May		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (<i>continued</i>)
3-6 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (<i>continued</i>)
Wednesday, 1 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	3	Technical assistance
3-6 p.m.	3	Technical assistance (<i>continued</i>)
Thursday, 2 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	3	Technical assistance (<i>continued</i>)
3-6 p.m.	4	Financial and budgetary matters
Friday, 3 June		
10 a.m.-1 p.m.	2	Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (<i>continued</i>)
	5	Other matters
3-6 p.m.	6	Provisional agenda for the resumed second session of the Implementation Review Group
	7	Adoption of the report