



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

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## Implementation Review Group

### Resumed second session

Vienna, 7-9 September 2011

## Draft report\*

### Addendum

## IV. Technical assistance

1. The Chair invited the Implementation Review Group to consider the issue of the provision of technical assistance in response to needs identified through the Review Mechanism in support of the implementation of the Convention. The Secretary commended the deliberations of the Group regarding technical assistance and recalled the Argentine proposal outlining issues for the Group's consideration of its role with respect to technical assistance in the context of the Review Mechanism.
2. The Group had before it for its consideration a note by the Secretariat on technical assistance in support of the implementation of the Convention (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/CRP.7) containing a description of activities that have been carried out, covering legislative and capacity-building activities at the country level, as well as substantive tools and knowledge products that facilitate the delivery of technical assistance. A further document had been provided to the Group for its deliberation on possible technical assistance activities to respond to the technical assistance needs identified by States parties during the first year of the Review Mechanism (CAC/COSP/IRG/2011/CRP.8). This set out a range of technical assistance initiatives envisaged to meet the current needs identified through the Review Mechanism. The final paper introduced was a note on communications received by the Secretariat from six States parties in response to Note Verbale CU 2011/126 of 4 August 2011 related to the provision of technical assistance for Chapters III (Criminalization and law enforcement) and IV (International cooperation) of the Convention.
3. Speakers welcomed the documents prepared by the Secretariat as a basis upon which an initial discussion on the provision of technical assistance could be held. Noting that such documentation was not exhaustive and based on the responses of

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



States parties under review in the first year of the Review Mechanism, the Group welcomed future analysis that would draw upon completed country review reports. In particular, speakers appreciated the three-tier global, regional and country approaches to technical assistance delivery outlined by the Secretariat. Several speakers recognized the Group as the appropriate forum in which to discuss the global approach. At the regional level, several speakers noted that the activities of other regional or subregional bodies or initiatives might also be relevant to the discussion. Concerning the national approach, the Group recalled resolution 3/4, in which the Conference endorsed country-led and country-based, integrated and coordinated technical assistance delivery. Several speakers shared their experiences as providers of technical assistance with regard to the implementation of the Convention, as well as, *inter alia*, for South-South cooperation was being provided. In particular, it was noted that such assistance encompassed activities at the normative level, capacity-building and sector-specific support.

4. The Group reiterated that technical assistance is an integral component of the Review Mechanism and reaffirmed that the guiding principles and characteristics of the Review Mechanism, mainly it being transparent, efficient, non-intrusive, inclusive and impartial, as well as the absence of any form of ranking, also apply to the delivery of technical assistance. Several speakers emphasized the important role that signatories can play in technical assistance delivery and the need for relevant information to be provided for.

5. The Group noted the evolving nature of technical assistance needs emerging from the review process or through other voluntary means using the comprehensive self-assessment checklist as a basis. One speaker emphasized the need for flexibility regarding how technical assistance needs are identified. As referred to in resolution 3/4, the Group recognized the need for coordination among donors, technical assistance providers and recipient States in order to leverage existing resources, increase efficiency, avoid duplication of effort and meet the recipient countries' identified technical assistance needs. It was further noted that the comprehensive self-assessment checklist allows for the identification of past or existing technical assistance programmes. Other guides and tools, including UNODC's anti-corruption portal TRACK (Tools and Resources for Anti-Corruption Knowledge), can also facilitate the dissemination of information on technical assistance needs and delivery. One speaker noted that the International Anti-Corruption Academy could also be an important resource for the delivery of training. The joint initiatives of UNODC and UNDP to deliver anti-corruption technical assistance in various contexts was noted.

6. Several speakers noted the difficulties encountered in distinguishing technical assistance on anti-corruption from broader assistance activities and initiatives in areas such as good governance and public financial management. It was observed that classification discrepancies could have an impact on the delivery of technical assistance in implementing the Convention and the provision of relevant information to the Group.

7. The Group supported a proposal that the Secretariat carry out a mapping exercise on the provision of technical assistance, including available expertise and existing programmes, and the impact of such assistance. The mapping would facilitate deliberations on efforts to match demand with supply of technical assistance. The Secretary expressed the Secretariat's readiness to conduct such a

mapping, noting that results would depend on the quality and timeliness of the information provided by States parties, signatories and other technical assistance providers.

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