



# Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption

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## Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption

### Resumed First Session

Vienna, 29 November-1 December 2010

### Draft report\*

## IV. Country reviews

1. During its consideration of agenda item 3 on country reviews, the Secretary informed the Group about the progress of the work of the Mechanism, making reference to CAC/COSP/IRG/2010/CRP.12, entitled “Country reviews: organization and schedule of reviews”. He provided an update on the status of a number of procedural matters such as the drawing of lots, the schedule of the country reviews in the first year and the training workshops for governmental experts. The drawing of lots for the reviewing States parties of the second year of the cycle was to take place at the second session of the Group, to be held in May 2011, which would mark the start of the second year of the first review cycle. The Secretariat was collecting process and practical issues for submission to the Group at its second session. The Secretary further reported on the efforts of the Secretariat to reach out, as requested by the Group at its first session, to States that were selected for review and had not yet informed the Secretariat of their readiness to undergo review in the first year or to defer their review to the following year. In two cases, the Secretariat’s efforts had been unsuccessful to date. For one State that had been selected as a reviewing State party, the Secretariat had not been successful in securing the contact details of its governmental experts. The Secretary sought the guidance of the Group on how to proceed in these cases.

2. Speakers addressed the issue of States parties selected for review that had not yet informed the Secretariat whether they were ready to undergo the review in the first year or to defer until the following year. Speakers expressed concern over such non-responsiveness, noting that such States may need to be assisted. The Group decided that a letter, signed by the President of the Conference and the other members of the Bureau, would be sent to non-responsive States via their Permanent Missions, and copied to the Chairs of Regional Groups in New York. The letter

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\* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



would express the Group's concern but also its confidence as to the States' readiness to discharge procedural requirements of the review process, outlining such requirements. The Secretariat would remain available to provide assistance, if required. The State party concerned would be requested to inform the Bureau of its decision in the shortest time possible. A similar procedure would be applied to the State party that had not communicated the contact details of its governmental experts.

## **VII. Other matters**

3. The Group agreed that the final decision on the question of participation of observers in the IRG had to be reached by the Conference. Speakers expressed views on the basic elements of such a decision, emphasizing the need to ensure that there would be no departure from the agreement reached in Doha on the Terms of references of the Mechanism. In the interim, the Group agreed that the secretariat would extend invitations for the second session of the IRG as follows: (a) for the items on review of implementation, participation of observers, financial and budgetary matters and other matters, to States parties; and (b) for the item on technical assistance, to States parties, signatories, intergovernmental organizations and United Nations entities. It was the understanding of the Group that this discussion would not set a precedent and that every effort would be made before and during the second session of the Group to explore appropriate and practical solutions for submission to and consideration by the Conference at its fourth session.

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