

Annex - Questionnaire

Measures taken to implement the Convention and the commitments contained in the UNGASS political declaration, as well as good practices and progress made in the use of international cooperation mechanisms under the Convention¹

Country	The People's Republic of China
Implementing authority/authorities	Independent Commission Against Corruption (ICAC), Hong Kong Special Administrative Region (HKSAR)
Corresponding paragraph(s) of the UNGASS political declaration and/or article(s) of the Convention	<u>UNGASS political declaration</u> Paragraphs 32 to 40 <u>UNCAC</u> Articles 44, 46, 48 and 59
Title of initiative	Effective corruption investigation through international collaboration
Keywords of initiative	International collaboration, liaison, agency-to-agency cooperation, exchange of information, exchange of intelligence
Short summary of initiative (please indicate the start date/duration if relevant)	A dedicated International & Mainland (Operational) Liaison Section (the Liaison Section) in ICAC has been established to maintain operational liaison with anti-corruption and other law enforcement agencies (LEAs) worldwide to facilitate international cooperation and exchange of information and intelligence.
Detailed description of initiative	<p>The Liaison Section specialises in maintaining effective and timely operational liaison with anti-corruption and other LEAs worldwide to facilitate international cooperation and exchange of information. Direct liaison channels have been established with over 40 overseas agencies in over 20 jurisdictions. The Liaison Section maintains separate case files from that of the investigating section so as to preserve the anonymity of the information providers. All requests by the Liaison Section are made in writing and followed up by oral communication and/or meetings (online or face-to-face).</p> <p>Also, pursuant to the Mutual Legal Assistance in Criminal Matters Ordinance (Cap. 525), the United Nations Convention against Corruption and the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, ICAC investigating officers are authorised to assist in conducting enquiries into corruption-related matters in response to requests from overseas law enforcement agencies and judicial authorities. The assistance sought or rendered includes background enquiries on</p>

¹ Please use one form per initiative described

	persons/companies/institutions, checking of public records, and arranging witnesses for interview or to testify in court on a voluntary basis.
Lessons learned in implementing the initiative	The importance of collaboration between ICAC and its anti-corruption counterparts worldwide is fully recognised.
Challenges encountered in implementing the initiative	<p>The international travel restriction as a result of the COVID-19 epidemic has posed operational difficulties for LEAs, including ICAC, to conduct enquiries.</p> <p>In recent years, there were suspensions of agreement on mutual legal assistance in criminal matters between the HKSAR and some countries.</p>
Link to more information	-