



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

Distr.: Limited
24 August 2011

Original: English

Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption

Second Session

Vienna, 22-24 August 2011

Draft report*

I. Introduction

1. In its resolution 3/2, the Conference of the States Parties to the United Nations Convention against Corruption decided to establish an interim open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group, in accordance with article 63, paragraph 7, of the United Nations Convention against Corruption, and rule 2, paragraph 2 of the rules of procedure of the Conference of the States Parties, to advise and assist the Conference in the implementation of its mandate on the prevention of corruption.
2. In the same resolution, the Conference also decided that the Working Group should perform the following functions:
 - (a) Assist the Conference in developing and accumulating knowledge in the area of prevention of corruption;
 - (b) Facilitate the exchange of information and experience among States on preventive measures and practices;
 - (c) Facilitate the collection, dissemination and promotion of best practices in corruption prevention; and
 - (d) Assist the Conference in encouraging cooperation among all stakeholders and sectors of society in order to prevent corruption.
3. Also in the same resolution, the Conference further decided that the Working Group should meet during the sessions of the Conference and, as appropriate, should hold at least two intersessional meetings prior to the fourth session of the Conference in order to perform its mandated task, within existing resources. The Conference also decided that the Working Group should submit reports on its activities to it.

* The present document is being issued without formal editing.



4. At its first meeting, in December 2010, the Working Group recommended that its second meeting focus on good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:

(i) Awareness-raising policies and practices, with special reference to articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: thematic discussion;

(ii) The public sector and prevention of corruption; codes of conduct (article 8 of the Convention) and public reporting (article 10 of the Convention): thematic discussion.

5. The Working Group further decided that the Secretariat should continue to carry out its information-gathering activities relating to chapter II of the Convention, concentrating on good practices and initiatives relating to the implementation of that chapter as established by States parties. It should also continue to collect information on existing expertise within the United Nations system and other relevant organizations in the prevention of corruption, paying attention to the specific features of anti-corruption strategies and policies in different sectors. The priority in gathering such information should be to facilitate the discussion on specific topics at the meetings of the Working Group so as to assist States parties in implementing effectively those articles of the Convention relating to the prevention of corruption.

6. The Working Group noted that the availability of adequate expertise on the specific topics to be addressed at its future meetings would benefit the discussion of those topics.

7. The Working Group encouraged States parties to share their initiatives and good practices in the area of prevention of corruption, particularly those practices relevant to specific topics to be addressed at future meetings of the Working Group, and to communicate information on such initiatives and good practices to the Secretariat.

8. The Working Group requested the Secretariat to report to it at its second meeting on the activities undertaken pursuant to the recommendations made at its first meeting.

II. Organization of the meeting

A. Opening of the meeting

9. The Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption held its second meeting in Vienna from 22 to 24 August 2011.

10. The meeting of the Working Group was chaired by Dominika Krois (Poland). At the outset of the meeting, the Working Group observed a minute of silence in memory of Mr. Ariel Walter González from Argentina. The representative of Argentina expressed his gratitude and recalled the important and valuable contribution made by Mr. González to the work of intergovernmental bodies of the United Nations. He was joined by numerous speakers in expressing appreciation and recognition of the work of the late Argentinean delegate.

11. In opening the meeting, the Chairperson recalled the importance of implementing articles 5 to 14 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption to prevent and fight corruption. She referred to article 61, paragraph 2, of the Convention, which stresses the importance of developing and sharing best practices in the prevention of corruption. She further recalled the recommendations made by the Working Group at its first meeting from 13 to 15 December 2010. She further called on participants to use the opportunity to discuss further steps to be taken towards full implementation of resolution 3/2 and further possibilities for the Working Group on advising and assisting the Conference in the implementation of its mandates on the prevention of corruption, particularly also in preparation for the review of the implementation of chapter II of the Convention in the next review cycle, scheduled to commence in 2015.

12. The Director of the Division for Treaty Affairs provided an overview of the documentation prepared by the Secretariat to facilitate the deliberations of the Group. He informed that the two reports prepared for the second meeting of the Working Group on *Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption: Awareness-raising policies and practices with special reference to articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the Convention* (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2011/2) and on *Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption: The public sector and prevention of corruption; codes of conduct (article 18 of the Convention) and public reporting (article 10 of the Convention)* (CAC/COSP/WG.4/2011/3) were based on the responses submitted by Member States to the request of the Secretariat to obtain information on relevant initiatives and good practices in the area of prevention of corruption. He mentioned that the two reports reflected the information received by 27 May 2011 from 28 Member States and that the additional submissions received after that date had been posted on the website of UNODC, together with the submissions earlier received. He announced that the Working Group would also be informed about progress made with the implementation of the other recommendations made by the Working Group at its first session.

13. The Chair opened the floor for general comments. The Minister of Institutional Transparency and Fight against Corruption of the Plurinational State of Bolivia made a statement recalling the challenges faced in her country in the fight against corruption. She outlined priority areas pursued by Bolivia in the prevention of corruption: citizen participation and social involvement; transparency and access to information; the establishment of transparency units in all public institutions; and holding workshops for disseminating information on corruption. She also emphasized the importance of institutional coordination mechanisms, including those involving indigenous groups. She recalled that with UNODC's assistance, the Government had visited over 200 municipalities in the country to assist the establishment of anti-corruption committees as well as public education and outreach. She referred to a national competition to identify the worst "red tape" experience and thereby highlight bureaucratic bottlenecks. She outlined a pilot project of annual public sworn statements of government officials as a preventive measure against corruption.

14. The Vice-president of the Transparency Function of the Republic of Ecuador provided a statement regarding the country's institutional mechanisms and recent steps taken to prevent and combat corruption. She emphasized the legal structure in place to ensure transparency, counter money-laundering and strengthen public

integrity. She noted the country's recent efforts to elaborate a national anti-corruption plan, involving the creation of a national steering body to facilitate citizen participation in preventing corruption. She stressed the need to encourage high levels of professionalism through the elaboration of codes of ethics and asset disclosure mechanisms to establish a new culture of ethics and professional responsibility. She noted draft laws under consideration regarding conflict of interest, illicit enrichment and audit standards, including public procurement standards. The Minister on Transparency of the Republic of Ecuador stressed the importance of fostering transparency and efficiency in public management and the commitment to fight root causes of corruption. Strengthening the participation of the general public was a constitutional obligation for all public bodies in Ecuador. Coordination between different functions such as the legislative, judicial, electoral and executive are key in fighting corruption. The Republic of Ecuador was also working towards the implementation of transparent procedures in the private sector. Following public consultation, the National Assembly of Ecuador would take the necessary steps to criminalize illicit enrichment.

B. Adoption of the agenda and organization of work

15. On 22 August, the Working Group adopted the following agenda:

1. Organizational matters:
 - (a) Opening of the meeting;
 - (b) Adoption of the agenda and organization of work.
2. Implementation of resolution 3/2 of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled "Preventive measures", and of the recommendations made by the Working Group at its first meeting:
 - (a) Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:
 - (i) Awareness-raising policies and practices, with special reference to articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: thematic discussion;
 - (ii) The public sector and prevention of corruption; codes of conduct (article 8 of the Convention) and public reporting (article 10 of the Convention): thematic discussion;
 - (b) Other recommendations.
3. Future priorities.
4. Adoption of the report.

C. Attendance

16. The following States parties to the Convention were represented at the meeting of the Working Group: Afghanistan, Albania, Algeria, Argentina, Australia, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bahrain, Belgium, Bolivia (Plurinational State of), Brazil, Brunei Darussalam, Canada, Chile, China, Colombia, Cuba, Cyprus, Dominican Republic,

Ecuador, Egypt, El Salvador, Finland, France, Guatemala, Haiti, India, Indonesia, Iran (Islamic Republic of), Israel, Italy, Jordan, Kazakhstan, Kenya, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Mexico, Morocco, Namibia, Nicaragua, Nigeria, Pakistan, Panama, Peru, Philippines, Poland, Portugal, Republic of Korea, Republic of Serbia, Romania, Russian Federation, Senegal, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Tajikistan, Thailand, Tunisia, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates, United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, United States of America, Uruguay, Venezuela (Bolivarian Republic of), Viet Nam and Zimbabwe.

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

18. The following States signatories to the Convention were represented by observers: Czech Republic, Germany, Ireland, Japan, Saudi Arabia and Sudan.

19. The following observer States were also represented: Oman.

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

21. 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: Department of Peacekeeping Operations, Office of Internal Oversight Services, United Nations Commission on International Trade Law, United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs, United Nations Ethics Office, United Nations Global Compact, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights, Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, United Nations Development Programme, World Food Programme, Basel Institute on Governance, United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute and the International Atomic Energy Agency.

22. The following intergovernmental organizations were represented by observers: Asian-African Legal Consultative Organization, Council of Europe, International Anti-Corruption Academy, International Criminal Police Organization, International Organization for Migration, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development, Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe.

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

III. Implementation of resolution 3/2 of the Conference of the States Parties, entitled “Preventive measures”, and of the recommendations made by the Working Group at its first meeting

A. Good practices and initiatives in the prevention of corruption:

(i) Awareness-raising policies and practices with special reference to articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption: thematic discussion

24. The Working Group began its consideration of the information contained in document CAC/COSP/WG.4/2011/2, entitled “Good practices in the prevention of corruption: Awareness-raising policies and practices, with special reference to articles 5, 7, 12 and 13 of the United Nations Convention against Corruption”, which was introduced by a representative of the Secretariat. The document provides an overview of awareness-raising initiatives and practices reported by Member States and relevant organizations and intends to facilitate and guide the discussions of the Working Group under the four thematic areas identified by the Group at its last session.

25. The Chair opened the floor for comments regarding article 5. The Group expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by UNODC and the background documentation prepared for the meeting. Several speakers provided overviews of efforts made in their countries to establish policies and practices to prevent corruption. Speakers stressed legislative measures taken to prevent corruption and national strategies that had been elaborated to develop and implement comprehensive preventive measures. Several speakers highlighted efforts and good practices in promoting integrity and transparency in public administration, procurement policies, and corruption reporting mechanisms. The benefits of an e-procurement system were highlighted as an effective means to prevent corruption in public procurement. Reference was made to the importance of involving citizen participation and education for the success of corruption prevention efforts.

26. Reference was made to the importance of reading article 5 in the context of the other parts of the Convention, with specific emphasis on chapters III and IV. Speakers stressed the importance to continue, through the secretariat, to provide information regarding good practices, legislative initiatives and other efforts to prevent corruption that could be shared with the Group. In particular, the desire was expressed to devote more time to in-depth discussions for the purpose of identifying practical, concrete measures to foster the implementation of the prevention chapter of the Convention.

27. Emphasis was given to the importance of a systematic approach to corruption prevention efforts, and to avoiding sporadic and ad hoc approaches. In some countries, specific comprehensive laws on corruption prevention had helped to concentrate efforts and formulate a far-reaching strategic approach to the fight against corruption. In addition, it was noted that indicators developed and used by countries to internally measure progress in the prevention of corruption had proven useful.

28. Several speakers stressed the importance of comprehensive training programmes for public employees and civil servants, as well as for magistrates and prosecutors, in the prevention of corruption. A number of speakers emphasized the need for targeted training programmes for senior managers and public officials in positions particularly vulnerable to corruption. In some cases, institutional mechanisms included the appointment of corruption focal points in public institutions to act as a resource for public servants in the prevention of corruption. Reference was made to the importance of involving citizens and non-governmental organizations in efforts to prevent and fight corruption. The use of hotlines for reporting instances of corruption was noted as a good practice. Several speakers noted the importance of emphasizing integrity, transparency, merit-based recruitment and promotion, and professional conduct for the prevention of corruption in the public sector.

29. Several speakers noted the importance of establishing codes of conduct and ethics. A critical aspect of fostering professional responsibility and ethical conduct was the development of clear guidelines to prevent conflicts of interest. Reference was made to the establishment of public portals in order to facilitate access to information and transparency by the general public and civil society. Accessibility to information was noted as a way to improve and strengthen corruption prevention efforts. In addition, working groups involving public participation had served in some countries to assist in the development of policies and practices to prevent corruption. Several speakers emphasized the need to focus on the education of youth as means to prevent corruption and facilitate interaction between the government and society at large.

30. With respect to the prevention of conflicts of interest, several speakers drew particular attention to restrictions on the hiring of former public officials for positions in the private sector, particularly where the former official had been involved in public procurement processes. More generally, speakers highlighted the particular importance of accumulating knowledge on the prevention and detection of conflicts of interest and suggested this issue for inclusion in the agenda of the Working Group's next meeting for in-depth discussions on this topic.

31. Reference was made to the benefits derived from holding regional workshops to share good practices in corruption prevention, codes of conduct, public institution assessment methodology and other aspects related to prevention. As an example, the European Anti-Corruption Training (EACT) would serve as a platform for anti-corruption institutions, law enforcement agencies and other authorities of European countries to exchange their experience and good practices which would be compiled in a manual. In addition, it was noted that cooperation and information sharing between the public sector and the private sector was integral to corruption prevention efforts. Some speakers pinpointed how chambers of commerce could be instrumental to introducing good practices in the private sector. Also, the need was emphasized for the private and public sectors to work together in customs enforcement for corruption prevention.

32. Some speakers noted the importance of coordination among political institutions and involvement of the media in corruption prevention efforts. It was further emphasized that preventive measures should be carried through to the highest level of government and public service. This could include the incorporation

of provisions relating to asset disclosure and integrity in a country's highest legal instrument.

33. It was mentioned that the Convention called for specific measures to strengthen the civil service in terms of integrity, professionalism and awareness raising. Some speakers noted the usefulness of requiring civil servants to sign ethics agreements or statements of professional responsibility as a prevention mechanism. In addition, speakers noted the importance of the establishment of legal and institutional structures to prevent and combat corruption, including anti-corruption agencies and governmental coordination bodies, as well as the development of anti-corruption action plans to address challenges and prevent corruption across the system.

34. A representative of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) provided an overview of the organization's work in the area of capacity development for national anti-corruption agencies and introduced a methodology developed for institutional capacity-assessment with reference to articles 5, 6 and 36 of the Convention. One challenge that anti-corruption agencies were reported to be facing is the lack of coordination among national authorities with splintered mandates on anti-corruption, hampering the agencies' ability to effectively implement anti-corruption strategies and action plans. In an effort to provide guidance to such agencies, UNDP recently convened a broad-based validation workshop in Bratislava to review the module-based benchmarking methodology and announced the intention to complete the assessment guide for presentation and dissemination at the Fourth Session of the Conference of the States Parties in Marrakech.

35. A representative from the United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) emphasized the linkage between corruption and the achievement of the Millennium Development Goals, and highlighted the importance of citizen engagement in enhancing accountability and eradicating corruption. He presented the five-pronged approach UNDESA was taking to achieve such citizen engagement and underlined the relevant entry-points in the Convention (articles 7-10 of the Convention) that inform and underlie the said approach. He recalled recent events touching upon a number of topics of relevance to the prevention of corruption, and announced the upcoming Capacity-Building Workshop among Member States to be held in Marrakech from 26 to 27 October 2011 as a side event at the Fourth Session of the Conference of the States Parties to the Convention.

36. The representative of UNDESA noted in addition the organization's involvement in the presentation of the United Nations Public Service Awards. The United Nations Public Service Award was established with the objectives to: discover the latest innovations in governance; reward excellence in public service; raise the image and prestige of public service; enhance professionalism; build trust in government institutions; and share successful practices. He thanked UNODC for assistance provided in the identification of candidates to receive the award in the category "Preventing and combating corruption in the public service," which has been granted for the first time in 2011. The attention of Member States was further drawn to the possibility of submitting applications for the next round of awards to be granted in 2012.

37. The benefits of the use of information technology were noted in efforts to promote public education, outreach, and dissemination of relevant information and resources through user-friendly websites accessible to the general public. In addition, it was emphasized that Internet outreach could provide a useful tool to the engagement of civil service organizations in corruption prevention. Some speakers noted the benefit of wide publication of proposed laws under consideration, including through Internet publication and social networking platforms.

38. In addition, it was emphasized that the collection and dissemination of information on corruption prevention could be useful in the mechanism for the review of the implementation of the Convention and the work of States parties in preparation for the future review of the prevention articles of the Convention. Early reporting using the self-assessment checklist developed for the review mechanism was encouraged. Furthermore, it was noted that particular challenges or lessons learned regarding prevention efforts would be equally instructive to the Group's discussions and deliberations as the sharing of good practices.

39. Speakers generally underscored the paramount importance of establishing and improving public-private partnerships and working towards the active engagement of the private sector in corruption prevention activities. In support of that endeavour, it was emphasized that awareness-raising within the business community and promoting a sense of responsibility on the side of corporate actors regarding their role in the prevention of corruption was central to the effective implementation of the Convention and to meeting the Millennium Development Goals. It was also noted that such efforts fit within the G-20 Action Plan approved in Seoul. In addition, some speakers addressed the need to ensure a more balanced approach between public and private sector initiatives and suggested to devote more attention to the work with the private sector.

40. An area of particular concern to speakers was public procurement. Speakers emphasized the importance of ensuring that procurement mechanisms were transparent and objective, and that a level playing field is established to ensure fairness and neutrality in the procurement process. It was noted that this could be accomplished, in part, through strengthening of legal and regulatory mechanisms to govern the interaction between the public and private sectors in the procurement process. Some speakers stressed the importance of avoiding conflicts of interest and suggested to establish requirements of disclosure of business and other relationships by both public officials and private sector representatives in dealings between the sectors.

41. Speakers reported on measures taken to streamline the monitoring and regulation structures over the private sector, including through legislation establishing the administrative, civil and criminal liability of legal persons, voluntary regulation models and effective controls over compliance with such models, as well as the removal of administrative barriers and simplification of licensing procedures to reduce opportunities for corruption.

42. With regard to codes of conduct as a form of voluntary regulation, it was noted that while the principles contained in such codes were valuable, such codes were typically non-binding. One way to strengthen such codes was suggested through enactment of audit and oversight legislation to foster a more responsible approach in the private sector to their business activities and professional conduct. The

establishment of auditing standards, accounting standards and complementary articles of the criminal code in line with article 12 of the Convention was suggested. It was further noted that measures could be taken in the public sector to encourage the private sector to enforce internal rules and procedures to heighten financial and business accountability. To complement such efforts, the importance of effective legislation on tax evasion was highlighted.

43. In the area of incentives for corporate compliance, some speakers reported on initiatives involving the “white-listing” of companies who have demonstrated that they uphold principles of corporate integrity, accountability and compliance with ethical standards based on information provided in a targeted questionnaire developed for the purpose of assessing companies’ integrity levels. Many speakers referred to a corresponding practice of blacklisting companies who, in contrast, have engaged in corrupt activities in the past, involving a debarment from participation in bidding processes in some cases.

44. With regard to asset declarations, it was noted that the issue is particularly complex, especially in consideration of the scope of asset disclosures and the potential extension of disclosure obligations to family members of public officials in vulnerable positions. It was also noted that a “lifestyle analysis” could supplement the endeavours to apply effective requirements for the integrity of candidates aspiring for public office.

45. Some speakers commented on the usefulness of online business portals providing a repository of anti-corruption knowledge on issues relevant to the business community. One such initiative entitled “Business Anti-Corruption Portal” provides information and guidelines to interested companies on how to do business in different markets without resorting to corruption. The Portal collects and analyses country-specific information based on open sources and provides a basis for companies’ risk assessment, as well as due diligence guidelines on how to approach the markets concerned.

46. A representative from the United Nations Global Compact Office presented an overview of the activities of the office, and how it works with the private sector to prevent and fight corruption. She noted that the Global Compact had attracted more than 8,000 participating companies and other stakeholders from over 130 countries, including small- and medium-size enterprises and multinational corporations, and more than 90 local networks worldwide since its launch in 2000. An overview was also given about tools and resources developed by the Global Compact for the business community, as well as about recent initiatives pursued in collaboration with various stakeholders. In addition, an e-learning tool for the private sector developed jointly by the UN Global Compact and UNODC was presented to the Working Group. The e-learning tool is available to interested parties free of charge online.

47. Several speakers emphasized the importance of community-based organizations and civil society in the prevention of corruption. Speakers reported on various approaches in their countries to ensure the engagement of such organizations both on the policy-development level and in terms of mobilization to act as community-based monitors against corrupt activity.

48. It was reported that school-based projects to engage youth in the fight against corruption had proven effective in public education, improved functioning of school

facilities and mainstreamed students in active involvement in facilities maintenance and management to foster citizen responsibility, integrity, accountability and respect for transparency. Several speakers reported that comprehensive educational programmes for youth were also under development for integration into regular curricula. Speakers reported that these efforts were being made with a view to building a culture of intolerance towards corruption, in collaboration with the private sector and the media.

49. It was further reported that the establishment of social oversight mechanisms to ensure that public expenditures were carried out in a responsible manner and in full consideration of the interests of society had proven to be effective in some contexts. Some speakers noted that public financing oversight mechanisms had been set up to involve the public directly in the monitoring of public expenditures.

50. Some speakers emphasized full participation of the public, including indigenous populations, minority and faith-based groups, as an integral part of corruption prevention. It was noted that accountability ran in multiple directions — from the public sector to the citizenry, and from the citizenry back to the public sector, in order to promote a free exchange of information and vibrant communications at the grass roots level. In this context, some speakers reported on the establishment of mechanisms to mobilize and engage the public at the community and regional levels to foster public participation in the fight against corruption. It was noted that in the fight against corruption, it had been helpful in many contexts to consider citizens as allies in anti-corruption efforts.

51. With regard to awareness-raising in the public sector, it was reported that efforts had been made to develop a public “manifesto” against corruption to move beyond codification of ethical principles to a professional culture of uniform opposition to corruption at all levels of government service.

52. The role of mass media and the Internet in disseminating information on corruption was underscored by many speakers. In this regard, it was noted that the use of the media to broadcast the facts of corruption cases brought before courts and their outcomes had proven beneficial to awareness-raising efforts pursued at the national level.

53. A representative of the Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR) made a presentation regarding human rights aspects in the prevention of corruption. It was emphasized that human rights considerations are important components in corruption prevention, and that the implementation of articles of the Convention relating to prevention could be effectively achieved through the application of human rights norms and principles. In addition, it was noted that, with regard to corruption prevention measures, there are dual duties of both the public and private sectors to safeguard human rights, protect against abuses and act with due diligence to avoid infringing the rights of others.

54. A representative of the International Anti-Corruption Academy (IACA) provided an update on the progress made towards the institutional and academic operationalization of the Academy which was established as a full-fledged international organization in March 2011. An informal timeline shared with the Working Group indicated that the first full Assembly of Parties was expected to be convened in the fall of 2012, coinciding with the launch of the full academic programme of the Academy. The latter is envisaged to include both standardized and

tailor-made training and research, interdisciplinary teaching on anti-corruption and master degree programmes. The first master degree course, to be offered for the first time in the fall semester of 2012, will comprise a module-based, part-time course including both off-site and on-site training at the Academy.

55. A representative of the Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe (OSCE) reported on activities pursued in support of civil society participation in anti-corruption activities. She gave an overview of the OSCE's training and capacity-building activities for civil society and the private sector in corruption prevention. The key outcomes of a recent Round Table meeting on the participation of society in the prevention of corruption were shared with the Working Group. These included reinforced commitment of the participants to: provide sufficient space for civil society to monitor and report instances of corruption without fear of reprisal or retaliation; to establish an adequate legal and institutional framework within which civil society could operate without hindrance; to provide legal safeguards and protection for journalists reporting on corruption and create an environment conducive to reinforcing the role of the media in the dissemination of anti-corruption information, education and knowledge.

56. A representative of the Advocacy Section of UNODC delivered a presentation on UNODC's collaboration with civil society in the fight against corruption. The UNCAC Coalition, an umbrella organization comprising a global network of geographically diverse non-governmental organizations active in the anti-corruption field, was acknowledged as the main civil society counterpart of UNODC in anti-corruption matters. UNODC reported on recent training events organized for civil society organizations. In a brief overview of public awareness campaigns on anti-corruption conducted by UNODC in collaboration with UNDP and other stakeholders, the importance of agenda-setting and public education and outreach was stressed.

VI. Adoption of the report

57. On 24 August 2011, the Working Group adopted the report on its second meeting (CAC/COSP/2011/WG.4/L.1, CAC/COSP/2011/WG.4/L.1/Add.1 and Add.2).
