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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Reference: CU 2019/58(A)/DTA/CEB/CSS

The Secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption presents its compliments to the [xxx] and has the honour to invite the Government to participate in the **thirteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery**, which will be held in Vienna, Austria, on **29 and 30 May 2019 (M Plenary, M-Building)**.

The Working Group was established by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in its resolution 1/4, entitled “Establishment of an intergovernmental working group on asset recovery”. In its resolution 7/1 entitled “Strengthening mutual legal assistance for international cooperation and asset recovery”, the Conference invited the Working Group to propose future agenda items. It also identified four specific topics and decided that the Working Group should continue its work by, inter alia: (a) Continuing its efforts to gather information on and conduct enhanced analysis of best practices for the identification and compensation of all different types of victims in accordance with the Convention, including, as necessary, by soliciting information from States parties, facilitating exchanges among experts and organizing expert panels, while taking into consideration similar work undertaken at prior meetings of the Working Group, by expert panels and in discussions; (b) Conducting analysis on third-party challenges and their impact on asset recovery under chapter V; (c) Continuing to collect data on best practices, with a view to developing non-binding guidelines concerning the timely sharing of information to enable States parties to take appropriate action, in accordance with article 56 of the Convention; (d) Conducting an analysis of how communication and coordination between various asset recovery practitioner networks could be improved, with a view to developing guidelines for the proactive and timely sharing of information. In accordance with the workplan for the period 2018-2019, adopted by the Working Group at its twelfth meeting, the thematic discussion in the thirteenth meeting of the Working Group will focus on items (a) and (b) above.

In order to avoid duplication of the discussions in the Working Group on Asset Recovery and the Implementation Review Group, a joint session on technical assistance (standing item 5 on the agenda of the Working Group on Asset Recovery and standing item 4 on the agenda of the Implementation Review Group) will be held on 29 May 2019.

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United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime | Vienna International Centre | PO Box 500 | 1400 Vienna | Austria  
Tel.: (+43-1) 26060-0 | Fax: (+43-1) 26060-5841 | Email: [uncac.cop@unodc.org](mailto:uncac.cop@unodc.org) | [www.unodc.org](http://www.unodc.org)

Documentation including the annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work will be electronically available in all the official United Nations languages at the Internet page of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, and can be accessed through the following address:

<https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/WG-AssetRecovery/session13.html>

Enclosed is a copy of an information note for participants regarding administrative details and instructions to facilitate travel, visa, hotel and other arrangements.

It would be appreciated if the Government's response to this invitation could be sent directly to the Secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, P.O. Box 500, 1400 Vienna, Austria, or a scanned copy of the official communication by e-mail to: [uncac@un.org](mailto:uncac@un.org). Please note that only scanned copies of notes verbales/letters will be accepted by e-mail. Information on the composition of the Government's delegation, including name(s), title(s) and contact details, should be provided to the Office as soon as possible and not later than **10 May 2019**.



26 February 2019