



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

Distr.: General
3 April 2023

Original: English

Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption

Vienna, 14–16 June 2023

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

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 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Implementation of relevant Conference resolutions:¹
 - (a) Thematic discussions on good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:
 - (i) Interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches;
 - (ii) Strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption;
 - (iii) Good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies;
 - (b) Other recommendations.
3. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation.
4. Future priorities.
5. Adoption of the report.

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”.



Annotations

1. Organizational matters

(a) Opening of the meeting

The fourteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption will be opened on Wednesday, 14 June 2023, at 10 a.m., at the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Board Room B/M1. Subject to developments relating to the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, it is currently planned that the meeting will be held in person. Although participants will be able to observe the proceedings online, there will be only very limited opportunities to deliver statements remotely through the online platform. To facilitate the work of the interpreters, during each three-hour meeting, only 30 minutes will be allotted to statements delivered remotely by online participants. Delegations are thus encouraged, to the degree possible, to ensure that statements are delivered by the representatives present in the meeting room.

(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

In its resolution 9/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption decided that the Working Group should continue its work to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption and should hold at least two meetings prior to the tenth session of the Conference.

The provisional agenda for the fourteenth meeting was prepared in accordance with Conference 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 Conference resolution 9/6.

In those resolutions, the Conference decided to include in the agenda of the Working Group the following topics: interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches, strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption, and good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies.

The proposed organization of work for the fourteenth meeting (see annex) was prepared in line with the guidance contained in the workplan for the subsidiary bodies of the Conference, which was approved by the Bureau of the Conference, in order to enable consideration of agenda items 2 and 3 jointly with items 4 and 5 and item 6, respectively, of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group.

2. Implementation of relevant Conference resolutions

In its resolution 3/2, the Conference stressed the importance of implementing articles 5 to 14 of the Convention against Corruption to prevent and fight corruption. In the same resolution, the Conference 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 and 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 the prevention of corruption;

(d) Assist the Conference in encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders and sectors of society in order to prevent corruption.

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.

In its resolution 9/2, entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthening international cooperation: follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly against corruption”, the Conference directed its subsidiary bodies, within their mandates, to take appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at the special session.

In its resolution 9/3, the Conference decided that the Working Group should include, as a topic for discussion at its future meetings, the strengthening of the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption.

In its resolution 9/6, the Conference decided that the Working Group should include, as a topic for discussion at its future meetings, the development and implementation of national and international innovative measures to prevent corruption, including good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies and national responses, and the interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches.

Furthermore, in its resolution 9/6, the Conference welcomed the commitment made and efforts undertaken by States parties to provide information on good practices in preventing corruption that was gathered, systematized and disseminated by the secretariat in the performance of its functions as an international observatory and requested States parties to continue sharing information. The Conference also 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.

In line with those resolutions, the topics for discussion at the fourteenth meeting will be: “Interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches”, “Strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption”, and “Good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies”.

At its meeting held in Vienna from 22 to 24 August 2011, the Working Group recommended that, in advance of each of its future meetings, States parties should be invited to share their experiences of implementing the provisions under consideration, preferably by using the self-assessment checklist and including, where possible, successes, challenges, technical assistance needs, and lessons learned in implementation. The Working Group requested the secretariat to prepare a background paper summarizing that information and decided that panel discussions should be held during its meetings, involving experts from countries that had provided written responses on the priority themes under consideration.

Agenda item 2 will be discussed together with items 4 and 5 of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at joint meetings of the Working Group and the Implementation Review Group.

(a) Thematic discussions on good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption

(i) Interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches

The consideration of the topic of interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches will be introduced by a panel discussion, including a presentation on the background paper prepared by the secretariat on that topic, based on input from States parties sought in advance of the meeting.

(ii) Strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption

The consideration of the topic of strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption will be introduced by a panel discussion, including a presentation on the background paper prepared by the secretariat on that topic, based on input from States parties sought in advance of the meeting.

(iii) Good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies

The consideration of the topic of good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies will be introduced by a panel discussion, including a presentation on the background paper prepared by the secretariat on that topic, based on input from States parties sought in advance of the meeting.

Documentation

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies ([CAC/COSP/WG.4/2023/2](#))

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches ([CAC/COSP/WG.4/2023/3](#))

Background paper prepared by the Secretariat on strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption ([CAC/COSP/WG.4/2023/4](#))

(b) Other recommendations

In its decision 7/1, the Conference recalled its resolution 6/1 of 6 November 2015 and requested the secretariat to structure the provisional agendas of the Implementation Review Group and of other subsidiary bodies established by the Conference in such a way as to avoid the duplication of discussions, while respecting their mandates.

Agenda item 2 (b), “Other recommendations”, will be discussed together with item 5, “Technical assistance”, of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at a joint meeting of the two groups to be held on 15 June 2023. The secretariat will provide an oral update on the implementation of the relevant Conference resolutions.

3. Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation

At its special session held from 2 to 4 June 2021, the General Assembly adopted resolution S-32/1, by which it adopted the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”. Member States, inter alia, committed to implementing that political declaration and invited the Conference, as the treaty body with prime responsibility for promoting and reviewing the implementation of the Convention, to follow up and build on the declaration.

Furthermore, in its resolution 9/2, entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthening international cooperation: follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly against corruption”, the Conference directed its subsidiary bodies, within their mandates, to take appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration.

Accordingly, under the present item, the Working Group and the Implementation Review Group are expected to discuss appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration.

Moreover, in response to a request made during the second resumed thirteenth session of the Implementation Review Group, held in November 2022, and as approved by the extended Bureau by means of a silence procedure on 3 April 2023, the topic of strengthening business integrity, including through the use of sanctions and incentives, will be discussed under this item. In the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption, Member States and parties to the Convention committed to encouraging ethical behaviour and anti-corruption efforts in all enterprises and to enforce proportionate and dissuasive sanctions for wrongdoing. By using incentives and sanctions, as well as by introducing innovative legislative reforms, Governments can compel businesses to develop and implement anti-corruption, ethics and compliance programmes. Some good practices in this respect have been identified in the framework of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, but challenges and knowledge gaps remain. It is proposed that this panel will explore what measures can be effective, how they are put in place in practice and how they can support Member States and parties to the Convention in their efforts to strengthen integrity in public procurement. It is proposed that the discussion draw on paragraphs 11, 13 and 19 of the political declaration.

Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with item 6 of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at joint meetings of the Working Group and the Implementation Review Group.

4. Future priorities

A discussion will be held on future priorities for the Working Group in advising and assisting the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption. The discussion will be informed by previous deliberations of the Working Group and by the ongoing review of the implementation of chapter II of the Convention under the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism. Consideration will be given to the importance of implementing legislative and institutional frameworks consistent with the requirements of that chapter and how such implementation can be effectively reviewed.

5. Adoption of the report

The Working Group is to adopt a report on its fourteenth meeting.

Annex

Proposed organization of work

<i>Date and time</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Title or description</i>
Wednesday, 14 June 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	1 (a)	Opening of the meeting
	1 (b)	Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
	2	Implementation of relevant Conference resolutions
3–6 p.m.	2 (a)	Thematic discussions on good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption: ^a
	(i)	Interlinkages between preventive and law enforcement approaches
	(ii)	Strengthening the role of supreme audit institutions in the prevention of and fight against corruption
	(iii)	Good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies
Thursday, 15 June 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	2 (a)	Thematic discussions on good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption (<i>continued</i>)
	(iii)	Good practices, lessons learned and challenges in periodically evaluating the efficiency and the effectivity of anti-corruption measures and policies (<i>continued</i>)
3–6 p.m.	2 (b)	Other recommendations ^b
	2 (b)	Other recommendations (<i>continued</i>)
Friday, 16 June 2023		
10 a.m.–1 p.m.	3	Follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly against corruption ^c
	4	Future priorities
3–6 p.m.	5	Adoption of the report

^a Agenda item 2 (a) will be discussed together with item 4 of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at the joint meetings of the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption and that Group.

^b Agenda item 2 (b) will be discussed together with item 5 of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at the joint meetings of the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption and that Group.

^c Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with item 6 of the agenda of the fourteenth session of the Implementation Review Group at the joint meetings of the Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption and that Group.