



Conference of the Parties to the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Distr.: Limited
20 October 2010

Original: English

Fifth session

Vienna, 18-22 October 2010

Draft report

Rapporteur: Elizabeth Verville (United States of America)

Addendum

IV. Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto

A. United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

1. At its 4th meeting, on 19 October 2010, the Conference considered agenda item 2 (a), entitled “Review of the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto: United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime”. For its consideration of the item, the Conference had before it the following:

(a) Report of the Secretariat on the development of tools to gather information from States on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOC/COP/2010/10);

(b) Status of ratification of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto and notifications, declarations and reservations thereto (CTOC/COP/2010/CRP.4);

(c) Status of responses to the questionnaires and the checklist on the implementation of the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime and the Protocols thereto (CTOP/COP/2010/CRP.6).

2. Two representatives of the Secretariat made an introductory statement and an audio-visual presentation.



3. Statements were made by the representatives of Argentina, Chile (on behalf of the States Members of the United Nations that are members of the Latin American and Caribbean Group), Croatia, Kazakhstan, Sri Lanka and Australia.
4. The observer for the Sovereign Order of Malta also made a statement.

Deliberations

5. Several speakers highlighted the fact that fighting transnational organized crime was a shared responsibility that required concerted and collective global action. They noted that national, regional and international efforts were required to fully implement the Convention and the need to better understand the root causes of transnational organized crime. Speakers provided practical examples demonstrating progress made by their Governments in implementing the Convention and the Protocols thereto, such as the adoption of national legislation and national legislative and programme initiatives related to the fight against transnational organized crime.
6. Many speakers underlined the crucial importance of regional and international cooperation to better tackle transnational organized crime and to ensure the full use of the Convention. States were also encouraged to criminalize all the offences established by the Convention and its three Protocols, with a view to ensuring the effectiveness of international cooperation mechanisms such as for mutual legal assistance and extradition.
7. Speakers underscored the need for technical assistance in order to assist States in preventing and combating organized crime and to better implement the Convention and the Protocols thereto. The importance of ensuring sustainable and predictable funding to enable UNODC to conduct such activities was underlined. It was noted that coordination among donors was essential in order to avoid duplication of efforts and the inefficient use of resources.
8. Several speakers stressed the necessity of assessing the implementation of the Convention 10 years after its adoption and in that connection, mentioned the usefulness of the comprehensive self-assessment software (the “omnibus survey software”). Some speakers underscored that a strong and effective review mechanism would enable States parties to obtain reliable and consistent information concerning the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols. Such a review mechanism could help identify gaps and highlight successful experiences and good practices, as well as technical assistance needs. It was noted that the Open-ended Interim Working Group of Government Experts on Technical Assistance was an appropriate forum to exchange expertise and experience with regard to the implementation of the Convention and its Protocols.