Implementation Review Group
Fifteenth session
Vienna, 10–14 June 2024

Annotated provisional agenda

Provisional agenda

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


3. Financial and budgetary matters.

4. State of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption:
   (a) Exchange of information, practices and experiences gained in the implementation of the Convention;
   (b) Thematic discussion.

5. Technical assistance.

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

7. Other matters.


Annotations

1. Organizational matters
   (a) Opening of the session

   The fifteenth session of the Implementation Review Group will be opened on Monday, 10 June 2024, at 10 a.m., at the Vienna International Centre, M-Building, Boardroom B/M1. The session will be held in person.
(b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption requested the Implementation Review Group to continue to hold regular sessions at least once a year, based on an annotated provisional agenda and programme of work issued as early as possible in order to enable the States parties to plan the composition of the delegations and prepare for focused and efficient discussions on the main topics of the session, and, while taking into consideration the directions of the Conference, being able to adjust topics of discussion to maximize the effectiveness of its discussions and work outcomes, subject to the availability of existing resources. Moreover, in its decision 10/2, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should dedicate the time necessary to continue its discussions on assessing the performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.

The proposed organization of work for the fifteenth session (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 the consideration of agenda items 4 and 5 jointly with the open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, with the consideration of item 6 being subsumed under those items.


Drawing of lots

On the first day of the fifteenth session, lots will be drawn to select the reviewing States parties for the first and second cycle reviews of any States parties that have become parties to the Convention since the previous drawing of lots. Lots may also be drawn to select reviewing States parties for any States parties requesting redraws.

Workplan for the implementation of Conference decision 10/2

In its decision 10/2, entitled “Further extension of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference, inter alia, requested the secretariat to prepare a workplan for the implementation of that decision through 2024-2025 for adoption by the Implementation Review Group. Accordingly, the Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat on the workplan for the implementation of Conference decision 10/2 on the further extension of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/2), containing the workplan for consideration and adoption by the Group.

Progress made in the conduct of country reviews

In its decision 5/1, the Conference of the States Parties decided that the Implementation Review Group should include in its future sessions an agenda item allowing for discussion of relevant information collected, with the support of the secretariat, in order to facilitate the assessment of the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, in accordance with paragraph 48 of the terms of reference, following the completion of the first review cycle.

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference, inter alia, requested the Implementation Review Group to continue to collect, with the support of the secretariat, relevant information, including the views of States parties, pertaining to the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, with a view to continuing, at the appropriate time, its assessment of the performance of the Mechanism, as provided for in
paragraph 48 of its terms of reference and Conference decision 5/1. The Conference also requested the secretariat to continue to provide to the Implementation Review Group analyses of the time frames associated with the crucial stages of the review process, including statistics on the number of States parties that are behind schedule, with the aim of facilitating a more efficient process.

In response to the delays incurred during the second cycle of the Implementation Review Mechanism, in its decision 8/1, the Conference extended the duration of the second cycle until June 2024 to allow for the completion of country reviews and called upon States parties to accelerate the completion of the second cycle.

Subsequently, in its decision 10/2, the Conference decided to extend the duration of the second cycle until June 2026 and called upon States parties to remain engaged in the review process and to accelerate the completion of the second cycle, with a view to completing at least 70 per cent of reviews of States parties by June 2026 without prejudice to the quality of those country reviews.

The secretariat has compiled and analysed information relating to the overall performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism during the first and second review cycles, including the responses received to the self-assessment checklist, the direct dialogues conducted, the executive summaries and country review reports that have been finalized and the country review reports that have been made available on the website of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime (UNODC). Accordingly, the Implementation Review Group will have before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat on the performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/3).

Moreover, under the present item, delegations will be encouraged to deliver statements on the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism and on its next phase. Delegations will also be encouraged to report on substantive matters in connection with the implementation of the Convention, including on national measures taken as a follow-up to the reviews carried out under agenda item 4.

Next phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism

In the political declaration entitled “Our common commitment to effectively addressing challenges and implementing measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation”, adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021, Member States, inter alia, committed to fully and effectively following up on the conclusions and observations from the review process and welcomed the efforts by the Conference to assess the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism and adapt, where appropriate, procedures and requirements for the follow-up.

The matter of the next review phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism was discussed at the sessions of the Implementation Review Group held in 2022 and 2023, and at the tenth session of the Conference.

Moreover, in its decision 10/2, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should dedicate the time necessary to continue its discussions on assessing the performance of the Implementation Review Mechanism, as well as on the scope, thematic sequence and details of the next review phase, including through additional resumed sessions of the Group, if possible back to back with sessions of the Group, within existing resources or subject to the availability of extrabudgetary resources, to submit recommendations to the Conference at its eleventh session in this regard and to endeavour to launch the next phase as soon as possible.

In order to further facilitate its deliberations on the next review phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism, the Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing a summary of views and deliberations on the scope and thematic sequence of the next phase of the Mechanism for the Review of

In addition, panel discussions will be organized on the scope and thematic sequence of the next phase of the Implementation Review Mechanism. Delegations will be invited to share their views on these topics.

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on the workplan for the implementation of Conference decision 10/2 on the further extension of the second cycle of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/2)

Note by the Secretariat on the performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/3)

Note by the Secretariat containing a summary of views and deliberations on the scope and thematic sequence of the next phase of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/4)

3. Financial and budgetary matters

In its resolution 3/1, the Conference underlined that the Implementation Review Mechanism would require a budget that ensured its efficient, continued and impartial functioning. Pursuant to that resolution, the General Assembly, in its resolution 64/237, requested the Secretary-General to ensure that the Mechanism was adequately funded.

In its resolution 4/1, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group should assist it in the fulfilment of its responsibility to consider the budget biennially by engaging with the Secretariat during the intersessional period with regard to expenditures and projected costs related to the Implementation Review Mechanism.

Moreover, in its decision 10/2, the Conference urged States parties to provide voluntary extrabudgetary financial contributions to UNODC to ensure funding to enable the participation of representatives of developing countries, especially those that do not have representation resident in Vienna, in the work of additional resumed sessions of the Implementation Review Group, including by covering their travel costs and accommodation expenses.

At its fifteenth session, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a note by the Secretariat containing budgetary information on expenditures incurred so far for the operation of the first and second cycles of the Implementation Review Mechanism, resources received at the time of writing, both from the regular budget and from voluntary contributions, projected expenditures and the current shortfall in resource requirements for the functioning of the Mechanism (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/5).

Documentation

Note by the Secretariat on resources and expenditures for the functioning of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/5)


(a) Exchange of information, practices and experiences gained in the implementation of the Convention

In its resolution 8/2, the Conference encouraged States parties to keep using the Implementation Review Group as a platform for the voluntary exchange of information on national measures taken during and after the completion of country reviews, including strategies adopted, challenges encountered and best practices
identified, as well as, where appropriate, the follow-up to the recommendations made in the country review reports, while taking into account the need for efficient discussions and decision-making processes in the sessions of the Group. The Conference also welcomed the important and useful thematic implementation reports, regional supplementary addenda and updates on technical assistance needs prepared by the secretariat for the consideration of the Group, and encouraged States parties, the United Nations and other stakeholders to make full use of those documents.

Accordingly, the Implementation Review Group will have before it a thematic report prepared by the Secretariat entitled “Implementation of chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and regional supplement” (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/6) for its consideration.

A thematic report prepared by the Secretariat entitled “Implementation of provisions of a cross-cutting nature in chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and regional supplement” (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/7) will also be made available to the Implementation Review Group for its consideration.

States parties will be encouraged to provide, under agenda item 4, further information on successes, good practices, challenges, technical assistance needs and measures taken after the completion of the country reviews under the first and second review cycles.

Agenda item 4 (a) will be discussed together with item 2 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and item 2 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, at joint meetings.

(b) Thematic discussion

Agenda item 4 (b) will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 3 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, at joint meetings.

Documentation

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat entitled “Implementation of chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and regional supplement” (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/6)

Thematic report prepared by the Secretariat entitled “Implementation of provisions of a cross-cutting nature in chapter II (Preventive measures) and chapter V (Asset recovery) of the United Nations Convention against Corruption and regional supplement” (CAC/COSP/IRG/2024/7)

5. Technical assistance

In its resolution 8/8, the Conference encouraged States parties to, inter alia, address the needs identified during their country reviews and to promote national anti-corruption strategies and/or action plans as a tool for country-led and country-based, integrated and coordinated technical assistance programming and delivery. Moreover, in its resolution 9/4, the Conference called upon States parties to acknowledge the importance of promoting, facilitating and supporting timely, sustainable, adequate and effective technical assistance for strengthening national capacities to prevent and fight corruption and called for accelerated action at all levels and by all technical assistance providers in addressing such needs, upon request, including those identified through the Implementation Review Mechanism, by mobilizing sufficient financial assistance, technical support and other resources, as
stated in paragraph 53 of the political declaration adopted by the General Assembly at its special session against corruption held in 2021.

Furthermore, in its decision 10/2, the Conference requested the Implementation Review Group to continue to address the technical assistance priorities identified in the country reviews, and invited technical assistance providers to consider those priorities for incorporation into either new or ongoing technical assistance programmes for developing countries, upon request. Panel discussions will be organized under this item.

Agenda item 5 will be discussed together with item 4 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 4 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery, at joint meetings.

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

In accordance with the workplan for the subsidiary bodies of the Conference for 2023–2026 on follow-up to the special session of the General Assembly on challenges and measures to prevent and combat corruption and strengthen international cooperation, approved by the Bureau of the Conference, the topics to be discussed during the fifteenth session are as follows: (a) illicit financial flows and challenges, obstacles and barriers to international cooperation; and (b) effective communication and cooperation, information-sharing, inter-agency approaches, law enforcement cooperation and use of networks.

The consideration of agenda item 6 by the Group will be subsumed under items 4 (b) and 5 of the agenda.

7. **Other matters**

Under agenda item 7, the Implementation Review Group may wish to discuss any other matters.

8. **Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the Implementation Review Group**

The Implementation Review Group is to consider and approve, at its fifteenth session, a provisional agenda for its sixteenth session, which will be drafted by the secretariat in consultation with the Chair.

9. **Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its fifteenth session**

The Implementation Review Group is to adopt a report on its fifteenth session, the draft of which is to be prepared by the secretariat.
Annex

Proposed organization of work

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date and time</th>
<th>Item</th>
<th>Title or description</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Monday, 10 June 2024</td>
<td>1 (a)</td>
<td>Opening of the session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</td>
<td>1 (b)</td>
<td>Adoption of the agenda and organization of work</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Financial and budgetary matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>7</td>
<td>Other matters</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>8</td>
<td>Provisional agenda for the sixteenth session of the Implementation Review Group</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Tuesday, 11 June 2024</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wednesday, 12 June 2024</td>
<td>4 (a)</td>
<td>Exchange of information, practices and experiences gained in the implementation of the Convention a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</td>
<td>3</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>4 (b)</td>
<td>Thematic discussion b</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>Performance of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Thursday, 13 June 2024</td>
<td>4 (b)</td>
<td>Thematic discussion b (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technical assistance c</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technical assistance c (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Friday, 14 June 2024</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>Technical assistance c (continued)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10 a.m.–1 p.m.</td>
<td>9</td>
<td>Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its fifteenth session</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3–6 p.m.</td>
<td>5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

a Agenda item 4 (a) will be discussed together with item 2 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 2 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery.

b Agenda item 4 (b) will be discussed together with item 3 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 3 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery. The consideration of agenda item 6 by the Group will be subsumed under item 4 (b) of the agenda.

c Agenda item 5 will be discussed together with item 4 of the agenda for the thirteenth open-ended intergovernmental expert meeting to enhance international cooperation under the United Nations Convention against Corruption and with item 4 of the agenda for the eighteenth meeting of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Asset Recovery. The consideration of agenda item 6 by the Group will also be subsumed under item 5 of the agenda.