



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

Distr.: General
27 July 2022

Original: English

Report on the meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption held in Vienna from 15 to 17 June 2022

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 3/2, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption 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.
2. The Conference decided that the Working Group should perform the following functions:
 - (a) Assist the Conference in developing and accumulating knowledge in the area of prevention of corruption;
 - (b) Facilitate the exchange of information and experience among States on preventive measures and practices;
 - (c) Facilitate the collection, dissemination and promotion of best practices in corruption prevention;
 - (d) Assist the Conference in encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders and sectors of society in order to prevent corruption.
3. In its resolution 9/6, the Conference welcomed the ongoing efforts of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption to facilitate the sharing of information between States parties and underlined the importance of the conclusions and recommendations of the Working Group.
4. In the same resolution, the Conference requested States parties to continue to share information and requested the secretariat, subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to continue its work as an international observatory, including by updating the thematic website of the Working Group with relevant information.
5. In its resolution 6/1, the Conference requested the secretariat to structure the provisional agendas of the subsidiary bodies established by the Conference in such a way as to avoid the duplication of discussions, while respecting their mandates.
6. In its resolution 9/3, the Conference requested its relevant subsidiary bodies to include, as a topic for discussion at their future meetings, how to promote the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention.



7. In its resolution 9/8, the Conference requested the Working Group to include challenges to and good practices in anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research as a topic for discussion at its thirteenth meeting.

8. In line with those resolutions, the topics for discussion at the thirteenth meeting of the Working Group were “Promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention” and “Challenges to and good practices in anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research”.

II. Organization of the meeting

A. Opening of the meeting

9. The Working Group held its thirteenth meeting in Vienna from 15 to 17 June 2022, in an in-person format with limited online participation.

10. The Working Group held six meetings, which were chaired by Hassan Abdelshafy Ahmed Abdelghany (Egypt), the President of the Conference at its ninth session; five of those meetings were held jointly with the Implementation Review Group.

11. The Working Group considered items 2 and 3 of its agenda jointly with the Implementation Review Group.

12. In opening the meeting, the Chair recalled Conference resolution 3/2, in which the Conference had established the Group and defined its functions. The Chair also recalled Conference resolution 9/6, in which the Conference had decided that the Working Group should continue its work to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate. The Chair welcomed States parties’ commitment and efforts to provide information on good practices in the prevention of corruption to the secretariat as an international observatory. The Chair recalled that the provisional agenda had been prepared in accordance with Conference resolutions 9/3 and 9/8.

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

13. On 15 June, the Working Group adopted the following agenda:

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Implementation of relevant Conference resolutions:¹
 - (a) Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:
 - (i) Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention;
 - (ii) Thematic discussion on the challenges to and good practices in anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research;
 - (b) Other recommendations.

¹ Resolution 9/3, entitled “Follow-up to the Abu Dhabi declaration on enhancing collaboration between the supreme audit institutions and anti-corruption bodies to more effectively prevent and fight corruption, and the use of information and communications technologies”; and resolution 9/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”.

3. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation.²
4. Future priorities.
5. Adoption of the report.

C. Attendance

14. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting: Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belarus, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Canada, Chad, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Côte d'Ivoire, Czechia, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Gambia, Germany, Ghana, Greece, Guatemala, Honduras, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Iraq, Ireland, Israel, Italy, Japan, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Kyrgyzstan, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Latvia, Libya, Liechtenstein, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Malta, Mauritius, Mexico, Mongolia, Morocco, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Oman, Pakistan, Panama, Papua New Guinea, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Saudi Arabia, Senegal, Serbia, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, State of Palestine, Sudan, Sweden, Switzerland, Thailand, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Türkiye, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of) and Yemen.

15. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the meeting.

16. In accordance with rule 2 of its resolution 4/5, the Conference decided that intergovernmental organizations, Secretariat units, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system and institutes of the United Nations crime prevention and criminal justice programme network may be invited to participate in the meetings of the Working Group.

17. The following Secretariat unit, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes and specialized agency of the United Nations system were represented by observers: Department of Peace Operations of the Secretariat, United Nations Conference on Trade and Development, United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) and United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO).

18. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Cooperation Council for the Arab States of the Gulf, International Anti-Corruption Academy, International Criminal Police Organization (INTERPOL), International Development Law Organization, League of Arab States and World Customs Organization.

² Agenda item 3 was discussed jointly with item 6 of the agenda of the Implementation Review Group and is reflected in the report of the Implementation Review Group on its thirteenth session, held in Vienna from 13 to 17 June 2022.

III. Implementation of relevant Conference resolutions

A. Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption

1. Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention

19. The Chair introduced item 2 (a) (i), entitled “Thematic discussion on promoting the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention”, and invited the participants to provide observations and comments following the introductory presentation by a representative of the secretariat.

20. A representative of the secretariat presented the background paper on the use of information and communications technologies for the implementation of the Convention (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/2) and noted that the submissions of States parties received by the secretariat after the deadline of 30 March 2022 were contained in conference room paper CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/CRP.2. The representative thanked the States parties that had provided, in advance of the meeting, information that had been focused on the use of information and communications technologies to promote integrity in public procurement and the management of public finances (art. 9 of the Convention), to advance public reporting (art. 10 of the Convention) and to promote the participation of society (art. 13 of the Convention). That information had formed the basis for the above-mentioned documents.

21. The submissions received by the secretariat had demonstrated a wide and increasing use of information and communications technologies to implement the Convention. States parties had reported using such technologies to ensure transparency and simplify procurement processes. Many States parties had also reported using online platforms to provide the public with information on the organization, functioning and decision-making processes of the public administration. In addition, States parties had reported using government websites, portals and mobile telephone applications as a means for members of the public to provide input on draft laws and policies and as a means of stimulating public debate on important issues. Lastly, the submissions, read in conjunction with the analysis of technical assistance needs that had emerged from the country reviews conducted under the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, indicated that a lack of efficient information and communications technology-based procurement systems remained a prevalent obstacle to the implementation of article 9 of the Convention.

22. A panellist from Brazil gave a presentation on the online management of government procurement processes and underlined the vulnerability of public procurement to corruption. The panellist reported on an information system that facilitated the collection and dissemination of data related to risks of corruption in public procurement, drawing on various sources in government-held databases. The system relied on audit trails, previous procurement processes and government databases to cross-analyse data, to raise “red flags”, including potential cases of conflicts of interest or fraud, and to halt the award of public contracts. The panellist noted that the system operated on a daily basis and provided regular reports that could be followed up by auditors through further analysis and investigation. The system had enabled more efficient and effective oversight of procurement processes that would not have been possible with human oversight alone. The panellist reported that the tool had proved useful in the management of emergency responses to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, including with regard to the procurement of medical equipment and supplies.

23. A panellist from Madagascar highlighted several information and communications technology-based initiatives to implement the Convention and prevent corruption. Specifically, he reported on the use of online portals to manage procurement processes and collect taxes. The panellist also reported on the integration of technology-based tools into a “one-stop shop” for customs authorities in order to

increase efficiency and raise the level of State revenue from customs. The panellist further reported on the use of websites and portals to facilitate the reporting of corruption and publish information on government activities and services, legal texts, policies, legal frameworks and administrative procedures. He noted a new initiative involving the development of an electronic platform to be used by the judiciary with a view to increasing efficiency and transparency in the administration of administrative and criminal justice.

24. A panellist from Serbia gave a presentation on the use of information and communications technologies by the country's Anti-Corruption Agency and emphasized the importance of technological transformation to improve the effectiveness of the Agency. She indicated that online portals were used to increase efficiency, effectiveness and transparency across the public sector. Such portals were used to: (a) file and verify asset and income declarations by public officials; (b) record the submission of annual financial reports and election campaign expense reports; and (c) record and monitor the implementation of "integrity plans", which all public authorities were required to adopt. The panellist recalled the Law on Prevention of Corruption, which had introduced obligatory training for public officials on preventing and reporting corruption. Owing to the COVID-19 pandemic, training had been delivered online and had thus reached a larger number of public officials across the country. She noted, however, that challenges remained, including the need for a sufficient number of officials with the required technical skills and for enhanced cooperation among institutions that collected and managed information relevant to the prevention of corruption.

25. A panellist from the United Arab Emirates emphasized the necessity of technological tools in addressing corruption. She reported on her Government's efforts to digitalize procedures in the public sector and on specific initiatives that had reduced the risk of corruption in public spending and procurement. The panellist reported on several online management platforms, including a treasury-management platform that tracked public transactions and flagged suspicious ones in real time. A similar platform was utilized for procurement processes and allowed auditors to oversee the allocation and use of public resources. The panellist highlighted the use of information and communications technologies to advance the technical and anti-corruption skills and expertise of auditors. She noted the adoption of data analytics solutions as a means of comprehensively aggregating and analysing different data sets and detecting patterns, unusual behaviour, potential conflicts of interest and "red flags". She described various whistle-blower and reporting channels, including online and mobile telephone applications, that had been implemented with a view to strengthening and facilitating mechanisms for reporting suspected corruption.

26. In the ensuing discussion, speakers raised a number of issues related to the use of information and communications technologies, such as the types of software used to develop information and communications technology-based solutions to prevent corruption, the degree of involvement of the private sector and civil society in the development of such software, the degree of penetration of those technologies in rural areas and their use by individuals with limited technical skills, the protection of personal data and of information and communications technology-based solutions from misuse, manipulation and cyberattacks, and the costs of those solutions and their effectiveness in preventing corruption over time.

27. Speakers emphasized the importance and effectiveness of information and communications technologies in preventing corruption, increasing the efficiency and effectiveness of public service delivery, promoting access to information, strengthening transparency in the judiciary and facilitating the submission and verification of asset declarations, which were mandatory in some jurisdictions, by public officials. Speakers also noted that the use of information and communications technologies had increased during the COVID-19 pandemic and had proved particularly effective in the prevention and detection of misuse of emergency response and recovery resources.

28. Several speakers reported on the benefits of information and communications technologies with regard to reporting suspected cases of corruption in an anonymous, safe and accurate manner, thus facilitating subsequent investigations, prosecutions and the recovery of stolen assets.

29. One speaker noted the effectiveness of the use of artificial intelligence in the verification of declarations of assets and conflicts of interest and in the investigation of issues related to beneficial ownership. He suggested that the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC), through its Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network), might be able to facilitate the sharing of information gathered through the use of information and communications technologies. He asked the Working Group to explore the establishment of a platform, with the support of UNODC, in order to regularly share good practices among States parties in the use of information and communications technologies to prevent and detect corruption.

30. Speakers reiterated the need for enhanced international cooperation to implement the Convention, in particular its provisions on asset recovery, which could be facilitated through the use of information and communications technologies. The Working Group was informed of efforts at the regional level to ratify a treaty between neighbouring jurisdictions that would facilitate the exchange of information on and the verification of asset declarations and the use of information and communications technologies for the recovery of stolen assets. The Working Group was also informed of the development of regional platforms that used information and communications technologies to allow for the exchange of audit reports between supreme audit institutions.

31. Several speakers thanked UNODC for providing technical assistance and support in sharing good practices in the development and implementation of information and communications technology-based solutions in order to prevent and detect corruption.

32. The Chair thanked the speakers for their active participation in the discussion and reflected on the need to ensure the security and integrity of information and communications technology-based tools and to protect them from new cyberthreats. In that respect, he suggested organizing a dedicated panel discussion on that topic.

2. Thematic discussion on the challenges to and good practices in anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research

33. The Chair introduced item 2 (a) (ii), entitled “Thematic discussion on the challenges to and good practices in anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research”, and invited the participants to provide observations and comments following the introductory presentation by a representative of the secretariat.

34. A representative of the secretariat presented the background paper on anti-corruption awareness-raising, education, training and research ([CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/3](#)) and noted that the submissions of States parties received by the secretariat after the deadline of 30 March 2022 were contained in conference room paper [CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/CRP.1](#). The representative noted with appreciation the valuable information that had been received from States parties and had formed the basis of the background paper. She noted that numerous States parties had reported on anti-corruption initiatives at all levels of education and had highlighted that awareness-raising, education, training and research were important tools for preventing corruption. She highlighted awareness-raising activities conducted by States parties to promote a culture of rejection of corruption among students and young people.

35. The submissions received by the secretariat underscored that there was an increasing trend towards the integration of notions of integrity, honesty and ethics into the educational curricula of primary and secondary schools, most often as part of

subjects that dealt with civic education and global citizenship. Some States parties reported on innovative methods of teaching such values in primary and secondary schools, including through the development of short stories and books for students.

36. The representative noted a growing interest in promoting anti-corruption education at the tertiary level. States had indicated that courses on anti-corruption, integrity and ethics had been offered as part of the academic programmes of universities. In some States, mandatory courses on corruption had been included in the curricula of all public universities, while in other States, notions of anti-corruption had been included in broader courses on integrity and ethics.

37. A panellist from Austria emphasized the challenges to education caused by the COVID-19 pandemic and the need to make use of innovative forms of teaching and learning. With regard to anti-corruption education, he noted that distance teaching and e-learning methods could not fully substitute for in-person activities owing to the nature of the topic and the inherent benefits of in-person discussion and interaction. He described the efforts of the Federal Bureau of Anti-Corruption of Austria to impart knowledge on the prevention of corruption to the public and to students. Such efforts included workshops, board games and the use of mobile telephone applications. He underlined the importance of sharing good practices in anti-corruption education at the regional level.

38. A panellist from Egypt noted the importance of education and awareness-raising for preventing and combating corruption. He provided an account of the initiatives carried out at schools and universities in his country in order to raise awareness of the threat posed by corruption and to promote education, research and training with a view to contributing to the non-tolerance of corruption. The panellist also recalled that citizenship education was included in national school curricula at all levels of education. He referred to the recently established online courses on preventing and combating corruption, which included notions of ethics and integrity, and a master's degree programme on human rights and preventing and combating corruption developed by the National Anti-Corruption Academy of Egypt. The materials developed for those courses had also been used to provide training to public officials, private sector experts, civil society organizations and the public. The panellist reported on a strategy for reforming educational curricula at all levels in Egypt and on the establishment of a centre to conduct specialized research on the prevention of corruption and to collect corruption-related data. He informed the Working Group of the plans of his Government to implement the Global Resource for Anti-Corruption Education and Youth Empowerment (GRACE) initiative of UNODC across the country.

39. A panellist from the Russian Federation referred to his Government's multilevel approach to anti-corruption education and training. That approach included specialized anti-corruption training for the staff of anti-corruption bodies, public officials, university students and the general public. He indicated that several universities had offered specialized training programmes to anti-corruption experts and public officials, including through online courses. Some universities had launched master's degree programmes on combating corruption and enhancing compliance. The panellist referred to an international youth competition on combating corruption that had attracted the interest of students. He concluded by underlining the importance of developing knowledge tools and products that could be used by researchers, teachers, students and other interested stakeholders.

40. A panellist from Saudi Arabia summarized her country's efforts to promote integrity at the primary, secondary and tertiary education levels, including through the integration of values of ethics and integrity into national curricula. She reported on a new initiative known as "Watanona Amanah", which had been launched to promote integrity in public and private institutions. The panellist referred to the "Nazaha" integrity clubs, an initiative aimed at enhancing transparency and combating corruption. Fifty-five such clubs had been launched at universities and military colleges across the country. She concluded by providing information on a

partnership with the International Anti-Corruption Academy aimed at designing a global tool for measuring corruption.

41. A panellist from UNESCO highlighted the role of education in reinforcing ethical norms and equipping individuals with the knowledge, values, skills and behaviours necessary to reject corruption. The panellist underscored the importance of teaching those values and norms from an early age. She noted that UNESCO and UNODC had established a partnership to promote the rule of law and a culture of integrity in support of the achievement of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. As an example, she referred to a handbook for secondary school teachers that had been jointly developed by UNESCO and UNODC. She concluded by stressing that social norms and values such as honesty, fairness, accountability and transparency were critical to educational curricula and had to be taught at the primary level of education in order to be effective in the prevention of corruption.

42. In the ensuing discussion, speakers raised issues such as the development of online educational platforms and the use of information and communications technologies, means of assessing the effectiveness and impact of anti-corruption educational programmes and materials at all levels of education, cooperation with the private sector and civil society in relation to education, and the inclusion of anti-corruption education and awareness-raising in national anti-corruption plans and strategies.

43. Some speakers noted the significant challenges that the COVID-19 pandemic had posed to the delivery of anti-corruption education. Speakers noted that values such as integrity, transparency and ethics were being integrated into the curricula of primary and secondary schools and that integrity clubs were being introduced in schools. Speakers also noted that many anti-corruption educational activities were extracurricular in nature and included the use of competitions, hackathons, educational videos and art. Several speakers noted the importance of teaching children the values of ethics, integrity and transparency at a young age in order to prevent corruption and promote the rule of law.

44. The Working Group referred to the establishment of academic courses and degree programmes on preventing and combating corruption and on integrity at higher education institutions. Several speakers reported on growing partnerships between the public sector and academia for the purpose of conducting research and developing and delivering e-learning modules, specialized materials and training programmes for public officials, in particular on money-laundering and the management of public finances.

45. The need for further specialized training for public officials and anti-corruption practitioners was highlighted.

46. Speakers recognized the importance of programmes and activities to raise public officials' awareness of the risks of corruption inherent in the performance of their functions. They also discussed initiatives to raise awareness of the existence and gravity of corruption in other parts of society, such as the private sector, civil society, academia and the media. In that regard, innovative initiatives were discussed, including "integrity pledges", by means of which civil society organizations and the private sector committed on a voluntary basis to the correct, honourable and proper performance of activities and business. Other innovative initiatives included the use of short films, billboards, essay-writing competitions, mobile telephone applications, programmes for the media and campaigns to address the gender dimension of corruption.

47. Several speakers welcomed the assistance provided by UNODC under its GRACE initiative and urged States parties to provide sufficient resources to deliver technical assistance and to enable the development of anti-corruption education programmes, including by UNODC. Speakers requested UNODC to conduct a study and prepare a paper on measuring the impact of anti-corruption education programmes.

48. A representative of the International Anti-Corruption Academy provided an update on the activities of his organization. Those activities included the development of e-learning tools and the delivery of research and awareness-raising programmes, masters' degree programmes in anti-corruption studies and, together with UNODC, anti-corruption summer school programmes for students.

B. Other recommendations

49. A representative of the secretariat introduced the background paper on the status of implementation of Conference resolutions 9/3 and 9/6, on the prevention of corruption (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/4). She provided an update on the implementation of the relevant conference resolutions, focusing on corruption prevention, and an overview of all activities undertaken by the secretariat in the period from October 2021 to February 2022.

50. During that period, UNODC had implemented multiple technical assistance activities at the global, interregional, regional and national levels. The Office had continued its work to promote universal adherence to the Convention and had continued to serve as an international observatory. The secretariat had provided assistance to States parties in establishing or strengthening their capacity, institutions and legal and policy frameworks for preventing and combating corruption. In particular, assistance had been provided with regard to preventing conflicts of interest and establishing asset declaration systems, strengthening the reporting of corruption and the protection of reporting persons, strengthening the integrity of public procurement and the proper management of public finances, promoting the integrity of the judiciary and the prosecution service, preventing corruption in the private sector, promoting education and encouraging the participation of society. The representative paid particular attention to the work of UNODC in emerging areas, such as safeguarding sport from corruption, addressing corruption that facilitates crimes that affect the environment, assessing the gender dimension of corruption, preventing and combating corruption in the health sector and mainstreaming anti-corruption measures into peacekeeping and peacebuilding efforts.

51. UNODC had also developed a number of knowledge products, including the publications entitled *Global Report on Corruption in Sport* and *Tackling Bribery in Sport: An Overview of Relevant Laws and Standards*, a resource guide entitled *Legal Approaches to Tackling the Manipulation of Sports Competitions*, the reports entitled *Preventing and Combating Corruption as it Relates to Crimes that Have an Impact on the Environment: An Overview* and "Wildlife crime: key actors, organizational structures and business models", the papers entitled "Crises and corruption: emergency responses during COVID-19 – experiences and lessons learned", *The COVID-19 Pandemic: Exacerbating the Threat of Corruption to Human Rights and Sustainable Development in Pacific Island Countries* and "Corruption risks in public procurement in the context of COVID-19 in Pacific island countries", and a United Nations system-wide policy paper entitled "Corruption and COVID-19: challenges in crisis response and recovery", developed by the Global Task Force on Corruption under the joint leadership of UNODC, the Department of Political and Peacebuilding Affairs of the Secretariat and UNDP.

52. The representative reported that UNODC was in the process of establishing regional anti-corruption hubs of international and national experts in order to reinforce anti-corruption expertise in the field, complementing current efforts at the global, regional and national levels. In September 2021, UNODC had launched its first anti-corruption hub in Mexico to coordinate and deliver technical assistance to States parties in Latin America and the Caribbean. A second anti-corruption hub, based in South Africa, was about to be established for Africa. Subject to the availability of resources, a third hub would be established in Asia.

53. In the ensuing discussion, speakers shared information about the efforts made by their countries to implement the relevant resolutions. They emphasized the

importance of transparency in public decision-making, the promotion of public engagement in decision-making processes, the monitoring of anti-corruption measures and the use of confiscated assets for social projects.

54. A representative of the European Union referred to an internal rule of law review exercise in which the legal and institutional frameworks of States members of the European Union were being reviewed and recommendations were being issued, including on the management of public finances.

IV. Future priorities

55. The Chair introduced the discussion under item 4, entitled “Future priorities”, and drew the attention of the participants to the implementation of the mandates and the future priorities of the Working Group.

56. A representative of the secretariat noted that, since the establishment of the Working Group by the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention at its third session, the Group had advised and assisted the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption. He recalled Conference resolution 9/6, in which the Conference had reconfirmed the mandate of the Group, and he welcomed the efforts and commitment of States parties to continue to exchange information on good practices in preventing corruption. He further recalled the topics identified by the Conference in its resolutions 9/2, 9/3 and 9/6 for discussion by the Group.

57. The representative indicated that, in determining its future priorities, the Working Group might wish to consider the following: (a) consideration of and follow-up to the topics discussed by the Working Group at its thirteenth meeting; (b) topics identified by the Conference and by the Working Group at earlier sessions and yet to be thoroughly considered; and (c) topics considered by the Working Group at its earlier meetings and information emerging from the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism. To further facilitate the identification of future priorities, the representative also suggested that the Working Group consider taking stock of the status of implementation of all Conference resolutions on the prevention of corruption and all the recommendations issued by the Group.

58. In the ensuing discussion, one speaker suggested that the Working Group should consider, as future priorities, measures to prevent money-laundering (art. 14 of the Convention) and the prevention of bribery, with a focus on preventing the solicitation of bribes.

59. Speakers noted the increasing number of resolutions on the prevention of corruption adopted by the Conference and suggested that the Working Group assist it in streamlining and consolidating them into fewer resolutions.

60. One speaker underlined the importance of effective implementation of the recommendations adopted by the subsidiary bodies as a means of ensuring the effective delivery of technical assistance.

61. Speakers recognized the importance of the country reviews and of the thematic reports prepared by the secretariat under the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism. The outcomes of the country reviews and the findings contained in the thematic reports relating to chapter II of the Convention were deemed relevant to the identification of the future priorities of the Working Group.

V. Conclusions and recommendations

62. The Working Group acknowledged that progress had been made by States parties in the implementation of Conference resolutions 9/3 and 9/6. The Group underlined the need to maintain that progress and to support the effective delivery of technical assistance in furtherance of the full implementation of the Convention.

63. The Working Group recommended that States parties continue to promote the exchange of good practices and information in order to facilitate the use of information and communications technologies, as well as awareness-raising, education, training and research with regard to implementing the Convention.

64. The Working Group recommended that the issue of public oversight in the use of subsidies by private entities and in the issuance of licences granted by public authorities for commercial activities (art. 12, para. 2 (d), of the Convention) be considered as a topic for discussion by the Group.

65. The Working Group suggested considering the views of the secretariat on how to enhance the efficiency of the meetings of the Group and the effectiveness of the delivery of technical assistance.

66. The Working Group recommended exploring the establishment of a platform, with the support of UNODC, for States parties to share good practices in the use of information and communications technologies to prevent and detect corruption.

67. The Working Group requested the secretariat to continue to provide technical assistance to States parties, upon request and subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, and to gather and maintain information on good practices related to articles 9, 10 and 13 of the Convention.

68. The Working Group recommended organizing a dedicated panel discussion on how to ensure the security and integrity of information and communications technology-based tools and to protect them from cyberthreats, misuse or abuse.

69. The Working Group welcomed the proposal of the secretariat to take stock of the status of implementation of Conference resolutions on the prevention of corruption and the recommendations adopted by the Group, subject to the determination and availability of extrabudgetary resources.

70. The Working Group emphasized the need for both States parties and the donor community to reconfirm their commitment to the prevention of corruption, including by providing multi-year, soft-earmarked extrabudgetary contributions, so that UNODC could continue to provide technical assistance for the prevention of corruption at the national, regional, interregional and global levels.

VI. Adoption of the report

71. On 17 June 2022, the Working Group adopted the report on its thirteenth meeting ([CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/L.1](#), [CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/L.1/Add.1](#), [CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/L.1/Add.2](#) and [CAC/COSP/WG.4/2022/L.1/Add.3](#)), as orally amended.
