



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

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Implementation Review Group

Second Session

Vienna, 30 May-3 June 2011

Draft report

I. Introduction

1. In its resolutions 1/1, 2/1 and 3/1, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption recalled article 63 of the Convention, in particular paragraph 7, according to which the Conference would establish, if it deemed it necessary, any appropriate mechanism or body to assist in the effective implementation of the Convention.
2. In its resolution 3/1, the Conference adopted the terms of reference of the Mechanism for the Review of Implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption contained in the annex to the aforementioned resolution, and the draft guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat in the conduct of country reviews and the draft blueprint for country review reports, contained in the appendix to the annex, which were finalized by the Implementation Review Group at its first session held in Vienna from 28 June to 2 July 2010.
3. In the same resolution, and in accordance with paragraph 42 of the terms of reference of the review mechanism, the Implementation Review Group shall be an open-ended intergovernmental group of States parties, which should operate under the authority of and report to the Conference. The Conference decided that the functions of the Implementation Review Group should be to have an overview of the review process in order to identify challenges and good practices and to consider technical assistance requirements in order to ensure effective implementation of the Convention. The Conference also decided that the IRG should hold meetings at least once a year in Vienna.
4. Also in the same resolution, the Conference decided that the Implementation Review Group shall be in charge of following up and continuing the work undertaken previously by the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance.
5. In its resolution 3/4 entitled “Technical assistance to implement the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, the Conference took note of the



recommendations of the Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on Technical Assistance contained in the report of the Secretariat on the work of that Working Group.¹

II. Organization of the meeting

A. Opening of the meeting

6. The Implementation Review Group of the United Nations Convention against Corruption held its second session in Vienna from 30 May to 3 June 2011.

7. The first to sixth meetings of the Implementation Review Group were chaired by John Brandolino (USA), and the seventh to tenth meetings were chaired by Eugenio Curia (Argentina). In his introductory remarks, the Chair recalled the first meeting of the Implementation Review Group, held from 28 June to 2 July 2010, in which the Group finalized the guidelines for governmental experts and the secretariat, adopted Resolution 1/1 on resource requirements for the functioning of the Mechanism for the biennium 2012-2013 and proceeded with the drawing of lots for States parties under review for the first cycle and reviewing States parties for the first year of the cycle. He further made reference to the resumed first session, held from 29 November to 1 December 2010, where the Group continued to discuss issues concerning the review process and adopted recommendations on technical assistance.

8. The Chairperson invited the Executive Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime to make opening remarks.

9. The Executive-Director of the United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime highlighted the growing commitment of States to fight corruption and the Office's work to support them in their efforts, and stressed the innovative nature of the Review Mechanism. He thanked States Parties involved in the country reviews in the first year for their work and urged States to continue to strongly support the Mechanism and to work towards the full implementation of the Convention. He considered the upcoming Fourth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption in Marrakesh to be a key opportunity to take stock of global progress in preventing and combating corruption in relation to the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals.

10. The Representative of Egypt delivered a statement to the Group, in light of recent events leading up to and since 25 January 2011. He reported on the ground-breaking experience of his country in the field of asset recovery and welcomed the cooperation that investigative and prosecutorial teams had received from abroad. He stressed that such efforts were not easy and required more cooperation and understanding among States including between judicial authorities in order to fully implement the Convention against Corruption and enable countries to make full use of its provisions.

¹ CAC/COSP/2009/8.

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

11. On 30 May, the Implementation Review Group adopted the following agenda:
 1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the session;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
 2. Review of implementation of the United Nations Convention against Corruption.
 3. Technical assistance.
 4. Financial and budgetary matters.
 5. Other matters.
 6. Provisional agenda for the resumed second session of the Implementation Review Group.
 7. Adoption of the report of the Implementation Review Group on its second session.

C. Attendance

12. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting of the Implementation Review Group: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Angola, Argentina, Armenia, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bangladesh, Belarus, Belgium, Benin, Bolivia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Bulgaria, Burkina Faso, Burundi, Cambodia, Canada, Central African Republic, Chile, China, Colombia, Costa Rica, Croatia, Cuba, Cyprus, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Denmark, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Estonia, Ethiopia, Finland, France, Greece, Guatemala, Guinea Bissau, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jamaica, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lao People's Democratic Republic, Lebanon, Lesotho, Liechtenstein, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Madagascar, Malawi, Malaysia, Maldives, Mali, Mauritania, Mexico, Montenegro, Morocco, Mozambique, Namibia, Netherlands, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Norway, Pakistan, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Qatar, Republic of Korea, Romania, Russian Federation, Rwanda, Sao Tome and Principe, Senegal, Sierra Leone, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Timor-Leste, Togo, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United Republic of Tanzania, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam, Yemen, Zambia, Zimbabwe.

13. The European Union, a regional economic integration organization that is a party to the Convention, was represented at the meeting.

14. At its resumed first session, the Implementation Review Group decided that signatories and observer states would be invited to attend the deliberations on the

agenda items on technical assistance and on financial and budgetary matters, scheduled for 1 June and 2 June 2011, respectively.

15. The following States signatories to the Convention were represented by observers: Côte d'Ivoire, Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Syrian Arab Republic.

16. The following observer State was also represented: Oman.

17. Palestine, an entity maintaining a permanent observer mission to the United Nations, was represented.

18. Also at its resumed first session, the Implementation Review Group decided that intergovernmental organizations, Secretariat units, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system would be invited to attend the deliberations on the agenda item on technical assistance, scheduled for 1 June and the morning of 2 June 2011.

19. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, International Anti-Corruption Academy, International Criminal Police Organization and the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

20. The following Secretariat units, United Nations bodies, funds and programmes, institutes of the United Nations Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice Programme network, specialized agencies and other organizations of the United Nations system were represented by observers: International Narcotics Control Board (INCB), United Nations Commission on International Trade Law (UNCITRAL), United Nations Relief and Works Agency for Palestine Refugees in the Near East (UNRWA), United Nations Development Programme, Basel Institute on Governance and the World Bank.

21. The Sovereign Military Order of Malta, an entity maintaining a permanent observer office at Headquarters, was represented.