



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

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## Open-ended Intergovernmental Working Group on the Prevention of Corruption

Eighth session

Vienna, 21-23 August 2017

### Draft report

#### Addendum

### III. Implementation of Conference resolution 6/6, entitled “Follow-up to the Marrakech declaration on the prevention of corruption”, and of the recommendations agreed upon by the Working Group at its meeting held in August 2016

#### B. Other recommendations

1. The Chair introduced the item on the implementation of Conference resolution 6/6, in relation to which the secretariat had prepared an oral update.
2. The secretariat presented an update on the implementation of resolution 6/6, with a focus on information sharing, new UNODC knowledge tools as well as global, regional or national, regional or global initiatives taken by States parties with the support of UNODC.
3. In fulfilment of its role as an international observatory for good practices in the prevention of corruption, the secretariat continued collecting information from States parties on their implementation of chapter II and updating the website of the Working Group on Prevention, including its thematic pages.
4. UNODC provided national level assistance to anti-corruption bodies on their preventive mandates in 16 countries. Further, UNODC continued its cooperation with the International Association of Anti-Corruption Authorities and provided support to various regional associations of anti-corruption authorities, in particular in Africa, South-East Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean. UNODC's guide, entitled *National Anti-Corruption Strategies: A Practical Guide for Development and Implementation*, has been downloaded over 9,000 times since its launch in November 2015 and was translated into Arabic, French and Spanish. In addition, UNODC provided assistance to 20 States parties with the development or revision of national anti-corruption policies and strategies.
5. In regards to the protection of reporting persons, UNODC's *Resource Guide on Good Practices in the Protection of Reporting Persons* was made available in English, French and Spanish and was downloaded almost 5000 times since its launch at the last session of the Conference. Four regional conferences or workshop sessions were



held on whistle-blower and witness protection, in South-East Asia, West Africa, East Africa and for small island developing States. Legislative drafting assistance on this topic was provided to four countries.

6. Further, UNODC provided technical assistance and expertise to States parties on the implementation of the Convention through targeted legislative and capacity-building activities at regional and country levels, including on asset declaration and conflict of interest regulation systems, access to information and corruption in procurement.

7. UNODC also worked with multiple stakeholders on integrity and the prevention of corruption in the criminal justice sector. UNODC launched, with the support of the State of Qatar, its *Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration*. Under this programme, UNODC held a series of regional meetings involving senior judges to prepare for the launch of the Global Judicial Integrity Network. UNODC further created partnerships with international and regional judicial associations and forums to obtain their input and the support of their members for the creation of the Network.

8. Nationally, technical assistance was provided to the judiciaries of nine countries. Additionally, UNODC supported initiatives at national and regional level to strengthen integrity and prevent corruption in law enforcement bodies, including in police, customs, border control and prison authorities. UNODC is implementing a project to strengthen integrity in criminal justice institutions in Latin America, the Caribbean and West Africa and further provided support to identify corruption risks to customs authorities in eight countries. In relation to prisons, UNODC finalized a *Handbook on anti-corruption measures in prisons*, which will be launched in the margins of the next session of the Conference in Vienna in November 2017.

9. UNODC continued to promote the participation of individuals and groups outside the public sector, including the private sector, civil society, media and youth, in the prevention of corruption. In order to strengthen the capacity of civil society organizations, UN-PRAC organized country integrity workshops on social accountability and citizen engagement in 12 Pacific countries. UNODC and the UNCAC Coalition trained 286 civil society representatives from 101 countries to contribute to the implementation of the Convention and the Implementation Review Mechanism.

10. UNODC continued its leading role in the Anti-Corruption Academic Initiative (ACAD), which encourages the teaching and research of corruption-related issues by tertiary education institutions. To date, ACAD has actively involved over 400 universities in its activities and has produced an ACAD Menu of Resources and a model university course on the Convention. The second major education project launched by UNODC was the Education for Justice (E4J) initiative of the Global Programme for the Implementation of the Doha Declaration. E4J aims to build a culture of lawfulness among children and youth through the provision of age-appropriate educational materials on a variety of criminal justice and crime prevention topics, including anti-corruption, integrity and ethics, and the integration of those materials into the curricula of primary, secondary and tertiary education levels.

11. UNODC also engaged in anti-corruption work in areas which gained increasing recognition during the last years such as integrity in sports and environmental and wildlife crime, including the development of knowledge products and the delivery of corruption risk assessments and capacity-building.

12. At the country and regional levels, UNODC relied on its network of field-based anti-corruption advisers when addressing technical assistance needs, and the work carried out by the six regional advisers and three national anti-corruption advisers continued to be instrumental. They worked in close collaboration with experts from UNODC headquarters and the field office network.

13. The technical assistance work of UNODC was enabled through various global projects which were financially supported by various donors. However, due to continuous high demand for technical assistance that was not matched by financial resources, UNODC faced acute challenges in continuing the regional adviser programme and a number of positions were discontinued in the last year.

14. Many States reported on their further activities in relation to the implementation of resolution 6/6 and the prevention of corruption during their statements made under the previous agenda items, including in relation to the work of anti-corruption bodies, the development and implementation of anti-corruption strategies and other measures aimed at increasing integrity, transparency and accountability in the public service.

#### **IV. Future priorities**

15. The Chair introduced the discussion of future priorities and drew the attention to the mandate of the Working Group to advise and assist the Conference.

16. At the seventh meeting, the Working Group decided to continue to focus on specific substantive topics related to the implementation of Chapter II of the Convention, in order to continue to share experiences, good practices and lessons learned and to build knowledge and expertise. The secretariat recalled the substantive topics suggested by the Working Group included: measuring corruption, corruption risks and the impact of anti-corruption efforts through scientifically-based indicators; the use and effectiveness of asset declaration systems and conflict of interest regulations to prevent corruption (article 7, paragraph 4 and article 8, paragraph 5); measures and systems to facilitate reporting by public officials (article 8, paragraph 4) and public reporting (article 13, paragraph 2); and lessons learned on the development, evaluation and impact of anti-corruption strategies (article 5).

17. One speaker congratulated the secretariat for the work in the organization of the Working Group and in implementing resolution 6/6 and suggested that the Working Group recommend to the Conference to include in the multi-year workplan of the Working Group the list of the topics recalled by the secretariat.

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