



UNODC

United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime

Reference: CU 2009/85 (A)

The Secretary-General of the United Nations presents his compliments to the [[[FunctionalTitle2]]] and has the honour to draw the attention of the Government to decisions 4/1 and 4/3 of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, respectively on “Possible mechanisms to review implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto” and “Implementation of the provisions on technical assistance of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”.

Open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts on possible mechanisms to review implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (Vienna, Austria, 28-30 September 2009)

In its decision 4/1, the Conference considered that it was necessary to explore options regarding an appropriate and effective mechanism to assist the Conference in the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime (UNTOC Convention) and the Protocols thereto. It further requested the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC) to convene at least one open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts, with interpretation, in Vienna by September 2009, said meeting to present a report to the Conference at its fifth session on mechanisms, as appropriate, for reviewing the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.

In the same decision, the Conference requested Member States to submit to the Secretariat their comments and views for the purpose of the deliberations of the above-mentioned meeting, and also requested the Secretariat to organize the views and comments received so as to facilitate such deliberations.

The Government is cordially invited to participate in the first Open-ended intergovernmental meeting of experts on possible mechanisms to review implementation of the UNTOC Convention and the Protocols thereto, which will be held in Vienna, Austria, from 28 to 30 September 2009.

[[[AddressLine1]]]
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MAKING THE WORLD SAFER FROM DRUGS, CRIME AND TERRORISM

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The Government is also invited to provide to the Secretariat its comments and views for the purpose of the deliberations of the above meeting. The Government may wish to take into consideration the following possible issues:

- i)* Is a review mechanism needed to assist the Conference in the review of the implementation of the UNTOC Convention and the Protocols thereto?
- ii)* What methods of review should be adopted by a review mechanism and what would the role of the secretariat be in the review?
- iii)* How should the information gathered through questionnaires, interim checklist and comprehensive information-gathering tool on the implementation of the UNTOC and the Protocols thereto be used in the context of a review mechanism?
- iv)* How should we address the challenges of reviewing the implementation of four legal instruments (the UNTOC Convention and the three supplementing Protocols)? Should there be one mechanism encompassing the four instruments? Four mechanisms? Or some other structure?
- v)* To what extent could the work of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption be of use in the work on possible mechanisms to review the implementation of the UNTOC Convention?
- vi)* What should be the relationship between a review mechanism and the provision of technical assistance in areas covered by the UNTOC Convention and the Protocols thereto?

In order to allow the Secretariat to prepare a compilation of views and comments provided by Member States, the Secretary-General would be grateful if the Government could transmit any relevant information **by 31 July 2009** to the Secretariat of the Conference of the States Parties, United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, P.O. Box 500, 1400 Vienna, Austria, Fax: +43-1 26060 75752 or to email: untoc.cop@unodc.org .

**Meeting of the Open-ended Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance
(Vienna, Austria, 1-2 October 2009)**

In its decision 4/3, the Conference decided that the Open-ended Interim Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance should be a constant element of the Conference and requested the Group to further reflect on ways and means to strengthen and better coordinate the scheme of technical assistance for the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols, and submit recommendations in that regard to the Conference at its fifth session.

In the same decision, the Conference requested the Secretariat to organize an intersessional meeting of the above Working Group before the end of 2009.

The Government is cordially invited to participate in the intersessional meeting of the Open-ended Working Group on Technical Assistance, which will be held in Vienna, Austria, from 1 to 2 October 2009.

Documentation including the annotated provisional agenda and proposed organization of work for both meetings, 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 addresses:

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/working-group-on-possible-mechanisms-to-review.html>

<http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/treaties/open-ended-working-group-on-technical-assistance-2009.html>

..... Attached 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, together with any other relevant information and communication, 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, Fax: +43-1 26060 75752 or a scanned copy to email: untoc.cop@unodc.org.

Information on the composition of the Government's delegation, including name(s), title(s), e-mail address(es) and contact details, should be received by the Secretariat **by 21 September 2009 at the latest**. Providing the individual e-mail address will ensure that representatives receive an automatic e-mail response confirming their registration. The automatic e-mail response will contain a link where participants may upload a photograph in order for badges to be pre-printed and made available to be picked up upon arrival at the Vienna International Centre, Security Gate 1.

2 July 2009

