The secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption presents its compliments to the [...] and has the honour to invite the Government to participate in the fourteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, which will be held in a hybrid format (in person and online), in M Plenary, M-Building, Vienna International Centre, Vienna, Austria, from 16 to 18 November 2020.

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 8/9, the Conference welcomed the outcome of the meetings of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery and requested the Working Group to develop a new multi-year workplan to continue its analytical work during the period 2020–2021, designating specific agenda items to be discussed as the main topics for each session. The Working Group will have before it for its consideration and adoption a proposed workplan to structure its activities (CAC/COSP/WG.2/2020/2).

In accordance with the workplan for the subsidiary bodies of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption, which was adopted by the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption at its eighth session, held in Abu Dhabi from 16 to 20 December 2019 and the subsequent recommendations of the bureau of the Conference, the fourteenth meeting of the Working Group will be conducted jointly with the second resumed eleventh session of the Implementation Review Group and the ninth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

Documentation including the annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work and the proposed workplan 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:


[...]
The Government is hereby informed that two representatives per delegation will be able to attend the sessions in person in the M-Plenary. Representatives will also have a possibility to attend the sessions in an online format, using the Interprefy platform. Due to technical limitations, the Government is advised that only one delegate participating remotely per delegation may be assigned a speaker role on the Interprefy platform and up to three delegates may be assigned observer roles. In determining the composition of the delegation, the Government is encouraged to also take into account considerations of gender balance.

A new registration system (“INDICO”) will be used for registration of delegates for participation. The registration for the session is open and accessible through the following link: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/registration/november-2020-uncac-meetings/index.html.

The Government is hereby informed that an official note verbale must be uploaded in the INDICO system, together with the mandatory details for each delegate (name, title, individual email address, in person or online participation and speaker or observer role). Registration requests will be approved by the secretariat only after being cross-checked against the official note verbale uploaded in INDICO. The Governments are kindly requested to share the note verbale with the nominated delegates to enable them to complete the registration process as soon as possible and not later than 9 November 2020 and to observe the deadline for the secretariat to finalize all the necessary technical preparations for the meeting. Regretfully, the secretariat will not be able to accommodate requests for registration after that date.

In this regard, the Government’s attention is drawn to the introductory briefing session held for permanent missions on 20 October 2020 where the registration process was presented. Further additional information on the INDICO registration process, as well as the steps to be taken by the permanent missions are available here: https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/WG-AssetRecovery/session14.html.

The fourteenth session of the Working Group on Asset Recovery, the second resumed eleventh session of the Implementation Review Group and the ninth Open-ended Intergovernmental Expert Meeting on International Cooperation are to hold joint meetings on thematic and technical assistance matters (Ref.: CU 2020/365(A)/DTA/CEB/CSS and CU 2020/366(A)/DTA/CEB/CSS). In view of the joint meetings and due to technical reasons, the Government is requested to issue only one note verbale, containing the composition of its delegation and to communicate it to its nominated delegate for participation in the meetings. The registration for the joint meetings is set up as one event in INDICO.
In order to assist the work of the interpreters and to avoid technical problems, the Government is encouraged, to the degree possible, to ensure that the statements are delivered by the representatives present in the M-plenary for those delegations that will participate in person. Delegations are also encouraged to provide copies of general national statements in written format (email to: uncac@un.org) for posting on a dedicated space on the website of the session (https://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/corruption/WG-AssetRecovery/session14.html).

The secretariat will continue to monitor the situation related to the COVID-19 pandemic and will provide timely updates to registered participants and on the website of the session with respect to any necessary changes to the above arrangements and possible restrictions affecting access to the Vienna International Centre.

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime avails itself of this opportunity to reiterate to the [...] the assurances of its highest consideration.

23 October 2020