



Permanent Mission of Austria

to the United
Nations in Vienna

United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC); Implementation Review Group (IRG), 8-9 September 2022

Agenda item 2: Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the UNCAC

Statement by Austria

Mr Chair,

We welcome the convening of the first resumed thirteenth session of the Implementation Review Group. This meeting is an important opportunity to provide an update of the review process to inter alia identify challenges and good practices in order to ensure effective implementation of UNCAC. In this context, we would also like to express our gratitude to the Chair and the Secretariat for the excellent work in preparing and organizing this meeting.

Austria fully aligns herself with the statement of the European Union and its member states, including its reference to the delay of the review of Ukraine because of the Russian war of aggression against Ukraine.

Austria would like to add the following in her national capacity:

Within the second cycle of the UNCAC implementation review, Austria organised a virtual country visit from 8 to 10 March 2022. The visit enabled a constructive dialogue as well as interesting and fruitful discussions between all the Austrian competent authorities and representatives of the peer reviewers Germany and Vietnam as well as the Secretariat. The programme also included a meeting with civil society representatives. A compiled document based on concise questions by the peer reviewer was submitted as a follow-up to the country visit.

Furthermore, Austria attaches great importance to strengthen and review existing policies and strategies on a regular basis. The Austria Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption has started an evaluation process on the implementation of the National Anti-Corruption Strategy

(NACS) Action Plan in 2021 based on quantitative and qualitative indicators and takes international standards into account. This approach allows conclusions on the success and effectiveness of the action plan measures. The final evaluation report will be adopted in the next meeting of the Austrian Coordinating Body on Combatting Corruption in October 2022. Preliminary results have shown in particular that measures to promote integrity have been successfully implemented and education and training offers have been increased.

In this regard, we would also like to highlight the crucial role of education and training efforts in the framework of anti-corruption. Anti-corruption training and education can greatly profit from international cooperation. The International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) is a good example for this with its excellent contributions in areas such as research, technical assistance as well as training and empowerment of professionals in the field of combating corruption.

I thank you, Mr. Chair.