Open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption
Vienna, 12–14 June 2024

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

1. Organizational matters:
   (a) Opening of the meeting;
   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.

2. Overview of progress made in the implementation of mandates.

3. Thematic discussion on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation: effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and use of networks.

4. Technical assistance.

5. Adoption of the report.

Annotations

1. Organizational matters
   (a) Opening of the meeting
      The thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption will be opened on Wednesday, 12 June 2024, at 10 a.m., at the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Boardroom B/M1. The meeting will be held in person.
   (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work
      The provisional agenda was prepared on the basis of past practice, in accordance with resolutions 4/2, 5/1, 6/7, 7/1, 8/6, 9/1, 9/2, 9/3 and 9/5 of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
      The proposed organization of work for the expert meeting (see annex) was prepared on the basis of past practice, 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 on 23 February 2024, in order to enable consideration of agenda items 2, 3 and 4 jointly with the Implementation Review Group and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

2. Overview of progress made in the implementation of mandates

The mandate of the expert meeting, as set out in Conference resolution 4/2, consists of the following functions:

(a) Assisting the Conference in developing cumulative knowledge in the area of international cooperation;

(b) Assisting the Conference in encouraging cooperation among relevant existing bilateral, regional and multilateral initiatives and contributing to the implementation of the related provisions of the Convention under the guidance of the Conference;

(c) Facilitating the exchange of experiences among States by identifying challenges and disseminating information on good practices to be followed in order to strengthen capacities at the national level;

(d) Building confidence and encouraging cooperation between requesting and requested States by bringing together relevant competent authorities, anti-corruption bodies and practitioners involved in mutual legal assistance and extradition;

(e) Assisting the Conference in identifying the capacity-building needs of States.

In paragraph 8 of its resolution 8/2, the Conference called upon States parties to further promote, facilitate and support international cooperation and technical assistance in the prevention of and fight against corruption, in line with article 1 (b) of the Convention, with a view to facilitating the implementation of article 43 of the Convention.

Further, in line with Conference resolutions 8/1, 8/2 and 8/6 and the recommendations agreed at the eighth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the Convention, held on 31 May 2019 (see CAC/COSP/EG.1/2019/4), States parties were encouraged to continue to provide to the secretariat information on challenges and good practices in international cooperation and other topics outlined in Conference resolutions and the recommendations of the expert meetings so that the secretariat could continue its analytical work with regard to challenges in international cooperation on the basis of the Convention and relevant to the implementation of chapter IV. States parties were encouraged to share information on their legal requirements for international cooperation, as well as statistical information and examples relevant to international cooperation in transnational corruption cases.

Updates on the implementation of mandates were provided in the note by the Secretariat on progress in implementing the mandates of the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2023/2) and the note by the Secretariat on the activities of the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the work of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to promote international cooperation (CAC/COSP/2023/17). The secretariat will provide an oral update on the status of implementation of the above-mentioned mandates. The expert meeting will be informed of the outcome and conclusions of the meeting of the Working Group on International Cooperation of the Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, to be held in Vienna on 5 and 6 June 2024.

States parties may wish to use the expert meeting as a platform to discuss and exchange information on good practices, new developments and practical challenges relating to international cooperation. States parties may wish to come prepared to
discuss lessons learned, good practices and challenges in the implementation of chapter IV of the Convention.

Agenda item 2 will be discussed together with item 4 (a) of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 2 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.

3. **Thematic discussion on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation: effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and use of networks**

At its special session held from 2 to 4 June 2021, the General Assembly 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 the 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.

A workplan for the subsidiary bodies for 2023–2026 on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation was approved by the Bureau of the Conference in April 2023.

Accordingly, under the present item, the expert meeting is expected to discuss appropriate measures to follow up on the political declaration. The topic of the discussion will be effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and the use of networks.¹

In the political declaration, Member States acknowledged that effective and timely communication and cooperation between competent authorities can be an important factor in curbing the cross-border movement of persons involved in and property derived from the commission of corruption offences. They were encouraged to use and strengthen appropriate focal points to facilitate information exchange between each other, noting existing agreements, formal international forums or networks for that purpose. Member States also emphasized the need for reliable, high-quality, timely and effective communication and procedures, including to reduce the time required for sending requests through official channels in preparation for or during mutual legal assistance requests in criminal cases, including through secure electronic communication channels.

Member States also endeavoured to establish contact and communication between competent authorities by utilizing appropriate channels to foster cross-border cooperation in the collection and sharing of evidence and the enforcement of judicial orders, in accordance with domestic law and international obligations. They acknowledged the critical importance of developing and maintaining international networks of law enforcement officials to advance international cooperation for the success of corruption cases. Furthermore, they committed to better utilizing and strengthening international, regional and cross-regional law enforcement and, as

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¹ In past meetings, the expert meeting considered measures to follow up on the political declaration under a separate agenda item. To facilitate the organization of joint sessions with other subsidiary bodies of the Conference, these deliberations are now taking place under the agenda item on thematic discussions.
appropriate, judicial cooperation networks as platforms among competent authorities for information-sharing and mutual legal assistance and the development and dissemination of specialized knowledge. Moreover, they committed to strengthening reliable and timely information exchange and engaging in proactive and responsive information-sharing, in accordance with domestic legal systems, by making better use of all available instruments, as appropriate and in accordance with the Convention and domestic law, to request and provide international cooperation for the purposes of enhancing the identification, tracing, freezing, seizure, confiscation and return of the proceeds of offences established in accordance with the Convention.

To facilitate the deliberations of the expert meeting under the present item, a panel discussion will be held on the above-mentioned topic. The expert meeting will have before it a note by the Secretariat entitled “Discussion guide on effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and the use of networks: measures taken by States parties in follow-up to the political declaration adopted at the special session of the General Assembly against corruption” (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2024/2).

In addition, the expert meeting will have before it a conference room paper on the status of implementation of joint investigative teams under article 49 of the Convention (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2024/CRP.1), containing information on an analytical study prepared by the secretariat on the basis of the findings and results of a broader range of reviews of the implementation of chapter IV of the Convention.

Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with item 4 (b) of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 3 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.

**Documentation**

Note by the Secretariat entitled “Discussion guide on effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and the use of networks: measures taken by States parties in follow-up to the political declaration adopted at the special session of the General Assembly against corruption” (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2024/2)

Conference room paper on the status of implementation of joint investigative teams under article 49 of the Convention (CAC/COSP/EG.1/2024/CRP.1)

4. **Technical assistance**

In its resolution 4/2, entitled “Convening of open-ended intergovernmental expert meetings to enhance international cooperation”, the Conference decided that the expert meetings shall, inter alia, facilitate the exchange of experiences among States by identifying challenges and disseminating information on good practices to be followed in order to strengthen capacities at the national level, and assist the Conference in identifying the capacity-building needs of States.

In that regard, the secretariat and the Global Operational Network of Anti-Corruption Law Enforcement Authorities (GlobE Network) will provide an oral update on technical assistance activities conducted since the last expert meeting.

States parties may wish to brief the expert meeting on their efforts relevant to capacity-building and technical assistance in the area of international cooperation and to discuss their cooperation in that regard with providers of technical assistance, including the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime and the GlobE Network.

In order to facilitate the expert meeting’s deliberations on the matter, a panel discussion will be held on technical assistance in relation to chapters IV and V of the Convention.

Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with item 5 of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 4 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.
5. Adoption of the report

The expert meeting is to adopt a report on its thirteenth meeting, the draft of which will be prepared by the secretariat.
Annex

### Proposed organization of work

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<th>Item</th>
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<td>1 (a)</td>
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<td>1 (b)</td>
<td>Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</td>
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<td></td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Overview of progress made in the implementation of mandates(^a)</td>
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<td>3</td>
<td>Thematic discussion on the follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation: effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and use of networks(^b)</td>
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<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
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<td>Thematic discussion (continued)(^b)</td>
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<td>Thematic discussion (continued)(^b)</td>
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<td>Technical assistance (continued)(^c)</td>
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<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>5</td>
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\(^a\) Agenda item 2 will be discussed together with item 4 (a) of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 2 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.

\(^b\) Agenda item 3 will be discussed together with item 4 (b) of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 3 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.

\(^c\) Agenda item 4 will be discussed together with item 5 of the agenda for the fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group and with item 4 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Working Group on Asset Recovery at joint meetings.