



Reference: CU 2005/146

INFORMATION CIRCULAR

The United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime presents its compliments to intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and wishes to inform them that pursuant to article 32 of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, a Conference of the Parties to the Convention has been established to improve the capacity of States Parties to combat transnational organized crime and to promote and review the implementation of this Convention.

In accordance with rule 5 of the Rules of Procedure for the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, the Secretariat wishes to draw the organization's attention to the forthcoming second session of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, which will be held in Vienna, Austria, from 10-21 October 2005.

Rule 16 entitled "Participation of entities and intergovernmental organizations" provides that subject to prior written notification to the Secretary-General, representatives of entities and organizations that have received a standing invitation from the General Assembly to participate as observers in the sessions and work of all international conferences convened under its auspices; representatives of United Nations bodies, specialized agencies and funds, as well as representatives of functional commissions of the Economic and Social Council, shall be entitled to participate as observers in the deliberations of the Conference.

Rule 16 also provides that representatives of any other relevant intergovernmental organization may also apply to the bureau for observer status, which shall be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.

Rule 17 entitled "Participation of non-governmental organizations" provides that relevant non-governmental organizations having consultative status with the Economic and Social Council may apply to the bureau for observer status, which should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference.

Rule 17 also provides that other relevant non-governmental organizations may also apply to the bureau for observer status. The secretariat shall circulate as a document a list of such organizations with sufficient information at least thirty days prior to the Conference. If there is no objection to a non-governmental organization, observer status should be accorded unless otherwise decided by the Conference. If there is an objection, the matter will be referred to the Conference for a decision.

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:

http://www.unodc.org/unodc/en/crime_cicp_convention.html#conference

Communications of interest should be sent directly to the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime, P.O. Box 500, A-1400 Vienna, Austria, Fax: +43-1 26060 5841 or 6711; tel.: +43-1 26060 4534 or 4281.

11 August 2005

A handwritten signature consisting of the letters 'S' and 'R' in a cursive, stylized font.